

**The German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.  
January Board Meeting  
January 27, 28, 29, 2012**

**Marriott Courtyard Mission Valley**

**San Diego, California**

Officers	Present: Frank Fasano, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Laura Gilbert, Ginny Altman, and Nadine Grady.
Class of 2012 Directors	Present: Zoe Backman, Fred Migliore, Carol Moore, James Moses, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Pam O'Dell. Bart Bartley, absent, and arrived at 7:23pm, Friday. All were present Saturday and Sunday.
Class of 2013 Directors	Present: Carmen Battaglia, Lew Bunch, Bill Burggraaf, Dorothy Linn, Gary Szymczak, Dean Wylie. Absent: Morton Goldfarb, and arrived at 7:13pm, Friday. All present Saturday and Sunday.
Joint Session	Saturday at 3:00pm the Members of the WDA Board of Directors were present for a joint session.
Committee Chairpersons	Present Friday: Susan Casey, Review Editor; Dania Karloff, Membership Chair, Jim York, Temperament, Carl Smith, VP of WDA; Daniel Yee, President WDA; David Landay, SV Liaison; Mary Gattone, WDA Liaison; Tom and Vivian Brown, Historical Committee. Present Saturday::Ken and Kathy Tank, Public Relations; Gene Gray, Temperament Committee; Susan Casey, Dania Karloff, Gene Gray, Temperament Committee; Tom and Vivian Brown, Sherry Kenachu, Thirteen Club, Carolyn Putnam, Assistant to Thirteen Club. Present Sunday: Kathy and Ken Tank, Susan Casey, Dania Karloff, Gene Gray, Tom and Vivian Brown.
Members	Present Friday: Melanie Fuellgraf, Bert Haagenstad, Mancy Swanner, Ken Peterson, John Henkel, Mary Gattone, Joe Barry. Present Saturday: Thurban Warrick, Joanne Fishman, Melanie Fuellgraf, Lissa Cunningham, Nancy Swanner, Bert Haagenstad, Gail Gray, Jean Whalen Ken Peterson. Present Sunday: Melanie Fuellgraf, Jean Whalen, Gail Gray, Ken Peterson Lissa Cunningham, Rachel Burggraaf.
Call to Order	The GSDCA Membership meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm on Friday, January 27, 2012 by Frank Fasano, President. Frank introduced Charles Nolan, PRP and without objection, appointed him as the Parliamentarian to serve him at this Board meeting, noting for Board members and guests, that it is at Frank's own expense.
Motion	Gary Szymczak moved that an additional recording be permitted. The motion was seconded. Following discussion, the substitute motion was offered that the president be allowed to record the meeting. The motion was seconded. The substituted motion carried with no one in opposition. Board Members and guests met casually during the meeting when a short break was provided at 7:25 for refreshments to continue a working dinner. The meeting resumed at 7:35 pm.
Motion	Lew Bunch moved that discussion be limited to two minutes per speaker. Motion was seconded and carried with no one voting in opposition.
Motion	Frank Fasano asked and Dean Wylie moved that, when an individual writes to the entire board of directors with correspondence on a matter, the vice-president, currently Lanalee Jorgensen Law, be appointed to respond to that individual with a copy of the correspondence to all board members. Following discussion the motion was adopted with no one voting in opposition.
White Shepherd	Melanie Fuellgraf was recognized to address the Board of Directors regarding the effort of the American White Shepherd Association to ask the Board to allow the AKC to consider the white dog for the Foundation Stock Service Program. There were questions and a brief discussion. No action was taken.
Executive Committee	Lanalee Jorgensen Law, James Moses, Gary Szymczak, Dean Wylie, were nominated as members of the Executive Committee.. Dean Wylie moved to close nominations. Motion to close nominations carried with no one voting in opposition. The Executive Committee was elected with no one voting in opposition.
Nominating Committee Chair	Gary Szymczak was nominated as nominating committee chair. There were no other nominations. Gary Szymczak was elected with no one voting in opposition.

Motion	James Moses moved that the Board adopt a position that all AKC Registered GSD be entitled to compete for and to be eligible to win any and all GSDCA performance event prizes and titles. Following discussion the vote was taken with all voting in favor except for Dorothy Linn who was opposed and Nancy Harper-Mulvaney who abstained.
Temperament Test Form	Gary Szymczak moved that the evaluation form for the temperament test contain only the dog's AKC number, excluding all other information, specifically the name and title of the dog and the name of the owner. The motion was seconded by Bart Bartley. The Temperament Test Committee, evaluators and test helpers addressed the board in opposition to the motion as it was their opinion that it would interfere with the testing processes and accurate record keeping. Following discussion the vote was taken. Those in favor of the motion: Lew Bunch, Carol Moore, Bart Bartley, Fred Migliore, Gary Szymczak, Nadine Grady. Opposed Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Morton Goldfarb, Bill Burggraaf, Laura Gilbert, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Ginny Altman, Dorothy Linn, Zoe Backman. Abstain: Carmen Battaglia, James Moses, Pam O'Dell, Dean Wylie. The motion failed.
Executive Session	The Board entered Executive Session at 8:19pm. President Frank Fasano updated the Board on the lawsuit. This was an information only briefing.
	The Friday session was adjourned at 8:39pm.
Saturday Session	The Saturday session was called to order at 8:05am. All Board members were present. Gary Szymczak presented Board members and guests with his personal gift of the new GSDCA, Inc. Centennial Pin. Guests were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves.
Moment of Silence	A moment of silence was observed to honor Thes Mesdag who passed away earlier this month as it was announced that there was a Memorial Service which was being held this morning.
Report of the Officers	
<b>I. Approval of Minutes</b>	
	Carmen Battaglia moved that the Annual Meeting Minutes, Victory Dinner Minutes, October Board meeting minutes and the December Conference Call minutes be approved as distributed. The reading of the minutes were waived and minutes were approved by general consent.
<b>II. Report of Recording Secretary - Ginny Altman</b>	
	Ginny asked that the members and guests in attendance sign the attendance roster and to provide written information to her for any items for the Board O Gram.
<b>III. Report of Corresponding Secretary - Laura Gilbert</b>	
	Laura provided a written report reminding Board members of items that the policy and procedures outline for the business of this meeting.
<b>IV. Report of the Vice-President - Lana Jorgensen Law</b>	
	No Report.
<b>V. Report of the Executive Committee - Frank Fasano</b>	
	Dean Wylie moved that the actions of the Executive Committee be ratified. Second by Bart Bartley. Following discussion the vote was taken. The motion was approved with no one voting in opposition.

	<p>The actions of the Executive Committee are as follows:  October 29, 2011 approval of \$50 security certificate for the GSDCA, Inc. Website Store for membership renewal.  October 31, 2011 approval of calendar sales at Meet the Breeds with the proceeds to fund bullet proof vests for military working dogs.  November 22, 2011 approval for members of the Centennial Committee; Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Dean Wylie, Bill Burggraaf, Tish Walker, Frank Fasano, and Lew Bunch to meet in Philadelphia for negotiations for 2013.  November 29, 2011 approval for Lew Bunch to accompany Bill Burggraaf to Colorado for 2012 National negotiations.  December 13, 2011 approval for Dean Wylie, Frank Fasano, Dan Yee and David Landau to go to Philadelphia in January 2012 to meet with SV/WUSV President Wolfgang Henke, General Secretary Clemmons Lux and SV Judge Gunter Diegel, to enable them to view and approve the 2013 World Trial Site.</p>
	<p>Lanalee Jorgensen Law asked that Executive Committee sessions be held by conference call where members of the Executive Committee hear about the issue that needs action all at the same time and have an opportunity for interactive discussion. Frank Fasano stated that he would conduct the Executive Committee in that way as much as is possible.</p>
<p>VI. Report of President - Frank Fasano</p>	
	<p>Frank reviewed the agenda.</p>
<p>VII. Treasurers Report - Nadine Grady</p>	
	<p>Nadine submitted a detailed profit and loss sheet and a balance sheet noting that there were expenses for 2011 that are still outstanding. The preliminary analysis of the 2011 budget indicates that expenses were less than the amount budgeted. Unfortunately our income also was significantly less than predicted. Final closing for 2011 will be completed for the April 2012 Board meeting. Nadine estimated that when all the numbers are in for 2011 that it is likely to be a break-even year with expenses approximately equal to income.</p>
<p>VIII. AKC Delegate Report – Carmen Battaglia</p>	
<p>2013 Judges Motion</p>	<p>Carmen Battaglia moved that a seven judge panel be approved for conformation for the 2013 Centennial and that they be offered the assignment with a contract that reimburses them for two nights lodging and meals plus two victory dinner tickets but no transportation. The motion was seconded by Bart Bartley.</p>
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Following discussion that the Centennial is a show that only comes once in a life time and that other organizations change the way they host these special events by expanding the number of judges thus allowing more judges to participate and that this is another way to honor the breed. There was, in discussion, clarification that the members would be asked to vote for the seven judges in the customary manner and the assignments be ranked as follows: Highest number of points is Rank 1, second highest is Rank 2 and so forth. Rank 1- Best of Breed, Best of Winners and Best Opposite Sex. Rank 2 – Males, Winners Dog and Reserve Winners Dog. Rank 3 – Females, Winners Bitch, Reserve Winners Bitch. Rank 4 – Futurity Dogs and Bitches. Rank 5 – Maturity Dogs and Bitches. Rank 6 – Best Puppy. Rank 7 – Junior Showmanship.</p>
<p>Vote on Motion</p>	<p>Those in Favor: Lew Bunch, Morton Goldfarb, Carol Moore, Bill Burggraaf, Carmen Battaglia, James Moses, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Zoe Backman, Fred Migliore, Gary Szymczak, Nadine Grady, Dorothy Linn, Pam O'Dell, Bart Bartley, Ginny Altman.  Opposed: Dean Wylie, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Laura Gilbert. Motion Carried.</p>

AKC rule proposal	Carmen Battaglia informed the Board that the AKC has a proposal that at one National Specialty, specified by the Parent Club at the time the event application is submitted to the AKC, a three point major be awarded to the Reserve Winners Dog and the Reserve Winners Bitch provided that the number of dogs/bitches competing in the regular classes is at least twice the number of dogs required for a five (5) point major in the region in which the show is being held. Dean Wylie moved, James Moses seconded, that Carmen Battaglia be instructed to vote for this proposal. Motion carried unanimously.
Minutes format	Carmen Battaglia moved, Lanalee Jorgensen Law seconded, that the GSDCA adopt the format of the AKC minutes as the format for the GSDCA minutes. Following brief comments the vote was taken. Those for: Carmen Battaglia, Opposed: All other Board Members except those abstaining: Morton Goldfarb, James Moses, Carol Moore. Motion Defeated.
Breeders of Merit  Motion Committee	Carmen informed the Board that, of the 17,000 breeders who are eligible for the Breeders of Merit program, about 8,000 (50%) now participate. Carmen reported that the AKC data shows that the GSDCA, Inc. ranks 7 <sup>th</sup> among parent clubs with 117 breeders in the Breeder of Merit program. Carmen recommends supporting this program as it supports entries at our shows, the Futurities and the National. Carmen moved that a committee, with members: Carmen Battaglia, James Moses, Bill Burggraaf, Laura Gilbert, and Zoe Backman, be formed to encourage participation with a goal of attaining 250 breeders. Without objection the motion was adopted.
Working Dog Center	Carmen Battaglia informed the Board that there is a new website: <a href="http://pennvetwdc.org">http://pennvetwdc.org</a> Working Dog Center at the U of Pennsylvania which is one of the best places to find what is being done to improve working breeds. The center was funded to study the genetics of dogs that are the best performers to see if there is a separation in the gene pools within the breed.
Family Dog Magazine	The AKC is publishing a magazine oriented to pet owners entitled "Family Dog". The November/December 2011 issue was distributed to those present and it was noted that it features an article on the excerpts from Susan Orlean's book "Rin Tin Tin".
Crate Window Labels	Carmen also distributed a decal intended to be placed on doors/windows or crates as notification of the number of animals inside to be rescued in case of fire or other emergency.
Recess	The Board was in recess from 9:00am to 9:13am.
Public Relations – Ken and Kathy Tank	
	Ken addressed the Board, providing information on the activities of the Public Relations Committee. Kathy informed the Board of the ideas that Public Relations Committee regarding a FaceBook page. She noted that this will direct traffic to the website and to the WDA website as might be requested by them. A list of organizations that have reciprocal links to social networks was provided.
Motion	Carmen Battaglia moved that the Public Relations Committee be given authorization for the official FaceBook page with links to the GSDCA, Inc. and GSDCA-WDA Inc. Following discussion including security, internet committee, administration of the FaceBook page, the vote was taken. All were in favor except for Zoe Backman, Ginny Altman, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, and Laura Gilbert. Motion was adopted.

GSD Brochure distributed by AKC	Ken Tank proposed that a brochure distributed by the AKC be updated with current 2012 information and a new membership invitation. Gary Szymczak moved that the Board approve the brochure as distributed to Board members. There was discussion regarding the information as presented on the brochure and that the brochure would be updated again, in time for the AKC to distribute it to new GSD owners beginning in 2013. Motion carried unanimously.
New Members  Motion	There was discussion based on the distribution of the brochure and that this provides an opportunity to invite non-members to join during 2012. Discussion centered around the idea that non-members be invited to join the Club for \$36 which is the cost of the GSD Review. Carmen Battaglia moved that we offer a one-year membership for individuals and families who are non-members at the rate of \$36 and the invitation be included on the brochure. It was clarified that sponsorship for those without sponsors has been, in recent years, the President and Membership chair. Lanalee Jorgensen Law moved to amend by inserting the words “one-time” after the words “we offer a”. For the amendment: Dean Wylie, Dorothy Linn, Ginny Altman, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Carol Moore. Opposed Lew Bunch, Morton Goldfarb, Carmen Battaglia, Laura Gilbert, Fred Migliore, Gary Szymczak, Nadine Grady, Bart Bartley, Pam O’Dell. Abstain: James Moses, Zoe Backman, Bill Burggraaf. The amendment failed.
Main motion adopted	Following discussion, the main motion: that we offer a one-year membership for individuals and families who are non-members at the rate of \$36 and that the invitation to join be included on the brochure, carried unanimously.
New Member White GSD Owners	Morton Goldfarb moved that any member of any of the clubs for White GSDs, who is not currently a member of the GSDCA, be authorized to join the GSDCA, Inc. at the \$36 rate. Motion carried unanimously.
WDA	Lew Bunch moved that any member of the WDA, who is not currently a member of the GSDCA, be authorized to join the GSDCA, Inc. at the \$36 rate. Bart Bartley seconded. Following discussion, motion carried unanimously.
New Member	Lew Bunch moved that during the year 2012 the GSDCA, Inc. offer the new member rate of \$36 to any GSD owner who is a non-member. Dean Wylie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
	Ken Tank informed the Board that the Public Relations Committee will, in conjunction with the Regional Club Committee, contact the Regional Clubs to provide them with a press kit that will facilitate clubs to promote their events locally. Ken also noted that promotions are being planned for schools and 4-H Clubs.
DVD	A Public Relations DVD, created by Kathy and Ken Tank, was viewed by the Board. Lanalee Jorgensen Law moved, Ginny Altman seconded, to approve the DVD with commendation to Kathy and Ken Tank. Motion carried unanimously.
	A suggestion was made that the hospitality event be moved to Thursday or Friday. The suggestion was taken under advisement but not acted upon by the Board.
Financial Review – Van Dukeman	

	<p>Van Dukeman, chairman of the Financial Review Committee, addressed the Board with recommendations in a prepared, bound, 14 page, document distributed to the Board members summarizing the work done by the committee to review the GSDCA, Inc. financial information from 2006 to 2010. The committee members, Bill Hope and Sam Israel, were on conference call, which allowed them to also comment on the finances during the report of this committee at the Board meeting.</p>
	<p>Van summarized that the net worth of the GSDCA, Inc. declined from \$687,000 to \$528,000 for a total decline of approximately \$160,000. There has been a decline in membership of about 25% representing a decrease of \$15,000 since 2006 and there has not been a reduction of expenses by the same margin. The operating expenses, such as Board expenses, also have contributed to the decline in net worth. The dependence on the National Specialty Show for income has not been successful as the National has shown income losses in 2008, 2009 and 2010. Neither the Futurities nor Review net income/loss have been material to the losses.</p>
Recommendation	<p>The recommendations offered by the committee are: The Board should receive timely and frequent financial information on the Club's financial condition. The Audit has not been published in the GSD Review for some time and that could now be done. While some information has been published, important supplemental information has not, a well-informed membership can make difficult decisions easier. An Audit Committee that includes the treasurer communicates with an outside auditor and participates in the engagement and oversight of the outside auditor and the tax services of the club was recommended.</p>
	<p>Full accounting controls and procedures by a qualified auditing committee would include reporting on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cash disbursement and approval</li> <li>Controls over revenues collected at the National</li> <li>Membership income</li> <li>GSD Review income and expenses</li> <li>Vendor contracts</li> <li>National support programs (Purina)</li> <li>Debit/Credit card usage</li> <li>Movement of funds between membership, Review, Futurity, etc.</li> </ul>
	<p>The Financial Review committee cautioned the Board to make creative decisions during these difficult times in a need to reduce expenses. Part of the current considerations confronting the Board are the income and revenue forecast for the 2013 Centennial.</p>
Standing Committee	<p>President Frank Fasano noted that the efforts in 2011 have been fruitful and that it was a "break-even" year. He noted that there has been discussion and consideration of reducing the size of the board and to have a conference call meeting as was done in April 2011. Without objection, the Financial Review Committee members were asked by the president to continue to be a standing committee and be a part of the GSDCA, Inc. audit committee. The Board gave a round of applause to the committee members Van Dukeman, Bill Hope and Sam Israel for their work.</p>
Notice	<p>Frank informed the Board that Nadine Grady has informed him that this is likely to be her last term.</p>
Executive Session	<p>The Board was in Executive Closed Session from 11:22 to 11:52am to elect committee co-chairs and committee members by ballot.</p>
Recess	<p>The Board was in recess from 11:52 to 12:25pm</p>
	<p>President Frank Fasano asked the members and guests to introduce themselves again since there were additional individuals present at the afternoon session.</p>

Committee chairs	Frank Fasano announced that his recommendations for appointment of co-chairs Morton Goldfarb, Education co-chair and Gene Gray, Temperament Committee co-chair were approved by the Board.
Futurity Committee – Carol Moore	
Motion Litter Nomination Fee	Carol Moore moved that the previously approved motion establishing a \$15 fee for litter nominations prior to whelping be rescinded and that the fee for nominations prior to whelping be eliminated. The recommendation of the Futurity Committee was supported by the budget and finance committee. It was clarified that the fee for nomination after whelping and late fees will remain as they were. Motion carried unanimously.
Motion Baby Puppy Class	Carol Moore moved that the Board adopt the recommendation of the Futurity Committee that the SOUTHEAST, MIDWEST, AND NORTHWEST REGIONS be invited to participate, along with the SOUTH WEST REGION in the Baby Puppy Class Program in 2012. Motion carried unanimously.
Motion Futurity Plaques	Carol moved that it be noted on the Futurity Plaques in 2012 that it is the 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Futurity and that in 2013 that the plaques note that it is the Centennial year. Motion carried unanimously.
Motion Plaques	Carol moved that the Amateur Futurity plaque given for first place be the same as is offered in the regular Futurity. Following discussion the motion carried unanimously.
	Carol reported that Margaret Bleakney and Pam Stoesser are developing a plan, to be in place for 2013, where Futurity entries may be made on the GSDCA website. Also, beginning in 2013, Margaret will act as the Futurity Secretary for all regions. The web site for the GSDCA contains all Futurity information by region including: all judges, accompanying shows, addresses, and entry forms.
	Carol informed the Board that payment for Futurity Catalogue ads can be done on line this year or contact the regional chairman or the advertising Chairman, Kelly Knight, hadderway@comcast.net. The members are asked to support the Regional Clubs both with advertising and with your trophy donations.
Budget and Finance Committee – Carmen Battaglia	
	Carmen reported that the Budget and Finance committee met on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. He noted that there are some outstanding bills from 2011 and when those are paid the budget will be balanced, but with no profit. Carmen summarized the recommendations from the committee. Some of the recommendations were that, on the website, the sponsors and vendors be listed and recognized on the home page and that their listing should have a link to the sponsor/vendor website and that ads are needed for the website.
	Committees that have GSDCA, Inc. records on their computer need to establish a remote backup system. The Budget and Finance committee recommendation was that each committee chair establish a job description that is approved by the Board.
	Concern was expressed for the viability of the Regional Clubs, especially those with a small membership. The Board was urged to entertain ideas that would provide assistance to clubs that are having difficulty surviving. In 2012 there are now 98 clubs whereas we once had 103. He urged the Board to generate creative ideas to encourage growth in the number of Regional Clubs.

	Carmen Battaglia reported that the contracts and bids that have been enacted by the GSDCA, Inc. are being assembled by Dick Jones for placement behind the membership wall on the website.
	Carmen informed the Board that the Budget and Finance committee members have been assigned to work with various committees. Fred Migliore and James Moses have been assigned to Futurity; Gary Szymczak to the GSD Review; Bill Burggraaf and Nadine Grady to the National Specialty; Pam O'Dell to Membership; James Moses and Dania Karloff to the Website; and Carmen Battaglia to all other committees.
	Carmen noted that there were 2200 titles earned by GSDCA, Inc. members last year. There are processes that need to be examined for ribbons and plaques.
	<p>The written Recommendations report from the Budget and Finance committee is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Follow-up and Resolve. Many areas of club management involve policies, others are related to time tables and goals, including those related to the tracking activities and revenue generating committees. A designated person is needed to follow-up and report on the status of revenue generating committees.</li> <li>2. Related to recommendation #1 is the need to energize committees who work directly with the clubs and members (Newsletter, website, membership, Futurity, National etc.). The data presented in the Fact Sheet shows there is a lot of room for improvement.</li> <li>3. Sponsors and Vendors. GSDCA policy requires that sponsors be listed and recognized on the website home page. Their listing should be a hot link to their home site which allows them to tell their story. Implement the policy.</li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Purina. A policy is needed for the use of \$15,000 received from the Purina programs. Currently the monies are divided 50% to the futurities and 50% to the national. There is no condition on these funds until the board makes a decision.</li> <li>5. Advertisements and Sponsors are needed for the website, Review and Show catalogs (National and Futurity/Maturity).</li> <li>7. For the first six months of 2011 we were behind in ads by about \$ 5,600. The Marketing Review chair has suggested we offer a special discount of \$ 99.50 for Black/white and \$ 395 for full color page. Action is needed.</li> <li>8. Better ways are needed for the use email, online, event and direct marketing to reach our current and potential members who have little or no relationship with the GSDCA. Full development of this channel is a market research and analysis effort that needs attention by our marketing team.</li> <li>9. AKC allows each parent club a one page insert with each puppy registration. For 2009 there were 37,000 registered German Shepherd Dogs. We recommend the insert carry a marketing message to attract new members. As we move closer to 2013, this insert will need to be updated several times.</li> <li>10. The GSDCA has created 60+ standing and 7+ Ad hoc committees whose reports are addressed at each board meeting. These reports consume the boards time leaving little or no time to address the needs of the breed and education of the membership. This would be a good time to consider combining committees in an effort to link and unite efforts.</li> <li>11. Many committees now keep their records on a computer. We need to update our backup policy so that the club is protected and committee chairs have reliable information as one replaces another. Reconstruction of records is in many cases not possible. For example, we have lost the dates members first signed the Breeders Code. A policy is needed to address this and then a person must be assigned the responsibility of ensuring the club is protected with backups.</li> <li>12. Job Descriptions. The club has about 60 standing committees. Committee chairs over time change. New chair persons often get little of no direction of what is expected. Data is not kept current, records lost or destroyed and reports become what the new chair thinks the board or someone expects. Every committee chair should establish a job description that is approved by the board.</li> <li>13. Membership. Data about club membership shows the 10 largest and 10 smallest clubs. The board should study the differences between the two groups and provide assistance to those clubs most likely to dissolve or become unable to function.</li> </ol>
National – Bill Burggraaf	

2011	Bill Burggraaf gave recognition to his committee member, Judy Bendt, who, in 2011, netted some \$11,000 in National Specialty profit through her efforts. Judy will provide some oversight this year but will not be able to participate at the same level as she did last year.
	Bill explained the process that he undertook to negotiate the contract in Topeka and the cost of having the National in Topeka was considerably less than the expenses of either Ohio or Utah. Bill stated that we did not net an income in 2011 in most all of the events for a total of \$28,000. Bill recognized the need for additional help from the membership for the National.
National Sites	Bill Burggraaf reported that the 2012 National is in Loveland, Colorado. There will be a sod. There is a Grant from Loveland for \$11,000. The National in 2013 will be in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Because this is the Centennial Event the National Committee is anticipating a 10 to 15% increase in entries. Bill stated that for the National in 2014 he is exploring possibilities in a number of venues and is considering dates encompassing the end of October or beginning of November. Bill looked at Delmar outdoors with protected areas for performance. Purina is a possibility for the future but not for 2014. Other possible locations are in Phoenix and Kentucky. Frank Fasano noted that ideas of the audit committee and contract chair in committee discussion included staying in a financially sound location as a site commitment for some 3-5 years to achieve income incentives and then resume the rotation. There was discussion on the opportunity to ask for the grant option from communities that are eager for the GSDCA, Inc. to hold the National in their location.
Recess	The Board was in recess from 1:34pm to 1:45pm.
Regional Clubs Dues	Frank Fasano informed the Board that the Budget and Finance committee considered a sliding scale for Regional Club Dues based on the number of members with the largest clubs paying the current Regional Club dues of \$80. He noted that while it reduces the GSDCA, Inc. income the amount is not as significant as the benefit to the Regional Clubs that are facing hard times. Dean Wylie moved and Gary Szymczak seconded that we approve a sliding scale for Regional Club dues. The details of the sliding scale / size of club / dues amount will be administered by the corresponding secretary as she is responsible for Regional Club dues invoices. Motion carried unanimously.
AOE – Helen Franklin	
Motion	Laura Gilbert was approved as a committee member. At the request of Helen Franklin, Chair of AOE, it was moved and seconded that the Board of Directors of the GSDCA approve awarding the new AOE recipients their AOE Awards during the award presentations on camera, just prior to the Parade of Greats. The AOE dogs will be on film as are the Parade of Greats. Following discussion it was approved to have the Award of Excellence presented at the Parade of Greats at the 2012 National with no one objecting to the motion.
Agility – Daniel Weiss	
Motion	Without objection permission was granted by the Board to the Agility Committee to contract for the rental of Matting and Agility Equipment to support the 2012 National Specialty.
Motion	Without objection it was approved to provide Funds for the deposits when the deposit is due.
Motion	Without objection the schedule for Agility will be as in 2011. Monday – All dogs, Jumper with Weaves, Standard and a B Match. Tuesday – GSD only, Jumpers with Weaves and Standard. Wednesday – GSD only, Jumper with Weaves, Standard and Time to Beat. Wednesday Evening – Third Annual Invitational.
Education - Helen Gleason	
	In her written report, Helen Gleason noted that Dr. Joan Coates will be presenting an Educational Program at the 2012 National on Wednesday evening at 7:30pm.
Juniors – Nancy Godek-McDonald	

Committee	Without objection the following members were approved as Junior Committee members: Christie Heiman and Elizabeth Stiefferman.
	Without objection it was approved to have a Junior Seminar at the 2012 as in 2011. Carmen Battaglia informed the Board that the AKC will be conducting a Juniors Survey soon. He encouraged participation at the Regional Club level. The idea of a Juniors only show was brought up by Morton Goldfarb, there was brief discussion and President Frank Fasano stated that he will refer this to the Juniors Chairman.
Best Junior Winner	Nancy noted that Katelyn Mayle from the Open Intermediate Class won the Best Junior at the 2011 National in Topeka, Kansas. She requested that this information be in the Board O Gram.
Herding – Theresa Royer	
Committee	Committee members Debbi Humble, Sharon White, Virginia Bailey, Sandy Moore, Diane Roberts and Dorothy Linn were approved unanimously.
	Theresa reported that the Herding Committee is planning to hold the 2-day event on Monday, October 8 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, October 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2012. She noted that the local Club is also planning to partner with our National event and will be offer a herding event the weekend prior to our National event. 2012 Herding Judges include: Bob Dias from CA and Carol Ann Hartnagel from CO. Also, based on membership feedback the plan is to offer the AKC Instinct Testing on Wednesday, October 10 <sup>th</sup> on-site at The Ranch The Herding Premium List will continue to be listed with all of the other event Premium List.
Obedience – Dalene McIntire	
Approval	Without objection, all of the recommendations of the Obedience Chairman, Dalene McIntire were approved. The recommendations are as follows:
Non-regular classes	In her written report, Dalene noted that she has had several requests to include the non-regular class “Advanced Teamwork Class” at the 2012 National in Colorado. She informed the Board that this is a very difficult class and there may not be a lot of entries, but will certainly have crowd appeal, especially for those who have not seen it as yet. Because of the likelihood of a small entry in this class, I would recommend giving only rosette ribbons for the placings in order not to increase the cost of the obedience trial by providing trophies. (In non-regular classes, there is no qualifying score and the placings are made strictly by score no matter how high or low.)
Performance Awards	The motion made by Jimmy Moses and approved during the Friday session that Registered German Shepherd Dogs be eligible for the GSDCA, Inc. Performance Titles addresses the recommendation that was included in Dalene’s written report asking the Board re-examine eligibility requirements for the Obedience Victor/Victrix, Herding Victor/Victrix, and Agility Victor/Victrix Awards.
Rosettes	Dalene requested that obedience once again present three-streamer qualifying rosettes at the National. These ribbons are valued as a special souvenir from the National, especially for those who do not place in their class, but still qualify.
Judges for 2013	Dalene recommended that the Board approve having only obedience judges who are involved in German Shepherds be put on the slate for the 2013 Centennial. This is a very special show and would be particularly special to German Shepherd people who are also obedience judges.
Shipping	Dalene asked for approval the cost of shipping a box of supplies to the National and back home again to avoid the extra baggage fees and difficulty in traveling with those supplies.
Committee	Request approval of the Obedience Committee: Gina Grossman, Sharon White, Nancy Brayton, Lori Nickeson, Evelyn Redwine, Lee Smith. Dawn VanDyken was approved as co-chair.

Dual Awards - Amber Turley	
	In her written report Amber informed the Board that the Dual Award is presented to a GSDCA member who has put both a performance and a breed title on their dog. The AKC has added new titles i.e. BN, GN. Amber asked for clarification by the Board as to whether these new titles meet the qualifications for Dual Award is needed. Amber will be informed that the Board has taken previous action to approve all titles as added by the AKC.
PAM - Lori Nickeson	
	Without objection the AKC Therapy Dog title and the Optional Titling Class of "Beginner Novice" were added to the Performance Award of Merit.
Policies and Procedures – Zoe Backman	
	Committee members Michel Ebertin, Ginny Altman and Linda Selmon were approved without objection. Gary Szymczak inquired about the process of approval of changes to the p&p. Zoe Backman explained that only the Board approved changes are entered into the policy and procedures manual.
Nominating Committee – Laura Gilbert	
	The following members were elected to the Nominating Committee: Western: Ken Tank; Mid America: Gail Stiefferman; Heartland: Bill Pfeiffer; Northeast: Karin Wagner; Alternates Elected in the event that a member of the Nominating Committee is unable to serve: Western: Nancy Godek-McDonald; Mid America: Terra Fairborn; Heartland: Joe Beccia; Northeast: Denise Black-Hollister.
Board Meeting Sites – Bill Burggraaf	
April/July Webinar	It was noted that there will be a number of members of the Centennial Committee, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Dean Wylie, Bill Burggraaf, Pam O'Dell, Lew Bunch, and Frank Fasano, in Philadelphia in April. After discussion, it was suggested that a limited conference call be conducted on Saturday, April 28, 2012 followed by an adjourned meeting the following week.. Gary Szymczak moved that the April meeting be conducted by webinar. Motion was seconded and carried without objection. There was considerable discussion regarding options for reducing the cost of Board Meetings. Frank Fasano explored the possibility of forming an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the ideas. Nadine Grady moved that the last weekend in July be a webinar meeting. Motion was seconded and carried without objection.
Red Book - Liz Leschorn	
	Frank Fasano noted that the Chair of the Red Book Committee has requested authorization to offer special pricing on the 2005 Red Books. Without objection it was approved to sell the 2005 Red Books on the website for \$15 plus mailing costs.
Recess	The Board was in recess from 2:53pm to 3:11pm.
2013 Centennial – Nancy Harper-Mulvaney	
Logo	The Board of the GSDCA-WDA Inc. joined the GSDCA, Inc. Board for the committee report on the 2013 National, Centennial Event and WUSV World Trial. Nancy Harper-Mulvaney reviewed the process of selecting a logo for the Centennial Celebration. The logo is the 9/11 GSD Dog New York on display at the AKC in Raleigh (A Heart to Serve Mankind) with the forelimbs on the world globe instead of the rock and captioned "A Century of Service to Mankind"

	Nancy had a slide presentation depicting the significant dogs in the history of the breed.
2013 National	The dates, October 21 through Saturday October 26, 2013 and a tentative schedule were reviewed with a goal of making a final schedule no later than February 2012 for the 2013 National. The final schedule will include the World Trials, Herding, Agility, Obedience, Tracking and Conformation in addition to some social events. A Historical display is planned. A ceremony honoring dignitaries and the military and service dogs as well as assistance dogs including seeing eye dogs, search and rescue dogs and K-9 service dogs is being planned.
WDA address	Daniel Yee, President of the WDA addressed the Board, affirming their desire to work closely with the GSDCA, Inc. to make the Centennial and World Trial a successful event. Dan informed the Board that all of the committee chairs are in place and he would distribute that list to the GSDCA, Inc. Dan informed the assembly that he requested that the SV President Wolfgang Henke, place him in contact with the 2012 World Trial Chairman to enable the Chairman to share information with Dan Yee. Dan noted that this will create a seamless transition for our 2013 World Trial. Dean Wylie, co-chair with Dan Yee for the World Trial has persuaded the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia to attend the 2012 World Trial in Austria to gain an understanding of the magnitude and logistics of this event. Dan Yee noted that the Agility World Trial was a product of the work done by David Landau with Wolfgang Henke. While there will be a World Agility Trial in Austria, the GSDCA will be the first International World Agility Event which will be facilitated with the assistance of SV Board Member Wolfgang Tauber.
World Trial Logo	Alethea Munsinger, WDA Board Member, addressed the concept of a WUSV World Trial logo and a number of artists illustrations were shared with the GSDCA Board and the WDA Board. Opinions were shared on the various illustrations.
Ideas on GSD Review	Without objection, Susan Casey was asked to address the concept of combining the German Shepherd Dog Review and the Complete German Shepherd Dog. There are some differences in the advertising prices between the GSD Review and the WDA magazine. There are issues of cost and income. The idea of one trial issue was explored as a concept.
	Without objection, a task force was approved to explore the concept upon a motion by Ginny Altman and seconded by Gary Szymczak. The members of the task force were approved. They are Susan Casey, Joy Schultz, Mary Gattone, Jimmy Moses and John Henkel and Frank Fasano.
Agreement between WDA and GSDCA, Inc.	Mary Gattone addressed the Board with an agreement that has been approved by the WDA Board. The history of the origins and the various intervening steps were reviewed by Carmen Battaglia and Dan Yee with some information provided by Pam O'Dell who was also on the committee. To the best of Dan's information the agreement in existence was approved by the WDA and does not have an expiration date. This agreement is on file with the SV.
Motion	Carmen Battaglia moved that the agreement on file with the SV which does not have an expiration date be approved as the official Agreement between the GSDCA and the GSDCA-WDA. The motion was seconded and carried without objection.
Adjourn	The Saturday session was adjourned at 5:34pm.
Sunday Session	The Sunday session of the Board meeting was called to order at 8:06am
Legislative Liaison – Stormy Hope	

Motion	<p>Stormy Hope requested authority to respond to routine recurring situations and informed the Board that she would contact the president if a new situation arises to which she has not responded before. Following discussion and information that many times the response required is simply to send the AKC position statement.</p> <p>James Moses moved that for those items that require a signature representing the GSDCA, Inc. position, Stormy Hope be asked to send her proposed communication to the president and legal counsel to which both would respond promptly. The motion carried without objection.</p>
Member	<p>A member contacted the Board with a request that, since the reserved seating that was assigned to the member for the 2011 National was not accessible, the member be given a refund.</p> <p>James Moses moved that the individual be refunded the price of the seats with a letter of apology. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.</p>
Courtesy request	<p>Nancy Harper-Mulvaney asked that a letter be sent to the three gentlemen who prepared the financial material for the GSDCA, Inc. thanking them for their time and service. Following discussion it was agreed that President Frank Fasano will send a letter to them.</p>
Centennial	<p>Nancy Harper-Mulvaney notified the Board that Karin Wagner, as co-chair of the Centennial, is being kept apprised of all Centennial activity and is prepared to step in if needed in an emergency. The committee is continuing to work out the details of the schedule in order that the show stays on time. There was discussion of the role of various individuals in keeping the schedule on time. The idea to have someone in charge of keeping the schedule running on time and that it be implemented in 2012 was offered.</p> <p>Nancy asked that the product section for the Centennial on the website be more prominent. There was discussion regarding the system for selling and sending out products and that it should be efficient.</p>
	<p>Gary Szymczak moved that Bill Pfeiffer be approved as an additional member of the Centennial Products Committee. All voting in favor except those who abstained: Zoe Backman, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Ginny Altman.</p>
Recess	<p>The Board was in recess from 9:00am to 9:10am</p>
Obedience	<p>It was requested and approved without objection that Zoe Backman be added to the obedience committee.</p>
Products	<p>Carmen Battaglia outlined for the Board members the various aspects of the GSDCA, Inc. store. He described how the organization and process works and how the accounting of monies and inventory was handled.</p>
WDA  Motion Committee	<p>Frank Fasano asked the Board to explore the ways to move forward with the WDA. Carmen Battaglia reviewed for the Board the conception of the WDA and that, historically, there was a need for the GSDCA to separate the Working Dog Sport from the AKC licensed shows in order to comply with the implementation of new AKC policy which prohibited protection competition. To comply and avoid that conflict, the WDA was formed by members of the GSDCA as a separate organization. The GSDCA, Inc. had previously been able to be active in the sport and competed internationally with a World Trial team.</p> <p>It was recognized that the GSDCA, Inc. needed to gain an understanding of the financial relationship between our organizations. Without objection a committee with members; Frank Fasano, Van Dukeman, Pam O'Dell, was formed to gain an understanding of the financial relationship with the WDA. Nadine Grady was added to the committee without objection.</p>
GSD Review	

	Susan informed the Board that an advertiser recently used a QR code (quick response code) inserted in their advertising, so that with a “smart phone” it would take the viewer to a website. Susan is looking into a digital edition and digital distribution of the GSD Review. The Review is designed to be a 60% revenue, 40% editorial pages financially on an annual basis. There was discussion of including articles of interest to create readership interest and marketing.
Board O Gram – Ginny Altman	
	Ginny Altman requested, again, that anyone who has information that they wish to have included in the Board O Gram provide that information to her in writing.
Thirteen Club – Sherry Kenachu	
	Without objection, the Board approved committee member, Carolyn Putnam. The committee requests that the 13 Club data be placed on the website under the Health label. Ginny Altman moved that the committee recommendation be approved and Bart Bartley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
SV/ WUSV Liaison - David Landau	
	In his written report, David reported that Judges have been chosen for 2012 SV National Events. The SV has announced that the Siegerschau will be in Ulm from Aug. 31 - Sept. 2. The SV-Bundessiegerprüfung/Agility Championship will be from Sept. 14 - 16 in Bayreuth, and the next SV Bundesleistungshüten will be in Hüttenberg-Hörnsheim from Sept. 21 - 23. The 2012 WUSV Weltmeisterschaft will be held in Steyr, Austria from Oct. 3 - 7.
COAPA - David Landau	
	In his written report, David informed the Board that the COAPA Sieger Show was held in Quito, Ecuador on Nov. 26-27, 2011 in connection with the COAPA Congress. The Judges were Heinz Scheerer from Germany and Luciano Musolino from Italy. Four males were awarded VA as were five bitches. The Sieger was Quenn di Casa Caputi and the Siegerin was Gali von der Veck. COAPA 2012 is to be held in Chile, but the date and specific location have not yet been confirmed.
GSDCA-WDA Liaison – Mary Gattone	
	In her written report, Mary Gattone informed the Board that the GSDCA-WDA board has met several times in "mini" sessions to continue the July board meeting. This effort was to address items that had not been resolved previously during the year. She requested that her report be incorporated in the GSDCA Board Meeting minutes.

	<p>Mary reported that the resignation of the following individuals caused vacancies that needed to be filled. Rhonda Southern resigned as one of the General Directors. Jim York was elected by the board of the GSDCA-WDA to fill that vacancy until December 31, 2011. In addition the Regional Director for Region 4, Charlie Starr, had also resigned. The board then voted to fill this position with Thomas Schoder. The National Training Director, Nelli Racsco, also resigned due to personal commitments. This position remained vacant until the election of Russ Osburn this past October.</p> <p>The board voted to remove the secretary, Gayle Kirkwood, from her position and appointed Alethea Caldwell Munsinger as Secretary Pro Tem for the remainder of the year(2011). This position was a two year appointment by the then president of the WDA (Danny Spreitler), not by election of the membership. The position has now been filled by the newly elected president, Dan Yee, with Ms. Sally Blount, Secretary.</p> <p>The location of the 2012 North American Sieger Show (NASS) has been changed from Region 1 to Region 5. The event will be held in the Chicago area. The Chair and committee will provide further information after the contracts have been signed. The dates for this event are October 19, 20, 21, 2012. In addition there has been a change in the judge for the females. The new judging slate is Thomas Teubert for the males and Henning Setzer for the females.</p> <p>The first event for the year, under the new President Dan Yee, was a judges seminar and certification that was presented by Guenther Diegel in Philadelphia. Mr. Diegel is a member of the WUSV Central Commission in charge of the WUSV Judges program. The event took place on Jan. 14 &amp; 15th, 2012 which resulted in two of our WDA judges being certified as SV Foreign trial judges. The two judges that were certified were Wendell Nope and Mike West. The announcement was made by Dr. Wolfgang Henke, President of the SV / WUSV, together with Mr. Clemens Lux, General Secretary of the WUSV. There was also a detailed presentation of the new 2012 SV/WUSV IPO rules.</p>
Unfinished Business	
Renewal	Pam O'Dell moved that information be sent to members that the 2013 renewal notice will be distributed in the September, October and November GSD Review and not sent out in a separate mailing. During discussion Dania Karloff informed the Board that for those follow-up reminders sent to non-renewing members, the notice is sent electronically to those who have email and by post card to those members who do not have email. Motion carried unanimously.
Juniors	Morton Goldfarb asked Carmen Battaglia to look into the possibility of having a point show for Juniors only.
April	The April Board meeting will convene on April 28 and prior to adjournment the motion will be made to Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn be set for Thursday, May 3 for an Adjourned Meeting to continue the April Board Meeting.
White	Melanie Fuellgraf asked that the GSDCA, Inc. ask the AKC not to allow registration of the FCI Berger Blanc Suisse as a German Shepherd Dog. Carmen Battaglia explained the AKC bylaws for oversight of a breed standard and the registration rules controlled by the AKC delegate body. Carmen Battaglia further explained that the determination of breed is done by the pedigree and the DNA. Carmen stated that the GSDCA, Inc. Board has no voice in this matter.
Education	Morton Goldfarb moved that Mary Ellen Kish, DiDi Ardoin, Kathy Tank and Sherri Moses be added as members of the Education Committee.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 10:41am.
	Ginny Altman, Recording Secretary
	February 28, 2012