



# American Polish Lowland Sheepdog Club® A P O N C™

April 29, 2010

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Dear APONC Members:

*I have some important information I wish to share with you.*

*As you may recall, the board voted in May of 2009 to look into establishing a trust for health, education and rescue. Kathy Chiarella, Russ Tesarz and Cheryl Kerner, were given the task of getting a tax identification number for the trust so APONC's members could contribute tax deductible donations. We were told the trust received their EIN (tax identification number) in November of 2009. In December, I thanked the people who had performed the initial steps to acquire a tax ID number for the trust in the club newsletter, "The Herder". It appeared to several APONC Officers/Board of Directors we could now begin the steps to decide how the trust would be run, who the trustees would be, etc. with input from the club's members.*

*It wasn't until February we learned the PLS Charitable Trust had already been established for quite some time (we eventually learned it was set up in August). Cheryl Kerner, Russ Tesarz and Kathy Chiarella had listed themselves as trustees of the trust. Though we learned the trust is a totally separate corporation from APONC, we envisioned the two working in cooperation with each other. But after reviewing the Operating Procedures of the trust, it has become clear after conferring with attorneys, APONC will have little, if any, control as to how the trust operates. Consequently the APONC board/officers have not established any affiliation with the PLS Charitable Trust at the present time. Neither APONC's board nor their members were given any input into how the trust would be set up, the operating procedures used for the trust, etc..*

*Further complicating the issue, the APONC Treasurer, Kathy Chiarella, moved \$2,000 and \$4,000 from APONC accounts for a total of \$6,000 of APONC's money over to the trust on December 22. We did not find this out until Kathy finally submitted her year-end report in February 2010. Board minutes reflect no money was to be moved to the trust until an audit was done. To date a complete audit by a CPA has not been done although I have requested the books and all financial records multiple times. Several of the board members not involved with the PLS Charitable Trust are seeking to have the \$6,000 returned and the books and financial records turned over. The Board has also passed a motion requiring two signatures, both the President's and the Treasurer's on any checks written over \$250. So many members have expressed concern about the trust, that I have told the board I would begin researching the option to have APONC file the necessary paperwork to become designated as a charitable organization (501c3).*

*I would like to apologize for several ads appearing in the Herder soliciting APONC members for donations and any emails that went out requesting the same. None of these were approved by the APONC Board and it has created unnecessary confusion for our members. The present editor of the Herder resigned following the spring edition of the Herder which you should have received by now. I have assumed the position of Editor/Designer until we can fill the position permanently. Please send any articles, photos or ads you wish to contribute to future editions of the Herder to my email address of [swillson@pon-paradise.com](mailto:swillson@pon-paradise.com) or mail them to my home address listed on this stationery. I would like to form a staff of people to help produce upcoming editions, so if you are interested in writing a column for the Herder, or helping with it in any way, I would greatly appreciate your assistance. The more volunteers we have working on our committees, the better APONC will be.*

*If you have any questions regarding the trust or any other APONC activities, please feel free to call me evenings or weekends at 303/933-4795.*

Sincerely,

Stephen F. Willson  
President