

Highlights of the Delegates Meeting
March 8, 2022,
Newark DoubleTree Hotel

President Dennis Sprung called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Our National Anthem was played and then he introduced those seated on the dais: Chairman, Dr. Tom Davies; Vice Chairman, Dominic Carota; and Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo; the licensed parliamentarian and the court stenographer.

The minutes of the December 2021 Delegates meeting were adopted without addition or correction.

The election of Directors was first on the agenda. As the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee was uncontested, the Secretary cast a ballot for Christopher Sweetwood, Trap Falls KC; Harold 'Red' Tatro, Fort Worth Kennel Club, Inc.; and Ann Wallin, Atlanta Kennel Club, Inc. for the Class of 2026

The Chairman's Report: Dr. Tom Davies gave the chairman's report, which was a very emotional tribute to our friend and AKC Chairman Emeritus Ron Menaker who passed away February 15, 2022. This highlighted Ron's many years involvement in AKC and his insight and activities in bringing AKC into the 21st Century. I am certain that the full report will be available to the delegates and when it is I will append it to this report.

Two memorable quotes from the speak were,

Dr. Suess, "Don't cry because it is over, smile because it happened" and

Appearing on a plaque in Tom's office, Ron's, "You can't make this shit up"

The President's Report: Dennis Sprung gave us his President's Report, which like Tom Davies' centered on and honored Ron Menaker's contributions to AKC, the world of dogs and the world in general. As with the Chairman's Report, no doubt this will be released to the delegates and when it is, I will append it to this report.

Dennis, in his report did provide some highlights regarding AKC's activities over the past 4 years. In doing a study regarding the member clubs, he stated that clubs seem to be flourishing. There has been an overall increase in the number of member clubs, with an increase of 8 group level clubs, 7 all-breed clubs, 12 parent breed clubs and that very few clubs have failed in the 2017 to 2021 period. There are presently 645 Member Clubs and 4160 Licensed Clubs.

The CFO Report: Ted Phillips provided the CFO report, evaluating 12 months of the 2021 year.

In 2021 there was an increase in litter registrations of 13.7% or 801K vs 704K in 2020. Individual dog registrations increased 12% with 323 K for 2021 vs 288K for 2020.

Events also increased with a total of 22,411 events and entries were up with a total of 3.2M.

Financially, AKC's net income for 2021 was roughly \$120M, total assets of \$198M and liabilities of \$78M, majority of which is tied up in pensions.

There were two superb presentations. The first by Brandi Hunter, on public relations and social media presentations in 2021. The next was by the two gentlemen responsible for the active involvement of AKC in television. There has been a huge increase in AKC's role/activities in Disney/ESPN/ABC.

There was a vote on a proposed amendment to Section III, I of the Delegate Standing Rule on Committees – Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events, which amends the Committee's name and charge to include Scent Work, which passed.

There was a reading of the proposed amendment to Chapter 11, Section 6, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows – Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, which reformats the section for easier comprehension. It inserts verbiage to allow transfer between the divisions of the Bred by-Exhibitor Class (puppy/adult) if offered, adds verbiage to specify transfer between the divisions of the Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Class and permits age divisions of the Veterans Class. It also inserts language to recognize that transfer between Puppy and Twelve-to-Eighteen Month Classes may involve divisions of either and adds language for clarity as to when a transfer between classes must be completed at multi-day events.

Gail Laberge provided an update on AKC PAC and the success of a recent fund raiser, a probable future fund raiser and the need to support PAC to protect our future.

The June meeting will be June 13-14, 2022, at the Newark DoubleTree.
This meeting was adjourned 11:30 AM.

If anyone has any specific questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Submitted,

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Delegate, Butler County KC