



### OFFICERS

**President**  
 SHERYL BRADBURY ('26)  
 816-308-2424

**Vice President**  
 SUE VOLKMER ('27)  
 402-651-9884

**Secretary**  
 LANA PETERSEN (26)

**Treasurer**  
 NORINE NIEMAN ('27)  
 402-697-7006

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A.I. (NINA) GOTTSCH ('26)  
 402-715-5254

CINDI GREDYS ('26}  
 402-297-0010

SHAYNE FILI ('27)  
 402-203-3508

SHELLY REHMEIER ('27)  
 402-670-3902

**AKC DELEGATE**  
 MEDORA HARPER  
 402-571-7036

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**EDITOR**  
 SHARON BOURKE  
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## MEETING NOTICE

### JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Bellevue University  
 Hitchcock Humanities Building  
 1040 Bruin Boulevard, Room 202  
 Bellevue, NE.

Parking is available in any lot on campus

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84568560093?pwd=bair4Qfa7al2OV6ZJbEbNzCyd7al7r.1>

Meeting ID: 845 6856 0093  
 Passcode: 244675

## **PROGRAM**

Dr. Jeffrey R. Stevens, PhD,  
 Professor of Psychology at UNL

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*Max Hurd, a lifetime member of the Nebraska Kennel Club, passed away. The Nebraska Kennel Club expresses its deepest sympathy to his family.*

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## NOMINATIONS

At the **January NKC General Meeting**, nominations will be taken for NKC President, Secretary, two Board of Directors.  
 See page 7 for more de “tails.”

### *Inside this issue:*

<i>Minutes.....</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
<i>January NKC Program.....</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>NKC Member Awards.....</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Nominations.....</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>AKC Delegates Report.....</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>2025 NKC Holiday Party Photos.....</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>NKC Ring Stewarding.....</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Growler Advertising Rates.....</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>Contact Growler Editor.....</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>NKC Standing Committees.....</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>2026 Calendar of Events.....</i>	<i>Page 12</i>

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL FOR FEBRUARY GROWLER, FEBUARY 6, 2026

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

No Meeting

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**JANUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 7, 2026**

**7:00pm CST**

**Call to order:** 7:00 pm CST

**Attendance:**

Via Zoom: Sheryl Bradbury, Sue Volkmer, Shelly Rehmeier, Lana Petersen, Norine Nieman, Nina Gottsch, Barbara Hill, Cindi Gredys  
Absent: Shayne Fili

**Approval of Minutes from December 2025 Board meeting:** Nina Gottsch moved to approve. Sue Volkmer seconded the motion, motion carried,

**Report of the President** – Sheryl Bradbury/NTR

**Report of the Vice President** – Sue Volkmer/NTR

**Report of the Treasurer** – Norine Nieman/Treasurer's report - All income & expenses discussed and clarified. Scent work trial financial breakdown also discussed and approved. Holiday party and end of year also discussed.

**Report of the Secretary** – Lana Petersen/NTR

**New Membership Applications:**

Sharlene Radach  
Michaela Koskovick

\*Have attended meeting and application read. Will be voted on at the general member meeting, (?)

**Unfinished Business:**

Facebook Private Group Dissolution, update - Shelly/Shelly does have administrative access and is working on getting it deleted. Sheryl suggested she contact Liz Koehn to help with the process.

2027 & 2028 Sandhills Global Venue availability - Sheryl/NTR

T-Shirts - Lana/Noone has contacted her to list team members that should receive a t-shirt for volunteer events. Their company has invested in inventory and if they are not going to support the members with a t-shirt, she would like to know so that inventory can be returned.

Approval for \$1000 Scholarship matching funds for AKC Junior Event Cindi Gredys moved to approve Lana Petersen seconded the motion, motion carried Mentorships for Events - Progress/ NTR

## 2025 July Board Business Discussion -

- Youth Programs -  
Earning the Regional Jr Event -May/ We have achieved that order of business with The Regional Event this year.  
Scholarship Revamp - Nina Gottsch to put together policy scenarios for reimbursement of National Breed or Westminster travel expenses.
- Growing as a club  
membership  
community
- Asked why are you in the club? What do you want from the NKC?  
Rachel Pickering - wants to do more for the club, sporting breeds, interested in co chair(2027), Procedure manuals or job descriptions.  
Samantha Vangi - wants to learn about shows, she helps with events. Would like to have Samantha work with Norine to learn the treasury position, especially with digital payment. Samantha would like a club table at our events.  
Jessie O'Hara - very busy with work and dog sports, nose work.

Lizz Stone - Wants more of the Dog Community to know about NKC. There is an untapped group of people that would get more involved with dog sports, SEO social media boosting.

Elizabeth Bradbury - work with Lizz Stone on "places" for dogs in the community, partner with Companion on dog classes, get involved with non AKC clubs. Magnets, bumper stickers, business cards available at events. Review the application to not be so Show dog focused, advertise the club benefits, work with Omaha dog bars for a club event.

Anna Stork - has an 8 year old son, she will be getting him into juniors when he turns 9. She volunteers as much as she can. She will start talking to her friends with dogs as well. Has a busy roll in the NEBTC.

Dalton Shotkoski - In the club because of his dogs, and he runs Weimerimers, juniors and conformation, handles for people. Dalton has requested a program on Hunting!

Libby Lancaster - In the club because of the great people. Learning opportunities and in 10 years she does look to be in leadership of the club. She feels we do a great job offering things for the members. Number 1 Youth in coon hound and UKC

Katelyn Kruse - has some amazing ideas and align with the rest of the invites. Norine and Shelly commented on all the great ideas and said we need them to step up and help grow!

Additional ideas - sponsoring corgi crew or other dog events!

Sue also commented that we are a fun group, please bring us ideas and help bring them to life!

Nina agreed with everything that was said!

Barb Hill reinforced the opportunity to add club volunteerism on to their resume or application.

### **New Business:**

**2026 Board Meetings:**

January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2

Sue Volkmer moved to approve Norine Nieman seconded the motion, motion carried

**2026 General Meeting Programs & Location:**

January 21, 2026 - Dr. Jeffrey R. Stevens, PhD, Professor of Psychology at UNL & Election nomination

February 18, 2026 - Award Banquet/Election

March 18, 2026 - Ring Stewarding

April 15, 2026 - Lou Meyers, Disabled Dogs, Training and Challenges

May 20, 2026 -

June 17(?), 2026 - Club Picnic - No Formal General Meeting

July 2026 - No General Member Meeting

August 19, 2026 -

September 16, 2026 -

October 21 -

November 18 -

December 16 - Holiday Party/No Formal General Meeting

Norine Nieman moved to approve Sue Volkmer seconded the motion, motion carried

**2026 NKC Event Dates -**

Annual Awards Banquet - February 18, 2026/Shelly Rehmeier

FastCAT - April 17, 18 & 19, 2026 - Banner Park/Michelle Myers & Ron Weeks

NKC All Breed Dog Show - May 15, 16, 17, 2026, Sandhills Global Event Center, Lincoln, NE

Pointer National - May 14, 2026 -

Junior Showmanship Regional Event - May 16, 2026

Scent Work Trial - July 10 - 12, 2026, Iowa Western Community College -

Detective Trial - July 26, 2026, Bellevue University, Bellevue, NE.

FastCAT - September 11 - 13, 2026 Michelle Myers

Tracking Test - November 8, 2026

Scent Work Trial - December 4-6, 2026 @ Werner Park

Holiday Party - December 16, 2026

Sue Volkmer moved to approve Cindi Gredys seconded the motion, motion carried

**Additional 2026 Event Discussions**

- Barn Hunt - Sheryl has had discussion with Ron Weeks to look into the possibility of having an NKC Barn Hunt event or two.

- Obedience/Rally Weekend - Sheryl has had a discussion with Ron Weeks to think about it and looking at the challenges for dates

- Fun Match

**Meeting Programs - Expanding to dog community**

Dalton & Michelle Presentation on hunting/Sue Volkmer to follow up with Michelle Myers

Cheryl Morris

Chiropractic

Rehab Veterinarian

AKC Delegate position - Medora has one more year and position will be open for 2027. Sheryl will get more information to anyone interested.

Max Hurd Passing - Max will be missed by many. He was a lifetime member of the Nebraska Kennel Club.

Board Positions Expiring

President - Sheryl Bradbury

Secretary - Lana Petersen

Director 1 - Nina Gottsch

Director 2 - Cindi Gredys

Sue Volkmer has asked that Lana please send out an inquiry to membership. Sheryl has asked that it get done this week or the start of next week. Lana stated she would have something out this week and again, prior to general meeting again.

Platte Valley Kennel Club Date - Platte Valley would like to hold two three-day weekend agility trials in La Vista, NE and an Obedience /Rally CDC on the following dates:  
Request was sent to club. It doesn't conflict with an NKC event.

Cindi Gredys moved to approve Sue Volkmer seconded the motion, motion carried Cindi Gredys, Sue Volkmer and Lana Petersen approved, Norine Nieman opposed and Shelley Rehmeier abstained.

Barb Hill put together a voucher spreadsheet. The board reviewed the information and the general consensus was that the vouchers are a great benefit to our members. The board was able to see the dollar amount of vouchers that are turned in to NKC events and a breakdown of which events they are used for.

Growler Deadline – January 9, 2026

Cindi Gredys motioned to adjourn at 9:22 pm. Shelly Rehmeier seconded; motion carried



# January 21, 2026, NKC Program

Our program for our January 21, 2026 general membership meeting will be Dr. Jeffrey Stevens. He will tell us about his lab and his most recent study which is about whether or not dog's have color preferences.

Dr. Stevens is a Professor in the Department of Psychology and the Center for Brain, Biology & Behavior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he directs the Canine Cognition and Human Interaction Lab. His research team plays games with dogs to understand their behavior with the aim of improving how owners and handlers train, work with, and live with dogs. This work integrates perspectives from biology, psychology, computer science, neuroscience, and economics to understanding canine cognition and the dog-human bond.

Dr. Stevens received his Ph.D. from University of Minnesota in Ecology before completing a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Psychology at Harvard University. He worked as a research scientist in the Center for Adaptive Behavior and Cognition at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin prior to his current position. He is also a data science mentor at Posit Academy.

Dr. Stevens is always on the look-out for highly motivated undergraduate students to join the Canine Cognition and Human Interaction Lab. Please contact him for more information.

*---Submitted by Sue Volkmer*

## NEBRASKA KENNEL CLUB MEMBER AWARDS

It's that time again, to celebrate our member's passion for the sport of dogs. We are excited to once again award our members with their title/titles to add to your plaques.

**Deadline for awards is January 31, 2026.**

An information form was emailed to you along with instructions about the plates and plaques which will be handed out at the February Awards Dinner. Look thru your pictures and select photos for our slide show and a portrait for the plaque if you are getting one.

PLEASE plan on picking awards up at the February Awards Banquet personally or make arrangements with someone you know to pick up for you. All awards must be picked up the night of the Awards Banquet on February 18th. Thank you!

If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Rehmeier at [shellyrehmeier@cox.net](mailto:shellyrehmeier@cox.net).

*---Submitted by Shelly Rehmeier*

# Nominations

In 2024, the constitution of the Nebraska Kennel Club changed. This was an oversight on my part and I apologize. ALL nominations for Officers, Board Directors and/or Delegate must be made in person or via zoom at the meeting on January 21, 2026.

The NKC Constitution requires staggered two-year terms. This year, 2026, candidates will be nominated for President, Secretary, and two Board positions. To be clear, the delegate IS NOT up for nomination or vote this year. The ONLY Officers and Board Directors positions, that will be nominated on and voted, are as follows:

**Current Officers and Board Members in termed positions. Officers and Board Directors may run again for current position, upon nomination.**

**President – Sheryl Bradbury**

**Secretary - Lana Petersen**

**Director 1 - Nina Gottsch**

**Director 2 - Cindi Gredys**

Please consider running for an Officer or Board position for this year!

Only members in good standing of the Nebraska Kennel Club for one (1) or more years at the conclusion of the annual meeting shall be eligible for nomination and election.

Anyone interested in taking an active part in the development and operation of our club should seriously consider running for an Officer or Board position.

Officers, Board Members, and AKC Delegate would be happy to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the position.

Again, you will need to be present or via Zoom at the January 21, 2026 General Membership meeting. There will be NO mail in or electronic email nominations.

**IMPORTANT:** You must receive permission from the person you are nominating, prior to nomination.

If elected, nominee must have Internet access to participate, at NKC Board and General Membership meetings.

I apologize for the inconvenience and the confusion this has caused and appreciate your understanding.

Thank you for your commitment and time.

Lana Petersen

# AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT

The quarterly meeting of the AKC Delegates was held in Orlando, Florida on December 12, 2025. 294 Delegates were present. The Canin Dog Show was the same week and there were over 5,000 entries.

President Gina Di Nardo called the meeting to order and introduced all seated on the platform. The September minutes from the meeting were approved as published. New Delegates were introduced as well as those who have passed since the last meeting.

Tom Davies gave his report on the state of the AKC and his thanks for all Delegates for their continued work and support of the AKC. There is a significant loss in revenue due to the fall of registering dogs with the AKC. Largest amount of revenue used to come from registration. Now, Conformation and Companion events offer highest amount of revenue followed by Performance events. Check the Gazette for more complete report on finances.

The amendments for the filed trials all passed. Several awards were given for clubs who have given outstanding breeder education programs

The PAC program continues to be a help in Government Relations. Any club member can give \$15.00 a month to help with expenses for PAC.

PAC: Preserve, Advocate, Care.

Respectfully,  
Medora Harper, Delegate

I am hoping you NKC members are considering the Delegate position as the position will be open soon. It is a very rewarding position and a good way to learn the actual AKC mission and how it is accomplished. I was fortunate to serve on many committees; both AKC Board appointed and Delegate elected. I was very active but not so much in the recent years.

Medora Harper



# 2025 NKC Holiday Party



# We're looking for you!

**RING STEWARD**  
**MAY 15, 16, 17 2026**



**You do not have to commit to all dates**  
**There will be a class in March to learn or brush up**  
**skills**  
**If you are interested, email me at below**  
**address!**

**No Experience Necessary**

**KATELYN1996@ICLOUD.COM**

**I can't wait to meet you!**  
**This is going to be a fun**  
**and exciting show to be a part of.**



## **GROWLER ADVERTISING RATES**

**NKC members:** \$10.00 per 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a page,  
\$75.00 for a full page

**Non-members:** \$15.00 per 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a page  
\$112.50 for a full page

Copy cannot change between issues of the Growler. *All ads are subject to NKC Board approval.*  
*NKC Members: No charge to advertise the sale of used dog equipment.*

## **CONTACT THE GROWLER EDITOR**

- ◆ **If you have something to contribute for the betterment of the dog fancy that you would like published in the Growler, please contact the Growler Editor.**
- ◆ **If you have a show win that you would like to brag about, information regarding an upcoming dog event, or poem, etc. to share with others, please contact the Growler Editor.**
- ◆ **If you are the Chair of an NKC committee and would like to inform the membership of the committee's activities, please contact the Growler Editor.**
- ◆ **If you have a photo of your dog to put in the Growler, please contact the Growler Editor.**
- ◆ **If you have something for the Growler, please contact the Growler Editor: Sharon Bourke, 402-677-6336, or e-mail: [omahasb@aol.com](mailto:omahasb@aol.com)**

## **NKC Standing Committees**

Obedience & Rally	Ron Weaks
Scent Work Chair	Sue Volkmer
Education	Vacancy
Growler Editor	Sharon Bourke
Training Director	Vacancy
NKC/AKC Legislative Liaison	Sandy Orr
Strategic Planning	Tim Bourke
Meeting Refreshments	Vacancy
Website	John & Irina Harrington
Event Planning	Vacancy
Fast CAT	Ron Weaks
Social Events	Vacancy
Obedience	Vacancy
Ways & Means	Vacancy

# **2026 Calendar of Events**



January 21	General Meeting
February 4	Board Meeting
February 18	Annual Awards Banquet
March 4	Board Meeting
March 18	General Meeting
April 1	Board Meeting
April 15	General Meeting
April 17, 18, & 19	Fast Cat
May 6	Board Meeting
May 14	Pointer National
May, 15, 16 & 17	All Breed Dog Show
May 20	General Meeting
June 3	Board Meeting
June 17	Club Picnic
July 1	Board Meeting
July 10 – 12	Scent Work Trial
July 15	No General Meeting
August 5	Board Meeting
August 19	General Meeting
September 2	Board Meeting
September 11 – 13	FastCAT
September 16	General Meeting
October 7	Board Meeting
October 21	General Meeting
November 4	Board Meeting
November 8	Tracking Test
November 18	General Meeting
December 2	Board Meeting
December 4-6	Scent Work Trial
December 16	Holiday Party

*Note: List subject to change --Sharon Bourke, Editor*