



The Scottish Terrier Club of America, Inc.
Winter Meeting of the Officers and Directors
February 19, 2025
via Zoom

PRESENT:

✓	Pam Williams, President	✓	Theresa Thomas, Corres. Sec.
✓	Ann Davis, Vice President	✓	Kathleen Dunleavy, Rec. Sec.
✓	Steve Russell Treasurer	✓	Helen Prince, AKC Delegate
✓	Danica Burge, Class of 2025	✓	Susan Jacobsen, Class of 2026
✓	Christine O'Brien, Class of 2025	✓	Jeff Jones, Class of 2026
✓	Suzanna Mackey, Class of 2025	✓	Lisa Kincheloe, Class of 2026
✓	Dee Smith, Class of 2025	✓	Amy Pelle, Class of 2026

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Robert Gann, Robbie Adair (Media-A-Team)

Welcome: Called to order at 10:35 AM ET

Pam Williams

Report of the Secretaries
Recording

Kathleen Dunleavy

- Kathleen presented the 1/15/2024 BOD Regular Session meeting minutes for approval. Kathleen stated that she added a motion to an earlier version of the 1/15/2025 minutes sent to the Board for review. The motion is:

Motion: "To approve a request from the Scottish Terrier Club of Greater Houston to hold its designated annual specialty on July 18, 2025, and a secondary specialty show on July 19, 2025"
SJacobsen moved and HPrince seconded. Passed Unanimously.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the 1/15/2024 BOD Regular and Executive Session meeting minutes with the motion addendum. APelle moved and SRussell seconded. Passed Unanimously.

- Kathleen stated that she had received 13 affirmative Board votes for the following candidates for STCA membership:
 - Joanna Chen Ancelet
 - Natalie Van Tassel
 - Nancy Van Meter
 - Jonathon Knopf
 - Oleg Dolgikh
 - Alina Briazgunova

Lisa Hills will send STCA Welcome letters to the six new members. Pam Williams noted that there was a question that a signed STCA Code of Ethics was included with two candidates' STCA applications but not with all candidates' applications. Lisa Hills told Pam that the two candidates included all their application materials in one scanned document and so she sent them to the Board in one packet. The others sent separate files for each form. The consensus of the Board was that it is not necessary for Lisa to provide a signed Code of Ethics for each of the STCA candidates since verifying required documents is part of Lisa's process.

- Kathleen stated that she will begin to work on the 2025-2027 roster when she receives the updated roster from Steve Russell, STCA Treasurer. The roster reconciliation process is more complicated this year due to handling by multiple helpers after Mark LaBonte's passing. Steve Russell stated that STCA spent \$4000 on printing the 2023-2025 roster. Pam Williams mentioned that the roster should be in process by May 2025.

There was a discussion about an electronic membership roster and implications for member access and the Recording Secretary role. The consensus was that this topic will be revisited as part of the STCA website redesign.

Corresponding

Theresa Kay Thomas

- Theresa reported that she received a request from the Scottish Terrier Club of Tampa Bay to hold a secondary specialty on Saturday, December 13, 2025, after their designated specialty show on Friday, December 12, 2025. Theresa will ask the Tampa Bay club for a revised Checklist to include the December 13th secondary show.
- Theresa stated that she has received STCA Regional Club Checklists from only four regional clubs: Tampa Bay, Greater Dallas, Michigan, and Chicago. Theresa will send a reminder about the Checklist, by-laws and insurance coverage to the remaining 16 clubs.
- The STC of Chicago requested to hold a secondary specialty show on June 15, 2025, following their designated specialty show on June 14, 2025.

Motion: To approve the STC of Chicago's request to hold a secondary specialty show on June 15, 2025. HPrince moved and SRussell seconded. Passed Unanimously.

- There was discussion about the need for Regional Clubs to send proof of insurance to the STCA (as part of the Regional Club SOP). Steve Russell stated that the STCA holds general liability for club events coverage, coverage for officers and directors, and Fidelity bonding for the President and Treasurer for investments. Steve stated that the STCA pays \$600 for general liability insurance, \$1200 for Officer and Director insurance and \$235 for Fidelity bonding. Pam Williams will include a reminder about sending insurance liability documentation to Theresa Thomas in her upcoming regional club newsletter.
- STCA Club Materials Inventory:
 - Judges' Education Cards – low inventory; should be reordered with additional wording "in no particular order" referring to breed standards information on card.
 - Breed Illustrated Guide – for new members and judges, re-order stock. Pam to follow up with Lori Kelly about remaining stock for the Illustrated Guide
 - Handbooks – Helen Prince is currently sending the last edition Handbooks to new STCA members.
- Theresa stated that there are 8 STCA members who are 50-year members and joined the STCA in 1975. Suzanna Mackey responded that there are no 50-year pins in inventory so they will have to be re-ordered. Helen Prince to re-order from her jeweler contact.
- 2027 Rotating Specialty – Theresa stated that the location for the 2027 Rotating should be hosted in a Northeast location, such as New York, New England, Baltimore, Washington, DC or

Pittsburgh. Pam Williams added that we will be reviewing the Rotating SOP at the Rotating Specialty Board meeting in April. Dee Smith is working on a revision to the Rotating Specialty SOP which we will review at the April meeting. Theresa will send letters to the Northeast regional clubs about the 2027 Rotating after the April meeting.

- Board Reports – Theresa reminded the Board that Board reports are due to her by March 20, 2025, for review at the April meeting. Theresa will send reminders about the Board reports to Board members and committee chairs.

Nominating Committee

Theresa Kay Thomas

Motion: To enter Executive session at 11:50AM to discuss the Nominating Committee DSmith moved and APelle seconded. Passed Unanimously.

Motion: To leave Executive session at 12:10PM APelle moved and DSmith seconded. Passed Unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Russell

- Membership Renewals - Steve Russell reported that Sueannette Maniscalco mailed the last membership renewals to David Cook from Mark LaBonte's PO Box. Steve will wait for two weeks until David is able to update any mailed membership renewals. Steve will be shutting down Mark's PO Box in San Diego and has rented a PO Box in St Charles, IL. (PO Box 92) to handle STCA's financial correspondence.

The membership renewals received yielded 762 USA members and 59 Foreign members for a total of 821 STCA members. 75% are single memberships and 25% are family memberships. Pam Williams mentioned that members generally appreciated the telephone and email reminders about their dues. Steve Russell added that we made a good effort to facilitate renewals with email reminders, processing mailed renewals from Mark's PO Box and the STCA Board reminder phone calls.

- Financial Report – Steve Russell reported that he completed a Statement of Financial Activities to be published in the next Bagpiper. Steve has caught up recording transactions and reconciling accounts for the last four months of 2024 after the passing of Mark LaBonte.

At year end, the Scottish Terrier Club of America remains fiscally sound as a non-profit corporation with total assets of over \$1/2 million (or approximately 3 years' operating expenses in reserve).

However, after 12 years of operating in the black, the last two years have been more difficult for the Club with a reduction in total assets of -\$60,932 (or-10.8%) to \$502,850. This reduction is mostly explained by writing off retired awards assets (-\$27,500); and from operating losses on production of the Club's award-winning Bagpiper magazine; hosting national specialty shows (including unfavorable contract terms at the Piedmont Rotating Specialty and subsidies for members' meals), and from declining membership.

Reflecting on the last two years, the Club operated on Income of \$232,077 and Expenses of \$280,565 with Net Income loss of -\$56,251. This was offset by investment gains of \$23, 014 leaving a net income loss of -\$33,682 for the two years.

In 2024, the Club operated on Income \$117,212 and Expenses of \$146,358 with Net Income loss of -\$29,146. This was offset by investment gains of \$12,009 leaving a net income loss of -\$17,137 at year-end of 2024. On a positive note, the Club is benefiting financially from the addition of the Terrier Agility trials (Montgomery and Black & White); from development of the 125th Anniversary Handbook; and from investment income.

As of December 31st, the Club's Bank of America checking account had a balance of \$23,346, which is sufficient cash for our ongoing operations. Administratively, the corporate Annual Report has been filed with the state of New Jersey; taxes have been filed with the US Treasury and Unrelated Business Income taxes paid; and all insurance coverage is current.

There was discussion about the Bagpiper and its expenses. The \$20 Bagpiper first-class mailing costs are recorded as Bagpiper income. Steve Russell mentioned that we could move to three Bagpiper issues per year. Each issue is approximately 90-100 pages, and it would help to increase income-producing pages. Pam Williams agreed that we should reduce the number of Bagpiper issues from 4 to 3 per year. Steve added that Bagpiper production costs are \$10 per issue.

Membership dues were also discussed; dues have not changed since 1993. Helen Prince suggested that dues be raised \$5-\$10 per year. Susan Jacobsen suggested that we raise the dues 10% for the next five years. Pam Williams added that the Board voted not to increase dues for 2026 and suggested that we further discuss dues at the Rotating meeting in April.

Old Business

2025 Rotating Specialty

Pam Williams/Dee Smith

- Steve Russell confirmed that he sent a \$2,000 check to the Scottish Terrier Club of California for expenses related to hosting the 2025 Rotating Specialty.
- Pam Williams reported that she contacted Pilar Kuhn about the availability of the Premium List. The list is not final yet and Pilar is working with Bradshaw, the show superintendent on the list. Ann Davis stated that Bradshaw contacted her to see whether there would be a Veteran Sweepstakes class. Pam Williams responded that there will not be a Veterans Sweepstakes class.
- Christine O'Brien and Susan Jacobsen have directed trophies from Stone Pony pottery to be sent to Jeff Jones for transport to Ventura. Christine and Susan will compile a list of trophy donations for the Rotating Specialty and Montgomery shows for the Montgomery catalog and send thank you notes to donors.
- Pam Williams reported that ribbons and rosettes were ordered from Powers and will be delivered to Jeff Jones for transport to Ventura.
- Ann Davis suggested that the STCA sponsor a memorial ad for Mark LaBonte in the Rotating Specialty catalog. Pam Williams will formulate the full-page ad for Mark.
- Dee Smith to remind the STCC that STCA will need a flip chart and easel to record show results.
- Kathleen Dunleavy stated that the 125th Committee has planned for table favors at the STCA banquet to celebrate STCA's 125th Anniversary. Danica Burge mentioned that the San Francisco Bay club has a Scottie connection at a local bakery, and she will send Kathleen the details. Pam Williams suggested that there also be a balloon display at the show/banquet.

STCA Website Update

Pam Williams

- Bob Gann joined the meeting with Ms. Robbie Adair, President and CEO of Media-A-Team to discuss Media-A-Team's proposal for an update to the STCA website.
- Media-A-Team's approach is to evaluate the current STCA website and provide a more modern feel, fresh look to the website and facilitate information searches. Refresh may also include blogs and STCA press releases. Robbie Adair stated that she and Bob Gann have already evaluated features of the STCA website to form their recommendations for improvement.
- Media-A-Team's plan is to maintain WordPress with the addition of plug-ins for specific functions: mobile devices, search engine, membership, event management, content. Use icons on the start

page for more accessibility to information. Improve accessibility to information with fewer clicks by user.

- Improve mobile device support since it accounts for 70% of searches. The current website does not adequately support mobile device searches.
- The new website will result in an 'organic boost' from the search engine at STCA.biz; will break out pages to optimize searches and availability of information to the user. Google searches will recognize a new website and will result in higher visibility for the website.
- Event Calendar – different views for event calendar, each event has its own page, events post on google calendar.
- Membership Roster – transition to an on-line membership roster version can expand use of roster and usefulness to members ("search for members in my area"). Available on-line membership information can be restricted to email only, no physical address. There was a discussion about security of member information with an on-line roster. Necessary to use "Cloud Player" buffer to enhance information security. The STCA chooses what member information can be displayed.
- Membership benefits – highlight STCA membership benefits on website including testimonials from members and Scottie owners. Refresh will eliminate manual work to maintain user base of members and reporting on membership data.
- Media-A-Team is a Texas based company; the STCA will own the copyright for any materials developed for the upgrade to the website.
- The proposed pricing for the website upgrade is \$33,750, which includes monthly service. Cost is based on a "Preferred Client" \$135 hourly rate. Additional hours may be purchased at \$3,375 for 25 hours or 'buckets of hours.' The proposal and pricing are in effect until March 31, 2025. If accepted, the delivery will be available for review by June 2025.
- The project phases include:
 - Evaluation and construction – installation on Digital Ocean hosting platform plus plug-in applications.
 - Design of website appearance – the look and feel of the website; will be subject to STCA board review and approval
 - Launch phase – Transfer content to build site; lock-down old website (e-commerce, changes) for 3-4 days
 - Maintenance and up-keep – usually monthly but schedule to be determined by STCA needs.
- Media-A-Team is currently working on a Tally process re-design for the STCA and a beta test on that process is anticipated in April 2025.
- Danica Burge asked the Board to consider what is necessary on each page of the STCA website and consider if it results in a membership-based site. Does the upgrade assist members?
- There was discussion amongst Board members about Scottie activities that should be highlighted on the new website. These include Performance, Juniors, Regional Clubs, Barn Hunt, Scent Work, Therapy Dog, Stud Dog Social and Breeder Education including videos and/or photos of the activity featured on the website.
- Pam Williams asked Board members to join a workgroup to review the current website and identify non-relevant items.
- Pam Williams shared the Media-A-Team proposal to the STCA Board.

New Business

Judges Education

Pam Williams

- Pam Williams stated that the STCA usually donates \$100-\$200 to the American Dog Show Judges Institute and proposed that we continue to support the organization. Steve Russell added that STCA's last donation was in 2019. Helen Prince stated that the these Judges' Education presentations have been well received and are important in offering hands-on learning experiences for judges.

Motion: To support the American Dog Show Judges Institute with a \$500 donation. HPrince moved and SRussell seconded. Passed unanimously.

Breeder Education

Helen Prince

- Helen stated that the Intent of program is to oversee the plan for breeder education within the STCA. Richard Bumstead, Breeder Education Coordinator, planned to conduct STCA breeder interviews. Some interviews have not taken place due to technical issues. Vandra Huber was interviewed by the AKC due to her selection as Terrier Breeder of the Year and her interview will be available on AKC's Canine College. Danica Burge also plans to interview Vandra Huber for her Scottish Terrier specific experiences. Danica is also planning interviews with Cindy Cooke, Christine Stephens, and Sandra Anderson. Helen Prince will send Danica the AKC list of breeder questions. Helen added that some breeder videos are posted on AKC.org's Canine College. There was discussion about whether STCA would benefit from a YouTube channel.

Montgomery 2025

Pam Williams

- Pam stated that Montgomery trophies have been ordered from Wendall August; Rosettes will be ordered by Pam from Canadian company.
- The 2025 Montgomery Information Packet should be in progress soon. Ann will begin working on that after Rotating.
- Entry fees – 2024 Entry fees were \$25 for the IPS and \$22.00 for Sweepstakes. AKC is charging an additional \$1.50 per entry.

Motion: To raise the entry fees for the 2025 STCA Independent Specialty to \$37 and the 2025 Sweepstakes to \$25 with \$7.00 per entry to the STCA. TThomas moved and SRussell seconded. Passed Unanimously.

- Helen Prince asked that the Board consider a change to the rosettes offered at the IPS considering that cash prizes, totaling \$900, are also offered for the BOB, BOS, BOW, WD, WB, Bred by Dog and Bitch. The specific cash prizes are BOB \$200, BOS \$200, BOW \$100, WD \$100, WB \$100, Bred By Bitch \$100, Bred By Dog \$100. The rosettes awarded are \$900 in cost. After discussion, the consensus was that Helen Prince will contact MB-F and research the rosette options similar to the ones awarded at the 2023 IPS.

Motion: To repeat the 2023 IPS cash prizes totaling \$900 for BOB, BOS, WD, WB, BOW, Bred By Dog and Bred by Bitch. DBurge moved and APelle seconded. Passed Unanimously.

- Ann Davis reported that Lynne Berry inquired whether the STCA would consider cash prizes for the STCA Obedience and Rally trials which will be held in Palmyra, PA in early October 2025.

Motion: To support the STCA Obedience and Rally trials with a \$200 award to High in Trial performer at the Performance events in Palmyra, PA during Montgomery week. SMackey moved and HPrince seconded. Passed Unanimously.

- Kathleen Dunleavy and Amy Pelle presented ideas from the 125th Celebration Committee for Montgomery and Rotating weekend. Committee members are Kathleen, Amy, Helen Krisko, Sheila-Faith Barry and Julie Pulzone. The proposed plans include:
 - Scottie Merchandise – Amy Pelle contacted an artist who designed a Scottie image that can be silk screened onto sleep shirts. The artist will donate her design in exchange for a copy of any item produced using the design. Helen Prince also suggested tee shirts with the design.
 - Silent Auction – Request silent auction items from each of the 20 regional clubs that feature their geographic area or merchandise from their club. Items will be displayed on

Thursday and Friday. Kathleen to send out notices to the 20 regional clubs regarding the auction. Auction proceeds will go to the STCA general fund.

- Scottie Slide Show – Compile a slide show of Scottish terriers and their people through the years. To be displayed before and during the Friday banquet. Kathleen to contact Janet Tomlinson, regional clubs, performance and rescue groups for photos to feature in the slide show. The slide projector and screen are in STCA storage locker.
- Decorations- Sheila-Faith Barry proposed decorations for the front entrance of the Friday banquet room, patriotic themed table clothes and runners for the banquet and a patriotic backdrop for the proposed photo booth. The booth will also have props for picture-taking.
- Scottie Table Favors – Kathleen presented two ideas for Scottie table favors. The Board selected Scottie favors from a Seattle candy maker who is offering the favors at a reduced price to the club.
- Rotating Specialty 125th Celebration – Pam Williams requested a balloon display for the banquet. Danica Burge suggested a bakery that can provide Scottie cookies for STCA banquet table favors. Kathleen to follow up with bakery.

Motion: To approve a budget of \$2,000 for the 125th Anniversary celebration at Montgomery and the Rotating Specialty. HPrince moved and TThomas seconded. Passed unanimously.

Morris and Essex Show – 2025

- Pam Williams stated that the Morris and Essex show will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2025. The STCA has agreed to support the entry. The board consensus was not to offer prizes or upgraded rosettes.

Montgomery Week Site Survey

Danica Burge

- Danica Burge reviewed the results of the on-line Montgomery Week Survey which she conducted. Susan Jacobsen, Christine O'Brien and Lisa Hills assisted with survey questions and analyzing results. The survey results are:
 - 116 respondents; 99% are STCA members
 - 85% participated in Montgomery events; 42% participated in the last 5 years
 - 93% will participate in future Montgomery events
 - 60% prefer a hotel close to the show site with all shows outside at the Macungie/Montgomery site and banquet/Awards ceremony at nearby restaurant/banquet facility.
 - 55% prefer the IPS held at Hatboro/Montgomery site (Macungie)
 - 53% prefer the STCA Sweepstakes held at Hatboro/Montgomery (Macungie)
 - 58% would attend if the IPS and Sweepstakes were held at the Hatboro/Montgomery (Macungie) site
 - 36% prefer an STCA host hotel that can accommodate the IPS, Sweepstakes and banquet at one location
 - 93% would attend the banquet if the host hotel does not have banquet facilities but the event was held at a nearby hall or restaurant
 - 58% prefer two dinner events during Montgomery week – one banquet and one hospitality event
 - 53% want to continue with lunch being offered during events such as the IPS and/or Sweepstakes
 - 46% stated that location is the most important factor when deciding to attend an STCA sponsored dinner
 - 53% stated that they would prefer one show event in collaboration with a dinner event.
 - 62% stated that they would be more likely to attend the IPS and Sweepstakes if they were held at the Hatboro/Montgomery site (Macungie)
 - 72% stated that they would be more likely to attend the STCA annual meeting and banquet if they were held closer to the Hatboro/Montgomery site (Macungie).
 - Summary:

- STCA Members want events in a more centralized location
 - Dinner, Annual Meeting and Hospitality event near Macungie
 - All shows in one location (near Macungie)
 - Hotel location in proximity to Montgomery/Hatboro site (Macungie)
 - Prefer indoor location for IPS and Sweeps
- Pam Williams stated that she received a proposal for 2026 from Hyatt Place in Allentown, PA. They currently also host the Airedale and the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier clubs during Montgomery week. The banquet would be on Saturday night due to availability. There would be a 100-person guarantee. The guest room block guarantee is 190 nights. There is a free daily breakfast, and rooms have a small kitchenette. Room rate is \$209 plus tax.

Motion: To enter a one-year contract with the Hyatt Place, Lehigh Valley as the STCA's host hotel for Board meetings, guest room block, and Annual Awards Dinner and Presentations Montgomery Week September 29-October 4, 2026. ADavis moved and TThomas seconded. Passed Unanimously

- Pam reported details about renting the Memorial Hall at Macungie Memorial Park for the IPS and Sweepstakes on Thursday, October 1, 2026, and Friday, October 2, 2026. The rental fee for Memorial Hall is \$300. The plan is for Rau to set up the mats and rings on Thursday morning of Montgomery week. The IPS would take place on Thursday afternoon, October 1, 2026, following set-up and the Sweepstakes would take place on Friday afternoon, October 2, 2026. STCA would need to vacate the building by 5PM on Friday.
- Pam will work back with Hatboro KC and MCKC to advise them of this decision and ensure that there are no issues with this plan.

Motion: To enter a contract with the Macungie Memorial Park for use of Memorial Hall indoor space to host the STCA's 2026 Independent Parent Specialty and National Sweepstakes, October 1 and 2 respectively, pending agreement with Hatboro and Montgomery County Kennel Clubs. CO'Brien moved and JJones seconded. Passed Unanimously

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 4:50 PM. DBurge moved and TThomas seconded. Passed Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted – Kathleen Dunleavy, Recording Secretary

4/3/2025 FINAL

March meeting – no meeting

April meeting – April 3, 2025 – Rotating All-Day Meeting

May meeting – May 21, 2025

June meeting – June 18, 2025