AKC/BCOA Delegate Meeting March 13 & 14, 2006

The Delegates met this March at the Crown Plaza Hotel in NYC. The March meeting is always focused on the annual election for Directors to the AKC Board. This year six candidates were running for three seats, this for the class of 2010.

It has been already been a full term since the year that your Delegate was nominated and ran for AKC office. It was with extreme sadness that I remembered the friendly rivalry that occurred between Asa Mays and me at that time as we campaigned for the same position. Our last meeting was dedicated to Asa's memory with an extremely moving eulogy given by his long time friend and colleague Dennis Sprung. At this meeting a eulogy was read in memory of past Board member Bob Kelly. Bob was everyone's friend and dedicated his life to AKC.

Mr. Keene was elected on the third ballot; he too was one of the Nominating

Reelected on the first ballot was Nina Schaefer, along with nominee Bill Newman. Both of whom were on the ballot in 2002, Nina was successful at that time.

Committee	selections.
review it's	AKC Chief Financial Officer Jim Stevens gave Delegates an impressive financial
	for 2005, in which we were told that AKC enjoyed its second best financial year in
	History. This with a combined AKC/CAR income of \$11.5 million. Total revenues

for the year totaled 72.7 million.

Of special interest was Chairman Ron Menaker's talk on a proposed draft of the Pet Animal Welfare Act or PAWS as it is known. A copy of the draft, not for publication that time, was given to delegates as we left the meeting. Since this proposal is now public knowledge, I would like to comment on it.

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What I believe is innovative to say the least is that the AKC officials have, rather than simply condemning the concept given, "sat down" with the drafters of the worked with them. Credit goes to Ron Menaker who worked closely with AKC's Washington lobbyist, Jim Holt to make changes and clarify issues.

Since the BCOA Board along with many other clubs voted against the PAWS bill as it was presented, I was able to attend three of the talks given in our area by Jim Holt, and even spoke on the floor in turn about certain issues of importance. I have always hoped that quarantine could be imposed on overseas shipments of litter lots coming into our country.

A part of this proposal reads "Expanded regulation of the importation of puppies for resale purposes. A puppy imported from another country for resale must be at least six

months old." This will not affect those importing pups for their own use and enjoyment. There would also be clarification of the exempt status of animal shelters, rescue and non-profit persons provided that dogs are not imported into the US. other If these and other worthwhile provisions are truly to be enacted into law, I would recommend that our Board reexamine the new proposals when they are presented to perhaps change our position to in favor of. When this bill was presented there was tremendous interest and a negative outlook fancy, it would be of extreme importance to us to keep informed of its from the progress and actual changes or amendments. The only item to vote on and which passed was to update the AKC seal. Clubs with seals or banners may continue to use them. current Dennis Sprung then announced a new online syndicated column called "Ask AKC". column will contain information and sources to which viewers can go to This to any questions pertaining to pure-bred dogs, care, etc. Also find the answers new online access section that contains up-to-date the Legislative Dept has a information on state and local bills and laws pertaining to purebred dogs. The Delegate meeting in June will be in North Carolina which will include a visit to

the AKC offices. We will then be asked to vote on whether to eliminate the restriction to professional judges becoming delegates. This has been voted down several times in the past.

We will also be asked to vote on a proposal to eliminate the Nominating Committee,

to make it possible for any Delegate to run for office from the floor after obtaining 50 signatures on a petition.

Respectfully submitted; Karen Staudt-Cartabona BCOA/AKC Delegate