

American Border Collie Association, Inc.
Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting
Sturgis, SD
September 16, 2005
7:30 p.m.

Bruce Smart, President, called the meeting to order and announced that Patty was prevented from being present due to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Power has just been restored to the office and she will be getting started on the backlog of paperwork.

Bruce announced that a quorum was present for election of directors with the presentation of ballots received by Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens & Favre, PLLC. The 639 ballots returned exceeded the 422 required to constitute 10% of the eligible voters. A quorum was not present for the transaction of other business.

The minutes of the 2004 meeting were distributed. Gary Westbrook made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Gene Litton seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Bruce then gave his President's Report. He reported that effective January 1, 2005 breeders have been required to register their pups themselves, rather than leaving registration to be done by the pups' new owners. He also reported that state promotional funds have been increased from \$.50 per registration to \$1.00 per registration. Finally, he explained a change in the office practice regarding transfer forms. The new policy is that once a transfer of ownership form is signed by the seller, the office will regard that as final and will process the transfer even if the former owner asks that a hold be placed on the transaction.

Bruce explained that financial statements were not available from Alexander, Van Loon, due to the hurricane, so there would be no Treasurer's Report.

Bruce then invited any questions or comments that the members present would like to raise. Polly Matzinger expressed the view that de-registered AKC champions should be able to be re-registered on merit. Eileen Stein and Denise Wall responded, explaining the reasoning behind the rule making them ineligible for ROM.

Bruce then asked for the results of the election of directors. He had asked Eileen Stein to tally the votes received during the meeting and add them to those from the accountant. Eileen announced that the four directors elected to serve a three-year term were as follows:

Larry Burkes
Robin French
Gary Westbrook
Kate Broadbent

The next item on the agenda was the presentation of inductees into the Hall of Fame. Angie Pickle introduced Cindy VonDette's Peg, who was the outstanding dog inducted. Peg was honored chiefly because of her accomplishments as a brood bitch. She is the dam of Angie's Sam, who was both a Nursery champion and an Open champion, and also produced a CattleDog champion, as well as other distinguished offspring. Alasdair MacRae spoke movingly about Steve Clendenin, who was inducted posthumously for his outstanding contributions in support of the finals and in encouraging novice handlers.

The Health & Genetics Committee then gave a report. Denise Wall said that they are starting to collect blood samples and pedigree information for an epilepsy study, and asked for help identifying participants. Sally Lacy reported that the CEA DNA test has been well received, and key dogs are being tested. She introduced Dr. Gregory Acland, key figure in the development of the test, who gave a brief presentation on Focal/Multifocal Acquired Retinopathy, a retinal condition which is frequently mistaken for PRA. Dr. Acland said the breeds in which this condition is found tend to be the breeds which do strenuous physical work, and the hardest working dogs tend to be the ones who get it. The condition begins with little bits of bleeding into the retina, which leaves lesions that last forever. Dogs who get one of these bleeds tend to get more, and it can progress to a generalized retinopathy. The condition is more common in males, and more common in left eyes than right eyes. It is not inherited, but it is fairly common. Dr. Acland recommended that following strenuous exertion, dogs should be cooled off and rehydrated as quickly as possible, and it may even be desirable to administer a sugar or salt solution.

There being no further business following Dr. Acland's presentation, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Stein
Acting Secretary