

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

February 20, 2015.

Conference Call

Members Present:

Frances Conner, Brenda Martz, Tom Rapinchuk, Lydia Castagna, Carrie Huddleston, Al Bincarousky, Stephanie Rogers, Monique Bertrand

Members Absent:

Jeff Morrison

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. CST

Recording Secretary: Tom Rapinchuk

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes for the January 20, 2015 meeting were read. Corrections were made. Lydia Castagna motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Frances Conner 2nd. Passed

Tom Rapinchuk reported that Chuck Nelson verbally said to commit his excess membership renewal fees to the general fund of the club.

Brief discussions took place concerning the implementation of late fees for membership renewals paid after December 31 of each year. The board made no decision and may consider this option in the future.

Presidents Report: Brenda Martz

All committees have been requested to submit written reports to the board members prior to the board meetings, as requested by the board last meeting. Brenda Martz commented that this was a good suggestion and has worked out very well for this meeting. The board just needs everyone to comply and to remain in compliance.

Brenda Martz reported that the AKC may give and may have been giving judges educational credits for breed seminars presented by non-approved breed club presenters. Since the AKC required all breed clubs to enact a Judge's education program with only breed club approved presenters, this seems to be a conflict within the program. It has come to the attention of our club that not only are non-approved presenters giving seminars, but also non-members of the national club are presenting. This is very detrimental to our breed and the world of purebred dogs. Ongoing communications with the AKC are occurring with the help of the Judge's Education and Breed Mentoring Committees to clarify and rectify this situation. In addition, letters to regional clubs will be sent out to request that only the approved presenters of the national club be utilized for judge's education seminars in the future. This is to preserve our breed.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Frances Conner

Frances Conner reported that a request from Morris & Essex dog club was received asking our club to support the entry of our breed at their show. Lydia Castagna motioned that the STCA, Inc. support the entry at the 2015 Morris & Essex dog show. Tom Rapinchuk 2nd. Passed
Frances Conner is working on getting the membership cards out to the renewing members.

Treasurer's Report: Carrie Huddleston

February 20, 2015
 Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
 Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
 Final

Carrie Huddleston reported that the books are only reconciled through December because of the problems being encountered with Bank of America in transferring the account to her name. She is working diligently to get this accomplished. Bank of America will not do a transfer of signatures; they will only do an addendum. Lydia Castagna motioned that Frances Conner and Judy Morris do the addendum necessary to put Carrie Huddleston onto the account. Frances Conner 2nd. Passed.

Carrie Huddleston suggested that the transfer of treasurer signatures be done at the national specialty at a local Bank of America branch because the persons necessary to be present to transfer the signatures are present. The board concurred.

Futurity funds should not be year specific. This will be corrected.

Kathy Gotschall paid her \$10 owed for the yearbook directly into Carrie Huddleston's personal account not the club's. Carrie Huddleston will pay this amount to the club from her personal account for Kathy Gotschall.

December 2014

Beginning Balance	40771.90
Deposits/Credits	2595.00
Checks Cleared:	25.00
Cash Withdrawals	0.00
Ending Balance:	43341.90

Cleared Checks

Check #2779	25.00	AKC	2015 Parent Club Dues
	\$ 25.00		

Outstanding Checks

Check #2780	286.50	Faith Beiser T-shirt/Sweatshirt Order for Health Committee
Check #2781	132.00	Store More – Forney Archive Storage 1/1/15 - 1/31/15 Invoice #8123
	418.50	

Legislative	1116.17
Rescue	7403.56
Health	3974.77
Archive	- 2640.00
Performance	5706.45
Public Relations	1151.88
Futurity 2014	635.01
Futurity 2015	357.50
Committee Funds	17705.34
Club Funds	25636.56

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

43341.90

T-shirt sales from the nationals for the Archive committee have not been allocated to the Archive committee budget yet.

Committee Reports:

Health Committee: Faith Beiser Chairperson

Faith Beiser reported nothing new is going on with the Health Committee at this time. She placed a small order for clothing and sent a photo to Pam which she put on the website. Her committee will be reviewing the AKC/CHF grants for 2015 to decide which project to support for this year.

Public Relations: Pam Nemecek Chairperson

Jeanette O'Hanlon reported that a very successful meets the breeds event took place in New York under the budgeted amount donated to the club by the AKC.

Here is Pam Nemecek's report:

The Staffordshire Terrier Club of America has been rocking the Amstaff world and getting out their showing that the American Staffordshire Terrier is a magnificent breed in many venues from Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Coursing, Schutzhund, Barn Hunts, Herding, Hunting, Fly Ball, Nose Work, Tracking, Sprint Racing, Military, Weight Pulling, Carting, Dock Diving, Temperament Testing, Therapy, Service Dog, Canine Good Citizen, Parade Prancer, Costume Enthusiast, Movie Star, to your family pet and couch potato and so much more. Our breed has proven themselves that they are a versatile intelligent dog but also a devoted family companion that can endure many different environments from apartment living to your country dog. By appearing in public positively, we set a precedent leading the way to a very socialized American Staffordshire Terrier that can not only perform but is a loyal and affectionate companion that is people-oriented.

The STCA PR Committee set up a booth at Purina Farms for our 78th National Specialty showcasing the American Staffordshire terrier in various functions described above. We had many handouts and a raffle with the prize being a foldable heavy canvas wagon filled with goodies donated from Steinhauser's Feed Store - Alvin Texas, Enchanted Paws, Stephen Denny, and an Amstaff named Sonic (whose owner wanted to remain anonymous). The Photographer for our specialty won the raffle, which was overjoyed and appreciative. A special thank you to Betty Michl for helping with the booth and donating "A Promise of Breach Suit" print and other blingy stuff for future events. A special thank you to Kelly McCabe and Judy Morris for donating a "Witch's Hat" for the little Witch in all of us for future PR events close to Halloween.

The STCA continued to showcase the American Staffordshire Terrier and participated in Meet the Breeds at the Eukanuba dog show in December 2014. We got 3rd Place for the Terrier Group Meet the Breeds. The theme was "Red, White, and Blue Amstaffs are True!". The booth was decorated with many pictures of Amstaffs in positive ways from performance to your family pet with the American Flag as the base for the theme. There were many handouts from our standard, our business card with our website name on it, legislation, AKC Responsible Dog Ownership, to much more including our flyer about the American Staffordshire Terrier. The Amstaffs rocked and endured many hours of petting, poking, and pulling on them. I coordinated the booth and mostly me and my Amstaff Celtic ran it... we did many demos for children from giving our paw to front paws up on a stool, sit, stay, and down and much more. We had great help from both non and members of the STCA as follows: Christi Johnson Grimes (she was a life saver) for assisting in decorating the booth and for her help, Rose McGill-Starkey and her Amstaff Keeper and her family for Greeting and Meeting the people, Fran and Kirby Frazier and their Amstaff Champ for Meeting and Greeting everyone, Cathy Choffy and her Amstaff Annie for Meeting and Greeting the Crowds, and Jodi Spratt for her help with the booth in relieving us for breaks. A special thank you to Thomas Mount for dropping off past booth décor and Frances Connor for additional booth décor.

The STCA again rocked Meet the Breeds yet again on Valentine's Days - February 14, 2015 at Pier 92 in New York City as part of the Westminster Dog Show. We were very thankful for the O'Hanlon Family and their three Amstaffs. John, Jeannette, and Emily spent the day showing that Amstaffs are definitely a loving people dog. They also decorated the booth to an American theme and had many handouts as listed above. As they say "A family that Amstaff's together stays together!" and the O'Hanlon's proved that.

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

"Home for the Holidays" photo contest December 2014 - we had a contest for Amstaffs "Home for the Holiday" in which people submitted pictures and won based on creativity for the theme. They won "holiday toys and treats" sponsored by me...

Amstaffs went on to shine for Mardi Gras on Galveston Island Texas, on the Sea Wall, at the Krewe of Barkus Parade to the theme of Disco Paws. So both owners and Amstaffs came out to be "blingy" and including members of the STCA. It was a long parade on the Island and Amstaffs have to endure loud and unusual sounds not heard everyday, from the sea crashing waves to hundreds of children and adults screaming, loud music, sirens, cats, rats, goats, snakes, birds, hundreds of dogs and so much more. Again, Amstaffs proved they can be social around other pets and again loving to people. My Amstaff Bella and I got to march in the Social section since my dog was able to be around other animals.

Archives Committee: Richard Gray Chairperson
Al Bincarousky will be meeting with the committee in March of 2015 in Texas.

Judge's Education/Mentor: Sara Nugent Chairperson
Sara Nugent is planning a new Breed Seminar presenters training program to take place in the late summer. Discussions on the requirements to become a presenter via the mentoring guidelines of the club took place. Discussion took place regarding the use of foreign presenters for out of country training.

Moonlight World Challenge: Carrie Huddleston Chairperson
No Report.

Editorial/Magazine: Al Bincarousky Chairperson
Frances Conner received a CD of pictures from the national show. She will forward it to Al Bincarousky for inclusion in the magazine.
Advertising in our magazine is way down.
Nancy Hjelmstad sent the 4th quarter magazines and yearbooks to Carla Restivo on her own fruition. This is not what the board desired and now Carla must mail them out to not incur double postage.
The online version of the magazine has not yet been done.
The yearbooks still need to be put onto the website in order to be ordered.
Nancy Hjelmstad in the future will only be involved in producing the design of the magazine nothing more. Someone else will handle mailings and printing.

Futurity: Brenda Martz Chairperson
We have 7 litters nominated so far, with one more nomination coming in the next week. To date, there are 10 individual puppies from 3 litters that have had the forfeit paid and are now eligible to compete in this year's Futurity. Of the remaining 4 litters, 2 litters are only 2 months old and 2 litters are only weeks old, and one is not born yet, so they still have some time to individually nominate their puppies.

We will start the Maturity program with the 2016 Nominations. The fee will increase slightly to cover the Maturity costs to include a monetary pay out plus possibly a trophy. There will just be four placements in the Maturity, each by sex and not divided by age. More to come on the Maturity program including whether to offer the 2015 Futurity dogs a Maturity next year if they are willing to pay an additional forfeit. We could start it with next year if there is enough interest in that. I will send an email out to all the 2015 Futurity Nominations once we have all of them in, which will be early April 2015.

Website: Frances Conner Chairperson
No Report.

Judges Selection: Tom Rapinchuk Chairperson
Nothing to report.

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

Sportsmanship Awards: Monique Bertrand

No Report

Rescue: Courtney Morris

This committee is getting organized again.

Yearbook:

No Report

Standing Rules: Monica Davi Chairperson

No Report

Legislation: Chris Berg Chairperson

No Report.

Delegate: Jeanette O'Hanlon

Jeanette O'Hanlon reported that the following people are up for election to the AKC Board of Directors:

Robert Amen, Stamford, CT Port Chester Obedience Training Club

Dr. Carmen L. Battaglia, Roswell, GA German Shepherd Dog Club of America

Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Brimfield, MA Springfield Kennel Club

Steven D. Gladstone, Mount Pocono, PA Waterloo Kennel Club

Dr. Gregory J. Paveza, Hamden, CT Elm City Kennel Club

The Board discussed these candidates. as well as the new rules for dog shows to be voted upon.

Lydia Castagna motioned that the STCA, Inc. via our club delegate vote for Mr. Battaglia, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Gladstone for the board of directors of the AKC and also vote for the changes as written for the rules for dog shows.

Carrie Huddleston 2nd. 7 Yeah 1 Nah. Passed.

Performance: Sonia Bincarousky

Kim Krohn has been added to the performance committee.

Sonia Bincarousky wants her trial secretary for her June and July shows to be given a free national club membership.

The board directed her to pay for a Texas club membership form her committee funds.

Email Activity:

Stephanie Rogers was asked to fill in one of the open board positions and accepted.

Monique Bertrand was asked to fill in one of the open board positions and accepted.

Old Business:

The access codes to the club's Facebook page have still not been found. Ongoing efforts to find them will continue.

Lydia Castagna received information from Ed Thomason regarding the Registry of Merit program being worked on.

Monique Bertrand with the help of Stephanie Rogers will form a new committee for the Sportsmanship Award program.

2015 National Specialty

Performance events will be run from October 3 through October 6, 2015.

John O'Hanlon will help with the temperament test.

Obedience Judges are not yet contracted.

No obedience events will be offered for any for the Regional Shows during the Nationals week.

All performance events during the national's week will be national events.

An Earth Dog event will be offered. Sonia Bincarousky will be the Chairperson.

The National host hotel information is still not on the website.

Performance event ribbons will be coordinated through Lydia Castagna.

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

The Agility Trial will take place about 45 minutes from the host hotel.

The Kentucky Club wants to hire Onofrio as the superintendent of their show because of the discounts they get. Lydia Castagna will see if the National Club can be extended the same offer.

The Texas Club will hold a Regional Specialty on Monday of the National's week. This means that a Regional Specialty will be held on each of Monday Tuesday, and Wednesday. The National show will take place on Thursday and Friday.

Entry Fees are being worked on. Last Years fees were as follows:

1 st entry	45
2 nd entry	25
Puppy	25
Bredby	25
Stud dog	25
Brood bitch	25
Conf. Brace	25
Sweeps	20
Futurity	25
Junior	10
4-10 puppy	20
Beginner obedience	28

The Board suggests that sweepstakes be held for the National Specialty only. No sweepstakes for any Regional Show. The National Club's Logo needs to be on all ribbons including the Regional shows' ribbons.

The show-giving club can limit awards of merit.

The Kentucky Club wants to hire foreign judges. The board can't prevent this but cautions that this may not be a good idea.

The Board decided to not hold any sweepstakes at any of the Regional shows during this week to keep costs down for exhibitors and to ease scheduling of all events.

Plans are underway to include health testing clinics including but not limited to eyes, ears, and heart.

Lure coursing runs will be planned into this year's schedule since the club purchased a lure machine last year.

The Kentucky regional specialty club will do their own trophies.

Carrie Huddleston and Courtney Morris will be doing the national trophies and the Texas regional club's trophies.

A suggested sweepstakes judge was Kim Davis.

2016 National Specialty:

Sam Royall will be the Show Chairperson and Frances Conner will be the Show Secretary.

The Contract has been signed with the KOA. The dates are October 10-14, 2016.

There are all breed shows on October 8-9 very near to the show site.

New Business:

Frances Conner suggested that the board rescind its blanket approval for regional club's being able to hold regional specialties each year. She suggested that the national club should approve each event each and every year. The board concurred with this idea and it will be brought forth for further consideration next meeting.

Breeder listings on the web site are calendar year specific – January-to-January – which coincides with membership dues. Only members in good standing can have their name mentioned. and/or shown.

Election of Members:

February 20, 2015
Staffordshire Terrier Club of America Board Meeting Minutes
Approved as Corrected 3-13-15
Final

2 applications for single membership were read. One for Kim Davis, the other for Walter Freel.
Lydia Castagna motioned to accept Kim Davis as a new member. Tom Rapinchuk 2nd. Passed
Frances Conner motioned to accept Walter Freel as a new member. Al Bincarousky 2nd. Passed

Next meeting will be March 13, 2015 at 7:30 CST.

Carrie Huddleston motioned to adjourn the meeting. Al Bincarousky 2nd. Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 12:16 am CST

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Rapinchuk
Recording Secretary - STCA, Inc.