

Program Schedule

Saturday, November 12, 2011

7:30 Continental Breakfast

**8:00 Patti Strand, Founder and Chair: Welcome Remarks and Introduction;
Overview of Challenges Facing Purebred Dogs.**

9:00 Larry Katz, NAIA President: The Development of Breeds is a presentation on the development of unique dog breeds, with a focus on the development of genetic diversity as a breed's population grows, founder's effect and other hurdles.

10:00 Break

10:15 Matthew Ellinwood, DVM, PhD: Understanding and Utilizing Coefficients to Improve Breed Health covers the practice of using coefficients to measure genetic diversity within blood lines and the role of inbreeding, line breeding, and outcrossing to expose and eliminate problems, improve health, and consolidate desirable traits in purpose-bred animals.

11:15 Frances Smith, DVM PhD: Genetic Tests and Other Tools Available to Today's Breeders reviews the many new genetic tests and tools that breeders can use to identify and eliminate genetic diseases in dogs today.

12:20 – 1:20 Lunch

1:30 John New, Jr., DVM, MPH, DACVPM and Janet Scarlett, DVM, MPH, PhD American Dog Ownership: Sources, Trends and Challenges will discuss changes in the sources of dogs available to US consumers and how these changes may impact American dog ownership.

2:30 Arnold L. Goldman DVM, MS, MPH: Taking Control of Rescue Dog Trafficking in Connecticut presents a veterinarian's perspective on the modern phenomenon of interstate commerce in shelter dogs. He will discuss the CVMA's effort to protect its members' clients, patients and state from disease, fraud and unethical conduct too frequently associated with dog trafficking. He exposes the ways animal exporting states, citizens, rescues, and some animal control agencies turn a blind eye to unintended spontaneous reproduction of domestic animals at home, allowing other states to carry their load.

3:15 Break

3:30 Marty Greer, DVM, JD and Julian Prager, JD: Panel on Animal Law: Legal and Legislative Challenges to Purebred Dogs will demonstrate how strategic activism poses legal and legislative challenges to the continuation of purebred dogs.

4:30 Dennis Foster, Lt. Col. (retired), E.D. Masters of Foxhound Association: Activist Campaigns Against Dog Ownership and Breeding will provide concrete examples of extremist tactics.

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8:00 Panel Discussion with Steven Crawford, Managing Vice President, Wojdak and Associates, Bryan Langlois, DVM, Veterinarian for Humane League of Lancaster County, Karel Minor, Executive Director Berks County Humane Society, Julian Prager, JD, Legislative Coordinator for NAIA and the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, and Representatives of the Commercial Dog Breeding Industry: Raising the Bar in Large-Scale Breeding Kennels will review welfare trends in large scale breeding kennels, discuss the process and effectiveness of recent Pennsylvania dog legislation and offer perspectives and recommendations for improving practices further. **Marty Greer, DVM, JD, NAIA Board Member will moderate.**

9:00 David Waters, DVM, PhD: In Search of a Strategic Disturbance: Some Thoughts on the Timing of Spaying presents a thoughtful re-evaluation of our assumptions regarding the health consequences of elective ovariohysterectomy in pet dogs. Conventional wisdom says spaying promotes longevity. However, recent evidence from 3 different species – dog, human, mouse – points to a potentially contradictory conclusion: *Ovaries are part of a system that promotes longevity.* This lecture takes a look at the experimental evidence, encouraging a systems approach so that we might re-shape our thinking about the physiological impact of spaying and commit ourselves to making spaying a strategic physiological disturbance.

10:00 Break

10:15 Kirsten Nielsen, PhD, CPDT: A Breeder's Lasting Effect on a Puppy's Behavior covers the lifelong behavioral effects a breeder can have on their puppies, critical periods in development, and the vital need to balance a puppy's health concerns with regular stimulation and socialization.

11:15 Paul Mundell, National Director for Canine Programs, Canine Companions for Independence and NAIA Board Member: Practical Applications in Service Dog Breeding Programs focuses on the techniques used to deal with the challenges of maintaining genetic diversity while breeding for specific traits in service animals.

Lunch 12:15 – 1:20

1:30 Rick Kelly, Media Consultant: Strategic Communications Advice for Dog Professionals and Enthusiasts.

2:30 Panelists from the Audience Including Breeder/Enthusiasts, Becky Van Houten (Otter Hounds) and Norma Woolf (Canaan Dogs) and Veterinarians: Preserving Breeds with Special Challenges: Panelists will discuss issues such as small gene pools, overcoming specific health problems within breeds and the special challenge of overcoming public misperceptions.

Conference wrap up