

Bull Terrier Club of America, Inc.
General Membership Meeting
Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri
March 13, 2010

A duly noticed meeting of the General Membership was convened at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri on March 13, 2010. The following members of the Board of Directors were present at this meeting: Mary Remer President; Brent Ruppel, First Vice President; Becky Poole, Second Vice President; Naomi Waynee, Executive Secretary; and Claudia Sharp, Corresponding Secretary; Gene Hains, Treasurer; Dale Schuur, AKC Delegate; Jacquie Smith, Member at Large; and Glenna Wright, Member at Large.

Members present were: Don Adams, Martha Adams, Laura Anderson, Steven Altmann, Marcy Bankus, Franne Berez, Frank Bovino, Leslie Bovino, Shannon Bradbury, Phil Brodeur, Lynn Brunsell, Channa Beth Butcher, Steve Butcher, Beth Chastain, Rosalind Clamper, Terri Cournoyer, Cheri Croucher, David Croucher, James Davis, Kay Davis, Mark Draher, Kelly Dunn, Jan Dykema, Georgeanna Edmonds, Wesley Edmonds, Bob Fell, Ruth Fell, Sandee Frascione, Janice Frostick, Bob Gamache, Cheryl Gamache, Amber Gibson, Michael Goble, Jessica Graulau, Colin "Skip" Greaney, Paula Grecco, Miriam Hopkins, Paul Hopkins, Donna Jacobs, Heather Jones, Jake Jones, Jane Killion, Ted Martin, Jackie Miller, Vicki Miller, Bill Poole, Lisa Quiggle, Bill Rourke, Sharon Rourke, Fred Schneider, Judy Schneider, Christine Schuur, Ray Sharp, Becky Siefert, Rick Siefert, Gordon Smith, Norma Smith, John Spuur, Theresa Spuur, Lori Stafford, Melanie Whitehair, Tyrone Whitehair, Dede Wilson.

Guests at this meeting were: Bernie Buchannon, Darcy Lawson, Tonya Mages, Pat Woods, Craig Woods.

President Remer served as the Chairperson and Executive Secretary, Naomi Waynee served as Secretary.

The Chairman called this meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and announced that this meeting was being held pursuant to due notice and that a quorum was not present.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Chris Schuur moved to table the minutes of the last meeting as they have not been published. Laura Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Board Reports

Report of the President – Mary Remer

1. We have received approximately 250 pounds of paper records from Norma Shepherd. The Board is extremely grateful to Victoria Corse for making several trips to Norma's to collect our records and mail them to Dale Schuur.
2. The Forensic Audit in process. Al Shaw, Gene Hains, Dale and Chris Schuur and Ray and Claudia Sharp are completing the task. Once complete, the results will be turned over to the Lincoln, Rhode Island Police Department who in turn will deliver to the District Attorney. There will then be a pre-trial hearing to determine if there is sufficient evidence to warrant a trial.
3. Our bonding is with CNA. The cost is \$416.75 for the year. The bonding covers up to ten individuals and the coverage will be for up to \$100,000.00.
4. Welcome to Gene Hains, our new Treasurer.
5. Ted Martin is our Budget and Audit Committee chair. We are looking forward to his first report at this meeting.
6. Our application for the 501c (3) was approved by the IRS on February 5th, 2010. Many thanks to Dale Schuur and Gene Hains for their hard work on this project. The trustees are Barb Deevers, Gene Hains, Susan Murphy, Melanie Whitehair, treasurer and Glenna Wright.
7. The current issue of BARKS will be an outstanding large issue of BARKS with over eighty pages of advertisements. The RECORD is in progress. Advertisements are still being accepted.
8. We received a letter from the AKC thanking us for our participation at the 2009 AKC/Eukanuba National Championship's Meet the Breeds program.
9. A check from the BTC of Dallas for a \$350 donation to BTCA has been received.

Report of the Executive Secretary – Naomi Waynee had no report.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary – Claudia Sharp had no report.

Report of the Treasurer – Gene Hains gave a treasurer's report. There currently is \$15,140 in the bank account and \$2300 on deposit with PayPal at end of Feb. For the year, the club is \$11,600 over expenses.

Report of the AKC Delegate – Dale Schuur

1. The AKC is now receiving nominations for the ACE awards. Anyone may nominate a dog they think is deserving. For details and a nomination form, go to www.akc.org/news/ace/nominate.cfm. Nominations must be submitted by June 1, 2010.

2. AKC sent out a clarifying announcement regarding the AKC/Eukanuba National dog show. The event for 2010 will be held in Long Beach, CA. The 2011 event will be held in Orlando, FL.
3. The AKC is holding another Parent Club Conference in Raleigh, NC on August 27-29. Past conferences have allowed two participants per Parent Club, but due to budget constraints, the AKC is only allowing one per club. Jacquie Smith has volunteered to represent the BTCA.
4. AKC Government Relations has provided a new tool for those facing or fighting anti-dog legislation. It is available online and is easily accessed through the AKC website. Go to akc.org on the left click the tab for "Government Relations". On the GR homepage on the bottom right is a "toolbox" icon. Click that and you're there. Check it out! There's lots of great information.
5. Tom and Barb Bishop received an AKC Community Achievement Award for their Meet the Breeds work in New York City last October and other activities with "Rufus" promoting pure bred dogs. They were nominated by the New Brunswick KC and will receive a certificate of appreciation and \$1000.00 will be donated by AKC to New Brunswick KC for education and canine legislative efforts.

Report of the Committees

1. Judges Selection – Cheri Croucher
 - a. The Silverwood Judges panel is Becky Poole (First judge), Ray Sharp (Second judge), Victoria Corse (Third judge).
 - b. The National Specialty Judge is Winkie Mackay-Smith
 - c. The Sweepstakes Judge is Colin "Skip" Greaney
 - d. The Futurity Judge is Eleanor Fleming
2. Show – Jacquie Smith
 - a. Grand Champion Award – AKC has developed a Grand Champion Award which will be implemented on May 12, 2010. Details can be found on the AKC website
 - b. ROM judges who have the maximum number of ROM shows for 2010 are Franne Berez, Ray Sharp, Ken McDermott, Desi Murphy and Bob Shreve.
 - c. The Portland weekend in July will only be two days. The Friday show has been cancelled.
3. Trophy – Theresa Spurr
 - a. The Trophy Sponsorship and Solicitation committee did an excellent job in obtaining sponsorships for last year's National Specialty
 - b. Futurity will not have trophies this year. Only ribbons and prize money will be given
 - c. She encouraged everyone to support the Trophy Sponsorship and Solicitation Committee's efforts this year
4. Trophy Sponsorship and Solicitation – Jane Killion
 - a. A letter will be sent to last year's Specialty and Sweepstakes winners requesting sponsorship for the placement won last year.
 - b. Sponsorships will then be opened to all members.
 - c. This year solicitations will be made for the Silverwood trophies.
5. Budget & Audit – Ted Martin
 - a. The committee consists so far of Skip Greaney and Ginny Baxter. Skip has background of business and audit experience, Ginny has a background in law and contracts and Ted's background is in budget and finance.
 - b. The first audit will be based on a period from November 18, 2009 through October 31, 2010. The audit will be on a quarterly basis
 - c. An annual report will be due 120 days from the end of the fiscal year. The report will consist of findings and recommendations. The BOD will then have the option of accepting or rejecting the recommendations.
 - d. Budget – The process will be starting shortly. Committee chairs will be contacted as to what their committee needs are to operate. The budget will be based on function. Not only will costs be evaluated, but revenue will also be evaluated.
 - e. A charter has been developed for the Budget and Audit committee.
 - f. Term limits will be applied to the committee.
6. Performance – Jane Killion
 - a. There will be an agility trial on Thursday of Silverwood weekend.
 - b. Rally and Obedience trials will also be offered.
 - c. There will be Performance workshops during the weekend.
7. Fund Raising – Claudia Sharp
 - a. The Fund Raising committee consists of Becky Poole, Jan Dykema, and Alison Ibbitson.
 - b. New note cards featuring Trudy Shelley Avery artwork will soon be available on website
 - c. Regional club and Silverwood t-shirt quilts are being made to be auctioned at Silverwood this year.
 - d. The original Summer painting will be auctioned off along with the quilts.
 - e. The website will have three sales options: estate sale, boutique sale, original art for sale.
8. Rescue & Welfare Fund Trust – Glenna Wright
 - a. Heather Jones is new webmaster for Rescue.
 - b. Two people are working on obtaining grants. Volunteers are needed to assist.

- c. Alesia Cooke is responsible for fund raising.
 - d. 1-800-BTBT911 Hotline costs approximately \$160/month to sustain. The Whitehairs have been covering the cost. Donors have stepped up to cover the cost. There will be a Hotline sponsorship opportunity placed on the website.
 - e. Liability and general insurance is being sought as the trust is not an AKC organization and insurance cannot be obtained from the insurance company BTCA utilizes.
9. Legislation – Jan Dykema & Judy Schreiber
- a. Please be aware of laws and impending legislation in your state.
 - b. Visit the AKC website for legislative information. Fliers are available on the website and can be printed out for distribution.
10. AKC Breed Ambassador – Paul Jordan
- a. Paul Jordan is the AKC Breed Ambassador in the Virgin Islands. He has been involved in community canine awareness events.

Applicant Reading

Naomi Waynee read membership applicants for the first time. (See attached list)

Unfinished Business

- SW judges/breeder symposium – Phil Brodeur
 - a. The Silverwood judges and breeder symposiums will be combined this year. Phil Brodeur, Jan Dykema and Gregory Anderson will present a interactive video on “You Be The Judge”.
 - b. The seminar will be a virtual dog show and will last about two hours.
 - c. Any good DVD footage of foreign dog shows is needed and contact any of the three to submit.
- Silverwood 2010 is sponsored by Golden Triangle BTC. The Board approved the submitted logo which features Ch. Killer Joe. The theme is historical. Raffle tickets for two room nights, two banquet tickets and a special package. Contact GTBTC for tickets. The drawing will be held during their June weekend.
- Upcoming meetings – President Mary Remer announced the next Board of Directors meeting and General Membership meeting will be held at the BTC of New England weekend, June 4 - 6, 2010.
- The BOD voted to remove the 3% credit card service fee.

New Business

- Lymphoma study - Naomi Waynee
 - a. Texas A&M and M.D. Anderson are currently performing a study on Lymphoma.
 - b. The Board approved to send a letter of support for the study to Texas A&M.
 - c. The study information will be posted on the BTCA website.

Member input

- Franne stated her appreciation to the Board for time and hard work that has been spent in handling the situation with Norma Shepherd in hopes of gaining restitution.
- Janice Jackson thanked Franne Berez for accepting an assignment to judge for the Confederacy in November and declining her judging fee which will be sent to BTCA.
- Dede Wilson presented a proposal for increasing the connection between club members. She proposed website biographies of members (limited to 250 words) that would be submitted voluntarily by individuals and listed alphabetically. She will submit a written proposal.
- Mary Remer thanked Naomi Waynee for waiving her judge’s fees for the floating specialty in Portland.
- Roz Clamper announced Charlie Fleming will be 99 on March 26th.
- Melanie Whitehair announced that the hotline was going to be changed to email notifications from the website due to costs. The hotline is a much needed communications tool for Bull Terrier people in need of help. Donations have been received to cover the costs for the next four months.
- Melanie Whitehair stated that she knew that her appointment as the 501c3 treasurer was not a unanimous decision due to the perception that a final reporting had not been received for the Target grant. A final and carefully detailed accounting was submitted to Norma Shepherd in October of 2006 to be included in her treasurer’s report. The \$20,000 Target grant was responsibly managed and continuously reported to the BOD and to Norma Shepherd through out the two years it was being spent. At this current General Membership meeting, Melanie presented a duplicate copy of the detailed accounting to the BOD.
- Roz Clamper raised several questions regarding the treasury situation.

1. First and foremost, she felt the membership was indebted to the Board for their volunteering to serve and for the number of hours they have dedicated to the treasury situation.
 2. *Since the majority of the treasury taken was during the terms of the current and immediate past President, was the possibility of obtaining restitution of the embezzled funds through the personal umbrella liability insurance coverage of Mary Remer and Dale Schuur ever considered?* Brent Ruppel asked for clarification on the policy – was it the BTCA policy or their personal policies that Roz referenced and she stated it was their personal policies. As private volunteers, because of the concern of personal lawsuits, in 1998 Congress passed the Volunteer Protection Act for volunteers of private organizations.
 3. *What does the BTCA insurance policy cover as far as restitution of lost funds? Can restitution be recovered with that policy? Is there a separate policy that covers the officers and Board members?* There is no insurance coverage for the lost funds. The D and O policy has a specific exclusion preventing recovery for embezzlement under that policy. The D and O policy covers losses from errors in omission for individuals and organizations outside the BTCA.
 4. *How many checks, and how large were the amounts written by Norma Shepherd throughout the years without a second signatory? Was there a policy that allowed this to happen?* The past policy did not include two signatures. The Banking industry no longer will proof two signature checks. Ted Martin asked if the Audit Committee will see copies of checks written by the organization. The Audit Committee can verify the two signatures.
 5. *Bonding of all officers designated as signatories on all BTCA financial accounts? Bonding does not guarantee any lost funds will be recovered. Are the current Board members covered under the new policy?* Mary Remer responded that ten members who handle money for the BTCA will be covered under the new policy.
 6. *Is Norma Shepherd still a member (in good standing?) of the BTCA?* Norma Shepherd did not renew her membership for 2010.
 7. *There were two BTCA debit cards. What is the current owner policy for these cards?* There is currently one debit card and the monthly website maintenance fee and BARKS mailing are the only charges made with this card.
 8. *During the time that Norma Shepherd was Treasurer was there any way of tracking the debit card usage?* Access to the accounts was limited to Norma Shepherd by the bank. Norma Shepherd was the only authorized individual on the accounts. The debit card usage can be tracked online by authorized signers.
- Phil Brodeur asked about the status of BARKS. Dale Schuur responded that it was at the printers and should be mailed in the next two weeks. An online version should be available in approximately a week.
 - Naomi Waynee, on behalf of Gail Harlamoff, thanked the club members who have sent support for Chuck Haberbusch after his traumatic motorcycle accident.
 - Ty Whitehair questioned why the treasurer was not bonded, does the Board feel some responsibility for the treasury embezzlement and if bonding were in place, would it have done any good in recovering any of the money. Mary Remer responded that Dale Schuur has answered those questions previously today. Dale Schuur responded the answer is the crime coverage was part of the package and previous officers could not recall any crime coverage at all. Norma Shepherd was the individual responsible for obtaining the coverage. From the forensic audit, it appears that she started taking money in 2003. Even if bonding were in place, there would be no payment until after prosecution occurs and the question of restitution is resolved.

Adjournment

Dale Schuur moved to adjourn the meeting. Franne Berez seconded the motion.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Waynee
Executive Secretary

2010 BTCA Membership Applicants

Penelope Borchers	borchers@uthscsa.edu	336 Rosemary Ave	San Antonio	TX	78209	USA	210-832-9265	Alesia Cooke & Russell Cooke
Mary Kay Carter	mkdjcarter@comcast.net	4330 Bulltown Rd	Murraysville	PA	15668	USA	724-327-6770	Cindy Perrott & Barb Deevers
Catherine Caserta	catherine.caserta@selu.edu	1007 East 17th Avenue	Covington	LA	70433	USA	985-892-1604	Claudia Sharp & Ray Sharp
Deborah & Thomas Drechsler	debdrechsler@msn.com	22 Holt Street	Hopkinton	MA	01748	USA	508-435-6154	Charles Nadeau & Lucinda Nadeau
Phoebe & Michael Flynn	phoebeandmike@gmail.com	3930 Bitter Springs	Fort Irwin	CA	92310	USA	254-258-1173	Carolyn Alexaner & Chris Mason
Eric Green	hailie1997@gmail.com	4971 Lake Park Circle	Acworth	GA	30101	USA	678-574-9923	Glenna Wright & Aaron Graulau
Hope Guzzo	hopeguzzo@gmail.com	10302 Citation Way	Laurel	MD	20723	USA	301-717-2774	Rebecca Martin & Theodore Martin
Tonya Mages	divemunkey@gmail.com	3849 Major Ave N	Robbinsdale	MN	55422	USA		Frane Berez & Norma Smith
Graham & Karen McGrath	angusthebt@yahoo.com	PO Box 455	Sussex	WI	53089	USA	262-246-3153	Jacque Smith & Norma Smith
Bill & Carolyn Patterson	wrp@stonecreekmgt.com	1917 W. 50th Street	Westwood Hills	KS	66205	USA	913-671-7414	Glenna Wright & Tom Wright
Peggy Reynolds	kelnjane@yahoo.com	8052 San Miguel Circle	Buena Park	CA	90620	USA	714-995-8918	Christopher Reynolds & Susan Murphy
P. Nancy Rubin	nancy@quakermaidmeats.com	13 Pine Ridge Lane	Sillington	PA	19607	USA	610-376-1500	Marty Schacht & Naomi Waynee
Mark & Marie Schoenfeld	cnclmark@aol.com	14311 Lemoli Avenue	Hawthorne	CA	90250	USA	310-940-6600	Susan Murphy & Claudia Sharp
Chuck Vogelpohl		11491 Darby Creek Road	Orient	OH	43146	USA	614-361-0788	Gayle Hall & Beth Evans
Bianca Wakker-Vaggs & Harry Wakker	mistybronco@gmail.com	95 Porto Bello Drive	Maugerville	NB	E3a *m4	CANADA	506-455-8332	Carol Gray & Gord Williams

These applicants were read for the first time at the General Membership meeting held in St. Louis, MO on March 13, 2010. They will be read for the second time and voted on at the General Membership Meeting held Silverwood Weekend in Pittsburgh, PA. Once approved there membership will become effective November 1, 2010.