

## **Report of the National Nominating Committee**

The Committee composed of Per Rismyhr, Chair (Zone 1), Jackie Cavalin (Zone 2), Lisa Arnett (Zone 3), Sharon Gerling (Zone 4), and Diane Hill (Zone 5) recommend the following nominees:

For Officers:

President, Diane Kepley (Zone 2) -- Incumbent

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Anthony Stallard (Zone 3) – Current 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Kathleen Brock (Zone 4) – Current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

For Directors at Large, Class of 2023

Linda Bennett (Zone 2)

Laurie Foley (Zone 5)

Jeff Wright (Zone 5)

Information about these candidates is below.

### **DIANE KEPLEY**

It is an incredible honor to have been nominated to serve a second term as President of the American Spaniel Club.

I am a life member of the ASC, and served as a Director at Large for six years, and am the club's current president. During my current tenure, the club has adopted a revised breed standard, and it has approved a revision to the ASC Bylaws which allow for the creation of a new entry-level Associate membership.

My involvement in purebred dogs includes judging the entire Sporting Group at AKC shows. As a judge I have developed a deep appreciation for the other flushing spaniel breeds as well. I am an ASC-approved breed mentor for Cocker Spaniels, and have devoted time in working with potential judges to expand their understanding of the breed standard. Many ASC members may recognize me as the chief ring announcer for the Flushing Spaniel Shows and the National Specialty Shows.

My family owned our first Cocker Spaniel when I was four years old, however I did not start showing or breeding until 1989, when Westhaven Cockers was established. Dogs I have owned or bred have attained titles in conformation, performance and companion events.

In my professional life, I was a broadcast journalist for more than 40 years, working for local and national news organizations, including The Associated Press. My work was grounded in objectively analyzing issues, considering facts and hearing from people on all sides, traits which I believe are useful in contacts with club matters.

I have a passionate interest in our breed, its health, and in preserving its wonderful qualities. I am also committed in working for the betterment of our club, ensuring that it not only remains fiscally strong, but also that it expands to include a diversity of activities and people.

Thank you for this opportunity to once again serve the American Spaniel Club.

### **ANTHONY (TONY) STALLARD**

I am a Life member of the American Spaniel Club and the Detroit Cocker Spaniel Club. I am currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President of ASC. I have served on the board previously as a Director at Large, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President.

As the Chairman of the Finance Committee, I have worked to bring financial stability to the business side of the club. I am retired from a career in Operations and Training at Nuclear Power Plants and veteran of the US Navy Submarine Service.

I am married to the brains and the talent side of Saratoga Cockers, Joan. We have 2 kids and three grandkids. We have been involved in Cocker Spaniels for 40 years primarily showing in Conformation with black and tans, but sometimes a brown or parti will sneak in the mix. We currently have dogs involved in Agility, Tracking, and Scent Work.

I believe I can represent the interests of both the Conformation and Performance ASC Members.

### **KATHLEEN BROCK**

As a Life member of the American Spaniel Club and the Washington State Cocker Spaniel Club I have served these Club's in almost every

capacity. I am the current 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President to of the American Spaniel Club and Secretary for the Washington State Cocker Spaniel Club. I have been the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Director at Large, an Alternate Zone IV Director and the Show Chair for the 2018 Regional for the American Spaniel Club.

One of my most memorable times with our Club was judging the Parti-Color Variety at the Flushing Show in 2016.

I got my first Cocker Spaniel in 1978 and have finished many champions, one CD dog and recently my first RN dog. I love our breed and totally enjoy my house mouse Brody.

Thank you for the opportunity to seve the American Spaniel Club again, it would be my honor.

### **LINDA BENNETT**

I got started in cockers in 1972, when Ruth and Art Benhoff (Artru) gave me a Red Baron girl, bred by Janet and Mike Lodge (Jan-Myr). She turned out to be a wonderful pet thanks to my lackluster handling skills and was followed by another girl, sired by the great Sandpiper.

I belonged to the Capital City and Maryland clubs, and had joined ASC. We moved to Florida in 1983, when I joined the South Atlantic Cocker Club, sponsored by Laura Henson (Kaplar) who had become my mentor in western Maryland before the move.

Once I married Hal, we brought home a black and tan girl to replace the buff geriatrics and that started Toybox Cockers. The rest is all history!

I had to rejoin the ASC, due to membership lapse during my divorce, and have been a life member for more than a decade. I became very active in the SACSC, and have served as it's president or vice president for more than 35 years. Our club is extremely successful and we put on one large specialty show each year in September.

I also served on the Board of the ASC as a Zone II Director and as an At-Large Director in the past and was Show Chair for the 2015 ASC National Specialty show. I am co-chair for the 2020 Summer Show and also enjoy my role as Trophy Chair for that show.

Toybox has bred 175 champions, mostly in black and black and tan, and healthy, happy beautiful puppies continue to be my passion. We have bred many Futurity winners, ASC winners and a few BISS dogs, but I always eagerly anticipate the next new show puppies.

Now retired after forty years of teaching high school government and history, I have more time and energy to devote to the Board of ASC again and am looking forward to my next term as an At-Large Director.

### **LAURIE FOLEY**

I have been a member of the American Spaniel Club since 2006. I have served as a Board Member of the American Spaniel Club Foundation and was on the initial American Spaniel Club Strategic Planning Committee.

My primary contribution to the Club has been fund-raising. I have been the fund-raising chair for the Flushing Show for several years and have served as Memorabilia Chair for the National Specialty twice. Currently, I am co-chairing the fund-raising efforts for the Cataract Study. Thanks to the efforts of ASC's membership and other American Cocker Spaniel advocates, the funds have been raised to cover the initial contract (3 years) and 2 of the 3 years of the second contract.

In addition to ASC I have been active in several other not-for-profit organizations. I was on the Board of Directors of the DFW Black Tie Dinner for 9 years and served as Co-Chair for 2 years. Each of those two years the Dinner raised over \$1 million. I served on the Board of Directors of the Resource Center of Dallas, was involved in its \$8 million capital campaign, and was President of that Board for 2 years. I also chaired an event for an organization that raised funds for the Dallas Theater Center. Currently I am Co-Chair of a Regional Committee for Texas Pride Impact Funds, a statewide startup GLBT Foundation in Texas.

Not only have I been involved with cocker spaniels for almost twenty years, but I have a champion English Cocker that every day makes me laugh and goes to work with me. I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors of ASC.

## **JEFF WRIGHT**

I have always loved animals, and my first pure-bred cocker was a gift from my parents on my 9th birthday. When I was 15, my parents moved to the farm, and I decided to raise a litter of cocker pups. This led me to purchase a show quality pup which was my introduction into the world of all-breed dog shows I showed her for a year, then gave up my dream of finishing her championship title. She however did produce my first homebred champion, a buff bitch named Ch. Terje's Touch Of Class.

My kennel name is a combination of my mother's first name and mine. Teresa, my mother, was my assistant for the first 20 years of handling dogs. I am now in my 45th year of handling, and I would like to thank both of my parents for their countless hours of help and support always. I also have had wonderful assistants, which made the journey thus far much easier. I bred Ch Empire's Brooklyn Dodger who is still the top producing sire in the breed, and Ch Terje's Thumbelina, who is a top producing dam with 23 champions.

I have served in many ASC positions such as on the standards committee and show committees, and have given my time and helped when I could to pay back what has been a rewarding lifetime in the sport of dogs. I am always willing to help educate the new faces in our sport and also help judges in clarifying our standard. I have always kept an open mind and always search for more knowledge concerning our wonderful breed.

I have had the honor to judge the Futurity at ASC Flushing Spaniel Show two times, 20 years apart, as well as judging the regular classes in January 2016.

### **Reports of the Zone Nominating Committees**

#### **Zone 1**

The Zone 1 Nominating Committee composed of Kim Valvolo, Chair; Carolyn Grabowski Kelley, and Marlene Ness recommend the following candidates:

Incumbent Zone 1 Director, Stacy Dobmeier (Pennsylvania)  
Incumbent Alternate Zone 1 Director Heidi Armour (Pennsylvania)

## **Zone 2**

The Zone 2 Nominating Committee composed of Lindy Bennett, Chair, Frank Martinez, and Marilyn Spacht recommend the following candidates:

Incumbent Zone 2 Director, Dale Ward (Mississippi)

Incumbent Alternate Zone 2 Director Karin Linde Klerholm (Florida)

## **Zone 3**

The Zone 3 Nominating Committee composed of Genea Jones, Chair, Suzzanne Bambule, and Tommy Smalley recommend the following candidates:

For Director, Laura Heidrich (Illinois)

Incumbent Alternate Zone 3 Director Lisa Arnett (Michigan)

*Two members of the Zone 3 nominating committee, Genea Jones and Suzzanne Bambule have filed financial disclosure statements indicating that they have co-bred litters with the Zone Director nominee, Laura Heidrich, and have exchanged monies with Mrs. Heidrich as a result. While they anticipate that co-ownerships and/or co-breeding will continue, neither anticipates that they would benefit financially or otherwise by having Mrs. Heidrich as the Zone 3 Director.*

## **Zone 4**

The Zone 4 Nominating Committee composed of Sherry Blondheim, Chair, Cindy Durham, and Michaela Garloff recommend the following candidates:

For Director, Stephanie Kaul (California)

For Alternate Director, Mariecel Torres Young (Current Director At Large, Class of 2020) (Oregon)

## **Zone 5**

The Zone 5 Nominating Committee composed of Mary Napper, Chair, Lindy Beeson, and Jeff Wright recommend the following nominees:

For Director, DeAnn Jepson (Missouri)

For Alternate, Beth Moore (Texas)

Information about Zone Nominees who are not current Board members is below:

### **LAURA HEIDRICH**

No biography received.

### **DEANN JEPSON**

Deann Jepson has owned Cocker Spaniels for over 40 years and been an American Spaniel Club, Inc. (ASC) member since 2008. She has always loved Cocker Spaniels and even wrote a paper about the history of the breed when she was in sixth grade. For the past 12 years, Deann has been showing her Cockers in conformation as an owner/handler, with several finished champions and grand champions under her belt. She is always eager to learn and has the betterment of the breed in mind.

Deann currently serves as Alternate Zone 5 Director and ASC website coordinator. On a professional level, she is a respected team leader, project manager, and writer for a consulting firm specializing in behavioral health. She has a distinctive portfolio, including formal education and experience in health care communications. Deann is looking forward to an opportunity to continue taking an active role with ASC and applying her combined experience, skills, and passion for spaniels! Deann lives in Platte City, Missouri with her two sons, Christian and Matthew.

### **STEPHANIE KAUL**

I have been involved with (and in love with) cocker spaniels since I was 10 years old, when I showed my first cocker spaniel in junior handling. After college, getting married, building a career, and starting a family, I returned to dog shows and began my breeding program under the Samamari kennel name. Since then, dogs I've shown and/or owned have won multiple Bests in Show, Bests in Specialty, group placements, and some lovely ASC wins. I have served on the ASC Board, serving as Zone IV Director and 2nd Vice President. I currently

serve as the ASC Show Liaison as well as the communications chair of the ASC Strategic Planning Committee. I was the show chairman for two successful and profitable Zone IV national specialties in 2013 and 2018. I am honored to be nominated as the Zone IV Director for the upcoming term.

## **BETH MOORE**

After attending my first dog show in 1974 as a spectator I fell in love with cocker spaniels. This was the most perfect dog for me and my young family.

Soon after this I purchased a buff puppy bitch, a pet. We loved her dearly but she was not show quality and I didn't realize there would be such a difference. This is where my learning process began and I studied everything I could get my hands on to learn more and more about the Cocker Spaniel breed.

One line stood out to me. The Kaplar Cockers!! It wasn't until about 1976 that I contacted Laura Henson inquiring about purchasing a "show quality" cocker spaniel puppy. With two small children and very limited funds, plus being a stay at home mom Laura sold me a black and tan puppy dog. With this puppy came some grooming scissors, and lots of encouragement by long distance. When the puppy was a year old I shipped him back to Laura and she finished him easily, Ch. Kaplar's Scottish Klansman.

Of course, after this I was totally bitten by the "bug" and my next purchase would be a quality bitch that I could finish and begin my breeding program with. This was a very nice black bitch sired by Ch. Kaplar's Kassanova. She finished with ease. Long story short, she was the producer of several champions. One of which was very special, Ch. Windmill's What Class. A typey black bitch that thought very highly of herself. "Maddy" went on to win many awards and is still remembered fondly by many.

She won the Summer National in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1989 with many all breed BIS's, then on to Best In Show at the ASC winter show in 1990. She was presented by Greg Anderson during her campaign. They were an exciting pair to see in the ring. From that breeding came many other champions for my Windmill Cockers. My cockers were campaigned until the year 2000. The last two dogs were



presented by Nichol Conner who always did and still does a lovely job with all of her dogs that she owns and occasionally shows for others.

During my time owning, breeding, and showing cocker spaniels I also did several co-breedings of Golden Retrievers with my sister, Debbie Littleton, Wyndehill Goldens. Several champions as well as a multiple BIS dog came from our co-breedings.

I am currently a lifetime member of the Panhandle Kennel Club, all breed club in Amarillo, Texas and attend our shows regularly as well as attending shows in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area as a spectator. I have also judged several Cocker Sweepstakes, as well as a large Golden Retriever Sweepstakes in Ft. Worth. Also, I have judged area all breed Fun Matches.

I retired from my hectic career 2 years ago. Recently I was offered a part time position with a new orthopedic surgeon who is allowing me all of the time off that I need or want due to my scheduled trips with my husband and also time off for all of the ASC events that are required in this position of Zone Alternate.

Cockers are my first love and always will hold a special place in my heart. I currently own a lovely Golden Retriever bitch from a very well known breeder, Linda Willard, High Mark Golden Retrievers. I can't imagine life without a dog.

I look forward to my future with ASC, as well as time with my husband.

Thank you for nominating me to fill the position of Zone Alternate with the American Spaniel Club.

### **ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS**

Additional nominations of eligible Full Members to the National Slate may be made by written petition addressed to the Secretary and received at his regular address on or before **November 15th**, signed by five (5) Full Members from each Zone and accompanied by the written acceptance of each such nominee signifying his willingness to be a candidate, in addition to a summary or resume, and short biography of the nominee.

Additional nominations of eligible Full Members to a position of Zone Director or alternate, may be made by written petition addressed to the Secretary and received at his regular address on or before **November 15th**, signed by ten (10) Full Members in the respective Zone, and accompanied by the written acceptance of each such nominee signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate in addition to a short biography of the nominee.

American Spaniel Club Secretary  
P.O. Box 4194  
Frankfort, KY 40604

If additional nominations are made as above, the Secretary will send out a ballot on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>. If no additional nominations are received by November 15<sup>th</sup>, the above nominees shall be declared elected at the Annual Meeting in January.

Submitted by:

Kathleen Patterson  
ASC Secretary