



Minutes
The Scottish Terrier Club of America, Inc.
Teleconference Meeting of the Officers and Directors
Wednesday, May 17, 2023

PRESENT: President, Lori Kelly; Corresponding Secretary Theresa Thomas; Recording Secretary, Richard Bumstead; Helen Prince, AKC Delegate. Directors - Class of 2023; Kelli Edell, Kari Hill, Michael Krolewski, Pam Williams. Class of 2024; Ellen Avery, Lisa Hills, Jeff Jones, Amy Pelle.

ABSENT: Steve Russell

Welcome: Called to order at 8:35 pm EDT Lori Kelly

Minutes: Approval of the April 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes and Executive Sessions, approved as amended.

Report of the Secretaries:

Recording

Richard Bumstead

- Report of Nominating Committee
 - President – Pam Williams (OH)
 - Vice President – Ann Davis (ME)
 - Corresponding Secretary – Theresa Thomas (TX)
 - Recording Secretary – Kathleen Dunleavy (MD)
 - Treasurer – Mark LaBonte (CA)
 - Class of 2025 Directors: Danica Burge (CA) Suzanne Mackey (GA), Christine O'Brien (IA), and Dee Smith (NV)
- LKelly reminded everyone that the current terms run through our October events with Montgomery and that we need to work together, as we have in the past, to accommodate the transition.
- RBumstead will get the slate's biographies, letter, and mailing list to the printer by the end of the week.
- Report of Membership application votes
 - Even with some glitches with both the Post Office and e-mail, we were able to approve the membership applications for the following: P. Biery, B. Coffel, K. Dempsey, M. Gabrielsen, and B. Irwin. Welcome new members!
 - Membership Chair LHills reported that applications were sent twice along with the ballot to board members
 - Another set of applicants will be voted on in June

Corresponding

Theresa Thomas

- TThomas was having difficulty with her computer and had joined the meeting via her phone, thus had no access to her files of correspondence
- EAvery did report that she had sent in a request from Cindy Altmann to again host the Black & White Specialty for the Scottish Terrier Club of Greater Atlanta in December 2023, and requests Board approval.

Motion: To approve the application for Scottish Terrier Club of Greater Atlanta to hold a second specialty on December 2, 2023 in Perry Georgia. HPrince moved and PWilliam seconded. Passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report

Steve Russell (absent)

- The Club is operating at a loss so far this year as the timing of income from Rotating is delayed until the 4th Quarter of the year. Through May, the Club has recorded Net Income loss of - \$1,466. This brings the Club's YTD Net Income loss to -\$7,457. The difference is explained primarily from production of the Bagpiper magazine where advertising revenue falls off in the 2nd issue. The Club's Balance Sheet Net Assets stand at \$556,315.
- Income and expense over ~\$500 this month.
Income
 \$ 800 – AKC Meet the Breeds Stipend
Expense
 -\$ 2,033 – Nominating Committee (printing)
 -\$ 800 – Regional Clubs (STCGNY Transfer MTB Stipend)
- Other Activities
 - 3D-Druck. A payment for \$1,260 is outstanding to Kim Sauer at 3D-Druck in Germany for Poly Scottish Terrier figurines for the 2023 Montgomery event planned by Theresa Stewart.

Old Business

- Rotating 2023 Kari Hill & Pam Williams
 - We have received AKC approval to hold the show as a designated specialty
 - Furniture City KC has still not sent in their application
 - Will begin assembling a list of issues that need to be answered
 - HTF will participate with various activities
- Judges Selection Process Theresa Thomas
 - Since there has been no progress in updating the process to select future judges, we will continue to use the same process we have used in the past to select judges for our shows in 2025 and 2026
- 2025/2026 Specialty Judges
 - Status of Member Suggestions – TThomas will send list out on May 18 to Board for review prior to voting at June meeting
- Rotating 2025 Lori Kelly
 - There is confusion as to the status of the 2025 joint Rotating proposal for the three west coast clubs: STC of California, San Francisco Bay STC, and Washington State STC.
 - While there was a general inquiry as to the STCA Board interest, which there was, the STCA Board has not received a formal proposal as required to bring the issue to a vote
 - Correspondence regarding the proposed concept:

On Monday May 8, 2023, Vandra Huber wrote:

Hello all

We originally wrote the board last October regarding holding a joint rotating specialty in 2025. We have received no correspondence from the STCA this event. It's been more than 8 months since we first applied.

Through the grapevine, we have heard (rightly or wrongly) that you want to ensure that all three clubs are in accord that we wish to do the rotating jointly. If this is the case, a letter from each club indicating we are in agreement is attached. Second, we had heard through the grapevine that someone on the board was concerned that the date of Woofstock might conflict

with other STCA approved regional specialties. While you could have easily looked that up on the AKC calendar, apparently no one on the board did. Therefore, we looked it up for the board,

The New England specialties does not conflict. Woofstock is the second weekend based on our calculations and referencing AKC's perpetual calendar.

Important if we are to move forward

We must apply to hold 2025 specialties with Woofstock by the mid June. We need a board vote so we may inform Woofstock by their deadline. If we want woofstock to hire any judges we wish to use (help to control costs), we need to suggest them at that time also. Since none of us are currently on the board, we need to know if a judge has been hired for the 2025 rotating. If this person is not a breed specialist and has other breeds, we need to give Woofstock his or her name.

Vandra Huber will be attending Woofstock this year as will Danica Burge and we would like to begin initial talks with hotels and the Woofstock coordinators. We have to start now as their are also races that weekend and hotels fill up fast. Therefore, we would appreciate a response as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Vandra Huber, Bill McGinnis, Rod Ott

On Saturday May 13, 2023, William McGinnis wrote:

Lori,

I have read the below email from Vandra Huber as she copied me on it. I did not sign (digitally or otherwise) the attached STCC California Letter. We just held our May STCC meeting today and Rod Ott told me he did not sign this letter either. I have expressed interest to Danica Burge that our club would be interested in discussing hosting the STCA Rotating 2025 jointly with other west coast regional clubs. As of today, NO vote has been taken by our membership either for or against participating in this proposed event.

Bill McGinnis

STCC/President

On Monday May 15, 2023, Vandra Huber wrote:

Hi Bill et al

Regarding your recent email, I wish to respond with an apology and some thoughts. I'm doing this while in Africa on vacation.

BTW I sent you a proposed letter to see if you approved several weeks ago. The STCC letter was based on what you stated in the regional club meeting and what was published in the Bagpiper, namely that your club "looked forward to working with SFBSTC and the WSSTC to host the rotating national in 2025." I had no reason to assume you had not held a board or membership vote. What your statement indicated was that the STCC was on board.

Regarding the letter I wrote on behalf of your club, I waited for you to respond to the email I sent containing all three proposed letters, 1 for each club. I heard from Rod and Danica and not you. When you never responded I faced a dilemma: should I leave your name off it and offend you that way or should I include your name as a signee in order to get a letter to the board before we left for Africa and to get a board decision before the Woofstock deadline. I chose the latter which apparently was the wrong decision as you'd never ever vetted joint hosting with STCC membership and I inappropriately indicated I had a signature from you. I should have merely indicated that you were sent a copy of the letter. I will never do that again. Old Scots can learn new things. Hurrying may result in errors.

On a positive note, it is my understanding that on Saturday you took a straw-poll and more than half of the club members were in favor and so you just need to take a formal vote to satisfy the STCC membership. I understand this is a sensitive issue since in the recent past a decision on a specialty date may not have been vetted to the entire STCC membership or board and it upset some club members who did not like the date being moved. Please note that clubs may hold 4 specialties/year so depending on the closeness, you can still hold up to 3 more STCC in Southern California in 2025 and participate in a joint rotating.

Why did I hurry?

1. Michael and I will be gone until the end of May when we return from Africa. I was trying to take care of as much business as possible before we left for such an extended time. Our research indicates that phone and computer service is sketchy in the Safari camps. Rod Ott also made me aware that he and Pilar would be gone for a significant period of time in June. I wanted to catch people while I could.

2. I also felt that since the STCA had not sent any correspondence, one way or the other, we needed to get the ball rolling so we knew whether we were doing this with STCA approval or not. Board approval (tentative or not), in my mind, for over 6 months since our first letter that we needed STCA board approval before we could tell the Woofstock team whether we wanted to move forward or not with participation with the Woofstock cluster

3. Most importantly Woofstock is already doing planning for 2025 and said we needed to let them know by mid June if we were holding specialties and to get names of possible judges we might want to be hired on the panel to them quickly. The judges selection committee had already hired judges for 2024 and was at work on 2025 now.

4. Finally, the same weekend and at the same fairgrounds there are NASCAR races being held. If we want to shore up a hotel with room for the board meeting and events, we need to do so ASAP. This was emphasized not only by the show chair but by the head of judges selection who I spoke with.

BTW, Rod did send me a note saying Thanks for writing letters. So he read the proposed STCC letter. The gap was that you did not and I erroneously left your name on the letter and said that it been electronically signed it. That was incorrect. I am so sorry.

I also want to make clear that Woofstock is held on the 23rd week of the AKC calendar. New England is held on the 22nd week and Chicago is held on the 24th week (see attached table)

Here is what I propose:

San Francisco and Washington go forward as potentially hosting the rotating. We can add STCC in after you have your vote.

We tell the Woofstock people, subject to STCA telling us to move forward, that tentatively we wish to be included as holding specialties and a rotating national and if possible we would like to supply some potential names to the Woofstock hiring team based on 1) suggestions by our regional clubs and 2) and on national club selection of a rotating judge.

Will the proposed suggestions above work for your club?

In sum, I apologize if I took the bull by the horn and moved forward to write the letters and assumed your approval since I had heard no concerns raised by you and your statement in the regional club meeting implied STCC approval. I assumed wrongly. I have copied the people you copied on your email and Lori Kelli and Kari

If your club wants to do the whole thing, I am happy to remove the WSSTC from the equation. My goal always has been to help the breed and Scottie specialties and bring the STCA rotating to the West Coast. It is tiring and expensive to always travel East for Montgomery and the Rotating. Shows on the West Coast and showing top scotties on the West coast is something I am committed to. I want other exhibitors and judges from the west to see our best dogs. Finally, hosting the rotating is a responsibility to our breed.

I would appreciate a response to this email that you are okay with what I suggest. I have discussed the suggestion with Danica Garside and Rod Ott.

Respectfully
Vandra Huber

- Montgomery 2023 Updates Lori Kelly
 - Information packets are in development, and just about completed
 - Food and beverage costs are up and the STCA will need to increase the subsidy from approximately \$5,000 last year to approximately \$10,000 this year, for the following meals:
 - Wednesday night - Welcome Back Diner – Mexican
 - Thursday night – Dinner and Bingo - Backyard BBQ
 - Friday Lunch - Box lunches before Sweepstakes
 - Friday night - Annual Banquet

- MCKC has stated that the default for Awards of Merit this year will be 10% of BOB entry, unless otherwise requested. STCA has requested that we remain at our standard 20% of BOB entries.
- Stud Dog Social on Friday evening won't take place – received the following correspondence from Beth Hernandez:

Dear Lori,

Our committee for the Stud Dog Social, Lisa Hill, Cindy Cooke, Marcia Dawson, Julie Hill and myself have been discussing all week regarding the SDS for the Montgomery Weekend. Because it is an educational event we have concerns about moving it forward for this year. I will share our thoughts for you to read to the Board.

At this time we have only had two SDS last year, the first one being held with the Chicago Specialty which included a panel of experienced Stud Dog owners discussing the management of stud dogs. The second being held with the STC of Michigan 3 months later. That event was little more than a parade of champions, there was no panel, there was no going over the dogs. It did nothing to encourage or teach people about stud dogs.

The Montgomery weekend is already jammed pack with events everyday and to do one on Thursday evening again, would not allow any educational component to the event. Along with that, people are going to be exhausted traveling from the shows back to STCA events and then up early to do it all again, it would not serve our dogs well, people may choose to skip it entirely and there may be dogs out with handlers that would not be in attendance. It would easily fall short of the intended educational event we would like to give and at this date it is not enough time to put together the program the way it should be done.

At this time, we would like to polish up our program and start with Regional Specialties but many members of Regional Clubs don't have experience with Stud Dogs. We can't just say "keep more dogs" they must learn how to manage them, how to do breedings, etc. STCA's role might be to pay for the cost of sending one experienced person to Regional Specialties to teach them. That in itself would be a very valuable tool to move our breed forward and it would also give people the opportunity to see local stud dogs. The program is too important and critical to our breed to not prepare and do the program properly and it should be a day program, not as an afterthought to an already long day.

What we would like the Board to consider is giving us approval to polish up our program starting the first of the year. The template we create is what the Regional Clubs will follow to put the event on. Along with the Board hopefully approving to send one experienced SD manager to these events too teach them how to do it. From there we could possibly have one at the Rotating. For Montgomery weekend, it again should be a full day to put the event on. Hatboro and Montgomery offer their buildings for other Terrier Clubs to hold Sweepstakes/Futurities on Saturday. We may be able to use one that day for the SDS and have a few hours to do this rather than be rushed. More than anything, we want this to be a program that works for the members but more importantly will keep our beloved Scottish Terriers at the forefront to move us forward for years to come.

We also would like to ask if STCA could possibly send out an email poll for the following: 1) how many are interested in learning Stud Dog management and 2) how many stud dogs would people be willing to bring to the events? It will help us with our program as well.

*Sincerely,
Beth Hernandez*

- STCA supports the further development of the Stud Dog Social, and encourages the regional clubs to host such an event on the future and apply for an STCA Educational Grant to facilitate

New Business

- Breeder Referral Report from Tambra Knox and Judy Shafer, Co-Chairs STCA Breeder Referral Introduction

On 4/11/2023 a brief survey asking three questions was sent to the ten STCA member breeders who had utilized the STCA Breeder Referral service on our website. The purpose of the survey was to 1) attempt to determine the success (or lack thereof) of the service, and 2) to seek suggestions to improve the service and the website for our users. After a follow-up on 4.18/2023 to those who had not initially responded, we achieved a 90% response to the following questions:

1. How many times have you used the STCA Breeder Referral Service?
2. Have you placed a puppy due to an inquiry received from the STCA Breeder Referral Service?
3. Do you have any suggestions for improvements to the STCA Breeder Referral Service and/or site?

Summary

Questions #1 & #2: Only two respondents reported placing puppies. Three reported zero placements, and the remainder were unsure as they simultaneously listed with the AKC Marketplace, and used social media or regional club referrals. Almost all had waiting lists.

Question #3:

There were several answers shared by more than one respondent:

No suggestions: 4

Want a mechanism to update and/or cancel a listing: 4 Add pictures and/or link to a kennel's website: 3

Site is difficult to navigate: 2

There were two suggestions to improve the service:

1. Send an automated quarterly e-mail to all on the breeder list reminding them of the STCA Breeder Referral service.
2. Use social media to better advantage to promote the STCA site.

There were two suggestions on internet technology:

1. Update page contents so search engine (like Google) can find pages. Use "Scottish Terrier" or "Scottie" first, rather than "Available puppies."
2. Breeder listing should default to 10 rows at a time. Such short limits are holdover from days of dial up modem connections. It should display 100.

Recommendations

*Implement a mechanism to allow a breeder to update a listing

*Implement a mechanism for a quarterly automatic e-mail message to the breeder list as a reminder/invitation to use the STCA site.

*Implement both suggestions with regard to internet technology.

- Westminster Kennel Club (WKC) follow-up
 - During the broadcast of the Terrier Group on Tuesday May 9, the sidebar commentary by a Fox Sports newscaster made reference to Scottie Cramp as a breed characteristic of the Scottish Terrier
 - On Wednesday May 10, 2023, Marcia Dawson wrote to Gail Miller Bisher, WKC Director of Communications

Dear Ms. Bisher:

On behalf of the Board of Officers and Directors of the Scottish Terrier Club of America (STCA) and the Health Trust Fund of the STCA, I would like to congratulate you and the Club for a successful Westminster event in showcasing the beauty, diversity and many facets of the purebred dog sport.

Like other club members and breeders, we have dedicated our lives to the promotion, health and preservation of our Scotties. And with great anticipation we all prepared to cheer on the representative of our breed on Tuesday May 9th evening's Fox's Sports coverage of the Terrier Group, followed by Best in Show. However, much to our surprise, while the Scottie was being evaluated by the judge and gaited by the handler, the commentators Chris Myers and Jason Hoke took it upon themselves to reveal their complete lack of knowledge about a genetic issue in the breed.

In a completely unprofessional and inappropriate manner, both commentators expounded on a condition known as Scottie Cramp. "When this breed gets too excited they get what they call Scottie Cramp ... when muscles kind of ... kind of tense up and they don't walk as comfortably." Listeners were further subjected to the following statement which essentially painted all terriers

with the same defective brush: "They get kinda rigid when they are sparring and getting excited. Terriers are so intense that they just kind of firm up."

While one the most prestigious dog shows in the world does not seem to us to be the appropriate venue to discuss health issues in the dogs being shown, we would like to take this opportunity to educate you and your commentators on this one disorder discussed during the judging of an outstanding Scottie champion, who by the way has a perfect gait.

Scottie Cramp has been known in the breed for many generations and has been researched extensively ever since the 1980's. This is a neurological disorder that is inherited when both sire and dam carry the mutation. The incidence of Scottie Cramp in the breed is not known at this time but it is relatively rare these days as breeders have conscientiously bred away from it whenever possible. The Health Trust Fund of the STCA has funded Scottie Cramp research in the past and continues to search for a marker so that all breeders can avoid the disorder with a DNA test.

Scottie Cramp is a non-painful disorder. The name "Cramp" connotes a level of muscular discomfort, but in fact there appears to be no pain associated with this disorder. The affected Scottie will suddenly have very characteristic difficulty gaiting when he is excited or exercised, but he will make a full recovery after a few minutes of rest as the neurotransmitter Serotonin is restored to proper levels. Affected Scotties live a full and good quality life as companion dogs in loving homes.

I was not able to watch all of the Group judging on Monday and Tuesday evenings, so I can't say for certain that the Scottie judging was the only case of inappropriate chatter by the commentators on health issues. However, I would strongly suggest that in the future, if the Westminster Kennel Club truly wishes to have intelligent conversation about the various health issues in each and every breed, that a different venue be organized with preparation and research on the issues by breeders and veterinary professionals who have the knowledge and experience that was so sadly lacking Tuesday evening.

Regards,

Marcia Dawson, DVM

And in response from Westminster Kennel Club Show Chair, David Helming

Good Morning Lori - I am writing on behalf of the Westminster Kennel Club to thank the Scottish Club of America for notifying us via Marcia Dawson's May 11th correspondence of the unfortunate mention of Scottie Cramp during the Fox production of the show on Tuesday. We are sorry that this occurred as it has been, and will continue to be, Westminster's practice of not referencing any breed health matters when introducing breeds during the broadcast. Our focus during the Group commentaries is to highlight and center on the "form & function" of the respective breeds with a goal of educating viewers. As a breeder, I fully recognize the importance of this purpose - the broadcast is not the proper forum for referencing or discussing breed health issues. We have reviewed this situation with Fox who will remove the reference to Scottie cramp from the 2023 broadcast in show re-runs. We are also instituting procedures with Fox to prevent future situations such as occurred with your breed. Again, our gratitude for bringing this to our attention and we look forward to continuing to have Scottish Terriers participate in our show and being able to highlight them in the televised production of the show. Sincerely, Dave Helming

- Canine Chronicle Article

- In the June issue of Canine Chronicle, the Scottish Terrier was featured in their Breed Priorities column, with a photograph showing two dogs engaged in what could only be described as fighting, not the image we as the Parent Club want to have portrayed:

On Tuesday May 16, 2023 Lori Kelly wrote:

Dear Mr. Grabe,

On behalf of the Scottish Terrier Club of America, I thank you for featuring the Scottish Terrier in Canine Chronicle's May 2023 issue, "Breed Priorities - The Scottish Terrier," authored by Ms. Riggsbee.

However, the image your publication selected to feature was inappropriate. Another photo would have served the article and the breed better had you selected an image that represents true breed type, its unique appearance and characteristics, not to mention the Scottie's "heads up, tails up" attitude in the ring, as noted as an important virtue of the breed in Ms. Riggsbee's article. And if possible, please remove the image from the website/digital edition and Facebook post from May 16, 2023.

We would have been happy to provide you with appropriate graphics or photos for this piece and any future Scottish Terrier Breed articles you publish. Please contact us in the future for approved photos/images for publication.

*Regards,
Lori Kelly
President, Scottish Terrier Club of America*

On Wednesday May 17, 2023, Tom Grabe wrote:

Hi Lori,

Thank you for your email. We are sorry you didn't like the photo we used in the Breed Priorities article. This is a photo taken from the breed ring at Montgomery County KC several years ago. We have used it before in other articles.

Unfortunately, there is no way to change it as it would require us to redesign the lead page of an article that has been printed and included in the digital edition. The Facebook post is already buried down the feed, so there is no point in trying to correct it at this time.

We appreciate the offer of photos for future articles. We'll certainly keep that in mind.

*Best Regards,
Tom Grabe*

- This issue of proper sparring needs to be addressed in the Judges Education Committee to make sure judges who do spar dogs know how to manage the process and what not to accept.

Motion: To adjourn at 9:52PM EDT by RBumstead, seconded by HPrince. Passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted – Richard C Bumstead, Recording Secretary

May 18, 2023