

Silver Falls Kennel Club
General Meeting
November 21, 2002
Chalet Restaurant, Salem, Oregon

In Attendance Judi James, Chuck & Beth Aylworth, Gary Dunlop, Michele Coburn, Amy Thompson, Alice Watt, Gwen Mulheron, Chris & Tom Levy, Kaesi Cook

President's Report Chris summarized the last board meeting. The Board officially designated Theresa Kaminski the club historian. The Board also named a policy committee of Gary Dunlop, Tom Levy, Karen Houle, and Jim Brown. Chris will attend their first meeting to describe the committee's function. Also lead a discussion of the extension of the United Kingdom Pet Passport to North America.

Secretary's Report Motion to adopt minutes of the October meeting as published was made and adopted by voice vote. There was no other correspondence.

Treasurer's Report No report.

Committee Reports

Breeder Referral. Pat Hill has resigned as breeder referral committee chair to devote time to her new business venture. Alice Watt volunteered to work through the area rescue/breeder referral book.

Holiday Match. Judi reported everything is going well and there has been a lot of interest from the flyers and email notices. The match will also be advertised in Dog Nose News. Rikki H. has volunteered to organize the potluck Chris, Gwen, Helen; Rebecca will take entries and help steward; Bob Hughes and John Riedl will coordinate grounds and equipment. Chuck and Beth will help with rally and some rally enthusiasts have also volunteered to help. Amy volunteered to manage the raffle. We have holiday ribbon for ring ropes; Alice will see if the Siberian club will let us use their ring standards again. Chris and Judi have tables. Helen is organizing judges.

Website. No report

Membership No report

Historian No report.

AKC liaison no report.

Unfinished Business

Training classes In our first 3 classes we've grossed \$95 and the number of attendees has grown from 4 to 8. Classes will continue through 12/17 then start again January 28. Chris will prepare flyers for distribution at the Rose Classic.

Constitution Has been distributed electronically to members. Alice will publish on the website soon.

Westminster Party Michele Coburn has talked to the Ram in downtown Salem. They have lots of cable access and three different areas we can use without charge. Agreed to hold our first Westminster Party at the Ram the nights of February 10 & 11. Michelle will coordinate with the Ram; Chris will prepare flyers for distribution at Rose Classic.

Logo. Helen will meet with a graphic artist used by another club when she returns from vacation.

New Business

Next Meeting Our next meeting will be January 23, location to be determined later.

Special Guest Presentation

Prior to the meeting, Mrs. Patti Strand, spoke on a variety of topics of interest to dog fanciers. Patti is president of the National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA) and a member of the Board of the American Kennel Club.

We asked Patti to focus on what a 'capital city' club should do to represent the interests of the fancy. Patti encouraged us as individuals, and a club, to work responsibly with animal control and the humane society and develop good open communications with them as a means to collaborate to resolve problems. Patti noted that 'dog people' as a group have not done a good job of being involved in the public and as a result we often lose when regulations are proposed.

Patti characterized the legislative process, whether at the local, county, or state level as a process beginning with a perception – to an idea – to public opinion – to law. If we establish and maintain control of the image of dog fanciers with local officials, we can be an effective voice. It's important to communicate one on one with your legislator and make clear the message that 'I vote, and I love dogs'. (*Sec'y note*, you can find out who your legislators are by going to www.leg.state.or.us and following instructions, the database is being updated so may want to wait until late December)

Patti recommended we send our regular newsletters to legislators and other public forums. NAIA can provide brochures on a variety of topics. They're available on line and can be personalized to the club. www.naiaonline.org

NAIA has noted that the number of stray/turn-in dogs in shelters is going down and in many areas demand for good pets is greater than the supply. Some shelters, especially on the east coast, are importing street dogs from overseas to continue meeting the demand. NAIA may be sponsoring a bill in the Oregon legislature limiting the importation of dogs from outside the US, with exceptions for private breeder-to-breeder transactions, to get ahead of this issue in Oregon. They may also sponsor a bill that would prevent changing the ownership of animals to guardianship of animals that is another issue of the animal rights movement.

Patti described some issues she has been addressing through the AKC High Volume Breeder Committee (*Sec'y note* report is now on AKC's website at http://www.akc.org/news/HVBC_finalA.pdf , May take a bit to load). Like it or not, these groups are organizing to fill the purebred pet market which hobby/show breeders are not doing a poor job meeting. AKC is increasing its public relations efforts on behalf of dog fanciers and for the first time has established a budget and hired good staff. There will be an image piece coming out soon and several magazine ads designed to build the brand/image of AKC purebred stock. There's also a tape coming out on obedience events. AKC is also going to offer a trial of pet

insurance for each puppy individually registered to increase the value of the registration.