

## **August 2004 Secretary's Report**

This report details the day to day activities of the ASCA Board of Directors and includes issues brought before the ASCA Board and communications done by mail, fax, e-mail and/or phone.

### **August 31, 2004**

#### **98:05 CONFORMATION COMMITTEE - Coordinator**

Motion by Davenport.

I move the following Conformation Committee motion be added to Chapter 3, Section 3.8.

Motion by Glenda S., second by Peter Kontos;

The Show Coordinator must be an ASCA member in good standing and appointed by the Affiliate Club hosting a show. The Show Coordinator will be responsible for filing show/trial request forms for show sanctioning along with appropriate fees in a timely manner. The Show Coordinator is also responsible for filing all show/trial reports with appropriate fees to ASCA after the show in a timely manner. (See Chapter 13).

Voting: Yes - Peter, Mary, Glenda, Denise, Margi, Rick, Wendy S., Kim and Wendy F.  
Nay: none

Directors voting: Approve: Davenport, DeChant, Hellmeister, Hollen & Warren.  
Disapprove: Berryessa, Aufox & Stevens. Abstain: Gray. Motion is approved.

#### **98:02 HALL OF FAME - Altered**

Motion by Hollen, seconded by Warren.

I move to accept all previous and future Altered Championship titles earned since January 1, 2000 as qualifying titles toward Sire, Dam and Kennel Hall of Fame Status. Effective: January 1, 2005.

Directors voting: Approve: Aufox, Berryessa, Davenport, DeChant, Gray, Hellmeister, Hollen & Warren. Abstain: Stevens. Motion is approved.

#### **99:02 HALL OF FAME**

Motion by DeChant, seconded by Berryessa.

I move to adopt the Hall of Fame Motion passed in the Membership vote of 2004 to go into effect on January 1, 2005.

Kennel: Twenty Qualifying Titles with a combination of 10 Stockdog and Conformation titles with a minimum of three qualifying titles of each (Stockdog and Conformation titles). The remaining 10 may be earned from any area.

Sire: Twelve Qualifying Titles with a combination of 3 Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining 9 earned from any area.

Dam: Eight Qualifying Titles with a combination of 2 Stockdog or Conformation titles and the remaining 6 earned from any area.

Qualifying Titles:

Agility: RS-O or RV-O or RJ-O

Obedience: CDX

Tracking: TD

Stockdog: ATDd, OTDs, OTDc

Conformation: CH and A-CH

Effective Date: 1/1/05

Comments:

The changes made to the Hall of Fame Program are being made due to the results of the 2004 Ballot Questions.

Directors voting: Approve: Berryessa, Davenport, DeChant, Gray, Aufox & Warren.  
Disapprove: Hollen. Abstain: Hellmeister & Stevens. Motion is approved.

#### **01:01 AUSSIE TIMES - ASCA Mission Statement**

Motion by Gray, seconded by Warren.

I move to publish the following (approved) ASCA Mission Statement in the Jan/Feb *Times* annually.

#### ***ASCA Mission Statement***

The Australian Shepherd Club of America in an effort to achieve the goals stated in the Bylaws, declares the following to be a Mission Statement for the Club:

The Australian Shepherd Club of America is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the responsible breeding and registering of purebred ASCA Australian Shepherds and to do all in its power to bring their natural qualities to perfection.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America is dedicated to the preservation of the Australian Shepherd as an intelligent working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts. The Australian Shepherd Club of America strives to maintain its independent breed club registry and to lead in the adoption of technological developments to protect the integrity of the registry. Innovative programs showcasing the breed and providing expanded opportunities for competition are part of ASCA's service to the breed.

Through education ASCA will promote an atmosphere of good sportsmanship, volunteerism and responsibility for the breed and the breed image to the public. Using only the highest standards, ASCA's registry, performance and recognition programs will

strive, through ASCA competition and participation, to showcase the versatility of the ASCA Australian Shepherd.

The Australian Shepherd Club of America serves its members and affiliated clubs through its Board of Directors. The Board of Director's duty to ASCA is an active protectionist role regarding the future of the breed, the registry and the club and to preserve the ASCA Australian Shepherd as defined in the current Breed Standard.

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

#### **97:14 DNA COMMITTEE - New Lab**

Motion by Gray, seconded by Aufox.

Based upon the recommendation and vote of the DNA Committee and the situation described below. The following motion is made.

ASCA shall contract with Therion International to perform all of ASCA's DNA Testing and Verification, be designated as the official ASCA DNA Laboratory and shall relocate ASCA's DNA program including all files, samples and historical records to Therion International located in New York.

Background Information:

#### ***Directors: Please READ carefully:***

Last year Eric Caldwell and his wife left the employ of ImmGen, Inc. our only US approved DNA Lab. We were assured by the Lab our service would not change but unfortunately, it has. The Business Office is constantly getting calls for results to tests sent in by members and to no avail, even after being told at the April 04 Board meeting they would be caught up in 2 to 3 weeks, they are still taking 4 to 6 months to process our tests. This is unacceptable service and after calls to ImmGen nothing has changed. The members are not happy and neither should we be. It is time to change to a Lab who can handle our increasing DNA workload for now and in the future.

The DNA and Genetics Committee was given the task to look for another Lab comparable to our current lab. They came up with three choices and after extensive investigation chose Therion International as their number one Lab. A credit check through Dunn & Bradstreet was done and they are a solvent company. Therion deals internationally and will be able to work with our German approved Lab. Therion also receives the harder cases from other labs to solve.

#### ***Comparison research done by the Committee:***

*Markers Used:*

**Therion** - Currently has 40 (includes AKC set) and will definitely use ImmGen's

**VDC** - Currently has 29 (includes AKC set of 13) will definitely use ImmGen's

**UCD** - 22 ISAG markers plus another 20 Total-42 Unsure if they will use ImmGen's

*Turnaround Time:*

**Therion** - Guarantee in writing 2 weeks but currently they are getting results out in 5-10 days

**VDC** - Guarantee 10 day turnaround

**UCD** - 2-3 weeks

*Price of Test:*

**Therion**-\$25-\$30

**VDC**-\$38

**UCD**-\$35

*Type of Sample accepted:*

**Therion** - prefers blood cards, but will accept anything (if swabs-wants 4-5 to store some) Will accept tooth or tissue on deceased dogs.

**VDC** - prefers swabs (4), but will accept anything

**UCD** - cheek swab (brush type) does not want blood Will accept tooth or tissue on deceased dogs.

*Storage of sample:*

**Therion** - will store indefinitely for no charge

**VDC** - Storage for 10 years (not sure)

**UCD** - will store indefinitely for no charge

*Additional info:*

Our job is to make this change as seamless as possible for our membership. Therion will use our markers which means we will continue to maintain our original database of 4000 (plus or minus) dogs currently in it. The only thing that will change is the address on the kits and a faster turn-around time which I don't think anyone will complain about.

Therion does not have a standard contract. They want us to send them a contract for ASCA. Their reasoning being each registry wants something different so its up to the registry to provide it. This shouldn't be a problem as we do have a boilerplate contract from ImmGen we can use to create a new one with.

Both owners of Therion International worked at Life Codes for 8 years together. Life Codes decided to drop the animal end of their company and both owners created a new company which they sold. In 2001 they established Therion International. One owner is a Doctoral Candidate and the other has a PhD in Molecular Biology. Therion International only deals with animal.

Therion was approached by the Vizsla Registry (in Europe) to develop a breed specific test to prove there is no German Short Hair Pointer in the dog. Some Vizsla breeders were breeding in the Pointer so the Vizsla would perform better in field trials. It took them 2 years to develop the test which is used today.

From their website ([www.theriondna.com](http://www.theriondna.com)). "Therion International is located in Saratoga

Springs, New York. Established in 2001 in New York State, Therion is a young and dynamic company and has proven its leadership abilities in providing reliable and accurate DNA-based testing services which address questions concerning the genetics of aquatic, companion, domestic, laboratory, wild and/or zoo animals. Since its original inception, Therion has successfully processed samples from over 350 species/breeds of animals - unsurpassed by any known commercial or research DNA laboratory."

Directors voting: Approve: Unanimous. Motion is approved.

**Approved:**

Appointment of Susan Schroeder to the Tracking Committee.

Respectfully submitted by,



Ann B. DeChant, Secretary

ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE MONTHLY REPORT –AUGUST 2004					
REGISTRY SHOW/STOCK		MEMBERSHIP			
IND. REGS	540	NEW-Single	150	SANC. PROC	44
NON BREEDING	69	NEW - Dual	22	RESULTS PROC.	43
LITTERS	203	NEW-Foreign	5	S&T SUBSCRIP.	11
TRANSFER	76	NEW-Canadian	5	CERTIFICATES	478
LEASE	12	NEW - Service	297		
LEP	4	LIFETIME	1		
DUPLICATES	23	RENEW-Single	245		
HARDSHIPS	0	RENEW-Dual	51		
PEDIGREES	79	RENEW-Foreign	23		
NEW KENNELS	3	RENEW-Canadian	5		
RENEW KENNELS	8	JR TIMES	9		
		AFFIL. – New	0		
JUDGES APPS	7	AFFIL – Renew	0		
DNA KITS MAILED	188				

DNA TESTS DONE	0				
SHOWS HELD:					
# OF CONF	50				
#OF OBED	26				
#OF STOCK	21				
#OF RANCH	5				
#OF AGILITY	28				
#OF TRACKING	0				