



# AKC PUREBRED PRESERVATION BANK

Where We Started and Where We Are

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Chairman, AKC PPB  
June 2023

Despite the success of the Otterhounds

## Five Years Later...



- No other clubs had launched a bank to date
- A few are in-process
- There are significant barriers that individual clubs must overcome.

**Legal, Procedural, Financial, Political**

# 2021

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- CEO Dennis Sprung suggested that AKC establish an All-Breed Preservation Bank to benefit **all** AKC Parent Clubs
- The AKC Board created a working group to explore this idea







# Exploration

Surveyed Parent Club leaders

Outreach to Veterinary Theriogenologists

Contacted semen storage facilities

Discussed at AKC Delegate Committees

Consulted outside legal counsel

Worked with wide variety of technical experts



# AKC Purebred Preservation Bank

A group of fluffy golden retriever puppies walking in the snow. The puppies are in various stages of movement, some looking towards the camera and others looking down. The background is a bright, snowy landscape.

In July 2021, the AKC Board approved the creation & funding of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank

New separate 501c(3) organization

Not a semen bank

Not to compete with current breeders



## Board of Directors

- Jerold Bell DVM
- Dominic Carota
- Mark Dunn
- Charles Garvin MD
- Marty Greer DVM, JD
- JoEllen Gregory DVM
- Ted Phillips CPA
- Tom Powers JD
- Vanessa Skou





# AKC<sup>®</sup> Purebred Preservation Bank

## Mission Statement

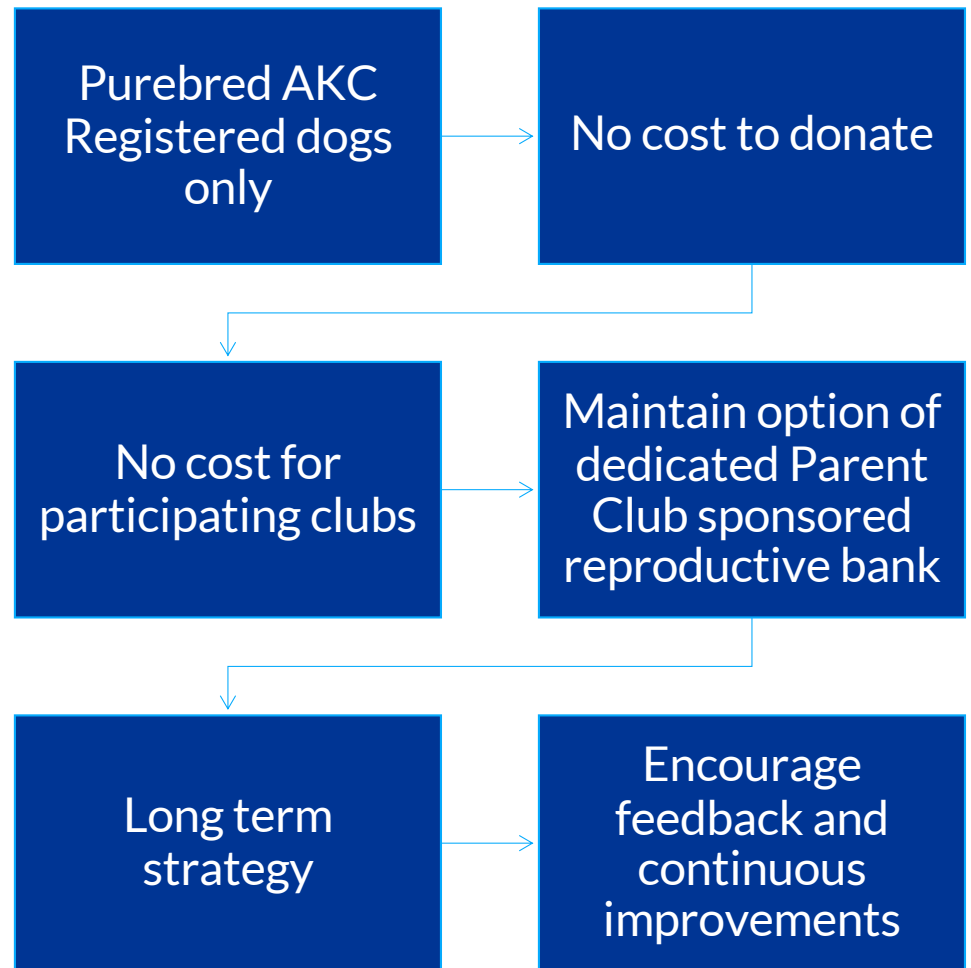
The Mission of the AKC Purebred Preservation Bank (AKC PPB) is to ensure the viability of purebred dogs.

This valuable service is necessary to salvage or restore endangered dog breeds now and in the future.

While coordinating efforts with non-profit breed-specific clubs, the AKCPPB will educate breeders, clubs, and the public about the importance of safeguarding frozen semen and protecting purebred dog breeds for future decades.



# Principles & Concepts





## Sources of Semen

- Donations of existing samples
- Donations of new collection
- Bequests
- Abandoned

Donated frozen semen without accompanying **information** is of little value!

What is it about this semen sample that makes it valuable to potentially preserve the breed?







## What information is needed to optimize donation?

- AKC Name, Number, Date of Birth
- Breed/Variety - Color, Markings, Height, Weight
- Health Testing: CHIC & OFA numbers
- AKC DNA Profile Number
- Litters Produced + offspring health information
- Data on Semen collection, storage
- Legal agreements
- Your comments, Photos, Video links

## Levels of Semen Information and Value – Health Testing

- Taken and passed all Parent Club recommended health testing
- Taken some of the health testing and passed
- Failed some of the health testing
- Unknown testing or results
- Unsuitable for breeding, but possibly useful for subsequent research





*Partners in  
Preservation*  
Storage Facilities

Iowa State University

ICSB – International Canine Semen Bank

North Carolina State University

Others



# Semen Storage Facilities Requirements



Cost effective

Experienced

Reliable

Responsible

Risk Mitigation Strategies

# Steps for Future Semen Distribution

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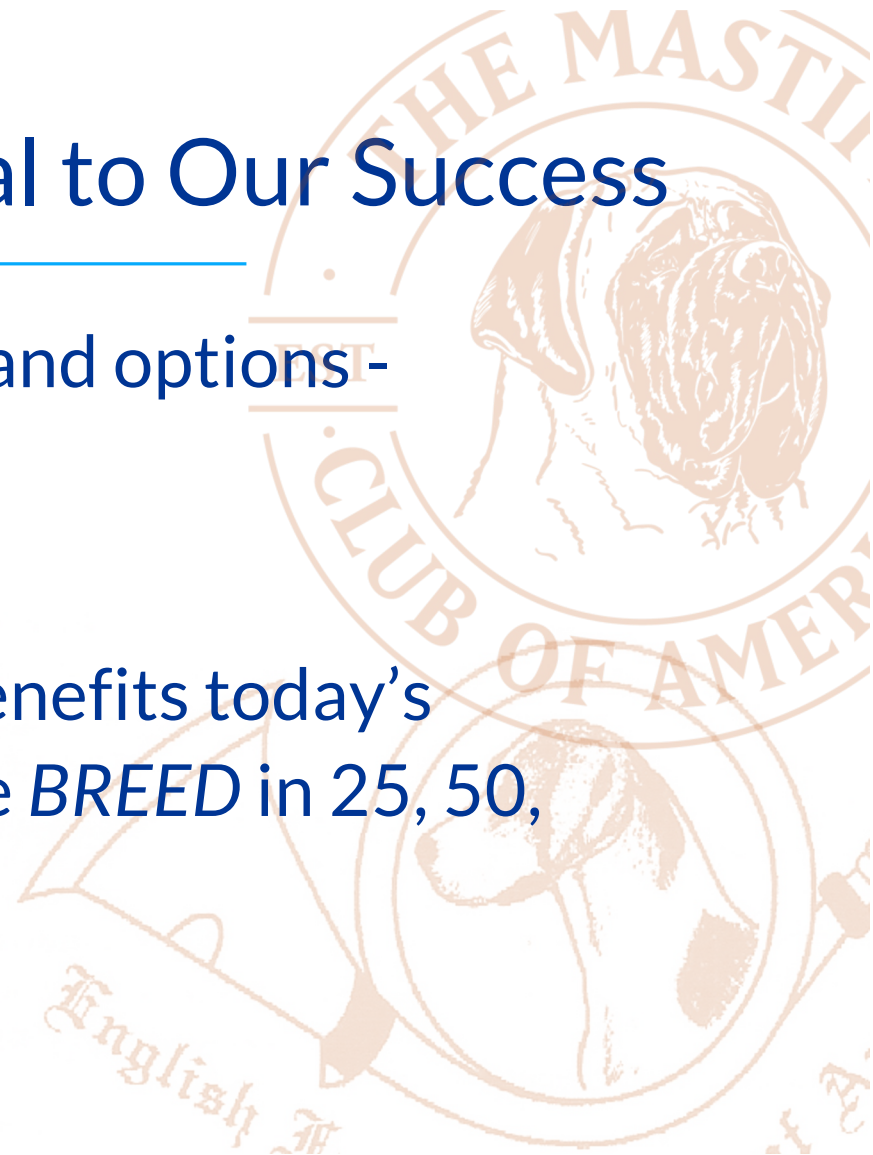
- Breeder chooses on AKC PPB website from available supply
- Breeder submits application to AKC PPB, pays appropriate fee
- AKC PPB compares application with predetermined criteria for the proposed dam and breeder
- Once approved, frozen semen shipped to breeder's veterinarian
- Bitch is impregnated per veterinary recommendations
- Litter of puppies successfully whelped
- AKC litter registration completed

*Everyone lives happily ever after!*

# Parent Clubs are Integral to Our Success

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- Parent clubs will have choices and options - not mandates!
- Long Term project
- Major shift in thinking: what benefits today's breeders to what is best for the *BREED* in 25, 50, or 100+ years





# Delegate Parent Club Committee Survey on AKC PPB

- Sent to PC Presidents, Secretaries, Delegates on May 8, 2023
- Goals
  - Understand awareness
  - Gather concerns and issues
  - Collect suggestions
  - Solicit questions
- Closed on 5/31 and received 69 responses



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# What is needed of Parent Clubs?



Desire to participate

Create decision-making entity

Point person to work with the AKC PPB

Breed specific information for application process

-Health testing  
-Phenotypic traits  
-Other genetic testing

Suggest criteria for semen acceptance & use

Ongoing conversations with membership!

# Philosophy



Donations vs. Distribution



# Policies Under Discussion

- Parent Club membership requirements
- Role of Breeder of Merit or Bred with HEART
- Long term financing
- Contingency planning
- Dogs of foreign registries
- Dispute resolution



Courtesy of the AKC Library and Archives

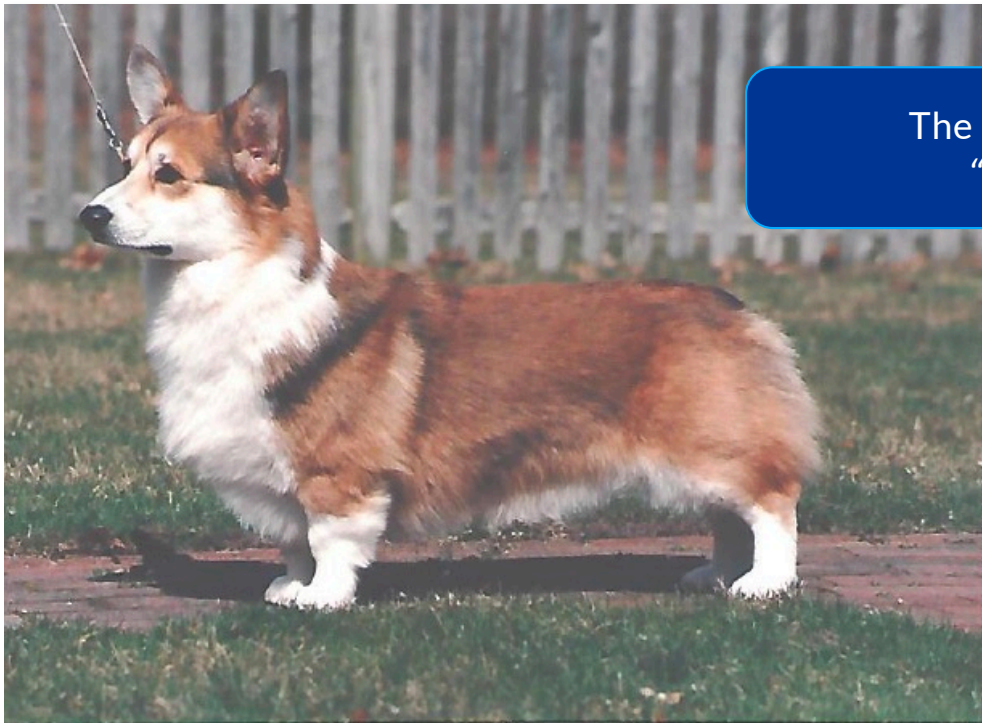


## Current Status

- Pilot Program now underway
  - Beta testing
  - Accepting donations
  - Eliciting feedback on paperwork and processes
- IRS has given determination as a tax-exempt organization and a public charity



CH Heronsway How Sweet it is, ROMX  
Pembroke Welsh Corgi  
August 31, 1996



The 1<sup>st</sup> Donor!  
"Jackie"



Owner:  
Mrs. Anne Bowes

GCH VL Seelowen Kayak Calm Waters  
CD, RN, CGC, AOM, HIT  
Leonberger  
September 3, 2010

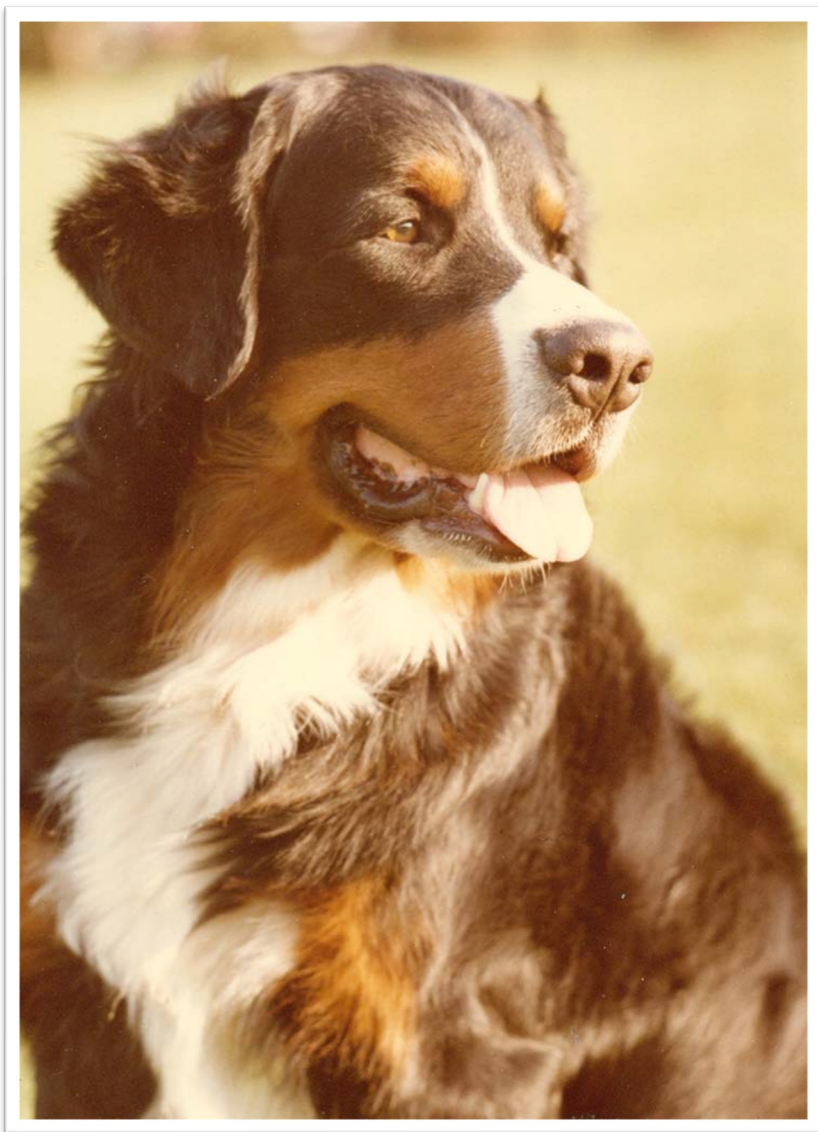


Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Donor:  
"Kayak"



Owner: Mrs. Astrid Robitaille





# Donation Process

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1. Semen owner completes forms:
  - a) Donor Application and Semen Profile
  - b) Genetic Material Donation Agreement
2. Committee reviews applications
3. Semen ownership is transferred to AKC PPB
4. Semen kept in place or transported to central storage facility

# Summary

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AKC Purebred Preservation Bank is being developed to assist Parent Clubs in preserving their breed's genetic heritage

Parent Clubs will suggest decision and selection criteria.  
AKC PPB will provide organization, infrastructure, funding and implementation.

Focus is not on today's breeders or breeding programs, rather on the long-term future of *your breed*.

# From the Mission Statement

... protecting purebred  
dog breeds for future  
decades.





# Thank You

We welcome your questions and comments.

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