

Great Dane Club of the Mid-South, Inc.

Established in 1950

www.gdcms.org



Newsletter for February, 2009

[Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 11th, 8pm at Georgia Tech \(Directions on the club website\)](#)

[There **WILL** be a board meeting at 7:45 PM.](#)

Dear Members and Friends,

We kicked off our 2009 meetings with guest speakers Gail LaBerge and Lynette White of the Georgia Canine Coalition. They brought us up to date on the legislation recently passed in our state. They also provided some insight into what may be presented in the near future in Georgia as well as views on some of the events and legislation going on around the country. We are grateful to have had Gail and Lynette as our guests and look forward to staying in touch going forward.

There is a lot on the GDCMS plate for 2009 - two Specialties (Spring and Fall) and the GDCA National which, as you know, is hosted this year by the SE Division.

The first Specialty is coming up quickly in Perry in April (is it really only a month away?). Please let us know how you can assist with that event (there is always something that can be done). The second Specialty will be in September in Atlanta. With both of these events let's all be thinking about how we can continue to raise money and awareness for our club.

The GDCA National will be held in Chattanooga, TN in October and will be a lot of fun (and work). Our own Willie Crawford is the Show Chair and she will keep us apprised of events as the year proceeds. As a club in the SE Division we have a few things that we need to be prepared to do: (1) provide some sort of "goodie" for the welcome bags, (2) assist with the Hospitality Room, (3) assist our guests from other regions and countries when available, etc.

Times are tough out there right now so I appreciate all of the support and efforts - both personal and financial - from each of you in making this club successful for the long term. Just remember - we do it all for the Danes!

Take care,
Angela

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We have received membership applications for the following juniors:

Courtney Roberts (Junior Membership, Mom is Susanne Roberts-Phillips)

2520 New Buckeye Road

Wrightsville, GA 31096

croberts864@yahoo.com

Sponsors: Darcy Quinlan and Connie Adams

Timothy Weed (Junior Membership, Mom is Yvonne Weed)

1615 Trellis Crossing

Alpharetta GA 30004

t.weed@yahoo.com

Sponsors: Connie Adams and Yvonne Weed

According to our revised Bylaws, the names have to be published in two newsletters prior to voting on by the General Membership. (This is the first posting.) We will vote at the April meeting.

Upon receipt of the completed application, the Secretary shall publish the name and address of the applicant, as well as the names of the endorsing Members in the succeeding two (2) Club Secretary's letters.

Angela Stillwell

President

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Minutes, Board Meeting

February 11, 2009

Meeting called to order by President, Angela Stillwell at 7:45 p.m.

Board members absent: Gabrielle Kostiuk, Darcy Quinlan, Trish Thurow

We have received membership applications for the following and they have been approved by the Board. Chuck Crawford moved and Connie Adams seconded.

Courtney Roberts, Junior Membership
Sponsors: Darcy Quinlan and Connie Adams

Tim Weed, Junior Membership
Sponsors: Connie Adams and Yvonne Weed

Policies were reviewed and approved as is for 2009.

Meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

Minutes, General Meeting

February 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President, Angela Stillwell at 8:00 pm.

Guests in Attendance: Gail LaBerge, Tim Weed and Lynette White

Members in Attendance: Connie Adams, Jay Berkowitz, Jenn Carr, Chuck & Willie Crawford, Susanne Roberts-Phillips, Wesley Preston, Angela Stillwell, Yvonne Weed

President's Report:

Secretary's Report: Minutes were approved with two changes. 1) Next meeting will be February 11 and not February 14 2) Send your trophy forms and **the checks** to Susanne Phillips. Motion to approve the above changes were approved and seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Attached. ADOA Membership renewal \$35 and Club Insurance renewal for \$600 were voted to be approved to pay.

GDCA: No report

Awards: Award forms were due to Willie Crawford on February 1.

Combined/Prestige: No report

Decoration: Tina has not renewed her membership to GDCMS, would anyone like to take on this position? Specialty decorations: will discuss at next meeting

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Education: Guest speakers tonight were Gail LaBerge and Lynette White of the Georgia Canine Coalition.

Rescue: December – 3 Great Danes were adopted. January – 3 Great Danes were adopted.

SE Division: 2009 Website is www.gdca-se.org.

Trophies: Don't forget to get your trophy forms and checks back to Susanne.

Ways & Means: IGive purchases have now earned \$31.02 for our club. Don't forget to use IGive when doing internet searches and purchases.

If you have items for donation, please contact Angela to arrange a time to get them to her (March is our last meeting before the Spring Specialty).

Website: No report

Old Business: We still need to think about what to put in the welcome bags for our club, a few ideas were kicked around again. Connie has written a letter to Frontline to see if they would give us some items like they gave out at the Caesar Milan event and we then as a club could put a GDCMS sticker on it identifying ourselves. The Board approves the policies as is and handed out the 2009 roster.

New Business: Gail LaBerge and Lynette White are joining us from the Georgia Canine Coalition a transcript of the meeting can be found after the brags and Marmaduke. Chuck mentioned that that the GDCA Board had a meeting for 2011 National at the Wigwam in Arizona. The GDCA Board also approved an increase in dues for 2010 example: for individuals – the annual price will be \$36. The change was voted in after a report that found the GDCA was not solvent beyond 5 years. The GDCA 2009 National Room Raffle tickets were brought up that are available online.

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned at 9:30 pm and Brags were held.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabrielle Kostiuk,
Secretary

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Treasurer's Report

January, 2009

Balance 12-31-08 General: \$3,651.16 Rescue: \$2,258.48 Total: \$5,909.64

RECEIPTS:	GENERAL	RESCUE
1. Brags	3.00	0.00
2. Trophies, Fall 08	45.00	0.00
Carr: 30.00		
Fick: 15.00		
3. Trophies, Spr '09 (Adams)	30.00	0.00
4. Prestige Show Settlements	582.58	0.00
5. Dues:	<u>420.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total deposit	1080.58	0.00
EXPENDITURES:		
1. Christmas Ham	31.97	0.00
2. Warrington Vet Clinic	.00	150.00
3. Warrington Vet Clinic	.00	150.00
4. GDCA Dues	<u>150.00</u>	<u>.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>181.97</u>	<u>300.00</u>
NET	898.61	(300.00)

Balance 1-31-09 General: \$ 4,549.77 Rescue: \$1,958.48 Total: \$ 6,508.25

**Chuck Crawford
Treasurer
February 10, 2009**

Check book balances

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Brag

From Jackie Dilworth: Jackie is pleased to announce that Chimo daughter, Bridlewood's Divine Design, co-owned by breeder Dawn O'Cain and Melissa Bennett, was Winner's Bitch and Reserve Winner's Bitch in Charleston, SC on 1/24 and 1/25. Diva is handled by Melissa.

Litter brother Bridlewood's Dream Machine, co-owned by Dawn and Jackie, took Best of Winners at the Sawnee Mountain KC show in Atlanta for a 4 point major. Diesel is handled by Laura and Charlie Coomes.

From Gabrielle Kostiuk: Ch. Lobato's Striking Interest RA aka "Tiki" started 2009 off on a good foot and is currently #8 in Great Danes (as of 1/18/09). Here are our following breed wins all owner/handled by Gabrielle.

1/4/09 BOB Clemson Kennel Club

1/7/09 BOB Northern Neck Kennel Club

1/8/09 BOB Northern Neck Kennel Club

1/9/09 BOB Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club

From Connie Adams: UKC CH Shockins Here's Lookin At You Kid (Bogey) received his International Champion Title in December; he was handled by his breeder Heather Fick. He's now "INT'L/UKC CH Shockins Here's Lookin At You Kid".

From Susanne Roberts-Phillips: On 1/30/09 at the Swanee Mountain KC, Courtney Roberts placed 2nd in Open Junior Showmanship with "Mickey" Stebor's One in a Million v VScheer.

On 1/31/09, at the Conyers KC Courtney placed 1st in Open Junior Showmanship with Mickey.

On 2/1/09, at the Lawrenceville KC, Courtney placed 2nd in Open Junior Showmanship with Mickey. She now has total Junior points of 17 as of 2/1/09

From Yvonne Weed: Marvo N Rhydts Chance of a Lifetime took Winners dog at the following shows:

12/12 /08 : Jackson, MS for 1 point under Charles Olvis

1/04/09: Clemson KC for 1 point under Joseph Gregory

1/25/09: Charleston KC for 1 point under Patricia Gellerman to finish his

Championship.

From Jay Berkowitz; Anya took Winners Bitch and Best of Opposite Sex 1/10/09 in Starkville, MS.

From Chuck and Willie Crawford: Lana won two more points in Brooksville, FL.

Marmaduke's Corner



“On the other hand, we’ve never had to buy an alarm clock.”

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The Georgia Canine Coalition Gail LaBerge and Lynette White

The Georgia Canine Coalition, Inc. (GCC) was incorporated in 2004 as an organization dedicated to responsible dog ownership in the State of Georgia through communication, education, and fair legislation. The GCC accomplishes its mission by sponsoring informational programs; monitoring legislation on the state, county and municipal levels; and advancing favorable legislation. Gail and Lynette are registered as a Georgia Lobbyists in addition they have an attorney on retainer, Frank McCain, that the donations to the Coalition pay for.

2008 Summary: Two bills that something did happen with was House bill 301(anti-dog fighting bill) was approved and a Senate bill which was Senate Bill 16 which was intended to do more than stop dog fighting. The Coalition did not oppose the bill but the Chairman ask the Coalition for legislation on things they had problems with which they did and he used it; so the Coalition didn't oppose the bill, they went neutral on it. When a group goes neutral it does not mean they favor the bill it usually means the opposite they don't really like a lot about the bill but they are not going to come out against it and they have reasons for it but can't make those reasons public. Bill 16 was written by Animals Rights people in which it was intended to be aimed at us (dog showing/breeding people) Animal Rights people don't believe in dog fighting but also breeding and showing ..Animal Rights people think you mistreat your dog by taking it to a dog show or by doing anything with it besides turning it loose and letting it run; basically their belief is that we don't have the right to own our dogs. They view the dog as an equal to humans. Gail uses an example of her Dachshund that had expensive back surgery that Gail had to pay for and take care of; that when the Dachshund could actually take itself to the vet, pay for it surgery, buys his own house and take care of Gail when she is old, then she would consider him being her Guardian until then she still "owns" the dog...GVAM, AVAM are opposed to a change in terminology because of the legal ramifications. Gail passed out NAIA (founded by Patty Strand who is on the board of AKC) information supporting the terminally between owner versus guardian (this information is also on the AKC website). Explains why we support the term owner instead of guardian. This is nothing we in Georgia need to be worried about however, Boulder, CO, a city in Arkansas and Rhode Island have change to guardian. Back to Senate Bill 16...it was stripped of the anti-dog fighting legislation with the consent of its original sponsor, instead language went in on electronic collar removal (ie hunting dogs use these) so what this bill does is add a provision for restitution of the actual value of the dog if in the event the dog is lost or killed as a result of the collar being removed. It did not include a misdemeanor of stealing someone's dog but did add a provision that gave restitution for any vet expenses that was associated with the collar removal. This bill did pass long with 301 and was supported by the Coalition. Other items that were introduced that did not make it anywhere was a ban on any form of carbon monoxide chamber in the state, a

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puppy lemon law (anti-breeder bill) the Coalition was instrumental in keeping that from not getting out of committee, and a bill that was just introduced that requires a bittering agent to be put into anti-freeze (Coalition thinks this is more of a Federal matter).

2009: The Coalition thought the puppy lemon law had gone away however Best Friends from Utah has hired a Lobbyist fortunately he is not moving the bill because he has no sponsor plus he has no support from the Dept. of Ag. The bill would limit the number of dogs you can own statewide. Technically, it was the number of dogs a “breeder” can have. So the Limit law is in the Lemon law. Really it is an anti-breeder law because neither Best Friends, HSUS, PETA, In the Defense of Animals, SPCA, Animal Rights Veterinarians Assoc., do NOT believe in breeding. In order for us to understand what we are up against Gail shares a quote with us from Wayne Pacelle, President/CEO of HSUS, that defines what we are up against: “We have no ethical obligation to preserve the different breeds of livestock produced for selective breeding, but we have no problems with the extinction of domestic animals they are creations of human selective breeding”. But Gail believes that we are in charge we have no natural enemies above us....we have an obligation to treat the animals in our lives fairly with love and care and with all the medical care we can give them, but she doesn't believe the dogs in her house are equal with her. We need to remember that because that is the premises for a lot of what is coming from the Animal Rights people.

NAIA is having their conference this year in Washington that would be an excellent event to go to. NAIA pulls together not only us in the dog world but with cat breeders, dog breeders, horse breeders, circus's , agriculture industry, etc... anyone that has contact with animals. The FBI, Director of Domestic Terrorist, spoke at the last conference and noted that the Animal Rights people especially those that are Animal Liberations and Environmentalists were the number one domestic terrorists in this country.

Difference between Animal Rights and Animal Welfare: Animal rights is equal footing it's that we don't own them...they should be free, they should just roam. Groups that support this belief are PETA, In Defense of Animals, Farm Sanctuary, HSUS, Best Friends, Animal Legal Defense Fund, in addition, they also don't believe in guide dogs or police dogs.

Gail foresees that the State of Georgia wouldn't be doing a lot of bills due to the economy.

AKC has given permission to a critical action pact committee: it selectively donates money to those that are running for office or are in office that you feel that represents your interest or thinks the way you do. Gail has used this for four people in the State of Georgia. This will help get the right people in office and maybe get the wrong people out.

Helpful Links:

<http://www.georgiacaninecoalition.org>

<http://www.naiaonline.org>

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If it Walks Like a Duck and Quacks Like a Duck - it may be an Animal Rights Fanatic

Know the difference between Animal Welfare and Animal Rights

Animal welfare groups are working to see that all animals are treated humanely.

Many animal rights groups are working to see that **all ownership of animals comes to an end.**

ANIMAL RIGHTS

Animal Rights extremists have been classified by the FBI as a domestic terrorism threat. Today's animal rights organizations are multi-million dollar non-profits paying themselves hundreds of thousands in salaries from their donor baskets. Their war chests are being used to get "their" candidates elected. One of their main objectives is to take away your right to own or breed pets - community by community, state by state.

THE ANIMAL RIGHTS AGENDA

End all human "exploitation" of animals, for many groups this includes, but is not limited to:

- Raising and slaughtering of livestock for human or animal consumption
- Eating meat
- Hunting
- Using animals for any medical or veterinary research
- Zoos (regardless of how well managed)
- Circuses
- Rodeos
- Horse shows
- Dog shows
- Cat shows
- Bird shows
- Animals performing in TV commercials, shows or movies (regardless of how well treated any of the above are)

- Breeding birds and animals
- Guide-dogs for the blind
- Police dogs
- Search & rescue dogs
- **AND THE PRACTICE OF OWNING PETS**

KNOW THE ANIMAL RIGHTS PLAYERS

- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS is not directly affiliated with local humane societies that run shelters and is a MAJOR political lobbying entity at state and federal levels)
- PETA (two employees arrested last year for cruelty to animals after killing puppies and kittens, dumping them in garbage bins and getting caught in the act)
- Animal Protection Institute (API)
- Avian Welfare Coalition
- In Defense of Animals (IDA)
- Farm Sanctuary
- Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF), etc.

ANIMAL WELFARE

The American Veterinary Medical Association defines animal welfare as "a human responsibility that encompasses all aspects of animal well-being, from proper housing and nutrition to preventative care, treatment of disease, and when necessary, humane euthanasia." Scientists and laboratory veterinarians are firmly committed to animal welfare. The American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS), an organization dedicated to advancing responsible care and use of laboratory animals, was founded before there were any federal laws regulating animal research.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

READ: ANIMAL RIGHTS: THE INHUMANE CRUSADE by Daniel Oliver and learn more. Go to www.capitalresearch.org to order.

For information on animal rights, see:

www.consumerfreedom.com
www.activistcash.com

For more information on animal welfare see:
www.naiaonline.org For information on legislative issues: www.naiatrust.org

HOW CAN I PROTECT MY PETS FROM ANIMAL RIGHTS FANATICS?

Stay informed. Visit, call and write your representatives and politely let them know you are against the AR agenda. Visit the National Animal Interest Alliance Trust at www.naiatrust.org for the latest information on legislative issues nationwide.

THEY COUNT ON US TO DO NOTHING!

Don't make it easy for them -

DO SOMETHING! DONATE!

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NAIA supports

Animal Use

Most Americans believe that we should be responsible and humane in our use of animals, sparing them pain and suffering whenever possible.

Acceptable animal uses include ...

- Livestock agriculture
- Biomedical research
- Wildlife management
- Pet breeding
- Animal sports
- Pet ownership
- Hunting & trapping
- Fishing



Animal Welfare

Most Americans also believe that if people fail to treat animals kindly, it is our duty to relieve their suffering. Groups working for animal welfare include ...

- national groups working for all animals or for specific species or issues
- independent local humane societies, SPCAs, animal welfare leagues, dog and cat rescue groups
- state, regional, and national humane society federations
- professional associations of farmers, scientists, breeders, hunters, and others who interact with animals
- veterinarians and veterinary associations

Contrast in values

Animal use

"The ends do not justify the means. We believe that using animals for food, clothing, entertainment, scientific benefit, and companionship is ethical if animals are not abused in the process. We do not necessarily agree on a definition of abuse, however, so arguments abound over what should be outlawed."

NAIA supports responsible animal use!!

Animal exploitation

"We believe the ends justify the means even if animals feel pain or suffer from injury or ill-treatment."

NAIA opposes animal exploitation!!

Animal welfare

"The ends do not justify the means. We want and obey laws and regulations that protect animals from pain and suffering; however, we don't like self-styled cruelty investigators who take animals without due process in the name of welfare."

NAIA supports animal welfare!!

Animal rights

"Many of us believe that the ends do justify the means. We all believe that animal rights should be guaranteed just as human rights are."

NAIA opposes animal rights!!

Animal control

"The ends do not justify the means. We believe that the very core of our system of government prevents us from taking the law into our own hands."

NAIA supports animal control.



Animal liberation

"We believe that the ends justify the means and will use any method to achieve our goal to liberate all animals from human use."

NAIA opposes animal liberation!!

NAIA opposes

Animal Exploitation

Exploiters believe that animals are theirs to use or abuse as they see fit, and they are willing to break current animal control and cruelty laws in their pursuits, including ...

- dog and cock fighting
- breeding and raising animals in inhumane, substandard conditions without regard for their health and welfare
- slaughtering food animals without regard for their pain and suffering
- illegal hunting
- smuggling live animals or animal parts

Animal Rights

Animal rights advocates believe that animals have intrinsic rights not to be owned, killed, used for research or interfered with in any way.

- Some animal rights activists and groups ...
- infiltrate and take over animal welfare groups and animal control agencies;
 - promote harassment and confrontation;
 - confiscate animals without due process;
 - sponsor spies to make false accusations of cruelty against legal businesses; and
 - serve as aboveground press agents for the criminal activities of animal liberationists.

Animal Liberation

Animal liberators don't care about the law; their goal is to eliminate human use of animals.

These and other clandestine or underground animal liberation groups use illegal and sometimes violent tactics.

- Animal Liberation Front: Damages property, threatens animal users, frees animals; PeTA has ties with ALF
- Animal Rights Militia: Claims responsibility for actions where human life has been put at risk in the course of liberating activities.
- Hunt Saboteurs: Interrupt hunts
- Earth Liberation Front: Shares personnel with ALF and participates in some ALF raids.