

## **Board Minutes 3/9/18**

### **Monthly board meeting**

### **Staffordshire Terrier Club of America**

March 9 2018

Meeting called to order at 5:45 PST

Roll call: Frances Conner; Brenda Tatro; John O'Hanlon; BJ Whitlow; Frances Conner, Ed Thomason, Al Bincarousky, and Kim Rudzik

Absent: Monique Bertrand; Brenda Martz;

Minutes from prior meeting: Minutes are in review by the board. The president asked that they are reviewed for approval by the Wednesday following this board meeting

**Presidents Report:** The paperwork for the Regional and National 2018 will be finalized this coming week. Spoke with Purina Farms for 2023, week of 10/15/2023 through 10/22/2023. Katie Flamm is working on other dates for 2021. Correspondence from Dr. Gerard C Penta about the Dog Judges Educational Foundation, Inc.

**Treasury's Report:** The February Treasurer's Report was previously mailed. Motion made to accept, passed.

**Secretaries Report:** Membership cards have been mailed to all who have renewed or voted into membership.

**Recording Secretary:** No Report

### **Committee Reports:**

Health Committee: Discussion on the following, submitted by the committee:

Below is the article which I originally sent in December. It needs to get out to the membership in every way possible - online newsletter, quarterly newsletter, Facebook, website.

Frances has promptly signed the Memorandum of Understanding from AKC CHF for us to go forward with this project. Now it is crucial to get the word out. We are asking for your help with whoever is involved with FB to work with our committee and set up an online auction and or raffle. We are going to need donations for this auction/raffle so that we won't have to deplete our health treasury and DAF to fund this project.

Please contact me after the meeting so we can discuss plans.

Thanks,

Faith

## Juvenile Laryngeal Paralysis and Polyneuropathy (JLPP)

JLPP is a fatal hereditary degenerative neurological disease that affects puppies after weaning age, with symptoms usually appearing at about 3-4 months old. It begins with difficulty breathing which causes choking, aspiration, and possible pneumonia. It progresses to the hind limbs causing difficulty getting up, and wobbly gait and eventually spreads to the front limbs. There are a few breeds affected with this disease and among them are the Black Russian Terrier and Rottweiler. For these 2 breeds the trait is autosomal recessive and a test has been developed.

For a detailed description of the disease see this link on the Black Russian Terrier site:

[www.brtca.org/juvenile-laryngeal-paralysis-and-polyneurpathy.html](http://www.brtca.org/juvenile-laryngeal-paralysis-and-polyneurpathy.html)

Also visit the University of Missouri web page [www.caninegeneticdiseases.net](http://www.caninegeneticdiseases.net)

The Health Committee just recently received some disturbing news that some people in the breed have been experiencing this disease in their AmStaff over the past few years. We were contacted by a person who has had firsthand experience with a few of her dogs affected with the disease. Her investigation led her to find out that there were many other cases in the breed but it was not being discussed. Finding out about the genetic test developed by the research team at the University of Missouri Veterinary School, she contacted them and submitted samples. It was determined that the AmStaff mutation was different from that of the BRT and Rottweiler. Through social media and word of mouth, she was able to discover that there were a good number of cases, most sharing similar lineage, both here in the US and overseas as well.

I am extremely grateful that we were given this information. As it was a difficult beginning when we started the ataxia project, the membership came together and helped our researcher Dr. Olby develop a test. We can do it again with everyone's help.

I have been in contact with Liz Hansen of the University of Missouri veterinary research team headed by Dr. Dennis O'Brien. Dr. O'Brien was instrumental in working with Dr. Olby on our ataxia research. Some of you may remember that he came to the National while the project was active and he gave a presentation on ataxia. The above link on the Black Russian Terrier Club of America website will also take you to a very informative video presentation he gave to their club on JLLP. I urge you to watch it and learn about the disease and research process.

Liz Hansen has agreed to work with us on a research project. There are a few samples at their lab but they need many more. We need your help with this. All information including pedigree data will remain confidential. Form and instruction sheet are attached below. Liz will need DNA from affected dogs, clinical report from the veterinarian or neurologist who diagnosed, samples from normal siblings, parents, and grandparents if possible, brief history of clinical signs and disease progression, and necropsy report if available. Genetic technology has improved since our last research project and I am hoping this can have a successful outcome before we are faced with a major widespread problem in our breed.

I have contacted Antagene and Biovet Labs and am waiting to hear if they have any additional information. I have also reached out to Dr. Olby to see if she can be of any assistance. As for funding, I have spoken with AKC Canine Health Foundation and we will work with them and the funding process. As we did with the ataxia project, the committee will help offset costs of necropsies associated with this research.

Contact information for Liz Hansen is ph#[573-884-3712](tel:573-884-3712), email [HansenL@missouri.edu](mailto:HansenL@missouri.edu)

Her information and mailing address also appears on the attached sample handling page.

Please pass this information on to any AmStaff owner, member or non- member, who may be able to help.

If you have any questions you can contact the health committee at [health@amstaff.org](mailto:health@amstaff.org) or contact me directly at [fbeiser@aol.com](mailto:fbeiser@aol.com) , tel#917-887-8760

Thanks,

Faith

### **Performance Committee:**

Our Agility Trials in North Carolina have been approved. We need to replenish ribbons and rosettes, and MACH bars. John & I are currently proof reading the premium list. We are still looking for a volunteer or two to help with hospitality during the trials. We received a \$2,000 check for our turnkey Agility Trial in Texas, and have another one planned for July.

As we had so few performance entries at the last National, we have a lot of prizes left for this year's National. I do need to replace the High in Trial Trophies. The trophy lists have been submitted to the Harvest Moon Cluster Chair. The Performance Committee has scheduled our National performance events for Friday, October 19th, and the supported entries for Saturday, October 20th. That way we don't interfere with anyone who wants to show at the Specialty and then compete in performance events.

The Performance Committee voted to pay for one year of STCA Archives Storage and also pay for the Gift Card for the K-9 Officer at the NYC, Meet the Breeds out of our Committee Funds.

### **AKC Delegate's Report**

The next Delegate's meeting is scheduled for March 12 & 13 in Newark. Elections will be taking place on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>. There is only one candidate for the class of 2019, Ron Menaker. For the class of 2022, there are four positions available and there are seven candidates. I will need to know how the BOD wants me to vote. There will be four readings for changes to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, I will send the changes to the Board before the June meeting when they will be voted on.

Discussion was held and it was decided the following candidates would be voted for; Bob Amen; Carl Asby; Jan Ritchie Gladstone and Chris Sweetwood.

We have not yet completed the Parent Club Self Study questionnaire. I have completed most of it but need input on a couple of items I'm not sure of. The questionnaire will be mailed to Frances for signature.

### **Public Relations:**

Hello New York...

American Staffordshire Terrier Booth... New York Meet the Breeds part of the Westminster Dog Show. We want to thank Officer Bruzugul & New York's first Amstaff K9 Kiah, Kim Rudzik & Louie, Matt Diamond & Kori and the O'Hanlon's John and Jeannette & Crickett and Lilah for taking the time (and spending many hours) to represent the American Staffordshire at this very busy event. All of you make our breed proud by greeting the public in a positive way...Thank you from the heart! Here is the link to view the great photos. Matt did an excellent job coordinating with the officers and like always thank you to the O'Hanlon's!!!!

**STCA Magazine...**

Deadline March 15, 2018...thanks Kim Rudzik for sending out to the membership about the deadline.... Ed will put it in the newsletter too!

**Web...**

Logos from our Sponsors are on our site. Updates are added as appropriate and received!!!!

**World Challenge:** Nothing to report on the 2018 World Challenge

**Legislation:** Nothing to report

**Futurity:** Only 2 litters so far. Brenda will add information to news letter.

**Sportsmanship:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

Discussion was held about our page on the AKC website, the picture and description of the American Staffordshire Terrier. It was decided the Judge's Education Committee would address this. The Secretary will contact Sarah Nugent.

**New Business:**

Discussion was held on donating to the American Dog Show Judge's Educational Foundation. It was decided not to donate at this time.

Discussion was held on a letter received from Kelly Townsend concerning advertising in the magazine. All advertisers from the last issue were offered a free ad due to the lateness. It was decided to have the Secretary ask the membership how they feel about publishing the magazine twice a year and both issues going to all terrier judges. It was decided that Kelly would receive a comparable ad and it does not have to be for the same dog.

Application for membership from Kevin & Shelly McIntyre was read, motion made to accept, passed.

Discussion held on how to encourage new membership. Discussion was held on prospective members who do not own the breed, the President will review the Constitution to see if this is addressed.

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PST