**CKCSCNENY - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**MARCH 3, 2019 – at Carol Rose’s House, Glenville NY**

**Board Members Present:** Carol Rose, John Ioia, Lynn Beman, Pat Hicks, Barb Ioia, Darlene Petralia

**Members Present:** Greta & Bill Smith, Jill Darling, Pat Hicks, Carrie Cronin, Barbara Nottke, Nick Petralia, Nancy Chando, Sharon & Wes Shave, Eva Melia, Amy Cox

**Roll Call:** The roll call was accomplished with a sign-in sheet which was passed around

T**he meeting was called to order by President Carol Rose at 1:15pm**

**Minutes from the January 2019 Annual Meeting** were unanimously approved as written with a Motion by Bill Smith, Seconded by Deb Mattice

**President’s Report (Carol Rose):** No report – just thanked everyone for coming and hoped that the predicted snow storm holds off until everyone gets home.

**Vice President’s Report (John Ioia):** No report

**Secretary’s Report (Lynn Beman):** Reported that she filed the official notice of Change of Officers with the AKC immediately after the January Annual Meeting but has not yet received any emails from the AKC. John said that this should be corrected and he will send contact info so Lynn can follow up with AKC staff.

**Treasurer’s Report (Pat Hicks):**  There is currently about $17,000 in the checking account and about $1,500 in the PayPal Account. All bills have been paid and we are current with all accounts such as dues and insurance. She also reported that, in accordance with previous motions(s) she has sent donations of $236.00 to the Rescue Trust and $236.00 to the Charitable Trust. These donations each represent 50% of the total amount of $472.00 earned through the Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting in January.

**Membership (Pat Hicks):**  A current up-to-date Membership List with contact info has been emailed to all current members. After sending out eight (8) reminder notices, several members have not renewed and are now no longer considered members. These include Kim Ruffo, Jackie & Larissa Brown, Phyllis Lasser, Liese Montana, Debbie O’Donnell, Brenda Rath, and Diane Zdrowdski. Also, Lisa May has a new email address: Lookoutcavaliers @aol.com. Pat will notify Tari Hafner of all the changes so that Tari can update the Yahoo list.

**Specialty Show (John Ioia, Show Chair):** John reported that he still has to finalize filing the paperwork for the August Specialties with the AKC.

 **Entry Fees:** John then brought up the issue of our Entry Fees for this show. They are currently $32 which is lower than most other shows and which he feels is too low, especially since we provide entrants with so many complimentary meals and snacks and other benefits.

 **Motion:** Bill Smith moved that we raise the Entry Fees to $35 per class, but keep $15 for Sweepstakes. Barbara Ioia seconded this motion. It was approved unanimously.

*This was followed by some discussions regarding the leaking coffee cups that the coffee drinkers all had!*

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 **Baby Puppy (4-6mo old) Class:** John suggested that we drop the Baby Puppy Class since there were only 2 entries last year and we lost money on this class given the cost of holding it. This was agreed upon.

 **Obedience & Rally Classes & Performance Judge:** John brought up the issue of holding these activities. Deb Mattice said that she has all the trophies for Obed. & Rally already fully sponsored. It was generally agreed that even though we don’t get a lot of entries, it is still good to have it so that the AKC does not officially drop it from our approved activities. John then said that we still need a Performance Class judge for both days of the Specialties, preferably someone who is local and who will not cost us a lot of money for travel and/or lodging. It was suggested that he contact Bev Bulson to see if she can provide names of possible judges; he will do so.

 **Conformation Judges (Darlene & Carol):**  Judges for Conformation will be Michelle Chapman (Ellemich) and Desi Murphy. Sweepstakes will be Darlene Petralia (Gray Stone). They still need AKC approval.

 There was some discussion about judges for next year (2020) and later. John said he would like to ask Edd Bivin to judge since Edd likes doing outdoor shows, is so well respected, and can to multiple groups for the Circuit. Lynn suggested that we see if David Frei might be able to judge in 2020 since he would then be on the grounds again to do our Live Auction. David is approved to judge Brittanys and Afghans in addition to Cavaliers so he could judge those 3 breeds at the Circuit. [He can also judge OH Hound and Sporting dogs]. It was agreed that these 2 men would be welcomed judges. Someone suggested Hank Williams, but John said Hank might not be up such an arduous task given our usual weather conditions. Someone suggested asking the always popular Michael Forte to judge again. Lynn said that she would love to see Robert Schroll (Ravenrush) be 1 of our judges next year, especially because he is one of the founders of the AKC Cavalier Club and Ravenrush dogs are behind so many of our dogs today. Robert is not an AKC approved judge, but is judging at the Nationals next month because of a waiver allowed for judging at the Specialty. Apparently we have a good number of excellent prospects for future judging panels.

 John will speak with Edd Bivin at a Delegates Meeting; Darlene will follow-up with David Frei to see if he is interested; John will check with the AKC to see if it is possible for a waiver if we want Robert Schroll to judge.

 **Trophies (Deb Mattice):** Deb reported that the trophies will be local produce, especially maple syrup products, similar to what we did last year since these were so well received by everyone. She also said that she’s in good shape regarding donations to support the trophy expenses and is so appreciative of the amazing generosity of our members. At this point, most of the trophies have committed sponsors. John asked her about Sweepstake prizes since other shows only have money prizes. Deb said that David Frei wanted to sponsor the Sweeps and we have traditionally given out prizes (plus the cash) in previous years. We all were OK with this. Deb also once again thanked everyone for the trophy sponsorships.

 **Assistant Show Chairman:** John said that he needs to have an official Assistant Show Chair, someone who will be on the grounds all day during our Specialties. Pat Hicks “volunteered.” Thank you, Pat.

 **Grounds Committee (Bill Smith):** Bill affirmed that he, Wes Shave, and his usual “crew” will be doing their usual [outstanding] job in getting the “Cow Barn” area prepped and set up for our events. It will be the same as last year, including having a professional power-washing crew help clean prior to our arrival.

 **Hospitality (Laura Calabrese):** In Laura’s absence, Carrie and Greta reported that the Hospitality Committee will be meeting in April.

 **Thursday Evening Welcome Party (Darlene & Carol):** Carol said that they will be taking care of this which will be similar to last year. Greta suggested that we bring back a modified silent auction at this event with items bid on by tickets being dropped into paper bags. Items would be donated by Club members and

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could be food and beverage items representing our different local communities – i.e. local beers or wines, Saratoga Chips, notable desserts, etc. Sale of tickets could help off-set the cost of the comp. lunches. This was considered by all to be an excellent idea.

  **Friday Night Pet Party & Pizza Party (Amy Cox):**  Amy said she was planning on organizing this event again this year. Pet owners love it and it brings new faces to our events. There was a brief discussion regarding the pizza that was provided last year. Apparently the Circuit’s party that night ran out of pizza so non-Cavalier people joined our group to get their pizza. Deb Mattice said she will try to have a better handle on the number of people wanting to participate. Our Club can help by getting her a good count. It was also suggested that perhaps she order more of the “vegetarian” white pizza this year since it is so popular.

 **RSVPs/Comp Meals:**  Pat Hicks asked if she could be given a list of who/how many will be given complimentary meals, especially for the Saturday Evening Dinner – i.e., the Judges + spouses. That would help her to have a better and more accurate count to give to the Hospitality Chairs for ordering food.

 **Saturday Night Auctions (Greta):** David Frei has agreed to once again be our Auctioneer for the Live Auction. We will need to reimburse him for his travel and lodging expenses. Thank you, Darlene, for arranging his presence. Greta reminded us that she needs nice things for the Live Auction, but she also wants and needs nice things for the Silent Auction. She said that recently the Silent Auction tables looked a bit like a

Garage Sale and we need nicer things to help bring in higher bids. We all need to work on securing auction donations, especially things that have a wide appeal.

**Rescue (Lynn Beman):** The Rescue Trust was contacted about 3 weeks ago by an Animal Control officer located in a Southern state seeking assistance. The AC was seizing a large number of Cavaliers who were living in poor conditions and owned by a hoarder who just let her original Cavaliers breed and who never sold any puppies. When the Rescue Trust team arrived, the number of dogs on premises quickly grew from an original estimate of 30-60 to well over 120. RT teams set up transport teams and secured quarantine facilities in 4 different veterinary facilities. These dogs were living in almost feral conditions: adequate food, but were not spayed/neutered, no vaccines, all had ear and skin conditions, many had eye injuries, most badly needed dentals, younger dogs had giardia infestations. Ages ranged from 10weeks to 12 yrs or so. The dogs are all purebred Cavaliers and very sweet. They are currently in foster homes in PA, VA, other southern states, TN, Ohio. Exact details are not being provided because of the concern regarding Animal Rights/HSUS trying to get involved. The veterinary care, even with generously discounted invoices, is costing the RT at least $1,000/dog – probably much more for some of the most seriously ill or injured dogs. This event is a true rescue – it is not a dumping of dogs by a puppy miller or commercial breeder. The RT is successfully doing on-line fundraising, but the need is still great. John Ioia reported that the ACKCSC made a donation of $10,000 to the RT (which is an independent 501c3). He said he would like to see our Club continue its historic generosity in donating to Rescue. Everyone present agreed that we needed to do so.

 **Motion** was made by John Ioia, Seconded by Eva Melia, that our Treasurer Pat Hicks send a $1,000 donation to the American Cavalier Rescue Trust. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

 **Planned Trip to AKC Dog Museum:** Lynn reported that she has spoken at length with an administrative assistant at the new museum regarding a possible group tour to take place in May. While the Museum welcomes group tours, and has a reduced admission fee for groups of 10 or more, they are not yet ready to provide docents for guided tours, do not yet have self-guided tour materials available, nor have any meeting room available for our group to eat a box lunch on-site, nor any good suggestion as to a suitable restaurant to go to. We will re-contact the Museum in another month or so to see if they are organized enough yet to handle a bus tour group. It is possible that this trip will need to be delayed until Fall.

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**New Business:**

**Seizure of Dogs by A-R Groups:** Lynn brought up the recent seizure by the NH-SPCA of 18 top AKC show Cocker Spaniels, owned by the Pikes of Silverhall Cockers in New Hampshire. The Pikes were recently recognized as Breeders of the Year by the AKC. The NH-SPCA had a warrant claiming that the Pikes were negligent in their care of their dogs and should not be allowed to own animals. The dogs are now in foster homes and court date is currently April 10. This was a targeted action. Prior to this seizure, the Pikes were very vocal in opposing new anti-breeder legislation is in the process of being approved by NH govt. The NH-SPCA is one of the authors/sponsors of this legislation, and as Carol pointed out is the same group that in December would not turn over the Cavaliers placed in the temporary custody after their owner had died. In the Silverhall case, officials showed up at the Pike’s residence, with a warrant signed by a judge sympathetic to the NH-SPCA and the Pikes had no choice but to surrender their dogs. John Ioia said that this action should be a warning to all of us.

 This report led to extensive discussion about how vulnerable we all can be when it comes to the activities of animal rights organizations and related legislation. Individuals who have an active show-dog breeding program are especially vulnerable. We must always be aware and speak out against any of the many new proposed laws and regulations that are constantly being proposed on State and local levels.

 John said that our Club’s membership in the Associated Dog Clubs of NYS is one of the ways we help safeguard our rights to own and breed dogs and that they retain the services of a Lobbyist, Bruce Geiger, who is an active presence at legislation meetings. We agreed that an additional $500 will be sent to help pay for lobbyist. John suggested we should ask Bruce to come speak to us this Spring and help us understand current dog-related legislation and what we should – or should not – do when authorities show up at our doors for anything pertaining to our dogs. This was unanimously agreed to as being a good idea.

 The Secretary was tasked with contacting Bruce Geiger.

**Other Ideas for Future Educational Programs:**

 Sharon Shave suggested we consider a program on the History of Cavaliers in the U.S. and the AKC, especially to help us all understand when our breed first came to the US, how the break with the AKC and the “Old Club” happened, and some of the early dogs that were shown and that are the foundation of so many of our dogs today. This would be a different program than the one on Cavalier Structure that we had a couple of years ago. After general discussion, everyone thought this was a great idea. Possible speakers could be Darlene Petralia and Janet Beck. John suggested that Robert Schroll might also be excellent. He will speak with Robert at the National to see if he would be willing to come up in June or September to do such a program.

**ACKCSC National Welcome Bags:** There was some discussion as to whether we should contribute items for the Welcome Bags at next month’s National. We would need 400 items. We have not contributed to this in the past couple of years. There was a general feeling that most people don’t really use the items, although the towels we did do several years ago were well received. It was generally decided that we should not use our financial resources for the Welcome Bags this year. We do contribute $300 towards the Breakfast/Meal program and another $25 for the “I Made The Cut” item. Pat Hicks will send the funds to Rick Alexander.

**Healthy Pet Expo 4/6/2019:**  Amy Cox has a ticket to sell for the Expo since she prefers to show at Springfield that weekend. Carrie Cronin will be going to the Expo this year and reminded us that Dr. Jean Dodds will be one of the speakers. Carrie will find out more info regarding our Club having a booth at next year’s Expo.

**Bark For Life:** Carrie will find out more information about any upcoming Bark 4 Life events.

**Website:**  Lynn brought up the fact that our Website indicates that it is “unsecure” which prevents some people from accessing it. Amy said that, even though it is difficult for her to work on the website because of her old/slow computer, she will look into why it is showing this status and what we can do to correct it.

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**Mary Fontana:** Carol informed us that Mary Fontana, one of our former members, recently passed away. She was only 56 and is survived by her husband and 2 daughters. We all were saddened by this news. Greta said that she had sent a sympathy card in behalf of the Club.

**Brags:**

Sharon and Wes Shave are celebrating their 50 Year Wedding Anniversary – huge congratulations!

Nancy Chando shared the photo in the newspaper of her 3 tri-color Cavaliers that won 3rd place in the *Kingston Daily Freeman’*s annual Pet Photo Contest.

Bill and Greta Smith now have a Ruby boy, “Dusty,” (Sno-Toz Walking Into The Sunset) who was bred by Jill Darling. They took Dusty down to Florida and Pat Martello said that they really have to show him this year.

Greta Smith has a fresh shipment of Antlers – please contact her if you want any.

Amy Cox has 2 Ruby puppies – male and female – who were born on Valentines Day and who are thriving. After the puppies are weaned, their mom, Peyton, will be going to live with Carrie and John Cronin.

John Ioia – Jack, who is now 13 yrs old, just received a “Therapy Dog Excellent” title for having over 200 therapy visits at different venues including senior citizen homes and hospitals. Jack has multiple titles for obedience and rally work as well. A local newspaper, *Kingston/Saugerties Times*, just published an article on Jack and his therapy work. Also, his little girl Emmy (Bar-Jon’s Divine Miss Em) has just been certified as a Therapy Dog, having completed 50 visits. Also, *The Royal Spaniels Magazine* will have an article that John wrote about Jack in the new issue. Finally, the Ioias have a new “grand puppy,” a cute French Bulldog who may be in the show rings this Spring and Summer.

Eva Melia has 6 new puppies at home. Her girl Jess carried 10 puppies! The 6 survivors are about 2 weeks old and doing well.

**Motion to Adjourn** was made at 3:38p, by John Ioia, seconded by Pat Hicks.

**NEXT MEETING**

**SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019**

**At Carol Rose’s House**

Respectfully Submitted By

Lynn Beman, Secretary

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