

THE

HOWLER



Volume 3, Issue 5 AKC Licensed Club #4135 May - June 2004

Member of Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce

www.stkc.org

Letter from the President ~~~

Spring and summer have set in and all of us are busy with dog events, family outings, camping trips, fishing, soccer finals, graduations, etc. But it is still time to think of what you can do to help out at our events – the agility trials, the graduations for obedience, or just passing out business cards and flyers. It all helps to get the word out that STKC is here to help people with their dog problems/issues. (Thank you to Pat Barnes who did a Twain Harte to Sonora run passing out cards and flyers – we got several who signed up for our classes!!)

The Club did pass a motion to have only one judge and 2 rings for our June trial, but after determining that we had to pay for the released judge it was cost-effective for the Club to remain with 2 judges, 2 rings.

Also, we have been notified by AKC that our November show is in conflict with another show on the same date, with the show mileage limitation. Because we had a minimum amount of judges under contract, and no contract with the Fairgrounds, it was decided by the Show Chairman for our Club to not have a show this year and concentrate on next year's show(s). With the current gas and diesel prices, the numbers of shows that are being held each weekend, parking and electricity fees being charged, each and every Club is currently feeling the bite of the economy right now.

Plans are rolling for the upcoming AKC Agility Trial for September which will be held at Merlo Sports Complex. If you can help out, please let any of the Board members know.

Until next month,

Linda

There are many STKC-Logo items available for purchase (some sizes not available in all styles)

T-Shirts (SPRING IS HERE !)	\$10.00 (XXL: \$14.00)
Tank Tops (SUMMER IS COMING!)	\$8.00 (XXL: \$10.00)
Sweatshirts	\$17.00 (XXL: \$20.00)
Hooded/Zip Sweatshirts	\$25.00

Contact Linda or Mary Kennedy

Information from the AKC Gazette

During the month of February, the registrations of 157 litters were cancelled, resulting in the cancellation of 225 registered dogs and rendering 489 dogs, members of these litters, ineligible for registration. 3 litters were cancelled for impure breeding, 1 klitter at the request of the owner(2) and 153 litters were cancelled as a result of the DNA Parentage Evaluation.



Board of Directors Meeting April 15, 2004 Linda Grant's Home Starting time 6:00

Board Members Present:

Linda Grant – President	Pat Helmbold
Bruce Bertholf – VP	Ann Brown
Cherie Gessford – Secretary	Mary Kennedy
Fred Helmbold - Treasurer	Carol Frazier
	Al Kennedy

Agenda Items:

- * Obedience Instructor Compensation - Ann
- Linda explained that Fred had used the unapproved Policy

Manuel to figure the compensation. Fred gave us a new accounting. We tossed around many ideas for future compensation. We will abide by the Policy Manual and Fred will write checks to all involved.

- *² Obedience Instructor Absences and Student Ratio – Cherie - There have been many absences. The compensation was discussed. It was decided that the person absent must find a replacement to take their place. Linda likes to have about 1 to 6 class ratio.
- *² It was decided to set up a class meeting to discuss these topics to make a Board recommendation before the next class on June 2nd.
- *² Agility Classes – Cherie
A date was discussed when the Humane Society site would be up and running. Realistically not until next Spring.
- *² NADAC Trial update – Linda
As of now we only have 53 dogs running each day.
 - * Hospitality – Carol
The sandwiches and chips will be furnished by Tuolumne Market at a cost of \$3.99 each. We can make cookies and buy sodas. Charge for pre-entries is \$7. The breakfast budget is under \$100.
 - * Score Table – Pat H.
Grindle is due on Trial date. We need a head score keeper.
- *² Big Show – Linda
AKC has upped their fees \$1.50(Event Service Fee) plus the same \$.50 recording fee.
Parking – Fred
Fred will see what the Fairground is doing with their fees. We will raise RV parking per night to \$30 and day of to \$35.
Vote AI/Mary/Passed

New Business:

- *² Pens for Club – Cherie
Tabled
- *² Obedience – Linda
The 5th week Ann will demo with Holly, the 6th will be a Rally demo, and the 7th Linda, Cherie, and Mary will do a grooming demo.
- *² Fun Runs – Mary
Mary and AI will have Fun Runs at their house for Club Members. Club insurance will cover it, we will have to bring private equipment, and the dates will be set by the Kennedy's at the next General Meeting.
Vote Pat/Ann/ Passed.
- *² Humane Society agreement – Bruce
He will set up a meeting with their Board to explore their and our expectations.
Fred – will check if we need a committee or a Board Meeting.
- *² Equipment Loan – Fred
Grand Canyon Bernese Mountain Dog Club would like to

borrow our Obedience and Rally equipment. Fred would take it down to Arizona.

Adjourned at 8:05 Carol/Ann/Passed

**Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club
Board of Directors Meeting
Jim and Carol Frazier's House
May 17, 2004
5:05 PM**

Present:

Linda Grant – President
Bruce Bertholf – VP
Cherie Gessford – Secretary
Fred Helmbold – Treasurer
Board: Pat Helmbold, Ann Brown, Carol Frazier, Mary Kennedy, Al Kennedy

Agenda:

Linda – Due to a conflict of dates, we cannot get a date from both AKC and the Fairgrounds on the same weekend. The week we had booked the Fairgrounds there is a show in San Luis Obispo, which is 165 air miles from Sonora. A motion was made and passed to cancel the Big Show this November.
AI/Fred/Passed
There are many options we can pursue for future Shows. Linda will contact Florence our AKC Rep. Bruce will talk to Ken about a cluster but with no commitment involved.
A Breeder's Directory was discussed.

New Business:

None

Next Meeting:

None set at present time.

Adjourned at 6:03 PM

Bruce/Fred/Passed

**Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club
General Membership Meeting
Monday, April 19, 2004
Meeting Hosts – Rebekah and Louis Mastro
Start time – 6:04 PM**

Members attending – Linda Grant, Bruce Bertholf, Cherie Gessford, Fred and Pat Helmbold, Patti Martlew, Ann Brown, Carol Frazier, Sydney Seiver, Al and Mary Kennedy, Pat Barnes, JoAnn Gritz, Jennifer Slater, Louis and Rebekah Mastro.

Guests- Leslie McCulloch – ACD, BC X

Presidents's Report – Linda:

1. Vote on the proposed change to the Policy Manual. Add to Lead Instructor (c) Must have been an Assistant Instructor with STKC for at least one session. Add to Assistant Instructor (c) Must have completed one STKC session as a Student Instructor.

Fred/Jennifer/Passed

2. Big Show fees will be \$25 and \$15. AKC has increased their fees. Parking will be \$30 a day, or \$35 at gate if available.

Secretary's Report – Cherie

None

Treasurer's Report – Fred:

1. Year to date figures were passed around.
2. A CD was rearranged to mature in October for Big Show.

Class Reports:

New classes will start on June 2nd.

Basic – Linda:

Classes started March 24th. There are 24 students. It is a very good class, with Carol, Fred, Sydney, Bruce assisting.

Rally – Cherie:

There are six students, doing great. Will be ready to show on January.

Puppy – Cherie:

There are 8 fantastic puppies and their owners with lots of kids helping.

Agility – Linda/Cherie:

Fun Runs will be at the Kennedy's for Members only. The Club has arranged insurance. Club Members can bring some of the equipment. The Runs will be on Thursdays at 6:00PM.

Membership – Pat H./Mary:

New pages for our Books were handed out.

Publicity – Sydney:

Bring one or two pictures of your dogs doing agility to the next meeting to be considered for the Union Democrat.

Sunshine – Mary:

There are several surgeries scheduled soon, Pat April 21, Sydney April 23, and Carol on May 7th.

Historian/Librarian – Cherie:

None

NADAC/ASCA/AMBOR Trial – Linda:

1. We have 56 dogs, Saturday -231 runs and Sunday – 181 runs so far. With 18 online entries not downloaded yet. We still have a lot of space left.
2. Gifties will be dog cookies and leftover items from previous Trials.
3. Cherie will check for electrical and water hookups.
4. Work party is being set for May 22 at the Humane Society at 9:00AM.
5. Put-Together Party is at Linda's on June 5th at 9:00AM.
6. Porta – Potties have been ordered. Three will be delivered on Friday.
7. Judge's Dinner will be at Snowshoe again on Saturday evening.
8. Pat H. is our head Scorekeeper, her dog is having puppies that weekend. Barbara Broad can help. We still need two other helpers. They will be able to work in AC in Linda's motor home.

9. Hospitality – Carol Sandwiches will be made by Tuolumne Market. We are cutting back on Morning Hospitality.

10. Trophies/Ribbons – Pat H. Linda will get extras out of the shed for a count.

Old Business:None

New Business:

Mary – There are several new rule changes coming down from NADAC.

Bruce – He had run into Richie who had some used mats to give away. We don't need them, but will contact Ken O'Brien to see if he does.

Braggs:

Patti & Stryder got a 1st and Q in Merced at the Yosemite Kennel Club in AKC in Novice JWW.

Sydney & Miles at the same show in Merced got 2 First places and Q's in Open Standard and JWW.

Sydney & Tess also took a First place and a Q in Open JWW. Ann & Libby at NorCal Golden Retriever Club, AKC Trial, got 3Q's out of 4 runs. She had a 1st, 2nd, and a 3rd, with times 16, 18, and 27 seconds under course time.

Jennifer & Keeper at the Bayteam CPE Trial, got 8 Q's out of 10 runs, with 6 1sts and 2 2nds. She finished all of her level 4. In NADAC in Carson City Keeper Q'd 7 out of 10 runs, in one Elite Jumpers run she was 10+ seconds under course time. Jennifer and Dutchess got 4 Q's out of 4 runs and finished all of her level 3.

Jennifer and Jack Flash finished all of his level 2. In NADAC he finished his Novice Touch N Go title.

Jennifer and Julia got one Q. At Carson City she Q'd in regular with her fastest time ever, 3.6 yps.

Jim & Emmy got 5 Q's with 4 placements. She now has 3 out of 4 level 1. At AKC in Merced she got a 1st and Q in Novice JWW. In NADAC in Carson City she got 2 Q's and 3 placements. She now has all 3 Novice Titles. She is only one leg away from both Outstanding Regular and Gamblers.

Linda & Maci showed in her first AKC Show at Sacramento KC. She got 1st place in 6-9 Puppy Bitches.

Cherie & Moon got her Open Tunnelers and Outstanding Veteran Open Jumpers titles.

Cherie & Mori got his Outstanding Performance Elite Jumpers title from ASCA. Also his 1000 Lifetime Point Award. Mori is ranked in the Top #0 in ASCA's Altered Conformation Merit Program. But the biggie is that Mori got his NATCH (NADAC Agility Trial Championship) at 4 years old!

Meeting adjourned :

At 7:30 Al/Mary/Passed

Next Month's meeting at:

Jim and Carol Frazier's on Monday, May 17, 2004

**Sierra-Tuolumne Kennel Club
General Membership Meeting
Monday, May 17, 2004
Meeting Hosts – Jim and Carol Frazier
Start time – 6:10 PM**

Members attending – Linda Grant, Bruce Bertholf, Cherie Gessford, Fred and Pat Helmbold, Patti Martlew, Ann Brown, Carol and Jim Frazier, Sydney Seiver, Al and Mary Kennedy, Pat Barnes, JoAnn Gritz, Jennifer Slater, Carrie Stroble, Louis and Rebekah Mastro.

Guests- Leslie McCulloch – ACD - BC X

Presidents's Report – Linda:

Report on Board Meeting: There will be no Big Show this year in November due to date conflicts. We will pursue a cluster in 2005. Our two Agility Trials are proceeding as scheduled.

Upcoming events: Judie Howard Advanced Obedience 3 Day Camp, Escalon, September 17-19, 2004.

Kennel Club of the Sierras A Match, Angles Camp, June 27, 2004.

Conformation Classes in Escalon put on by Carl Gilatitch.

Howler: Due to work/illness it will be delayed to a May/June issue.

Secretary's Report – Cherie

None

Treasurer's Report – Fred:

The Obedience Classes grossed \$2195 with \$553 net to the Club.

Class Reports:

New session starts on June 2nd.

Basic – Linda:

Eleven graduated on May 12th with all passing.

Rally – Cherie:

Due to surgeries and vacations only 4 graduated.

Puppy – Cherie:

Seven of the 8 puppies came to graduation and of course all graduated.

Agility – Linda/Cherie:

Mary – There will be a Fun Run on Thursday evening at 6:00.

Membership – Pat H./Mary:

Pat passed out sheets for two new Members.

Publicity – Sydney:

Pictures are needed for the Union Democrat.

Sunshine – Mary:

Cards were sent to Sydney for her knee surgery, to Pat H. for surgery, and to Carol for surgery. They are all better now.

Historian/Librarian – Cherie:

None

NADAC/ASCA/AMBOR Trial – Linda:

We have 338 runs on Saturday so far and 256 runs on Sunday. We are not full yet.

Linda and Bruce will pursue having one judge and two rings.

Fred/Al/Passed

Gifties will be dog cookies and Iams bags.

Cherie will contact Ken Perlmutter about a motel.

Cherie will ask at school if we can leave the canopies up until Monday morning.

Grounds Update – Cherie – The grass is very good, there is a working hose in place, and there are many electrical hookups.

Work Party – At the Humane Society at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 22nd.

Score Table – Barbara Broad will hel., Nancy and Ed on Sunday.

Put Together Party – At Linda's on Saturday, June 5th at 9:00 AM.

Set Up – We will start at 8:30 AM on Friday, June 10th.

Get There Time – Will be 6:30 AM on Saturday, June 11.

Hospitality – Carol: She needs to know worker numbers before ordering sandwiches.

Trophies/Ribbons – Pat: The ribbons are ordered. Judges bags will be made.

Three Port A Potties are ordered.

Judges Dinner will be Saturday night at 6:00 PM at Snoewhoe Brewery. The menu is two Lasagnas, French bread, salad, and cheesecake.

Old Business: None

New Business:

JoAnn – Would we like to March in the Mother Lode Round up Parade. It was the general consensus that it would be too hard on the dogs, withal the waiting time on the hot pavement.

Patti – Would Club members like to have Mike Omartian put on a seminar for Club Members on Friday before the NADAC Trial? Signup were taken and will be pursued farther.

Braggs:

Mary and Al & Fella – They got 6 Q's out of 8 runs at CPE, with 3 - 2nd places and 2 - 4th places. Mary Q'd 4 for 4, which she says may never happen again. Fella also got a \$20 tip at Mary's work.

Cherie & Moon – Open Tunnelers Title and Outstanding Novice Touch N Go Title in NADAC.

Cherie & Mori – Superior Novice Touch N Go in NADAC.

Linda and Tali - Tali was Winner's Bitch and Best of Winners for a 3 point Major at Kingsburg.

Bruce and Dexi – Dexi had a wonderful herding trial run, placing 2nd in Open Cattle, but because he did not take the cattle out of the pen himself, the judge gave him a score below qualifying.

Meeting adjourned :

At 7:25 Al/Pat/Passed

Next Month's meeting at:

Linda Grant's on June 21st.

General Membership Meetings - 2004

July 19th – Cherie Gessford

August 16th – Pat Barnes

September 20th – Jerry & JoAnn Gritz

October 18th – Fred & Pat Helmbold

November 15th – Rebekkah and Louis Mastro

December 20th – Holiday Party

Novice Regular R2 – JoAnn Gritz with Sunshine, Ann Brown with Libby, Sydney Seiver with Miles

Novice Jumpers – Jim Frazier with Emmy, Patti Martlew with Stryder, JoAnn Gritz with Jed, Cherie Gessford with Moon

Novice Gamblers – Jim Frazier with Emmy

Open Regular R1 – Linda Grant with Dexi, Sydney Seiver with Tess

Open Regular R2 – Linda Grant with Dexi, Sydney Seiver with Tess

Open Jumpers – no qualifiers

Open Gamblers – no qualifiers

Elite Regular R1 – no qualifiers

Elite Regular R2 – no qualifiers

Elite Jumpers – no qualifiers

Elite Gamblers – no qualifiers

RESULTS FROM ASCA/NADAC/AMBOR AGILITY TRIAL – JUNE 12-13, 2004 – SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, TUOLUMNE, CA

Saturday's Qualifying Scores:

Novice Regular R1 – JoAnn Gritz with Jed and Sunshine, Ann Brown and Libby, Sydney Seiver and Miles

Novice Regular R2 – JoAnn Gritz with Jed and Sunshine; Jim Frazier with Emmy; Al & Mary Kennedy with Fella, Sydney Seiver with Miles

Novice Jumpers – Al & Mary Kennedy with Fella, Jim Frazier with Emmy, JoAnn Gritz with Sunshine, Cherie Gessford with Moon, Ann Brown with Libby

Novice Gamblers – Ann Brown with Libby, Sydney Seiver with Miles

Novice Tunnelers – JoAnn Gritz with Jed, Patti Martlew with Holli and Stryder, Jim Frazier with Emmy, Sydney Seiver with Tess, Ann Brown with Libby

Open Regular R1 – Linda Grant with Dexi; Cherie Gessford with Moon

Open Regular R2 – Cherie Gessford with Moon

Open Jumpers – Sydney Seiver with Tess

Open Gamblers – no qualifiers

Open Tunnelers – no qualifiers

Elite Regular R1 – no qualifiers

Elite Regular R2 – no qualifiers

Elite Jumpers – no qualifiers

Elite Gamblers – Cherie Gessford with Mori

Elite Tunnelers – no qualifiers

Sunday's Qualifying Scores:

Novice Regular R1 – JoAnn Gritz with Sunshine and Jed, Ann Brown with Libby, Sydney Seiver with Miles

Legislative Alerts

CALIFORNIA BILL REQUIRES SELLER PERMITS AND FEES

Last week, the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions approved AB2513, a bill that would prohibit the sale of unaltered animals without a permit. AB2513 is now before the Assembly Appropriations Committee, however since it contains no significant issues within the scope of the Committee—appropriation of funds—fanciers believe it will likely be passed to the full Assembly soon.

AB2513 is an egregious bill that will impose exorbitant permit fees and other regulations on responsible breeders who sell intact animals. Your immediate help is needed to oppose this measure!

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Contact your Assemblyman and politely ask him or her to vote "No" or to refrain from voting on AB2513. It is critical that we prevent the bill from receiving the 41 votes need for passage. Contact information for all 80 members of the California Assembly is provided on the AKC Web site.

Share this information with fellow dog owners. Read more about AB2513 and AKC's position at:

<http://www.akc.org/love/dip/legislat/cabill04.cfm>

Subject: ACTION ALERT: CA EAR CROP BAN 6/19/04 ACTION ALERT: CA EAR CROP BAN

June 19, 2004 (Last publication date 6/3/04, Appropriate forwarding encouraged.) Preserving Our Right To Own And Breed Animals Is Your Responsibility

IN THIS ISSUE:

* CA SB 1548 (FIGUEROA) AMENDED WOULD BAN

DOG EAR CROPPING

* ACT QUICKLY TO OPPOSE SB 1548 IN ASSMEBLY BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS
* HEARING SET FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 9:00 A.M., STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 127

BRIEFLY NOTED: Due to the urgency of organizing opposition to SB 1548, other current items will be reported in a later update.

CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 1548 by Senator Liz Figueroa (D-10) of Fremont was introduced as one of eight "sunset review bills" authored by the Chair of the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee and intended to implement legislative changes as recommended by the JLSRC for six licensing boards reviewed by the JLSRC in 2003-04. The JLSRC began its review of these six licensing agencies in January with two days of hearings. Recommendations for the JLSRC were delayed until June pending the Governor's California Performance Review (CPR) to avoid conflicts. The June 14 amendments to SB 1548 carried out the plan to amend the JLSRC recommendations into the bill extending the sunset of the Veterinary Medical Board.

The original SB 1548, supported by the Veterinary Medical Board (state agency created by the Veterinary Practice Act that licenses and regulates veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians) and the California Veterinary Medical Association, sailed through the Senate Business and Professions Committee, but did run into partisan opposition on the Senate Floor on May 17. 21 votes are required to pass, There were only 24 ayes and 12 noes (3 did not vote, and the seat of deceased Republican Senator Pete Knight is vacant.)

AB 1548, Section 11, as amended June 14, would add a new Section 597.6 to the Penal Code:

"597.6. (a) Any person who crops the ears of any dog or procures the cropping of a dog's ears, except for treatment of disease or injury of the dog, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) For purposes of this section the following definitions apply:

(1) "Ear cropping" means surgical alteration of the pinna that is performed for the purpose of manipulating the ears of any dog for cosmetic reasons so that the ears heal pointed.

(2) "Disease or injury" means a condition of the dog that impairs normal physiological functioning and does not include prevention of ear infections."

SB 1548 provides no specific punishment, so this misdemeanor crime is subject to Penal Code Section 19. "Except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed by any law of this state, every offense declared to be a misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both."

An interesting twist is that AB 1857 prohibiting declawing non-domestic cats would also add a Penal Code 597.6 with an

expressly higher penalty of "Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a period not to exceed one year, by a fine of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by both that imprisonment and fine."

AB 1857 passed by the minimum 4 votes in Senate Business and Professions where the excessively high penalty was noted but not amended. If both bills proceed, at some point the number conflict would have to be resolved and possibly other amendment. Only this Section 11 of SB 1548 deals with any Code other than the Veterinary Practice Act contained in the Business and Professions Code or any provision not limited to veterinary practice. Penal Code Section 597.5 covers dog fighting.

We reported additional background information in our January 27, 2004 Update: "CALIFORNIA VETERINARY PRACTICE ACT (Business and Professions Code Section 4800 et. seq.) contains a sunset provision, meaning a new statute must be effective by January 1, 2006 (the "sunset" date is July 1, 2005.) The California Legislature has a Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee that reviews boards and programs scheduled to sunset. The JLSRC prepares background papers and holds a hearing as part of this process. <<http://www.sen.ca.gov/jlsrc>>"

Click on the link for publications and scroll down to the Veterinary Medical Board links. Here is the ear-cropping material in this paper that led to this amendment to SB 1548:

"ISSUE #11: The practice of ear cropping in dogs, cosmetic surgery performed on dog ears to give them a pointed appearance, is practiced by a few veterinarians and illegally by people involved in dog fighting.

Question #11 for the Board: Other than surgically altering a dog's ears for the treatment of disease or injury, are there legitimate reasons why the practice of dog ear cropping should continue? Should the procedure be banned for both the individual performing the procedure as well as the person ordering it?

Background: According to the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR), which opposes ear cropping, this surgical procedure is done for cosmetic reasons; there is rarely a medical need to surgically alter a dog's ears. It is a painful surgery performed on puppies typically between nine and twelve weeks of age. The dog is put under anesthesia, and the ears are cut and shaped to stand erect rather than remain in their normal floppy state. After surgery, the ears are taped up and usually affixed with adhesive to some sort of rack for weeks. Frequent follow-up visits to a veterinarian are needed, and sometimes additional surgery is needed to ensure the ears do not heal wrinkled.

The AMVA, as well as state veterinary organizations, including the California Veterinary Medical Association, discourage ear cropping and state that the surgery is

medically unnecessary and can cause pain and distress in the dog. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association, which represents the veterinary associations in at least 26 countries on this issue, opposes the practice and believes ear cropping in dogs should be illegal. Ear cropping is prohibited in Australia, Great Britain, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Luxemburg, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Israel, and in the Canadian provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Several national breed clubs believe that ear cropped dogs look better, are more aristocratic, and that the procedure prevents ear infections. The breed clubs that endorse ear cropping in dogs include the Doberman Pinscher, Boxer, Standard Schnauzer, and Great Dane. However, a growing number of such breeders do not have their dog's ears cropped, and ear cropping is not routinely performed in other breeds where ear infections are prevalent.

Further, the American Kennel Club states that, "There is nothing in AKC rules or in any breed standard that compels an owner to have this procedure performed as a prerequisite to entry at a dog show."

Ear cropping is also performed on dogs used in dog fighting activities. In this situation, the dog's ear is almost cut off entirely. This "battle cropping" has been performed legally by veterinarians and illegally by people involved in dog fighting activities. If prohibited by law, law enforcement could potentially have another tool to use for closing down illegal dog fighting operations.

The AVAR recently hired a professional polling firm, Zogby International, to query California Veterinary Medical Association members about ear cropping. Only about 10 percent of its members practice ear cropping for cosmetic reasons. Seventy-four percent think that veterinarians should not do ear cropping unless it is for the health and well-being of the dog. Eighty-six percent think that ear cropping is painful during the post-operative period, including anesthetic recovery and after-care. And, fifty-six percent of small animal practitioners would support legislation to prohibit ear cropping, unless for therapeutic purposes."

THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Canine Legislation Position Statement reads:
"EAR CROPPING, TAIL DOCKING AND DEWCLAW REMOVAL The American Kennel Club recognizes that ear cropping, tail docking, and dewclaw removal, as described in certain breed standards, are acceptable practices integral to defining and preserving breed character and/or enhancing good health. Appropriate veterinary care should be provided."

However, AKC's dog show rules, Chapter 11: Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dogs Affecting Eligibility, Section 8-D, reads, "Any dog whose ears have been cropped or cut in any

way shall be ineligible to compete at any show in any state where the laws prohibit the same except subject to the provisions of such laws."

The unorthodox timing of SB 1548 did not allow us the opportunity to participate in the Bill Analysis written for the hearing. However, the usual organization letters to the Committee Chair and members opposing the bill should be faxed immediately. Be sure your letter is clearly marked "SB 1548, as amended June 14, Figueroa. Veterinary medicine - OPPOSITION" Letters need not be long or detailed. We want to stop the ear crop ban in committee. Only a simple majority of 7 is needed to pass, so the key will be continued Republican opposition and some Democrats withholding support or forcing amendment. Corbett, Koretz, Leno and Nation are core AR votes, with Vargas slightly less and Bermudez, Negrete-McLeod and Yee less committed. Chair Correa tries to be sensible.

Sunshine Chair - Mary Kennedy
Recovering from Surgery

Sydney Seiver
Carol Frazier
Pat Helmbold

Loss of Family Member

Ed and Nancy Wyllie – "Jake"





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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED