



# CHATTANOOGA CHEW CHEW NEWS

## MARCH 2026

### Officers

President: Roderick Snyder

Vice President: Matt McMillan

Treasurer: Carlene Gilstrap

Rec. Secretary: Marilyn Harban

Corr. Secretary: Mary Dunny

### Board of Directors

#### 2025-2026

Sharon Mooney

Clayton Mooney

#### 2026-2027

Jerry Davis

Rita Farmer

Natalia Snyder

**AKC Delegate:** David Gilstrap

**CKC Website:** Ellen Barth

**Legislative Chair:** Julie Borst Reed

**Breeder Referral:** Jackie Lawrence

**Public Education Coordinator:**

Julie Borst Reed

**CKC Facebook & Bulletin**

**Secretary:** Kelli Whitfield

850-291-2700

greystonehollow@gmail.com

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held  
April 14th @6PM.

The membership meeting will be directly following  
@ 7PM Louie Alford Ag Hall-200 Natures Trail SW,  
McDonald, TN 37353.



Adam Lewis from Bradley County EMS will present  
about the CKC Pet Disaster trailer.

Honey baked ham, smoked turkey, salad & chips will  
be available.



## BOARD Meeting Minutes

Tri State Exhibition Center

Hospitality Building

March 10, 2026

Present: Jerry Davis, Rita Farmer, Kelli Whitfield, Rod Snyder, Natalia Snyder, Sharon Mooney, Clayton Mooney, Marilyn Harban, Matt McMillan, Mary Dunny

Absent: Carlene Gilstrap, David Gilstrap

6:07pm Meeting called to order by President Rod Snyder

Recording Secretary: Minutes read from February Board meeting. Motion to accept by Clayton Mooney and seconded by Sharon Mooney.

Treasurer: Report distributed. Motion to table until next month for further discussion. Motion made by Jerry Davis, seconded by Clayton Mooney

### Committees

Website – Working on moving over to Mary Dunny. Renewals are coming in now. Move renewal to every 2 yrs and sync payments for Go Daddy .net, .com. and .org. Motion to approve Matt McMillan, seconded by Natalia

Trophies – Motion to use funds generated from training classes to offset rising costs of trophies and retain \$50 to sponsor Groups for All-Breed Shows.

Training Class: A recommendation was made to have all class attendees pay \$30 for CKC members and non-members pay \$45 at start-up eliminating drop-in opportunity. Board voted to retain drop-in charge of \$5.00 members and \$10 non-members.

Old Business: Happy Ratters Workshop held Sat and Sun were a success. There were 43 teams, made \$850 and cleared \$660 with lots of interest. Motion made for trials to be held in the summertime with 4 trial in 2 days. Motion made by Kelli Whitfield and Clayton Mooney

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Kelli Whitfield offered to hold Canine Good Citizen class for members. There would be 4 weeks training classes and 1 night for testing. Motion made Matt McMillian with 2nd by Clayton Mooney.

Motion to adjourn by Jerry Davis, seconded by Clayton Mooney 6:50pm.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Harban, Recording Secretary

# Chattanooga Kennel Club

## Membership Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2026

Meeting called to order 7:20 pm

Attendance 25 members, 6 guests

Program: Rachel Jonas presented the Manchester Terrier

Recording Secretary: Minutes from January General Meeting read. Correction to minutes with removal of Julie Reed as Breeder Referral. Breeder Referral is located on Website. Minutes approved with correction. Motion to accept by Clayton seconded by Julie.

President: Please return your completed CKC Questionnaire which was distributed in January. This will be sent out by email to members not in attendance. Submit your completed questionnaire to Rod Snyder, nataalk1124@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as presented. \$500.00 was approved by e-mail ballot to increase budget of \$8000.00 to \$8500.00 for purchase of new trailer. New trailer is wonderful with lots of room. Motion made to sell old trailer for \$2500.00. Motion made by Kirt Reed, seconded by Clayton Mooney.

Committee Reports: Website: Ellen Barth, no report

Program: Kelli needs topics and contacts for programs from members on what they would like to have presented. Several topics were suggested.

Legislative: Julie Reed, no report

Delegate: AKC has expanded title recognition allowing dogs to use points and titles from Canada, Brazil and Mexico towards AKC conformation, obedience and rally titles.

Show Chair: Applications have been submitted. Judges assigned. Dates for shows are September 10 – 13. Superintendent is Foy Trent. Specialties to be held this year are: Wednesday – Back to back Greater Atlanta Toy Dog Specialty Wednesday - East TN Working Dog Association Fri – Sun Specialties that will be held during Cluster Siberian Husky Club of Middle TN, Greater Boston Terrier Assoc., Italian Greyhound, Bull Terrier and Mini Bull, Chow Chow Fanciers of Atlanta, Great Dane Club of Middle TN, Sat - American Pomeranian Club, Summer National Specialty Thurs – Sun - Marc Moore will do Fast Cat. Needs 4 Club members from Cluster at site during trial times 9:00am-5:00pm.

Training Classes: Classes will be held at TriState, 6:30 pm Feb 24, Mar 3, 17, 24, 31 & Ap 7

New Business: Marc Moore is planning on holding a Barn Hunt Seminar and event in the new building during the summer around the July 4th weekend. There would be two rings. Ag Hall is being considered for crating. Carlene will check on availability with Tri State.

Kelli Whitfield spoke about a Happy Ratter Workshop to be held at Tri State in March. There would be 20 working spots and 20 audit spots. Start saving boxes.

Julie Reid spoke about the AKC Patch Program and the possibility of us including this with our Cluster. Julie will follow up with additional information next month.

## GENERAL MEETING Minutes

Tri State Exhibition Center

Hospitality Building

March 10, 2026

Meeting called to order 7:20 pm Attendance 22 members, 8 guests

Program: Julie Reid presented a program on AKC Patch Program. This is a new program for youths to become interested in purebred dogs involving a scavenger hunt at dog shows.

Recording Secretary: Minutes from February General Meeting read and accepted

Trophy sign-up list was circulated.

President: Questionnaire indicated 72% reporting were very interested in performance events.

Treasurer's Report: Report has been distributed with motion to table approval until Treasurer was present. Motion made by Clayton Mooney, seconded by Matt McMillian

Committee Reports:

Website: Jackie Lawrence reported that transition is being made to new webmaster, Mary Dunny

Program: Kelli has Bradley County EMS coming with program on the AKC Camot for April Meeting

Show Chair: Absent

Training Classes: Classes held at TriState, 6:30 pm 17, 24, 31 & Apr 7. Classes are going really well with huge attendance

Delegate: Absent but sent in a Correction to report on foreign titles. Correction: AKC will recognize Conformation, Obedience and Rally titles earned by dogs in the Canadian KC. This allows AKC registered dogs to add CKC earned titles to records and pedigrees with previous titles. Mexico will allow mutual recognition of titles and effective May 2026, points for AKC titles can be earned at designated events. Brazil – The AKC & Brazilian KC have established an agreement to recognize dog registrations' & pedigrees supporting International collaboration. Owners can apply to have titles recorded through the AKC Title Application Portal (TAP) using dog's registration or listing number. Dogs must have an AKC, PAL, FSS or AKC Canine Partners number.

Old Business: Kelli reported on the successful Happy Ratters Workshop. There were 43 teams. It made \$850 and cleared \$660. The Board has voted to conduct Happy Ratters trials this summer.

New Business: Kelli is offering to teach Canine Good Citizen classes and hold test for CKC members this summer. It will be free to Club members.

Membership: Three new member applications were made. Kay and Michael Irwin were voted in for membership. Welcome!

Brag: The Irwins 7th month Afghan Hound got a major. Kay Irwin English Cocker finished.

Motion to adjourn: 8:10pm M/S/P



# AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/2/#inbox/FMfcgzQgLFhvlxgPsvXBchXHbMMdtJvg>

March 31, 2026

Please share this important information with your club members, family and friends.

An amendment to the House Farm Bill (HR 7567) proposed by animal rights groups threatens the future of AKC performance events and recognized hunt training techniques.

Please join AKC and leading sportsmen's organizations in defending responsible dog enthusiasts, sportsmen and trainers. Please contact your member of the U.S. Congress and respectfully ask Congress to remove language derived from the "Greyhound Protection Act of 2025" (HR 5017) from the Farm Bill before final passage.

Scroll down for easy ways to make a difference.

### Why This Matters

While the stated intent of the Greyhound Protection Act is to address concerns related to commercial greyhound racing, the provision attached to the Farm Bill is overly broad and risks eliminating or banning standard training and event practices for certain field trials, performance events, lawful hunting with dogs, and other widely accepted training methods used by responsible dog owners and handlers.

In fact, the amendment goes well beyond "commercial" greyhound racing – which currently only exists in one state; it also bans live lure training, use of live lures, and open field coursing events involving live animals.

Because these terms lack clear statutory definitions, they could be interpreted in ways that affect lawful hunting activities and traditional dog training methods. For example, controlled exposure to live birds, or other game animals, is a widely accepted and essential component of preserving unique breed characteristics and training bird dogs, retrievers, hounds, and other working dogs. Dog trainers and hunters commonly use farm-raised birds such as pigeons, ducks, or pheasants to teach scent recognition, steadiness, retrieval skills, and humane handling of game. These practices help ensure that hunting dogs perform their work effectively and minimize harm to wildlife during hunts.

Without clear exemptions, prohibiting the use of live animals in canine events that showcase breed characteristics, responsible hunting, or dog training could effectively eliminate long-standing, responsible training methods.

These restrictions could easily be interpreted or amended to severely impact or eliminate:

Field trials,

Hunt tests,

Earthdog competition,

Barn Hunt,

Nite Hunts, and

- Other organized dog sports/events that are conducted under carefully controlled conditions.

It could also easily be interpreted or amended to impact other popular and responsible running / racing events that do not use live lures, including:

- Lure Coursing,
- Coursing Ability Tests (CAT); or
- Fast CAT events.

Two Ways You Can Make a Meaningful Impact

- [Click here to send a message directly to your member of Congress](#)

Better yet ...

- [Click here](#) to find out who your member of Congress is.

Tell them:

- You are a voting constituent (including city/town you live in) and a responsible dog enthusiast.
- Respectfully ask them to oppose overly broad language from the Greyhound Protection Act (HR 5017) that has been added to the Farm Bill.
- Explain that it does nothing to improve the wellbeing of dogs, and as written could ban or lead to bans on responsible dog training practices that are essential to developing well trained working and performance dogs, as well as popular responsible dog events in the community. Share your positive experiences with these events, if appropriate.
- Note that the Farm Bill is one of the most important and broadly supported pieces of legislation considered by Congress. It should not become the vehicle for language that disrupts lawful hunting traditions, events that showcase breed characteristics, responsible dog ownership, and established canine training practices nationwide.

**Save the date!**

**Premium Coming Soon!**

