



GROWL

ESTABLISHED 1958

APRIL 2014

PROGRESS TO A BETTER FUTURE

AKC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
March 2014

New York, NY – Coming originally from the Bronx and being an ardent baseball fan, I always admired New York Yankees Hall of Fame catcher Yogi Berra. He is not only famous for being a gifted player, but also for his gifted ability for a memorable turn of phrase – like “when you come to a fork in the road, take it” and “always go to other people’s funerals, otherwise they won’t come to yours.”

While Yogi employed malapropisms to make his point memorable, his intent was always abundantly clear. One Yogism stands out as being especially appropriate to the American Kennel Club at this time – “the future ain’t what it used to be.”

I believe our future is very different today than it was just a short time ago. On every front there are clear opportunities out there that can make the AKC stronger. Through our commitment to relentless positive action we are seizing those opportunities and creating significant positive progress.

All progress has a starting point and today I will share some of those starting points with the understanding that progress is experimental; progress is impossible without change; and, most importantly, progress is made through implementing ideas and learning from them.

We are making significant progress in the never-ending journey to get the true story of the AKC, purebred dogs, and responsible breeders out to the American public. In partnership with Edelman, we are making progress in changing the conversation and reaching the right people - including young families and empty nesters. The positive story we have is more engaging than it was just a

year ago. Media outlets of all types and all geography are more interested in positive stories about who we are and what we do for dogs than ever before. Last year, we earned 22.5 billion media impressions with a value of almost \$100 million – a 10% increase over 2012.

In addition to our traditional stories, we are now getting stories telling the truth about purebred dogs and responsible breeders. We are communicating focused messages of the value of purebred predictability and the importance of breeder expertise. We have developed and included allied voices within our PR opportunities, including breeders and veterinarians, all adding to the credibility of the AKC. A special thanks goes to Patti Strand for her commitment and assistance in helping us with a story clarifying the misconceptions about purebred dogs and breeders.

What impact is this progress in media outreach having on our public perception? Here’s one simple measurement: The slings and arrows sent our way on social media have dropped by over 40%. Plus we are growing our social media supporters every day via every venue available.

Our success in connecting with the public has not gone unnoticed. Advertisers are more interested than ever in utilizing AKC.org and the Wall Street Journal has taken notice of our positive progress.

Certainly, our AKC/Eukanuba National Championship is an important element in reaching the public. Last year, the show was live-streamed to over 3 million people. While we had more people watching more of the show than ever before, I believe there is opportunity for even more engagement with the public by getting the show back on TV. With the Board’s enthusiastic agreement and Eukanuba’s approval, I have assembled a team of Staff, Edelman, and a group within Edelman specializing in opportunities like this to immediately pursue every possible option that would bring this unique celebration of dogs to television for the

In this issue:

AKC Chairman’s Report	1, 8, 9
President’s Message	2
March Meeting Minutes.....	3
2014-15 RKC Slate.....	3
RKC Achievement Award Forms.....	5-7
Training schedules	8
Dates to Remember.....	10

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.RAMAPOKENNELCLUB.COM

President's Message



JACK GRASSA

Sharon Fremer

Next month, May, is Ramapo Kennel Club's annual election. The nominating committee chaired by Lorraine Fennemore, has chosen its slate of officers and board members, which is listed elsewhere in this issue of The Growl. Per our new

Constitution and Bylaws, this year we will elect a President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and three Directors. Next year we will elect a Vice President, Recording Secretary and the other three Directors. Nominations from the

floor will be accepted only at the April general membership meeting (last month's President's Message misstated that they could also be accepted at the May meeting—they cannot). The Bylaws stipulate the following:

Additional nominations may be made at the April meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed. If the proposed candidate is not in attendance at the meeting, the proposer shall present to the Recording Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. The additional nominations which are provided for may be made only from among those members who were not nominated by the Nominating Committee or who declined

such nomination. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.

I once again urge our members to make a difference by volunteering for one of the many committees our next President will assemble. (Please see last month's president's message for a list of what they are.) There is much to choose from and your help will be greatly appreciated.

Jeffrey Ball, 2014 point show chairman, held his first show committee meeting on Monday, 3/31. Here is another opportunity for people to do something meaningful for the club. We are always in need of volunteers both leading up to and on the days of the shows. Please contact Jeffrey at jeffbetsyball@yahoo.com or at (201) 446-4569 to find out what you can do to help.

Ramapo will hold its first match show, including Conformation, Obedience and Rally, in 2 years on Saturday, June 7th. It will be held at Sunnybank, former home of Albert Payson Terhune and his famous Collies, on Route 202 in Wayne, NJ. Details will be published as they become available. Our match show chairman is Melissa Ayer. She may be reached at melissa.ayer@gmail.com or on her cell at (203) 313-2697.

This month's meeting presentation will be made by Shelter Our Pets, an all-volunteer nonprofit corporation serving New Jersey and beyond. Their mission is to provide a safe haven for the pets of victims of domestic violence that must flee their abusive situations. Shelter Our Pets assists people seeking safety from violence by providing alternatives to giving up a beloved pet, leaving a pet behind in a potentially dangerous situation or continuing to subject themselves and their pets to abuse. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

The days have become both longer and warmer. Fingers crossed winter is finally behind us. Enjoy!

Sharon

Ramapo Kennel Club Officers

President

Sharon Fremer
teneo@mac.com

Vice President

Arlene Stover

Treasurer

Ruth Henningsen

Recording Secretary

Kim Luikert

Corresponding Secretary

Tilly Grassa
tgcreative@aol.com

Board of Directors

2014

Joanne Silver
Gerrie Oliver

2015

Rose Radel
Amy Starost

2016

Lorraine Fennemore
Janis Hayes

AKC Delegate

Jeffrey David Ball

Minutes

RKC Member Meeting

March 12, 2014

VFW Hall

Fairfield, NJ 07004

Sharon Fremer called the meeting to order at 8:30pm.

Recording Secretary- Rose Radel made a motion to accept the January 18th minutes, Melissa Ayer seconded, voted upon and approved.

Corresponding Secretary- Tilly Grassa passed around the slate of officers for the Federation, as well as an AKC notice about dog on dog attacks at events and AKC event operation department changes.

Treasurer- February's bank balance is \$20,176.11 and the money market for the end of February was \$22,798.69. The 2013 final Point show expenses resulted in a \$434.87 deficit.

Obedience Class- All classes are full.

Show Handling- Has been very well attended.

Programs- "Shelter our Pets" will be coming for the April meeting.

Match Show- Melissa Ayers made a motion to hold the 2014 Match show (Breed and Obedience) on June 7th at Sunnybank, Terhune Memorial Park in Wayne. Tilly seconded, voted on and approved. Anyone with judge suggestions please see Melissa.

Point Show- There will be a meeting at the VFW hall in Fairfield on Monday March 31st at 7:30.

AKC Delegate's Report- Jeffrey Ball reported that the following Delegates were elected to the AKC Board of Directors as the Class of 2018:

James R. Dok

Dr. J. Charles Garvin

Ronald H. Menaker

The AKC Board elected Alan Kalter as Chairman, and Dr. J. Charles Garvin as Vice Chair.

He was very disappointed Pat Scully was not re-elected to the AKC Board.

Jeffrey also talked in depth about the happenings of the meetings he attended on March 10-11th. He summarized the larger issues of the meetings.

NJ Federation of Dog Clubs- Julio Proctor will be the speaker at the April 7th meeting.

Amy and Jeffrey will bring refreshments to the April meeting.

Gerrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm, seconded by Lorraine voted upon and approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kim Luikert

March 23, 2014

NOMINATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES 2014/2015 SLATE

The nominating committee consisting of Lorraine Fennemore, Cindy McMillan and Elizabeth Smith with alternates being Joan Murko and Vivian Bregman would like to present the slate for Ramapo Kennel Club. All terms are for 2 years.

President - Jeffrey Ball

Corresponding Secretary - Tilly Grassa

Treasurer - Ruth Henningsen

Board of Directors - Melissa Ayers

Board of Directors - Gerrie Oliver

Board of Directors - Rose Radel

The current positions of Vice President, Recording Secretary, and 3 board members (Amy Starost Janis Hayes and Lorraine Fennemore are not up for reelection this year according to our new constitution).

Additional nominations may be made at the April meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated does not decline when their name is proposed. If the proposed candidate is not in attendance at the meeting, the proposer shall present to the Recording Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying willingness to be a candidate. The additional nominations which are provided for may be made only from among those members who were not nominated by the Nominating Committee or who declined such nomination. No person may be a candidate for more than one position.

RKC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS - DEADLINE APRIL 15TH!

Attention Members!

The RKC Achievement Award Nomination forms are on pages 5-7. Please remember to apply for your achievement awards each year. There are many categories in which you may qualify. Please check the website Ramapokennelclub.com for the complete list of categories.

Descriptions and requirements for Special Club awards are also listed in the front portion of your Roster. Applications due by April 15, 2014.

MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL 2014 - 2015

Dues for the coming year 2014 – 2015 are now due and payable by **June 1, 2014**. Please make checks payable to the RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB and mail to:

Ruth Henningsen, Treasurer
153 Holland Mt. Rd.
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

**Membership shall be considered lapsed if dues are not paid by July 1, 2014.

_____ Junior Membership \$10.00 (10 – under 18 years old)

_____ Regular Membership \$25.00

_____ Family Membership \$40.00 (2 persons 18 yrs and older residing in the same household)

_____ Life Membership (25 years) No membership fee required. \$10.00 to receive the GROWL/ROSTER BY MAIL

SUBSCRIPTION FEE \$10.00 With the increased cost of printing and postage, if you would like to continue to receive the GROWL and ROSTER **by mail** you will need to include a \$10.00 fee with your membership renewal. **This includes Life Members.** You can view the Growl on line at www.ramapokennelclub.com for no fee.

In order to update our records and the Roster please include any additions or corrections to your current listing. **PLEASE PRINT Life Members—please fill in this form to keep your information up to date**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip+4 _____

E-Mail _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____

(work) _____ (fax) _____

Kennel Name _____ Breed _____

Interests: (circle) Breeder Agility CGC evaluator Conformation Field Trials Hunt Test

Judge Obedience Pet Therapy Rally Rescue Tracking Other _____

**Please return this entire form with your payment. Check made payable to Ramapo KC
Ruth Henningsen, Treasurer 153 Holland Mt. Rd. Oak Ridge, NJ 07438**

THANK YOU

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATIONS

CALENDAR YEAR JAN. 1, 2013 THROUGH DEC. 31, 2013

Reg. Name of Dog _____
Dog _____ Bitch _____
AKC# _____ Breed/Variety _____

Owner(s) _____

Address _____

Breeder _____

Owned by member(s) _____ Bred by Member(s) _____

Handled by Member(s) _____

*Indicate name of RKC Member who is to receive the award.

CATEGORY

HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BIS (All Breed) Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

BIS (Specialty) Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

High in Trial Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

Best in Field Trial Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

Conformation Champion Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

Grand Champion Show _____ Date _____

Obedience Trial Champion Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

Field Trial Champion Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

OBEDIENCE DEGREE AWARDS

BN,PCD,CD,GN,PCDX,CDX,GO,PUTD,UD,UDX,VER,TD,TDX,RN,RA,RE,RAE, OM,OGM

TITLE

_____ Show _____ Date _____

_____ Show _____ Date _____

_____ Show _____ Date _____

OTHER AKC TITLES (Herding, Field, Agility etc.)

_____ Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

_____ Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

_____ Show _____ Date _____ Country _____

Photocopies of all AKC Titles must be sent with entry. No awards will be given without photocopies. NO EXCEPTIONS!! Non-AKC Titles will only count towards the breeders' award and certificates of achievement. Temperament testing is a Non-AKC Title.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION, continued

Non-Regular Awards and Requirements

Additional Non-AKC Awards (CGC, TT, etc., applicable for Certificate of Achievement only)

Show _____	Date _____	Country _____
Show _____	Date _____	Country _____
Show _____	Date _____	Country _____
Show _____	Date _____	Country _____
Show _____	Date _____	Country _____

AENNCHEN ANTONELLI/GILMA BLAUVELT - MOSS BREEDERS AWARD

1. Award to be won by a club member who is the breeder of record of the dogs winning the most titles in each calendar year. Dogs do not need to be owned by the club member. It is the total number of titles won which determines the winner, not the number of individual dogs.
2. Any recognized titles shall be included, ie Champion, Obedience, Field, Working Dog, etc.
3. Titles may be won in any country of the world.

LEE ABRAHAM AWARD FOR BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Presented to the owner of the bitch who:

1. Produced the most champions (bred by owner from one bitch only) during the calendar year.
2. Only American Kennel Club Championships to count.

MILLIE MC CABE AWARD FOR STUD DOG OF THE YEAR

Presented to the owner of the Stud Dog who:

1. Produced the most "Champions" during the calendar year.
2. Only American Kennel Club Championships to count.

WILLIAM AND RUBY KLEINMANN'S MEMORIAL AWARD

This Award is figured from January 1, 2013 thru December 31, 2013, for the June 2013 Award. This award will be based on the greatest number of dogs defeated in breed competition (up to and including Best in Show) by a single dog **handled by its Owner**. Dogs owned or co-owned by a Professional handler are excluded. If the dog is owned and handled by more than one member (neither of which is a Professional handler), both members will share the award equally.

LESLEE VALENTE MEMORIAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE IN OBEDIENCE

This award is given to a member who handled the dog with the highest average scores in AKC Novice A or B from January 1, 2013, thru December 31, 2013. Minimum of three scores required. Shows and scores must be provided. Winner is to retain custody of the award for the year.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The following rules govern the choice of the recipient of this award each year.

1. This award is presented to the RKC member who has provided dedicated service to the club and the sport of purebred dogs.

RAMAPO KENNEL CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION, continued

2. Award is given to a club member who has received the most letters of recommendation by the membership.
3. In the event of a tie the recipient shall be chosen by the Board of Directors from those individuals recommended by letters from the membership.
4. To be presented at the June Awards Dinner. Recipient only may be told to insure their being present.

American Kennel Club Outstanding Sportsmanship Award

1. This award celebrates those individuals who deserve special recognition for having made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embody the AKC code of sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club. The award is given to a club member who has been nominated and approved by the majority of the board of directors and officers PRIOR to the May meeting and shall be presented at the June awards dinner. The awards chair will be notified by April 15th. The recipient only may be notified by the awards chair to insure their being present.

Eligibility for Ramapo Kennel Club Awards

In order to apply and receive any Achievement Awards, members must fulfill at least two of the following:

1. Work the Point Show.
2. Work the Match Show.
3. Attend two (2) Club Meetings
4. Work at Obedience and/or Show Handling Classes
5. Work on a Club Committee.
6. Participate in a Public Education Demonstration through the Club
7. Participate in a Pet Therapy Session through the Club.

(Life Members or members living more than 60 miles from show functions are exempt)

In addition, to give recognition to a greater number of members, Achievement Awards will be limited to three (3) consecutive wins by a member.

All award entries must be received by APRIL 15th, 2014 with photocopies of Wins and Titles to:

**ELAINE BARONE
10 BIRCH ROAD
KINNELON, NJ 07405-2505
E-mail elaineb.bowow@juno.com**

YOU MAY E-MAIL ELAINE YOUR LETTERS FOR THE "GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD"

Feel free to e-mail your awards ONLY if you can scan the forms and certificates required.
Thank you, and Elaine looks forward to hearing from all of you.

SHOW HANDLING SCHEDULE -2014

TUESDAY EVENINGS

6:45 - 7:30

DROP IN CLASSES ONLY

\$10.00 per dog

Apr. 15, 29

May 6, 20

June 3, 17

FMI: LINDA HACHTEL
973-697-4337
or rkc@ramapokennelclub.com



RKC TRAINING CLASS SCHEDULE -2014

TUESDAY EVENING-Rally Advanced/Excellent

7:30-8:30

SESSION 3

Apr. 15

SESSION 4

Apr. 22, 29

May 6, 20, 27

June 3, 17

Pet Training/Obedience Schedule WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

SESSION 3

Apr. 16, 23

SESSION 4

Apr. 30

May 7, 21, 28

June 4, 18, 25

June 24 (Tuesday) Canine Good Citizen Testing/ snow day

(there is a fee for the test)

FOR CLASS INFORMATION AND TIMES CONTACT:

RUTH HENNINGSEN 973-697-9456 or email at:
RUTHH.SNO-DOG@JUNO.COM
OR JOANNE SILVER 201-891-5090
JOANNE SILVER1937@YAHOO.COM

AKC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, continued from page 1

enjoyment of the 99 million people who love dogs as much as we do. I will keep you informed as we progress on this quest.

We continue to make progress in events. There are numerous ideas being vetted across all sports and many have been implemented already:

- The CGC title was launched last year and already we have applications for 17,000 dogs. The new Advanced CGC is gaining traction with over 1000 dogs titled.

- Two clubs have applied for the pilot program allowing two conformation shows in one day. One club is a perfect example of how we thought this option would work to benefit clubs and exhibitors. The club is currently allowed four shows per year, averaging less than 300 dogs per show in a remote geography. Their plan is to have four shows in three days and we believe it will be very successful.

- We have analyzed the impact of the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS). The data demonstrates that the NOHS is a desirable and motivating offering for exhibitors. On average, those clubs that offered NOHS at their all-breed conformation shows saw a significant increase in entries versus similar shows that didn't. No other special attraction, including Best Puppy and Best Bred-by-Exhibitor, had an

impact on entries. Research with NOHS participants around the country revealed that the availability of the NOHS competition at an event directly impacts their decision to enter. In the inaugural NOHS Finals held in conjunction with AENC last year, more than 520 competitors entered, representing 160 breeds and varieties from 43 states and Canada.

- In our quest to bring new exhibitors into Conformation, we created the 4-6 Beginner Puppy Competition. Research yields that about 50% of the exhibitors are new to the sport and 68% of those that participate go on to enter the regular puppy class when their dog is eligible.

- The AKC Agility staff is in the process of developing a new pre-novice class in order to help attract new exhibitors and keep this event growing.

- The AKC Performance Events Staff is considering a way to acknowledge a dog's lifetime of achievement and promote continuing involvement in the sport for the many dogs that run out of new titles before they run out of ability and desire.

- Innovation drives growth in events. Agility is the perfect example of this thinking. Staff is working on new events that

are fun for dog and exhibitor, instinct based, and open to all dogs.

We are making progress in dog and litter registrations, also. While we are still declining, the rate of decline has dropped significantly. We believe there are three key reasons for this. The first is that we are doing a much better job of telling our story, particularly about our Good Works program and its connection to registration for sustainability. In addition, two initiatives have had positive impact.

- Late last year, AKC introduced Breeder EZReg, an online tool that gives breeders an easy way to ensure all of their puppies are registered. Breeders that use it enjoy significant discounts on fees, complete naming control, plus other advantages. More and more breeders are using this new tool to register all of their puppies.

- We are currently working on a new breeder support program that rewards breeders who perform the health testing recommended by their breed's Parent Club. This program, along with AKC Breeder of Merit, allows us to help the public find a responsible breeder. And allows the AKC to not just defend breeding, but to improve it.

Helping breeders find good homes for their puppies and prospective owners find good breeders as a source for their puppies is an important part of growing registration and sport participation. To help accomplish those goals, the AKC Breeder Classifieds is getting a major overhaul that will deliver a much more consumer-friendly experience and therefore, a better

showcase for AKC breeders. Look for the introduction of this great new tool very soon.

Our progress to a better future for the AKC is real. We recognize progress does not move in a straight line all the time. There will be highs and lows, beginnings and pauses, successes and failures. Through it all, we will remain optimistic, confident, and innovative – knowing that we can succeed when we have the courage, initiative, and vision to try.

And that's where you can help. Ideas will drive our progress and I just know there are some good ones out there. We have established two easy ways for you to share your brainstorm as they happen. There is a new email address – AKCideas@akc.org – and a new voicemail line – (212) 696-8226. Both are open and we welcome your thoughts around anything that can help the AKC.

I believe we are catching a contagion of success. As Yogi said, "It ain't over until it's over."

As always, your comments and suggestions are welcome at atk@akc.org.

Sincerely,

Alan Kalter Chairman

GOT STUFF?

Send your news, brags, suggestions, comments and photos to Tilly Grassa, tgcreative@aol.com.

Remember the *Growl* comes out about a week before each monthly meeting. Check the calendar on the last page for submission deadlines. The *Growl* is by and for the members so I need your help to make it interesting.



GROWL

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973-633-5254

Dates to remember:

All membership meetings are held at

**VFW HALL
45 PLYMOUTH STREET
FAIRFIELD, NJ AT 8:00 PM
(unless otherwise noted)**

- WEDNESDAY, April 9** 7:15 PM- BOD Meeting; 8:00 PM- RKC Member Meeting,
Program: A presentation by Shelter Our Pets
- WEDNESDAY, April 30** Deadline for May Growl
- WEDNESDAY, May 14** 7:15 PM- BOD Meeting; 8:00 PM- RKC Member Meeting,
(members only due to Officer and Board Elections).
- SATURDAY, June 7** Ramapo KC Match, Sunnybank, Terhune Memorial Park, Wayne, NJ
- WEDNESDAY, May 28** Deadline for May Growl
- WEDNESDAY, June 11** Annual Awards Dinner, location to be announced



GROWL

11 Pershing Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

FIRST CLASS MAIL