

**The German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.
Adjourned Meeting of the Regular April Board Meeting
May 4, 2011**

Conference Call

Webinar

Officers	Present: Tish Walker, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Laura Gilbert, Ginny Altman, and Nadine Grady.
Class of 2012 Directors	Present: Bart Bartley, Frank Fasano, Fred Migliore, Carol Moore, James Moses, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Pam O'Dell.
Class of 2011 Directors	Present: Zoe Backman, Carmen Battaglia, Bill Burggraaf,, Ken Downing, Dorothy Linn,, Dean Wylie. Absent: Gary Szymczak
Committee Chairpersons	Present: LaMar Frederick, Legal Advisor was in participation at this regular meeting held by conference call.
Call to Order	Tish Walker, President, called the Adjourned Meeting of the Regular GSDCA April Board meeting by Conference Call to order at 8:10 pm CDT on Wednesday, May 4, 2011.
Agenda	The regular order of business was approved as abbreviated and as submitted by the President on the agenda distributed by email.
I. Approval of Minutes	
	Ginny Altman submitted a draft of the April 30 meeting, which will not be approved until July.
II. Report of Recording Secretary - Ginny Altman	
	Minutes will be submitted to the GSD Review for publication.
III. Report of Corresponding Secretary - Laura Gilbert	
	In her report Laura proposed an option to the Board to conduct the 2011 Election by an "In House" method, which would, in her opinion, reduce the budget for the election by \$15,000. This will be taken up under the Budget and Finance Committee report. Laura received a thank you letter for the donation to Foundation in honor of Sam Lawrence. Laura received a letter from Rita Sandell regarding the schedule at the national. The letter was distributed to the Board for their consideration.
IV. Report of the Vice-President - Lana Jorgensen Law	
	No report.
V. Report of the President and Executive Committee - Tish Walker	
	Report in the minutes of the April 30, 2011 session of this Board meeting.
VII. Treasurer's Report - Nadine Grady	
	Nadine distributed to the Board, the Balance Sheet, the Membership profit and loss report, the Year to Date Budget vs. Actual, the monthly check register for the first quarter and the monthly bank statements for the first quarter. Nadine reported that there was Sixteen thousand dollars income first quarter of 2011.
VII. Report of AKC Delegate - Carmen Battaglia	
	AKC Delegate Carmen Battaglia gave the Board notice that the AKC is proposing that member clubs amend their bylaws to include language that will offer some protection to clubs regarding the role of the Treasurer. He informed the Board that there have been several clubs that have had problems in the treasurer function and the details will be disseminated in July.

Committee Reports Without objection the following items were moved up on the agenda.	
Budget and Finance - Carmen Battaglia	
	Carmen Battaglia has put together plans for a three-year budget allowing for contingencies. Several options have been developed to try to eliminate a \$51,000 budget shortfall.
Review	No change recommended for the GSD Review at this time. Carmen Battaglia suggested that the Board open this for further discussion in July.
Election	The Budget and Finance Committee is recommending that the Board approve the house election as described by the Corresponding Secretary with a savings of \$15,000. The postage portion will be \$3000. The topic was opened for discussion. There was considerable discussion regarding the budget savings and the consideration of the suggestion. The consensus was that while everyone wished to save money there was serious concern about the compliance with the bylaws in doing the election in the manner described and the subsequent neutrality of the process and confidence of the members in this election process. There was support for saving the funds but recognition that there may be some issues with an in house process. Previous problems with the election were cited and concerns with compliance with the bylaws were cited.
	LaMar was invited to address the board regarding the election. Our legal advisory committee chair cautioned the Board that the process as described would be in violation of the bylaws. LaMar defined an agent as legally separate from the club and that the custody of the ballots is part of the critical process. The bylaws require us to appoint an agent. It was noted that the process is defined in detail in our guiding documents. The bylaws also require an audit process. The Club has some history in the candidates for election to judge have in the past contested the election which was subsequently clarified in the audit process. There is no in house election that could be proven in an audit process, which necessarily includes proving a chain of custody of the ballots. There was additional discussion, including respect for the confidence of the membership in the process as conducted by Honest Ballot and the possibility of securing an agent at a lesser cost and in whom there is confidence that the election and audit will be done in compliance with the bylaws. It was suggested that the return postage be eliminated to save about \$2000.
Motion	Ginny Altman moved that the decision on the agent be postponed to a special board meeting to be held in June and that Laura work with the executive committee to submit the detailed process to request bids from independent agents who, in addition to providing the results of the election, can provide attestation of having had an audit of the process and election results. The motion was seconded.
Vote	Those in favor of the motion: Bill Burggraaf Carol Moore, Dean Wylie, Dorothy Linn, Frank Fasano, Fred Migliore, Jim Moses, Nadine Grady, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Lanalee Jorgensen-Law, Laura Gilbert, Carmen Battaglia, Ken Downing, Pam Odell , Zoe Backman, Ginny Altman, Bart Bartley. No one was opposed. The motion was adopted.
G&A	It was noted that the total for G&A should be \$22,000 instead of what was reported in the written report citing line 146.
Budget	Tish noted that this would result in a budget of Revenue \$480,837, Expenses \$478,069. Even with the amount allowed for the election there would still be a balanced budget. There were questions regarding expenses and the outcome of profits from this year's National and the impact of the loss of membership on the bottom line of the budget.
Motion	Zoe Backman moved to approve the budget as noted with \$16,000 for the election included. Motion was seconded.
	Those in Favor: Bart Bartley, Bill Burggraaf, Carol Moore, Dean Wylie, Dorothy Linn, Fred Migliore, Nadine Grady, Zoe Backman, Ginny Altman. Opposed: Frank Fasano, Carmen Battaglia, Ken Downing, Pam Odell, Jim Moses. Motion adopted.

National Specialty Show - Bill Burggraaf	
Judges	There was discussion of the process of electing judges and it was noted that the process for election of judges is adopted by the membership and the Board has no authority to alter the process inasmuch as it is a right of the entire membership to determine the adoption of the process.
	Kathy Casteel, Cappy Pottle, Debbie Hokkanen, Robert Slay, Helen Gleason, Vicki Roye, Karin Wagner are submitted to the Board to appear on the Ballot..
National Events	In working with the schedule in the past several weeks, Bill has scheduled the Pre-show Specialty on Wednesday AM.. There will also be the "Sanctioned 4-6 Month (beginner-puppy) Special Attraction". Bill reported that there would be additional classes this year with the Amateur Class, splitting the 12-18 class into 12-15 & 15 to 18 classes. Bill noted that the schedule of Events has been listed on our Web Site and also will be printed in the Review. Any additional National Events will be provided to the Web Site for all members. Futurity starts on Thursday. Trophy chair has suggested additional publicity for those individuals who are sponsors. Bill has an additional 40 rooms available at host hotel. Board members should guarantee their reservations. Welcome event is on Tuesday.
Obedience	In her written report, Dalene McIntire, Obedience Chair, asks that Obedience lovers, clubs, and exhibitors please support our trophies at this year's National Obedience Trial. There will be a list of available trophies in the advance brochure when it comes out, along with the trophy chairman's name and address. You can donate any amount to the general fund or a specific amount for specific trophies.
Herding	Herding Chair, Theresa Royer provided a written report in which she announced that this year's Herding Events will take place in Linwood, Kansas which is about 40 miles east of Topeka. Herding Instinct Test, HT, PT and all three Courses A, B and C will be held at Kansaquest Farms. Practice runs will be offered on Friday, September 23 rd . The tests/trials will be on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 th & 25 th with Instinct Testing concluding Herding Events on Tuesday, September 27 th . The 2011 Herding Judges will be Lori and Kent Herbel. They have trained and trialed many German Shepherd Dogs and have a love for our wonderful breed. Theresa asked that those interested in contributing towards our trophies, or those who would like to assist with our herding events or have any questions, please contact Theresa Royer via email theresaroyer@hotmail.com or call at 650.224.6442. Look for more details in the GSDCA Advanced brochure.
Education Event at National	Helen Gleason requested approval of her request for the Educational presentation and reported that plans are underway for an Educational Presentation on Breeding and Reproductive issues on Wednesday evening by Dr. Beverly Brimacomb, a noted reproductive specialist. Approval was unanimous and the funds required are within the approved Education budget. There will also be an Agility Invitational on Wednesday at this year's National.
Board Meeting Sites - Bill Burggraaf	
July Meeting	Bill suggested that the July board meeting be in Philadelphia. Bill outlined the schedule of events that some of the Centennial committee will need to attend. Motion was seconded.
	Motion adopted by unanimous consent.
	Tish recommended that the board meet on Friday for a Think Tank informal discussion to include discussion on the Futurities.
	Adopted by General consent.

Futurity - Carol Moore	
	The Board approved that Joan Intersimone be added to Futurity committee at Carole Moore's request.
	Carol Moore presented the bids for the 2013 Futurities. Carol Moore moved to adopt the regional clubs as recommended. The following clubs were awarded the Futurity
2013 Futurities	SouthWest- Rocky Mountain, Friday, May 10, 2013 SouthPacific -GSDC Los Angeles, Sunday, April 21, 2013 GreatLakes -Wolverine GSDC, Friday, May 31, 2013 MidWest - Greater Kansas City, Friday, June 7, 2013 MidAtlantic - Southern New Jersey, Monday July 1, 2013 NorthWest - GSDC Eugene, Friday July 12, 2013 MidPacific - Diablo Valley, Friday, June 28, 2013 NorthEast - Iroquois GSDC, Friday, May 10, 2013 SouthEast - Greater Raleigh, March 23 or 24, 2013
	Prior to the vote there was some discussion regarding regional club members and their membership in the Parent Club. There was brief discussion of the bidding Regional Club financial status.
Awards	
AOE	The chairman requested that awards be given during Parade of Greats instead of at the Dinner. The recipients in 2010 favored receiving the award at the dinner as they had dogs to care for during the Parade of Greats. Bill suggested that it would be difficult to change the schedule. Request denied. Helen Franklin announces the following 2011 AOE recipients: AOE 2xSel. (Int) Ch Cross Timbers Cargogh Clihu RN HT TC OFA H/E Mary Tripp, Nancy Nellis Erin Nellis. breeder: Clifford Hughes AOE Sel Ch Jagan-Karagin-Miterhaun Ticklme-Elmo RN TC OFA H/E Terrie Miles Green, Jesse W Green breeders: Anne Thompson, Karen Taylor, Jerry Guzman AOE Sel Am GCh Sel Can Ch Trafalgar's Feature Presentation RN TC OVC H/E Michael-Robert Cheeks Lauren Gerloff . breeders: Michael-Robert Cheeks Susan Cheeks.
ATAA Dual Awards	The closing date for 2010 ATAA Awards is June 30 for titles earned in 2010. Contact Nicki Hood at Hoodgsd@zoominternet.net. Dual Awards closing date is July 31. Contact Amber Turley at act148@earthlink.net
Public Relations	Rita Sandell requested that a GSD public relations ad be placed in Dogs USA German Shepherd Dog Issue. This could come out of the Purina educational restricted funds.
Motion Public Relations Ad	Lanalee Jorgensen-Law moved that a full-page notice be placed in the Dogs USA to be funded from education funds from Purina restricted funds. Motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.
Meet the Breeds	Rita asked that the Board approve Carolyn Gerganoff to chair the GSDCA Meet the Breeds in New York and be approved as a member of the Public Relations committee. There are funds in the budget for this purpose. The recommendation was adopted without objection.
Legislative Liaison -	Stormy asked the board to support the National Animal Interest Association (NAIA) by providing a donation. She reported on the various activities carried out by the NAIA.
Motion	It was suggested that this might be considered educational and that it be funded from the restricted funds. Ginny Altman moved that we donate \$1000 from the Purina Fund and that it be designated for educational purposes. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.
Products	The Products Store is updated on the website. Pam Stoesser reported in her written report that: The products store was replaced with a current technology and all items from the old store (except membership) were moved over. Some new products were added and more will be added as Bob Moore and his committee provide additional information.

Products continued	<p>A new section was added to the store that allows members to pay online for breeder and classified ads, considerably simplifying that process.</p> <p>A section (not yet activated) was added for National Products/Items (stalls, catalogs, tickets, etc.). As soon as the information on those items is made available, that section of the store will be activated.</p> <p>The store automatically calculates the current 3% handling fee. Should the Board wish to change that fee, a change to one variable will change the fee throughout the store.</p>
Temperament	<p>A moment of silence was observed to honor Suzanne Kinman. Her passing was a loss to our GSD community and to the Temperament Committee.</p> <p>Jim York credits JoAnna Rand for providing observers for all the futurities.</p> <p>The Temperament Committee is looking for an evaluator candidate in the Southeast region. Contact Jim York totaldogman@stans.net if you are interested.</p>
Website - Pamela Stoesser	
	<p>Pam, in her written report, informed the board of the following: GSDCA.org Statistics for March 2011 Pamela reports that the website averaged 16,000 visitors in March 56% of them are measured by Google as being new to the GSDCA.org The top 3 visitor sources are: 1) Google Search (30%) 2) Typing in GSDCA.org directly (24%) 3) Online referrals from AKC.org (19%) Most Visited Pages: Choosing a Puppy, Breeder ads, Show results, Home page, Education, Regional Clubs, Members, Breeder/Classified Ad Income There are currently have 27 active Breeder & Classified Ads on the website. Depending on the length of the ad, the income is between \$21 (6 month or 12 month ads) and \$25 per month (3 month ads) per ad. The structure of the ads was rewritten in February 2011 to provide a consistent look as well as to allow members to list up to 10 states (or the US) as areas where they are willing to do business. Each ad now may also have a picture or a logo associated with it, which has been quite popular. It has resulted in a significant number of longer-term ads and ad renewals. The Club needs to continue to encourage our member vendors to advertise with a classified ad on the website.</p> <p>GSDCA.org Projects for April through June 1) Ensure all Regional Club information is updated based on the annual renewal information provided by the GSDCA Office. This information is often accessed by non]member visitors looking for clubs in their area. 2) Update all membership information behind the Members firewall (April). 3) Implement a better solution for membership application and renewal (currently being researched) that is integrated into members GSDCA.org logons and online payment. 4) Ensure that information pertaining to the 2011 National Specialty show is updated quickly after being communicated by the Show Secretary (and his delegates).</p>
Unfinished Business and General Orders	
January Motion	<p>Zoe Backman moved that the motion adopted in January to review the president's communication before it is sent by constant contact be amended to strike the executive committee as the approving body and insert a special committee including the President, Vice President and Nancy Harper to approve the Constant Contact communication and the Board O Gram.</p>
	<p>Those in favor: Carol Moore, Dorothy Linn, Zoe Backman, Ginny Altman. All others voting were opposed. Motion failed.</p>
Motion	<p>Ken Downing moved to rescind the motion made and adopted in January.</p>
	<p>Pam Odell, Carol Moore, Dorothy Linn, Nadine Grady, Ken Downing, Zoe Backman, Ginny Altman. All others opposed. Motion failed.</p>

Judges	The various parent clubs in the various groups recommend American Classic judges. The requirement is that the GSD judge nominations must be approved to judge the entire herding group.
	Nominated are Carolyn Herbel, Kathy Steen, Bob Slay and Sue Godek.
WUSV	
National Agility Trial	As liaison, David Landau, in his communication with the GSDCA and the GSDCA-WDA informed the Board that SV President Wolfgang Henke has informed us that the SV is considering offering competition for a SV World Agility Trial. This would be a new competition event and the GSDCA has been asked if it would be interested in hosting it in conjunction with the WUSV World Trial in 2013. The Board, in discussion, embraced this new competition and verbalized a willingness to host the Trial in conjunction with the Centennial if the SV moves forward with this.
Motion	Bill Burggraaf moved that we approve the SV World Agility Trial in conjunction with the 2013 WUSV World Trial if the SV creates this competition as an SV event. Approved by unanimous consent.
2013 World Trial	Tish informed the Board that she has informed the SV that the 2013 WUSV World Trial Chairman is Daniel Yee. The appointment was well received. Dan Yee has had an opportunity to talk to the SV President Wolfgang Henke and has begun to assemble his committee. The SV is not unduly concerned about the Agreement that we are working with WDA to be approved
	The Philadelphia Stadium has been secured for the World Trial and Dream Park is reserved for the National.
Health and Genetics - Ginny Altman	
	Veterinary Diagnostics Institute, a California research lab has contacted Ginny for the need of 150 GSD to participate in their research for early detection of Lymphoma and Hemangiosarcoma based on their having developed a blood test that will detect markers for these cancers. There was a blood draw done on May 6 which collected about 40 dogs. Ginny is looking for regional clubs to work with her to assemble a minimum of 20 to 30 GSD, 5 years and older for a blood draw to complete the balance of the number of dogs needed for this research. There is no cost to the owner or to the regional club. Contact Ginny at ginialtman@aol.com so that she can continue to work with the research facility on this study. .
Regional Clubs - Dean Wylie	
	Gloria Sinclair and Dean Wylie, Regional Club Challenge chairs remind members that the competition year runs from August 1 st thru July 31 of each year. Guidelines and Form can be found on the gsdca.org web site. This year included is four new categories for points. They are Grand Champion (20) pts, Beginners Novice (5) pts, Graduate Novice (5) pts and Graduate Open (10). We hope to encourage more Regional clubs to participate and to foster growth through competition.
WDA	The GSDCA-WDA Office has moved. The new address is: GSDCA-WDA, Joy Schultz, 72 Oakcrest Lane; Westampton, NJ 08060. Email: wdaoffice@comcast.net ; Phone: 609-526-5418, Fax: 609-526-5381
AGSRA	The AGSRA needs regional club show dates for the 2012 Rescue Calendar. Please send dates to Patty Szymczak at pagairs@aol.com. Deadline is July 15 th . Photographs are needed for the Rescue Calendar. Please contact Joanna Rand for more information – joannarand@aol.com
Conference Call Meeting	The Conference Call date suggested tentatively for Monday, June 6 pending the receipt of bids and further investigation of election criteria.
Adjourned	The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 pm CDT.
	Ginny Altman, Recording Secretary May 4, 2011