

## January 2019

### Committee Reports

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## Award of Excellence

January 2019

Letters have been sent to all of the eligible Select dogs and bitches from the 2019 National. I am excited to see how many dogs reach the AOE this year. We do have one candidate that has achieved AOE, and will no doubt be confirmed as it is just a matter of paperwork!

### Action Item:

In the past we have required that the AOE application and paperwork be submitted by USPS mail to the Chair of the Award of Excellence. I think in this day and age, that we can accomplish this via electronic means. Owners would be responsible to get the information to the Chair by August 15<sup>th</sup> and once the title is confirmed by the Chair, the information could then be submitted to the Review by the same means.

Laura Gilbert, Chair

Award of Excellence

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## GSDCA Office

January, 2019

### **ACTION ITEM 1:**

I am still having difficulty getting the Titles reports that AKC produces the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, I would like to request that this report be sent directly to the GSDCA Office and I will distribute on receipt to each Committee chair that requires the listing. This month I received the listing almost 3 weeks late and it creates problems for me getting the Certificates and Pins out in a timely fashion.

### ACTION ITEM 2:

It is time to update and print the GSD Brochure, and Judging the German Shepherd Dog by Helen Miller Fisher. Both pamphlets are sent to individuals that request information on the German Shepherd Dog and the GSDCA. I will have a sample of each at the Board Meeting. I am requesting permission to update and reprint.

### ACTION ITEM 3:

The Pins and Certificate awards need to be reviewed and updated. I believe that Lamar Frederick is working on this, I would like to confer with him and Deb Stern to see what can be done to make sure we are being fair to our members. I am looking forward to the Board's approval of LaMar's recommendations.

The Office will be closed January 9 through 28, 2019 I will be out of the country and then will be attending the Board meeting in Orlando. I will be setting up an automatic response for the office email that I will be out of the office until January 28, there will be no back up available to answer membership questions. I will try to manage when I have access to Internet, not sure at this time if the internet goes north of the Artic Circle.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Gilbert

## Report from the Temperament Chair

January 2019

### Action item 1:

Regional clubs have encountered difficulties in their localities with getting permission to use starter pistols for Temperament Tests. The Localities do not want gunfire of any sort within the city limits. With the current climate and today's situations being what they are, I understand the Municipal concerns. We have a device that will accomplish the sound of a starter pistol/car backfire; it is called a "Clapper". My understanding is that the clapper is used with Schutzhund work and is quite effective. At the 2018 National in Gray Summit an exhibitor that participated in the Temperament Test offered one to the committee. In working with this, it did indeed; give the sound we were looking for. Ileana Noguerras offered to make one for each evaluator us have and take to tests where a Regional Club could not offer a TC due to Municipal concerns. The actual cost would be approximately \$20 each. We would have to pay shipping for any that were shipped. The Clapper is made of two pieces of 2 x 4 with a hinge and two handles. When slapped together, it makes a "gunshot" sound. This would also eliminate the cost of purchasing ammunition, guns that jam and misfire or that don't fire at all. It would be easy to travel with, and would certainly be allowed on planes if necessary. I have a video on my phone that would show what the clapper looks like, however, the sound does not come through. We ask that the board approve using the Clapper and reimburse Ileana Noguerras the expenses to make them.



### Action Item 2:

The Temperament Committee would also like to have Ileana Noguerras approved as a Temperament Evaluator. She has shown us that she is on the same page with the established Evaluators and will be an asset to our team. We are excited to have her onboard. She fills a need for an Evaluator in Texas and surrounding areas. Following is her Bio:

**"I am Ileana Noguerras and I've been showing GSDs since the late 1980s, both under FCI and AKC registries, and have bred/own/co-own multiple champions, several Sel, Sel Ex, AOE and ROMs. We also have multiple futurity and Maturity winners and a Ntl Best Puppy. Along with my dog partners we have also titled dogs in Herding and Obedience. All this simply shows that I love dogs and dog shows. But you should also know that I love this breed and respect how the standard reads. I remain an eternal student of this breed. A GSD should act, look and move like a German Shepherd Dog. We need to understand what the standard asks for regarding temperament and must continually strive to teach and safeguard that.**

**I'm a big supporter of the TT and look forward to continue working with the evaluators to become part of this team.**

**Thanks to Laura Gilbert, Deb Kaser and Butch Stiefferman for their assistance so far.**

**Ileana"**

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Gilbert, Chair  
Temperament Committee



Stormy Hope,  
GSDCA Legislative Liaison to AKC  
[Stormy435@gmail.com](mailto:Stormy435@gmail.com)

## Legislative Liaison Report January 2019

In 2019, I encourage all GSDCA regional clubs to work more and intensely with the GSDCA Legislative Committee Chair, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney and her hard-working assistant, Dee Lauffer, in building a viable and active legislative committee. We need to be in front of anti-breeder/dog owner legislation, not behind it catching up. As AKC Legislative Liaison to AKC, I will strive to bring even more news and alerts to the Club members and remind all to take action before breeding is banned everywhere.

It is very encouraging to read on social media and in private messages the continuing changes in awareness about the goals and agendas of all types of animal rights groups. We MUST remain vigilant and MUST continue to educate and bring awareness to all of the insidious paths that these groups take to divide breeders and dog owners.

### Legislation Information

There were 138 AKC Alerts in 2018, all of which have been shared with 4 GSD chat lists, the Board, all committees, on various Facebook pages including the GSDCA Legislation Awareness page, <https://www.facebook.com/GSDCA.LegislationAwareness/> Twitter, G+ and more. All GSDCA members should go to the AKC alerts page and become familiar with the alerts among other good tools. Articles from the AKC Blog, Taking Command, and other AKC articles are also shared when relevant to legislation. Laura Gilbert continues to forward AKC alerts to GSDCA members in targeted areas. Other organizations, such as NAIA, SAOVA, RPOA, NCRAOA, MoFED, send out legislative or relevant alerts and I share those widely as well.

This link opens to AKC Government Relation and all the tools available to all of us. <http://www.akc.org/clubs-delegates/government-relations/>

*At the Boards direction (July, 2018 board meeting), I am in the process of drafting a position statement regarding the consequences of legislation that bans sales of dogs or the breeding of dogs. There is still some work to be completed on this so it reflects GSDCA and its goals.*

GSDCA Legislation\_Aware, the GSDCA Legislation Facebook Page is a collection of up-to-date relevant Legislation alerts and other pertinent information. Club members need to 'follow' the page and/or remember to check the page daily. Reminders are posted on various GSD lists on a regular basis. <https://www.facebook.com/GSDCA.LegislationAwareness>.

As your Legislation Liaison to AKC, I welcome suggestions to how I can be of more help to the club. Please contact me at [stormyhope@gmail.com](mailto:stormyhope@gmail.com) with any and all comments and suggestions.

Submitted by  
Stormy Hope  
GSDCA Legislative Chair to AKC

Attached is a graphic of all that can be available from the AKC GR staff. GR is eager to help clubs and members!

[https://images.akc.org/pdf/canine\\_legislation/GILEG5.pdf](https://images.akc.org/pdf/canine_legislation/GILEG5.pdf)



# AKC's Government Relations Department

## *Here to Help You with the Following Services:*

- **Professional staff** with subject matter and regional expertise to address your particular needs.
- **Contact legislators and their staffs** to communicate concerns or express support for pending legislation on the local, state, and federal level.
- **Bill/ordinance analysis** for pending canine legislation.
- **Talking points and materials** for you to conduct your own media and public relations outreach.
- **Providing policy resource materials** to you or directly to legislators, legislators' staff, or other government officials.
- **Keeping AKC clubs and breeders up-to-date** with tools including: an online legislation tracking system; a location-based e-mail alerts system to inform constituents about pending legislation in their state or community and to issue calls for action; and the *Taking Command* e-newsletter, which provides current updates on canine legislation and policy issues around the country.
- **Online Legislative Toolbox**, a one-stop resource for materials to assist you in defending your rights as a responsible dog owner.
- **Downloadable online presentations** to educate about key canine legislation issues.
- **Presentations to clubs and regional lobby day events** across the country.
- **Model laws**, ideas, and options for effective canine legislation.
- **Keeping federal and state legislators and their staffs informed** on canine policy issues through the *In Session* newsletter.
- **Recognizing your club's or organization's efforts** with Community Achievement Awards and the Walter Bebout Memorial Award for Leadership in Canine Legislation ("Bebout Award") for exemplary work supporting responsible dog owners in the legislative arena.
- **Recognizing lawmakers and communities who support responsible dog owners and dog ownership** with the Legislator of the Year (Holt) and AKC Dog Friendly Community awards.
- **AKC Legislative Conference**, a biennial gathering for AKC's grassroots leaders that includes training and networking.
- **Canine Legislative Support Fund Educational Grants**, up to \$500 awards to assist with the expenses of developing, administering, and presenting an educational program or event.

## *A Few Words About Strategy:*

Because the fate of many legislative proposals is decided behind the scenes, much of our work is conducted outside the public eye. While it may appear that AKC is not actively involved in the legislative or regulatory process, that is not the case. Many bills can be successfully addressed by full and public support or opposition, but in some cases private negotiation or a degree of compromise may be necessary. Residents who will be affected by legislation are the best judge of what degree of compromise is acceptable. AKC can assist those residents in making that decision, and will support it as long as it is not contrary to AKC's Board-approved Canine Legislation Position Statements.

The American Kennel Club Government Relations Department  
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GILEG5 (7/14)

**National Futurity/Maturity**  
**Futurity Committee Report**  
**- January, 2019**

The Futurity Committee requests approval of the following action Items:

1. Approve the following as members of the 2019 Futurity Committee:  
John Ayotte, Linda Bankhead, Holly Bryan, Christine Grainger, Jeanne Hamilton, Patty Korsch, Michael Metz, Karin Wagner, Candy Zumwalt.
2. Approve the following clubs and weekends for 2020 Futurity/Maturity shows.

NE	GSDC of Greater New Haven	June 12-14, 2020
MA	Delaware Valley GSDC	April 3-6, 2020
SE	Augusta GSDC	May 15-17, 2020
GL	GSDC of Northern Ohio	May 1-3, 2020
MW	GSDC of St. Louis	May 8-10, 2020
SW	Pikes Peak GSDC	May 22-24, 2020
SP	Grand Canyon GSDC	April 10-12, 2020
MP	Golden State GSDC of San Jose	June 19-21, 2020
NW	GSDC of Greater Eugene, OR	July 10-12, 2020

3. Create a balance sheet account called "Temporarily Restricted Funds - Futurity". This fund would be used for money specifically raised for the Futurity System, and or money whose donors request deposit to the Futurity System. Examples would be money raised by Facebook live streaming, and donations to the Futurities as a memorial. The money would remain in this fund until used by the Futurity Committee to promote the system with ideas and activities that are approved by the board of directors.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cyndi Flautt*

**National Futurity/Maturity Chairman**  
Cyndi Flautt  
213 Lake Terrace Pl, Brandon, MS 39047  
Cell: 601-594-9351  
Email: [caretti1@comcast.net](mailto:caretti1@comcast.net)



## Juniors Report

January 2019 Board Meeting

**Co-Chair:** Nancy McDonald

**Committee Members:**

Autumn Dugan, Jeffrey Pyle

### Board To Approve:

1. Tiffany Bartley as an additional committee member
2. Our committee is requesting 20 pages for the review for the year if we need them all. These pages would include pages for the junior spotlights every month, quarterly reminders for awards and national items (how to apply for these awards), plus pages for juniors talking about their experience at Westminster and the AKC National Championship
  - We are requesting a budget of \$500 to put on something for the juniors at the national such as a movie night and other miscellaneous items throughout the year.
  - For the junior stipend we would like to place some more guidelines and would like them approved by the board. These go as follows...
  - The junior may claim up to 1,000 in a calendar year. So, if they go to the AKC national championship and Westminster their reimbursements can only total 1,000 for both and not 1,000 each. If they only go to one then they may have up to the 1,000 to cover all costs.
  - The junior must submit all forms to be reimbursed within 60 days of the end of the show
  - The juniors must also submit along with those forms 2 pictures and a paragraph about their experience for the review
  - Finally Michael Metz and the German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and Saint Paul have raised almost 1,000 to support juniors in going to the national. Mike Metz was apart of our committee conference call and presented the idea that all regional futurities do something like this and we wanted to bring it to the board to discuss. The money raised will be distributed to juniors to help them financially afford to make it to the nationals which can be a very costly trip for many. This won't only up junior participation at the national, but also junior participation at the futurity weekend shows as the juniors have to compete in junior showmanship to be eligible for the money. We ran into a few things we need to workout and would love some input on this idea. Some questions that came to mind when on the conference call were...
  - How would we distribute the funds without damaging junior status?
  - Should the funds be divided evenly to the juniors or slightly more for best and reserve junior?
  - Can we open this up to all regions and have all the clubs in the region donate to the cause instead of just the club hosting that year?
  - Can we start a donation page? And finally if this becomes something we want to do we thought about putting it as option to donate directly on the entry when people enter the futurity.

Thank you so much and I hope everyone had a great holiday season

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nick Hodge  
GSDCA Junior Co-Chair (402)253-5998  
hodgenick99@gmail.com

## Internet Committee – January 2019

### GSDCA Store Sales

- For 2018 sales through the store were \$285,419.34.
- This is an increase from \$268,045.80 in 2017, but still below our high of \$307,162.70 in 2016.
- We should be looking at expanding our product offerings, and promoting store sales in 2019.
- December of 2018 generated \$53,813.05 in sales, with \$45,529.00 of that total coming from dues and Review subscriptions for lifetime members. There were also significant dues payments in November and in January.
- In 2018 we implemented improved monthly store reporting procedures to help the treasurer allocate the income to the appropriate GSDCA accounts.

### GSDCA Website Stats

- 2018 Unique Visitors – 191,789
- 2018 Visits – 286,661
- 2018 Page Views – 784,520
- 2018 Hits – 8,657,671
- Hits peak in January and are lowest in November and December. The vast majority of hits are from visitors in the US, with Canada, Great Britain and Australia contributing significant numbers. High numbers from The Russian Federation, China and India are probably due to hackers (which fortunately have not attacked the site in the past 3 years.)
- 73% of the visits to the site last less than 1 minute, with 12% lasting from 1 to 5 minutes, and 6% from 5 to 15 minutes.
- Besides the home page, the most visited pages are Upcoming Events, German Shepherd Puppies, The Breed Standard, Classified Ads, and the Members only Pages. 2018 National Results also received high traffic.
- The Windows operating system is still the most common among users, but iOS has almost caught it and iOS, Linux and Mac combined for significantly more users than Windows.
- Chrome is now the leading browser and Safari a close second. There are still significant Firefox users, but MS Internet Explorer shows significant decline.
- The vast majority of searches are via Google, with almost significant searches through other search engines like Bing or Yahoo.
- There are a growing number of links to the site from Facebook pages, and a handful from places like AKC.org and Purina.com
- Search phrases leading to the site include “dog club”, “gsdca”, “german shepherd training”, and “german shepherd”. Keywords are “german” and “shepherd”.

### Other Internet Committee Projects

New processes for handling Premium Lists and Shows Results have been implemented. I have requested approval of Valarie Harrington, Kim King, and Travis Scarlett as new members of the Internet Committee for their roles in keeping these key features of the Website.

Significant changes and updates to website including correcting and updating out of date information are an ongoing process, and I have had some success in involving members and committee chairs in reviewing content and providing edits.



Revival of Membership Cards by Email was successful in spite of a glitch in Constant Contact where snail mail addresses were not being updated properly from the master membership database. Monthly emailing of membership cards for new and renewing members is now in the works.

New database software for the ROM program has been obtained and the process of writing the replacement for the old, obsolete, proprietary software is under way.

Pam Stoesser has retired as the GSDCA Webmaster. The transition began in April, and Pam has graciously agreed to stay in close contact with me to answer questions I may have regarding her work on the site. The management and development of the website is currently my responsibility. I would like to name Pam as the Webmaster Emeritus in recognition of her many years of service to the club.

Respectfully submitted

John Ayotte

20190126

## January 2019 GSDCA P&P Report by Myra Shear, Chair

The following sections of the P&P manual have been updated (revised or added):

- ATAA (revised)
- Awards
  1. Leslie Dancosse Legacy Award (new)
  2. Phyllis Dobbs Award (new)
  3. Phyllis Kraft Award (new)
  4. Junior's Performance Award at National -- Highest Scoring Junior in Obedience, Rally or Agility (new)
  5. Hero Dog (revised to provide more detail)
- Criteria to judge Conformation at the National (revised)
- Selection of Junior Showmanship judge at National (revised)
- Juniors Reimbursement for Westminster (new)
- Financial Conflict of Interest/Full Disclosure policy for BOD members (revised) & Conflict of Interest/Incompatibility of Office form (added to Appendix)
- SV Programs Office (revised)
- Code of Ethics committee section heading renamed "Breeder's Code of Ethics (formerly Code of Ethics)" and note added below heading that the BOD voted in April 2018 to reinstate the Breeders Code of Ethics and rescind the combined Breeders Code/Code of Ethics; that the committee returned to its original name and its original purpose and that the policy was currently under review and reconstruction.
- Names of committee chairs and contact info (revised in each section to the extent it could be determined)
- To show history of when sections were updated, wherever anything of significance was changed in the manual by me, the words "revised" or "added" along with date of change appears in parentheses next to the changes, for example "(revised 4/2018)".

Updated copy of P&P manual will be uploaded to PC website behind member's wall and available for viewing by the time of the January BOD meeting.

### Action Items:

- At April 2018 BOD meeting, minutes reflect that BOD unanimously passed a motion for "new criteria to judge conformation at the National effective with nominations for 2019 judges." Having compared these to the existing P&P, most of these new criteria are not changes from the old criteria, but one stands out, i.e., the new requirement that a person be an AKC approved judge for a minimum of 3 years. This represents a departure from the old policy of requiring a judge to be AKC approved for minimum of 5 years. I have made the change but am asking BOD to verify it intended to make that specific change from 5 years to 3 years.

- The April 2018 BOD minutes further state that in the same motion above the BOD unanimously passed language that “if a person judges at the GSDCC National in 2020, the earliest they could judge the GSDCA National is 2022.” The old policy read, “all judges may not accept an assignment to judge at the GSDCA National within a 3 year period if one has judged specials (Intersex) at the Canadian National.” This represents a change from the old policy in two ways:
  1. That the waiting period between judging the US National and the Canadian National has decreased to 2 years; and
  2. That the restriction applies to all persons judging the Canadian National not just those who have judged Specials (Intersex) at the Canadian National.

I have made the change to a minimum 2 year restriction on judging GSDCA National if a person has judged the GSDCC, but I ask that the BOD confirm this limitation applies to all judges at the GSDCC National and not just the Specials/Intersex judge. For example, the policy language would read, “Beginning with the 2019 GSDCA National, if a person has judged the GSDCC National, he or she is not eligible to judge the GSDCA National for a minimum of 2 years following the completion of the GSDCC assignment (e.g., if a person judges the GSDCC National in 2020, the earliest s/he may judge the GSDCA National is 2022). “ In the alternative, it would read, “Beginning with the 2019 GSDCA National, if a person has judged Specials (Intersex) at the GSDCC National, he or she is not eligible to judge the GSDCA National for a minimum of 2 years following the completion of the GSDCC assignment (e.g., if a person judges Specials/Intersex at the GSDCC National in 2020, the earliest he/she may judge the GSDCA National is 2022). “

- The October 2018 BOD minutes state that the BOD approved a proposal to amend the newly created GSDCA Multiple-Performance Award in Memory of Phyllis Kraft to include breed champions who also earn performance championships. While adding conformation to the list of championships eligible for the award, the BOD also approved a name change to GSDCA Multi-Championship Award in Memory of Phyllis Kraft thus omitting the word “Performance” from the title. If this is the case, I would like some direction from the BOD. Zoe Backman, who initially proposed the award and wrote the policy setting forth the requirements, is very opposed to the change. Does the BOD want me to go ahead and make that change in the policy manual myself, including the name of the award, or leave it for someone else to redraft and send to me? The award submission form would also need to be changed a bit, but the club president and recording secretary had agreed with me previously that the form could be referred to in the policy (i.e., incorporation by reference) without publishing the form itself in the P&P manual, leaving the form to be posted on the website alone. Thus I leave that task to someone else to tweak the form unless the BOD wants the form to be part of the P&P manual.

GSDCA ANNUAL REPORT 2018  
PERFORMANCE AWARD OF MERIT

Board action requested

The Performance Award of Merit committee would like to ask for GSDCA Board approval of the following changes to the requirements for qualifying for this award.

Beginning with 2019:

1. Adding the AKC Scent Work titling event to the requirements to qualify for the Performance Award of Merit ,the committee will work out the details once event has been approved.
2. In the future any National Victor /Victrix titles the qualifying dog has been awarded will be included on the engraving on the Plaques
3. When filling out the application only the highest level title in each different event will be listed on the application and on the plaques, The Performance Award of Merit is given for Versatility in Training not to honor performing the same task multiple times, being awarded the same title over and over with a different name, letter, or number.

The reason for the request for # 3 is that with all the new AKC titling awards and classes that have been added over the past few years the titles behind the dogs names have been increasing to the point that it is very difficult to keep on top of all of them not to mention the possibility of missing one or two and having to have the plaques done over

I have had several that wanted up to 40 titles included.

Respectfully Submitted

Lori Nickeson Chairman: Performance Award of Merit

## REGIONAL CLUB LIASON REPORT

JANUARY 2019 MEETING

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANN AKERILL, MARY GOLDEN, BILL WOOLEVER, LYNN GOSWICK

### OTHERS PENDING

Overview:

The following projects are proposed for the upcoming year:

1. Update information on the Regional Club Website Page with ALL clubs and current contacts.
2. Request Laura Gilbert add the nearest Regional Club Contact information into her Welcome letter to new members
3. Request Gail add a fourth item to her requirement for shows: Update Regional Club Page with current information
4. Emergency judges list by region for club to refer to when a judge cancels at the last minute.
5. Regional Club Aid:
  - a. Cash donation for trophies for ailing clubs or for GSDCA regional specialties **\$100 to \$250**
  - b. We are putting together a proposal for a vendor/s to supply a bulk price for trophies and ribbons establishing a Universal Trophy Fund for ailing clubs and clubs desiring to use them. Could be partially funded by parent club for ailing clubs. **At this point we are in the formative stages of this and welcome input.**
6. Add Logo to Regional Club listing on Website
7. Send a survey to all parent club members and Regional Club Officers to inquire, questions, concerns or policies/programs that would contribute to better aid in sustaining Regional Clubs
8. Define vendors who are willing to sponsor shows with 1<sup>st</sup> place trophies and products, i.e. Royal Canine
9. Regional Club \$50 bonus for each current Regional Club Member who becomes a member of the **GSDC of America.**
10. Will remain the same for now.
  - a. Regional Club Challenge
  - b. Newsletter
  - c. Website
  - d. Regional Club Parade

FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION BY THIS BOARD IS A REQUEST FROM BILL WOOLEVER with the **Lehigh German Shepherd Dog Club** in **Pennsylvania**

“Our club is requesting financial assistance for trophy purchases for the GSDCA Regional Specialty.” Bill is asking that this type of “help” be made available to any club utilizing this type of show. **He is requesting \$250 to defer trophy costs.**

My suggestion would be to donate a GSDCA decal, window sticker or magnet for first in each class and other items for the Upper classes. I have concerns that once you open the \$ donations door, every club will be asking for the same.

Other thoughts... should the club be required to show a “need” for this help?

Mary Tripp

**GSDCA SV Programs Office Report – January 2019 BOD Meeting**

**January 1 thru December 31, 2018**

**SV WUSV Programs Clubs – 35 2017 total 33**

Bayou City Schutzhund Club, Texas  
Big Timber IPO & Working Dog Club, Wisconsin  
Bluegrass Dog Training Club, Kentucky  
Bur Oak Hundesport, Illinois  
Carolina Foothills Schutzhund Verein, South Carolina  
Central Carolina GSD Club, North Carolina  
Central Illinois Police & working Dog Association, Illinois  
Central Virginia Schutzhund Club, Virginia  
Chicago Schutzhund Verein, Illinois  
Delaware Valley Police & Schutzhund Club, Pennsylvania  
Deutscher Schaeferhunde Club, California  
Dog Treff New York, New York  
Evolution Working Dog Club, Missouri  
Greater Washington Schutzhund Group, Virginia  
GSDC of EastConn, Connecticut  
Hundesport Alaska, Alaska  
Liberty Working Dog Club, New York  
Metro Working Dog Association, Missouri  
Mid-America Police & Working Dog Club, Minnesota  
Northern Vermont Working Dogs, Vermont  
Northwest Arkansas Working & Police Dog Assoc. O.G. Horan, Michigan  
OG Idaho, Idaho  
Orange County Schaeferhunde Klub, New York  
Pes zo Dvora, Connecticut  
Prairie State Dog Club, Illinois  
Prime Time IPO Training Club, Florida Riverfront  
Working Dog Club, Missouri  
The Working Pup, Indiana  
Tri-City Schutzhund Verein, Maryland  
Upper Bucks Schutzhund Club, Pennsylvania  
Virginia Beach Schutzhund Club, West Virginia  
Volunteer Schutzhund Club, Tennessee  
Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein, Connecticut  
Wesley chapel Total Dog Training Club, Florida  
Woodburn Canine Training Center, Kentucky

**GSDCA Certified Helpers – 80 2017 total 64**

4 Apprentice  
32 Club Level Helpers  
15 Regional Level Helpers  
14 National Level Helpers  
15 Teaching Helpers

**Judges – 10 2017 total 10**

8 GSDCA Performance Judges  
1 FCI Performance Judge  
1 International Special Judge of Breeding

**2018 SV WUSV Programs Events Approved Year-to-Date – 38 2017 total 35**



1/27/18 – Bayou City Schutzhund Club – Club Trial  
1/27-28/18 – Dog Treff New York – Club Trial  
2/24-25/18 – Prime Time IPO Training Club – Club Trial  
3/10/18 – Central Carolina GSD Club – Club Trial  
3/24-25/18 – Central Virginia Schutzhund Club – IPO Seminar & Helper Seminar/Certification  
4/6-8/18 – Greater Washington Schutzhund Group – Helper Seminar & Certification  
4/7/18 – Big Timber IPO & Working Dog Club – Club Trial  
4/78/18 – Woodburn Canine Training Center – Club Show  
4/13-15/18 – Volunteer Schutzhund Club – Club Trial  
4/13-15/18 – Greater Washington DC Schutzhund Group – Club Trial  
4/20-22/18 – Tri City Schutzhund Verein – Club Trial, Club Show & Breed Survey  
4/20-22/18 – Woodburn Canine Training Center – Club Trial  
5/4-6/18 – GSDCA National IPO/FH Championship & GSDCA Universal Sieger Show & Breed Survey  
5/26-27/18- OG Idaho – Club Trial  
6/2/18 – Northwest Arkansas Working & Police Dog Assoc. – Club Trial  
6/8-10/18 – Combined Qualification Trial  
6/22-24/18 – Prairie State Dog Club – Club Trial  
6/29-30/18 – Dog Treff New York – Club Trial  
6/29-7/1/18 – Chicago Schutzhund Verein – Club Show & Breed Survey  
7/28-29/18 – Southwest Ohio Schutzhund Club – Helper Seminar/Certification  
8/18-19/18 – Wesconn Schaeferhund Verein – Regional Show, Breed Survey & AD  
8/24-26/18 – Chicago Schutzhund Verein – Club Trial  
8/24-26/18 – Hundesport Alaska – Club Trial  
9/16/18 – Tri City Schutzhund Verein – Helper Seminar/Certification  
9/15-16/18 – O.G. Horand – Club Trial  
9/21-23/18 – Bluegrass Dog Training Club – Club Trial  
9/28-30/18 – GSDCA Sieger Show  
10/20-21/18 – Northern Vermont Working Dogs – Club Trial, Helper Seminar/Certification  
10/12-14, 2018 – Deutsche Schaeferhunde Club San Diego – Club Trial  
11/3/18 – Woodburn Canine Training Center – Club Show & AD with Dr. Goldfarb, International Judge of Breeding  
11/9-11/18 – Delaware Valley Police & Working Dog Assoc – Club Trial  
11/10-11/18 – Big Timber IPO/Working Dog Club – Club Trial  
11/17/18 – Evolution Working Dog Club – Club Trial  
11/24-25/18 – Pes zo Dvora – Club Trial  
11/30-12/2/18 – Woodburn Canine Training Center – Club Trial  
12/1-2/18 – Upper Bucks Schutzhund Club – Club Trial  
12/8-9/18 – O.G. Horand – Club Show & AD  
12/15/18 – Northwest Arkansas Working & Police Dog Assoc – Club Trial

Hip and Elbow Evaluations Processed – 114 year-to-date 2017 total 61

Scorebooks Issued – 109 year-to-date 2017 total 103

Joy Schultz  
GSDCA SV/WUSV Programs Office

## GSDCA United States Recognized Working Dog Program

SV Programs Chair: Charlie Starr

January 12, 2019

### Summary

The GSDCA SV programs currently follows all rules and regulations for performance titles, conformation ratings, and breed survey regulations. You will notice in the following tables SV judges are also required to for all breed survey required titles. Currently, the GSDCA has a few performance judges in the GSDCA SV programs and the titles they award to successful exhibitors is only recognized by the GSDCA no other organization nor recognized to SV breed survey in GSDCA. The required titles are BH (obedience/temperament title), AD (endurance title), IPO/IGP (performance title in tracking, obedience and protection), elbow certification read by the SV, and hip certification by the SV or OFA. As a member of the WUSV/SV, we are also subject to any new rules or title requirements, this can create a hardship for the members and GSDCA organization to meet the demands financially and adequate number of events. Recently the WUSV has changed their breed regulations with further requirements and age-specific titles that can only be evaluated and awarded by the SV Judges, effective on dogs born July, 1<sup>st</sup> 2017, this directly affects the ability to have the requirements to obtain a breed survey needed to compete in the Working Class in conformation for dogs over 2 years of age.

### Situation

1. SV has implemented a new requirement in their breed regulations, the Character Test known as ZAP1 or Wesensbeurteilung test on all dogs between the ages of 9 and 13 months of age born July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and after.
2. The SV does not recognize GSDCA Performance judges under the SV Programs titles for requirements of breed survey.
3. There are currently no programs in place in GSDCA SV Programs to acquire, apprentice and/or educate judges in performance and conformation/breed surveys.

### IGP; Formerly IPO or Schutzhund

FCI released effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 new rules for performance under the new name IGP or Internationale Gebrauchshunde Prüfungsordnung/ International Utility Dogs Regulations (FCI, 2019). The FCI titles are required performance titles for breed survey, Working Class, and the following show ratings: VA-Excellent Select and V-Excellent.

### Breed Survey (Korung) Requirements

Currently, the following requirements are required for Breed Survey:

\*All titles must be obtained by SV Judges or breed survey cannot be awarded.

>12 months	>12 months	>15 months	>16 months <6yrs.	>18 months	>2 years age
HD (OFA or SV) ED (SV)	Show Rating Minimal "G" Good rating	BH/VT Obedience & Temperament	AD Endurance Test	IGP1 3 phases Tracking Obedience Protection	Korung Or Breed Survey

### \*New Requirements\*

1. Required in Germany by SV for all dogs born **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**.

\*Alternative method for breed survey and entrance into working class, all titles by SV judges.

>12 months	9-13 months	>12 months	>16 months	>18 months	>2-year age
HD/ED/DNA	ZAP1 (Character Test or Wesens- beurteilung)	Minimal show rating "G" Good	AD Endurance Test	ZAP2 performance Test similar to IGP	Korung Or Breed Survey

2. Breed Survey and working class entrance by IGP method for all dogs born **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**.

\*All titles awarded by SV Judges

>12 months	9-13 months	>12 months	>16 months	>18months	>2-year age
HD/ED/DNA	ZAP1(Character Test)	Minimal show rating of "G" Good	AD Endurance Test	IGP1 3 Phases Tracking Obedience Protection	Korung or Breed Survey

\*The ZAP2 method allows for minimal breeding's in Germany, IGP way full access.

(Tables SV, 2019)

## **Overview**

In the above tables, you can see the required titles, health certification and new requirements implemented and outlined by the SV. To follow program at present: All SV judges for the performance titles and adult show rating, elbow certification and soon back (LUV) certification through German veterinarian grading of the x-rays.

Our conformation program brings in most our income, last year the Sieger Show had over 300 entries and the Universal Sieger show over 130 entries. With the new regulations, we will see a drastic decline in entries as additional titles will require more financial obligations. On the other hand, a new US program would offset the cost and recognize our judges, increase entries and member's participation.

## **Financial Implication**

The cost to acquire and accommodate a foreign SV judge is financially difficult ranging \$4000+ per event for the judge's expense; this does not include trophies, equipment or event location if needed. This financial responsibility has made it difficult for many to host events or sustain a club as they cannot afford to have events that the members request and need. The result, fewer events, fewer clubs, and less membership.

## **Why is this required**

Breed Survey- The FCI and the WUSV/SV has set standards to test the working heritage of the German Shepherds in the sport of IGP/IPO. The test evaluates the ability to serve, drive to work, intelligence, courage, temperament, and ability to problem solve. The SV has mandated breed regulations requiring the performance test with a minimal level one (IGP1/IPO1), health certification in hip/elbows/back and adherence to the breed standard. Once all breed regulations are met the dogs are evaluated against the breed standard in the stand, motion and courage test and will be awarded a breed survey by an SV judge.

The Breed Survey (Korung) in Germany and other countries will meet the eligibility to breed and to enter the Working Class in the conformation ring. Here in the US the breed survey is required to 'VA' Excellent Select rating and 'V' Select rating in the Working Class. This is for all German Shepherds 2 years of age and over. \*It is also important to note the breed survey is now required to compete at the World Championships in performance events.

## **Proposal**

Develop and implement a complete United States GSDCA SV Program with recognition of titles similar to the current program but allowance of GSDCA judges to award titles recognized for the breed survey. Allow both elbows and hips to be OFA certified. \*The current SV international judge program as we know it would remain for those breeding and competing outside of the United States.

Develop and implement a judge's education program and apprenticeship for both conformation and performance. Our current performance judges were grandfathered in from other organizations, as

stated before their titles are not recognized anywhere including by the GSDCA for breed surveys (BH, AD, IPO/IGP1). The new proposal would recognize current GSDCA judge's titles in the US recognized the program.

Develop and implement junior's programs that will recognize and award junior participation in performance and conformation and education yearly. Documentation and yearly awardment to engage and encourage more participation by our youth. The goal is to create a program that would be able to award successful juniors' scholarships after they turn 18 years old and build a lifetime of value in our breed and organization.

## **Results**

### **In favor of new program**

A viable, financially affordable program for the members and clubs. More participation in both sport and conformation and program sustainability. Event cost reduced to a few hundred dollars for US judge per event.

### **Not in Favor of New Program**

Continuation of loss of members, clubs, and events due to financial demands and program requirements by only SV foreign judges.

- Due to the new regulation members are not able to breed in Germany due to the new regulations (effective immediately).
- All dogs in the top 30 in the world show must have SV recognized breed survey, hip/elbow/DNA/LUV read by Germany. (effective now).
- The new breed regulations are effective for dogs born July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Starting in July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 adult dogs will not be able to breed survey due to new test requirements between the ages of 9-13 months of age under an SV judge or eligible for VA Excellent Select at the Nationals or abroad.
- In 2020 the majority of the Working-Class dogs will be over the required minimum age to have a current breed survey required to compete in shows. A drastic decline will exist, and many members will discontinue the program and/or convert to other organizational programs that have the US recognized judges to compete.

We must note all other countries have current National recognized breed programs that consist of their native judges to grant titles for performance, conformation and breed surveys. Other national programs have been viable, lasting programs that establish efficient and affordable alternatives for their members to continue competing.

## **The cost to Develop and Implement New Program**

The cost will be minimal to educate and apprentice potential eligible judges. The request would be to establish minimum requirements to apply, the application fee for a potential judge, then the cost of transportation and apprenticeship would be the responsibility of the individual.

The current judges would remain in place. New forms and other minor office expense to implement a program. Performance judge program would apprentice under the performance chair. Conformation judge program would apprentice under breed judge in US or SV judge at GSDCA events. Much of the cost will be at the hand of the applicant.

All other rules, FCI performance exercises, and SV program layout will remain unchanged other than GSDCA judges will be granted rights to award all titles and show ratings. Thus, the SV foreign judges will be able to award US recognized only show ratings, titles and breed surveys. This will increase membership participation and growth in our program.

#### References

FCI (2019). *International Utility Dogs Regulations (IGP)*. Retrieved from:

<http://www.fci.be/en/Utility-Dogs-58.html>

SV (2019). *Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV)*. Retrieved from:

<https://www.schaeferhunde.de/en/>





## Marketing Committee Report- January 2019

### Updates:

1. Marketing Committee Chair did a handover from previous Chair and has kept committee members up to date on the progress moving forward
2. Gary and Seth have had regular discussions about marketing and the GSDCA, and have agreed to regular monthly updates
3. Marketing Committee: Two members have resigned, Elisabeth Laxton and Matt McMillian. Marketing Chair actively taking recommendations and seeking new committee members
  - a. Idea to get a junior on board who might be interested in marketing and being part of the GSDCA Parent Club committee process
4. 2019 Marketing Plan: Plan is with Board for review. The focus in 2019 will be to elevate the GSDCA internally and externally, working closer with the Regional Clubs Chair, PR, and other channels where the GSDCA has not been present in the past and giving tools to our members to promote the breed and The Club
5. Social Media - All GSDCA Social Media pages continue to be active and have an opportunity for growth
6. New ideas/proposals - See marketing plan

### **The Marketing Committee requests the following Action Items to be considered and voted on at the January Board Meeting:**

1. Approve marketing plan

Respectfully Submitted,

Seth Keida  
GSDCA Marketing Chair  
646-301-0230

Committee Members: John Ayote, Donna Calabrese, Lisa Correia, Rebecca Little, and Myra Shear

# GSDCA Marketing

## Search Engine Marketing (SEM)

- Opportunity to raise awareness and direct people to GSDCA.org
  - Every month around 2.2 million people globally search google for “German Shepherd”
- No mention of the GSDCA on the first page of Google
  - Similar opportunity on Wikipedia
- Around 4,000 people visit the GSD page on Wikipedia daily, there is no mention of the GSDCA

The screenshot shows a Google search for "german shepherd". The search bar at the top displays the query. Below the search bar, the results are categorized by "All", "Images", "Shopping", "Videos", "News", "More", "Settings", and "Tools". The search results show several links to websites providing information about German Shepherd dogs, including AKC, Vetstreet, and Dogtime. A knowledge panel on the right side of the page provides detailed information about the German Shepherd breed, including its origin, characteristics, and a gallery of images. Below the knowledge panel, there is a "People also ask" section with several questions related to German Shepherds, such as "Are German shepherds a good family dog?" and "What is the price of German shepherd?". The bottom of the page shows a "Videos" section.

Google

german shepherd

All Images Shopping Videos News More Settings Tools

About 125,000,000 results (0.46 seconds)

**German Shepherd Dog Breed Information**  
<https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/german-shepherd-dog>  
German Shepherd Dogs can stand as high as 26 inches at the shoulder and, when viewed in outline, presents a picture of smooth, graceful curves rather than ...

**German Shepherd Dog Breed Information - Vetstreet.com**  
[www.vetstreet.com/dogs/breeds/herding](http://www.vetstreet.com/dogs/breeds/herding)  
German Shepherds are protective and are suited to many types of homes because they are so intelligent and adaptable. Learn all about German Shepherd ...

**German Shepherd Dog Breed Information, Pictures, Characteristics ...**  
[dogtime.com/dog-breeds/german-shepherd-dog](http://dogtime.com/dog-breeds/german-shepherd-dog)  
The German Shepherd Dog is one of America's most popular dog breeds — for good reason. He's an intelligent and capable working dog. His devotion and ...  
Height: 1 foot, 10 inches to 2 feet, 2 inches tall at ... Weight: 75 to 95 pounds  
Life Span: 10 to 14 years

**People also ask**

Are German shepherds a good family dog?

What is the price of German shepherd?

Are German shepherds known to be aggressive?

Are German shepherds barkers?

Feedback

**German Shepherd - Wikipedia**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German\\_Shepherd](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_Shepherd)  
The German Shepherd is a breed of medium to large-sized working dog that originated in Germany. The breed's officially recognized name is German Shepherd Dog in the English language. The breed was once known as the Alsatian in Britain and Ireland. Wikipedia  
Description: Use as working dog · History · Health

**Videos**

**German Shepherd**  
Dog breed

The German Shepherd is a breed of medium to large-sized working dog that originated in Germany. The breed's officially recognized name is German Shepherd Dog in the English language. The breed was once known as the Alsatian in Britain and Ireland. Wikipedia

**Life span:** 9 – 13 years  
**Weight:** Male: 66–88 lbs (30–40 kg), Female: 49–71 lbs (22–32 kg)  
**Temperament:** Loyal, Alert, Obedient, Curious, Confident, Intelligent, Watchful, Courageous  
**Colors:** Black, Black & Gold, Red & Black, Black & Silver, Sable  
**Height:** Male: 24–26 inches (60–65 cm), Female: 22–24 inches (55–60 cm)  
**Did you know:** German Shepherd is the second-most popular dog breed by registrations (129,186) worldwide. wikipedia.org

**People also search for** View 10+ more

Rottweiler Doberman Siberian Husky Labrador Retriever Boxer

Feedback

## PR and Community Engagement Opportunities

- GSDCA media efforts
  - Press release issued by the GSDCA prior to the National
    - Release will focus on what the National is
    - Include quotes from GSDCA President
    - Develop boilerplate
- Invite local media to the National
- Encourage regional clubs to invite the community to their specialties
  - Marketing can create a comms toolkit for clubs to use
    - Promote through local chambers and city destination marketing teams to post on local events pages etc...
  - Work with local rescues to promote the GSDCA through adoption

## GSDCA Members

- Member get member campaign
- Town Hall sessions at the National hosted by the President
  - Give updates
  - Opportunity for members to ask questions
- Weekly club merchandise drawings on social media
- Quarterly members spotlight on official GSDCA Facebook page and in the Review
  - Focus on all venues, not just conformation
- Promote our members who are AKC Breeders of Merit

## Social Media – Official GSDCA Channels

- Messaging calendar for official GSDCA social media channels
  - Develop key monthly messages
  - Ensure consistent campaigns and messaging across all channels
- Daily updates during the National on events/winners etc.
  - Encourage members to engage with content and increase messaging reach
- Increase Twitter base to over 5,000 followers and rebrand all GSDCA social tools as “Official German Shepherd Dog Club of America XXXXX account”

## Collateral/Promo Items

- One page information sheet to promote both the breed and parent club
- Regional Club toolkit
  - GSDCA branded communications templates
  - Branded tablecloths
  - Promo items
    - Nominal giveaways for attendees
    - Give regional clubs merchandise from GSDCA to be able to sell
- Promo items
  - Research third party supplier for management or promo items

## AKC Delegate Report

January 2019

Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia

### Two Action Items:

1. **Adjunct Breed Status** – AKC Dog Detection Task Force (DDTF)

The GSD was not selected as one of the two breeds to be included in the Pilot study of the AKC DDTF. However, the opportunity to become an adjunct breed exists. The best way to do is to: (A) Meet with the DDTF Task Force Representative- Scott Thomas - (Jan 25, 2019). (B) Submit a written report requesting Adjunct status and include breed data. I would use information from the 10 Year Report (below), membership, our 126 regional clubs including our working dog club, 60 committees, breed health etc. I will help if needed.

2. **Dog Show Rule Change**. Two members of the GSDCA were denied entry of their dogs at the GSDCA national. Both dogs were entered in the regular classes and both finished a week or two before the national. Both members came to the National thinking they could “move their dogs up” to the special class as long as they did it early Saturday, 30 minutes before judging. The Superintendent denied their entry and said that “AKC Dog Show Rules) requires that a move up be done 30 minutes before the show begins. Our national began on Thursday. Both members were at the show before the start on Thursday but they did not know the Rule. This is a confusing rule which was intended for All-Breed Shows that are held on one day. Now with cluster shows, two shows on one day, and multiple day Nationals shows, this AKC Rule needs updating. I recommended to the AKC Board that this Rule be revised and updated. AKC agreed and will begin to study how this can happen.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

3. **One plus One = 1 championship point.... passed**. This is a new AKC Rule change. It allows the Best of Winners to earn one championship point. When only one male and only one female are entered in the classes, the dog that wins Best of Winners will be awarded one championship point. The change is effective January 1, 2019.
4. **AKC Achiever Dog**  
Early in 2018, AKC launched a new program called the Achiever Dog. It was designed to introduce and encourage dogs and owners to stay in the sport. The focus was on achievement for owners and their dogs not just win or lose. Dogs awarded a placement or a *qualifying score* (ribbon) in three different sports earned an AKC Achiever Dog certificate which was sent them by the AKC. The program has been a great success.  
*All dogs are eligible including, those listed with the AKC Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) or the AKC Canine Partners program, or Recorded as a Foundation Stock Service (FSS) breed. German Shepherd Dog owners responded. Of the 200 breeds involved, the GSD ranks 7<sup>th</sup> as of October 30, 2018.*

### **Achiever Dog Certificates by Breed**

Dec 1, 2017 thru Oct 30, 2018

	BREED	COUNT
1	Golden Retriever	2,237
2	All American Dog	1,615
3	Australian Shepherd	1,397
4	Border Collie	1,370

5	Labrador Retriever	1,300
6	Shetland Sheepdog	1,250
<b>7</b>	<b>German Shepherd Dog</b>	<b>1112</b>
8	Poodle	906
9	Rottweiler	659
10	Doberman Pinscher	611
11	Pembroke Welsh Corgi	609
12	Vizsla	591
13	Belgian Tervuren	498
14	Collie	475
15	Dachshund	466
16	Flat-Coated Retriever	442
17	German Shorthaired Pointer	421
18	Portuguese Water Dog	406
19	English Springer Spaniel	402
20	Rhodesian Ridgeback	387

Total Certificates Issued..... 30,826

5. **Decline in GSD Registrations.** Ten years of GSD data from AKC shows that while registered litters of GSD are slowly increasing along with the number of pups born. The number of GSD pups being AKC registered by their new owners is in serious decline. Notice in the chart below that percentage of GSD being registered has decreased from 42.9% to 33.7%. This is a troubling trend which is affecting the diversity of the gene pool, and the number of show and performance entries, club membership and volunteers. Several other breed clubs have noticed similar declines and have established a Sustainability Committee which has three parts. Sustainability of the Breed, membership and Sport.

Ten Years of AKC Data -						German Shepherd Dogs				
Metric	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reg. Litters	15,093	14,851	14,441	14,082	14,667	15,115	15,468	16,220	18,044	19,395
Pups born	91,855	90,912	87,596	86,803	90,616	93,151	95,641	100,492	112,502	121,255
Avg. size t	6.09	6.12	6.07	6.16	6.18	6.16	6.18	6.20	6.23	6.25
Pups Reg.	39,392	38,829	36,934	37,052	38,079	39,979	40,942	42,689	47,113	40,893
% reg.	42.9%	42.7%	42.2%	42.7%	42.0%	42.9%	42.8%	42.5%	41.9%	33.7%
# Limited	4,091	4,402	4,049	4,366	4,934	5,240	5,832	6,871	8,390	8,219
% Limited	4.5%	4.8%	4.6%	5.0%	5.4%	5.6%	6.1%	6.8%	7.5%	6.8%

6. SV GSD puppy registrations are also in decline and shown below.

2017 ..... 2003

Schaferhunde 9,766 10,202 10,523 10,470 11,092 12,786 13,339 14,501 15,870 16,854 16,868 16,908 18,278 19,874 19,882



7. **AKC Museum of the Dog** will officially open in February, 2019. I was invited to a private viewing and was impressed with the new look and feel of a museum. The breed plaques were prominently displayed. The GSDCA plaque looked great.

### AKC Detection Dog Task Force

**August 28, 29, 30, 2018**

**Durham North Carolina**

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## Executive Summary

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A capacity crowd of nearly 200 attended the second AKC US Detection Dog Conference on Aug. 28-30, 2018, at the Sheraton Imperial Conference Center in Durham, NC. The audience included breeders, fanciers, trainers, government officials, law enforcement and military officers, and business owners. Many others remained on a waiting list that was required once the conference reached capacity nearly two months before the event date. AKC received numerous words of thanks for putting this national security issue in the spotlight and many positive comments regarding the quality of the speakers, organization of the conference, and for opportunities to network.

The 2018 conference was promoted via advertisements and articles in Parent Club newsletters, police K9 magazines, field trial magazines, and venue manager publications, as well as presentations to Parent Clubs, kennel clubs and law enforcement groups, such as the US Police Canine Association. More than 20 subject matter experts provided excellent talks on the shortage of domestic working dogs; the wide range of uses; canine genetics; breeding models; research, training and socialization; standards and certifications; public policy; and the growing impact of the sport of scent work. Attendees selected between break-out workshops of either a Breeder track or the Training/Deployment track. A detection dog demonstration by K2 Solutions showed both a puppy in training and the work of an explosives detection dog.

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force relies on three major tools: Facilitation, Education and Networking. The Conference utilized all three to bring together various parties who want to help solve the domestic detection dog shortage. A highlight of the conference was the panel discussion on Detection Dog Standards & Certifications that was comprised of five officials with a wealth of experience in working with and training detection dogs, as well as organizing detection dog teams to staff major events. The second AKC Detection Dog Conference was open to a wider audience of breeders and trainers together with vendors and organizations who need quality working dogs. Based on attendance, interest and support, it is fair to say that the AKC Detection Task Force was on the right track. More than 200 stakeholders attended the conference, and 100 more were on a waiting list.

### **2018 Conference Proceedings**

The conference featured twenty presenters, five break-out sessions and two live demonstrations.

**Dr. Carmen Battaglia - AKC Board of Directors** - provided the welcome which included the reminder that the events following 9/11 and the subsequent attacks by ISIS in Brussels, Boston, Las Vegas and New York created the shortage of working dogs needed to protect the United States. He reminded the attendees that countries throughout the world are buying up the supply of best detection dogs which results in the shortage in the supply. After the Senate Hearings of 2017 and the request that AKC get involved, an AKC Task Force was formed, and the first Stakeholders Meeting was held in

late February 2017. An audience of 40 stakeholders met to discuss the issue of the national shortage and possible solutions. This year's Conference was designed as a community of private-public collaborators. The presenters brought to light several topics:

**The Message** - The danger to the country is real and present. Several presenters reminded the audience about the need for better bred and trained dogs. They pointed out the increasing need for quality dogs along with the need for more breeders and trainers.

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## **Conference Presenters**

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The conference opened on the evening of Aug. 28 with a special presentation to US Congressman Mike Rogers R-AL, who has championed the rights of detection dogs and those who breed, train and sell them. Sheila Goffe, Vice President of AKC Government Relations, presented Rogers with the AKC Legislator of the Year award.

**Opening Remarks – Congressman Mike Rogers** of Alabama who serves on the Armed Services and Homeland Security Committees provided a blueprint and an overview of the need for a government-private sector effort that is described in HR 4577, which has passed the House and is pending in the Senate. This bill brings together a government-private sector planning effort for a national breeding program. His speech focused on his work to end our country's reliance on European dogs for our security needs. He encouraged the audience to support HR bill 4577 – Domestic Detection Canine Capacity Bldg. Act of 2017, which would direct the TSA to establish a working group to recommend behavioral, medical, and technical standards for explosives detection dogs as well as strategies for developing a domestic breeding capacity for them.

He spoke about HR 4577\*\*, which he introduced as the legislation that would establish a working group to determine ways to develop a domestic canine breeding network to produce high quality explosives detection canines. The measure passed the House of Representatives and has been assigned to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. Passage of the bill by the Senate will strengthen the collaboration of the public and private sector. The congressman asked the audience to contact their elected Senators for support of HR 4577.

\*\*\* **Note: President Trump signed this into law in early October 2018.**

**Keynote Speaker – Do All Working Dogs Think Alike?** – Following dinner, keynote speaker Dr. Brian Hare, a Duke University professor and renowned expert on canine cognition, spoke on "Do All Working Dogs Think Alike?"

Dr. Hare discussed his canine cognition tests and how different types of working dogs (service dogs vs. detection dogs) can show very contrasting results. He also discussed the concept of citizen science, the basis for his Dognition intelligence tests -- research that can be conducted by everyone, not just people with doctorates. Hare explained that, with the help of citizen scientists, we can begin to understand more about all dogs on a much broader scale than if scientists had to conduct all the research themselves. Hare provided the audience with a look at how dogs think based on his research. He then demonstrated the use of a "citizen science" technique developed as a research model.

Other speakers via their presentations, followed with questions and suggestions. Six (6) major participant groups were identified: breeders, trainers, testers, researchers, policy makers and end users. Each group has its own body of knowledge, set of skills, and specific tools they use to carry out their work. He excited the audience with a talk that focused on the cognition process of canines and other animals and why profiles are needed that could lead to finding the best types for companion, detection, search and reside, service dogs and other functions. His remarks focused on how animals learn through social interactions such as human social gestures and how these gestures provide clues to canines that are useful in their ability to learn. He discussed the elements of cognition as a way to better understand memory functions and learning. His work using "citizen science" demonstrated how input from the public was highly useful in learning about the learning process between mothers and their offspring.

**Mark Dunn, Executive VP and AKC Detection Task Force Staff Project Leader**, welcomed attendees and presenters by reminding them about the need for a domestic breeding program, the

purpose of the conference and why AKC was involved. His remarks included historical background and the unintended consequences of relying on European countries to breed and train detection dogs needed by the United States. His remarks made clear that we must learn from the mistakes of the past, which began with a federal budget cut that closed the TSA breeding program and its valuable research. To avoid that from happening again, he suggested a different approach and a new effort that assembled stakeholders. Speaking to the stakeholders he discussed the need to meet, discuss ideas and options, and avoid the dependence on the ups and downs of the federal budget process. His suggestion was to implement a plan that would rely on developing ideas that could produce results based on the collaboration of a private –public effort.

His welcome to the audience of more than 200 stakeholders began with a review of AKC's core values, its mission and purpose. He reminded the audience of the collaborations with the AVMA, canine health research affiliates, breed club organizations and outside associations. He discussed the connection with and importance of AKC's 5,000 clubs and over 130,000 breeders that serve as resources that could be applied to the detection breeding program objectives. He reminded the audience of the natural connection AKC has to the goals and purposes of the conference.

**Dr. Cindy Otto, Executive Director of U. Penn Working Dog Center – *A Prescription for the Detection Dog Deficiency*** – Dr. Otto spoke on the crisis in the domestic detection dog supply and the need for a national breeding cooperative. She shared information from a survey of stakeholders who participated in a brainstorming session following her Penn Vet Working Dog Conference on what would be needed and what priorities would be required for a cooperative to be successful. She discussed the need for a detection breeding program noting that the government, over a 40-year period of time, developed four different breeding programs only to shut them all down because of a budget cut.

She went on to discuss the need to identify the best phenotype for each end user (TSA, police, military etc.). Her discussion included the need to develop a semen collection bank, better methods for raising puppies, and better ways to evaluate them, which continues to be an on-going concern. She proposed a National Co-Op Breeding program as a not-for-profit organization that could serve as clearing house, with a focus on detection and dual purpose dogs.

**Dr. Candace Croney, Director of Purdue University Center for Animal Welfare Science – *Scientifically Evaluating Welfare in Large-Scale Kennels: Does High Volume Preclude Good Welfare?*** – As large numbers of dogs are needed to fill the need for working dogs, Dr. Croney spoke about maintaining good welfare for dogs in commercial kennels, including maintaining good behavioral health and reducing stress. She showed trends in kennel designs, play yard equipment, and training and socialization techniques for large-scale kennel owners. She also discussed how working dogs experience stress.

**Jane Killion, Breeder, Trainer, Author & Puppy Culture Founder – *Early Socialization & Scent Games for Future Working Dogs (Breeder break-out session)*** – Ms. Killion discussed how prenatal care and interaction with pregnant bitches has a profound impact on the puppies and how they adjust to life. She also went through the early stages of puppy development and important things for breeders to do at each stage, as well as puppy scent games that can start at 5 weeks. Based on her research and experience she presented an organized approach to puppy development and testing and stressed the need for prenatal touching as a way to lower stress and increase learning. She placed emphasis on the use of enriching a puppy's environment as a way to enhance their cerebral development. She demonstrated with video and slides the effective use of exercise, toys and social interaction as a way to improve problem solving. She discussed the science of epigenetics as a way to

show how environmental factors can influence behavior and how it can switch genes on and off. She discussed her work with scent work at an early age and the importance of an environment made up of positive reinforcement via toys, places, things, sounds and smells, which when combined with exercise, helps pups develop. It is a method of connecting the dots to improve performance.

**Dr. David Adebimpe, CEO of ScentLogix – Explosives Detection: Trends, Theory & Practice (Trainer/Deployment break-out session)** -- Dr. Adebimpe spoke on the often controversial topic on the use of non-hazardous explosives training aides. He made clear such aides are not "pseudos," but are simulants, and that dogs do not respond through training to material, but to the gases that are produced from explosives materials. He has created simulants by recreating the gas odor signature while keeping the material safe to handle and use. This process has allowed him to create training aids for highly volatile peroxide-based homemade explosives used typically by terrorists.

**Live Detector Dog Demonstrations – K2 Solutions Inc.,** A puppy in training and the work of a mature detection dog were demonstrated in a live working environment.

**Dr. Paul Waggoner & Pam Haney, Auburn University Canine Performance Sciences Dept. – Development of a Model Detector Dog Breeding & Socialization Program (Breeder break-out session)** – Dr. Waggoner and Ms. Haney presented updates and research on their efforts at the Auburn Canine Performance Sciences department, including published advances in genetics, epigenetics, and detector dog development.

**Dr. Cindy Otto, Executive Director of Penn Vet Working Dog Center – Optimizing Performance in the Canine Athlete: Advances in Canine Sports Medicine (Trainer/Deployment break-out session) – Trainer/Deployment Track – Optimizing Performance in the Canine Athlete:**

Dr. Otto, a board-certified specialist in Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation spoke on the importance of keeping working dogs in good weight and condition to prevent injuries and extend their working lives. She focused on the need to educate the wide audience of trainers and breeders about the advances that have been made in managing the canine athlete. She demonstrated ways to reach out to dogs so they can learn where their front and back feet are as a way to reducing injuries when working in uneven terrains. She emphasized that healthy dogs can avoid problems in their working environment if they warm-up for five minutes before their activity. She suggested a fast walk, trot and a rub down before a performance and demonstrated the use of a figure 8, sway stretch for the upper and lower back, and the use of having dogs learn to place their four feet in a box. A video showed how to teach a beginning dog to walk on a ladder flat on the ground and later in a raised position as a way to teach confidence. She demonstrated the need to develop and maintain core strength and better posture via the sit and down as a balance exercise. She pointed out the need to recognize the importance of growth plates that close by 12 months for most breeds, but in giant breeds take up to 14 months. Therefore, activities must be managed during the growth period to avoid bodily injury.

**Scott Thomas, former TSA Breeding Program Manager & AKC Consultant - What is a Green Dog? Problems & Pitfalls of Assessment Criteria & Purchasing Contracts** – Mr. Thomas spoke to the problems facing government procurement. The two primary areas he emphasized were: common language and terminology as a primary description of phenotypical behavior in contracts and statements of work, and the need for assessment tools to meet scientific rigor (validity, reliability, and repeatability). He concluded with recommendations to those wanting to sell dogs to government entities.

1. **Forrest McConnell, Senior Counsel, US House of Representatives. Advancing Public Policy for US Detection Dogs – Part I** – Forrest presented information about why canines matter in the fight to keep the country safe. He stressed that “the threat is not going away” and that technology cannot do it. He also emphasized the need for passage of HR 4577 by the US Senate because it requires the government to work with the stake holders. He also stressed the need for the audience to contact their Senators and encourage them to pass HR 4577. 4577 (Note, President Trump signed the legislation in October)

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The Wednesday sessions ended with a nearly two-hour panel discussion: ***Detection Dog Standards & Certifications*** -

- **Dave Kontny, Chief of Staff, Joint Program Office for Countering Improvised Explosive Devices** – Kontny explained his work leading SWGDOG (Scientific Working Group on Dog and Orthogonal Detector Guidelines), which is a partnership of local, state and federal/international agencies, and is dedicated to developing national guidelines for Explosives Detection Canines.
  - **LTC Richard Vargus, Military Working Dog Program Manager, US Army Provost Marshall’s Office** – LTC Vargus described the many types of working dogs used by the US Military and showed the numbers deployed by jobs. He stressed that continuous demands for more deployments and shortage of dogs from overseas are greatly impacting his force of dogs. He needs more than 300 dogs to complete 2019 assignments.
  - **Capt. John Kerwick, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department and New York Region President of US Police Canine Association** – Capt. Kerwick gave a New York perspective on how the use of dogs by law enforcement changed after 9/11. He discussed how today it is not just about finding the bombs, but finding the terrorists.
  - **Fred Helfers, Founding President, Pacific Northwest Police Detection Dog Association** – Mr. Helfers presented the results of a study that he conducted on the integration of double-blind testing into the annual certification for drug detection dogs and the positive impact of doing so.
  - **John Pearce, Director of Operations, Vapor Wake K9** – Mr. Pearce covered the evaluation guidelines for his dogs at Vapor Wake, including how they are tested on odor recognition; searches of luggage, buildings and vehicles; and Vapor Wake testing (trailing a person who is carrying explosives).
- Fred Helfers, Founding President, Pacific Northwest Police Detection Dog Association & NACSW Judge - *The Rise of Popularity in Scent Works & the Impact on Detection Dogs*** – Mr. Helfers addressed the question that the task force often gets “Can my scent work dog become a working detection dog?” His answer was that “no” – it’s not probable based on the scents they have been imprinted on and other physical and stamina traits desired. However, Helfers elaborated on scent work being a great sport and activity for all dogs and how it has helped detection dogs as people have a heightened understanding of what is involved in training these dogs, how dogs use their noses and how there are a surprising number of breeds that have demonstrated the proficiency of their noses in the scent sports.
- Sgt. Wendell Nope, K9 Supervising Officer, Utah Department of Public Safety – *Utilizing Bomb Dogs for National Events*** – Sgt. Nope discussed the dangers of protecting national events today with the increase of homegrown terrorism and shared examples of his work staffing detection dogs for the 2002 US Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City and his recent work assisting the country of Dubai with detection dog training for the World Fair.



**Dr. Matthew Breen, Professor of Genomics, NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine -- *New Tools for Genetic Analysis of Working Dogs*** – Dr. Breen reviewed the rapid changes that have taken place in canine genotyping over the last 15 years, including the sharp decrease in costs per marker and the new genetic tools now available to researchers.

**Commissioner Larry Perkins, Vice President and Assistant GM, PNC Arena & Carolina Hurricanes - *Event Planning & Crowd Behavior for Large Gatherings*** – Commissioner Perkins is an expert on crowd management and he spoke on how the public spaces utilize detection dogs for security and how dogs benefit stadiums by calming crowds who react positively when they see the dogs.

**Sheila Goffe, Vice President, AKC Government Relations; & Mike Williams, AKC Federal Lobbyist -- *Advancing Public Policy for US Detection Dogs*** – These three speakers discussed why AKC should advocate on this issue and on three major action items:

- Obtain Accurate information about sourcing by Dept. of Defense/ Homeland Security
- Build Issue Awareness and support for U.S. Sourced Dogs
- Create public-private working group to establish recognized standards of excellence

She also encouraged attendees to advocate for the passage of HR 4577. Williams stressed that it means much more for legislators to hear from their constituents than from AKC officials.

**Wrap-Up- Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board of Directors**

**The Issues** - Research will be used to continue to find better ways to improve breeding methods and produce better dogs with the goal to improve consistency and performance. Other objectives identified were: better socialization and enrichment techniques; better ways to identify phenotypes; and better ways to test and certify dogs that are produced.

**The Questions –**

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2. How can we increase the supply of detection dogs?
  3. Who will step forward and share ideas?
  4. When and how often should dogs be tested and retested?
  5. Can we agree on terminology?
  6. Will the Senate support HR 4577 (Note, President Trump signed the legislation in October)
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**The Next Steps** - National security begins at home, and to help in that effort, we were reminded that AKC has 130,000 breeders and a network of clubs located throughout all 50 states. One of the first steps is to have breeders and local law enforcement officials meet to discuss needs and problems. Some breeders have contacted the AKC and indicated they will focus on breeding and raising dogs; others have shown an interest in developing the skills needed to raise puppies (Patriotic Puppy Program).

Our theme going forward ..... "YOU CAN DO IT, WE CAN HELP".

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**Will there be other meetings or seminars? Can I attend to learn more and meet others?**

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force plan to host a third annual AKC US Detection Dog Conference in 2019. Special workshops that will focus on breeding, socializing and early training of detection dog prospects as well as other pertinent information needed by breeders, trainers and puppy raisers.

**How to get involved:** If you are a breeder or owner, or you are willing to raise a puppy, spread the word. Let your clubs know.

**Your go-to person for questions and help?**

Penny Leigh is the project manager at [pxl@akc.org](mailto:pxl@akc.org) or 919-816-3749.

## AKC Detection Dog Task Force FAQs

### **Why is there a shortage of domestic detection dogs?**

Following the events of 9-11, the demand for scent detection dogs for use in search and rescue, as well as explosives detection, began to grow and has steadily risen since. Recent events, including the 2016 bombings in Brussels and New York City, have accelerated the interest in detection dogs. Nowadays, it is not just governments and militaries that are seeking dogs. Non-governmental demand across the developed world is also increasing, especially by private entities tasked with protecting malls, movie theaters, sports complexes, schools and universities.

Most U.S. government agencies are relying almost exclusively on the importation of working dogs from Europe to meet their needs. Most private working dog trainers and private providers of security services in the U.S. are also dependent on European sources.

American experts in the importation and training of working dogs claim that for many years the U.S. has received less than the best picks of the litters in Europe, as the best dogs tend to be retained for use in Europe. However, due to the growing terrorism threats and consequent demand for working dogs within Europe and around the world, there is now a shortage of even mediocre quality foreign dogs available to protect the United States. U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Department of Defense (DOD) officials say there is a need to develop a national source of dogs that meets the standards for this work and that can be made available to government agencies.

There are currently an estimated 10,000 working dogs in the United States, including dogs working in government, military, law enforcement, and private facilities. About 20 percent of working dogs retire each year. Working dogs typically go to work at 18 months to 2 years of age and have an average working life of five years before retirement.

The DOD operates a small breeding program, primarily for Belgian Malinois, at its kennels at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX, but the program cannot meet the total need so the DOD purchases most of its dogs in Europe. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) had its own detection dog breeding program for primarily Labrador Retrievers until shutting it down in 2012 due to budget cuts.

AKC Vice President of Government Relations Sheila Goffe testified at a congressional hearing in October regarding the dire need for more dogs to protect the country.

“Experts recognize that there is no better or more efficient way to detect explosives than through the use of high quality, specially trained scent detector dogs. Since the terrorist attacks on 9-11, and subsequent attacks worldwide, global demand for high quality explosives detection dogs has skyrocketed,” Goffe said. “A shortage of appropriate, domestically-bred dogs available for work as explosive detection dogs presents a significant threat to U.S. security.”

### **Why is the American Kennel Club involved in this issue?**

The AKC Board of Directors formed a task force to study this issue and how AKC could assist after receiving requests for help from government and academic officials. AKC has always been a leader in purpose-bred pure-

bred dogs, and it is purpose-bred pure-bred dogs that have the skills, ability and breeding to produce the traits needed for detection dogs to successfully do their important jobs. It is a natural role for AKC to assist in meeting this national need to protect our country, and a great opportunity to promote the incredible abilities of pure-bred dogs. The AKC's support of this issue demonstrates to the American public that purebred dogs bred by thoughtful, purposeful, American breeders are vital to the safety and security of their country."

#### **How is AKC working to solve the shortage?**

The AKC Detection Dog Task Force is helping spread awareness of the issue with breeders of the most in-demand dogs. The Government Relations team is working to change government policy to make it easier and more advantageous for breeders to sell dogs to the government and make the government more accountable for the amount they are paying to import European dogs. AKC also has helped bring the many interested parties together to discuss this issue through the AKC US Detection Dog Conference, first held in 2017 and the second one scheduled for August 2018.

#### **What breeds are most in demand for detection dog work?**

Sporting breeds are the most in demand for explosives detection work in public settings. Breeds that excel at the work include Labrador Retrievers, German Shorthaired Pointers, German Wirehaired Pointers, Vizslas and Golden Retrievers. Sporting breeds have been found to be less intimidating to the public and their keen noses and hunting ability are easily transferred to the search for explosives. German Shepherd Dogs and Belgian Malinois are still the preferred breeds for patrol work and dual-purpose patrol/detection dogs.

#### **At what age are the dogs purchased for detection dog training?**

The US Government and most private detection dog training schools seek older puppies that are at least 10 months old, with 12 months being preferable. Some private programs are now accepting younger puppies since it can be more difficult to get older puppies that have also had the desired early socialization and foundation training.

#### **What is a "green" dog and is it defined in writing somewhere?**

A green dog is an informal term used to describe a dog that has not undergone advanced detection work training. It is not defined in the government requirements for potential detection dogs. Most dogs presented to the government for sale at around 1 year of age are categorized as green dogs. This does not mean that a "green" dog has not received any training. They are expected to have been prepped for the government evaluation which includes socialization to a variety of people and places; exposure to walking on different surfaces, steps and elevated areas; and has developed toy drive for a ball, Kong or another toy.

#### **What is the government willing to pay for a puppy and at what age will they purchase them?**

The government will evaluate dogs starting at about 10 months of age and average price for a "green" dog is about \$8,000. Private detection dog schools also purchase candidates and some take younger dogs, including puppies as young as 8 weeks. Prices vary from private channels, depending on age, pedigree and other factors.

#### **Where will the pups be taken for evaluation? Do I ship them or they do pick them up?**

The TSA and Department of Defense conducts evaluations at its training center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. It is up to the seller to bring the dog to Lackland, where the dog will be left for evaluation for up to 10 days. At this time, only brokers with government contracts can sell to the government. Private vendors do

buy from private breeders and have different requirements, and many do travel to kennels around the country to evaluate dogs.

**Will there be any meetings or seminars I can attend to learn more and meet others?**

Yes, the second annual AKC US Detection Dog Conference will be held in Aug. 28-30, 2018, in Durham, NC. There will be special workshops focused on breeding, socializing and early training of detection dog prospects as well as other pertinent information on the issue. For more information, contact Penny Leigh at [pxl@akc.org](mailto:pxl@akc.org).

**Who is your go-to person for questions and help?**

Penny Leigh is the project manager of the AKC Detection Dog Task Force and can assist you. She may be reached at [pxl@akc.org](mailto:pxl@akc.org) or 919-816-3749.

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AKC Detection Dog Task Force Conference

**August 28, 29, 30, 2018**

**Durham North Carolina**

**Executive Summary - Conference Proceedings**

Following the events of 911 and the subsequent attacks by ISIS in Brussels, Boston, Las Vegas and New York, countries throughout the world began to buy up the supply of dogs needed to protect their country. This left the US in need of more and better detection dogs. After the Senate Hearing in 2017, AKC was asked to get involved. The first AKC Detection Dog Task Force Conference was held in 2017. It attracted an audience of 40 stakeholders who concluded that the AKC should take the lead in developing a national breeding program to increase the supply of detection dogs needed to protect the country, its airports, borders, and other government interests. This effort would be designed as a community of private-public collaborators. Based on attendance, interest and support at the second Conference held in 2018, it is fair to say that the AKC Detection Task Force is on the right track. More than 200 stakeholders attended the conference and 100 more were on a waiting list. The conference featured twenty presenters, five break-out sessions and two live demonstrations. Congressman Mike Rodgers of Alabama provided a blueprint and an overview of the need for a government-private sector effort that is described in HR 4577 which has passed the House and is pending in the Senate. This bill brings together a government-private sector planning effort for a national breeding program.

Dr. Brian Hare of Duke University served as the Conference Key Note speaker and provided the audience with a look at how dogs think based on his research. He then demonstrated the use of a “citizen science” technique developed as a research model. Other speakers via their presentations, followed by questions and suggestions resulted in the identification of six (6) major participant groups. They were: breeders, trainers, testers, researchers, policy makers and end users. Each group has its own body of knowledge, set of skills and specific tools they use to carry out their work.

The conference presenters brought to light several topics:

**The Message** - The danger to the country is real and present. Several presenters reminded the audience about the need for better bred and trained dogs. They pointed out the increasing need for quality dogs along with the need for more breeders and trainers.

**The Issues** - Research will be used to continue to find better ways to improve breeding methods and produce better dogs with the goal to improve consistency and performance. Other objectives identified were: better socialization and enrichment techniques; better's ways to identify phenotypes; better ways to test and certify dogs that are produced.

### **The Questions –**

How can we increase the supply of detection dogs?

Who will step forward and share ideas?

When and how often should dogs be tested and retested?

Can we agree on terminology?

How many will contact their elected officials to support of HR 4577?

**The Next Steps** - National security begins at home, and to help in that effort we were reminded that AKC has 130,000 breeders and a network of clubs located throughout all 50 states. One of the first step is to have breeders and local law enforcement officials meet to discuss needs and problems. Some breeders have contacted the AKC and indicated they will focus on breeding and raising dogs, others have shown an interest in developing the skills needed to raise puppies (Patriotic Puppy Program).

Our theme going forward ..... “YOU CAN DO IT, WE CAN HELP”.

### **Conference Presenters**

US Congressman Mike Rogers, R-Alabama

Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board of Director **Welcome from AKC –**

Dr. Brian Hare, Professor of Evolutionary Anthropology, Duke U. **Keynote – Do All Working Dogs Think Alike?**

Mark Dunn, AKC Executive Vice President, AKC Detection Dog Task Force Staff Project Leader **Welcome & Introduction to AKC –**

**A Prescription for the Detection Dog Deficiency –** Dr. Cindy Otto DVM, PhD Executive Director, Penn Vet Working Dog Center **A Prescription for the Detection Dog Deficiency –**

Dr. Candace Crony, PhD, Purdue University Director, **Scientifically Evaluating Welfare in Large-scale Kennels: Does High Volume Preclude Good Welfare? –**

Jane Messineo Killion, Breeder, Trainer, Author & Puppy Culture **Breeder Track – Early Socialization & Scent Games for Future Working Dogs –**

Dr. David Adebimpe, Founder/Chief Executive Officer, ScentLogix **Trainer/Deployment Track – Explosives Detection: Trends, Theory & Practice –**

**Live Detector Dog Demonstrations –** K2 Solutions Inc.

Dr. Paul Waggoner and Pam Haney, Auburn University Canine Performance Sciences Department **Breeder Track – Development of a Model Detector Dog Breeding & Socialization Program**

Dr. Cindy Otto, Executive Director, Penn Vet Working Dog Center **Trainer/Deployment Track – Optimizing Performance in the Canine Athlete: Advances in Canine Sports Medicine –**

Scott Thomas, former breeding program manager, TSA **What is a Green Dog? Problems & Pitfalls of Assessment Criteria & Purchasing Contracts –**

Forrest McConnell, Senior Counsel, US House of Representatives **Advancing Public Policy for US Detection Dogs – Part I –**

**– Panel Discussion –** Dave Kontny, FBI-Chief of Staff, Joint Program Office for Countering Improvised Explosive Devices;

Fred Helfers, Founding President, Pacific Northwest Police Detection Dog Association;

Capt. John Kerwick, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department;

John Pearce, Director of Operations,

Vapor Wake K9;

LTC Richard Vargus, MWD Program Manager, US Army Provost Marshall's Office

– Fred Helfers, President, Pacific Northwest Police Detection Dog Association **The Sport of Canine Scent Work & it's Influence on the Professional Detection Dog World**

Sgt. Wendell Nope, K9 Training Supervisor, Utah Depart. Public Safety of Veterinary Medicine **Utilizing Bomb Dogs for National Events**

Dr. Matthew Breen, PhD, Professor, Genomics, Oscar J. Fletcher Distinguished Professor, Comparative Oncology Genetics, NC State U College of Veterinary Medicine **New Tools for Genetic Analysis of Working Dogs –**

Larry B. Perkins CPP CMP, Vice President of Guest Relations, Assistant General Manager, PNC Arena **Event Planning and Crowd Behavior for Large Gatherings –**

Sheila Goffe, Vice President, AKC Government Relations; Mike Williams, Mike Williams Capitol Strategies **Advancing Public Policy for US Detection Dogs – Part II**

Dr. Carmen Battaglia, AKC Board of Directors **Wrap-Up-**

**How to get involved:** If you are a breeder or owner of the needed breeds, or you are willing to raise a puppy, spread the word. Let your clubs know about this issue.

**Your go-to person for questions and help?**

Penny Leigh is the project manager at [pxl@akc.org](mailto:pxl@akc.org) or 919-816-3749