

AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB, INC.
founded 1881
American Kennel Club Member since September 19, 1889

MINUTES OF THE 124th ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, January 7, 2005 at the Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA

In accordance with the By-Laws, Article II, Section 2(f), the Secretary mails to all members a copy of the Minutes of all Membership Meetings

1. President Dr. Clyde Shaw announced at 6:30 p.m. that the ASC Annual Meeting was called to order.
2. It was determined that a quorum of the members was present in accordance with Article II, Section 1 of the By-Laws (members and club representatives).
3. Reading of the minutes of the 2004 Annual Meeting. It was moved by Mr. Alton to dispense with the reading of the minutes inasmuch as copies were mailed to all members on August 9, 2004. Motion was seconded by Mr. Gorodner and unanimously passed.

4. Report of the President

As many of you know, I resisted the suggestion that I serve as president on the basis that one can best serve that position after retirement, when your time is more your own. However, in their wisdom, the nominating committee had someone call me who could sell refrigerators to Eskimos. I won't reveal her name, but her initials rhyme with Betty McClendon.

Be that as it may, I was convinced that I could do it. Before I said yes, I asked who would be on the board with me. After she read the list of those willing to serve, the decision was much easier. There is a wealth of experience and business knowledge on this board and I will avail myself of their expertise liberally. As I embark on this adventure I ask for your indulgence. After 28 years in the practice of pediatrics, I started a solo practice less than a year ago. I was also president of my all-breed club until I handed over that torch to the vice-president last month, so I could have more time for ASC.

Barbara and I have had a motto since we started showing dogs 25 years ago..."When we are not having fun, we won't do it any more." We all need to remember that we are a diverse group of people bound together by one thing: the love of our dogs. We are here because of that love. We have organized ourselves and made rules and guidelines but we should keep in the back of our minds that the dogs are the reason we are here. When canines decided to join man as a helper and companion, they gave up some freedoms that wild animals have. They did this in exchange for our mutual protection and companionship. Our debt to them is paid by caring for them and seeing to the needs that they have become unable to provide for themselves after their commitment to mankind. Seeing to their care, the maintenance of their health and the maximizing of their strength and beauty requires a lot of work. With organizations such as ours the work is staggering to keeping things running smoothly. Many show up for the shows assuming that the pixies came in at night and all is ready for them when they arrive. The truth is that the pixies are us. There are those willing to give up personal time with families and their own canine companions to help see to it that the show goes on for everyone else.

At the risk of sounding like Joni Mitchell, I've seen the board's work from both sides now. This is an eye-opening experience. Items that seem open and shut from out there are quite different when viewed through the constraining lenses of constitutions, by-laws and fiscal responsibilities. Only at board meetings are all the facts revealed and discussed from every angle. Many times what filters through the gossip mills is partial information and misinterpretation. I would encourage all members to try to attend a board meeting sometime to see how it works. (Just not for a few meetings until I become a well-oiled machine!) I guarantee it will give you a different attitude towards the club's workings. You will learn that there is no u against them. We are they.

Thanks for all the support while we were looking for a new show site. I appreciate al the letters and claps on the back. However, I cannot accept the credit. The thanks go to Toni Mills and her staff. She did it all...I just put the presidential seal of approval on it.

While I do not consider myself an astute businessman (doctors rarely are), or a natural born leader, I do possess two attributes that should help me in this position: a merry disposition and a keen inclination to work. (That is an inside joke for those of us who have actually read the Cocker Spaniel standard.)

The ASC Foundation is in need of help - not only of money (although that is always welcome), but there is a strong need of people to serve. If you can spare a little time, please give to the Foundation.

5. Report of the Secretary.

Mr. President, Board Members, Members and Guests. Welcome to the 124th Annual Meeting of the American Spaniel Club.

Notification was received during 2004 of these deceased members: Martha Jane Ablett, OH; Nancy Bahr, KY; Thomas E. Campbell, NJ; Warren E. MacMath, CA; Suzanne S. Muller, FL; Patricia A. Mullins, FL; M. Davis Waltrip, VA and Myrle E. Winsor, CO. Please stand for a moment of silence in memory of these departed members and friends. Thank you.

It is interesting to note that in a total of 1251 members, 219 are Life Members,

I look forward to working with the new Board and I'm sure they will be as able and responsive as the outgoing members.

6. Report of the Treasurer

Dr. Lippincott stated that ASC is in excellent shape with more than \$188 thousand in assets. She also stated that the July National showed a profit.

7. Zone Director and Standing Committee Chair Reports

It was moved by Mr. Alton and seconded by Mr. Gorodner that we dispense with the reading of the Zone Director and Standing Committee Chair reports as they will appear in the ASC Annual Report. The motion was passed unanimously.

8. ASC 2005 Election Results

Dr. Shaw introduced the new officers and Board Members.

President	Dr. Clyde Shaw
First Vice-President	Jane T. Williams
Second Vice-President	Anthony R. Stallard
Director, Class of 2006	Nancy L. Foley
Director, Class of 2006	Kathleen L. Patterson, Esq.
Director, Class of 2006	John Swank
Director, Class of 2007	Bettie A. Campbell
Director, Class of 2007	Patricia Darke
Director, Class of 2007	Dee Torgerson
Director, Zone I	Laurie Ferland
Alternate Director, Zone I	Bonnie S. Pike
Director, Zone III	Bruce J. Van Deman
Alternate Director, Zone III	Martha Orkins
Director, Zone IV	Dr. Gary L. Walker
Alternate Director, Zone IV	Stephanie R. McAlister
Director, Zone V	Sharon K. Elliott
Alternate Director, Zone V	Joe Paul Payne

Results of Contested Zone II Election

Ms. Patterson announced the results of the contested election:

The Zone II Director is Becki Buss

The Zone II Alternate Director is William "Tom" Dowell.

9. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the members.

10. New Business

A) Obo II Cup.

Wilma Parker, ASC Curator and Archive Committee member, unveiled the newly restored Obo II Cup.

In January 2004 secretary Dot Mustard, received a letter from Dr. George Whitney son of the late dog author, Dr. Leon Whitney of Orange CT. Dr George said his hearing was impaired and he preferred to communicate with us through letters. He went on to write he had many items that might be of interest to the ASC that were gifted to his father from OB Gilman/ Idahurst Kennels. Dot sent his letter to me for further investigation and our correspondence back and forth is now on file in the archives.

ASC records describe O.B. Gilman as a successful Boston businessman. He was a small man in stature with aristocratic airs. He purchased his first cocker in 1883 and 50 years later reigned supreme as the oldest and largest breeder of cockers in Massachusetts, if not all New England. The Idahurst cockers won a world of championships and one of those, Idahurst Lofty, was mounted after his death and placed on exhibit at the Peabody Museum, Yale University, as showing what a cocker spaniel should be. Gilman also had an intense interest in the experimentation work of his close friend, Dr Leon Whitney, especially in feeding and color breeding of canines.

Dr George said " *It was in the 30's that at daybreak one morning 3 flatbed trucks drove up behind our home in Orange with me sleeping in a second floor bedroom. When the trucks stopped it must have been a signal for close to about 100 of O.B. Gilman's dogs to all bark together. There were crates on crates of cockers. Along with the animals came a trunk of trophies, paintings and papers concerning cockers. All a gift to my father.*

Mr. Gilman had reached an age at which he had to dispose of his dogs and since my Dad had been helpful in suggesting diet and breeding advice over the years and since Dad was interested in coat color inheritance he agreed to take all these beautiful animals with the understanding that all past breeding age would be euthanized. Mr. Gilman did not believe in killing his animals just because they were old. Each of those dogs had love and caring and each one it's own personality with not one with a personality problem. In a few days the numbers had dwindled to about 50 as Dad must have eliminated the others. I was the kennel help in those days but Dad did not expose me to that unfortunate duty of euthanasia at my tender age of 12 years."

He wrote that in the event of his untimely passing the Gilman collection would likely be tossed. His interest was to preserve them for education within the American Spaniel Club. He said one award cup in particular was always his favorite because he thought the design with the 3 shotguns was interesting and went on to comment the cup was a trophy awarded to Obo II.

I immediately made arrangements to receive the collection. A few weeks and several packages later I opened a delivery box and sure enough among an array of long ago awards was a taller cup. The proof of its being used as a flower pot was readily visible... some of the soil lingered. The cup was bent and stood a bit crooked with its tripod of shotguns leaning to one side. Time had been unkind as it was black and way beyond elbow grease and polish but it was for real. It was genuine and engraved as being awarded to our own Obo II in 1884, the one dog, considered to be the sire and father of the cocker spaniel breed.

In an informative article on the ASC website the win and the cup is recorded in "The American Kennel Registry" an 1884 publication by Forest and Stream. <http://www.asc-cockerspaniel.org/history/obo.pdf> *Obo II. was first shown at Manchester, NH on September, 1883, where he won first. At Lowell, in December, he won a championship and a special for the best cocker in the show. At New Haven, last March, he won first and a silver cup for the best cocker in the show. At New York the championship fell to his share, and the special for the best cocker owned by a member of the American Cocker Spaniel Club.*

This piece was probably commissioned especially for the award as it is elaborately designed with the sporting dog in mind. The cup features a quail sitting in a cover of beautiful artistically designed wheat and wildflowers. It rests on a tripod of shotguns and below stands a sporting dog fastened to a rounded embossed base. It is the unique design of Simpson, Hall and Miller of Wallingford, Connecticut, well known during the 1800's for Britannia ware. In 1898 the Wallingford factory became The International Sterling Center.

It is unknown how Gilman came to be in possession of the Obo cup and it is fortunate for us he had the foresight to put his collection in the hands of the Whitney family. The specially built showcases and the restoration of the Obo cup were gifted to the American Spaniel Club.

Note: In New Hampshire the town of Rollinsford was formerly named Salmon Falls. At the request of the American Spaniel Club, 2002, the Obo II gravestone was recorded as a monument to history and cocker spaniels in the Historical Society records.

B) Presentation of the Hall of Fame Award – Wilma Parker.

The American Spaniel Club first inducted members into its Hall of Fame in 1995 with nominations in four different categories. In 1999, those categories were simplified to just two: Service to the Organization and Contribution to the Breed. The Hall of Fame is an activity of the American Spaniel Club Archival Committee – dedicated to preserving and documenting our history for future generations.

The Hall of Fame is open to any former or current member of the American Spaniel Club who it is felt made a significant contribution to the American Spaniel Club organization or to the Cocker Spaniel breed. Significant contribution is defined as one that is important with profound impact in shaping the breed or the Club as it is known today. Significant contributions go beyond the bounds of normal volunteerism, standards of ethics, animal husbandry or successful breeding programs. It is the purpose of the Hall of Fame to capture for succeeding generations the memory of the extraordinary and not the ordinary.

Each year one new inductee can be granted the Hall of Fame for Service to the Organization and one for Contribution to the Breed. Consideration for inductees is on an annual basis, although new inductees are not necessarily granted annually. By November 1 of each year the Archival Committee Chair will form a Hall of Fame (HOF) Committee and will be the non-voting chairperson of that committee. All past ASC Presidents are eligible and invited to participate and the HOF Committee, with a simple approving majority vote, makes the final decision.

Up to this year, 20 people have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. They include Townsend Scudder, Frances Greer, Herman Mellentin, Ruth Benhoff, A. Clinton Wilmerding, Mari Doty, Ella Moffit, Ruth Kraeuchi, Richard Hart, Louis and Ida Hamsher, Clark Thompson, Ruth Muller, Margaret Cieczkowski, Ron Fabis, Betty Duding and J.R. Duding, Louise Milner and Mary Joan Replogle Annette F. Davies, Elizabeth H. Durland and Laura M. Henson.

Here to accept the 2005 Hall of Fame award for Contribution to the Breed are the great-great-grandchildren of Hildreth Kennedy Bloodgood, Nicola and Gordon Sharp-Bolster. Under the prefix, Mepal Cocker Spaniels, H. K. Bloodgood bred and owned many Best in Show dogs. Mr. Bloodgood served as President of the American Spaniel Club from February 1905 until his death in July 1919. The Mepal Cockers won the ASC Best in Cocker Spaniel Futurity four times, a feat yet to be equaled by another breeder.

Three Cockers have won at Westminster -- two of them had Ch Mepal's Iris in their pedigrees; Ch Baby Ruth (imported from Canada by Mr. Bloodgood) was behind all three. His contributions to the breed are too numerous to mention in this space.

Minutes of the 124th Annual Meeting

Page 4

B) Presentation of Versatility Awards – Dr. Shaw.

Dr. Shaw presented three awards to Carolee K. Douglas:

Ch Kapewood's I'll Fly Away VCD3

Champion - 1992

Tracking Dog Excellent - 2002

Excellent Agility Jumper - 2004

Ch Kapewood's Act I VCD2 AX

Champion - 1999

Tracking Dog - 2001

Companion Dog Excellent - 2003

Ch Kapewood's Caught Kissin TD, SH, NA NAJ

Champion - 2001

Senior Hunter - 2004

Novice Agility - 2004

Peter W. & Kris Morrow were presented the following awards for black and tan littermates:

Ch KG Dunmore's Totally Twix JH NAJ

Champion - 2001

Junior Hunter - 2000

Novice Agility Jumper - 2002

Ch KG Dunmore's Tootsie Pop JH NAJ

Champion - 1999

Novice Agility Jumper - 2001

Junior Hunter - 2004

C) Presentation of Other Awards.

Dr. Shaw recognized outgoing Board Members with a Certificate of Appreciation – David Donaldson, Carolee K. Douglas, Donald Harris and Julie Virosteck.

D) Recognition of New ASC Life Members.

Dr. Shaw announced the following new ASC Life Members elected at the Board Meeting: Rita Mae Evans, Maryland; Barbara Barham, Virginia; Judith A. Adams, South Carolina; Edith M. Bennett, Pennsylvania; Douglas and Marleta McFarlane, California; Linda W. Self, Maryland; Ruth F. Goldner, New Jersey; Dr. Kenneth Kellerhouse, New York and Jose F. Criado, Florida.

11. Mr. Alton made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Gorodner and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,