

JANUARY 2015 GSDCA BOARD MEETING held in St Louis, MO – January 24 and 25

Meeting commenced with a moment of silence for former GSDCA President Helen Miller Fisher and long time member Jack Roye. All Board members and Officers were present. President Frank Fasano welcomed two new Board members: Joy Schultz and Dr. Morton Goldfarb. Guests present were: Elaine Bisby, Carmen Battaglia, Ken Cunningham, Bill Hope, Gail Stiefferman, Melanie Fuellgraf and Barbara Hively.

Lew motioned to accept the minutes as sent in digital form: October meeting, National meeting and Victory Dinner were approved unanimously.

Executive Committee: Frank asked the Board to ratify two Executive Committee decisions: (1) Approve Dog Show Pro as the official videographer for the 2015 National. Zoe made the motion and it passed unanimously; (2) Host the GSDCA Sieger show on the same dates and location as our National. Zoe made the motion. Approved unanimously

Corresponding Secretary: Joy Schultz reported that 62 regional clubs have renewed and 28 have not paid their dues yet.

President Report: President Fasano reported that the Review is working on a special feature “30 Under 30” which will identify up and coming young handlers. Helen asked for it to include youngsters who participate in performance. Frank asked the Board to accept his recommendation for the Executive Committee members: Lanalee Jorgensen-Law, James Moses, Lew Bunch and Dean Wylie. Dorothy made the motion, Pam seconded and it passed unanimously.

Frank announced that we will commence the Sunday meeting with a closed session to discuss a contested membership application, hear a request from the American White Shepherd Association and get an update on the GSDCA-WDA vs GSDCA lawsuit.

AKC Delegate: Dr. Carmen Battaglia did a brief presentation with information about AKC statistical studies and programs offered by AKC including the On Line Competition Management system, a new tool to assist clubs to manage their events online.

Nominating Committee: Dorothy moved to appoint Dean Wylie as chair of the Nominating Committee. Passed unanimously. The Board voted the following members to the Nominating Committee - East Region: Linda Selmon (Alt. Ann Solt); Heartland Region: Bill Hope (Alt. Tom Langlitz); Western Region: Ken Tank (Alt. Joan Intersimone); Mid America Region: Ken Cunningham (Alt. Susan Casey).

The following committee chairs were nominated and unanimously approved:

Budget & Finance Chair – Pam O’Dell

Contracts & Procurement – Larry Rock

Nominating Committee – Dean Wylie

Herding Chair – Tracy Parciak

C.A.T. Chair – Jennifer Reese

Temperament Chair – Laura Gilbert

Treasurer's Report: Larry Rock stated that he is still working on the transition. He is near completion of the 2012 audit. We received the 2013 audit draft and auditors are asking for further information - we will provide a response. The 2014 results have not been finalized but it appears that we broke even. Larry reported that it is his intention is to have final reports for 2012 and 2013 at the April Board meeting. There is a possibility that our Auditors will attend the April meeting. Wells Fargo approved a club credit card to handle Club business, primarily the National. Larry noted that he intends to have quarterly reports at each meeting, starting in April.

Budget & Finance: Pam O'Dell related that the B&F committee met this week. Last year our Advisory Committee recommended that we simplify/reduce the chart of accounts from 650 to about 40 accounts – we are moving in that direction. This weekend the B&F committee looked hard at the revenue producing committees to ensure optimization of their efforts. Pam stated that they will bring a budget at the April meeting. There was a discussion about how monies are allocated from National associated events like the Futurity and the Judges' Seminars.

AKC Delegate Report: Dorothy motioned and Pam second to use the On Line Competition Management system which is now made available through AKC. AKC asked for assistance to help identify GSDCA members who are also AKC Breeders of Merit.

National: Chair Gail Stiefferman reported that this year's National Sieger show and the GSDCA National will be held on the same date and at the same location. We are planning to hire help to assist with parking and guiding people to appropriate location - there will be a small charge for parking. The Victory Dinner was a disappointment last year as some people sat for dinner without paying; this year Gail plans to limit access and have someone at the gate. Gail still plans to keep it buffet style as members seem to prefer it. There were some comments in our survey about disposal dinnerware but the use of silverware significantly increases the cost.

The Obedience Chair, Julia Priest, asked to have a three day trial – she said it would be difficult to host another day but the St Louis Club has offered to host it, do all the work and be responsible for all expenditures and gains. Helen moved and Lew seconded to have a third day and allow competitors to title their dogs while at the National. Motion passed unanimously.

Gail spoke about a very popular item called "Rent-A-Ring" where exhibitors can pay to practice the night before the trial. The cost is usually \$10 for 10 minutes and no pre-registration is required.

Gail recommended that we have a conference call to discuss how the Obedience Victor is awarded.

Gail noted that we will be monitoring the area where the dogs are being bathed which is next to the Obedience area.

Jennifer Reese will chair the effort Coursing Ability Test (C.A.T). She plans three trials, making it possible for exhibitors to title their dogs at the National. There may be the possibility of offering a couple of C.A.T. trials before the National to offset the purchase cost of the equipment.

Gail stated that the 2015 National BOB ring will be enlarged. She will have reserved ringside seats for sale.

Gail commented that the only event missing at the National is a C.G.C. test.

Gail noted that we need to select a location for the 2017 National and asked for Board direction. There was a discussion about past locations. Dean made a motion that we use the West (2017), Central (2018) and East (2019) format – the same schedule that was approved years ago. Discussion followed. Bill Hope stated that this club is very dependent on the profits from our National show. Motion Failed: Opposed: Lew, Joy, Lana, Dania, Larry, Jim and Morton. Lew moved for a West (2017), Central (2018), Central (2019), East (2020), Central (2021), Central (2022), West (2023). Motion passed. Opposed: Dorothy, Zoe and Dean. There was a discussion about possible locations for the 2017 National. Some Board members mentioned Arizona. Jim motioned that Gayle look at CA, seconded by Dorothy. Motion passed unanimously.

At Gail's request, Lew moved to remove dates from the judges' contracts in the P&P. Passed unanimously

April Board Meeting: Dean proposed to have the April Board meeting in Philadelphia starting the meeting Friday at 6:00 PM and continuing through Saturday (April 24 and 25). The Mid-Atlantic Futurity is on Sunday afternoon (April 26) following a morning specialty and a possible judges' educational seminar. Approved.

Frank noted that there are significant concerns with the lateness of committee reports. Committee chairs should take note that Section II of the P&P indicate that committee reports and committee requests must be mailed two weeks prior to the Board meeting or they will not be considered.

GSD Review: Frank asked Susan Casey to address the GSD Review on line. Susan and Pam Stoesser spoke (via phone) about their effort to bring the magazine on line. Susan proposed to put it behind the wall. One thought is to give it to some with a limited time frame. Frank said he was planning to propose two levels of membership offerings for 2016 – one group will get the Review via mail and the other one will have an online magazine solely. There was a discussion about the cost of different formats (printed and on-line) Helen moved to put the Review on line – Voted unanimously. There was a brief discussion regarding the list of titles received from AKC and its distribution/use by GSDCA committees.

Futurity: Joan Intersimone asked the Board to approve the changes to the judges' requirements. Lew spoke about the Ad-Hoc Committee judges' requirement not to judge within 90 days of the Futurity assignment. Lew moved that we accept the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Committee for Futurity and National judges effective for 2016, Zoe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The new judges' requirements will appear in the P&P. Joan proposed a change to the Futurity monies allocation, Pam O'Dell wanted a discussion by the B&F Committee on this subject before a vote.

Frank recognized newly arrived visitors: Tiffany Bartley, Corbin Bartley, Carmi Swift, Terri Rock and Chris Kimerer,

AKC Legislative Liaison: Stormy Hope asked, once again, for the appointment of a Legislative Chair. This has been approved but we have had no one volunteer for this position. Pam Stoesser was asked to prepare a Constant Contact urging the membership to participate in the Legislative committee. Zoe made a motion to implement the committee's recommendation of changes to the P & P. Passed unanimously.

Marketing: Lew Bunch made a motion to question AKC charges for adding IPO titles to pedigrees. Helen seconded. Passed unanimously. Lew propose this year to appeal to the working dogs' people, he has enlisted Joy, Martylou Plinski and Mary Gattone to help him with this effort. Lew spoke about a beautifully illustrated children's book which is for sale with all profits going to the Junior program. Lew noted that we are planning a 1,000 GSDs celebration at our National – Purina has committed to do everything they can to help with this event.

Education Committee: Sherree Moses and Morton Goldfarb have been busy. They have already presented a judges' seminar at the Eukanuba National Championship and plan to offer seminars in conjunction with some of the Futurities. They plan to expand this program to not only judges but also to the general public. They are working on a presentation showing the GSD as a herding dog at work. The Education Committee is asking members to submit factual articles for Review publication ranging from agility to all other breed activities. The committee continues to work on a breed standard presentation.

Public Relations: Ken Tank reported that the GSDCA Facebook has 10,700 followers. Ken provided some demographics of this group. Most popular posts were related to hero dogs. Dean moved seconded by Lew to send a certificate for the hero dog, Noah, and a letter of thanks to Elizabeth Wilkerson and a free year of membership. Jim moved, second by Lew that we do some give-aways through Facebook. Passed unanimously.

Insurance: Helen proposed that we clarify the requirements for IPO Clubs so there is no duplication of insurance charges - clubs have been required to name themselves and also the GSDCA. Gail said that anything that has to do with the GSDCA is covered by our insurance policy.

WUSV Committee: Frank reported that we will have three WUSV events this year.

May 1, 2 and 3 – The GSDCA first annual IPO3/FH Championship and National Universal Sieger Show are scheduled to be held at Purina Farms. The IPO3 Championship is also the first qualifier competition for the selection of dog/handler teams that will represent the United States at the WUSV IPO Championship. The second qualifier will be held in June from which the top five dog/handler teams will become America's team at the WUSV Championship Trial where The Top Ten scoring members will be able to compete to participate in the World Trials. Ron Gordon will be show chair. In conjunction with this show there will be a Universal Sieger

Championship and Best Male/Best Female will be able to participate in World Trials in Sas, Italy.

Oct 16-17 – The GSDCA WUSV Championship Show will be held in conjunction with the GSDCA National Specialty.

Helen commented that one of the most important things for us to do is to certify our judges as SVF (SV Foreign). Joy was asked to start the process. Jim asked how much has it cost us to take on the responsibilities for this program – Bill Hope said there would be a maximum of \$50,000 for three years. Joy made a motion to have a separate section of the Review dedicated to the WUSV – we had a discussion regarding the combined Review. Dorothy, Joy, Helen and Jim voted for it. Motion defeated.

There was a discussion about government funding and grants. (Frank wants to ask Pam to include this in Constant Contact).

Some Regional Clubs are asking for changes in the P & P where any mention of GSDCA-WDA should be changed to GSDCA.

Rescue: Linda Kury requested Review pages, catalog pages, National booth space, etc. Lew motioned to accept this committee's request. Passed unanimously.

American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation: They had the same request as Rescue for Review pages, catalog pages, National booth space, etc. Helen said she asked the leaders of this organization and was told that they only distributed 10% of their funds each year. Helen made a suggestion that we request a financial report from them. Tish was on the phone and invited all to visit the AGSDCF website where financial information is available. She also asked that we clarify the difference between AGSDCF organization and the GSDA Charitable Trust. Lew motioned to accept their request. Passed unanimously.

New Business:

Jim brought for discussion the statement in the By-Laws requiring Endorsers for all applicants. In the absence of Endorsers, the President and the Membership Chair have become the Endorsers. Jim moved that we make the necessary changes to populate these two names in all current forms and publications. Voted unanimously.

Meeting ended.

BELOW NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

German Shepherd Dog Club of America Charitable Trust – Pam O'Dell

After paying all the loans and commitments we are left with \$18,104.63 – The Board recommended to move some of these monies to Education. Zoe moved to accept the record and Dorothy seconded. Passed.

SUNDAY

All the following items were discussed in closed session:

There was a presentations by Melanie Fuellgraf requesting the GSDCA to write a letter to the AKC not opposing the establishment of the Berger Blanc Suisse. There was an opposing presentation by the White German Shepherd Dog Club of America represented by Barbara Hively. There was also an American White Shepherd Association letter written in opposition to Fuellgraf's request. The GSDCA Board voted unanimously not to grant the letter request.

We received an e-mail opposing a new member's application. After consideration, the application was accepted.

Frank provided the Board with an update regarding the GSDCA-WDA vs GSDCA lawsuit.