



Sound Judgment

Senior Conformation Judges Association, Inc.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

THIS EDITION OF THE SCJA NEWSLETTER HAS YOUR DUES NOTICE. We request you take five minutes to fill out the questions on the colored dues notice (last page) concerning your interests in upcoming events and mail it in with your dues. Our annual dues of \$40.00 (\$45.00 for husband & wife or those living at the same address) are now due. For those members who were on the ball and sent their dues in on their own, and for our recently joined members, there will be a highlighted "**NO DUES DUE!**" line at the bottom of the enclosed dues notice. Do not send your dues in, but **please return** the form since it asks for other information. Please take the time to fill out the colored dues notice completely and return it with your dues in the return envelope as soon as possible!!!

We want to reiterate any member is free to discuss and seek advice on how to handle any matter you perceive to be a problem including any report or conversation with anyone in authority. Your organization was incorporated 25 years ago and is here to help you in any way and all areas involving your judging career.

WORTHY OF NOTE - NO SCJA funds have ever been spent for office space or utilities except for telephone and fax. No members have ever received any remuneration for their services. Some of our members donate their own funds for travel and other expenses.

Please include a phone number with any and all emails. We simply do not have the staff to answer all the emails we get.

SCJA BI-ANNUAL ELECTIONS

As outlined in the 2008 June Newsletter, the following members were nominated by the Nominating Committee for the 2009 elections for Board members:

Dr. Peter Emily Mr. Joseph Gregory Mr. Wayne Gurin Mr. Edmund Sledzik

There being no further nominations, the above nominated slate is hereby declared elected effective February 1st, 2009, in accordance with Article V, Section III (d) of our bylaws.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEW YORK FEBRUARY 4th – 11th, 2009

We strongly recommend you make your reservations ASAP.

NEW YORK'S HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA, 401 7th Ave., New York, NY 10001 (across from the front entrance to the Garden on 7th Ave.) 1-800-223-8585. Tell them you want the "**SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES ASSOC. BLOCK**". Feb. 4th, 5th & 11th rates of \$149 for one bed and \$174 for two beds. Feb. 6th - 10th rates of \$239 for one bed and \$264 for two beds. Premium rooms with dogs are \$329 for one bed and \$354 for two beds.

NEW YORKER HOTEL, 481 Eighth Ave. at 34th St., New York, NY 10001 (behind the Garden on 8th Ave.) 1-800-764-4680 or 1-212-971-0101. Booking Code: CGSCJ9. Feb. 4th – 11th, 2009. Be sure you tell them you want the block for "**SENIOR CONFORMATION JUDGES GROUP**". Rates are *NEW YORKER 1 QUEEN* - single \$195.00, double \$195.00, triple \$220.00; *NEW YORKER DELUXE 2 DOUBLES & RUN OF HOUSE* - single \$215.00, double \$215.00, triple \$240.00; *PLAZA SUITE 2 DOUBLES* - single \$275.00, double \$275.00, triple \$300.00.

Anyone interested in looking for a roommate, let us know. We will put you in touch with each other.

ACEF RECEPTION & DANCE 2009

Unlike just about everything else, the cost of our reception has remained the same for the past 15 years.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, 2009, COME CELEBRATE OUR 25th ANNUAL RECEPTION AND DANCE at the New York's Hotel Pennsylvania in the Penn Top Ballroom from 7:30PM to Midnight. Mark your calendar, and don't miss a really fun party that is well represented by a true cross-section of our sport. Everyone agrees the ACEF Sunday night party is the place to be for a friendly and enjoyable evening. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

IF YOU WILL BE IN NEW YORK, DO PLAN TO ATTEND. No speeches, no programs; just a short time out for a free room drawing and raffle. Dress: Semi-Formal. A few of the men wear a tux but you will be perfectly at ease in a coat & tie, and the ladies like their evening gowns but others will be perfectly at ease in a dressy dress. **The cost of our reception and dance is \$50.00 per person.** There will be plenty of good food, good music for dancing, a cash bar and most of all, there will be an "across the board" representation of the Dog World from newcomers to old timers and all in between: judges, professional handlers and their enthusiastic young assistants, exhibitors, superintendents and officials. Let us know if you plan to be in New York during the Westminster week (on the colored dues notice form or via email scja@cox.net). **REFRESHINGLY DIFFERENT FOR A NEW YORK PARTY, EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN, ENJOY A DRINK AND CONVERSATION AND HAVE ROOM TO DANCE.** Party form is enclosed with this newsletter and on our web site www.scja.org.

DRAWING FOR A FREE HOTEL WEEKEND STAY (2 nights): Most of you have attended the ACEF Sunday night reception and dance and know that we have a drawing for a free weekend at the New York's Hotel Pennsylvania or the New Yorker Hotel **for those individuals who include a donation to the ACEF with their party reservations.**

BOX SEATS FOR WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB SHOW

The Westminster Kennel Club has placed severe restrictions on the number of available box seats, and NO ONE can purchase more seats than they had last year. The SCJA has reserved a number of box seats through the years, and priority will go to SCJA members and ACEF patrons. Checks should be made out to the SCJA and mailed to

BOX SEATS FOR WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB SHOW (continued)

the Chief Executive Officer by November 15th, 2008. Box seats are good for both dates' admission (Monday, February 9th and Tuesday, February 10th, 2009). A reserved box seat ticket is \$130.00 per ticket. Tickets and judging programs will be sent in the latter part of January 2009. Box seat ticket request forms are enclosed with this newsletter (on reverse side of party form) and on our web site. **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE! THERE IS A LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE.**

Every year there are a number of people looking for a decent box seat. Additional seats will not be available this year. **DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 15th, 2008 BUT REMEMBER FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE. PRIORITY TO SCJA MEMBERS AND ACEF PATRONS FOR THE FIRST 20 DAYS.** When you send your check, **PLEASE INCLUDE A LARGE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH AT LEAST 3 STAMPS FOR POSTAGE PER TWO TICKETS & PROGRAM (MORE POSTAGE FOR A LARGER NUMBER OF TICKETS) FOR US TO RETURN YOUR TICKETS. REMEMBER PROGRAMS ARE INCLUDED WITH TICKETS. IMPORTANT - BE SURE YOUR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER ARE ON YOUR CHECK!!!** Checks made out to the **SCJA** for \$130.00 per box seat (good for both days).

ACEF GRADUATE INSTITUTE WORKING GROUP LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY MARCH 12th – 15th, 2009

The ACEF has scheduled the Working Group for our Graduate Institute in conjunction with the Kentuckiana cluster in Louisville, KY for Thursday, March 12th through Sunday, March 15th, 2009. No matter which Working breed you need, it will be covered. Everyone agrees the Kentuckiana cluster and fairgrounds provide one of the very best venues in the entire country. The cluster officials, Onofrio Dog Show staff and AKC cooperate 100% to maintain the success it has been. All Working breeds will be covered by parent club approved members. Members have priority, so anyone desiring to be placed on the advance mailing list, please let us know **NOW**. You may advise us on the colored dues notice that you return, or we can be reached by email scja@cox.net, phone (703) 451-5656, or writing to ACEF 7200 Tanager St., Springfield, VA 22150, or also emailing ACEF Director of Education, Nina Sherrer, at acef04@yahoo.com. Please, when emailing us, put **2009 WORKING GROUP GRADUATE INSTITUTE, LOUISVILLE, KY. Always include a day and evening telephone number with your emails.**

SCJA'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Plans are to hold SCJA's Annual Dinner Meeting in Louisville, KY in conjunction with the ACEF Working Group Graduate Institute and the Kentuckiana cluster of shows. The dinner and meeting will be held on Saturday, March 14th, 2009. **Details will be sent to those indicating on their returned dues notice they plan to be in Louisville in March.**

ACEF'S 21st ANNUAL JUDGES INSTITUTE 2009

Plans are to hold ACEF's 21st Judges Institute in Washington, DC in August 2009. Anyone interested in receiving details when available, please let us know by email scja@cox.net or writing to ACEF 7200 Tanager St., Springfield, VA 22150, or also emailing ACEF Director of Education, Nina Sherrer, at acef04@yahoo.com. Please, when emailing us, put **2009 JUDGES INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON, DC. Always include a day and evening telephone number with your emails. Details will be sent to those indicating on their returned dues notice they plan to be in Washington, DC in August.**

PAST EVENTS

ACEF'S 20th ANNUAL JUDGES INSTITUTE 2008

This year's Institute was held at the Fiesta Henderson Casino & Hotel in Henderson, NV. Students came from all around the country. Everyone had a fun-filled educational week. SCJA President, Dr. Peter Emily, lectured on

ACEF'S 20th ANNUAL JUDGES INSTITUTE 2008 (continued)

Anatomy & Movement. SCJA Secretary, Mr. Christopher Abraham, instructed in Judges Ethics, Management Guidelines for Judges; Ring Management and Procedures. Mr. David Keene gave an interesting lecture on the relationship between exhibitor and judge with a bit of humor thrown in. Mr. Wayne Cavanaugh, UKC President, along with UKC VP, Mr. Mark Threlfall, did a great job of explaining UKC's mission and operating procedures. Mr. Michael Connell, Silver State Kennel Club President, gave an interesting lecture on the relationship between show chairman and judge. We also had a panel of Group judges consisting of Ms. Sandy Wheat, Ms. Victoria Jordan-Leichner and Col. Wally Pedé who fielded questions from the students. This proved an interesting session and could have gone on for another hour. ACEF's Director of Education, Mrs. Nina Sherrer, did her usual outstanding job of administrating the Institute. The class book was outstanding as was all the administrative details during the week. She was very ably assisted by Linda (Lynn) Wendt, SCJA's administrative assistant to the CEO. **REMEMBER, NO ONE RECEIVES ANY REMUNERATION FOR THE HOURS AND HOURS THEY PUT IN FOR THE AMERICAN CANINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION (ACEF).** AKC Executive Secretary, James Crowley, lectured on AKC Rules, Regulations and Judging Guidelines, Bench Show Committee Hearings and Trial Boards, and also presented the graduation certificates to our students. Col. Pedé commented that the ACEF was indeed fortunate that we had the #1 authority to be lecturing on the subject of the AKC. Mr. Crowley was our after-dinner speaker at the Graduation Dinner, and he had students and guests laughing throughout at his humorous story on the Senior Conformation Judges Association's founding and mission. As Jim indicated, he should know as he has attended 19 out of 20 of the ACEF's annual Judges Institutes. Jim's speech and **roasting of our CEO and the SCJA** will appear on our web site www.scja.org. You need the atmosphere to appreciate it, but it makes for good reading.

AKC ACTIONS OR LACK THEREOF

Our members are aware of the Terry-All Kennel Club's proposed AKC bylaw change in response to the AKC Board's ill-advised policy prohibiting AKC judges from judging for any other registries. The AKC Board returned it to the Terry-All Kennel Club with comments. The Terry-All Kennel Club returned it to the AKC Board with changes in strict accordance with AKC's bylaws. At this juncture, AKC's bylaws dictated that the AKC Board had no option except to forward it to the AKC Delegate Body for a vote. They were free to add their comments and recommendations, **but the AKC Board has no authority to prevent a vote of the AKC Delegate Body.** The AKC Board returned the proposed change with a simple comment that it was out of order.

In a somewhat similar situation, when the SCJA suggested to the AKC Delegates that they form a Delegates Committee for judging policies, the Delegates took action and requested input from the SCJA as well as others and put in many hours on the project. We have been informed by an involved Delegate that the Delegates were advised by the AKC that there was no need for a Delegates Committee concerning judges???

CHAPTER 7 of AKC's *RULES APPLYING TO DOG SHOWS* covers "judges" and AKC's bylaws mandate that the rules cannot be changed without a vote of the AKC Delegate Body. Hopefully, we would end up with a more realistic judging approval policy that would not change every year or so. We intend to follow up on the entire issue of judging approval. Some of the AKC Board members believe it needs changing. Rest assured we shall follow up on this.

SARI TIETJEN'S DOG NEWS SEPTEMBER 26th, 2008 ARTICLE

We would like to recommend reading Sari Tietjen's conclusion in her article in the September 26th, 2008 issue of *DOG NEWS* (page 88) as to revamping the administration of the AKC.

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEB SITE WWW.SCJA.ORG FOR LATEST INFORMATION!



NEW YORK PARTY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th, 2009

NEW YORK'S HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA
7th Ave. & 33rd St. across from the Garden

DANCING 8:00PM - MIDNIGHT

BUFFET 7:30PM - 9:30PM

\$50.00 Per Person

CASH Bar

Dress: Semi-Formal

A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE ACEF MAY BE ADDED TO YOUR CHECK AND WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. FOR THOSE MAKING A DONATION, THERE WILL BE A SEPARATE DRAWING FOR A FREE WEEKEND AT EITHER NEW YORK'S HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA OR THE NEW YORKER WHERE WE HAVE A BLOCK OF ROOMS.

***** CUT HERE *****

PLEASE PRINT (Address Label Preferred)

Last Name

First

Address

City

State/ZC

Day Phone (incl. area code)

Evening Phone (incl. area code)

Email Address

Guest Name, Address & Email Address

OF PEOPLE _____ x \$50.00 @ person = \$ _____ TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION \$ _____

CHECK TO ACEF ENCLOSED FOR \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO ACEF and mail to ACEF 7200 Tanager St. Springfield, VA 22150
DO NOT BE CONCERNED THAT YOUR PLANS MAY CHANGE AT THE LAST MINUTE. REFUNDS
WILL BE MADE AS LATE AS FEBRUARY 4th, 2009. A CALL WILL SUFFICE FOR NOTIFICATION OF
CANCELLATION: (703) 451-5656.

OVER



REQUEST FOR WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB BOX SEATS 2009

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE: DAY _____ EVENING _____ CELL _____

NUMBER OF BOX SEATS _____ @ \$130.00/ticket CHECK TO SCJA ENCLOSED \$ _____

BE SURE TO ENCLOSE A LARGE ENVELOPE STAMPED AND SELF ADDRESSED. LEGAL SIZE ENVELOPE (4 X 9 1/2) FOR 2 BOX SEATS (3 STAMPS) APPROPRIATELY LARGER ENVELOPES AND POSTAGE REQUIRED FOR MORE TICKETS. (TICKETS ARE HEAVY STOCK PAPER AND ALSO INCLUDES A PROGRAM.) Send to SCJA at 7200 Tanager St., Springfield, VA 22150. Any questions please call (703) 451-5656.