

## **ABOUT THE KENNEL CLUB OF BEVERLY HILLS**

### **Promoting dogs, responsible dog ownership, health and welfare**

For more than a half century, **THE KENNEL CLUB OF BEVERLY HILLS** has been one of the world's most recognizable and most prestigious kennel clubs. In 1965, the Los Angeles Kennel Club, Harbor Kennel Club and Riviera Kennel Club decided to join forces and the result was the Kennel Club of Beverly Hills. KCBH was originally incorporated at that time by the prominent attorney John O'Melveny of the Los Angeles Law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, and has since made its mark through the years in producing its popular and successful dog events.

A member club of the American Kennel Club, its two annual shows attract top-rated dogs, their owners and handlers, and judges, as well as international visitors. A not-for-profit organization, KCBH touches on and influences many audiences through its community activities that promote interest in dogs, responsible dog ownership, and canine health and welfare.

The all-breed dog shows presented by KCBH function as a special opportunity to celebrate dogs and the roles of dogs in our lives, helping dog owners and families find the right dog for their families and their lifestyles. In addition, each KCBH show becomes an event within the community, attracting local residents, businesses, and civic organizations.

**Kennel Club of Beverly Hills** shows have been held at the Los Angeles County Fairplex in Pomona since 2017. Past venues include the LA Sports Arena, the Los Angeles Convention Center, UCLA's Intramural Field, Cal State Long Beach (George Allen Field), Long Beach Convention Center, and the Queen Mary Park.

There are 90 million dogs in America, which means, of course, that there are a lot of dog owners in California alone. U.S. pet owners spend \$79 billion annually to support their pets (per the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association). The Kennel Club of Beverly Hills has as its mission the health and wellbeing of all dogs and supports that through its public presence.

## Famous statue in Beverly Hills Park is the Kennel Club logo



**HUNTER AND HOUNDS:** The Kennel Club of Beverly Hills logo and insignia comes from this statue, which stands in Beverly Hills Park (on Santa Monica Boulevard between Canon Drive and Crescent Drive). The Save Outdoor Sculptures survey conducted in Los Angeles in the mid-1990s reported that the statue had been purchased in France and brought to this country by a pioneering Beverly Hills family to memorialize their son who died in the battle of Chateau Thierry.

W.D. Longyear, a Beverly Hills banker went to France to visit the spot where his son was killed in World War I. At the site, he saw this statue, riddled with bullet holes from this and other battles. The shell-torn statue stood guard above a subterranean chamber in which Signal Corps of the 3rd Division American Army maintained headquarters communications during bombardment.

In 1925, Mr. Longyear received permission from the French government to remove the work to the United States. The sculpture was dedicated on the Longyear Beverly Hills estate on Beverly Drive in November of that year and it stood there on the front lawn for many years, with memorial ceremonies held at the statue each Armistice Day. When the Longyears moved from Beverly Hills, they donated the statue to the city and it was eventually placed in Beverly Gardens Park.

**Text from the plaque:** "Hunter and Hounds (Le Chasseur et les chiens), A. Jacquermat, sculptor, 1895-1924. This shell-torn statue stood guard above a subterranean chamber in which signal corps 3<sup>rd</sup> division American Army maintained headquarters communications during bombardment of Chatteau Thierry, 1918 'Second

Battle of the Marne' dedicated Armistice Day 1925." Note: There is an uncertainty about the identity of the sculptor given on the plaque, as there are some sources that identify Henri Alfred Jacquemart (1825-1896), a French sculptor famous for sculptures of animals, as the artist. And, Interestingly, the study also reports that the sculpture may exist in another edition in an Austrian hunting lodge.