

**March
2025**

WICHITA KENNEL CLUB, INC.

NEWS FOR THE DOG FANCIER

Inside This Issue:

President's Thoughts

**General Meeting
Minutes**

Help Wanted

Training Classes

**Board Meeting
Highlights**

Cluster Raffle

Meet the Member

Club Happenings

Membership

**Member
Achievements**

AKC News

**Happening in the
Area**

From the Editor:

- All opinions expressed or implied in this publication are those only of the author(s) of that opinion.
- The deadline for submission of articles in the newsletter is on the 25th of every month.
- Send your brags or news items to:
wkcnewsletter@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Pam Watkins

Assistant Editor
Stephanie Sexton

The President's Thoughts

It is hard to believe it is the end of February. This February only has 28 days. I feel like we almost need 29 days since we have so many things going on. I want to thank Patricia Swearingen for that fun January general meeting and for organizing the fun Garden Party event for our February meeting. Both were well attended and fun activities.

Our scent work classes, CGC classes and our conformation classes are all going well. These classes have brought in over \$3,000 since the first of the year. That is more money than we made at the Sunflower of Cluster Dog Shows last year. Many thanks to our instructors and assistant instructors for your hard work and dedication on holding these classes.

Our Cluster meeting is to be held on March 1st, at 1 pm in Salina, at the Martinelli's Little Italy restaurant which is located at 158 S. Santa Fe Ave. If you have agenda items you would like added please forward to me at md7williams@cox.net.

We need your help on Sunday, March 9th, starting at 4:30 pm to clean up articles we use at our Scent Trial. We will work until done. Nikki says we don't have as much to clean as last time. Come out help if you can. I know there is a Kansas Toy Dog Club meeting and afterward a members practice. Our 4:30 pm start time should not interfere with any of the planned activities.

Our Scent Trial is March 20th thru March 23rd at the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds in Cheney, KS. We are excited about this new location and the opportunities it brings to the table. We will need your help at this trial to make it successful.

If you have not been reading through our published newsletter, I would ask that you take a look at it this month because in the newsletter are the following: President's Thoughts, General Meeting Minutes from the previous general meeting, Help Wanted (Volunteer Opportunities), WKC Training Classes, Board Meeting Highlights of the previous month's board meeting, Articles of Interest (this year when we hold our show in June it is our 100th year to have a dog show and that is really a big deal and WE WILL celebrate it), Meet the Member, Club Happenings, Member Achievements, What have you been up to? (We would love to hear from you), AKC News and Happening in the Area.

I saw where our sister club The Wichita Dog Training Club has asked its membership if anyone would like to publish their newsletter. They are wanting to get it started again. Susan and I have been members of the WDTC since 1979. Their newsletter was called the RECALL. I have missed it a lot over the years. I hope someone volunteers to publish it for them.

We are very fortunate to have Pam Watkins step up to publish our newsletter. She is doing a great job.



Thank you,
Mike Williams
Wichita Kennel Club President

General Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2025

Program: Viewing Westminster Hound Group judging and activity planned by Pat Swearingen.

Attendance: 13 members + 4 guests (Darlene Teter, Katerina Woods, Marcia Meis, Alexis Meis)

Meeting Start: A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm CDT by President Mike Williams.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Mike asked for a motion to approve the January 2025 general meeting minutes as printed in the newsletter. (Pam Watkins/Tom Street). Motion passed unanimously; motion carried.

Board Member Reports:

President's report (Mike) – report available in newsletter

Corresponding Secretary (Andrea) – no report

Recording Secretary (Keelyn) – no report

Treasurer (Nikki) – no major changes to report

Vice President (Pam) – no report

Committee Reports:

- Cluster meeting for 2025 - March 1st
 - o WKC agenda items sent to the Cluster and sent to the WKC board members.
 - o Discussion around adjustment to accommodate AKC price increase for future entries (2026).
- Upcoming Scent Work Trial March 21st - 23rd
 - o SW cleaning prep day 4:30 pm on March 9th at WKC
- Fast CAT Trial – April 11th -13th
 - o March 27th workday – planned lane workday starting at 5 pm
 - o Practice on March 31st starting at 5 pm
- Current WKC Classes
 - o Close to \$3,000 brought in from recent WKC classes.
 - o Ongoing: Scent work classes, CGC classes
 - o Moving forward discussion to avoid having classes on meeting nights (potentially built in as a skip week).
- *Program coordinator (Pat):*
 - o March meeting – highlight for next month's meeting (March) will be a chili feed.
 - o April meeting will be WKC birthday bash – watch for Pat to share fun facts ahead of time.

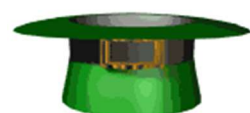
New members: none

New business: none

Unfinished business: none

Mike asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. (Tom Street/Lisa Smith). The motion passed unanimously; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm CDT.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Keelyn Hanlon



Help Wanted

Volunteer Opportunities

The Wichita Kennel Club is always looking for talented members to share their skills.

Scent Work

Scent Work Workday – March 9th, 2025 – Need help washing scent work items for the trial. We will be starting at 4:30 PM until done. **(PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE AND TIME)**

We still need many volunteers at the Scent Trial March 20th thru 23rd. Positions include: Afternoon Judge Stewards; Afternoon Timers; Morning Gate Stewards; Food Hospitality Assistant

Please email nikkiwinzer@gmail.com and let Nikki know when you can help!

Fast CAT

Fast CAT Workday – March 27th, 2025 at 5 pm

Fast CAT Practice – March 31, 2025 at 5 pm

Fast CAT Tests – April 11th-13th, 2025

Please email wkcfastcat@gmail.com to let Pam know your availability to help!

WKC Training Classes

Pre-Enrollment WKC Website
wichitakennelclub.com

Canine Good Citizen

Stay Tuned

Conformation

Instructor: Lisa Smith – Class sizes limited

Novice – April 8th to 29th from 6:00 – 6:45 pm

Advanced – April 8th to 29th from 7:00 to 7:45 pm

*Class descriptions available on the WKC website

Scent Work

Stay Tuned



Board Meeting Highlights

January 29, 2025

1. Andrea is working on an updated membership list.
2. Keelyn reported that since the scent trial opened (3 days ago) we have 459 total entries, 34 exhibitors, and 50 dogs.
3. Nikki reported that we have received approximately \$2,400 dollars from class income so far this calendar year.
4. Austin reported that all the judges are hired for our Cluster shows. March 1st will be the Cluster Meeting in Salina at 1:00 p.m. at the Italian restaurant.
5. The board voted to send the AKC PAC \$25.00.
6. We decided to secure a handicapped porta potty for our spring Fast Cat trial. And we have contracted to have another 4-seat golf cart at the trial. We also decided since there is such a large area to cover at the Scent Trial site to secure a golf cart for us to haul judges, show chair and show secretary around at the trial.
7. Mike Williams said he would continue to work on the club's by-laws for review by the general membership and Board.
8. The Board voted to move forward on Kat Woods and Kristine Marquis applications to become kennel club members.
9. Nikki is working on our WKC membership application to update the wording. A new tentative process for new members to include 1. submit application, 2. conduct home visit, 3. attend two (2) general meetings, 4. get 2 sponsors, and 5. pay once approved. This is just tentative currently.
10. The Board voted that we could do without refreshments at our board meetings. However, if a board member wants to bring refreshments they may do so.



Sunflower Cluster Raffle Needs Your Help

The WKC is looking for help with fundraising this year. Auction and raffle items are in great demand. Nice gift baskets, individual items that can be auctioned off alone or put together with other items to make a larger auction grouping are needed.

We have no backstock sitting in a closet someplace, so we need your help. Items that would make a nice donation include your favorite grooming products, books, dog toys, puppy camera, treats, brushes, shears, leashes, collars, a BarkBox or subscription, cooling blankets, training aids, whelping supplies, wine/alcohol, food, candles, and bath products.

Are you a bargain shopper? Do you have a talent or know someone with a talent to share? Just about anything you can think of can become a gift basket or an auction item. Artwork, household décor, wall hangings, jewelry, dog or human clothing, knick-knacks, dog bowls, grooming supplies, grooming carrying bags, neonatal supplies, cooling blankets, puppy warmer, crate mats, first aid box, crate fans, crate covers, silver mesh cooling tarps, standing feeders, X-pens, grooming tables, crates, blow dryers, clippers, show leads, ring-side director's chairs, gift cards and luggage.

Need a personal shopper? Donate to WKC and earmark it "Raffle" and we'll purchase something on your behalf.

Please make your
donations by May 15th

Please contact Treva Faires at
Trevafaires@gmail.com or
Jackie Storrer at jstorrer@cox.net



Meet The Member

Charlotte Norris

Charlotte met her husband Jack in college when they were both studying Biology. They will celebrate their 50th anniversary in May 2026! She says, “THAT seems unreal!!!” Charlotte remembers that Jack “was NOT an animal person when I met him... he's a complete cat person now (and an Indy/Tyche person).”



Charlotte's undergraduate degree is dual in Micro and Zoology with an emphasis on Genetics. She has a Master of Science in Physician Assistant. Charlotte spent 42 years as a PA. She worked in Surgical/Anatomical Pathology (general lab - Chemistry, Toxicology, etc). She retired in 2015 and got Indy a couple months later.

Charlotte says if you went way back in her family history with animals, horses were an OLD passion. Her mother's Maternal grandfather was head of the Royal stable in Norway and immigrated to the US. One of her great aunts raised and raced Standardbreds. She had aunts and uncles who had Orloff trotters, Hackney ponies (competed on the circuit with Lulu Long) and brought English imports. Her great uncle Ira Gohen, a pharmacist for Belle Plaine, brought the first Arabians into Kansas and bred them. Her grandmother bred and showed both Saddlebreds and Collies. Charlotte's mother bred rough Collies along with Ruth Frey, and she attended many meetings of the local Collie Club and got to know the pillars of that club, including Wilma Sugden, well. She used to love the smell of FooFoo dog shampoo at shows and matches. Charlotte and her brother, both raised Arabians, and had Thoroughbreds and a lovely "homebred" Holsteiner, too. They showed horses in many sports and venues from early childhood on, ultimately starting the Kansas Dressage and Combined Training Association with 3 other "fanatics". They held clinics, events, and shows in Kansas, and she believes the club still exists today.



Cat breeding started after she met people involved in interspecies hybridizing. Her mother's cat, Nancy, “slept in all our cribs when we were tiny, and all of us loved cats!” Cat shows were "interesting", and the family owned a Siamese. Charlotte says when she saw her first Bengal, she was hooked. Bengals are a hybrid breed and completely accepted by TICA (a feline genetic registry). They were created by crossing the Asian Leopard Cat with the domestic cat (often Egyptian Mau). She became a member of the "Working Cat Group", an international group of zoologists seeking to support ALL wild cat species and work towards their survival. It was an interesting experience, and she was very active for over 20 years. She enjoyed showing “cat shows are structured VERY differently from dog shows”, and had quite a bit of success, including with cat agility! Charlotte's cats were often Best Cats at Bengal Congresses (like a National Specialty) and held the Regional Championship, both adult and kitten, many years, and her last boy, beautiful

Mani, was an International Winner. Charlotte says she made friends all over the US, and many from Canada and Europe, but eventually decided to stop breeding entirely, as even with a market, there are just far more wonderful cats/kittens than there are equally wonderful homes.



Indy is her first competition dog. He loves traveling with Charlotte and visiting friends. The duo spends time climbing mountains, hiking, kayaking, canoeing, and swimming in lakes. Charlotte says, "Indy goes just about everywhere with me! He appointed himself as my caretaker long ago and is truly indispensable help if I fall.

He has the ability and strength in his small body to pull me out of some awful fixes!"

Competitively, Indy does AKC Agility at the excellent/master level. He adores Barn Hunt. He received his Championship in Conformation but doesn't compete anymore since he had to have a canine extracted after they were in a bad car wreck. Indy does Fast CAT and has done and would resume Herding with the right coach. He is working at Utility level in AKC Obedience, does a little Master Rally for fun (he has his RACH) and trains in Protection sport. Indy does Tracking (AKC & IGP), and actively competes in scent work in AKC, NACSW, CPE, and USCSS. He finished his UKC NW CH long ago, although he is eligible to go back for the "new high title" and a second Hall of Fame. Charlotte is looking to start him in a bit of Carting/Drafting this year.

Tyche's favorite sport is Fast CAT. She does Barn Hunt, Herding, Obedience (AKC & IGP), Protection Sport, and Tracking! Oddly, at least to Charlotte, her obvious talents are Herding and IGP, although Charlotte is absolutely thrilled with Tyche's attitude in heelwork! Tyche will also start a bit of Carting and Drafting this year. She is reaping the benefit of Charlotte's initial learning with Indy, despite being close to his opposite (although she is absolutely all Malinois)! Charlotte says, "Indy taught me so much, and was extraordinary and ridiculously successful, even with a handler brand new to canine competition (and who made every mistake possible with him!)"

Charlotte teaches advanced SW classes at the club. She has been instrumental in getting both scent work and Fast CAT started at WKC. Charlotte is currently helping to get the club started in Barn Hunt.

She cannot remember exactly when she joined the club but thinks she had taught scent work for a year and held her first SW trial at the last Sunflower Cluster held at Century 2 before she was a member.



Club Happenings

WKC General Meeting



Doggy Day Practice



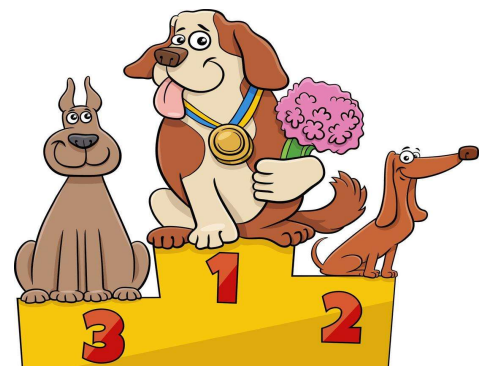
**Please join us and take
the opportunity to
practice
Obedience, Rally, Trick
Dog and Conformation
Sunday, March 9th from
3:30 to 4:30 pm**

Conformation Practice

**Join us for Conformation
practice on March 25th
from 6:30 - 7:30 pm**

**Free to members
\$5 for non-members**

No RSVP required



Membership

The individuals below have applied for membership with WKC:

Kristine Marquis

Cindy Vadakin

Alexis Mies

Membership Fees

Just a reminder that membership fees are due by January 1. If you have not paid them by March 31, then you will be dropped from the membership roster. Dues are \$20 if paying by check or \$21 if paying by Paypal (to cover online fees).

Please pay by check to: Wichita Kennel Club

Mail to: WKC Treasurer
3448 N Emporia
Wichita, KS 67219

or pay online to: wichitakennelclub@aol.com



Member Achievements

What have you been up to?

Be sure to let us know if you have any new brags or happenings for the newsletter. The deadline is the 25th of each month. Our members love to hear successes, accomplishments or just what you have been up to in the dog world!

Email your brags and happenings to
wkcnewsletter@gmail.com

AKC News

Event Service Fee is Postponed

The following email was sent on February 26, 2025 from AKC:

Dear AKC Club Officers and Delegates,

At a special meeting of the AKC Board of Directors on February 25, 2025, the Board voted to “postpone implementation of the event service fee adjustment while the Board of Directors and staff reevaluate the financial implication across all events.”

Please direct questions to eventplans@akc.org.

On behalf of the AKC Board of Directors:

Dennis B. Sprung will complete his remarkable career at the American Kennel Club effective March 31, 2025. He has been the President and Chief Executive Officer since 2003, and prior to that held multiple important positions including AKC Delegate and Judge, Executive Field Representative, Vice Presidencies, Chief Operating Officer, and Show Chairman of AKC National Championship.

During his tenure, he successfully led AKC through numerous challenges with persistence and innovation. He is the visionary behind the AKC Meet the Breeds event and is renowned for AKC’s DOGNY project celebrating the search and rescue dogs involved in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center Towers.

Under his leadership, the AKC flourished—expanding our events, broadening our educational outreach, and strengthening our commitment to advocacy and philanthropy. His vision helped the AKC evolve into a modern, dynamic organization while remaining true to its core mission of promoting and protecting the integrity of purebred dogs.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dennis has been a mentor, a friend, and an inspiration to many. His passion for dogs, his deep respect for the AKC community, and his tireless efforts to uphold the values of our organization have left an indelible mark.

As we bid farewell to Dennis in his official capacity, The AKC Board of Directors is proud to bestow upon him the title of President Emeritus. We do so with profound gratitude for his decades of service and the countless contributions he has made to the AKC and his unwavering dedication to the world of purebred dogs.



AKC News (Cont.)

GINA M. DINARDO APPOINTED PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

Sheila Goffe Appointed Executive Secretary

New York, NY– The American Kennel Club (AKC) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of **Gina M. DiNardo** as AKC President and CEO, effective April 1, 2025. DiNardo will step into this leadership role following Dennis Sprung, ensuring a seamless transition as the organization continues its mission to advocate for purebred dogs and responsible dog ownership.

“We are deeply grateful for Dennis Sprung’s decades of contributions to the AKC and wish him success,” said Dr. Thomas Davies, Chairman of the AKC Board of Directors. “We are also confident that Gina will provide steady leadership and uphold the values that have made the AKC the trusted authority on breeds and all things dog.”

DiNardo brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to the AKC, with over 50 years of experience in the sport of purebred dogs as both a breeder and owner-handler.”

Hired in 1995 by Sprung, DiNardo joined the AKC’s Event Plans department and has since held various roles across the Publications, Communications, Planning and Development, and Executive Secretary departments. In 2008, she was appointed Vice President and Assistant Executive Secretary. Since 2017, the AKC Board of Directors has annually elected her as Executive Secretary, an Officer of the Company.

She currently oversees several key departments, including AKC Meet the Breeds, Communications, Government Relations, Publications, Education, Marketing, and Media and Sponsorship. She also serves on the AKC National Championship Show Committee and is a spokesperson and on-air talent for AKC.

Gina holds a bachelor’s degree in English and Philosophy from Skidmore College, completed master’s level coursework in Genetics, and graduated from Wharton’s Advanced Management Program. She is a member of the Doberman Pinscher Club of America, the Pharaoh Hound Club of America, the Greenwich Kennel Club, and the Morris & Essex Kennel Club.

Sheila Goffe, Vice President of Government Relations has been appointed to the position of Executive Secretary effective April 1, 2025.

She will continue to lead the AKC’s public policy efforts, focusing on protecting and advocating for the rights of all dog owners, promoting responsible dog ownership, and advancing appreciation for purebred dog ownership. She spearheads AKC legislative policy strategy and AKC outreach at the federal, state, and local levels. She also serves as Secretary on the AKC PAC Board of Directors, and as staff lead for the AKC Detection Dog Task Force.

Goffe joined AKC in 2006 and was promoted to Vice President of Government Relations in 2016. Prior to working for the American Kennel Club, she was a Senior Legislative Analyst/Editor and Deputy Director of Editorial Product Development for Congressional Quarterly in Washington, DC. Previous experience includes federal legislative staffing and advocacy, work as an editor and analyst for The Economist Intelligence Unit, and serving as an adjunct in Political Science/Comparative Politics at the State University of New York/Stony Brook.

She has completed Ph.D. coursework and research in American Politics/Public Policy, earned a Masters of Philosophy in American Politics and a MA in International Political Economy and Development at Fordham University, a certificate in Advanced Management from Yale School of Management, and is a former Fulbright Scholar, studying Political Economy and Development in Sri Lanka.

Happening in the Area



Wichita Kennel Club Scent Work Trial – March 21st - 23rd, 2025

Entries Accepted on a first received basis starting: Thursday January 23rd, 2025, at 9am.

Entries Close: Thursday March 7th, 2025, at 8pm.

Find the premium at wichitakennelclub.com

Wichita Dog Training Club Agility Trial – April 3rd - 6th, 2025

Entries Accepted on a first received basis starting: Thursday January 23rd, 2025, at 8am.

Entries Close: Thursday March 20th, 2025, at 8pm.

Find the premium at wichitadogtrainingclub.com

Wichita Kennel Club Fast CAT Test – April 11th – 13th, 2025

Entries Accepted on a first received basis starting: Thursday February 15th, 2025, at 9am.

Entries Close: Thursday March 30th, 2025, at 8pm.

Find the premium at wichitakennelclub.com

Sunflower Cluster Dog Shows – June 5th – 8th, 2025

Entries accepted on a first received basis.

AB Opens: March 27, 2025, at 8am and JSHW Opens: March 26, 2025 at 8am.

Entries Close: May 21, 2025, at 12pm.

Please note all times are Central time.

Premium coming soon to Onofrio.com


Happy
St. Patrick's Day

**Wichita Kennel Club
Officers and Board**

Mike Williams
President

Pam Watkins
Vice President

Nikki Winzer
Treasurer

Keelyn Hanlon
Recording Secretary

Andrea English
Corresponding Secretary

Treva Faires
AKC Delegate

Directors

Pam Gates

Rachel Hawpe

Austin Lynn

Lisa Smith

Jackie Storrer

**If you are at the club and
notice a maintenance issue...**



**Please call Jerry Watkins
at 316-772-2656**

We're on the Web & Facebook!

See us at: wichitakennelclub.com &
<https://www.facebook.com/WichitaKennelClub>

