

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In May, the USA Working Dog Championships marked our second event to qualify for the 2010 WUSV Championship in Seville, Spain and the FCI IPO Championships in Finland. It had a record entry. The event was very well organized and very enjoyable for all. Winning the event was our USA National Champion Erri z Blatenskeho zamku and Mike Diehl.

The AWDF Championship was hosted by our very own USA club OG Indianapolis with another large entry, a very organized and very enjoyable event for all. The top two finishers in this event qualify automatically for the AWDF Team for the FCI-IPO Championship. Erri and Mike Diehl finished second in this event and in doing so earned an automatic placement on the AWDF team. Max ze Stribrneho Kamene and USA Treasurer Sean O'Kane finished in third place. This marked the final qualifying event for national event scores to be averaged for the world teams.

This year the United States team will be represented at the WUSV World Championship in Seville, Spain by three dog/handler team from the United Schutzhund Clubs of America and two dog/handler teams and the alternate from the GSDCA. Representing the United Schutzhund Clubs of America are our National and WDC Champion Erri z Blatenskeho zamku and Mike Diehl, Chuck von Dorneburger Bach and Daniel Cox and Nick del Lupo Nero and Jason Wiggins. Johannes Grewe will be serving as Team Captain for our members.

The AWDF Team competing in the FCI-IPO Championships in Finland this September will have three USA GSD/handler teams: Erri and Mike Diehl, Max and Sean O'Kane and Niko vom Paterhof and Lisa Jacquin. Al Govednik will serve as the AWDF Team Captain. Please join me in wishing each and every member of both world teams the very best of luck in their preparations for these world events with the hope that each and every one will be successful and have an enjoyable experience while representing the United States of America and the United Schutzhund Clubs of America.

The USA Sieger Show was held on June 4, 5 and 6 at beautiful Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. It proved to be a great turnout for this prestigious event. I am sure that there will be more articles written by NBW Tim Burke in coming issues about this very successful show. I encourage all of our members to support our local and regional shows and trials and look forward to seeing you and your dogs at our National Championship and General Board Meeting this fall in Carson City, Nevada.

This year our magazine will continue to contain several interviews and articles about many of our senior members and hard working contributors to the health and longevity of our organization. I encourage each of you to read these articles and be thankful for those that have given a lifetime of paving the way for past and future members to be able to experience the joy of owning and training a dog with true working temperament.

In the Jan/Feb issue, I spoke about the continued dedication and resolve of our organization to protect the working heritage of the German shepherd dog. We have been

fortunate to receive thousands of dollars in corporate sponsorship monies over the past few years. With the unfortunate downturn in our national and world economy, attracting corporate sponsorships over the last two years has proven difficult. I have even read articles about some of the biggest names in NASCAR not being able to attract the corporate sponsorship necessary to be competitive. As an organization, we must look at other means of increasing income to maintain the programs and benefits that our members have grown accustomed to receiving, while intelligently cutting costs as much as is possible. We must realize increased services to our membership and explore marketing opportunities through our website, with the development and deployment of new technology, like live video streaming of our national events and an online magazine for members that would prefer digital over a paper format in an effort to go green. As many members have urged us to move forward on the "Building of a Dream", we must also continue to plan for the future by continuing our search for the right property to build a facility of our own. All of these opportunities will have a cost to us in the immediate future but will produce opportunities for us to realize additional incomes from these services in the future and for years to come.

As always, I thank each and every member for their continued support and their spirit of camaraderie in furthering the goals of the United Schutzhund Clubs of America. The efforts of our membership to protect and preserve the German shepherd dog through the use of our breed evaluations have continued to ensure that our future generations will be able to experience the joy of owning a German shepherd dog with true working temperament.

I wish each of you happiness and success with your dogs in all walks of your life!

Lyle Roetemeyer