

October 14, 2010
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America General Membership Meeting
Minutes

Location: Triple Crown Dog Academy, Hutto, Texas

Members Present: The Recording Secretary had all STCA members in good standing sign in. Thirty Nine members in good standing were present. The Recording Secretary determined a quorum was present. The members introduced themselves.

President Jamie Nuckles called the meeting to order at 03:37 pm CDT

Board Members Present: Tom Rapinchuk, Monica Davi, Frances Conner, John Lottinville, Jaime Nuckles, Lydia Castagna, Sharon Martin-Biddle, Carrie Lee

Members Absent: None

Reading of the Minutes

The draft minutes of the 2009 STCA General Membership Meeting were previously mailed to all members and were also posted on the STCA website for review. The Recording Secretary read the 2009 minutes. The minutes were approved by majority vote.

Proposal to Amend the Order Of Business

Jaime Nuckles proposed that the order of the meeting be changed. The new order: Unfinished business, New Business, Report of the President, Report of the Secretary, Report of the Treasure, Committee Reports, Election of Officers/Board Announcement, Election of new members, Adjournment. There were no objections and the proposal passed by majority vote.

Unfinished Business

The motion to have the board take all action and to recover additional expenses incurred by Bill Peterson and Lorene Wilson in connection with the interference in the 2007 Directors' election, as stated in the 2008 general membership meeting minutes, was brought up for discussion. A motion was made to expel Bill Peterson and Lorene Wilson. **Discussion ensued:** Excerpts from the accountant's letter were read detailing the interference and the additional expenses. Lorene Wilson and Bill Peterson received certified letters in March 2009 requesting payment for the additional expenses. The arbitration and the outcome were discussed. Bill Peterson and Lorene Wilson's membership status was clarified for the membership ("member not in good standing" and "failed to renew", respectively). Bill Peterson's portion was ~\$145 and Ms. Wilson's ~\$1100. An amendment to the motion was made to ban Bill Peterson and Lorene Wilson from future STCA events. The amendment failed. The reason for arbitration (refusal to pay the additional funds) was discussed. The arbitrator's decision was verbal and the additional funds were paid to the accountant. Inconsistencies for past financial shenanigans versus consequences for misbehavior were discussed. An e-mail from the accountant dated October 17, 2007, was read explaining the legal fees and requesting an additional \$1855 in payment. Arbitration resulted when the club refused to pay the \$1855. Jaime read an e-mail from Bill Peterson to the accountant, in which he

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erroneously stated he had permission to contact the accountant. A standing rule to permanently ban Lorene Wilson was discussed. Discussion ended and the motion was reread. The motion was amended to include a 30 day deadline and a lifetime ban, rather than expulsion, for Lorene Wilson. The amended motion is "Expel Bill Peterson if he does not pay the balance in 30 days and ban Ms. Wilson if she does not pay the owed fees in 30 days." The motion was seconded and passed by majority vote. The corresponding secretary will notify Bill Peterson and Lorene Wilson of the membership's decision.

The 2004 trophy fund was discussed. The trophy funds were stolen. A \$150 check with the notation "paid in full" was supposedly written to cover the funds. The matter was explained by the trophy chair at a prior membership meeting and the membership accepted it. Apparently the stolen checks in the fund were never cashed. All checks and money must now be sent to the treasurer, no money should be sent to anyone else. A disciplinary committee was suggested and the board will take it under consideration.

New Business

Sara Nugent proposed a history book for the breed's 75th anniversary. Much of the breed's history is lost when members die and the history book will capture it. Sara requested that any and all breed material, pedigrees, old pictures, ads, etc. be scanned and sent to her for inclusion in the book. Members should tell their family what to do with their dog stuff when they die.

Nancy Hjelmstad was thanked for her work on the yearbook and quarterly.

A challenge trophy in memory of Fred Sindelar was discussed. A bronze challenge trophy for "Best of Breed" donated by "Friends of Fred Sindelar" was discussed as was a "Bred by Exhibitor" trophy donated by the Texas Club. There was much discussion and explanation of challenge trophies, AKC rules concerning challenge trophies and how they are awarded. The numbers of trophies memorializing Fred Sindelar, the class, shipping issues and which club should award it were also discussed. The membership was polled and they overwhelmingly wanted the board to accept the Fred Sindelar "Bred by Exhibitor" trophy donated by the Texas Club.

The Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club offers titles in drafting, weight pulling and backpacking. If the membership wants the club to pursue titling in these events they should contact a board member.

Presidents Report – None.

Secretarial report for 10-14-2010 general membership meeting

Treasurer's report

Frances reported the following from the September 2010 bank statement:

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	Aug-10		
Beginning Balance	46364.69		
Deposits	2950.00		
Withdrawals	-3014.04		
Ending Balance	46300.65		
Cleared Checks			
Check 2122	0.00	Void	
Check 2123	2000.00	Barbara Deakyne	2010 National Trophies
Check 2124	521.00	Sportsman Insurance	Events Policy
Check 2125	493.04	Monica Davi	Secretary Supplies
	3014.04		
Outstanding Checks			
Check 2126	396.00	Friendly Self Storage	9/1/10 to 12/31/10 Storage Archives
	396.00		
BSL Committee	1796.00		
Rescue	4214.00		
Heath	6088.86		
Performance	499.79		
Public Relations	235.00		
Futurity 2010	385.00		
Futurity 2011	50.00		
Committee Funds	13268.65		
STCA Club Funds	33032.00		
Total in Bank Acct	46300.65		
Less OS Checks	-396.00		
Open Deposits	1910.00		
Deposits to be Made	1307.00		
Balance in Account	49121.65		

The books from 12/1//2009 to 7/31/2010 were audited. The accountant said that Frances was following all guidelines to comply with the IRS. There were some corrected bank errors; the overall work was rated as "excellent".

Committee reports

AKC delegate's report

Holly Stump, AKC delegate, gave an abbreviated report:

- Please sign Holly's sign up sheet if you would like to receive her report by e-mail
- An abbreviated report is available in the quarterly
- AKC is offering a \$20 voucher for Show Workers. Please sign the sign up sheet to receive the voucher

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- On June 18, 2010 the FIRST Am Staff Grand Championship was awarded to Ch Alpine's Highwayman.
- The group realignment was postponed, but is under discussion and is probably inevitable. The question for the club is "do we want to leave the terrier group?" or "should the terrier group be split?"
- The AKC is recognizing parent club titles as long the title is a historical function of the breed.
- The Breeder of Merit program has started October 1st to pay tribute/recognize and give back to the breeders who dedicate a lifetime to purebred dogs.
- AKC is not doing well. Litter registrations are down. Please register litters and support AKC programs. The AKC spends more kennel inspections than the USDAA spends on all inspections.

Judges Selection

Email has been sent to the selected 2012 judges. Once they have been contacted, the ballot for the 2010 judge will be sent to the membership. The plan is to have the 2013, 2014 and 2015 nominations sent out, get responses back and to hold the drawing by next year's specialty.

Legislative

Business is proceeding as usual, lots of letters have been sent, new material has been submitted to the website, but there are issues/complications with the website.

A BSL ban on service dogs on military bases was overturned. The decision is causing some breed bans to be revisited.

The pamphlets from last year were discussed. More participation is needed by the membership.

Nancy Hjelmstad used articles and resources from the web to fight BSL in her town. The information will be published in the next quarterly. Vigilance is a must because cities will slip it in under the radar.

Nick Kael printed T-Shirts to raise money for BSL and was thanked by the club for raising \$240.

Rescue

Carrie Lee took over last year. The job is too large for one person and a larger committee is needed. The plan is to divide the country into regions and have regional contacts locate and refer people to reputable rescue shelters. A fund raiser is planned for tonight. Rescue was further discussed, the club's position is to recognize reputable rescue groups, fund them and refer people to them.

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Show

Frances thanked Barbara DeaKyne for the 156 hours she spent on trophies. Without Barbara's efforts there would NOT have been any trophies.

Performance

The performance committee hosted six shows: two agility, two obedience shows and two rally shows. Several people helped and will be thanked at the banquet. There was a small entry due to the late premium and the economy. The leftover trophies are for sale to raise money. One person was singled out for special thanks, Corrine Omilanowicz, who worked on the trophies. The performance committee will happily support any future awards from the Swiss club.

Health

The Health committee has \$8965.48 in the AKC Health Foundation. The committee has paid \$7500 to support three grants: cruciate ligaments, auto immune/inflammatory issues and mast cell. These grants are supported by the health surveys. Faith will keep everyone up to date. The goal is to support these grants which are applicable to our breed and possibly get a dedicated study of our own. The committee may participate in a Rottweiler mitral valve (cardiac) study. There are not many health awards this year. The application is on the website, it's not hard and everyone should fill one out and send it to Linn Cabral. The certificate and pin are nice. It is a good advertisement for the dogs.

Yearbook

Thanks to Nancy the club is current. Next year will be 2008, 2009 and 2010. Thanks to all those who sent advertisements. The yearbook is a great tool for pedigrees, photos, accomplishments, etc. Thanks again to Nancy.

Judges Mentoring

A mentoring program has been put together with a list of criteria. Interested members should contact Lydia Castagna.

Judges Education

A good round table discussion was held at the Specialty. There is direction to the committee. Costs need to be considered so local presenters should be used. Using electronic methods, the website, video conferencing, etc were discussed to minimize expenses.

Public Relations

The PR committee chairman sent her report via e-mail. Things have lapsed. The plan is to update the breed brochure for 2011 with additional information or down loadable from the website. More emphasis is needed for breed booths. PR committee members need to commit to one breed show in 2011. Dates permitting, the committee should be able to attend the 2011 AKC "Meet the Breed". The information needs to be posted to the website. A temperament test is planned for 2012 if it is held at Purina Farms.

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Editorial

Please submit ads for the quarterly in a timely manner. Please do not send Nancy money. Nancy receives many calls, please return calls. Ads are needed for the next quarter and the deadline is near. There is plenty of add space. Please send board and committee reports in a timely fashion.

Futurity

Eleven entries for the first year were received. \$294 will be distributed. Please participate. Jaime discussed how the judges were selected.

Election of Officers/Board

Monica reported the election results:

131 ballots were received; there were five openings and six candidates. The election winners were:

Jerry Santaniello

Lydia Castagna

Ed Thomason

Carrie Lee

Judy Morris

Election of New Members

Michael McMurry – single – approved

Randy and Leslie Jones – family – approved

Lacy Tulloch – single – approved

Tanya Canyon – single – approved

Adrian and Jack Tackett – family - approved

Next Meeting – October 2011.

Meeting adjourned 06:19 pm CDT

Respectfully submitted,

John Lottinville, Recording Secretary