



Atlanta Kennel Club

DIGEST

Atlanta Kennel Club Newsletter

January 2020

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ponyguru@aol.com

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BOARD MEMBERS Class of 2018

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pbaverill@yahoo.com

Sandy Weaver/770-310-6932
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Carl Vitner/404-291-0123
samoyed@bellsouth.net

BOARD MEMBERS Class of 2018

Paul Averill, DVM - 706-865-7010
pbaverill@yahoo.com

Sandy Weaver - 770-310-6932 golfin-
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Lynette White - 770-801-0780
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Class of 2019

Kathleen Steen - 770-751-0133 kath-
leensteen@bellsouth.net

Gilda Mallik - 770-394-4098 giln-
don@comcast.net

Carol Simmons - 404-697-6711 cms-
dals@bellsouth.net

January Meeting

Wednesday, January 15th, 2020

State of the Club

Panel discussion with Board members and officers.

Menu

Garlic rolls, salad, Chicken Marsala (Chicken breast sautéed
with mushroom marsala sauce) with a cannoli for dessert

Location

Aldo's Italian Restaurant — Sandy Springs 6690 Roswell Rd NE, Sandy
Springs, GA 30328
Phone: 770-992-9600

Time: Dinner @ 6:45, Meeting @ 8:00

Directions: Aldo's is on the northwest corner of Roswell Rd. and Abernathy
Rd. in Sandy Springs, just outside the perimeter and just west of 400. Park-
ing is behind the restaurant in the Sandy Springs Crossing shopping center.

RSVP: DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED IF YOU PLAN TO
DINE WITH US! You are not required to have dinner, but it is absolutely
necessary if you want to dine with us. Join us for drinks or come shortly
before 8 for the program and short business meeting that follows. Please be
sure to call ahead for your reservations if you plan to join us for dinner as
the restaurant has a cut off for reservations and cancellations. You may
reserve and pay via Paypal on the club website under "Events" OR Contact
Kellie Holbrook by email at holbrookcc@mindspring.com NO LATER than
Friday at NOON prior to the meeting on the following Wednesday. If you
RSVP'd and do not attend you will be billed for your meal. Price \$25 adults
and \$5 for children under 12. If you have special dietary needs, please men-
tion this to Kellie when you make your reservations. If you decide to attend
after the RSVP deadline, you can order food "to go" from the restaurant and
join us in the ballroom. Just be sure to let us know so we can hold you a
seat!

You can make your dinner reservation online and pay via Paypal! Go to
the Atlanta KC website, click on Events, and click on the "book now"
button under the meeting listing. <http://www.atlantakennelclub.org/>

Want a tax-deductible way to support the good works of the Atlanta
Kennel Club? Donate to the Atlanta Kennel Club Foundation – contact
Mary Ellen Macke for information on making donations and/or be-
quests:

maryellenmacke@gmail.com

Birthdays

Mid Nov / Mid Jan Birthdays

Nancy Ager - December 5
Jerri Alberti - November 30
Ginger Aldrich - December 14
Paul Averill - December 10
Gina Bonner - December 12
Christine Bowker - November 23
Lisa Bowman - December 18
Nathan Brower - December 15
Ken Edmonds - December 11
Cabot Fairchild - January 1
Laurie Ford - January 3
Donna Hills - November 19
Diana Jeffreys - December 7
Gary Johnson - December 26
Vicky Jones - January 10
Gabrielle Kostjuk - November 26
Penny Lites - November 25
Pam Long - December 19
Monroe McIntyre - December 1
Jonna McNeely - November 18
Pam Mingo - December 20
Paula Moore - December 4
Carol Quaif - November 27
Darcy Quinlan - November 26
Kathy Smith - December 11
Trish Thurow - December 14
Christina Wertz - December 1
Ray Wertz - November 18
Madison Wertz - December 4
Rachel Worthington - December 27
Ben Zahn - December 16

Anniversaries

Sep / Nov Anniversaries

Chester & Lisa Favre - December 13
James & Joyce Gibson - Dec 22
Kellie & Wayne Holbrook - Dec 8
Kay Kline - December 25
Jim & Mary Ellen Macke - Dec 16
Cindy Stansell - December 23
Bonnie Turner - January 3
Lynn Tyler - December 20

*Editor's Note: A lot of our members didn't
include birthday and/or anniversary info
when they joined. If you'd like your spe-
cial day(s) recognized here, please send
the info to me - golfindogs@att.net*

2020 Foresight

Hindsight may be 20/20, but
what about foresight? How do
you think things will be in
2020? Will it be better or worse
than last year? Let's find out!

Webmaster:

Jim Macke - jimmacke@comcast.net or
Mary Ellen Macke - Maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com, 404-310-5933
Call or email either Mary Ellen or Jim for website questions or help.
Do not forget to like us on FACEBOOK! Do you have something to post?
Tamara Brower is the Facebook Administrator for the **Atlanta Kennel Club**, the
Peach Blossom Cluster and the **Georgia Classic Cluster**. tamarabrower@gmail.com
Contact Tamara at tamarabrower@gmail.com.

**Hashtags For Spoiled Pups:**

To help the public understand who we are and how we take care of our dogs, please include two hashtags when posting casual, fun, silly and sweet photos of your dogs being dogs. You'll be part of a concerted effort to show the truth about how our dogs really live – spoiled, pampered and very well loved! Use these hashtags anywhere you post pictures – Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

#secretlifeofshowdogs #perfectfitforlife

Brag:

Got brags? Get them to Digest editor Sandy Weaver – golfndogs@att.net!

Juniors: The AKC Junior Showmanship Facebook page: Check it out, Juniors and Juniors supporters!

Got Juniors news? Get it to Digest editor Sandy Weaver – golfndogs@att.net!

Cards and Flowers

Happy to report that Kathleen Steen is back home after her long stint in the hospital and rehab after a bad fall in April. Please keep Dot Bates in your thoughts and prayers as she recovers from a bad fall.

If you know of a member who's going through a tough time, please let Jerry Cerasini and Sandy Weaver know. Email them at ponyguru@aol.com and golfndogs@att.net

Member of the Month

Congratulations and thank you to our January Members of the Month, Tamara Brower and James Lovett!

Rosters:

The Atlanta KC Membership Roster is now available on the Atlanta KC website, www.atlantakennelclub.org, under the Members tab. An updated roster was uploaded in May. Another roster reflecting the results of our annual membership renewal will be posted after membership renewals is completed. This roster is provided for personal use only by members of the Atlanta Kennel Club Inc.

ANY OTHER USE (i.e., BUSINESS or POLITICAL SOLICITATION) IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED by Club Policy). Any violation should be reported to the Atlanta Kennel Club Officers or Board of Directors. This is available to members only. You must have a sign in and password to access the members only section of the website. If you do not have your sign in or password email Jim Macke at jimmacke@comcast.net.

The roster will be updated as soon as the annual membership renewal process is complete.

Judges' Selection Committee 2020-2021

Please call committee members from the appropriate group to suggest judges for consideration by the selection committee which meets several times during the year. Please remember not everyone "suggested" can be placed on a panel due to a variety of reasons however club member input is given priority. We do work with our "sister" cluster clubs and also have a policy not to hire the same judge for the same show 2 years in a row. Since we do share judges with the other cluster clubs, we tend to try to hire judges approved for several groups, if possible, to control expenses through judge sharing. Members provisional for any breeds are also given a priority as well as suggestions from specialty clubs for their supported entries.

Show Chairman – Kathleen Steen – 770-751-0311 - kathleensteen@bellsouth.net

Sporting – Mary Ellen Macke – 404-310-5933 maryellen.macke@harrynorman.com

Working – Carl Vitner – 404-291-0123 – samoved@bellsouth.net

Hounds – Jerry Cerasini – 770-475-3152 ponyguru@aol.com

Non Sporting – Dot Bates - 404-475-0410 – n_bates@bellsouth.net

Toys – Candy Wright – 678-851-4633 - chiggerbug@gmail.com

Herdng – Dr. Carmen Battaglia – 770-998-3679 - carmenbattaglia@gmail.com

Terrier – Gilda Mallik – 770-394-4098- gilndon@comcast.net

Committee is now working on 2020 Judges

If anyone in our club is newly provisional in new breeds, or thinking you may be soon, you must let Kathleen know in order to be included in a future panel- the new judges lists are not necessarily being monitored OK – just an FYI reminder

If you know of someone who may be provisional in their first group – non member etc — to recommend also let Kathleen or the group leader know as they are always seeking provisional judges for AKC requirements.

Membership

Know someone who loves dogs? Invite them to attend a meeting with you. It's a great way to introduce friends to the sport that includes their furry best friend! You can also refer them to Gilda Mallik – gilndon@comcast.net

New Members

Diane Fortic & Gina Bonner - Welcome!!

Atlanta Kennel Club Training and Event Center Class Schedule

TUESDAY (all classes 5 weeks) Beginning January 7

7 pm Beginner Show Training \$125 (\$100 members)

7 pm Experienced Show Training \$125 (\$100 members)

DROP INS \$35 (\$25 members)

THURSDAY (all classes 8 weeks) Beginning January 9

4 pm CGC (includes test) \$180 (\$155 members)

5 pm ACT 1 or ACT 2 \$135 (\$110 members)

6 pm Beginner Obedience \$120 (\$100 members)

7 pm What's Next \$135 (\$125 members)

These are the classes currently underway. Check the website for more information:

<http://atlantakennelclub.org/trainingclasses>

So, You're Thinking About Judging...

If you're thinking about becoming a conformation judge, you'll need to do some stewarding assignments as part of the application process. Lucky for you, you belong to a club that is delighted to help you get those assignments. Atlanta Kennel Club has a long history of members stewarding at our shows – if you'd like an assignment next April in Perry, please contact Mary Ellen Macke to let us know of your interest.

Her email address is: MaryEllen.Macke@harrynorman.com

Atlanta Kennel Club Lending Library

Thank you to Darcy Quinlan for the great idea and first donation – the Event Center will soon be sporting a dog-centered lending library. Darcy has generously donated a lot of dog books, and we'd love to have your extras, too. Bring your books to a meeting, training class or event, and thank you in advance for your generosity!

“Hashtagging Away The Big Lie” by Sandy Weaver

For far too long the AR people have defined dog fanciers to the general public and it's not been a pretty picture. They've convinced many people that we are cruel users of animal flesh - people who abuse dogs for our own glory and sport. And we've been complicit, whether we know it or not, because we tend to be a pretty insular, elite group who carefully monitor the quality of homes/people our puppies are allowed to go to.

Just what is the abuse? We cage our dogs. We keep them in runs. We control their lives, from the type and time of meals to the type and time of exercise to the type and time of breeding. We haul them out just to go to dog shows, where they are expected to make us look good by winning and when they don't, we treat them harshly - at least that's the charge leveled against the fancy by groups like PETA and HSUS. We don't allow our dogs to be dogs and we only sell our dogs to each other, not John and Jane Q. Public, so we can hide our crimes for dog lovers. We all know that's a bunch of hooey and so do the animal rights people, though that doesn't stop them from employing the Big Lie technique against us. In case you've never heard of it, the Big Lie technique goes like this - "Yes, we know it's not true, but if we repeat it often enough, people will believe it's true." This technique is employed with great skill by politicians, lobbyists and anyone who's trying to separate a sucker from his or her money. Yep, AR people fall into all three of those camps and they've used the Big Lie technique against the dog fancy quite skillfully.

The time is now to take back the narrative. There's a grassroots, coordinated effort underway to show the public how our dogs REALLY live - that they have lives, often far richer lives than many pet dogs. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and the other social media outlets are the perfect avenues for spreading the truth about well-bred dogs.

Here's what you can do, starting right now, to help people understand the truth about the dog fancy - that we're for dogs, for humane, reasonable laws, and for responsible ownership and stewardship of dogs and breeds. We're for rescue - heck the fancy INVENTED rescue! - and for adoption and for saving and rehoming and loving all dogs, regardless of pedigree.

Want to help spread the truth? It's easy - post pictures of your dogs just being dogs and use the hashtags #secretlifeofshowdogs and #perfectfitforlife. If you're new to hash tagging, note that there are no spaces and no punctuation - when you post a hashtag correctly, it becomes a clickable link. These two hashtags make the truth about the dog face searchable, so anyone who wants to find out more about your dogs and other show dogs can do so by searching for these hashtags. Here's what they mean:

#secretlifeofshowdogs - pretty much an "in your face" rebuttal to the charges of abused show dogs. When you get a picture of your dog sleeping in a funny position, loving up on someone, playing with another dog, out in nature, etc. etc., post it with this hashtag. Note - please don't tag pictures of crated dogs or dogs in runs, as that plays into the Big Lie. Make these pictures that John or Jane Q. Public will see and smile about.

#perfectfitforlife - this refers to the care a good breeder takes in placing their puppies. We look for a home where the dog will be a part of the family and stay in that home for life. Use this hashtag every time you post a picture of one of your dogs or of a puppy you've produced. Again, please avoid crate and kennel pictures - think marketing and getting out our message of spoiled rotten dogs, not anything that could be interpreted as "abused show dogs." This hashtag provides a great educational opportunity - people ask, "what does this mean" and the door is open for you to educate about responsible breeders and how we care about our puppies for their entire life, not just until the check clears.

Commit to posting at least a few pictures a week on whatever social media page(s) you usually use. My goal is one picture per day on Facebook, which is pretty easy to do. I post one picture and use both of the above hashtags on it when posting. If you've been active on Facebook for any length of time and taken pictures of your dogs, chances are that just checking your "memories" each day could net you several pictures a week. And if you're not already, become a member of the Preservationist of Purebred and Purposefully Bred Dogs Facebook page for lots of other great ideas and resources. It's a closed group - you can find it and see who runs it when you search for it. Ask to become a member and join the over 6,000 other preservationists who are working together to change the perception of purebred dogs and responsible breeders.

We can take back the narrative. We must take back the narrative. And these two hashtags, used regularly and well, will be the way we bury their Big Lie and share the Real Truth.

Sandy Weaver is an author, professional speaker and judges some Working breeds. When she's not traveling to speak or to judge, she's spoiling two retired Siberian Huskies. <http://sandyjweaver.com>

Government Relations Department

From Dennis Sprung Sharing Information with Delegates from Government Relations

GR Year-End Highlights Overview

Currently, Congress, five states, and the District of Columbia are in legislative session. 17 States are accepting pre-filed bills for 2020. AKC Government Relations is currently tracking more than 2,350 bills on the federal, state, and local levels.

AKC GR has been active in all 50 states. AKC GR has issued 152 legislative alerts in 2019, and provided comments and/or oral and written testimony on more than 100 pieces of canine legislation. The addition of new field staff in the last two years has enabled AKC GR to significantly increase in the amount of in-person contact and in-person testimony we provide at the state and local levels. One-on-one engagement is resulting in significant new levels of influence, recognition, and successes in key policy areas such as protecting the rights of breeders and owners, preserving AKC events, and AKC representation on officially-recognized expert policy panels.

As is typical for this time of year, we are currently seeing more action at local (county, city municipal) levels. A "hot issues" update of state and local issues is provided, and I would be happy to provide more updates.

Many bills fall into multiple categories, however the top issues we are seeing at the state and local level right now (in order) are:

- Cruelty
- Working Dogs
- Other (including breeder licensing)
- Veterinary
- Animal Control
- Retail Sales

AKC GR communicates to dog owners, club members, lawmakers and the public via geo-targeted legislative alerts, online alerts, facebook/twitter and other social media, *The Taking Command* (monthly advocacy) and *In Session* (policy) newsletters, blogs, newspaper Op Eds, as well as through direct one-on-one contact and outreach with club-based legislative liaisons.

AKC GT has also been having regular calls with our counterparts in Canada (CKC) who are dealing with similar and related legislative threats. In sharing information, we can each learn more about and be prepared to address animal rights politics as an international agenda.

Every member of the AKC GR team (11 total) participates in legislative analysis and comment. We are broken down geographically into 5 general regions, 4 of which have staff in the field (West Coast, New England, Southeast and "Mid-Atlantic Plus" regions) to work with dog owners and policymakers on issues that impact dog ownership and our sport. GR field staff, as well as NC staff are available to speak to clubs, provide testimony, advocacy training, assist with outreach, and help alert constituents and assist in taking action on issues of concern in those regions. GR regional team members are also registered as lobbyists in key states in their regions.

In 2019, AKC GR hired two new staff: Mikki McGinnis (Admin Assistant and Service Dog Project Manager) and Charles Hall ("Mid-Atlantic Plus" Legislative Analyst/Community Outreach Coordinator. Mr. Hall is scheduled to start at the beginning of Jan. 2020.)

Our federal lobbyist of more than 10 years (Mike Williams) is working on issues related to pet imports, Breeder Licensing, the Detection Dog Shortage, and other issues that impact us at the federal level. Federal issues are crucial because of their capacity to quickly impact the largest number of dog owners across the country.

AKC GR has registered lobbyists (both staff and contract) in key states. The states where we register lobbyists varies from year to year depending on activity level, availability and specific issues. In 2019, we currently have lobbyists registered in AL, CA, CT, KY, MD, NJ, NC, NH, OH, PA, RI, VA.

Federal Issues: We are focusing on several key areas:

Imports of Unhealthy Dogs. More than 1 million dogs are being imported into the US on an annual basis. We believe the vast majority of these dogs are intended for transfer or resale in retail rescue or other retail markets. A large number of these dogs are entering with minimal health checks, and in many cases invalid health certificates. Combined with the "adopt don't shop" mantra, many of these animals not only undermine demand for well-bred purebred dogs, they pose an imminent and significant health threat to humans, pets and livestock. AKC is working together with NAIA on federal legislation to require that dogs entering the US for transfer (adoption, resale, etc.) have valid veterinary certificates from a competent veterinary authority that can be checked when they enter the US. Importers that attempt to import dogs that do not meet health standards would be required to return them to the country of origin.

Federal Breeder Licensing Regulations and Legislation. HR 3164, the House-passed FY 2020 Agricultural Appropriations bill would require USDA APHIS to include personally identifiable information such as residential addresses and "animal inventories" in an online, publicly-searchable database of USDA licensed dog breeders. AKC agrees with USDA that adding personal information is not necessary for assuring animal welfare. Moreover, we believe that unnecessary publication of such information creates a virtual "shopping list" for animal rights activists and pet thieves who wish to target individual breeders. Such measures not only hurt responsible breeders but are likely to dampen efforts to improve licensing compliance and the welfare oversight of animals in licensed facilities.

Service Dogs. AKC GR is working with US Department of Transportation and providing comment on potential rules changes regarding the federal air carrier access act, and other federal laws impacting assistance animals.

AKC GR is also working with colleagues at the American Service Dog Access Coalition, and industry colleagues including: airlines, the airline industry associations, service dog groups, and governments to continue to develop all aspects of a new authoritative, voluntary and verifiable credential to streamline access for service dog teams that meet specific behavioral, ask-based and health standards. AKC presented at the Association of Service Dog Providers for Military Veterans and obtained updated buy-in on the program from the association's members, who will help beta test the new program. Expanded evaluator requirements have been developed, and database technology is in development.

Airlines issues. While cargo issues are not strictly legislative or regulatory issues, AKC GR is working with airline industry leaders to address issues related to airline bans on dogs in cargo based on size and breed.

Detection Dog Task Force. In September, GR took on staff oversight and administration of this program. GR actively engages with government and law enforcement for updated information on detection dog requirements to assist with shortage issues. The Patriotic Puppy program, and contractor Scott Thomas works directly with breeders/owners and trainers to produce dogs that are suitable for purchase by law enforcement, military and private security. In December, the first participant from the AKC patriotic puppy program was acquired by law enforcement.

Anti-Breeder Harassment Task Force. At the April Board meeting, AKC GR proposed the establishment of an informal taskforce/resources working group on anti-breeder harassment or retaliation with input from multiple AKC Departments and outside experts. The purpose of the taskforce is to centralize reports of this nature to AKC so recommendations for available action can be reviewed, compiled and disseminated as a resource for responsible breeders and dog experts. Taskforce members include AKC staff; input may also be obtained where appropriate from animal control, law enforcement, and legal experts. The GR team is continuing the development of resources, operation, communications and database tools for the initiative.

Law School Outreach/Student Writing Contest. The third annual AKC Law School Companion Animal Writing Contest concluded in December. Students at ABA-accredited law schools are invited to submit articles on a choice of topics related to animal rights and other key issues impacting pet ownership. The contest is designed to raise awareness of non-animal-rights aspects of animal law, and to broaden conversation among future leaders in this area.

Canines at the Capitol Events: AKC GR staff conducted canines at the capitol events in Washington DC, California, Maryland, Maine and North Carolina. The popular events provide legislators and staff educational information about AKC, information on key legislative policy positions, and the opportunity to meet dogs from each of the seven groups. The events are covered by local media and create new goodwill at the capitol and state legislatures, as well as new opportunities to discuss canine legislation issues with lawmakers.

National and Regional Legislator Conferences: GR staff participated in and prepared policy exhibits for numerous professional conferences for legislators, including the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), and the National Association of Counties (NACo), The Congressional Sportsmen Caucus, The National Assembly of (state) Sportsmen Caucuses (NASC), The National League of Cities, and individual state associations of municipalities conferences. Extensive contacts with lawmakers and decisionmakers were made at these events. In a number of cases, invitations to advise legislators on future and existing legislation and positive changes to pending legislation were a direct result of outreach made at the conferences.

New Internal Legislative Tracking Database Development Completed: Development of a new internal legislative tracking and contact management database system (Fiscal Note) was completed and is currently being implemented, along with training for all staff. This program is designed to improve staff efficiency, effectiveness and measurable impacts. Full implementation and training are anticipated before the end of the year.

National Conference, mini conferences and seminars: A two-day national conference was held in Washington DC in conjunction with lobby-day events and a Capitol Hill reception and mini-meet the breeds in honor of purpose-bred dogs. Approximately 400 congressional staff and members attended the event. Multiple smaller conferences, events and live seminars were conducted in more than a dozen states.

For more and updated information on state issues, policy positions, and canine policy resources for all dog lovers, visit AKC's legislative Action Center at www.akcgr.org

ATLANTA KENNEL CLUB DIGEST

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Sandy Weaver
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"Like us on Facebook" and help spread the word to friends!
www.facebook.com/AtlantaKennelClub



Return Requested

DIGEST COORDINATOR:

Sandy Weaver — golfndogs@gmail.com — 770-310-6832

Send any brags or articles of interest to Sandy: PO Box 683892, Marietta, GA, 30068

Thank you to the members who have contacted me that are willing to try to receive the digest via email instead of snail mail!

In case you did not know... Digests are now and have been available for viewing without using a login and password. If you have a computer go to the website: www.atlantakennelclub.org and click on the tab at the top for Newsletters/Digests – It's all there! **EXCEPT** for the minutes which remain private for members. To view those you will still need to access the member only section with your login. **BUT** you can read the rest of the Digests anytime you want! The past digest are also archived there.

Anyone wanting to "review" how to access your member only info on the website please do call us. If you have an email address on our database you do receive the meeting notice and announcement via email that the digest is available online whether it is snail mailed or not. If you are not getting the notices for any reason please let us know if your email has changed or add atlantakc@comcast.net to your address or contacts list.

VISIT US ON THE WEB @ WWW.ATLANTAKENNELCLUB.ORG

Our Mission

To promote, advance and protect the interests of purebred dogs and to encourage good sportsmanship at all purebred events as recognized by the American Kennel Club. To educate the fancy, government and the public regarding responsible dog ownership... The Atlanta Kennel Club