



**ABOUT THE
ENDANGERED
BREEDS
ASSOCIATION**

(EBA) is a non-profit organization founded in 1980 for the purpose of preserving the American Pit Bull Terrier. Our goals are public education, media monitoring, legislative lobbying, and legal intervention to protect responsible owners from breed-specific legislation and unfair harassment by public offi-

cials or agencies. We oppose animal abuse or any illegal activities with animals. Membership is \$10-single \$15-family per year with members receiving four newsletters a year. Canadian and overseas members please send US Dollars money orders only. All memberships expire Dec. 31 of each year.

EBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

Name (s) _____ Occupation _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____
 Membership type: New _____ Renew _____ Single _____ Family _____

Information packet available (check one) _____ CD for computer _____ Printed material

Please make check or money order payable to the Endangered Breeds Association and mail to:
 Joan Morrison, Route 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435

ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION

Jean Carpenter, secretary
 P.O. Box 879
 Walker, LA 70785

Bulldog Banter



NUMBER 65 • APRIL 2004

EBA Board Meets in Las Vegas

Catching a plane isn't so simple

It's those last minute changes that always change best-made plans. President Colleen Hill had her bags packed and was ready to jump on the plane for Las Vegas, when problems at her place of employment ended her trip before it began.

Gary Hammonds, vice president, stepped in and conducted the EBA board meeting, annually held during the American Dog Breeders Show Inc. Convention.

With a quorum present, discussion and decisions were as follows:

New board members Harry George, of Ohio and Sharon Sundy of California were welcomed as well as re-elected board member Kim Krohn of Missouri.

George reported that progress in Ohio is at a standstill waiting on the final court rulings. There is a time limit

facing the judge for his ruling, and EBA will continue to assist Ohio with appeals through higher courts if necessary.

Jerry Holcomb reported that the Georgia case is still pending with no resolution yet.

EBA will have a raffle at the 2004 Nationals this year, to be hosted by the Fox Valley Club.

Doris Hutson of Louisiana will chair a committee to create participation and public awareness with exposure at AKC events.

EBA's 100 Club program needs more awareness and Hammonds will be responsible for placing an ad in the classified section of the Gazette and the Banter the first two issues of each year.

Colorado HB04-1279 is moving along through committees. Michele Kurvink is keeping EBA informed of its progress. The Colorado Defense Fund is in dire need of funds. EBA will consider support for the fund and assisting

with lawyer fees. Kurvink attended the meeting and gave an update on the progress.

EBA will have a new look this year with a new logo! If you have an idea for the logo, send it to our President, Colleen Hill, P.O. Box 879, Walker, LA 70785.

Membership applications and renewals now will be sent directly to the Treasurer, Joan Morrison. Morrison will e-mail a list of members to Hill for packets and send Hill or Carpenter any other correspondence that may be included with applications.

The annual ADBA Sanctioned EBA Show for 2004 has not been requested by any club. EBA will cover the cost of a full page ad in the Gazette for the hosting club. Hill will write to clubs informing them of the new provision.

The treasurer's report was distributed and will be presented in the Banter.

EBA collected \$457 at the auction held at the Saturday night social.

How EBA has worked for you in 2003

EBA has been around the world and back again with letters, e-mails, phone calls and manpower to assist dog owners with unfair and unjust proposals.

We have involved our organization with the fight against discrimination in: Arkansas, Canada, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia,

Iowa, Italy, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Rhode Island, and Washington.

You can help by keeping us informed of problems in your area before the laws are changed.

ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE DEC. 31 UNLESS MULTI-YEARS ARE PAID.



EBA Obedience Recognition Awards

By **Kim Krohn**

EBA board member

It's time to remind everyone about EBA's obedience awards!

If you enjoy the advantages of living with an obedience-trained dog and are an EBA member in good standing, you may be able to earn an obedience recognition award from the EBA. The EBA is not going to sanction obedience trials but does want to provide incentive and recognition to those members who invest their time in obedience training and provide a better public image for the American Pit Bull Terrier — as well as other breeds.

EBA recognizes members who obtain three qualifying scores in any of the following four levels of obedience: Sub-Novice, Novice, Open, and Utility. These scores can be earned at fun matches or sanctioned trials. All that is required is copies of the three score sheets, signed and dated by the judge, and a recording fee of one dollar, which will go to the EBA treasury.

Sheets must also state the name of the dog and handler, breed of dog, date and location of the show and match, obedience class entered, name of the club sponsoring the match, and the total number of points possible. For those members who have a dog that has earned a title with a registry that sanctions obedience competition, a copy of the obedience certificate and the one dollar recording fee is all that is necessary.

The Board also approved an award for members whose dogs pass the AKC's Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test. This test is open to all breeds, not just AKC recognized breeds, and is designed to demonstrate that the dog can handle ordinary situations that it may encounter in life. To get recognition for the CGC test, send in a copy of the certificate along with one dollar. Remember, Sub-Novice obedience and the AKC Canine Good Citizen Test are done on lead, so there's nothing stopping any member who desires an

award from earning one.

EBA awards are attractive pins. The pins are round and a gold tone with a slightly modified EBA logo on them. The dog in the center of the logo is black and white, and the international "No" symbol is red, with the slash of the symbol behind the dog rather than in front of the dog. The words "EBA Obedience" appear across the top of the pin in black lettering, and the four levels of obedience appear across the bottom of the pin. Only those titles that the dog and handler have earned will appear in black lettering. If your dog passes the AKC's CGC test your will receive a pin for Sub Novice work, as the exercises are somewhat similar as far as degree of difficulty.

Several EBA members have received awards — add your name to the list.

For more information: Kim Krohn, 4600 Hickory Lane, Blue Springs, MO, 64015, (816 228-1512), krohndog@swbell.net. Krohn records all of the awards.

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BULLDOG BANTER

Colleen Hill,
Editor

P.O. Box 879

Walker, LA 70785

The Bulldog Banter welcomes articles, news clippings, letters and other comments from its readers. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as needed. All letters for publication must be signed.

Material in the Bulldog Banter may be reproduced, but please credit the Bulldog Banter as the source.

To subscribe to the Bulldog Banter, please see the EBA Membership application on the back page.

ELECTRONIC DIRECTORY

Endangered Breeds Association
www.endangeredbreedsassociation.org

American Kennel Club
www.akc.org

www.animalaw.com

www.responsiblepetowners.org

WE WANT TO MEET YOUR PET!

E-mail your photograph to vickyholland@mac.com and we will print it in Bulldog Banter. Photographs are printed as space allows. Include caption. NO SALES.

EBA Honors Volunteers, Members

Betty Jo Lucky and Liz Cowan, Texas — Both were instrumental in setting up the EBA exhibit at Reliance Park World Series of Dog Shows in Houston, TX. This was EBA's first experience at an AKC event and it was very successful.

Brad Wickam, Utah — He spent countless hours fighting breed specific legislation near Salt Lake City where he single-handedly educated the city council for a victory.

Rich Issel, New Jersey — He has fought hard in the Northeastern area with positive outcomes in several towns and the state.

Holly Lowery, Colorado — For her untiring efforts in Ohio. That battle continues as we go to press waiting judicial rulings.

Glen Bui, Washington — He has been instrumental with knowledge and testimony in a number of states; and is honored for his devotion to the American Pit Bull Terrier and the fight against breed specific legislation.

Michele Kurvic, Colorado — She is among the leaders in the Colorado battle where a victory is badly needed.

Honorable mention awards went to: Harry George, work in Ohio; Marci Grebing and her parents, Colorado.

We're Making Some Changes

As you know, EBA (your organization) is entirely manned by volunteers. And we continually strive to make it more efficient for our members.

In an effort to do this, we are changing the "routing" of membership payments.

In the past, membership applications and renewals have been sent to the president for recording, then on to the treasurer for listing on the mail list and depositing of funds in the bank. Membership applications often were held up while we waited for a group of applications to accumulate so only one trip to the post office was needed to mail information packets and membership cards.

Applications now will go directly to the treasurer, Joan Morrison, who will send names and addresses on to the president and secretary on a daily basis

as funds come in. Checks and money orders will be deposited in a more timely manner, making your personal bookkeeping easier.

Membership packets for new members and annual membership cards for renewal members will be sent out on a weekly basis.

Hopefully this will make things easier for everyone involved.

If you have questions about your membership, contact Joan Morrison, treasurer, Route 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435, (morrison@mynewroads.com). If you have not received a membership packet or renewal membership card, contact either Jean Carpenter, secretary, P.O. Box 1148, Albany, LA 70711 (ebajeanc@aol.com); or Colleen Hill, president, P.O. Box 879, Walker, LA 70785 (ebacolleen@bellsouth.net).

Kudos

Congratulations to fanciers in Oklahoma and Virginia, who in the last month were able to stop two breeding regulation bills dead in their tracks. Their effective, organized campaigns serve as terrific models to other purebred dog owners who may face similar legislation in their own cities and states.



Legislation

Continued from Page 5

landparks.com.

PENNSYLVANIA - As of February 1, "pit bulls" in Reading will no longer be classified as aggressive or subject to strict regulation. City officials began regulating the breed in 1998. Previously, pit bull owners were required to register their dogs and pay \$50 annually to keep them.

RHODE ISLAND - Rep. Kilmartin's H7323 requires dogs classified as dangerous to be leashed and muzzled when off the owner's property. H7323 states that microchips may be used in lieu of tattoos for identification purposes and that owners must notify the police within 2 hours of a dangerous dog escape. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Corporations.

- Sponsored by Sen. Celona, S2104 would prohibit insurance companies from denying coverage based upon a dog's breed. The AKC supports this bill.

- Sen. McBurney's S2151 has been recommended for passage. The bill authorizes the City of Pawtucket to enforce a recently passed ordinance prohibiting future ownership of "pit bulls" and imposes higher-than-average license fees for existing owners. The Pawtucket ordinance passed despite strong opposition from local fanciers, EBA and the AKC.

TENNESSEE - Rep. Fowlkes is sponsoring H2548, a bill providing it is a Class C misdemeanor for a dog owner to repeatedly, after notice has been given, allow his dog to go upon the property of another. H2548 has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture. A companion bill, Sen. Fowler's S2611, has been referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

TEXAS - The Austin Animal Advisory Commission is exploring the possible introduction of mandatory spay/neuter and breeding restriction ordinances. To date no formal proposal has been drafted. The Canine Legislation provided materials to local fanciers and a letter of opposition to the mayor and city council.

- Houston officials have approved a 4-pet limit for residents. There will be an amnesty period for people who register their animals, and the registration fee has been lowered from \$40-\$150 to a flat rate

of \$20. Owners of dogs deemed dangerous by animal control will be required to pay an additional \$250.

- The City of Lubbock is considering a limit law as part of a revised animal control ordinance. City Council members will likely vote on the proposed changes this summer. The Canine Legislation Department will continue to monitor the proposal.

VIRGINIA - Rep. Hargrove's H554 has been stricken from the docket. The bill would have authorized animal control officers and companion animals owners to shoot dogs found attacking their animals.

- Rep. O'Bannon has withdrawn H629. The vaguely written cruelty bill carried a mandatory felony penalty for undefined terms such as "necessary rest." A second bill by Rep. O'Bannon has been carried over to 2005 by the House Committee on Courts of Justice. H630 defines penalties for owners of dogs that have caused serious injury but has been amended to reduce the penalty from a Class 5 felony to a Class 1 misdemeanor.

- Rep. Scott's H1192 will be carried over to 2005. H1192 allows municipalities to regulate potentially dangerous dogs, defined as dogs that have, when unprovoked, exhibited threatening behavior associated with an attack. Potentially dangerous dogs must abide by the same rules as dangerous dogs, except the classification may be removed after three years of good behavior. The Virginia Federation is concerned that the criteria noted above are too broad.

- The Virginia Federation of Dog Clubs reports that Rep. Rust's H1007 has been amended, including the removal of a provision to prohibit insurance companies from discriminating against homeowners based on the breed of the dog they own. The bill now allows insurance companies, with the policy owner's written consent, to exclude from coverage an injury caused by a dangerous animal owned by or in the care of the holder. The Virginia Federation of Dog Clubs and the AKC support this bill.

- The Senate Rules Committee decisively voted 15-1 to oppose SJR37. Hobby breeders would have been hurt by SJR37, which directed the state veterinarian to study Virginia's animal population and euthanasia concerns and arrive at predetermined conclusions, including the develop-

ment of mandatory spay/neuter and breeder licensing legislation. Congratulations to all those who worked to oppose SJR37.

WASHINGTON - Rep. Campbell's H1895 passed the House of by a vote of 91-3 despite strong opposition from the insurance lobby. H1895 prohibits homeowner's insurance discrimination based upon a dog's breed.

- Rep. Kirby's H2043 passed the House. H2043 prohibits dogs from being deemed dangerous solely based on breed. The bill also states that the dog cannot be declared dangerous if its threatening action was a result of abuse or self defense. The AKC supports this bill.

- Auburn fanciers were quick to mobilize in response to proposed breed specific dangerous dog legislation in their city. Well-organized and armed with AKC materials, dog owners worked together to have the breed specific language removed from the proposed ordinance. A vote is expected in the spring. For more information contact Anita Crotty (AnitaCrotty@hotmail.com).

WEST VIRGINIA - Rep. Houston is sponsoring H3023, a bill that would establish a toll-free lost animal hotline and registry in the office of the Commissioner of Agriculture. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Government Organization.

WISCONSIN - Asm. Pettis is sponsoring A423, a bill that would change the existing provision under which a dog owner is liable for damages caused by the dog so that it applies only when a dog bite breaks the skin and causes permanent physical damage. Additionally, the owner must have known about the dog's vicious predisposition. A423 has been referred to the Senate for a second reading.

UNITED STATES - The AKC has endorsed Rep. Ackerman's H.R. 1563. The bill requires engine coolant and antifreeze manufactured or sold in the United States that contains more than 10 percent ethylene glycol to include a "bitting agent," making it unpalatable to animals and children. H.R. 1563 was introduced in April 2003 and currently has 45 co-sponsors in the House. The AKC encourages fanciers to write your Member of Congress urging that he or she become a co-sponsor of H.R. 1563 if they have not already done so.



EBA says thank you for donations

EBA would like to thank those individuals and clubs that have made donations during 2003.

If your name is not listed and you made a donation, please contact our treasurer, Joan Morrison (morrison@mynewroads.com)

Many times it is not clear on membership applications if extra money is intended for donation or multi-year memberships.

Members are reminded to check

their mail labels when they receive each Banter (newsletter). The last line on the mail label is your membership expiration date. All memberships expire Dec. 31 of each year unless multi-year memberships are paid.

So to the following, we say "Thank You!"

Lee and Darly Whyte, Madison, TN; Brad and Patty Bullock, Salt Lake City, UT; Anthony Mays, Taylor, SC; Ryan, Josh and Shelley Pomeranke,

Hortonville, WI; D. Heitman and B. Terral, Katy, TX; John and Denise Boos, Lakeville, MN; Peter Dishuk, Bronx, NY; Russ and Kim Krohn, Blue Springs, MO; Glen and Kathryn Dockstader, Cattaraugus, NY; Richard and Stephanie Stratton, San Diego, CA; Kelly Duffy, East Petersburg, PA; Mark and Kathy Neal, Tell City, IN; Colleen Hill, Walker, LA; American Dog Breeders Association, Salt Lake City, UT; Great Lakes Pit Bull Club.

ENDANGERED BREEDS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

| | |
|--|-------------|
| START BALANCE (1-1-03) | \$57,618.67 |
| INCOME | \$23,205.09 |
| This includes the following: interest from CD; memberships; show receipts; donations; cookbook money. | |
| BALANCE | \$80,823.76 |
| EXPENSES | \$26,001.64 |
| Newsletter prep and printing; stamps and other postage fees; hot check fees for (Cody Burnette, Charleston, TN; Gregorio Encalada, Laredo, TX); banking supplies; computer expenses for Joan Morrison and Colleen Hill; Internet expenses for Jean Carpenter, Colleen Hill, Joan Morrison (these board members must have Internet for newsletter and Web page purposes); office supplies; EBA booth at Texas dog show (board member expenses, Web page registration, fees and expenses, travel expenses for President Jean Carpenter and winner of trip to convention); Ohio Breed Specific Legislation (includes matching funds from ADBA); North Carolina Breed Specific Legislation; New Jersey Breed Specific Legislation; Topeka, KS, case. | |
| BALANCE 12-31-03 | \$54,822.12 |
| VALUE OF CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT | \$50,652.27 |

CD interest rate began year at 1.59 percent for deposit of \$66.23 into checking account; decreased to 1.39 percent May 1 for deposit of \$57.90 into checking account; and decreased to 1.04 percent Nov. 1 for deposit of \$43.31 into checking account. Interest deposits are made monthly into checking account.

Income from donations - \$2,382.00 Income from cookbook sales was \$390

Income from ADBSI shows - \$11,896.00

There are approximately 450 members; some are life members and some have paid multi-year memberships.

100 Club requirements

Don't let your club miss out on a chance for one lucky member to win a free trip to next year's American Dog Breeders Association convention.

The requirements are simple. All members of your club must be members of Endangered Breeds Association.

Memberships will be verified with treasurer Joan Morrison.

Each year at the ADBSI Nationals, a club is drawn from the hat and in turn, that club selects one of its members to attend the convention. EBA pays for the plane ticket for that ONE member, plus motel room for that ONE member.

Don't miss out — send in your total club membership soon.

All memberships go to Joan Morrison, treasurer; Route 1, Box 71, Gore, OK 74435.



Around the nation: *Legislation that affects you*

ALABAMA - Rep. Galliher's H91 requires the sterilization of all dogs and cats prior to sale or placement from animals shelters and humane societies. H91 has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

ARIZONA - Rep. Downing is sponsoring H2274 , a bill that increases penalties for dog fighting if the animal is stolen. H2274 was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.

• The House Committee on Public Institutions and Counties has recommended Rep. McClure's H2310. The bill amends the definition of a vicious animal to include attacks on other animals as well as humans. It also gives humane agents the power to seize animals they believe have been neglected or treated cruelly.

CALIFORNIA - The Pasadena City Council is considering amending its animal control ordinance by replacing "owner" with "guardian" or "owner/guardian." The AKC sent a letter of opposition to the mayor and city council. We strongly encourage local dog owners to do the same.

COLORADO - Rep. Lee's H1261 has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources. H1261 mandates microchipping for dangerous dogs and establishes a dangerous dog registry.

• Rep. Stafford is sponsoring H1279 , a bill that would hold an owner strictly liable for injuries caused by a dog regardless of whether the owner knew the dog had vicious or dangerous tendencies. The Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs believes owners should be responsible for their dogs but feels the strict liability provision — usually reserved for ultra-hazardous or product liability cases — should be eased, and they are working with the bill sponsor on amendments that reflect that concern. On a positive note, H1279 prohibits counties and cities from adopting breed specific dangerous dog legislation. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources. The EBA and AKC have assisted the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs in this matter.

• City officials in Broomfield have rejected a proposed pit bull ban, instead opting to

strengthen existing vicious-dog laws.

HAWAII - H2309, introduced by Rep. Evans, was referred to the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs. H2309 eliminates Hawaii's "one free bite" rule and allows courts to mandate the owner of a biting dog obtain liability insurance.

• Rep. Hamakawa's H2691 establishes the crime of aggravated cruelty toward animals, punishable by a Class C felony. H2691 has been referred to the House Committee on Judiciary. A similar bill is being sponsored by Sen. Hanabusa. S2431 establishes the crime of aggravated cruelty to animals, which includes recklessly or intentionally killing a pet, punishable as a Class C felony. S2431 was referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs. The Hawaii State Legislature is currently considering several other cruelty bills.

INDIANA - Rep. Young is sponsoring H1067, a bill that increases licensing fees to \$3 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$6 for intact dogs. H1067 also decreases the number of days to 10 an impounded dog must be kept in the shelter before being sold or euthanized. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

MASSACHUSETTS - Officials in Dennis are considering a proposal that limits the number of dogs permitted in a household to 4 and the number of cats to 6. All households exceeding the limit would be required to purchase a \$50 multiple pet permit annually. A kennel license, at a fee of \$75 per year, would be required for households with 10 or more dogs older than six months. The Canine Legislation Department sent a letter of opposition to the Dennis Board of Selectmen and urges local fanciers to board the same.

MISSISSIPPI - Rep. Fleming's H102 prohibits the debarking or surgical silencing of vicious dogs. The bill would require that veterinarians obtain a written waiver from the dog's owner attesting that the dog is not vicious before the dog is debarked. H102 has been referred to the House Committee on Judiciary B. H109 , also sponsored by Rep. Fleming, would allow pet owners to recover up to \$5000 in civil damages from any person who intentionally, negligently or unlawfully killed their pet. H109 has been referred to the

House Committee on Judiciary B.

• Sponsored by Rep. Jim Barnett, H478 revises the penalties for cruelty to animals. A first offense would be punishable by \$100-1000 in fines and/or up to 1 year in jail. A second offense would be punishable as a felony and would result in a \$5000 fine and/or 5 years in jail. H478 has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. A similar bill, H740 , has been sponsored by Rep. John Read. It revises the definition of cruelty to animals and outlines penalties for animal abuse. H740 has been referred to both the House Judiciary Committee and the House Committee on Agriculture.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Sen. Roberge is sponsoring three animal related bills. S372, which defines "necessaryshelter" for animals, has passed the Senate. S399 clarifies that the standards that apply to the retail sale of animals also apply to commercial dog breeders. The bill increases license fees for pet shops and breeders defined as those who sell 10 or more litters or 50 puppies per year. S399 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. S457, which prohibits animals imported to New Hampshire shelters from out of state from being eligible for low-cost spay neuter programs, has passed the Senate.

• Sponsored by Sen. Estabrook, S417 requires any medical personnel who provide treatment for dog bite victims to file a report with an animal control officer or city clerk. The bill also increases the penalties for owners of vicious dogs. S417 passed the Senate and now moves to the House. For more information on New Hampshire legislation, contact Joan Eversole of Dog Owners of the Granite State (sidecarpup@netscape.net).

NEW JERSEY - Asm. Green is sponsoring two dangerous dog bills. A142 amends the term "deadly weapon" to include animals. A147 establishes the crime of assault by an animal as a crime of the fourth degree, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 18 months. "Assault by animal" is elevated to a crime of the third degree if the animal causes bodily injury. A crime of the third degree is punishable by a fine of up to \$15,000 and/or imprisonment for a term of three to five years. Both bills have been

referred to the Assembly Committee on Judiciary.

• Asm. Azzolina is sponsoring A1135 , a bill that prohibits insurance providers from discriminating against homeowners based on a dog's breed. The provisions of the bill would not apply in the event that a dog is declared potentially dangerous or vicious. A1135 has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance. The AKC supports this bill.

• Sponsored by Asm. Caraballo, A1437 repeals the law enforcement powers of societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals. It also requires the state to provide support to municipalities and counties in administering and enforcing animal control, animal welfare, and animal cruelty laws. A1437 has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

• Asm. Burzichelli's A1583 expands the definition of cruelty to animals to include the use of an animal to injure another. The bill also provides for criminal and civil penalties for such crimes. An individual found guilty of such an offense would be subject to a fine between \$250-\$1,000 and/or be imprisoned for up to six months. A1859, sponsored by Asm. Cohen, would elevate certain animal cruelty offenses to a third degree crime and would increase civil penalties for animal cruelty. Both bills have been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

• Asm. Oliver is sponsoring A1902 . The bill reduces to 60 the number of days a resident has to obtain a license for a dog brought in from out of state. The bill would also raise the penalties for violating state law concerning the licensing of dogs and of kennels, pet shops, shelters and pounds. Civil fines would range between \$50 and \$100, or, for certain first offenses involving dog licensing, between \$25 and \$75. A1902 has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

• Two bills have been recommended by the Senate Committee on Economic Growth, Agriculture and Tourism. Sponsored by Sen. James, S84 clarifies that cruelty to animals includes the use of an animal to injure another animal. Sen. Lesniak's S191 elevates certain

crimes of animal cruelty to crimes of the third degree and increases civil penalties for animal cruelty offenses.

NEW MEXICO — Sen. Garcia's S306, the "Animal Protective Services Act," promotes humane conditions and euthanasia practices for animals housed in shelter facilities. The bill originally established an Animal Protective Services Board, which would be empowered to develop several programs, including a statewide spay/neuter plan. Although New Mexico fanciers worked to improve the bill's language, they are still concerned that S306 does not provide purebred dog owners with representation on the board. The AKC and fanciers have contacted the Senate Committee on Finance, where the bill was referred, to voice this concern. For more information, contact Norm Wilson (105645.2271@compuserve.com).

• Santa Fe fanciers continue to face breeding restrictions that could impact their ability to breed and show dogs. For more information contact, Mary Tidwell, Sangre de Cristo Kennel Club (505-982-2961).

NEW YORK - Attention New York dog owners! Asm. Patrick Manning's A9389 allow municipalities to ban or restrict dog ownership based on breed. A9389 also classifies a dangerous dog as a weapon, similar to a loaded gun or switchblade. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture. New York's existing dangerous dog law, when properly enforced, adequately addresses concerns about vicious animals. It also precludes cities and counties from enacting breed-specific laws. For these reasons, the AKC opposes A9389 and urges concerned dog owners to contact the committee members to voice their opposition. For more information, contact the Responsible Dog Owners Association of New York (lettis@webtv.net) or the Long Island Coalition of Dog Fanciers (sutops@aol.com).

• Asm. Diaz is sponsoring A9579 , a bill that outlines an owner's liability for injury caused by a dog regardless of whether the owner knew the dog had aggressive or dangerous tendencies. The bill provides exceptions for dogs used in police or military work or in cases where the dog acted in defense. A9579 has been sent to the Assembly Judiciary

Committee. Asm. Diaz has also introduced A9601, a bill that increases civil and criminal penalties for dog attacks resulting in serious injury. A9601, which increases the fine for such attacks from \$1000 to \$3000, has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture. A companion bill, Sen. Diaz's S6064 ,has been referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture. Asm. Diaz's A9602 would make victims of dog attacks eligible for awards by the crime victims board. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Relations. A companion bill, S6062 , has been referred to the Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction.

OHIO - The City of Olmsted Falls is considering an ordinance that would require all animals be brought indoors when the temperature drops below 20 degrees. Area fanciers believe the ordinance goes too far in restricting dog owners' rights because it does not take into account that many breeds are bred for colder climates and are therefore more comfortable in cooler temperatures. For these reasons, the Canine Legislation department sent a letter of opposition to the mayor and city council.

OKLAHOMA - Due to overwhelming opposition from EBA and Oklahoma dog fanciers, S1130 has been withdrawn. The bill would have enacted mandatory spay/neuter laws .Intact animals would have been subject to annual licensing fees. Congratulations to all those who opposed S1130!

• Sen. Kerr is sponsoring S1364 , a bill that establishes a crime of aggravated cruelty toward animals, punishable as a felony. S1364 also provides that any animal taken into custody as a result of cruelty will be forfeited and all previous ownership rights and interests will be terminated. The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

OREGON - Portland has established an Off-Leash Advisory Committee to measure the success, expansion and maintenance of dog parks and off-leash areas. The committee will hold public meetings throughout the spring and summer. The AKC sent a letter of support and materials to the committee. For meeting dates and more information visit www.portland.akc.org

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