

**ESAA Board Meeting  
September 29, 2009  
Minnetonka, MN**

President Mary Ciszek called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m. EDT

Mary would like to utilize conference calls for business in 2009-2010.

Minutes from the last meeting were published in the Newsletter. A motion was made by Cheryl Heithaus to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written. Seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed. The Treasurer asked that draft minutes be sent to the Board for review for omissions and corrections prior to publication. General discussion ensued that this would be useful and the draft should circulate as soon as possible after the meeting. It was also discussed that committee reports must be in hand prior to the meeting in order for Board members to be properly prepared and for the meeting to move along timely.

A motion was made by Julie Quirk that the Secretary request submission of committee reports 60 days prior to the date of the board meeting at the National Specialty. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Julie Quirk that committee reports be submitted to the Board of Directors 30 days prior to the date of the board meeting at the National Specialty. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Julie Quirk that the Secretary submit a draft of the meeting minutes to the BOD for review within 30 days following the BOD meeting at the National Specialty. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed

A motion was made by Julie Quirk that Board members submit corrections or omissions to the Secretary within 15 days of receipt of the draft minutes. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Julie Quirk that the final minutes be submitted to the Newsletter Editor for publication within 60 days following the BOD meeting. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer is concerned that we have too much in net assets and cash. Dave commented that in the past the IRS has nosed into non profits with net assets and cash exceeding \$200,000 and IRS has asked that funds be distributed. He is not sure if this is still the ceiling and did Ed Sledzik tell the Treasurer the same thing? The Treasurer said that Ed came to her house for a meeting and a report of her discussion with Ed will be handed out to the board. The Treasurer noted that the Finance Committee has responsibility for auditing the financial records and has asked that the committee be enlarged from its current composition of 1 (Dave as chairman) to 5.

She suggested Dave as Chairman, the Treasurer and 3 Vice Presidents at Large. The committee would be charged with reviewing the Books of Record at the National Specialty. The Treasurer made a motion to this effect. John Nielsen pointed out that the Treasurer should not be a voting member of the Finance Committee. John also noted that the chairman should not be a member of the Board. All agreed with John's assessment. The Treasurer adjusted her motion to read that the Finance Committee consist of Dave as chairman, 1 Board member, 1 person from the membership and the Treasurer acting in an ex-officio capacity. The motion was seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed. BJ Parsons volunteered to be the Board member of the Finance Committee. The new Finance Committee will review the financial report prior to publication in the newsletter.

The Treasurer then handed out a budget of all events and all committees. She discussed advances, i.e. payments and reimbursements. In particular, there are problems with recurring contracts such as the judges contracts with respect to making payments and also the signature lines. Karen Kennedy said that she and Donna Jordan (newly appointed ESAA National Specialty Committee chairman/Czarina, see below) will be working on a revision to the judges contract to tighten up the terms and make changes to the signature line. They will be looking at the sample AKC judges contract and will get back to the board with a new version.

Regarding restricted funds, the Treasurer would like Rescue, Health & Genetics and Education to be diced out on their own spreadsheets.

The Treasurer was asked about a report of her meeting with Ed Sledzik. She stated that it is to be a joint report and Ed has not yet signed off on it. As soon as he does, it will be distributed to the board. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

## **Committee Reports**

Report of the regional Vice-Presidents:

Kathy Cunningham reported that the New England specialties will be back to back in Norwalk, CT at the Greenwich shows. It is a beautiful show site right on Long Island Sound. New England will be doing a Meet the Breeds at the Javitz Center in NYC the weekend of October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Cheryl Heithaus reported that the Ohio specialty will stay in Ravenna and they will keep the Classic in Cleveland. Buckeye will be doing back to back specialties the same day (a.m. and p.m.) on Memorial Day weekend.

Judy Mates reported that Western will be keeping its specialties in June at the same location.

Maryl Aldrich reported that the Golden Gate ES club is gone but there has been no formal request to ESAA to disband. Willamette in Oregon is doing well. They will have back to back specialties the same day. She noted it is as long day with a maximum of 100 dogs for each but they average about 80.

Karen Kennedy reported that Southern California will be doing back to backs on Thursday and Friday. Arizona will have its specialty in February at Westworld.

Judy Graef reported that Hudson ESC signed up for another year at GSA Feb 13, 2010. The Poltareks left a large donation of items to Hudson for trophies. Hudson's other specialty in May will no longer be an independent specialty in north Jersey due to cost and declining numbers of workers. The specialty will be the same date Friday in May but they will be at the Trenton show grounds (Trenton is the Sunday show of the weekend.)

Julie Quirk reported that Brandywine will be moving their April specialty from the Chambersburg Area Kennel Club (part of the Blue and Grey cluster in Harrisburg) and also their September specialty from Lehigh Valley Kennel Club. The club will hold back to back shows outdoors in July in conjunction with the Nita Nee Kennel Club shows in State College, PA National Capital will be holding their April specialty in conjunction with Old Dominion Kennel Club and is looking forward to a second specialty following the National Specialty in October.

BJ Parsons reported that Atlanta is looking into a change of location. Florida is staying with back to back specialties in January. She noted that this is an absolutely beautiful show site. Carolina will be holding its specialty the Friday before Labor Day in Raleigh.

Jan Carlson reported that Greater Denver and Lone Star are staying with the same dates and locations.

## **Website Committee Report**

As Larry Dwork set up the AV equipment so the website was on screen, Julie touched on the first action item of the report which was that the Board approve the posting of all ESAA Guidelines in the Members Only section. The Treasurer made a motion all chairmen write a procedure for their committees. This motion was tabled

Larry then went over some of the features of the website. Announcements can be posted by any one with authority. Discussion ensued regarding the approval process for what is posted in the Announcements. Mary Ciszek would like us to work more efficiently with posting announcements so we don't have unnecessary review. Dave Mates reiterated that in the past the Website Committee had discretion to do so and asked that the Board clarify that this discretion will continue with the new committee and the new website. A motion was made by Cheryl Heithaus that the blog announcements and website content will be posted at the discretion of the committee and the President. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

Larry asked that we look at the Officers page and the email addresses posted. Do we want to use aliases consistently here? A motion was made by Julie Quirk that email aliases be used for the Officers' page and that we include a listing for the AKC Delegate in addition to the officers. Seconded by Judy Mates. Motion passed.

Larry Dwork continued with a brief demonstration of the Google calendar and notifications. All agreed that this is a useful tool and members may not be fully aware, since many Board members were not aware. Cheryl Heithaus asked if the committee would put together a “Did You Know” tip sheet for the newsletter that would spotlight some of these features.

It was also requested that biographies of National Specialty, Futurity and GSA judges be included on the website. Karen Kennedy will include a request for a biography as part of the new contract. John Nielsen also noted that biographies can be found on the AKC website.

Larry Dwork then took us to the [www.clumbers.org](http://www.clumbers.org) for what the committee would like to do for judges education on the ESAA website in addition to posting the ESAA approved slide show. All agreed this was a good direction to go. Dave Mates reminded all of the outstanding AKC video done on English Setters many years ago which although unidentified, show cased many of our top English Setters, now long since gone. John Nielsen will check in with AKC and see if they will allow us to use the AKC breed video on our website as part of our Judges Education program. Sandi McCue will follow some leads on obtaining video of ES in the field to follow up on Melissa Johnson’s suggestion from last year that we need to educate field trial judges on the hunting style of our breed and also encourage members and ES owners to try hunting with their setters. If they see it, they may find out that it is not as hard and more fun they think.

Discussion then moved to The Store and building an E Commerce area on the website. All agreed that Paypal was the best payment option. Regarding store items, it was clarified that members renewing online would have to pay the Paypal cost for renewing online.

Julie Quirk then explained the action item regarding restriction of feature articles from the Annual. We want educational and historical information readily available but should we limit dissemination of these articles until the annual is sold out or one year, whichever comes first? Kathy Cunningham made a motion that we limit dissemination of the feature articles to 2 years following publication of the Annual or sell out of the Annual, whichever comes first. Motion seconded and passed.

The final action item was for The Gallery to be set up using photos of National Specialty winners.

A motion was made by Sandi McCue to approve the Website Committee report as amended with respect to availability of feature articles, including all action items. Seconded by Judy Mates. Motion passed.

## **AKC Delegate Report**

John asked if the board wanted to revisit Delegate expenses? John advised that All Breed Club Delegate reimbursements are all over the map from -0- to \$8,000. ESAA has reimbursed John for transportation and one night’s lodging this year. AKC pays him \$200 a meeting as a member

of the Parent Club Committee. This was the first time in all these years that John has asked for some reimbursement for his expenses as our Delegate. John's recommendation was that if ESAA wants to adjust reimbursement from what is in the Standing Rule, this matter is best taken up by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee can take a look at Delegate reimbursement and make a recommendation to the board. The Board agreed this was the best way to handle the matter.

## **Redistricting Report**

As usual, John pointed out that some regions are too big and some are too small but he is not recommending any changes. John did ask that the Board consider ways to increase membership. Motion to accept the Redistricting Report by Judy Mates, seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

## **Historian Report**

All agreed that we are very fortunate to have Dr. Sillman as our historian. John Nielsen made the specific recommendation that the next article be on the History of our Standard: The Committee of One. John believes the emotional and very intense discussions among Ray Parsons, Dick Frye, Joyce Rosen and himself are worth documenting and will be very entertaining to those who are unaware of what went on behind the scenes during that very tumultuous time. Cheryl Heithaus moved to accept the Historian Report, seconded by Karen Kennedy. Motion passed.

## **Finance Committee Report**

Awards: Dave Mates reported that Joyce Rosen will add \$\$ to the Canberra Award. (Dave noted that the threshold to establish an award was raised to \$750 several years ago.)

National Specialty: Dave Mates wants to update the appendices to the National Specialty Guidelines and have them as PDFs so they cannot be changed. Currently we are circulating Word documents and spreadsheets that inadvertently get changed. Dave also stated that the Hunt Test and Agility events must be elaborated on and detailed out financially in the Guidelines. For example, is it a 60/40 split or 50/50 or ???

Tax Exempt Status: Dave Mates reports that ESAA's current status is §501(c)(4). He reminded everyone that the Board voted in Cincinnati that ESAA move to a §501(c)(3) status. The first step in the process was moving from §501(c)(7) to §501(c)(4). Dave does not want to take the next step on his own. It requires filling out IRS Form 1023 (a 30 page form) Application for Recognition of Exemption. His recommendation is that ESAA hire some expertise such as Ed Sledzik to take this final step on our behalf. Motion by Kathy Cunningham to accept the Finance Committee Report, seconded by Judy Graef. Motion passed.

The order of committee reports was suspended in order to allow Ray Lynn Snowden to come in and present her proposal for English Setter 101 at this time. It would ordinarily be taken up

under New Business.

## **English Setters 101**

Ray Lynn explained that she and Jill Warren, the authors, had three requests. 1.) The document would carry the written endorsement by ESAA. 2.) The ESAA website would contain the document. 3.) The document can be sold by copy at cost (i.e. printing with a cardboard cover in either black and white or color).

BJ Parsons asked why does the document have to be endorsed in writing by ESAA if it is on the ESAA website? Isn't that redundant? Ray Lynn reminded all that the document is also located on Jill Warren's website and on her website. If people come to these websites, they would not know it is endorsed by ESAA.

Ray Lynn advised that this is a 2009 version and that she expects there will be a 2010 version and so on as new content is added or existing content revised. Genevieve Deich asked if it would be Jill and Ray Lynn making decisions on what would go into the document? Ray Lynn answered "yes" since they are the authors.

Julie asked if there would be any objection to the document being broken up on the ESAA website to include relevant sections under existing tabs? Ray Lynn said she and Jill have no problem with that concept. Julie noted that in her review she found some areas of concern such as a link to ACES. Previous board action severed all ties to ACES and removed a link and all references to ACES from the ESAA website. Ray Lynn indicated she and Jill were not aware of that action and would have no problem revising the document to remove ACES references. Further input from board members suggested revisions on vaccinations, AVMA, Visualization of the Standard and so on. Rather than try and corral all details during the meeting, Julie made the suggestion that the board send its feedback on the document to Julie by October 31<sup>st</sup>. She will organize the comments and suggestions and send to Jill and Ray Lynn for a response.

## **National Specialty Coordinator**

Donna Jordan passed out the latest National Specialty Guidelines and appendices. Many of the changes are housekeeping such as one judge for the National rather than two. (Page 4) Donna asked if we wanted to continue giving judges a plaque. See page 5. A motion was made by Judi Hunter and seconded by Jan Carlson that the guidelines read "Host club to provide a hospitality basket in each judge's hotel room not to exceed \$25 in value. Judges will receive no other gift." Page 6 was revised to delete the last three sentences under Board of Directors Meeting. All agreed that these arrangements and the expense should be included in the National Specialty budget and paid for 100% by ESAA. Motion passed.

Page 8 Hospitality amended to read "ESAA will subsidize this cost up to \$1.50 per regular conformation class entry budgeted. Any cost over this amount is the responsibility of the Host Club." Motion by Julie Quirk, seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed.

Page 10 Discussion regarding the raffle. The board felt that it had already voted that ESAA is the only raffle allowed until the Thursday evening drawing. Donna will check past minutes,

rework this section and bring it back to the Board.

Page 13 - ESAA had already agreed to break up 12-18 class into a 12-15 and a 15-18 month class. Also added is the Amateur Owner Handler class.

Page 19 Veteran Sweepstakes was amended to read “Hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar will be optional at the Host Club’s discretion. They must be included in the budget if they will be provided.” Motion by Julie Quirk, seconded by Kathy Cunningham. Motion passed.

## **Annual National Specialty Committee - New Standing Committee**

Mary Cizek announced the formation of a new Standing Committee titled Annual National Specialty Committee. It is established immediately and Donna Jordan is the Chairman/Czarina. Donna will maintain up-to-date Guidelines, budgets and work with the Host Club Show Chairman. The Finance Committee will assist her and be part of the committee. She is NOT the Show Chairman.

## **2010 National Specialty in Carlisle, PA**

Jack Johnson and Julie Quirk gave a briefing on the 2010 National Specialty to be outdoors in Carlisle, PA. The board approved the Host Club’s request to sell reserved grooming space in the grooming room and also run a poop clean up competition.

## **2011 National Specialty**

Paula Spiering gave a briefing on the proposal submitted by Kettle Moraine ESC. She noted that this location is the premier dog show hotel of Wisconsin - very experienced in holding specialties. The ballroom is 10,600 square feet with 8,500 square feet of grooming and crating. The Host Club intends to sell reserved grooming space to offset the cost of the electricity which is \$225 a day. Dave Mates would like to spend some time with Paula and her committee in order to tweak the numbers and assist in developing a comeback to the hotel to address some expensive requirements in the original proposal such as a \$4000 food minimum and \$1500 non refundable deposit due upon signing of the contract. Proposal tabled.

## **Awards**

Judy Mates reported that the unofficial appraisal of the Annie O’Brien Trophy has been done. Motion to accept Judy’s report including action item was made and seconded. Motion passed.

## **2008 ESAA Annual**

Kathy Cunningham as 2008 Annual Liaison reported that we are \$9000 in the hole for the annual. (This takes into account the rebate of \$3000). The publisher always requires a minimum order of 250. ESAA has sold 110 books to date. Sandi McCue commented that the economy has a lot to do with what we are seeing. Kathy noted that some folks advertised this year that did not advertise last year but overall it was down. Cathy Hill has put in a proposal for next year's annual (2009). No copies have been submitted to the Board yet because Dave Mates has it and is reviewing the financials. Sandi McCue made a motion to accept the Report, seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

## **ESAA Newsletter Report**

Out of a membership of 693, 155 households opted to receive only the electronic version (22%). Kathy Cunningham queried whether we wanted to do an incentive to get folks to take the electronic version? Kathy will do some research to find out whether it is better to discount memberships as an incentive to go electronic v. a coupon to discount purchase on the Annual. Kathy also discussed the loss of her printer who has done the Newsletter since she has been editor. She is interested in looking at bids from printers located anywhere in the U.S., they do not have to be co-located with the editor. Keeping in mind that if anyone finds an acceptable printer in their area, the member would have to take responsibility for mailing out the Canadian Newsletters. Kathy will work up a specification that any interested person can use to solicit bids from local printers. A motion to accept the Report was made and seconded. Motion passed.

## **Judges Education Report**

It was noted that the report handed out at the meeting was from 2008. Cheryl Heithaus made a motion that the report not be accepted, seconded by Judi Hunter. Joan will be contacted and asked to submit a 2009 Report.

Sandi McCue brought up the circumstance where ESAA presentations have been given to judges but then the presenter went on to present additional educational material. Sandi feels that only the official ESAA program is to be given. A motion was made by Sandi that ESAA's policy is that all AKC Parent Club approved judges presentation programs must use ESAA materials only. Seconded by Bob Stevens. Motion passed.

## **ESAA Membership Report**

Membership has remained fairly stable. A motion was made by Bob Stevens that any new or renewing single or family membership that opts out of the paper version of the newsletter will receive a \$15 coupon, usable for advertising in the Newsletter or Annual, or purchase of an Annual. Any new or renewing Junior membership that opts out of the paper version of the newsletter will receive a \$5 coupon, usable for advertising in the Newsletter or Annual, or



purchase of an Annual. Coupon is good for the membership year only. Seconded by Genevieve Deich. Motion carried with one opposed. A motion was made to accept the Report, seconded by Cheryl Heithaus. Motion passed.

## **Medallion Report**

A motion was made by Judy Mates to accept the report, seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed.

## **Juniors**

Judi Hunter reported her committee is coming along with good feedback on the Junior Olympics and fun match. Motion by Sandi McCue to accept the Report; seconded by Cheryl Heithaus. Motion passed.

## **Garden Specialty Association**

Judy Graef reported that 2010 will be a make or break year for GSA. We won't know if there will be a 2011 until March or early April of 2010 after Don Snyder has reviewed the bottom line. Gloria Arata's report was reviewed. It was noted that the Sweeps Judge for 2010 is Beverly Anderson and Regular Classes is Richard Beauchamp. Gloria noted that 2010 fees are up again and entries are likely to be down. Motion to accept the report was made and seconded. Motion passed.

## **ESAA Hunting Dog Test**

Cheryl noted that Ohio HD events may have been left off of the report. Cheryl Heithaus made a motion to accept the report pending verification of Ohio, seconded by Maryl Aldrich. Motion passed.

## **Health and Genetics**

Mary Ciszek noted with regret that Lin Sell is resigning as Health & Genetics Chairman. She asked for suggestions on who could be contacted to take over the chair.

Lin Sell has asked that ESAA recommend testing for Autoimmune Thyroiditis in the CHIC program (ESAA joined CHIC in 2006). This would be optional, not required. An ES could still

get a CHIC # without thyroid testing but by recommending the test, ESAA is emphasizing to ES owners that they may want to screen for it. Currently ESAA requires testing for hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia and deafness in order for a dog to receive a CHIC number. A motion was made that ESAA recommend OFA thyroid testing in its CHIC criteria but that the testing is optional. Motion seconded. 7 voted in favor, 6 opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sandi McCue that we accept all of Lin's grant recommendations, seconded by Genevieve Deich. A motion was made by Judy Mates that ESAA post a link to the AKC podcast library of topics on health and genetics or download the podcasts as the Website Committee sees fit, as recommended by Lin Sell; seconded by Kathy Cunningham. With respect to the Health Survey action item on the Report, Lin feels it is time for a detailed survey of our breed. The Board agreed but felt implementation and other details should be left to the next chairman.

### **Interim Rescue Chairman Report**

No action items. Motion was made and seconded to accept Maryl Aldrich's Report. Motion passed.

### **Rescue Chairman Report**

The Board did not have a copy of this report in its hands although copies were provided later. The President had a copy. It is quite lengthy. President Mary Ciszek touched on some of the contents of the report. Discussion ensued regarding how Jeanne Deeming was contacted to take the dogs reported. Is Jeanne doing a national job or a regional job? Do we have reason to believe that Jeanne is not doing a national job? Sandi McCue noted that her area does all its own rescue and does not contact the ESAA Chairman. Lengthy discussion followed on whether the report provided the information requested by the ESAA President in her letter dated June 17, 2009. Genevieve Deich confirmed that the Rescue Chairman has not reported whether or not anyone has applied for grant funds. Action on the Report was tabled. Following further discussion, it was taken off the table. Cheryl Heithaus made a motion that the Rescue Report not be accepted and that the Chairman be asked to supply the information requested in the President's letter of June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009; seconded by Jan Carlson. 3 abstentions, 1 no, 10 yes. Motion carried.

### **Standing Rules**

Action item regarding clarification of prior Board policy on National Specialty Show Chairman showing a dog at the National Specialty. Board agreed that this was fine so long as the show chairman does not have contact with the judge.

Action item regarding selection of the sweepstakes judge for Combined now known as GSA.

Board agreed that 3 names are to be submitted by Karen Kennedy (Judges Selection Committee Chairman) to the ESAA Board on a timely basis for vote by the Board. Karen can use any source for the 3 names including attendees from the Judges Education seminars. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Report. Motion passed.

## **Judges Selection Committee Report**

A motion was made by Judy Mates that the Pool be broken up so that there is a separate slate for Futurity/Maturity, the National Specialty judge and the GSA judge, and that the final slate for each is enlarged to 5 for each category; seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed. The reason for this change is to be able to keep those judges on the ballot who were interested in judging the National but who did not want to commit also for GSA. Judges could agree to be on one or more slates.

Discussion regarding how nominations are currently sent to the five (5) member committee and its chairman. There are 5 members of the committee. ESAA has 10 regions. A motion was made by Julie Quirk that each member of the committee be assigned 2 regions, to receive nominations from the membership only in their assigned regions; foreign members will send their nominations to the Judges Selection Committee Chairman. Seconded by Judy Mates. Motion passed.

Discussion regarding the discretion necessary for the committee to function. If all the committee does is collect, tally and submit, there is no need for a committee. Some use of reasonable discretion is necessary to accomplish the goal stated in the Guidelines of a final slate of judges who 1.) will draw a good entry, 2.) are experienced in judging the breed, 3.) like the breed, and 4.) know the breed. A motion was made and seconded that discretion be removed at the lower level of the process so that all names are accepted from members, yet discretion is retained at the next level of the process where the committee deliberates in arriving at a final slate that meets the criteria 1) through 4) above. Motion passed.

## **Unfinished Business**

ESAA is supporting the entry at AKC's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary show at Eukanuba in December 2009. Sweepstakes is not allowed and we are not offering. Sandi McCue reported that the prizes are cash only. Up to five (5) Award of Merits will be offered.

Kettle Moraine ESC's proposal for 2011 was brought back for further discussion. Cheryl Heithaus made a motion that the proposal be approved pending approval by the Finance Committee and the Annual National Specialty Czarina. Seconded by Judi Hunter. Motion passed. Board recommendation was that the budget be blessed by the Finance Committee and Czarina by December 15<sup>th</sup> for a ballot in the January Newsletter.

## **New Business**

AKC wants ESAA to take the Registration Pledge to encourage our puppy buyers to register

their puppies with AKC, if we as breeders don't already register the puppies ourselves. Sandi McCue made a motion that ESAA take the pledge, seconded by everyone in the room. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m. CDT

Submitted on behalf of the Secretary