WISCONSIN AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB

Meeting Minutes

Sunday, December 11, 2022

On Sunday, December 11, 2022, members of the WATC met for a brief business meeting and our annual Christmas party.

**Call to Order:**

Club Vice President, Sue Zimmer, called the meeting to order 12:45 PM. Club President, Craig Larrabee, was absent due to illness. Attendees included: Vice President Sue Zimmer; Secretary Sara Walker; Treasurer Kevin McDermott; Board members: Sue Shannon; Dee Braaksma and Sandra Cooley; and members Rita Galetka; Rita and John Sorenson; Mary Larson; Alixe and David Bielot; Stacy Rudkyh, Barbara Brown; and Pam Lyon.

Sue Zimmer asked for approval of the October 10, 2022 minutes

Motion made by Dee Braaksma, seconded by Kevin McDermott and approved by all.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Sara Walker reviewed recent activity including the “Meet the Breed” event on Sunday, November 27th. In order for the WATC to hold a specialty dog show, this type of event is required by the American Kennel Club, and it was held, along with a grooming and hand-stripping demonstration, in conjunction with an all-breed Barn Hunt event held at Sue Kendall’s Oh Rats dog training facility. There were eight Airedales in attendance through five of our club members, and these members, with their dogs, all worked to educate and promote the Airedale Terrier. A great photograph of all eight was passed around for all to see.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Kevin McDermott reported the recent checking account balance of about $7,500. Additionally, he distributed copies of the membership renewal forms and was able to collect dues from several of the members in attendance. Membership renewal forms will be sent to all members early in 2023. Kevin also mentioned members are asked to contribute to the Trophy Fund when they renew their dues. These contributions allow us to award our Specialty Show winners memorable trophies.

**Old Business:**

* Our website address is: wisconsinairedaleterrierclub.com
* The special members only section is accessed via this password: WATC2022
* Our club also has an active Facebook page. Please like/follow and engage with the page so that you will be sure to see our posts, photos and invitations to events.
* Sandra Cooley contacted the AKC to confirm that Facebook and our website are an appropriate replacement for a newspaper for the AKC’s “classified advertising program.” This program informs puppy buyers that they should do their homework and seek AKC dogs when buying pets, in order to receive the smartest, happiest, healthiest dog possible. This campaign helps our club meet the AKC’s eligibility requirements for our specialty show.
* Sandra Cooley has volunteered to be Show Chairperson. She will be training a backup.
* Craig Larrabee invited Barbara Brown to be 2023 Sweepstakes judge and she has accepted!
* Sue Zimmer recruited a member of the Waukesha Kennel Club (Shelby Naab) to set up/organize and monitor our trophy table at the July show. This is a very detailed assignment, and we are fortunate to have Shelby’s assistance.
* We are in need of a volunteer to serve as Hospitality Chair for the July show. Responsibilities will include organizing the lunch and dinner events.
* Sue Zimmer, Sandra Cooley and Dee Braaksma are working on the advertisement for our July show, which is required by both the AKC and the Airedale Terrier Club of America.
* We have committed to formalizing a welcome packet and process for new members. Rita Galetka will be leading this effort.

**New Business:**

* Members will be notified of our Club’s 2023 annual meeting. A preliminary date of Sunday, January 29, 2023 was selected.
* New members were presented
	+ Lin Hartnett—a returning member who has two Airedales with a long list of titles
	+ Leslie Brown—has a puppy from Rita Galetka and a dog from Jean Surfus and participates in Barn Hunt and Fast Cat
	+ Deena Stevenson—has a puppy from Rita Galetka and shows in conformation & performance events
	+ Motion to approve by Dee, seconded by Kevin. Approved by all.
* Our Nominating Committee (Sue Zimmer and Dee Braaksma) sought nominations for the 2023 officers/board members and put forth the following slate:
	+ President: Craig Larrabee
	+ Vice President: Sue Zimmer
	+ Secretary: Sara Walker
	+ Treasurer: Dee Braaksma
	+ Board Member: Sandra Cooley
	+ Board Member: Kevin McDermott
	+ Board Member: Stacy Rudykh
* Voting took place at the meeting, and the results were unanimous. The full slate was voted in. Sue Zimmer thanked all former Officers and Board members for their years of service and welcomed the new team.

**Other Business:**

* Sandi Cooley reminded members of our legacy process of recognizing member/canine accomplishments during the year. In the past, members submitted the accomplishments (Canine Good Citizen, Agility, Best in Show awards, etc.) and the WATC presented special certificates of accomplishment. Covid interrupted this process. Sue Shannon and Dee Braaksma will work together to reinstate it with a goal of presenting certificates at the Annual Meeting. Recipients will be recognized on Facebook and our website.
* Our “Meet the Breed” electronic presentation is a true work of art contributed by Dee Braaksma. We are able to show it off at various events and highlight the wonders of the Airedale Terrier breed! Meet the Breed presentations help our club meet the AKC’s eligibility requirements so that we may hold our Specialty Show.
* One future event to consider is the 2023 Milwaukee Irish Fest canine event joining both Irish Terriers and Irish Wolfhounds. Irish Fest is held each year in mid-August.
* Club members were asked to think about various ways to fundraise to ensure the continued financial health of our club.

At 1:18 PM on December 11, 2022, our meeting was adjourned and followed by Christmas Cheer as well as a “Yankee Gift Exchange.”

Respectfully submitted,

Sara J. Walker

WATC Secretary

12/13/2022