



Board Meeting Minutes: Date: Wednesday 10/29/14

Meeting called to order at x:sspm EST

ROLE CALL: IN ATTENDANCE OFFICERS & BOD

PRESIDENT:	Carlo Pietroniro	NJ	(July, 2014-June, 2016) present
VICE PRESIDENT:	Gonnie Schaffer	NJ	(Sept, 2014-June, 2015) present
SECRETARY:	Lena Moles	TX	(July, 2013- June, 2015)
TREASURER:	Rachel Hosking	LA	(July. 2013-June, 2015) present
SEVEN DIRECTORS:			
	Carol Armbrust	OH	(July, 2013-June, 2015) present
	Jim Deppen	NJ	(Sept, 2014-June, 2015) present
	Bill Goetz	NC	(July. 2014-July, 2016) present
	Aaron Lozano	MS	(Sept, 2014-June,2015) Present
	Will McGill	CA	(July. 2013-June, 2015) present
	Deborah Priester	VA	(July. 2014-June, 2016) present
	Peggy Wolfe	KY	(July. 2014-June, 2016) present

Presidents Message:

No message

Secretary Report:

After the last meeting, the board had to replace Gonnie Schaffer's board position. Alaina Pierret and Aaron Lozano were nominated. When contacted to see if they would accept the nomination, Aaron accepted the nomination but Alaina declined. The board voted, via email, to accept Aaron as a director to replace Gonnie. (no objections).

Minutes from last meeting. *Motion to accept made by Gonnie 2nd by Rachel all unanimous*

Treasurer Report:

UNITED STATES NEAPOLITAN MASTIFF CLUB

REGIONS BANK BUSINESS CHECKING ACCOUNT

September 1st - 30th, 2014

Activity Summary

Beginning Balance as of 09/01/2014

\$10,640.78

Deposits/Credits

9/17/2014

Trophy - donation

55

9/17/2014		Membership	35	
9/17/2014		Banquet	75	
9/22/2014		Ways and Means - Banquet - Auction	2708.05	
Total Deposits				\$2,873.05
Withdrawals/Checks (Debits)				
9/17/2014	1060	Petty Cash - Nationals 2014	300	
9/17/2014		Trophy Marshalls - 2015	42.48	
9/12/2014		Inola Castings - Trophies	130.2	
9/16/2014		Engraving Company - Trophies	277.31	
9/22/2014		Electronic Quill - Awards	112.39	
9/26/2014		Purina Event Center - Banquet	1016.58	
Total Withdrawals				<u>\$1,878.96</u>
Ending Balance as of 09/30/2014				<u>\$11,634.87</u>

Summary of Checks/Debits Outstanding

Date	Check #	Description	Amount
9/2/2014	1058	Carol Armbrust - 2014 National Exp	466.86
10/13/2014	1059	Carol Armbrust - 2014 National Exp	293.71
10/13/2014	1061	Lena Moles - 2014 Secretarial Exp	336.13

REGIONS BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT **September 1st - 30th, 2014**

Activity Summary

Beginning Balance as of 09/01/2014	\$9,203.02
Deposits/Credits	
Interest Payment	<u>\$0.08</u>
Ending Balance as of 09/30/2014	<u>\$9,203.10</u>

* Interest rate is
0.01%

Notes -

2014 National Expenses - to be approved by board for payment
 Aaron J Lozano submitted receipts in the amount of \$458.04 for
 Shipping Receipt for \$200.04
 Shipping Receipt for \$108
 Framing Receipt for \$150.00

 Carol Armbrust submitted a receipt in the amount of \$290.99
 for
 18 Gazette Logo T-Shirts from Wholesale Screen Printing

Nationals Report per treasurer - Wrapping everything up and I will have report available as soon as possible.

Motion to approve expenses to pay for Aaron & carol made by peggy 2nd by debbie
 No objections motion passed

Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Bill Goetz 2nd by peggy no objections motion passed

Committee Reports:

Judges Education Committee Report:

Note: at the Sept 5 meeting we decided to defer the decision to add Bill Goetz to this committee until after the National. Will we take this up at this meeting?

***Peggy made a motion to add Bill Goetz to the committee. 2nd by carol
No objections motion passed***

Note: At the August meeting it was stated that this committee would develop a set of criteria for members who want to be "certified" to give the judges education presentation. The committee members on the board committed this would be done but after the National. Will we take this up at this meeting?

Status: No progress on this, committee chair did not know of this commitment. Needs to be discussed at the next JEC committee.

2014 National Specialty Committee

See notes about Wrap-up Meeting at the end of the agenda document

2015 National Specialty Committee

See notes of meeting held after 2014-wrap-up meeting (at the end of the agenda document)

Gonnie made a motion to have the national be a stand-alone on Friday so we can have in-ring critiques. Peggy 2nd

No objections, motion approved.

Comment made that if on Friday, have in afternoon or later in the day to give people time to come in.

Comments about ring-side critiques lots of additional needs

Translator needed?

Transcription needed so can be printed and handed out

Loud-speaker needed

Membership Committee:

Second reading about application received (with payment on Sept 13) for Subscriber

Member from an Angela Lucas of Elysian Fields, TX. Copies of application sent to all board members after Sept 5 meeting.

Board was sent idea to use monthly AKC Titles report to contact members and non-members non-members who have earned an AKC Title. (note that the contact of non-members will have to be done via regular mail since the AKC Titles report does not currently include email addresses. However, we do already have the emails for current members.)

Who will do this?

1. Whoever gets titles report will send info to membership chair and to Website contact (see website committee report)
2. Membership chair (or designee) will do contact of non-member congratulating them, and inviting them to become a club member...sending a membership application.

3. Membership chair (or designee) will do contact of members (via email) copying the website coordinator to congratulate the member, note that the announcement will be placed on the website and asking them to send a photo to the website coordinator for inclusion.

Note that the written “procedures” for AKC Titles report has been updated to include this as a standard procedure step. The written procdures for the Membership processing needs to be updated as well.

Board needs to approve this procedure.

Peggy suggested that someone other than herself volunteer to take over the titles report work so that someone other than she knows how to do this.

NeoGram Committee

Status as of last meeting:

We need to bulid a plan to create the next neogram.

We can use an outside organization to do the production and mailing. The problem is getting someone to put together the printer-proof copy, gather all the data, etc.

Put out a letter to all members need help coming up w/neogram / stories / pictures / information. Lena will put out a letter.

Regular communications w/members needed like the emailed monitor which was meant to be more frequent notices to members. We need more than a printed neogram. We need regular communications.

Note that in August Alaina Pierret had agreed to do the Neogram and Peggy and Carol had volunteered to help her. Now Alaina will not do the Neogram.

We need a new committee chair / coordinator / organizer...someone to make this their baby.

Bill—put a call out to the members, ask if anyone’s interested? Maybe via an email?
Also ask for people to ask for information, pictures, ideas, articles, questions, etc.

What’s the next step?

Jim Deppen volunteered to take over the task to put the newsletter together or find someone to put it together. We have one magazine that we put out once a year and we need to do it. Jim will put out the call to the members to ask for help / input / pictures / articles and so on.

He asks if anyone has a design program that is easy enough to use and can share it with him especially if they have a template he can use for the basic structure. He said that Wendy had something she was using and paying for herself. Rachel promised to contact Wendy to see if she can help in this respect.

Bylaws Committee

Committee met on Wednesday, October 15. See notes at end of the agenda to reflect that meeting.

Discussion centered around the need for us, as a club, to follow AKC recommendations and requirements which we will do.

Discussion centered around the need for the board to understand the concepts

Suggestion: Peggy to schedule a separate meeting to discuss each major concept and board to be invited to all meetings.

Peggy requested permission to contact members about this topic and gather input and was given permission.

Website Committee

Board was sent Proposal to post FAQ on a regular basis to be devised from questions asked on the website by members / non-members. This will be done by whoever is the designated recipient of questions from the website who will make the question / answer generic (that is, re-write any new question / answer so there is no reference to individual persons or dogs) and forward it to the website coordinator. Currently this is Peggy.

Also to glean from old FAQ's from old website and post them as well. (peggy has copies of these from before and is willing to review them and forward them again.)

Also idea to post monthly any titles earned by members, gotten from AKC Titles Report. (with pictures as sent by members) See outline under Membership.

Board needs to approve these new procedures.

Bill goetz made motion to approve gonnie 2nd all agree motion passed

OLD BUSINESS

Report from new World Organization by Antonio Di Lorenzo report by Carlo

There are approximately 9 Countries & specific Regions have joined in affiliation" Naples, Italy, Norway, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, Columbia, Russia, USA

Outline of the organization sent to entire board again.

Brief summary presented to the members at the annual meeting

Topic tabled until more developments in the future

Peggy sent the board a series of questions about this organization.

To be discussed w/di lorenzo

Any status update? None. Deferred to next meeting.

Eukanuba meet the Breeds - Dec 2014

No change from last month? Rachel, alaina, mike will all be staffing the booth.

Rachel will get w/mike to get plans finalized. Set up for sat / sun

Only thing is if they need electric will cost \$150. Didn't use in the past.

Needs to talk w/mike & alaina to see what plans / needs are. Should know in next couple of days.

AKC has sent info on MTB in NY with Westminster (Feb, 2015) to Rachel. (this will be forwarded to board members separately)

This has been forwarded to Cathy DeLuca. Board needs to approve that the club will support this initiative and that someone (Cathy Deluca?) be assigned as coordinator to work with the AKC for the club.

Board needs to approve coordinator to work w/AKC for the club. Cathy Deluca has done this in the past several years and is willing to do it again in 2015.

Motion to approve cathy deluca to be coordinator for mtb in ny peggy made motion bill goetz 2nd no objections motion approved.

CHIC

Any status update or response from CHIC?

Yes, they approved the list we sent them. Gonnie sent email to carlo. Carlo needs to send an email to chic saying who the liaison is and the reports will come to that person.

Carlo will do tomorrow.

2016 National Specialty Planning

Notice / request for proposals for 2016 sent to members via email on October 7.

Previous notice sent to all members (via email and regular mail) in early Sept.

Form placed on website as well.

Any responses received? None known

Next steps?

Need to email notify members with deadline for submitting proposal, give 1 month deadline, and state that if no proposal is submitted the board will need to make the decision of where.

Suggestion: make deadline a couple of days before the december board meeting.

Who will send the email? Lena, as club Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS:

none

Next Meeting 2nd Wednesday (November 12) at 7:30pm EST

Motion to Adjourn: gonnie made motion, debbie 2nd,

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 EST

2014 National Specialty Wrap-UP committee meeting: started at 7:05p CST (8:05EST)

Attending:

peggy

carol

mike

and for 2015 (to hear about 2014 and beginning to make plans for 2015)

alaina

robin w

WHAT WENT WELL W/2014

whole lot.

trophies were superb,

dinner was very well set-up,

t-shirts were pretty cool, and-ways-n-means were good too

auction went very smoothly, paddles were a GREAT idea,

auctioneers? not entirely successful, mostly because they had their plant in audience who was bidding things up (not just their own things but also their own stuff bid up very much....probably to make their own min. was a bit distasteful.) check-out went very much better

have a total for auction? and ways-n-means? have to ask Rachel, moved a lot of merchandise at show and at dinner. mailed receipts / stubs to Rachel

carol gave remaining "stuff" to mike, not so much, lots of deena Patterson t-shirts, got 2nd round of orders on gazette t-shirts shipped to her and she'll ship 'em out to people

what about food? 5 appetizers?

thought there was plenty of food left over

well, we'd upped the order because tony was going to bring 5 and there were a few others who at the last minute were going to bring more than they did so we had extra orders made....so we didn't break even because of last-minute orders who didn't show up.

anything else good and worthy of note

pretty much went smoothly

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN IMPROVED UPON

better notification of paid grooming / crating and free and so everyone knows. just wasn't organized well with the host club. some of this was the host club wasn't organized about crating in general either ahead of time or on Thursday when people were arriving and wanting to know about crating.

Suggestion: make sure this is brought up to the host club so is better planned. and done well-in advance. crating needed close to the ring, and terms and conditions, etc.

NOTE: double-check the day before the show with host show folk to be sure know where the neo people are to be and see that it gets marked.

Ringside mentoring fell-apart (alaina has volunteered to ramrod that in Tulsa) Peg's fault. Friday lena said no ring-side mentoring and on Saturday, Peg ended up doing trophy stewarding instead of lena & her helper akc judge doing it.

Peg will send alaina the sheets she had made up but not used to tape to the chairs. also has copies of the standard in a tri-fold although

NOTE FOR NEXT TIME: make sure person in charge of mentoring is ONLY in charge of mentoring...not distracted by other duties. make sure chairs are set up outside the ring.

judge's ed seminar:

1 judge went, how many non-members went? have to ask someone who went
make sure is advertised on akc website..it was
make sure is announced to judges (email list)..it was

Show schedule for weekend was crammed especially Friday
too much going on, too much going back-and-forth to put dogs up at hotel and back to show site
not enough time between events / meetings on Friday -- too much stress

Wednesday, Oct 15 discussion about 2015 show plans:

Took place after 2014-wrap-up meeting

Attendees: Mike McDonald, Carlo Pietroniro, Alaina Pierret, Robin White, Carol Armbrust, Peggy Wolfe

Mike reported that the Tulsa Club had their club meeting on Oct 7 and reported to him that they've decided to change sites.

Tulsa...So the show site not going to be the Expo center (which Mike and Alaina had visited and familiarized themselves with) it is going to be a different site, not exactly sure which one, they are picking between two (original site raised prices too much)

Question: How far away is the new show site from the Doubletree hotel (the one the USNMC signed the contract with)? Not yet known but the Tulsa club will still put judges up at the same hotel (the Renaissance) that they have always used so it's not so far from the original site that they felt they needed to change their hotel.

Mike said the Tulsa Club would know which site was selected and more exact details after their Nov club meeting.

Alessandra has been sent a letter with proposed contract and has agreed to come and to use economy class-air fare.

Mike noted that as Alessandra had not judged in the US for the last 5 years the AKC had moved him to an inactive list. When AKC was asked, they sent Alessandra and ENCI a letter as part of the process to re-validate his credentials so he can be moved back to the active judges list. This is a normal process with foreign judges. Peggy suggested that we need to follow-up w/Alessandra to make sure he follows-up with ENCI so the return communications get sent on a timely basis. The hold-up on cases like this is usually that the foreign kennel club isn't used to this sort of thing and there can be delays. But we've done this before and we just need to keep on top of it.

The Tulsa show chair has not yet hired their working group judges. they will look at trying to use one of the judges we had on our preferred list. he also sent us a list of who they were considering for working group and did we have any preferences. they will also consider alessandra, if they can, and if they do, will help us out w/alessandra.

Tulsa show chair expects that we will be able to have a stand-alone on Friday (probably later in the day) at new site....but at this moment we don't know what the facility looks like. maybe the new facility will have better meeting rooms for us.

Ideas for 2015:

...Ask to have no breeds after ours in the same ring, will give us more time / flexibility

...Ask to have our crating close to our ring and do follow-up

...Ask if we can have a bigger (group-sized) separate ring just for us. Tulsa guy originally thought maybe ok (Mike & Alaina had asked for a group-sized ring off to one side with crating around it)

idea: maybe have sat specialty start a little earlier to give more time after for pictures, and "down-time" and so forth.

maybe have judges ed after the show and bring in winners for hands-on

Other suggestions and comments: Peggy would like to have national be stand-alone, even if on Friday, gives so much more flexibility in scheduling and judges hospitality and so much improved opportunities for education. AT a stand-alone specialty you can do things like in-ring critiques. Instead of the club having to dedicate someone to keeping the judge "entertained" away from the friday shows (with both folks missing them) the national specialty judge could freely attend and enjoy the all-breed shows the following two days. Plus this gives much better judges ed opportunities as there's time for the observing judges can go into the ring after the show and talk to the judge and do hands-on right there and so on and so forth. And she said that judges who really want to learn the breed will find a way to attend the national even if it is a day before the all-

breed shows because it is such a superior learning experience. The schedule can be much more relaxed since you're not so much focused on finishing so the next breed can be judged or so that group judging can get going.

She feels that this also gives focus to the National as an important club event for the breed and the club. She understands that there is some feeling that doing the national as a designated specialty (part of an all-breed show) gives a bigger chance that the winner of the national would "do well in group" as a sort of courtesy and this is probably true and yes, it does give some spotlight on the breed in the akc community. However she feels that it doesn't benefit the club or breed as much as it benefits the winner who has a greater chance of getting breed ranking points.

She admitted that she is probably in the minority in this thinking on the board and felt that there is little to no chance that the board would vote to have the national be a stand-alone on Friday instead of a designated specialty on Saturday but that this doesn't change her thinking.

Mike said he would like to have the national before the regional not after....to have the regional first makes the regional more important and makes the national be sort of a repeat of the wonderful experience of seeing all the dogs in the ring.

Volunteers for 2015

Peggy - work ways-n-means table (mike will find another helper)

Alaina - ring-side mentoring, organize

Rachel - will order trophies

Carol - be on committee and help w/ways-n-means ideas and contributions (can't come to show)

NEED: stewards for Friday (maybe ask Tulsa club for volunteer or use paid stewards like they do?)

NEED: trophy steward to help ring-steward for Saturday

NEED: Judges transportation / hospitality for weekend

NEED: Trophy donations: Tabitha Ames volunteered to do trophy solicitation, auction solicitation and search for volunteers--mike will include on next 2015 show meetings

idea: re-use vip club (under different name if necessary) to get donations for a general fund.

new names like: National Specialty Boosters....Trophy Donors

Judge's ed for 2015: Need speaker, organizer, someone to do it all, to advertise it, promote it to the judges, etc, make sure we have a room, a set-up, materials, seems that this is a board decision

robin volunteered to organize (not nec. to do it as that seems to be a board decision)

NEED: to develop a schedule -- maybe put judges ed in better place / time to encourage attendance

SUGGESTION: robin asked if she could contact Tulsa show chair about doing a health seminar for mastiff breeds

NEED: someone to be in charge of evening event

NEED: someone to do the auction

NEED: someone to be in charge of the awards / presentations etc

QUESTION: what about best head? do it the same way?

or do it as an additional non-regular class?

no one seemed to care. liked having it a no-cost (like this year turned out) also liked having it as a non-regular AKC class as long as everyone knows to enter and can!

QUESTION: Annual Meeting on Friday? or Saturday?

if we have national earlier on Saturday might be able to have annual meeting after that and before dinner.

anything else? nope

ok...everyone look for volunteers and more committee names to pass on to Mike!

adjourn: 9:10pm CST (10:10EST)

Notes on Bylaws Committee Meeting: Wednesday, October 15 7pm CST

In attendance:

Peggy wolfe, alaina pierret, carlo pietroniro, debbie priester, john grimes
(note: Joe attaway emailed his resignation from all committees at this time).

Meeting was planned to determine how committee recommended communicating with club members on the bylaws change initiative.

This topic wasn't discussed. Instead there was a general discussion of what sorts of changes should be made.

Per Carlo's request Peggy agreed to send Carlo (and the other committee members) the following:

- 1) A one-page document outlining what she thought was a good planned strategy to approach the changes
- 2) The 3-page document outlining the major areas that she feels need change in the bylaws (this document was sent to the Board of Directors for their review before the Sept 10 meeting.
- 3) The 6 documents outlining in detail (paragraph-by-paragraph) the changes needed. (one document for Section 1, one for Section 2, and so forth).

These documents are quite lengthy and detailed, thus the summary document had been created (item #2)

After the meeting Peggy sent all of these documents to the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.