



101 Spots

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Greater Pittsburgh Dalmatian Club Official Newsletter

Educating the public about the Dalmatian Breed
Sponsoring Breed and Obedience Matches and Shows
Promoting Quality Breeding to Better the Dalmatian Breed

AKC GROUP REALIGNMENT REPORT

October 13, 2008

On October 8, 2007, the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, appointed an exploratory committee, chaired by Dr. Thomas Davies, to evaluate the current alignment of breeds within the seven variety groups, to determine if a different alignment would better serve the Sport now and in the future, as new breeds become registrable.

The committee met together three times, and has discussed its recommendations via email, as well. The initial basis for the discussions centered on the increasing number of new breeds being brought into the AKC Stud Book, as well as the number of breeds awaiting acceptance currently in the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) listing.

In its deliberations, the committee considered several sources of information. The historical data suggested that the makeup of the groups for conformation judging was by no means a static listing. There were many changes in the distribution of breeds for show purposes (and for listing in AKC's Stud Book), and, in fact, no official, recorded group judging appears to have occurred prior to 1924. Group awards became official in 1925 with competition in five groups (Sporting, Working, Terrier, Toy and Non-Sporting). In 1930 the Sporting Group was split into the Sporting and Sporting (Hound) Groups. In 1983, the Working Group was split into the Working Group and the Herding Group.

The committee also considered two (non-official, non-scientific) polls, neither of which, in and of themselves, demanded a particular realignment. The general sense, however, was that it was time to do something about the burgeoning sizes of several of the groups, as well as the actual makeup of breeds within groups. The Delegate's Dog Show Rules Committee had conducted a short survey which indicated that about 75% of the respondents favored change. A much larger survey (1341 responders) appeared on the Infodog.com web site where only 17% of the respondents suggested that things were fine as they stood.

The first few months of the committee's existence was taken up by a thorough study of the Group system and a more detailed understanding of the history, form and function of the various breeds within the current group structure. Additionally, the makeup of groups around the world was reviewed.

After careful examination of the groups and the breeds that make them up, the committee decided that two of the current groups, which in a short time span could approach 40 breeds, can easily and logically be divided into two similar components. The Sporting Group can be divided into Sporting — Pointers and Setters, and Sporting — Retrievers and Spaniels. Functionally, this split made sense to the committee. Secondly, a logical division of the Hound Group would be Scent Hounds and Sight Hounds.

The third major change would be the creation of a new group, consisting of the Northern or Spitz type breeds. To populate

this new group, we took the Norwegian Elkhound (from the Hound Group); the Akita, Alaskan Malamute, the Siberian Husky and the Samoyed (from the Working Group); the American Eskimo, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chow, Finnish Spitz, Keeshond, Schipperke and Shiba Inu (from the Non-Sporting Group); and the Swedish Vallhund (from the Herding Group). The Parent clubs of these breeds were contacted and asked for their input.

We also chose to rename the Non-Sporting Group, since in fact it is (in addition to non-sporting) a non-hound, non-working, non-terrier, non-toy and non-herding group. After struggling with an appropriate name, we selected the Companion Group as the "new" name for this group.

In addition to moving the above mentioned Northern/Spitz breeds into a new group, we considered the group placement of several other breeds, which we considered as possible candidates for relocation. Each of these was based on careful study of the history, form and function of the particular breed. In each case, the Parent breed club was contacted and asked to weigh in on their thoughts. Each of those contacted chose to remain in their current group alignment except two. The Italian Greyhound wished to move to the Sight Hound Group and **the Dalmatian requested a move to the Working Group.**

The committee did discuss the issue of varieties; however, it was felt that this was somewhat beyond the scope of our charge at this time.

Our recommendation would necessitate the addition of three groups to the listing currently in place (7 groups). This would require Delegate approval to make changes to Chapter 3, Sections 1, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 20, and Chapter 6, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. It may be useful to remove the reference to the number of groups from all of the above sections, except Chapter 3, Section 1. In addition, Chapter 2 of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline refers to the number of groups, and would require Delegate approval to change.

The committee, by submission of this report, would request that the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, in accordance with Article XX of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, propose and submit the necessary amendments to the Delegate body, to be read at the December meeting of the Delegate Body, published in two issues of AKC Gazette, and voted upon at the March, 2009 meeting of the Delegate Body.

The AKC Group Realignment Committee General input should be sent to the Executive Secretary:

James Crowley, Executive Secretary
American Kennel Club, 260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY
10016 Email: grouprealign@akc.org Fax: 212-696-8252
Breed-specific comments should be submitted through the breed Parent Club. This will be considered by the AKC Board at its January 2009 meeting.

AKC Influences Amendments to Pennsylvania



October 14, 2008

The AKC successfully impacted Pennsylvania House Bill 2525 by asking Senators to communicate with the commercial breeding community to address many of the unreasonable engineering provisions in the original bill. The bill, which makes extensive changes to Pennsylvania's Dog Law with regard to the issuance of dog licenses, kennel licenses, out-of-state dealer licenses, kennel requirements, and inspections of premises and dogs, was signed into law on Thursday, October 9th.

The AKC Government Relations Department contacted each Senator in September and urged them to work with stakeholders in

the commercial breeding community to address engineering standards, which were of particular concern to breeders in Pennsylvania. In conjunction with the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, the AKC also conducted a Lobby Day event, providing all concerned breeders with the tools and strategies necessary to advocate for amendments to the proposal. In addition, AKC facilitated meetings with elected officials in Harrisburg. As a result of the AKC efforts and the organized and effective response of AKC breeder groups, many of the major concerns with the original language were addressed.

The new law also provides for the creation of the Canine Health Board, a regulatory body that will determine animal husbandry standards. The AKC will continue to address those issues through the regulatory and enforcement processes. For more information about the bill, contact AKC's Government Relations Department at (919) 816-3720, or e-mail doglaw@akc.org.

GPDC minutes September 13, 2008

Present: Nanci Good, Barb Allison, Carl and Kim Myers, Cindy Kulikowski, Chris Aronowski, Kevin Boston, Rick Hunt, Deb Poole, Lisa Bauer, Kathy Wetzal, Elise Morris,

3:15 PM Meeting called to order by President Kathy Wetzal

Minutes from July 19th meeting read by Elise Morris. No corrections noted. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor, minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report read by Nancy Cummerick

The financial report for the months of July, 2008 and August 2008 were read, with beginning balances, ending balances, disbursements and receipts. It was moved and seconded to accept the report. All in favor, and the report will be filed for future audit.

Corresponding Secretary not present- No report

Breeder Referral- Barb Allison and Pat Martin will both be having a new litter of puppies in the next month or so.

Newsletter – No news at this time.

Awards Banquet: Co-chairs are Cindy Kulikowski and Lisa Bauer. Information for awards must be received by November 15th for awards that have been earned by Oct 31st.

This Awards Banquet/Holiday Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2008 beginning at 7:00 at the Rivertowne Pour House,

312 Center Road, Monroeville, PA, 15146 (412-372-8199). The meal is \$25. each and includes appetizer, salad, entrée, potato, vegetable, dessert, rolls and beverage. Reservations are needed and should be sent to Lisa Bauer (724-443-1057). We will also have our annual gift exchange. Those who wish to participate need to bring a wrapped gift worth \$10-\$15.

New Business: Voted on Kim and Larry Melen to be new members of the GPDC, sponsored by Nancy Cummerick and LaDonna King. All in favor, Kim and Larry are our newest members.

3:40:PM. Moved by Nanci Good and seconded by Nancy Cummerick to adjourn. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Elise Morris, Recording secretary

Minutes are printed pending approval at the January Membership meeting.



AKC ALERT

United States – The “Puppy Uniform Protection Statute”, or PUPS Act, has been introduced in the United States Congress. In the House, the bill is known as H.R. 6949; in the Senate, as S. 3519. Purportedly, the legislation will close a loophole in the federal Animal Welfare Act that currently allows large, commercial breeders who sell puppies online and directly to the public to escape licensing and regulation. The bill would require that anyone who sells an animal directly to the public for use as a pet and who breeds or raises more than 50 dogs for use as pets during any one-year period to be licensed. Additionally, it imposes mandatory exercise requirements for animals kept on dealers' premises.

AKC news and tips reprinted from www.akc.org

Anise Dog Bones

Ingredients

- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 2 tablespoon soy flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dry yeast
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 cup unbleached flour
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 2 tablespoons wheat bran
- 1 tablespoon anise seed

Place all ingredients in bread maker in order that manual suggests. Use dough cycle. Remove from maker when cycle is complete. Divide into 3 portions. Roll each portion to a thickness of 1/8” to 1/2”, depending on size cookie cutter you are using. Cut with cookie cutter, cover with clean towel and let rise for 45-60 minutes. Bake at 275 degrees F for about an hour or until lightly browned. Turn off oven and let the *dog bones* finish drying overnight in the oven.

AKC Tips to Winterize your Dog

Cold weather brings its own safety and health concerns for both people and dogs. As a responsible dog owner, it is important to pay attention to your dog's well-being during the winter. The American Kennel Club® offers the following advice to help prepare your pet for the long, cold winter.



- **Provide Plenty of Fresh Water** - Your dog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer, and snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.



- **Provide Plenty of Food** - Feed your dog additional calories if it spends a lot of time outdoors or is a working animal. It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary. Dogs that are kept indoors with the family and get less exercise during winter months may actually gain weight so keep an eye on his diet.



- **Keep Your Dog's Paws Dry** - Rinse your dog's feet and dry them completely after a walk. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.



- **Groom Your Dog Regularly** - Your dog needs a well-groomed coat to keep properly insulated. Towel or blow-dry your dog if he gets wet from rain or snow.
- **Keep Your Dog Warm, Dry and Away From Drafts** - Adequate shelter is a necessity. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold. Place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.

Watch Out for the following winter hazards:



- **Cold** - Don't leave your dog outside for long periods of time. Wind chill makes days colder than actual temperature readings, and dogs are susceptible to frostbite on their ears, tails, and feet.
- **Ice and Snow** - Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog outside. Your pup could slip or jump in a frozen lake, river, or pond and get seriously injured. Snow can muffle scents, and your dog can easily get lost.



- **Carbon Monoxide** - Don't leave your dog alone in a car. It gets too cold, and carbon monoxide from an engine left running is dangerous.
- **Antifreeze** - Although it smells and tastes good to your dog, antifreeze is highly poisonous and can be lethal.

2009 Membership Dues

Individual \$20 — Family \$25 Checks should be payable to GPDC and mailed to N. Cummerick, 527 Humphrey Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____ Website _____

SUNFLOWER CLASSIC DCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

2009

April 2nd - April 8th

Lawrence, Kansas



Heartland Dalmatian Club of Greater Kansas City Regional Specialty immediately following the National at the same location!



Dalmatian Club of America

Board Meeting

Saturday, February 28, 2009

Chicago, Illinois

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Mark your calendar!!
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2009
3:00 PM
WPKA Training Center
57 Noble Avenue
Crafton, PA 15205

Newsletter Guidelines

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the GPDC or the Editor. For a complete listing of Officers and Committees please refer to our website at www.pittsburghdalclub.com. Comments & articles are welcome. Deadline is the 20th of the previous month.

Braggs & Birthdays FREE (2 line limit, thumbnail picture space permitting),
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 Business Card Ad \$2 month or \$20 one year paid in advance

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Directions to WPKA Training Center

From I-79 - Exit at Crafton Route 60 South; go south on Rt. 60 approximately 2 miles; cross bridge; continue straight on Rt. 60 South; go to second traffic light past the Dairy Queen Store; this is Noble Avenue; turn right onto Noble Avenue; go through two traffic lights; training center is the third building on the right.

From Parkway West - Take Greentree/Crafton Exit; follow ramp for Crafton; at traffic light, turn right onto Poplar Street; at next light, turn left onto Noblestown Road; at the first light (Burger King) turn right onto Baldwick; follow to end and turn left onto Crafton Blvd.; make first right onto Noble Avenue; school is on the left approximately two blocks down.

Shaw's Beer Distributor is on the first floor. The entrance to the school is on the side of the building. Take the ramp up to the second floor.



Kevin Boston; Editor
Greater Pittsburgh Dalmatian Club
 128 Parkedge Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15220-2608

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year from the Greater Pittsburgh Dalmatian Club