

# USCA NEWS & VIEWS

July 15, 2003

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## *Presidents Message*

Members,

Johannes Grewe and I just returned home from a very important and enlightening meeting with SV and WUSV President Wolfgang Henke and several other respected and influential members of the larger SV board. Our discussions covered not only our situation in America but that of the situation in Germany as well and while USCA is sizably smaller than the SV our problems are very similar in nature. Our focus was primarily on the role of USCA and the betterment of the GSD in America. The SV views the USCA as a valuable asset within the WUSV and realizes that the USCA is on the road that best benefits the GSD in America! Further meetings are scheduled to enhance the benefits of our supplemental registry and the problematic discrepancies in the breed survey procedures. I urge our membership to understand that the record of our true breeding efforts can only be realized by the use of the USCA breed registry.

We also discussed in length the ongoing deception of the WDA and GSDCA and our dissatisfaction with even the slightest possibility that the proposed AKC Working Dog program would be of any value for the future of our breed in America. USCA has diligently worked towards resolving the one-team issue for nearly three years and has met nothing but resistance from the WDA. As the President of USCA I have tried every possible recourse to resolve our differences only to hear of the rumors that have been spread that questions our financial status, a drastic decline in membership, and the

prediction of our demise. The extension of our hand was an honest offer to resolve our differences for the betterment of the GSD and remains open to the leadership of the GSDCA however, Mr. Henke and the SV membership that we spoke with fully understands and accepts that our membership has absolutely nothing in common with the WDA. Because, in part, they are not members of the WUSV steps will be taken so we no longer recognize their existence, activities, judges and will not recognize awards by SV judges used at their events!

There is absolutely no reason for our membership to be afraid that the SV or any other WUSV member will not be supportive of the USCA. The USCA has met the breeding guidelines set forth by the SV for seven years and are the only WUSV member except Austria that meets these stringent requirements. We have very strong assurance from Mr. Henke that the SV will never dictate a merger or removal of the USCA, as a full member of the WUSV has every right to our vote and sending team members representing our country. The time has come when the members of the USCA remember the importance and the reason that our organization was formed and that by riding the fence is counterproductive to our overall mission statement and goals. In the latest report from Bill Plumb our treasure indicates a very positive and healthy financial status with a total capitol of \$75,595 with \$35,000 in cash reserves and an increase in membership of 6%. These and other factors clearly indicate that the United Schutzhund Clubs of America is here to stay!

Best regards,

*Jim Elder*

USA

## *Vice President's Message*

Recently I had the opportunity to attend the ESPN Great Outdoor Games. It was my pleasure to have the opportunity to meet with Senior Vice President and General Manager of ESPN Outdoors, Mr. Michael Rooney. Mr. Rooney expressed his pleasure at the excellent response received from the viewers of the "Schutzhund Story" that aired this past spring. Discussions with Mr. Rooney and other members of the ESPN Outdoors Executive Committee about the possibility of more shows featuring actual competition were very positive. The Tractor Supply Co. K9 Nation Series is presently re-airing on ESPN 2. The "Schutzhund Story" will air on Thursday, August 28 at 11:30AM and Saturday, August 30 at 7AM (all times are eastern). The entire series will re-air again this fall beginning in October. Dates and times for individual shows on the fall schedule are yet to be announced. Please continue to let ESPN know how much we appreciate our sport being given airtime.

I have received several emails and phone calls from members that have expressed their concerns about the AKC's attempt to develop their own working dog program and the rumors of possible rule changes that would weaken the rules for the protection phase. USA has never been in a stronger position to promote the German Shepherd Dog and our Schutzhund Sport. We, the members of USA have been responsible for returning our beloved breed to its proper place. The GSDCA under the auspices of the AKC have turned their back to proper breeding

requirements that were established by the SV to keep the balance of Structure and Working Ability in the German Shepherd Dog. They have ruined the structure of their own GSD's and do any of us really think that they won't bend their own working dog program to suit their own interests. They have proven for many years that their ONLY interest is monetary. Believe me when I say that this is their only interest in their attempt to establish a working dog program. If they were TRULY interested in the betterment of the German Shepherd Dog or for that matter ANY large breed of dog, they would first establish the breeding requirement that litters will not be registered unless both Sire and Dam have received an OFA rating of Fair or better. The AKC will never step forward to establish requirements for breeding because it would cut too deeply into their pockets as their only motivation is monetary. The United Schutzhund Clubs of America has fought and struggled for more than twenty five years to bring the German Shepherd Dog, and our "breed meter" and beloved sport of Schutzhund onto solid ground. OUR organization is growing. We are financially healthy and public perception of who we are and what we do is finally being perceived as a family oriented and enjoyable hobby. Our efforts have finally thrust USA and the German Shepherd Dog into the limelight. We must never support another organization that would allow the weakening of conformation and working standards for any breed much less our German Shepherd Dog.

***Lyle Roetemeyer, Vice-President***

USA

## ***Secretaries Message***

Hello Sportfans,

There were two mail ballots in June. One ballot approved the judge's slate at the 2003 National Championship: Tracking-Willie Pope, USA, Obedience-Igor Lengvarsky, FCI, Protection-Günther Diegel, SV.

The other ballot approved support for the American Dobermann Association.

The National Championship and General Board Meeting are fast approaching. The "Big Event" will be hosted by the Western Zone in Reno, Nevada. The Board Meeting will be Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Should your club plan to send a delegate, please be aware that I must receive your delegate letter by September 30, 2003. The form is available on our Member's Area, Official Forms, General Board Meeting Delegate Letter.

Agenda Items for New Business need to be on my desk by August 15<sup>th</sup>. They must be submitted in the form of a motion and adhere to the Bylaws. Bylaw Changes should be sent to the Bylaw Committee Chair, John Koerner, no later than August 1. K9Koerner@aol.com If you have any questions with regard to the Delegate Letter, Bylaw Changes, voting at the General Board Meeting, or placing items on the Agenda please feel free to contact your Regional Director or any other Executive Board Member.

Happy Tails!

***Diane Madigan, Secretary***

USA

## ***Treasurer's Message***

No Updated news

***Bill Plumb, Treasurer***

USA

## ***Director of Judge's Message***

No Updated news

***Mark F. Przybylski, USA Director of Judges***

USA

## ***National Breed Warden's Message***

***Johannes Grewe, National Breed Warden***

USA

## ***World Championship Committee Message***



No Updated news

USA

## ***National Events Committee Message***

No updated news.

USA

## ***Nominating Committee Message***

# **HELP WANTED**

The **Nominating Committee** is currently seeking USA members who feel they are qualified to serve OUR organization. Hopefully the entire membership has evolved to the point that we understand that we must be involved in taking care of the business of USA. It should be understood that the membership of USA must do more than "JUST TRAIN DOGS." USA will continue to grow and prosper if more members are willing to take care of the responsibilities and growth of our organization.

This is a regional election year; there are now 5 positions that need to be filled;

Regional Director, Assistant Regional Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Training Director. Regional Directors will also need to appoint a Youth Director and Helper Committee. Should you be interested in these regional positions please contact your current Regional Director.

The following eleven positions will be filled at the General Board Meeting to be held in Reno, Nevada on Thursday, October 30, 2003:

Judges Committee (2) Members-at-Large

National Events Committee (4)

Nominating Committee (5)

It is the job of the Nominating Committee to solicit the membership for the National positions. If you are interested in serving OUR United Schutzhund Clubs of America in one of the previously mentioned positions, please send a letter announcing the position in which you are interested along with a summary of your qualifications to the Chairman of the Nomination Committee:

Kay Koerner

Chair, Nominating Committee

1926 Hillman Ave,

Belmont, CA 94002

650 591 1917

K9KOERNER@AOL.COM

All letters must be received no later than August 15, 2003.

This deadline was set to insure that the Nominating Committee has sufficient time to do their job and announce their nominees to the membership no later than September 1, 2003.

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USA

## ***Police/K9 Committee***

No updated news.

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USA

## ***Helper Committee***

No updated news.

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USA

## ***Bylaws Committee***

No updated news.

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USA

## ***Comments From USA Members Forum:***

Give us your opinion on these comments or send in one of your own, go to the USA Members Forum:

<http://www.germanshepherddog.com/members/Members%20Forum.htm>

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USA

## ***USA Web Site Links:***

Events page

[www.germanshepherddog.com/eventcalendar.htm](http://www.germanshepherddog.com/eventcalendar.htm)

Members Page Sign On

[www.germanshepherddog.com/memberssignupstaging.htm](http://www.germanshepherddog.com/memberssignupstaging.htm)

2003 National Championship

<http://www.webhund.com/2003Natls/index.htm>

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USA