



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### AKC/EUKANUBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2008 JUDGING PANEL RELEASED

**NEW YORK, NY** (January 3, 2007) – The American Kennel Club® announced today the panel of judges selected for the eighth annual AKC/Eukanuba National Championship to be held in Long Beach, CA on Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14, 2008. The 2008 event will once again showcase the nation's top AKC-registered and international dogs as well as the popular Bred-by-Exhibitor competition and the second Eukanuba World Challenge.

Heading the panel as Best in Show judge for the 2008 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship is **Dr. Robert Smith** of St. Stephens Church, Va. and **Dr. Harry Smith** of Durham, N.C. will judge Best Bred-by-Exhibitor in Show.

**Dr. Robert D. Smith** is a past member of the AKC Board of Directors. He began in the sport in 1960 exhibiting German Shepherd Dogs. But when his wife, Polly, bought him an American Foxhound puppy, the course of his life changed forever. Dr. and Mrs. Smith together bred three generations of Best in Show American Foxhounds and five generations of group winners. As an owner-handler, Dr. Smith had the top-winning American Foxhound for seven consecutive years and is a three-time Owner-Handler of the Year nominee. Dr. Smith is a respected all-breed judge who has officiated at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on numerous occasions including a Hound Group assignment in 2002. Other prestigious assignments include the Westminster Kennel Club and International Kennel Club of Chicago. He has held every conceivable office in dog clubs including all-breed, obedience, group and specialty clubs. Dr. Smith holds a Ph.D. in political science and taught college for twelve years. He then developed and ran statewide small-business assistance programs in Virginia and Mississippi.

**Dr. Harry Smith** grew up around retrievers and water dogs, thanks to his father's love of duck hunting. Dr. Smith entered the sport of dogs owner-handling a Pug and has since bred and shown several champions in the breed. In 1966, he was approved to judge Pugs and today judges all AKC breeds. His judging assignments have included the Non-Sporting Group at the first AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, Toy Group at Westminster and other international shows from Wales to Japan. As an active member

of the Pug Dog Club of America, Dr. Smith served as president and AKC delegate for 10 years. He is also a past delegate for the Troy New York Kennel Club. He has been a member of the Durham Kennel Club, serving as show chairman and breed instructor at weekly handling classes and is co-founder of the Pug Dog Club of Greater Cincinnati. Dr. Smith has a master's degree and a doctorate in mathematics and has written an important book on the subject. When not traveling to shows, Dr. Smith enjoys needle point art, specializing in dogs. Some of his best work has been exhibited at the AKC offices.

**Judges for each of the seven variety groups are:**

**SPORTING** – Louis Auslander – Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

**HOUND** – Luc Boileau – Burlington, Wis.

**WORKING** – Sheila DiNardo – West Hartford, Conn.

**TERRIER** – Hon. David C. Merriam – Bonsall, Calif.

**TOY** – Sandra Goose Allen – St. Petersburg, Fla.

**NON-SPORTING** – Helen Lee James – Littleton, Colo.

**HERDING** – Steven D. Gladstone – Mt. Pocono, Pa.

**BEST JUNIOR HANDLER** – Randy E. Garren – Apex, N.C.

**Judges for the seven Bred-by-Exhibitor variety groups are:**

**SPORTING** – Patricia W. Laurans- Newtown, Ct.

**HOUND** – Lee Canalizo – Palm Harbor, Fla.

**WORKING** – Robert J. Caswell – Alpine, Calif.

**TERRIER** – Enrique Filippini – Buenos Aires, Argentina

**TOY** – Andrew Brace – Gwent, UK

**NON-SPORTING** – Lorraine Boutwell - Kansas City, Mo.

**HERDING** – Dr. Thomas M. Davies- Brimfield, Mass.

**Judges for the Eukanuba World Challenge are:**

**Eukanuba World Challenge Winner:** Hans W. Muller, President of FCI – Switzerland

**Europe & Africa Section 1:** Edd E. Bivin - Forth Worth, Texas

**Europe & Africa Section 2:** Rafael de Santiago – San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Americas Section:** Dr. Paolo Dondina – Monterchi, Italy

**Asia & Oceania Section:** Ellis Hulme – Lancashire, UK

**SPORTING GROUP:**

Uwe Fischer (Germany)

Judy A. Harrington

Jeannette McGinnis

**BREED ASSIGNMENTS:**

Pointers (German Shorthaired), Pointers (German Wirehaired), Wirehaired Pointing Griffons

Retrievers (Chesapeake Bay), Spaniels (Field), Weimaraners

Spaniels (Irish Water), Spinoni Italiani

Dr. Elliot L. More Spaniels (Cocker - All Varieties), Spaniels (English Cocker), Spaniels (English Springer)

James G. Reynolds (Canada) Setters (Gordon)

Robert H. Slay Pointers, Setters (Irish), Setters (English), Spaniels (American Water), Spaniels (Clumber)

Sari Brewster Tietjen Retrievers (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling), Retrievers (Labrador), Spaniels (Sussex), Vizslas

Elliot B. Weiss Brittanys, Spaniels (Welsh Springer), Retrievers (Curly-Coated), Retrievers (Flat - Coated), Retrievers (Golden)

**HOUND GROUP:**

**BREED ASSIGNMENTS:**

Arlene Davis Beagles (Both Varieties), Dachshunds (All Varieties)

Michael J. Dougherty Basset Hounds, Black and Tan Coonhounds, Petit Basset Griffons Vendéens, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Whippets

Uwe Fischer (Germany) Afghan Hounds

Randy E. Garren Foxhounds (American), Plotts

Jeannette McGinnis Bloodhounds, Harriers, Ibizan Hounds, Norwegian Elkhounds

Carla Molinari (Portugal) Borzoi, Greyhounds, Salukis, Scottish Deerhounds

Zena Thorn-Andrews (UK) Basenjis, Foxhounds (English), Irish Wolfhounds, Otterhounds, Pharaoh Hounds

**WORKING GROUP:**

**BREED ASSIGNMENTS:**

Clay Coady Bernese Mountain Dogs, Bullmastiffs, Doberman Pinschers, German Pinschers, Mastiffs

Houston Clark Akitas, Kuvaszok

Uwe Fischer (Germany) Rottweilers

Judy A. Harrington	Great Pyrenees, Saint Bernards
Carla Molinari (Portugal)	Dogues De Bordeaux, Portuguese Water Dogs, Tibetan Mastiffs
David M. Powers	Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, Samoyeds, Standard Schnauzers
Bernard Schwartz	Black Russian Terriers, Great Danes, Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs, Komondorok, Neapolitan Mastiffs
Robert Stein	Alaskan Malamutes, Boxers, Giant Schnauzers, Newfoundlands, Siberian Huskies
<b>TERRIER GROUP:</b>	<b>BREED ASSIGNMENTS:</b>
Gary L. Doerge	Border Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Sealyham Terriers, Skye Terriers, Welsh Terriers
Kathleen M. Grosso	Bedlington Terriers, Parson Russell Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers
Stephen F. Hurt	Fox Terriers (Smooth), Fox Terriers (Wire), Lakeland Terriers, Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers
Chris A. Levy	Australian Terriers, Dandie Dinmont Terriers, Glen of Imaal Terriers, Kerry Blue Terriers, Miniature Schnauzers
Linda C. More	Airedale Terriers, American Staffordshire Terriers, Norfolks Terriers, West Highland White Terriers
David M. Powers	Irish Terriers, Scottish Terriers
Dr. Lee Anthony Reasin	Bull Terriers (Both Varieties), Miniature Bull Terriers, Norwich Terriers, Manchester Terriers (Standard)
<b>TOY GROUP:</b>	<b>BREED ASSIGNMENTS:</b>
Richard L. Bauer	Cavalier King Charles Spaniels
Robert A. Condon	Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Chihuahuas (Both Varieties), Miniature Pinschers

Ellis Hulme (UK) English Toy Spaniels (All Varieties), Papillons, Pekingese, Pugs

Elaine J. Lessig Chinese Cresteds, Havanese, Silky Terriers, Toy Fox Terriers, Manchester Terriers (Toy)

David Ojalvo (Argentina) Italian Greyhounds, Maltese, Pomeranians, Shih Tzu, Yorkshire Terriers

James G. Reynolds (Canada) Poodles (Toy)

Dorothy Welsh Japanese Chin

**NON-SPORTING GROUP:**

**BREED ASSIGNMENTS:**

Richard L. Bauer American Eskimo Dogs, Boston Terriers, Dalmatians, Finnish Spitz

Randy E. Garren Bichons Frises, Bulldogs, Chinese Shar-Pei

Kathleen M. Grosso Keeshonden, Shiba Inu

Stephen F. Hurt Chow Chows

James G. Reynolds (Canada) Poodles (Miniature), Poodles (Standard), Tibetan Spaniels

Sari Brewster Tietjen Tibetan Terriers

Dorothy Welsh French Bulldogs, Lhasa Apsos, Löwchen, Schipperkes

**HERDING GROUP:**

**BREED ASSIGNMENTS:**

Houston Clark Belgian Sheepdogs, Cardigan Welsh Corgis, Pembroke Welsh Corgis

Uwe Fischer (Germany) Beaucerons

Jean Fournier Australian Shepherds, Belgian Tervuren, Canaan Dogs, Collies (Smooth), Pulik

Brian Meyer Australian Cattle Dogs, Bearded Collies, Belgian Malinois, Border Collies, Old English Sheepdogs

Cindy Meyer Bouvier des Flandres, Briards, Collies (Rough), German Shepherd Dogs, Shetland Sheepdogs

Linda C. More

Polish Lowland Sheepdogs

Zena Thorn-Andrews (UK)

Swedish Vallhunds

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP PRELIMINARIES:**

Peter Kubacz

Jennifer Pahl

The AKC National Obedience Invitational and AKC Agility Invitational will again be held in conjunction with the 2008 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship. Judges will be announced at a later date.

The 2008 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship will mark the eighth event in AKC's premier showcase for dogs, which is presented with Eukanuba. The show will be nationally broadcast on cable television's Animal Planet and Discovery Channel.

**QUALIFYING DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

AKC/Eukanuba National Championship: October 10, 2007 to October 7, 2008

AKC National Obedience Invitational: July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

AKC Agility Invitational: July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

The Los Encinos Kennel Club, Kennel Club of Beverly Hills and Long Beach Kennel Club shows will precede the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship at the same site on Dec. 10-12, 2008.

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**The American Kennel Club (AKC)**, founded in 1884, is a not-for-profit organization which maintains the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world and oversees more than 20,000 competitions for AKC-registered purebred dogs each year. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership.

**Eukanuba** offers the most complete food lineup, delivering nutrition that is customized by breed and breed size as well as health and performance requirements. Eukanuba is a division of Procter & Gamble (NYSE:PG), and you can visit us on the Web at <http://www.eukanuba.com> or visit lams at <http://www.lams.com>.

**Animal Planet Media (APM)**, a multi-media business unit of Discovery Communications, connects humans and animals with rich, deep content via multiple platforms and offers animal lovers and pet owners access to a centralized online, television and mobile community for entertainment, information and enrichment. The Animal Planet television network is available in more than 93 million homes in the U.S.

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