

Lines from Linda

BY LINDA AYERS TURNER KNORR

The Greenville Kennel Club Celebrates 80 Years



Time flies when we're having fun! According to South Carolina's Greenville Kennel Club President Jeanette Stribling, "The year 2019 will be the club's time to embrace its glorious 80 year past while focusing on the future."

AKC member clubs do many things to reflect great credit to our organization's mission statement. The Greenville Kennel Club is a shining example of our sport's commitment and spirit.

In 1939, the club's Certificate of Incorporation stated the purpose of the Greenville Kennel Club was to: Promote the breeding of, protect and advance the interest of pure bred dogs, encourage and hold dog shows, exhibitions, matches and field trials, prevent cruelty to animals, without gain or remuneration to the members or stockholders. The original officers of the club were:

- J. P. Williamson, President
- C. D. Wilson, 1st Vice President
- Charles Peace, 2nd Vice President
- Lurlee E. Harris, Secretary
- C. C. Jones, Treasurer

Whenever we hear old timers in the sport wishing for the old days, perhaps looking back on the Greenville Kennel Club's history will reveal why. Our first show took place on Monday, April 1 and Tuesday, April 2, 1949, at the city's Textile Hall. It was a Benched Show with the Entertainment Committee kicking off the festivities at 11:00 am on Monday. There were 404 entries from 30 states, DC and Ontario and Quebec, Canada. The Show Catalog cost .25.

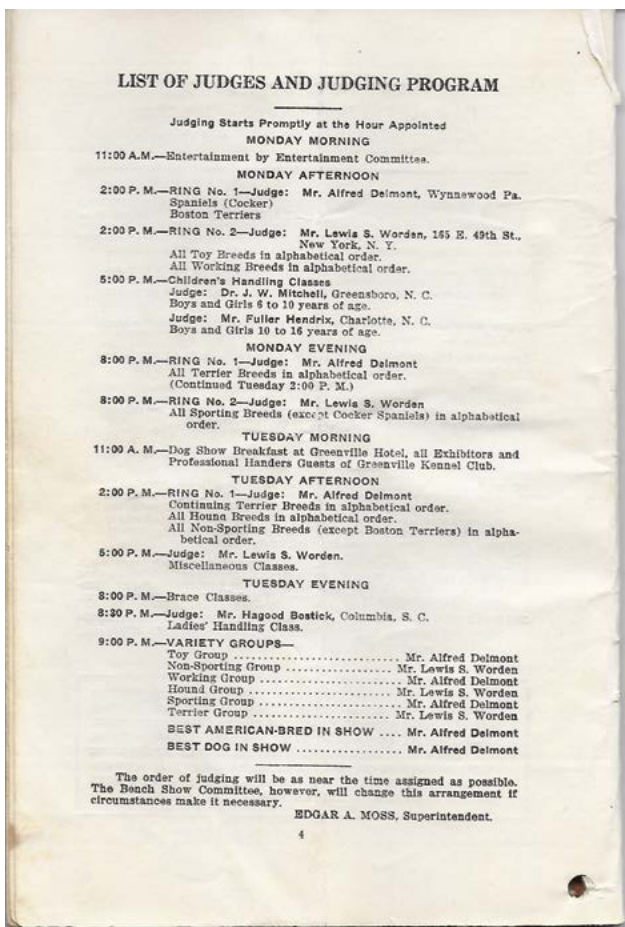
Monday judging commenced at 2:00 pm followed by formal evening competition commencing at 8:00 pm followed by an open bar compliments of the club.

Tuesday morning fanciers gathered for a Dog Show Breakfast at the Greenville Hotel. All exhibitors and professional handlers were invited as guests of the Greenville Kennel Club. Again breed judging kicked off at 2:00 pm, followed by brace judging at 8:00 pm with formal Groups and Best in Show beginning at 9:00 pm.

How would today's exhibitors react to this note from Superintendent Edgar A. Moss (the M of MBF today). Note: The order of judging will be as near the assigned time as possible. The Bench Show Committee will change this arrangement if circumstances make it necessary.

Yes, the good old days were filled social graces and friendships cemented through people from all across the country coming together bonded by their love of dogs to enjoy true Southern Hospitality! It would be nice to turn back the clock! By the time the 50th Anniversary Show rolled around on July 29, 1989, 124 Breeds made up 2407 entries. In addition there were 163 dogs in Obedience.

Today cultivating a new generation of enthusiasts for our AKC sports is first on the agenda for the Greenville club.



With a membership of 100 which includes leaders with many decades of knowledge the club is attracting newcomers with strong talents to educate for the future. And in doing so members are creating magical moments and memories.

Much of GKC's support goes to the Greenville County Sheriff's Department which is one of the most advanced K9 Units in the Southeast. The unit has its own certified master trainer and uses multiple types of dogs for all purpose, detection and search and rescue. Some of the Greenville Kennel Club's recent contributions include thousands of dollars to cover expenses for a Tactical Deployment Workshops for two years. Last year's workshop was attended by 80 officers from 8 states representing 30 law enforcement agencies. Club member Blake Roulette assisted by Robert L. Vandiver is our club Law Enforcement Liaison. The pair worked to see that these events were successful. In addition to the trainers from the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, 4 Master Trainers and 6 Trainers from the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) were in attendance providing instruction to the participants over a four day period.

For the Sheriff's Department GKC recently purchased 2 new dogs for their K9 Unit totaling \$8,000.00 each. The club sponsored and covered all costs for a Training Workshop having several certified Master Trainers presenting an all day lecture on training and testing followed by 2 full days of field work with handlers working with their canine partners.

GKC paid expenses for two months training for a Sheriff's Department officer to become a certified Master Trainer. The club also presents two beautiful engraved plaques for each retiring K9, one which is displayed in the Sheriff's Department offices and one for the retiring canine's human officer. As needed GKC purchases equipment for the K9 Unit's training grounds. When the Sheriff's Department purchased a new wrapped K9 Unit Trailer, they included the Greenville Kennel Club logo, which is the only non-police decal on the vehicle.

Members of GKC realize what a difference its Sheriff's Department K9 Unit makes for the lives of the community and they have worked hard to be able to support and build friendships with the team. The departments officers and their wives are invited to to the club's Christmas Party at Greenville's internationally recognized Platinum Club



L/R Capt. Steve Epps, Deputy Alex Edwards, Sgt. Doug Wannemaker receive a check for the Greenville County Sheriff's Department's new K9 from GKC Board Members Bob Vandiver and Blake Roulette. After retiring as club President for 20 years, Roulette still serves as GKC VP and Law Enforcement Liaison.

The Poinsett Club. Officers also look forward to attending other social events like the club picnic.

Working with members of Leadership Greenville, GKC sponsored the city's first dog park also contributing to a large sculpture to mark the park's entrance. The ribbon cutting occasion was also the backdrop for the club's annual RDO Day celebration.

When the AKC Disaster Relief Trailer program began, the Greenville Kennel Club enthusiastically donated \$10,000.00 to help sponsor a trailer. Pledging funds for AKC Museum of the Dog and the AKC PAC are more of the numerous recent contributions. The Greenville Take the Lead party was so much fun! Just ask Toddie Clark about the Palmetto Moonshine!

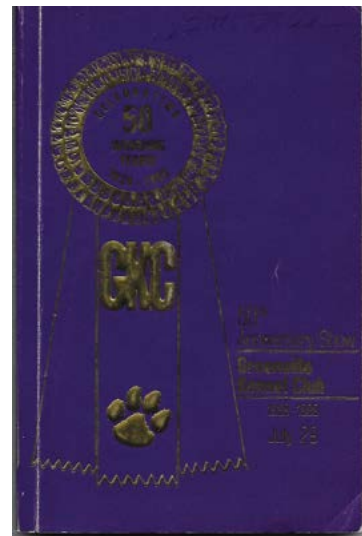
Recently awarded the AKC Sportsmanship award, Show Chairman Kris Harner oversees the Carolina Foothills Cluster shows. The Greenville Kennel Club and the Piedmont Kennel Club join forces for four days of All-Breed shows including Rally and Obedience at the Greenville Convention Center.

Everyone remembers the late beloved judge Bill Dwelly. His daughter, Sue Dwelly coordinates the many Specialty Shows also surrounding the Shows. Greenville is the place to come get your majors and new titles. Mark your calendar to enter this July 25-28!

Also during the weekend as President of the Carolina Dog Judges Study Group I invite you to attend our judges seminars. Contact Cindy Stansell for all the details 919.606.6569.

Club members have always embraced AKC's new events and you will enjoy participating in them in Greenville. The Pee Wee's are surely favorites!

Honorary Life Members of the club are Sandra Campbell, Bobbie Fairbanks, Mary James, Jack Posey, Blake Roulette,



Officers of the Greenville Kennel Club 1989	
President	Mrs. Bobbie Fairbanks
First Vice-President	Mr. Carol James
Second Vice-President	Mrs. Sarah Knight
Treasurer	Mrs. Betty Hedden
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Susan Puffer
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Sarah Stambaugh
9 Oakleaf Rd., Greenville, SC 29609 (803) 244-8190	
Delegates to the American Kennel Club	
Mr. Francis P. Fritwell	
Show Committee	
Mr. Robert E. Phillips, Chairman 117 Pinehurst Dr., Mauldin, SC 29662 (803) 288-6825	
Mrs. Sarah Knight, Obedience Chairman Mr. Bob Vandiver, Mr. Paul Stambaugh And Officers of the Club	
Show Hospitality	
Mrs. Mary Heard, Chairman	Mrs. Cathy Shelton, Chairman
Mrs. Sarah Stambaugh	Mrs. Sandy Bannan
Wendy Cully Shelton	Ms. Doreen Waldon
Ms. Joy Winger	
Trophies	
Mrs. Barbara Baily	Mrs. Donna Pack
Mrs. Jim Sellers	
Building & Grounds	
Mr. Bill Lawrence	
Hospitality	
Mrs. Sarah Knight, Chairman	
Mrs. Sharon Sutton	
Program	
Mrs. Elizabeth Sutton	
Newsletter	
Mrs. Elizabeth Sutton	
Publicity	
Ms. Michelle Hilday	
Advertising	
Mr. Alton Perdue, Jr.	
Veterinarian on Call	
Greenville County Veterinarian Association Dr. Carol V. Bly, Jr., Secretary 2952 N. Pleasantburg Dr., Greenville, SC 29609	
Show Photographer	
Earl P. Graham P.O. Box 56, Harrisville, NC 28081	
Ring Events	
Southwestern Show Association Rt. 7, Box 665-H, Elgin, GA 30540	

JUDGES	
Mrs. Roy L. Ayers	4110 Westlark Way, West Mearns, GA 30087
Mrs. Ann L. Bessner	9000 5th Ave., Summ. SC, Canada 002 103
Mrs. Sylvia J. Brown	35 Selby Park, Greenville, SC 29605
Mrs. Nancy D. Perry	402 Trawick Rd., East, Trion, SC 29580
Mrs. Margaret H. Taylor	400 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. George John Warner Sr.	1389 W. 9th St., North, Lenoir, NC 28644
Mrs. Ruth H. Zimmerman	1118 Hwy 101, Greenville, SC 29615
Mrs. Patricia K. Hines	809 W. 201 N., Walpole, VA 24080
Mrs. Bill Anderson	400 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. Marybeth S. Anderson	101 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. Elizabeth L. Rye	4100 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. Margaret H. Taylor	400 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. Robert A. Stone	400 E. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601
Mrs. George John Warner Sr.	1389 W. 9th St., North, Lenoir, NC 28644
Mrs. Ruth H. Zimmerman	1118 Hwy 101, Greenville, SC 29615

IMPORTANT - TRANSPORTER of dogs from regular classes to Best of Breed/Veterinary Competition (B.O.B. & AKC Rules) MUST be made to the Superintendent at least one half hour prior to the start of any regular conformation judging at this show. TRANSPORTER of Junior Handlers from Non-Open to Open Class MUST be made to the Superintendent at least one half hour prior to the start of any regular conformation judging at this show, or one half hour prior to the scheduled start of Junior Championship judging at the show, whichever is earlier.

SHOW HALL HOURS AND ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

Exposition Center will be open to exhibitors and handlers from 8:30 A.M. until completion of Best in Show. Exhibitors will be on duty during the above hours. However, the Greenville Kennel Club, its members or the Exposition Center assume no responsibility for any loss or damage sustained by an exhibitor or his dogs. Spaces for unregistered dogs will not be provided at this show. Unregistered dogs may not be inside the Exposition Center.

Exhibitors & handlers will be held responsible for clean conditions in and around their crates.

Sanitation & handlers will be permitted inside the building.

Unattended vehicles in parking areas on or off and behind the Exposition Center will be towed away at owner's expense without prior notice.



PeeWee event judge Patricia Hastings with some of our Stars of Tomorrow. Missing participants had already run ahead to their cookie party.
Photo by Cary Manaton

Bob and Nancy Vandiver and me, Linda Ayers Turner Knorr. Recipients of the AKC Sportsmanship Award are Sandra Campbell, Bobbie Fairbanks, Bob Vandiver, Margaret Norkett, Blake Roulette, Tracy Iffland, Nancy Vandiver, Ken Spiegel, Dawn DeMaux, Ann Deaton Maltby, David Maltby and Kris Harner.

When Francis Fretwell passed away I was honored to become the Greenville Kennel Club AKC Delegate. I had big shoes to fill as Frank, he was called, was the longest serving member of the entire Delegate body, having served for 45 years.. Also I was becoming a second generation AKC Delegate as my father Roy L. Ayers had previously served as the Delegate for the Atlanta Kennel Club. After serving for many years, I wanted to step down. When I was named Chairman of the Nominating Committee it gave me the opportunity to hand the reins to someone I loved and knew would carry the torch representing our club. Gloria Askins, a long time breeder and exhibitor of Irish Setters was my choice and she's living up to the task with great support from the club!

Officers of the club for 2019 are Jeanette Stribling, President, Blake Roulette, Vice President, Paula Ford, Corresponding Secretary, Bev Crosby, Recording Secretary, Ken Spiegel, Treasurer, Kris Harner, Director at Large,

Debbi Kaplan, Director at Large, and Thecla Tyner, Director at Large. Judge Robert L. Vandiver also wanted to step aside from being an officer or board member for the time being, but he plays a great role in the future by serving as Training Coordinator by using his years of expertise to teach handling classes.

In working to support our passion for future generations the club is proud to support our Junior Members. O'Malley McGee was the recipient of a check from the club for \$500.00 to help with her expenses for qualifying for the Westminster Kennel Club's Juniors competition. In the second month of this new year, O'Malley has already qualified again. Our youngest Junior member is Avery Clute, the daughter of professional handler Jamie Clute.

Early on Avery was one of the favorites in our PeeWee event. Now you'll see her around the country collecting first place Juniors ribbons.

Longtime member Bobbie Fairbanks has served in just about every office over the years. She was the President when we celebrated our 50 Year Anniversary. Yet Bobbie still attends every meeting lending her many years of knowledge to newcomers. She has remained active with her Collies in every competition our shows have offered. Bobbie offers new generations her tremendous capacity to lead through participation.



Junior member O'Malley McGee is all smiles as she receives check for qualifying for Westminster presented by Linda Ayers Turner Knorr, Robert L. Vandiver, State Representative Jason Elliott and GKC President Jeanette Stribling.



Kris Harner, Show Chairman, Gloria Askins, AKC Delegate, State Representative Jason Elliott and President Jeanette Stribling celebrating Kris Harner receiving the club's AKC Sportsmanship Award and President Jeanette Stribling being named Member of the Year.



Sheriff's Department K9 Unit Officers and their Wives were special guests at GKC's Annual Awards Dinner.

When I moved to Greenville from Atlanta one of the first things I did was join the Greenville Kennel Club. For years before that I had come to the club's dog shows held at the old Greenville Auditorium downtown. I can still visualize the scene with judging held on the main level and downstairs in the basement. I have many fond memories of watching my father judge here over the years. He was on the panel for our 50th Anniversary show after we moved into Greenville's new Convention Center which has gone through several name changes over the years. I still have his marked judges catalog from judging here in 1962, the year I graduated from High School. As a member of the Greenville Kennel Club for the past 36 years, I am proud to write this tribute celebrating the past 80 years! Join me in the excitement of preserving the passion for future generations! ■