



AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB
OF METROPOLITAN
WASHINGTON, DC, Inc.
Newsletter

www.airedales-dc.org

October 2019



Lynn and Bill Nelson and Platinum Versatility Award Winner, Alex.

Club Officers

President Corally Burmaster
Vice President Mary Morningstar
Corresponding Secretary Elaine LaMontagne
Recording Secretary Elaine LaMontagne
Treasurer Jeanne Esmond

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Pam McKusick
Nancy Nykamp
Wilder Leavitt
Jackie Peebles
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Breeder Referral Pamela McKusick
Newsletter Jessica Rabin
Scottish Parade Wilder Leavitt
Specialty Show Corally Burmaster
Trophies Deb Todhunter
Website Karl Broom

Website: www.airedales-dc.org

The Club Objectives

- (a) To encourage those who breed Airedale Terriers to do so responsibly and with the welfare and improvement of the breed having highest priority.
- (b) To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of perfection by which Airedale Terriers shall be judged.
- (c) To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows and obedience trials.
- (d) To conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- (d) To institute and maintain programs which promote the welfare of individual Airedale Terriers through rescue and education, and through any other means which the Club considers helpful.

Newsletter Disclaimer:

Newsletter articles are the views and opinions of the authors and are not official Club policy. Club policy is made only by motions passed by the board or by the voting membership.

From the President

The first weekend in October of each year, I go up to PA for the Airedale Specialty put on by the national club, the Airedale Terrier Club of America. I have been doing so for over 40 years. It is a wonderful weekend with four conformation shows, and several days of performance events. People come from all over the world to this Airedale mecca, and it is a the perfect opportunity to see friends that we see at no other time of the year! The last few years, I have been one of the stewards for the Airedale ring at Montgomery, and it's a real treat to be able to see the dogs up close as they go into the ring for judging!

This year included an extra special event for me. ATCMW members Bill and Lynn Nelson were being awarded a Platinum Versatility Award for

their dog, Alex. Alex's official name is Coldstream North By Northwest NF OAJ RATN DCAT RN TKN CGC CAA. All those initials behind his name represent titles won in agility, rally, coursing, trick dog and canine good citizen. To win the Platinum level, the highest awarded, the dog must have at least 7 titles in 5 different event venues.



Bill Nelson receiving his award from ATCA President Phil Weinberger

There were many Airedales awarded Versatility Awards this year, a trend that is so rewarding to a breeder. Putting just one title on your dog takes a commitment of time, energy and expense. Putting multiple titles takes incredible dedication! It is the individuals who pursue those titles that continue to prove that the Airedale Terrier is truly among the most versatile breeds around today!

Corally Burmaster

From the Editor

Greetings, ATCMW members! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. Caleb and I had a fun time swimming, hiking, and training together. I've never had such a water-crazy dog. Caleb would swim clear across the lake if I could throw his bumper far enough, and it was a challenge keeping him from jumping out of the boat while we were underway. Caleb shows a similar aptitude and exuberance for learning and performing new Hearing Dog alerts. One could almost forget that he's still a puppy...until he sees a squirrel.



Caleb, the water dog!

As ATCMW members have become more pet-oriented, we have tried to increase the number of events that we can attend with our dogs. This fall will be no exception to this trend. Following up on our highly successful picnic and program at Frying Pan Park on August 31, club members and their dogs will be invited to participate in a private tour of Historic Congressional Cemetery (November 9) as well as marching in the Scottish Walk (December 7). This issue of the newsletter describes both events and provides all of the information you need to join in the fun. In addition, our members continue to

excel in conformation and performance events, and we'll get some insight into their experiences, as well.

It is never too early to start thinking about submissions for the next newsletter. You can send in your articles, announcements, training questions, or photos at any time (text to Jessica at jgrabin@aacc.edu and photos to Corally at clickertrain@verizon.net). If you have any idea for an article but don't wish to do the writing yourself, I'm happy to help you put your thoughts on paper.

Hope to see you and your Airedale(s) at an upcoming club event!

Jessica Rabin

Congratulations to Ann Riley and Gibson, Coldstream Jolie Couer CDX, on earning Gibson's Canadian Open Obdience title!



Editor's note: Ann Riley has decided to title Gibson in obedience in both the US and Canada. I asked her to share some insights about the experience.

Q: Why did you decide to title Gibson both in the US and in Canada?

A: First I want to make clear that I am not an expert at showing in Canada (or anywhere else). I have entered 4 shows in Québec, all at the same venue in Montréal. I decided to show in both countries for various reasons. First, I just love dog shows, and this doubles my opportunities for fun. Second, I have a house in La Minerve, Québec and I spend a lot of time up there, especially in the prime season for showing. If I don't show in Canada, I am going to have to drive to shows in the US if I want to show during the summer. I also find it interesting to train the small differences in exercises under the the CKC and AKC rules. It keeps me and my dog on our toes! Finally, since I am nowhere near an obedience club, it gives me a chance to meet other people in Canada who like doing this too.

Q: What differences are there in the shows and classes?

A: One difference I noticed right away. There is no national anthem or other displays of patriotism at dog shows. Canadians love their country but they separate patriotism and politics from sports and leisure activities. The classes in obedience are very similar for the CKC and AKC with a few caveats. The rules have changed a lot in both the US and Canada over the past few years, so I may get some of this wrong. In PRE-NOVICE I believe that in the US you put the dog on a stay at the end of the other exercises and the handler walks around the ring and returns to the dog. I could be wrong about this. In Canada, there is a short group stay in either the sit or the down (judge's choice). Leashes are left on dogs and armbands behind them. I only showed in pre-novice at one weekend of shows and that was in Montréal.

In NOVICE, everything is the same except for the stays, the leash goes behind the dog with the armband. I think they are left on the dog on the right side, with armbands only behind in the US under the new rules.

In OPEN the biggest difference is that when you enter a show, you must choose whether you want to do the group out of sight stays (OPEN HA or HB) , or do the position changes with a shorter in-sight group stay (OPEN 18A or 18B). The group stays are just like the old US rules: a three minute sit and a five minute down with handlers out of sight of the dogs.

I hate out of sight stays. It leaves my dog vulnerable to other dogs, and it's something I would never ask him to do in real life. I still train an out of sight stay, which is very useful in real life. (Ex. Bringing a muddy dog in after a walk and finding no towel handy upon return. Or leaving a dog on a stay outside the barn while I put a horse in a stall, etc.) I would never, however, leave my dog in a strange place with a bunch of dogs he does not know. No way! I think this is unreasonably stressful for the dog, as well as risky. All that said, some handlers really don't like the position changes, so it is nice to have the choice.

The position changes for CKC are somewhat different than in the US. I am going to use the A classes for example but in both countries, the order of position changes is variable in both countries for the B class. In the US A class, the handler stands the dog, leaves, walks out 15 feet, turns to face the dog and on the judge's order, downs the dog. The handler then walks out another 15 feet and sits the dog. The handler returns to the dog.

In the CKC, the handler sits the dog within 6 feet of a line on the floor. If your dog walks forward across that line during the position changes he fails. Thus, the farther away you place your dog from the line, the farther he can walk toward you on the position changes without failing (there are deductions for moving though). The farther he is from the line, however, the farther he is from you. In 18A, the judge tells the handler to stand your dog and then leave your dog. The handler walks out 10 feet from the line and turns to face the dog. On the judge's orders, the handler will sit the dog, stand the dog and then down the dogs before returning to heel position. So in the US, your dog has to do the position changes from farther away, especially the last one. In Canada, you have to do all three position changes from at least 10 feet (depending on how far back from the line your dog is). Some handlers find the stand from a distance difficult, but I don't see it as different from any other position change, except that the dog is tempted to move forward more easily.

The stays are also different. When I showed in the US last fall, the stays were at the end of each dog's run. The handler leaves the dog on a sit, walks out of the ring to get the leash and then returns and attaches the leash. In Canada there is a short group stay. The handlers line their dogs up, sit them, and cross the ring. After 1 minute all the handlers cross the ring, walk behind their dogs and cross the ring again. They wait 2 more minutes and then return to the dog.

I have not shown in UTILITY since the new rules came out in either country but there are a few differences. There are 3 materials for scent articles and the judge chooses which 2 the dogs will find at the show. There are 5 articles of each material (wood, leather, metal). Thirteen articles of 3 materials will be set out, and the dog will have identify two. In the US, I think the handler can choose which two materials are put out and I believe there are 10 articles total and not 13. The biggest difference is the gloves. In the US it is a directed retrieve where in Canada it is a seek-back exercise. The handler heels the dog and, on the judge's command, she drops the glove and continues heeling. On the judge's command the handler sends the dog to find the dropped glove and returns it to the handler. The only other difference is on the moving stand. The dog returns to front before going to the heel position.

In all classes in Canada, handlers can take the scoring sheet home. In the US, the handler may look at the scoring sheet at the end of the class but cannot remove it.

Q: How do people in Canada react to seeing an Airedale in the obedience ring? Same as in the US?

A: That is about the same. You don't see very many of them in obedience in either country.

Q: Most of us think that Canadians are nice. Has this been your experience in showing, as well?

A: Yes. It is a stereotype, and I try to avoid those, but Canadians ARE nice overall. I have had positive experiences with organizers, judges and competitors.

Q: Does everyone at the show communicate in French?

A: No. There are a lot of competitors who don't speak French at the show. There are people (and dogs) from all over Canada and from the US. I think most of the organizers and workers speak French. The judges have to be able to give the commands and explanations in both

languages, but they are not always bi-lingual. If the judge is really francophone, I have her do my run in French. If she is Anglophone, I do English. I never want to make the judge think about anything extra. Anyone considering this should not worry about language. You can get by just fine in English.

Q: Any final thoughts?

A: I will say that I really enjoy showing in Québec. The venue for the Club Chomedy show that I go to every year is great. It is all indoor, well lighted, and the temperature is comfortable. It is spacious, but it is pretty loud as there is a lot going on. There is ample space for ringside crating and seating. There is lots of parking. And Montréal is a beautiful city to visit!

The King of Terriers on King Street

By Wilder J. Leavitt



We are just a few weeks away from your chance to parade your beloved canine down streets lined with eager onlookers squeezing close for a glimpse of the largest of the terriers, prancing down the asphalt with their regal gait and alert, head-up attitude. Can you see yourself and your dog, two among several dozen Airedale Terriers and their handlers, parading down the streets of Old Town, Alexandria? It is a wonderful opportunity to show off your beautiful Airedale, all your care, grooming and training, and have fun with other Airedale enthusiasts and admirers.

The 49th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk Weekend & Parade will be held this year on December 7, 2019 in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia. For years, members of the Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC (ATCMW) and the Airedale Terrier Rescue of the Virginias (ATRVA) and their dogs have participated in this event and we encourage you to join us

this year. If you are new to the Scottish Christmas Walk Parade, you might be wondering, "Is this for my Airedale and me?" Of course, it is. Consider the benefits of taking your Airedale for a walk down King Street. Thousands of people will smile at you, wave at you, and clap their hands together for you (OK, it's for the dog, it's always for the dog). You get to be sandwiched between a fife and drum corps and several dozen Scottish Deerhounds doing their thing and trying to keep up with the Airedale pride of the parade. You will be among about thirty of us and our prized four-legged friends as we march through the colonial-era streets saying hello to onlookers and trying to avoid the occasional hard-candies strewn here and there on the asphalt dropped by earlier revelers. You and your dog get to practice loose-lead-walking in the most challenging venue in the DC area. You get to meet other club members, share stories, and proudly introduce your pooch to children of all ages along the route who cannot resist petting your canine. We will carry the ATCMW banner out front and your dog will be outfitted with a decorative Scottish-themed ruff around his or her neck. What could be more fun on a chilly, winter day in Old Town?

Best of all, it a chance for us to show off the king of terriers to the general public and to demonstrate why we believe they are the best of the breeds. So that we all might have a fun and safe experience, please keep the following best practices in mind. Please use a standard 6-foot leash on your dog during the parade and avoid retractable leads, which can get tangled in the close quarters of the Old Town streets. During the parade, position yourself and your dog behind the ATCMW banner. The banner bearers will be setting our parade pace and will stop frequently as needed. Enthusiastic onlookers, especially children, will want to reach out and pet your dog along the route. This will typically happen without warning and there may be other dogs as well along the route watching the parade with onlookers. Anticipate this and handle your dog accordingly. If you and your dog wish to interact with the crowd, by all means do so. But be aware that your Airedale can get overwhelmed with all the attention and he or she may need a break from the petting and hundreds of hands reaching out from the crowd. If you think your dog might become overwhelmed by all the activity, simply parade him or her close to the centerline of the road. Be advised that some groups who are marching ahead of us will be throwing candies and other treats to the crowd. Some of these items invariably remain strewn on the parade route tempting our dogs to lunge for an easy treat. There will be musical groups, loudspeaker announcements, drums, and other errant noises. Most dogs do very well with the stimulation. The excitement and interaction with other dogs and admirers during assembly time usually inures them to the activity once the parade starts. Finally, if at any time you feel like the parade is getting to be too much for your dog, simply step out of the parade anywhere along the route. You and your dog's welfare are our primary concern. The event should be fun for all and the moment it stops being fun for you or your Airedale is the time to call it a day. Keeping these best practices in mind has resulted in a highly enjoyable and successful event in the past for those who have attended. If you are in doubt, please just ask a past participant about their experience.

If this sounds like fun to you, please watch your email, the ATCMW website and our Facebook page for more information. No reservation is necessary. Simple come out dressed warmly, with treats and water for your Airedale, ready to march. It's really a thrill to turn a corner and hear an excited spectator yell, "Yeah! Here come the Airedales."

"I Am A Terrier Man"

This is an excerpt from a Show Sight Magazine interview with Junior Handler Hugh Garner (reprinted by permission). Hugh is 11 years old and the son of club member Nancy Nykamp. He showed his Airedale, Berry (Sweet Strawberry Shortcake) to her Champion Title earlier this month.

Q: What breed do you show in Juniors and why did you pick that breed?

A: I am a "Terrier Man". I mainly show Airedale Terriers. While they can be challenging to show, they are also smart and very loyal. I have also shown Russell Terriers, Lakelands, and the occasional Westie. I don't know if I picked Airedales, or if the breed picked me! I am a 4th Generation Airedale owner. My great-grandfather owned an Airedale in Holland. When he came to America, he bought one for his farm in upstate New York. My grandparents, Dr. Hugo and Joanne Nykamp, bred and showed Airedales from the 1950s through the 1980s. And my mom, Nancy Nykamp shows Airedales. My current show dog, "Berry," is an 18 month old Airedale who I met at a Puppy Party (Puppy Parties are when we all get together and assess a litter for show, and then have cake and ice cream). Berry's name was "Pink" back then, and she stood out as the one who came running right up to me. She sat on my lap and nibbled on my ears and nose, and we played together. It was as if we were always supposed to be together, like Strawberries and Shortcake!

Q: What do you feel is the most difficult aspect of handling your breed in Juniors?

A: Terriers in general can be challenging to handle. My mom says they are like teenagers (my older brother and sister are teenagers). As a handler, I have to convince them dog shows are their idea, and that showing is fun! I am glad though. It makes handling more challenging, rewarding, and exciting. In addition to the challenges associated with handling, there is a ton of grooming on an Airedale. I work with my mom, carding and conditioning Berry, but it takes a lot of time, and an Airedale's hair grows much faster than a Russell or a Westie.



Q: What have you learned from participating in Juniors that has helped in you both dog show activities and non-dog show activities?

A: Junior Handling Competition, as well as Breed Judging, Match Shows, and handling classes, have taught me to NEVER pass up the opportunity to get experience. This is true of life. I want to always open the door when Opportunity Knocks.

Q: Will we be lucky enough to see you working as a professional handler down the line?

A: As a 5th grader, it's hard to know exactly

what I want to do when I grow up. But I do love showing, and think I will always be involved with dogs, maybe as an owner/breeder handler and then a judge. For now, I sometimes help out my professional handler friends when they need help getting a dog ready for the ring or taking a dog into the ring. I like doing this. I feel like it's being part of the bigger dog show family. A lot of handlers (and judges) have been really, really kind to me in the ring, giving me tips, thanking me for exhibiting, and extending sincere congratulations when I win.

Q: What outside interests do you have?

A: Well, besides handling, I like to help my family with raising puppies. Getting the whelping box, weaning pen and puppy playground set up is truly exciting. I help with puppy training and headstart. It's a ton of work, but so much fun! I am also very busy in

Boy Scouts and have started to work towards my Eagle Scout Award. Other than that I sing in the Chorus and hang out with my friends. Oh, and I play Pokeman Go with my friends and Geocache when I can at Dog Shows.



Correction in the July 2019 newsletter. The caption on the front cover identifies Hugh as "Hugo," his grandfather's name. I apologize!

Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC

Meeting at Airedale Fun Day and Picnic, August 31, 2019

Minutes provided by Elaine LaMontagne

The Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC met on Saturday, August 31, 2019 at Frying Pan Park in Herndon, Virginia for a meeting and picnic.

At 10:00 the attendees gathered with their dogs and got acquainted with club members and other Airedale owners.

At 11:00 Corally Burmaster, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees.

President's Report

Corally thanked Jeanne Esmond and Jackie Peebles for setting up the picnic. She also thanked Lynn Nelson for coordinating the T shirt project to benefit the Airedale Club.

Corally stated that the Secretary's report was in the July newsletter.

End-of-Summer Rescue Fund Raising Campaign

Elaine LaMontagne described the mailing campaign for donations for Airedale Rescue coordinated by Pam McKusick. The mailings are being drafted by a graphic designer to be sent in September. This will be the first mailing for the Club. A draft of the cards to be mailed was provided.

Airedale Rescue

Corally introduced Pam McKusick who coordinates the rescue efforts for Washington, DC and Maryland. She indicated that there are currently no dogs in need.

Scottish Walk

Wilder Leavitt provided an overview of the Scottish Walk coming up on December 7th. He indicated that non-members were welcome to join. He provided a warning that all need to ensure that the dogs are controlled and provided tips to be safe. The crowds are close to the walkers and often candy is thrown out by other groups. No retractable "flexi" leashes are allowed. Non-members will need to sign a waiver for liability.

Election of Officers and Directors

A member of the Nominating Committee read the names of the nominated officers.

The list included:

President - Corally Burmaster

Vice President - Mary Morningstar

Corresponding and Recording Secretary - Elaine LaMontagne

Treasurer - Jeanne Esmond

Directors

Pam McKusick

Nancy Nykamp

Wilder Leavitt

Jackie Peebles

Karl Broom

The slate was voted on by the members through a verbal vote. All were in favor and none opposed.

Old Business

None

New Business

There was a new application for membership from Franchesca Rodgers. She owns an Airedale named Gus (Coldstream Talk of the Town). The club members voted her in as a new member.

There was a motion to adjourn and seconded.

The business meeting was followed by a picnic lunch.

Lunch was followed by a program led by Corally Burmaster, which included a demonstration of equipment and techniques to get dogs to walk on a loose lead without pulling. Specifically, Corally demonstrated the proper fit and use of a chain martingale and a Gentle Leader headcollar.

Attendees

The event was held at the club house and approximately 25 Airedales.





The last page of this newsletter has an ATCMW membership renewal form. Please download it, fill it out and mail it to Jeanne Esmond. You can also scan it to her by email. Payment can be made by check, or by Paypal. If you are paying by Paypal, please let her know so she can check the Paypal account.

"I Love Running in Circles"

By Olivia Garner

I love running in circles, around and around I go. Dog on leash; judge in center; thousands watch. I stride into the ring at the World Dog Show in Amsterdam, Jax, an Airedale, the King of Terriers by my side. Hundreds of hours dedicated to grooming, training, and preparing for this single moment, all coming down to three minutes: go around; stand for inspection; down and back; and around again.

This is our moment to shine. We walk into the ring, my palms sweaty as I grip the brown leather leash. My faithful, Jax, by my side, tentatively awaiting his next orders. The scene is silent as the next dogs enter the crowded arena. "Welcome to the 2018 World Dog Show, now entering the Airedale Terrier dogs" the eager announcer calls. I am surrounded by a pack of professional dog handlers from around the world, each with their dog perfectly groomed and magnificently presented. My feet, heavy to the floor, resist my commands to move. I nervously stack my dog in the corner of the ring, praying the judge does not notice my youth and inexperience, and that my dog matches up. Shoving food in his mouth; he remains a statue, a perfect silhouette." Down and Back", the judge says as he completes his inspection. Jax, eager to please, paws at the ground, as I exhale, gaining my composure. We turn to the green carpeted runway. Thousands around the world keenly watch our every movement. In complete harmony we fly down the runway, one dog, one team. "And go around" the judge barks. Around and around we go, and back to our original position. Suspended in time I anxiously await the judge's decision. He walks down the line and points to the dogs around me, "1, 2, 3, 4". We exit the ring in silence, working hard to hold back our tears of disappointment. Jax was not number one in the eyes of the judge, but he was my number one, my King.



Olivia and Jax

The journey to the show ring is a long, exhausting, and rewarding process. Countless hours of hard work and preparation put into just a few minutes of ring time. Daily requirements of hand stripping every little out of place hair; bathing with more shampoos and conditioning with more products than one could imagine; and running back and forth for what seem like miles. The life of a novice dog handler. My competition is stiff, as I compete against professional handlers who earn a very good salary and have been showing their entire lives. Gaining confidence with every competition, I become more successful in showing a variety of dogs.

I plan, train, and rehearse for different situations that could occur in the ring. I enter each show confident in my planning and ability to perform. And yet, no matter how prepared I am,



On her way to IU Olivia stopped at Blue Buffalo HQ for a photo with Big Blue.

sometimes things do not always go as planned. If the weather turns bad, cool air and rain bring out the nutty teenage boy in my dog. If a fly buzzes by, it's game on for my dog, the World Champion fly hunter. If a squirrel runs up a tree, the chase is on. I have little control over these situations. It is up to the dog to recall his training and to perform to the best of his abilities. Control is not the only thing that matters. It's how I accept, adapt, and deal with the situation that is important. This is true for many life situations.

Around and around we go. One show to the next. Sometimes a blue ribbon, sometimes red, and other times we leave empty handed. But I am wiser and stronger, and more resilient and steadfast with each show.

Olivia Garner is a Freshman at The Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University (IU), Bloomington Indiana, where she is majoring in Japanese. She is attending IU on a four year full tuition Army ROTC scholarship. This essay was part of her college and scholarship applications. In August 2018, Olivia competed at the World Dog Show in Amsterdam. She also showed her Airedale, Jax, to his U.S. Championship that summer.



Our T Shirt sale was a great success! We sold over 50 shirts, and the profits will help us put on another spectacular Specialty show next April. We ordered a few extra shirts just in case someone missed out on the opportunity to purchase one. I have a Medium, Large and Extra Large in Blue, and a Medium and Large in Green. The price is \$20 with a flat rate of \$8 for shipping any number. If you are interested, contact me at 703-777-2277 or clickertrain@verizon.net .

Current New Member Applicants

Georganne John: Larry and I live in Arlington with two female Airedales: Dani, who will be 12 in November, and Barley, a puppy from her last litter, who turned 6 in June. My introduction to Airedales was through a male Irish terrier—the first dog I raised from puppyhood and a very picky character about other dogs. He swore female Airedales were amiable and well worth knowing (even though the Airedale in our neighborhood tended to punch through his wooden fence to take his own walks). We agree! Dani was supposed to be an only dog to fill the gaping hole after our previous Airedale died at age 13. However, Dani was so morose after 6 weeks with us and no other dogs, that we broke our “no puppies” pack and brought home 5-month-old Barley. It has been sufficiently lively for all concerned ever since.

Madisen Nguyen: Madisen was introduced to her first Airedale 7 years ago with her elder child, McQueen. Three years later, Corally Burmaster raised an eyebrow when Madisen asked to bring home another Airedale, Westwood. McQueen is our regal and sweet (but certainly cheeky) girl who carries herself like a queen; Westwood is oftentimes overzealous and probably found chewing something that leaves her mommies wondering thoughts like, “why?” and “how?” Madisen’s job as a real estate agent lets her explore some of the greatest (and not-so-great) properties in the DMV while her wife, Katie, is a mapping engineer who likes to track the outbreak of ebolavirus in her free time. They also enjoy common things like a good book and any activity they can involve with the pups.

Amy Waychoff: My husband grew up with Airedales, so when it came time to decide on a dog breed to welcome into our home in 2004, it did not take long to decide that the Airedale Terrier was the one for us. We have three kids who loved growing up with Smokey Bear (2004-2017); Obi (2008-2019); and now Taishi (2018-). Each Airedale has been more energetic than the last. Which means more fun for us! But our Airedales have also been very warm-hearted, cuddling up with us when we are feeling ill or “just because.” Now that we are empty nesters, our bond with our dog(s) is stronger than ever!



Potential new ATCMW members and their littermates.