

**AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB**  
**Delegates Meeting**  
**September 14, 2021**

Dennis B. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. ET.

The Chair reminded the Delegates that face masks covering the nose and mouth were required to be worn at all times in the meeting room and in public areas.

The first order of business was the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees.  
(Voting.)

The Meeting recessed for the Delegate Forum. The topic was “Bringing Juniors to the Sport – What can your club do?” developed by members of the Juniors Subcommittee.

The Chair called the meeting back in session at 10:05 a.m. ET.

The first order of business was the remaining votes for the Delegate Standing Committees.  
(Voting.)

The Chair introduced the persons with me on the dais: Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Palleschi Carota; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Ruthanne Ungerleider, the Court Reporter.

The Executive Secretary read the names of the Delegates seated since the June Meeting.

**Christopher R. Abraham**, Pasco, WA to represent Richland Kennel Club  
**Dana L. Alexander**, Chandler, AZ, to represent Superstition Kennel Club  
**Melissa Lembke**, Le Sueur, MN, to represent Key City Kennel Club  
**Brian P. Meindl**, Hampton Bays, NY, to represent American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association  
**Jennifer V. Modica**, Cape May Court House, NJ, to represent Union County Kennel Club  
**Kathy A. Rust**, Walcott, ND, to represent Vizsla Club of America  
**Mark S. Stempel**, Bohemia, NY, to represent American Shih Tzu Club  
**Betty Winthers**, Lynnwood, WA, to represent Pasanita Obedience Club

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting in-person since their approval were introduced from the floor:

**Christopher R. Abraham** to represent Richland Kennel Club  
**Dana L. Alexander** to represent Superstition Kennel Club  
**Jane Bates** to represent Conroe Kennel Club  
**Mayno Blanding** to represent Bichon Frise Club of America  
**Carey Fayram** to represent Del Monte Kennel Club  
**Glen Lajeski** to represent Doberman Pinscher Club of America  
**Melissa Lembke** to represent Key City Kennel Club

**Brian P. Meindl** to represent American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association  
**Jennifer V. Modica** to represent Union County Kennel Club  
**Carey Moreschini** to represent Southern Colorado Kennel  
**Anita O'Berg** to represent Channel City Kennel Club  
**Leslie Puppo Rogers** to represent Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club  
**Kathy Rust** to represent Vizsla Club of America  
**Sherri Swabb** to represent Dayton Dog Training Club  
**Timothy Ufkes** to represent Olympic Kennel Club  
**Rachel Wilson** to represent Wampanoag Kennel Club

The minutes of the June 8, 2021 Delegate Meeting were published in the online July 2021 *AKC Gazette*, and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegate Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Fargo-Moorhead Kennel Club and Jackson Tennessee Dog Fanciers Association were duly elected as members of The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Thomas Davies delivered the Chairman's Report as follows:

Good morning, fellow Delegates. Before I begin, I have a question for you all. How great is it to be together in person once again?

Big thanks to Paula, and to Gina and Dennis for arranging our first in-person meeting in a year and a half – and a special thanks to all of you for participating in this long-awaited event. Even with all of the progress that technology brought us to weather the pandemic, let me just say this again: It is great to see you all at last. We are back. AKC is back! We are not only back; we are back and better than ever before.

I am delighted to report that this October will mark the strongest month for AKC Events in the history of our organization. October events outnumber all previous Octobers by 24%.

This October, Specialties, 4-6 month Puppy, Rally, Agility, Scentwork and FastCAT® together mark an all time, record high for AKC. The driving force behind this record is very simply a huge desire among our clubs to hold events. We want our Sports back. And indeed, they are back.

Let's put October in a larger context. AKC Events have been steadily increasing. May was the first month this year when we were at par with 2019 Events. During the five months from May through September, AKC Events exceeded those in 2019 by 3%. 2019 was the largest year ever for AKC Events. So, a 3% increase is quite significant. Now we are on the cusp of the peak in October with over 3,200 Events. This represents an increase over the same month in 2019 by an astonishing 24%.

The pandemic has caused losses, tragedies and hardship for so many. The camaraderie and community that define our lives as exhibitors was put on hold. We had to hold out hope that we could one day enjoy our dogs together once again. We are nearly at that point at last.

Let me paraphrase John F. Kennedy, who said, "Victory has a thousand parents, but defeat is an orphan." We have many parents – this incredible comeback would not be possible without

the dedication, expertise and hard work of our Clubs. Delegates, please extend this message of sincere thanks to your membership from the entire purebred dog fancy. You came through for all of us.

I would also like to acknowledge our Club Development Department for their role in the remarkable recovery of Events. Guy Fisher and Glenn Lycan have worked tirelessly to assist clubs and fanciers through every logistical aspect of event planning and protocols. The team has implemented a weekly report to identify All-Breed events with late applications. They reach out proactively to these clubs to check in and offer assistance. In March of 2021, they were managing through approximately thirty events per week with late applications, and by August, that number reduced by half. The number of All-Breed Clubs delaying their application submissions has declined by 50% since the height of the pandemic, proving once again that our constituency is committed to bringing our sports back and we have a stellar staff to help make it happen.

Certainly, our Events and Registry rely on the protection of our rights as breeders and exhibitors. The Government Relations department, guided by Sheila Goffe, has made tremendous strides in long-term strategy and effective near-term action. In the first half of 2021, the department established a record-setting pace of legislative analysis, advocacy and outreach that outpaced records set the year before. Sheila and her team achieved a number of major victories – from proactive legislation in Congress in the area of service dogs, canine imports and expanding government support for U.S.-bred explosive detection dogs to major victories in states ranging from California and Texas to Tennessee, Rhode Island and New Jersey. These efforts make it possible for us all to breed and show dogs. Our Sport depends on Government Relations and our Club members who participate in this important canine legislation work. Thank you all.

Our Education Department has continued to provide wonderful services for our core and younger constituencies. Under the leadership of Ashley Jacot, the department provides webinars on various topics of interest such as Breed Education for Judges, judging procedures, tips for Show Chairs, Government Relations updates and more. The schedule of upcoming webinars is available on the Education page of [akc.org](http://akc.org) under “AKC Education Webinar Series.” Always striving to engage our youth and foster the next generation of dog lovers, the Public Education team launched a new program for high school students. The “AKC Leader of the Pack” program is designed to get high school students involved in their communities with a variety of volunteer opportunities relating to dogs.

AKC Canine College has developed and manages over six hundred courses and exams for Conformation and Performance Judges, Breeders, Groomers, the fancy and the general public. There are a total of 54 breed courses available now. This is vital work that benefits us all, and I urge you to take advantage of all that AKC offers. After all, Albert Einstein said “Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it.”

Also busy on the educational front – albeit “edutainment” – is the AKC.tv Announcers team led by the incomparable Gina DiNardo and Bill Ellis. AKC Companion Events on ESPN continue to grow our audience, expanding female viewership for the network and exposing tens of

thousands more people to the wonders of AKC Events and purebred dogs. Tune in for our next programs and you will be quickly reminded of the spark you felt when you first got in the game!

As we head towards the end of the year, with so many events blissfully back in our schedule once again, let us remember all that it took to get us to where we are today. Caution, dedicated management, patience, empathy, and an unwavering belief that our events would one day return. We have done it together. In the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes, "Where we love is home; home that our feet may leave, but never our hearts." Welcome back. Welcome home.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's Report as follows:

Saturday was 9/11, and a great deal has changed in each of our lives as a result of that day. Many Delegates are new. I will share some of what occurred and AKC's accomplishments in that area. First, please stand for a moment of silence in memory of the attack on our nation, which occurred during the Delegates meeting in this very hotel on 9/11.

(Moment of Silence.)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. Staff helped me put together a video in remembrance for you to share with your clubs.

*Video played with narration as follows:*

That morning – and Ron will tell you, nobody believes us – but that morning we were in the lobby of this very hotel when "Blackie" approached us to say that a plane had hit the World Trade Center. We walked over to the deserted bar area, where there was a large television; just one gentleman was seated. As Ron and I approached, he looked at us and said, my son is in the armed forces, he called last night. One of our planes is missing, and they are coming to get us. We looked at one another and dismissed what the man said. Within a few moments, the second plane hit. We turned around; the gentleman was gone. That day, we were together. There were 288 Delegates in attendance. 71 continue to serve. Naturally the meeting bordered on chaotic. We hugged and reassured each other outwardly; inside, many of us felt fear and anger. There were valid but opposing thoughts of what to do. After an agenda discussion and a vote for the standing committees, we adjourned, helping one another begin going home or finding safe haven for the night.

In reflecting upon the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, the thought that resonates with me is the type of special people that make up our community. I recall how the DOGNY project came about, allowing the American Kennel Club to honor search and rescue dogs that helped in New York City, Pennsylvania and Washington and will provide some behind-the-scenes facts.

It was very much a shared success. Chairman Dr. Tom Davies and the Springfield Kennel Club stepped up as the very first of 11 sponsors, and many clubs followed. FedEx, Iams, JP Morgan and Hartz became major corporate sponsors. Before long, other businesses heeded our call for support and we received help from many household names. It took until the following evening for me to leave NJ. CBS Radio began broadcasting a plea for the donation of a portable X-ray machine for search & rescue dogs that were hurt working through the rubble. Members of the

Ladies Kennel Association were holding a meeting in my house. I knew dog people could provide help, so I asked the ladies to post an online request to purchase an X-ray machine. About 9:00 p.m. a call came in from a salesman in West Virginia, and we were on our way.

Our next challenge was transporting the X-ray machine and many cartons of film, aprons, and gloves, so another request went out to relay those materials to Ground Zero. Dozens of dog people called throughout the night, volunteering, and by early morning the race was on. From West Virginia to Maryland to Pennsylvania, ending up in New Jersey with Afghan Hound breeders Bob and Angela DeNicola, who passed it off for the final delivery. Luckily, AKC had presented one of our first ACE Awards to a member of the K-9 unit at the Queensboro Kennel Club through the courtesy of Linda Lacchia and Ray and Viola Burgos. A call was made to Lieutenant Donadio; he instructed us to have the equipment brought through the Lincoln Tunnel and to proceed on 11th Avenue until we were stopped. Well, indeed, we were stopped but allowed one phone call. Within minutes we were surrounded by unmarked and marked police cars, sirens blasting and escorted to the very street corner of Ground Zero. Just as the car was coming to a stop, veterinarians from Suffolk County SPCA came running over and started to assemble the X-ray machine. We weren't there long enough to see it in use; with the smoke still rising we were escorted out of Ground Zero. But I knew then and there the American Kennel Club did the right thing. It was one of the most emotional moments of my life. The streets lining our departure had tens of thousands of people waving flags and cheering us. But I knew a lot better -- they weren't cheering us; they were cheering the AKC family.

I had another thought: We could do more. My idea for DOGNY actually evolved just two days after 9/11, eventually raising over three and a half million dollars for search and rescue organizations throughout our nation, as we worked with fanciers, corporations and the public. In fact, it was with these funds that the AKC CAR Canine Support Relief Fund was begun (now AKC Reunite).

Interestingly, the government chose to keep secret which search and rescue organizations came to the three cities but staff researched and identified over 90 amateur and professional groups. Each was sent several thousand dollars as a thank-you and a way of defraying their costs. Remember, this could occur again – where you live.

Looking back, the project almost never happened. Daphna Straus was hired as a consultant and did brilliant work. Today, she is a Vice President and along with our Legal Staff began working through the maze of red tape for the City to give us contractual permission to display statues to commemorate the very first anniversary of 9/11. For some unknown reason, the newly- elected Bloomberg administration, taking over from then everybody's hero, Mayor Rudy Giuliani, seemed to concentrate on things other than the AKC. Can one imagine? Almost two months into the project, it was time to call Co-Chair Karen LeFrak and talk with her about my frustration, saying this project may not go anywhere as I felt it was a worthy one. Surprisingly, early the next morning I received a phone call from the first deputy mayor stating the City was ready to sign. After patting myself on the back a hundred times – I mean this was like going “Best in Show” – I called Karen to tell her about this coincidentally good news, and there was absolute silence. So, I repeated myself, and there was more silence. “Okay, what’s going on?”

She said, "Well, you were so upset, I went over to Mayor Bloomberg's townhouse, and I left him a personal note on the kitchen table."

We had to figure out how to transport 111 raw sculptures from the Long Island foundry to different artists' studios throughout the city, then have each one individually packaged, picked up and brought to another company for cement bases to be applied. We reached out to fancier Honi Reisman who arranged a phone call with Ken May, Senior Vice President of FedEx. Again, AKC was lucky, perhaps because we were doing the right thing. He said, "We can do this." But I misunderstood his meaning, as my response was "I know you can do it, but can we pay for it?" Ken's answer was rather astounding. He said, "Your company is a hero. You are not paying for anything. We are just going to help; and they did, providing tens of thousands of dollars in free shipments and logistics.

I will also tell you about a guarded secret for a while with another member of the AKC family. The police department called us because some of the approximately 300 teams of dogs that came to New York were being treated at an animal hospital, and their owners were being charged so I called a member of their Board to ask who I could speak with. The response was, "Dennis, I'll make you a deal. I will pay for the care of every single dog, if you keep it a secret between the two of us." Well, that deal is long over and the angel is Tony Sosnoff, another example of the quality people with whom we are blessed to share our passion. The cooperation amongst clubs, fanciers, corporate America and media was extraordinary, growing into our largest public outreach up until that time. However, without passionate dog people, it simply would have been another Dennis idea. I am going to stop my talk for a moment because I want everyone to take a good look at this statute. This is a handsome German Shepherd in good coat, just what it should look like. But there is a lot of emotion behind this statute. The coat is made up of the name, age, city and state of every person in America who perished on that day. I am very proud to state that AKC's board of directors instantly supported this public art exhibition and fund-raiser. Rubenstein Associates, America's premier PR firm, required a presentation before agreeing to work on the project. Midway through, they proclaimed, "We're in." With the efforts and hard work of AKC staff, we benefited by a wide variety of media appearances. Sculptures bearing AKC's name that were displayed for the first anniversary still remain in some places: Pace University, Fire Department Museum, Veterans Administration Hospital, Purina Farms, Station One of Portland Fire Department, AKC headquarters and Museum, plus one we visited on July 31st at the 9/11 Memorial Museum. Statues were painted live on the Today Show during numerous segments and the NASDAQ screen in Times Square repeatedly featured our program, day after day.

In Georgia, Governor Sunny Perdue unveiled a bronze statute at the Atlanta State Capitol building with Delegates Ann Wallin, Carmen Battaglia, and Karen and Asa Mays representing 32 clubs and associations. In Oklahoma, Onofrio Superintendents and four all-breed clubs dedicated a statue near the site of the bombing of the Federal building. Bronze versions mark the entrance to the world headquarters of Hartz in New Jersey, and one welcomes visitors to AKC's operations center in North Carolina.

The American Kennel Club was made appealing and relevant to the public from a canine perspective as well as a human one. For shoppers and tourists, when Saks Fifth Avenue blackened out 32 of their 34 windows for a month to commemorate the first anniversary, both windows that remained open only displayed DOGNY dogs. Broadway buffs saw a pair of sculptures over a three-month period guarding the way in and out of Shubert Alley, where two-and-a-half million people visit every single week. In the sports arena, we were fortunate that the three-year wait for a special event at Yankee Stadium was handled in two weeks for DOGNY Day and 25,000 special edition pinstripe "Help A Hero" toys donated by Hartz were distributed. A statute purchased by breeder/exhibitor Amy Kiehl Green bears the signatures of the entire Yankees team. Major League Baseball contributed, as well as the New York Mets organization and their owners, Judy and Fred Wilpon, who are obedience enthusiasts. Plush mementos carrying AKC's logo and messaging appeared in over 12,000 stores across the country. Some will recall that the president of Hartz, Robert Devine, attended the Delegates Meeting in September 2002 as a guest when he presented a check to Ron Menaker for \$775,000. Soon after, Hartz donated an additional \$500,000. Ron did a great amount of work as Co-Chair throughout the entire project.

TFH published a commemorative book and after the public art display Sotheby's Auction House donated their main gallery along with the services of Vice Chairman, Benjamin Doller, as auctioneer, and famed columnist and dachshund fancier Liz Smith served as guest auctioneer and graced us with yet more publicity.

This gives a bit of history about DOGNY and its accomplishments during a time of crisis in our nation and the numerous reasons to be proud of AKC, its Delegates, clubs and the many special people in this community. I am very proud to impart this history, so we never forget 9/11. Thank you.

(Standing ovation.)

Mr. Sprung: Thank you. At the end of that video you saw at the bottom of the statue a special commemorative pin. We have one for everybody here. When you leave, please pick it up.

Is Daphna Straus here? Daphna please stand up. As the video said Daphna's work was absolutely brilliant.

There's another item to present to you, something else that is important. It is 20 years later, and your Great American Kennel Club continues to do the right thing. I am proud to share with you photos and a message of the AKC assisting the Miami search and rescue efforts after the building collapsed.

Immediately following Chris Sweetwood's text to me, on that very day we sent hundreds of items; although their original request was for only 12-15 cooling mats, we supplied 50. I suggested toys, treats and towels; lessons learned from 9/11 to which they agreed, and we sent multiple cartons. Staff on their own added 25 of each – cooling collars, water bottles, cooling

vests with collars and extra ice packs. Cartons were delivered by FedEx the next morning and many more the following day, even towels embroidered overnight with the AKC logo. This is Fire Department Captain Shawn Campana's message:

*"Hey, Dennis, how are you? This is Shawn Campana down in Florida. I needed to thank you. I went down to the Miami warehouse. I got everything loaded. I got some awesome pictures and videos of all the teams when we were dispersed and brought their dogs out and you know play with the toys and trying their best to see what size they need it. I got to thank you so much again, what a blessing. A lot of the guys were surprised, they weren't expecting it. So I'm wondering if I can get an email that we can get you the pictures and videos and you know say, thank you to you guys again, thank you so much for everything, we got it, we dispersed and we were going to set up a little canine relief area for all the other teams working tomorrow. All of the teams really needed this relief, they are all using the equipment and are very grateful! Thank you so much for being our blessing! Have a great night, bye."*

(Video played.)

Mr. Sprung: That was first a clip from the fire captain in Florida after the collapse of the building thanking AKC, and then Lieutenant Pappas who is now the Commanding Officer of the New York City Police Department K9 unit, giving his appreciation to AKC.

Going back to Florida for a second time, Kirsten's Marketing Staff, Brandi's Public Relations Department as well as Gina, Mary, Wlad, Amy and Mark addressed this crisis immediately and hundreds of items were sent overnight. Whenever the Board asks, we act; collaboration at its best; but the winners are people in distress and the search and rescue organizations.

Also, just a few weeks ago at the suggestion of Ann Wallin, AKC's Board in cooperation with The Kennel Club's Charitable Trust made a donation to Nowzad to assist with the humanitarian eviction of dogs from Afghanistan to the UK.

I just received an email from The Kennel Club's Chief Executive, Mark Beazley, and he along with the Chairman, Tony Allcock, and our many friends over the pond expressed their warmest regards to the AKC constituency, knowing this is an incredibly difficult time in our history. I also want to tell you that the Museum of the Dog is hosting a 9/11 remembrance about search and rescue dogs as a tribute. Please visit that online or, if possible, in person.

Chief Financial Officer, Ted Phillips, gave the Financial Report as follows:

Mr. Phillips: I have to say, you know, since starting at AKC, one of the things I did notice when I walked into the lobby in NY the first time was the DOGNY statue and it was pretty impressive. I think we all know where we were on 9/11/2001, thank you Dennis. So good morning, Delegates. It's nice to actually see you in person and not speak to you as a little black box on a wall somewhere on the other side of a conference room. For those who I have met, it's a pleasure. I would like to meet all of you if possible and express my gratitude for the work that you do.

Today I'm presenting some key performance indicators and financial results for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. And we'll compare that to the same period of the 2021 budget. And when relevant, I'll include references to the same period actual expenses for the six-months ended June 30, 2020.

Let's begin with some non-financial key performance indicators because these data points are essential to tell the story of the AKC net operating results for the six-months ended June 30, 2021.

This chart provides a comparison of both litter and dog registrations for the six-months ended June 30, 2021, 2020, and the current year to-date. Please note that the green columns on this slide are a review of litter registration results. For the six-months ended June 30, 2021 litter registration totaled 164,520. This excellent result is 23.4 percent higher than the budget for the six-month period ended June 30, 2021, and 19.6 percent higher when compared to the same period in 2020. These results continue a double-digit trend in growth we have seen in over the past three fiscal quarters. Litter registrations represent 12 percent of total revenue for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. So they do have a significant impact on our total revenue.

Now, moving onto dog registrations. Please take note of the blue columns on this slide for your review of the dog registration results. For the six-month period ended June 30, 2021 dog registrations totaled 426,484. Again, this excellent result is growth of 31.9 percent, which is ahead of the year-to-date budget, and 21.6 percent ahead of the same period last year. Dog registrations represents 33 percent of total revenue year-to-date. When combined, these two areas make up 46 percent of total revenue for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. In addition, AKC's online presence is essential and is the principal method for the registration process. As of June 30, 2021, 84 percent of litter registrations and 82 percent of dog registrations occur online. We would like to express our thanks to the Registration Staff, who contribute to these results, as they serve our customers.

In closing this section, we would like to thank our breeders and the entire Delegate Body, our Board of Directors, and AKC Staff for these outstanding achievements, and we look forward to continuing success in the future.

Turning to events and entries, as Dr. Davies said earlier, we are seeing the return to normal. I will remind you, because the finance guy always has to, that in the six-month numbers presented we do still have an impact of the pandemic, but it's a declining impact, so we see improvements.

As of June 30, 2021, the total number of events is higher than the same period in 2020 by 109 percent, climbing to 9,782 from 4,671.

Following this good news, there is growth in the total number of entries. We see the total number of entries at 1.4 million, which is 86 percent higher than the same period in 2020. Looking ahead, our Sports & Events Staff has reported that our current projection for October indicate that the path back continues at a greater pace than our best year of 2019. We expect that 2021, at least for the second six-months of the year, may be the best in AKC's history.

We look forward to reporting these results in our third and fourth quarter reports, and, as always, we're pleased to hear when club events are increasing! So, we look forward to better times.

Next, let's take a look at the financial operating results for the six-months ended June 30, 2021 with comparison to budget in the prior year of the same period. At June 30, 2021, net operating income was \$17.4 million, which was realized on total revenue of \$52.1 million. These results were generated principally by increased registration revenues, registration related revenues – things that are sold with that registration and also events and entries. In addition, we have deployed an effective cost control methodology across all categories and have kept levels based on appropriate business needs. If we look at the six-month results comparing 2021 budget versus actual, we can see that our total revenue exceeds the budget by 36 percent. Controllable expenses for the same period are 4.6 percent lower than budget. These variances are due to cautious budgeting due to the pandemic's uncertainty and a slow return to business in the first six-months of 2021.

When comparing the first six-months of 2021 to the same period of 2020, we report that total revenues increased by 30 percent, while total controllable expenses are flat for the same period. So, let's dig a little bit deeper here and look at revenue. This slide has a breakdown of total revenue, which comprises significant lines, or groups of revenue. I'll refer to the groups and provide comments on significant elements in each group.

The group titled "Registration and Related Fees," reports actual revenue of \$31.167 million. This group is principally comprised of registration revenues of \$23.7 million and \$5.5 million of registration related revenues. Looking further into these totals, we compare year-to-date registration revenues against budget for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. For this period, revenues for this group are 31 percent higher, or \$5.6 million higher. When compared to the same period in 2020, revenues were 25 percent higher, or \$6.3 million. Revenues from litter and dog registrations comprise 46 percent of total revenue, so this is our key driver of business. When you compare that to the same prior year period, it's 47 percent. It's sustaining itself as it should.

When we look at dog registrations, we see that line by itself exceeded the year-to-date budget by 30 percent, or \$4.1 million, and in 2020 exceeded it by 25 percent, or \$3.4 million. Earlier I mentioned something called "Registration Related Revenues". These are things such as sales of certified pedigrees. As of June 30, 2021, they exceed year-to-date budget by 65 percent, or \$1.5 million. Online certificate transfers exceed budget by 36 percent, or \$207,000. AKC GoodDog! Helpline revenues exceed budget by 65 percent, or \$380,000.

Moving on from Registration, let's look at "Events and the Other Fees" segment, which combine revenues for reporting, service fees, title registration fees, and event application fees. Total revenues in this section are \$6.4 million at the end of June, which exceed budget by 52 percent, or \$2.2 million. So, clearly, we've got a good realization on where we see this activity that we talked about earlier. Revenues from event service fees lead this group and in total of 3.8 million

for the six-months ended June 30, 2021, and exceed budget by 52 percent, or \$1.9 million. This total also exceeds the same period in 2020 by 65 percent, or \$1.5 million. This is excellent news, which we approach with a cautious view.

Product and Service Sales group, year-to-date revenue totals \$6.1 million, which is 31 percent and \$1.4 million ahead of budget. Looking at this area, I would like to focus briefly on merchandise sales of \$1.5 million, which while ahead of budget is comparable to the prior year. This is supported by both E-Commerce and traditional order fulfillment sales. DNA services of \$1.1 million are ahead of budget and the prior year by 22 percent and 42 percent respectively.

Next, let's look at Advertising, Sponsorship and Royalties. Total revenues of \$7.8 million are ahead of both budget and prior year totals. This section is led by new and renewed sponsorships, which total \$3.8 million for the six-months ended June 30, 2021. This total exceeds budget by \$1.2 million, or 48 percent. Significant efforts are required each year to renew and further develop these agreements, which speak to the strength of the AKC brand. Advertising revenues total \$2.5 dollars, and exceed budget by 33 percent, fortunately on strong demand. When compared to 2020, advertising revenues are 54 percent higher, by \$856,000.

Moving onto controllable expense lines. Total controllable expenses for the six-month period ended June 30, 2021 was \$1.4 million less than budget and comparable for the same period in 2020. These lines are related to operating needs, and as our business demands increase, whether it be Staff or other expense lines, budget dollars are deployed to ensure that we appropriately use the AKC funds in meeting our business requirements. Here are some significant variances. Staff costs are lower than budget by 4 percent, or \$654,000, and are comparable to the 2020 actuals. Next we'll take two sections on here and look at them together, service and professional fees and promotion and public relations, because comparing the two has the same analysis in this case. Each of these are lower by anywhere from 10 to 20 percent, and this is principally due to the planned timing of when these dollars will be spent. All of this is driven by our best estimates when we prepared the 2021 budget, and while we made estimates during that process, the impact of the pandemic in the first six-months would cause timing changes for when we would spend the dollars, but all budgeted programs and activities have available funds. Also, please note at our federal and state levels AKC Government Relations Staff continues to provide support for legislation and promoting the AKC mission. One area of cost increase is fulfillment costs, as we incurred additional activity and merchandise sales. So this expense line is 13 percent ahead of budget.

This section called "Event Occupancy Expense," which is facility rentals for AKC events, is lower. This is principally due to not holding a 'meet the breeds' event in the first six-months of 2021. The last one was held in January of 2020. Which is in the right most column, is over \$1 Million. The left column in that section is only \$321,000. Our travel section is 51 percent lower than year-to-date budget and 24 percent lower than the same period in 2020. And this section, where we've titled, "Grants to Other Organizations," which are donations from AKC, we continue

that support as authorized by our annual budget. Donations to the Canine Health Foundation and Museum of the Dog are consistent with our budget and prior year actuals.

In addition to the Nowzad donation Dennis mentioned, the Board approved an additional donation of a \$100,000 to an organization called Take The Lead. Next let's review investment performance, and here we take a look at this as of the end of June 30, 2021. There is a bar graph that presents performance, and there is a pie chart, which talks about asset allocations. Investment performance, which follows our Board approved investment policy statement, is very positive, at 8.83 percent, beating the Balanced Index by 30 basis points. The one and three year trailing return, beat the benchmark. So, the portfolio is functioning well and doing what it's supposed to do for us. Asset allocation is key to diversify market risk.

Current allocation is equity investments in domestic category of 58 percent, international equity investments of 16 percent, and fixed income cash around 22 percent. There are private equity assets, which total 4 percent. Overall, this is a very good asset allocation strategy and good performance in a volatile market.

Finally, we want to show you our balance sheet. This is presented as of June 30, 2021, with a comparison to December 31, 2020. For June 30, 2021, I have total assets of \$179 million, or \$27 million higher than December 31, 2020. This increase is principally due to our positive net operating results, cost control and increased investments. The liabilities and commitment side of the balance sheet is generally comparable at June 30, 2021 with where it was on December 31, 2020. Therefore, the overall financial condition of AKC continues to be healthy thanks to the combination of increase in registration and other mission-related revenue generating activities. But remember, at the same time, we continue to assess risks using good governance, including tools, as I mentioned the investment policy statement, risk analysis reviews, and we also are considering the future impact of post retirement and pension plan obligations.

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your dedication. Thank you to our Board of Directors for their continuing support of AKC's mission and supporting our Staff. Obviously, we've all worked through many challenges, and we're definitely ready to move forward. Our combined efforts, you, the Delegates, our Board, our Staff, are the building blocks that will continue to make us successful.

I'm available to answer any questions at your convenience. On the last slide I have given you my contact information. Thank you, and I wish you a good day.

There was one vote on an amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, **Article VII, Sections 5, 6, and a New Section 7**, which affirmatively sets forth the ability of AKC's Board to meet virtually in whole or in part and clarifies the other sections related to Board meetings. As a result of the Bylaw amendment approved at the June 2021 Delegate Meeting, these section numbers were changed accordingly. This amendment was proposed by Staff and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, **Article VII, New Section 3**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, **Article VII, New Section 3**, which, moves the statement concerning the Board elections from Article VIII, which discusses the Nominating Committee, to Article VII, which addresses the election of the Board members.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, **Article VII, Section 8**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, **Article VII, Section 8**, which removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific power entrusted to the Board.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Charter and Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, **Article X, Section 7**.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Charter and Bylaws of The American Kennel Club, **Article X, Section 7**, which removes language that is superfluous and not necessary to understand the specific power entrusted to the Board.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Bylaws Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4 and 5** – Dog Show Classifications.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Sections 2, 4 and 5** – Dog Show Classifications, which inserts language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5,

into Chapter 3, Section 2, pertaining to how age is calculated for the purpose of entry into an AKC event. It removes language from Chapter 3, Sections 4 and 5, as to how age is calculated to eliminate redundancy. As a determination of age for entry relates to all classes and not just puppy and 12-18 months, insertion into Section 2 applies it globally. This also provides examples for benchmark ages, 6 months, 12 months, and 18 months.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Section 8** – Dog Show Classifications.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Section 8** – Dog Show Classifications, which provides clubs the opportunity to divide the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class by age, puppy and adult. This follows the same logic as the puppy and the 12-18 month classes. Dividing the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class by age would be an option for clubs and not a requirement. An entry from any division of class awarded winners would be counted toward the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class medallion as it advanced from the Bred-by-Exhibitor Class.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Section 11** – Dog Show Classifications.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows*, **Chapter 3, Section 11** – Dog Show Classifications, which revises language for consistency, defining that 1st place undefeated dogs of the same sex from the classes defined by the rules and all division of them, age, color, markings, et cetera, are eligible to compete in the Winners Class. It adds language to clarify that the only required classes to be offered are American Bred and Open, and all others are at the option of the club.

This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the *AKC Gazette* and you will be asked to vote on it at the December 2021 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously emailed.

Dr. Charles Garvin, AKC Board Member and Delegate for the Dalmatian Club of America, gave a presentation about the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank as follows:

Good morning, everyone. It's really nice to see everyone's smiling faces here, alive and in person. Although I guess in this day and age, it's nice to see everyone's smiling eyes. So today we're going to talk about the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank, and for many of you this is going to be familiar material, and others not so much.

We'll talk about why does semen preservation matter, various solutions, what has been done, and what are the next steps.

You have all heard about the problem of low entry breeds. Of our 196 recognized breeds, literally half, 98 of the breeds, are considered low entry breeds. And there is a correlation between low entry breeds and low breeding breeds. For example, 14 breeds in 2020, a year where registrations surged, 14 breeds registered fewer than ten litters during the entire year.

In the past, there have been episodes of grave concern. There were devastating effects during World War II in the 1940s. Rottweilers had five consecutive years of fewer than ten dogs registered per year. Bernese Mountain Dogs had five years in a row of zero dogs registered. Think what that does to your gene pool. These are not low entry breeds. Alaskan Malamutes and Flat-Coats had three consecutive years of zero dogs registered. When you have numbers like that, it makes your gene pool fragile.

Frozen semen was first used successfully in dogs in 1969 and has proved to be very successful. However, there is a significant amount that is forgotten, abandoned, or destroyed.

You heard about Juniors this morning, and if you think about it, even the best Junior eventually ages out. But, in the same way, even the best breeders are going to age out, where their breeding program will come to an end. The owners are no longer interested or able to pay for storage. They may become incapacitated or pass on. Their executors and heirs really don't appreciate the value, really don't care about that frozen semen that they're asked to pay for.

If you happen to have a great, great, great granddaughter that is intent on carrying on your line, you're in luck. Other people, probably not so much.

We're losing the genetic influence of our historic breed superstars every day. How much of this is lost? Well, that is a difficult number to come by. I do want to clarify a number that was mentioned yesterday, but our best estimate is that approximately 1,000 breeding units are destroyed every month.

So, what's the solution? We can prioritize preservation. Not just focusing on the low entry breeds, but any breed that could have a genetic bottleneck. New diseases crop up and are discovered. Unanticipated crises occur. Imagine, if you will, some novel, never seen before virus, that comes in and wipes out a significant portion of the population. Gosh, if something like that happened to our dogs!

If we look at the definition of preservation it is the carefully maintaining and protection of something valuable, especially in its natural state. But if we don't do that, then we look at the opposite. Ruin, waste, squander, neglect and dereliction. We recognize that preservation is critically important, but how can we put preservation into action?

The Otterhounds have taken a lead here, and in 2017 the AKC Board at their request approved a procedure so the AKC Parent Club could create an individual entity, a separate entity, for the use of frozen semen. The Otterhound Club of America successfully developed their own 501(c) organization for preservation purposes.

However, four years later, no other club has completely launched an operational reproduction bank. There are a few that are in process – Akitas, Boxers, Goldens, for example. And the reason is because it's difficult. There are significant barriers that individual clubs need to overcome to create a new organization. As you can imagine, significant legal issues, procedural, financial, and of course the biggest one is political issues inside the club.

So, our Mr. Idea, our key man, Dennis Sprung, suggested, what about if AKC established an all-encompassing, all breed preservation bank, that could benefit all Parent Clubs. AKC agreed with this and created a working group to explore this idea. I recognize you may have a hard time seeing some of these names, but they're all familiar to you, Dr. Joellen Gregory, Dr. Marty Greer, Dr. Jerry Klein DVM, Mark Dunn, Mari-Beth O'Neill, Ted Phillips, and me as Chair. Vanessa Skou on AKC Staff has been tremendously helpful in doing a lot of the leg work for us. I would like to take this time to thank the members of the work group who have put in a tremendous amount of time and effort in working on this project.

The things we explored – we surveyed the Parent Club leadership, we conducted outreach to theriogenology veterinarians and semen storage companies, we reviewed the Otterhound success. This topic, as you know, has been discussed at Delegate Committee Meetings, there is an article in *Perspectives* about this, and we've had extensive consultation with outside legal counsel. Some of the valuable findings from the Parent Club survey, where we had 80 percent of the Parent Clubs responding, which is a gratifyingly high number: one of the key questions, "What if the AKC were to set up such a bank? Do you think it's a good idea?" On a one to ten scale, 30 percent thought it was a ten out of ten, a great idea; and conversely, only 4 percent thought it was a bad idea. That is without knowing any of the details. We used such information to develop a detailed proposal.

In July of this year the AKC Board officially approved both the creation and the funding of an AKC Purebred Preservation Bank to be a new separate 501(c)3 organization with a ten-year budget and business plan.

Now, strictly speaking, this is not a semen bank, rather, we will be dealing with the semen banks that now exist and use them as vendors for us. The bank is also designed to be sure it does not compete with current breeders in any way. So now the real work begins.

We have broken it out into five main categories. Developing the governance structure and organization, that is, creating the 501(c)3, developing Bylaws, the Board and so forth. Second, to develop policies, procedures, and processes regarding coordination with Parent Clubs. This is the real key, where the devil is in the details. We'll work with Parent Clubs to help them develop semen donation approval processes and semen distribution approval processes. Third, is to develop storage cost optimization plan. What that means is to try to work with the existing semen banks to figure out where we can get the best deal. We have already located a low cost but high-quality provider. But we also need to make sure that they are in a safe situation to

mitigate the potential risks of what could possibly go wrong. We need to develop an extensive database describing the sires that are available, and we hope to have this on an interactive website. Finally, we need to develop a communication and public relations plan. We need to explain the process. We need to promote it. We recognize that Parent Clubs are going to be integral and key to the success of this. We're dedicated to the concept that Parent Clubs will have options, they'll have choices to make, but they'll not have mandates. As far as timeline, we hope to be up and running in 6 to 9 months.

We recognize that this is a long-term project and will require a shift in thinking. A shift from what benefits the breeders of today and today's breeding programs, to what is best for the breed itself in 25, 50, or 100 years. My prediction, and predictions are always a challenge, but I would predict that in 50 years there are very few of us sitting in this room that are going to still be breeding dogs actively.

What's going to be needed from the Parent Clubs? Obviously, first is a desire to participate, but second is developing the criteria for the acceptance and the use of the frozen semen. The third is developing a decision-making process; that is, who in the Parent Club is going to be making the decisions and how will those decisions be made. Finally, having a point person to work with the AKC bank. Now, the Purebred Preservation Bank is not going to leave the Parent Clubs out on an island all by themselves. We're going to be providing guidance and help in making these decisions and providing recommendations, alternatives, best practices, and frequently asked questions.

In summary, we're developing this AKC Purebred Preservation Bank to assist Parent Clubs to preserve the genetic heritage of their individual breeds. Parent Clubs themselves will be providing the decisions in the selection criteria. The Bank will be providing the organization, the infrastructure, the funding and the implementation.

Again, the focus is not on today's breeders, or breeding programs, but rather, the long-term future of your breed. Along the way we have always welcomed your questions, comments, and suggestions. My email is easy to remember, [charles.garvin@gmail.com](mailto:charles.garvin@gmail.com). We thank you very much for your attention. (The presentation will be posted on the Delegate Portal).

The Chair called on Jason Spiegel of KPMG to read the Teller's report results of the vote for the Delegate Standing Committees.

Mr. Spiegel: Thank you, Dennis. Good morning, everyone. It's great to see everyone here. The results of the voting of the Delegate Standing Committees are as follows:

For the **All-Breed Clubs Committee**, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Margaret DiCorleto, Michael Houchard, Laurie Maulucci and Frances Stephens.

For the **Bylaws Committee**, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Sylvia Arrowwood, Jan Ritchie Gladstone and Dr. Gregory Paveza.

Also, for the **Bylaws Committee**, the following candidate was elected for a two-year term: Eugenia Hunter.

In addition, for the **Bylaws Committee**, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Frederick Vogel.

For the **Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee**, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Dick Blair, Marylyn DeGregorio, Mary Lou Olszewski, and Marile Waterstraat.

For the **Dog Show Rules Committee**, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Cindy Miller, Tom Pincus, Johnny Shoemaker and Grace Wilkinson.

For the **Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee**, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Susanne Burgess, Florence Duggan and Karen Luckey.

Also, for the **Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee**, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Timothy Carrion.

For the **Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee**, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Carol Fisher, Kathleen Gregory and Maria Sacco

Also, for the **Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee**, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Joyce Rowland.

For the **Parent Clubs Committee**, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Don James, Pat Laurans, Peter Piusz and Harvey Wooding.

Also, for the **Parent Clubs Committee**, the following candidate was elected for a one-year term: Douglas Johnson.

The Chair read the names of the Delegates who will serve on the committees that did not require a vote:

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the **Canine Health Committee** are: Susan Hamil and Robert Tainsh.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the **Companion Events Committee** are: Jack Cadalso, Stephen Hersey, Gail LaBerge and Patty Sample.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve on the **Perspectives Editorial Committee** are: Sylvia Arrowwood, Alyson Casper, Blaine Grove, Sharyn Hutchens, Don James, Margaret "Peggy" Wolfe, Erika Wyatt.

The Chair called on the Vice Chair, Dominic Palleschi Carota, to recognize AKC Delegates who have served for 25 years.

Mr. Carota: Good morning, everyone. We will now honor Delegates that served for 25 years. This medallion is in recognition of meritorious and long-term contributions to the sport. This program enables us to recognize our core constituency and allows a grateful American Kennel Club the opportunity to honor our own. This is the 23rd time that AKC has had the privilege to present Delegates medallions. These individuals join 129 previously recognized Delegates.

The following Delegates were called forward:

**Marcia Sherman Adler**, Delray Beach, Florida, Indianapolis Obedience Training Club (not present)

**Linda C. Flynn**, Scituate, Massachusetts, South Shore Kennel Club (not present)

**Dr. Sophia Kaluzniacki**, Green Valley, Arizona, Akita Club of America and Canada Del Oro Kennel Club (not present)

**Sally J. Nist**, Alexandria, Virginia, Rapid City Kennel Club (not present)

Please join me in congratulating the honorees. I don't believe they're here today, so we will mail their medallions accordingly.

The Chair called on Chairman, Dr. Thomas Davies, to recognize the clubs celebrating 100 years of membership in The American Kennel Club.

Dr. Davies: Good morning again. The following clubs are celebrating 100 years of AKC membership:

**Bryn Mawr Kennel Club**, Delegate - Victoria Glickstein.

**Doberman Pinscher Club of America**, Delegate - Glen Lajeski.

**San Antonio Kennel Club**, Delegate - Nancy J. Shaw.

If any of these Delegates are present, please come forward to the front of the room to receive a plaque commemorating their club's century of AKC membership. *Delegate Glen Lajeski accepted the award for the Doberman Pinscher Club of America.*

The Executive Secretary read the report on the Nominating Committee as follows:

Ms. DiNardo: At the July 2021 meeting, the Board of Directors appointed the following Delegates to the Nominating Committee to select three candidates for the Class of 2026:

**Melanie Steele**, Chair, Delegate for the Abilene Kennel Club

**Pamela Stacey Rosman**, Delegate for the Canaan Dog Club of America

**Patti Strand**, Delegate for the Dog Fanciers Association of Oregon

**Maggi Strouse**, Delegate for the National Shiba Club of America

**Marilyn Vinson**, Delegate for the Southeastern Iowa Kennel Club

Alternates:

**Marge Calltharp**, Delegate for the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America

**Connie Clark**, Delegate for the American Fox Terrier Club

The recommendations of the Nominating Committee must be submitted by October 15, 2021. The Chair called on Gail LaBerge, Delegate for the Atlanta Obedience Club, who spoke about AKC's PAC initiatives. Chris Sweetwood, Delegate for the Trap Falls Kennel Club joined her for the PAC update.

Ms. LaBerge: Good morning. First, we want to show you a video that some of you have seen, but it was quite some time ago, and then we have a couple of brief announcements.

(Video played.)

Mr. Sweetwood: Many of you have seen this video before. You may be thinking it's the same old news. And it is. The problem is, the threat is real, and it doesn't go away. It's politics. It's always ongoing. It will be with us forever. That is why we really, really need your support on a long-term basis. We need your ongoing support. Please donate. Please consider becoming an ongoing supporter. Please see Sheila Goffe outside and make a donation. Remember, this isn't a lot, but it helps us with access and gets the AKC's message in the legislature's ear. Thank you.

Ms. LaBerge: Thank you. Chris Sweetwood is not only a member of the AKC Board of Directors, but he is Vice Chairman of the AKC PAC Board, and I'm thrilled to have him. He does great work for us. Thank you.

I want to announce, to some of you it's not a kept secret, that we are kicking off our AKC sweepstakes fundraiser today for the PAC. The grand prize will be an Impact Dog Crate® and the person who wins the crate gets to choose the size of the crate for their dog. Other prizes will be offered as we go along, but I can announce that we have two tickets for both nights of the Groups and Best in Show at Westminster. We also have a full-page ad in *Showsight* Magazine. That will be another one of our sweepstake prizes. So how can we help? Well, for a \$25 donation to PAC you get one ticket to put in for the drawing; for a \$100 donation, you get five tickets.

Do that today, take this back to your clubs, because if they give online, your members, they will be entered in the drawing. So, it's very important that you share the sweepstakes information. Sheila Goffe is at the Government Relations table at the top of the steps, and I will assist her, and we will take your money for your tickets today. Thank you. Thank you for your generous support of PAC, it means a lot, and it also helps Government Relations by opening some doors for them.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the December 17, 2021 Delegate Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Rosen Centre Hotel. More detailed information will be emailed to the Delegates as soon as it becomes available.

Lunch will be served following this meeting on the Terrace, which is on this floor, and in the Essex Ballroom on the lobby level. Delegates are reminded to leave their badges at the desk following lunch, and please pick up your 9/11 Memorial pin.

The Chair advised that the organizational meetings of the newly elected Standing Committees will take place at 1:30 p.m. Committees will be meeting in the Salem/Warren Room. Staff will be outside the meeting room to direct you.

The following Delegates spoke during New Business:

Dr. Gregory Paveza, Delegate for Elm City Kennel Club announced that due to a lack of quorum, the Bylaws Committee would hold their organizational meeting at the beginning of the December Delegate Meeting.

Harvey Goldberg, Delegate for Somerset Hills Kennel Club read a letter on behalf of the Somerset Hills Kennel Club Board that had been sent to the AKC Board of Directors regarding their opposition to the policy amendments for FastCAT® events. They made a request for a stay to the policy changes until the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee can give ample opportunity for input and suggestions by AKC Member Clubs and Delegates.

Steven Hamblin, Delegate for Pekingese Club of America, asked for the acknowledgement of all the new Delegates who had never been to an in-person meeting by having them stand up and be recognized.

Don James, Delegate for Leonberger Club of America proudly reported that as of 2020 the Leonberger Health Foundation joined the AKC CHF as a sponsoring member of a study put on by Dr. Jaime Modiano of the University of Minnesota that was designed to find early markers for both hemangiosarcoma and osteosarcoma. It was expected that it would take 3 years to raise the \$70,000 to support this study, but it only took 3 months.

Ann Wallin, Delegate for Atlanta Kennel Club gave an update from Tom Sharp on the AKC Reunite trailers in Pat Laurans' absence. One of the trailers donated to Harris County Animal Services deployed in Houston, stationed at NRG Arena for Tropical Storm Nicholas. They expected the emergency shelter to open by the next day. AKC Communications/PR will release a media alert. AKC Reunite is thankful to the Houston Kennel Club and the AKC Humane Fund, who helped to fund the two trailers for Harris County. The Texas and Louisiana coasts were being monitored for storm developments.

Geno Sisneros, Delegate for American Pomeranian Club asked that articles for the December issue of *Perspectives* be submitted to him as the coordinator or Sylvia Thomas, Editor, by October 15, 2021.

Mary Lou Olszewski, Delegate for American Bloodhound Club and Chair of the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee shared that the online Delegate Handbook was posted

to the Delegate Portal – a product of collaborative hard work by the committee, Delegates, Mr. Sprung and AKC Staff. She encouraged the Delegates to utilize this tool and provide feedback.

Susanne Burgess, Delegate for English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association thanked the Board, the Staff, and all of AKC for the tremendous job that was done during the pandemic in promoting and providing inventive ways for clubs to continue on many of their activities. She recommended continuing the virtual events in the future as they appeal to the young people across the United States.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

*(One sharp rap of the gavel.)*

(Time noted: 12:15 p.m. ET.)

***The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.***