



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

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[www.airedales-dc.org](http://www.airedales-dc.org)

July 2022

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Bill Nelson, Pied Piper of the Picnic

## Club Officers

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| President           | Corally Burmaster |
| Vice President      | Mary Morningstar  |
| Secretary           | Elaine LaMontagne |
| Recording Secretary | Elaine LaMontagne |
| Treasurer           | Jeanne Esmond     |
| Directors           | Pam McKusick      |
|                     | Nancy Nykamp      |
|                     | Wilder Leavitt    |
|                     | Jackie Peebles    |
|                     | Karl Bloom        |

### Committee Chairs/Coordinators

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Airedale Rescue  | Pamela McKusick   |
| 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](http://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.

(e) 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...

Newsletter Editor Jessica Rabin suggested to me that having clickable links to the sites mentioned in our articles would be helpful to our readers. Since I am the one who puts the newsletter content into an actual newsletter, I would be the one to figure out how to do that.

I use Pagemaker as my desktop publishing program and have done so since I used to do the quarterly newsletter for the Airedale Terrier Club of America some 30 years ago, so this is an OLD version of Pagemaker. No one else has this program to read the newsletter, so it gets converted into a PDF file to be sent out to our membership. The conversion sometimes requires tweaking to make sure it's a mirror image of the Pagemaker version. So, I ask a favor of you this issue. Please try the links (you may have to [double click](#)) to see if they work for you and report any glitches to me at [clickertrain@verizon.net](mailto:clickertrain@verizon.net). Thanks so much!

*Corally Burmaster*

Our next meeting will be at the picnic held in Frying Pan Park on September 25th, 2022. This is a **Sunday** since all the Saturdays in September were already booked. While we realize that those who attend church will most likely be unable to join us, we are hoping that this will allow those members whose children participate in activities and sports on Saturdays to attend.

On page 15 of this issue you will find information about fostering for our Airedale Rescue program. Fostering isn't needed very often, but when it is, it makes a world of difference in the welfare and placement of the dog into its permanent home. Pam McKusick's article outlines what is required and gives you a link to further reading.

## Another Great Picnic!

Our club picnic at the Cabin John Regional Park in Bethesda, MD on June 4<sup>th</sup> was another success, attended by over 30 people and their dogs. The weather was perfect and Mary Morningstar and Wilder Leavitt did an excellent job of organizing the affair. Lunches were again the delicious boxed lunches ordered from The Corner Bakery and the Club provided beverages and a sheet cake.

Along with a Board meeting and a General Membership meeting (see minutes on page 14), we had a program on the sport of Rally Obedience.

A little background on how Rally came to be an AKC sport was presented. Rally was developed from the practice moves that handlers used to warm their dogs up to go into the Obedience ring. Circles and turns, "come front," go to heel, sit, stand, 2-3 steps with the dog in the heel position, etc. The AKC put a committee together to design exercises for three levels of performance, Rally Novice, Rally Advanced and Rally Excellent with increasing difficulty for each level. Courses are designed with as few as 10 signs in Novice, to as many as 20 in Excellent. Three qualifying scores on each level gives your dog a degree, RN, RA, RE. The handler may talk to his dog and give multiple commands, lead with the leash, and give whatever help his dog needs to get through the course. The judge scores the dog's properly performing each sign and the course is timed so that if there are tied scores, the fastest time wins.

There is a much more relaxed attitude at Rally Trials than at Obedience Trials. Obedience Trials are very strict in the way each exercise must be performed, and there is no talking to your dog other than the giving of a single command or signal for each exercise.

For example:



**29. Left About Turn - While heeling, the handler will make an about turn to the left, while at the same time the dog must move around the handler to the right and into heel position.**

Some helpful links:

A complete set of signs for all levels can be found at:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/>

The AKC Resource Center has videos of how the signs are performed at

<https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-resource-center/>

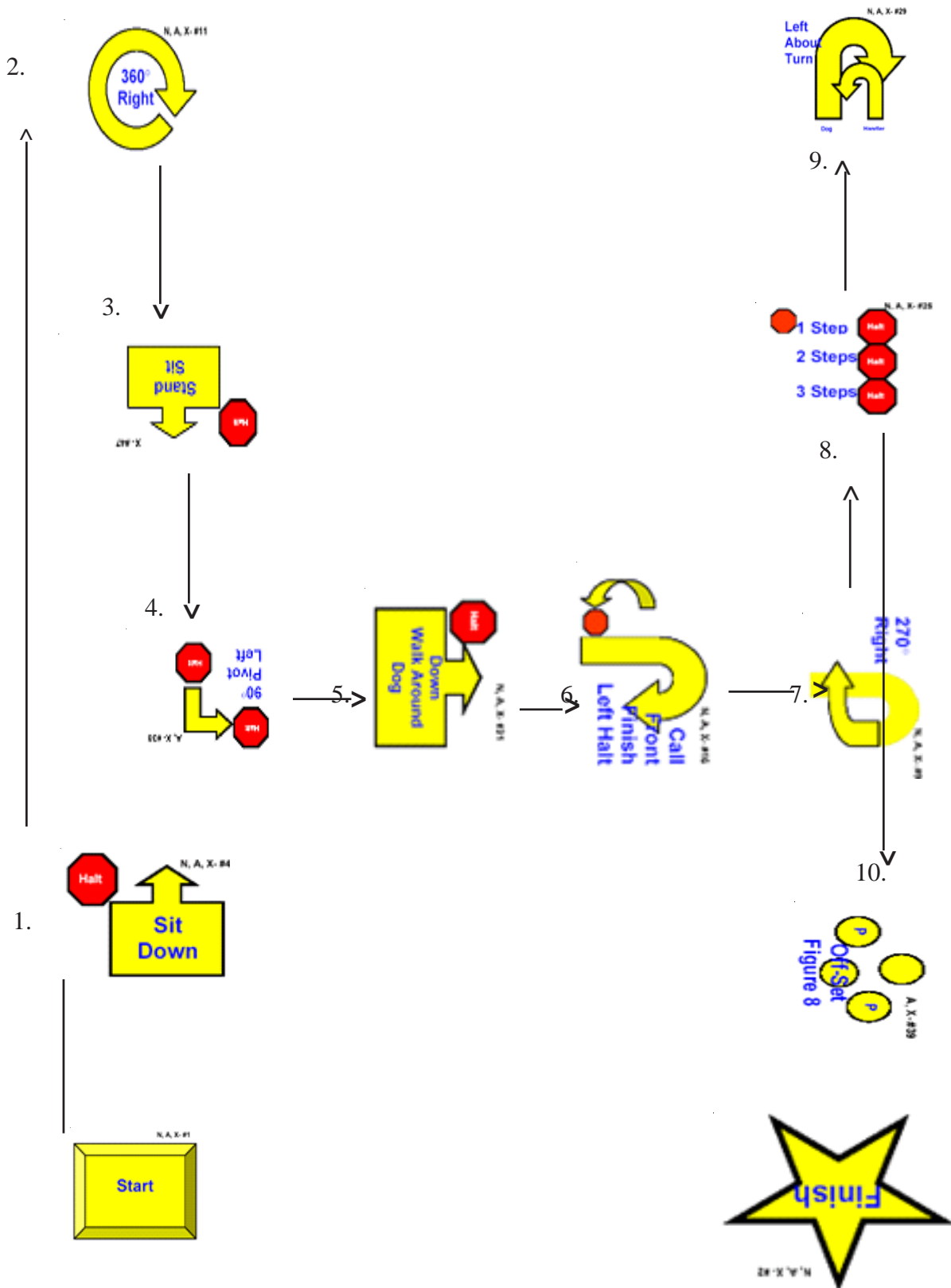
You can search for shows in your area by going to the link below

<https://webapps.akc.org/event-search/#/search>

And if you don't want to go to shows to get titles, the AKC has made permanent the covid driven development of being able to video your performance and send it in for scoring!

<https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-virtual-entry/>

Corally Burmaster set up a short course and Jeanne Esmond and Indy demonstrated how to negotiate it smoothly and quickly!





## **A Little Bit of Information about Dog Shows in General and the ATCMW 50th Specialty in Particular** by Corally Burmaster

For those members whose knowledge of dog shows is limited to watching Westminster on TV, a "Specialty" show is a conformation show held by a breed club and is limited to just that breed, as opposed to an "all breed" show, like Westminster, that is inclusive of any breed recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Conformation dog shows originated in England in 1859 as a way to show off the quality of breeding stock. The first show was held in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and was an added attraction to the annual cattle show. It had only setters and pointers....the sporting breeds...and the prizes were guns.

The first show held in America was in 1874 in Chicago, IL.

The American Kennel Club was formed in 1887 with only 9 breeds recognized. This year the AKC has recognized its 200th breed. The AKC recognizes only one National parent club per breed. The Airedale Parent Club is The Airedale Terrier Club of America. Most parent clubs have a number of "regional" or local specialty clubs. That's what the Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, D.C. is.

The ATCMW is recognized by the AKC as a club that is qualified to hold a Regional Specialty conformation show. We held our first show in 1971 and each year since then except for 2020, a victim of Covid. The late Russ Hammond was Show Chairperson for many years, overseeing the moving of the venue from one location to another until it settled in its current form as part of the Columbia Terrier Association of Maryland's Specialty. This consolidation allows a number of clubs in the same "group," in this case Terriers, to share the expenses of the venue.

When Russ Hammond died, I took over as Show Chair. With the decline in the number of breeders in our Club and fewer people overall showing their dogs, the number of entries had been declining each year to the point that it was almost not worth the effort of participating. And then the AKC made a rule change pertaining to who was allowed to judge that was a game changer for our Specialty!

The AKC voted in a rule that an individual not licensed by the AKC to judge a breed, could do so if the individual was approved by the Parent Club (for us, the ATCA) and if he could also pass the written Breed Standard and Ring Procedure tests. I invited Dianna Fielder (kennel name Kynas) to judge in 2017, the ATCA approved her, she passed all of her tests and that year the entry for our Specialty DOUBLED. To me that was all the proof I needed that the exhibitors would rather show to someone who had years of hands-on contact with the breed and understood our breed's *type* as opposed to a judge whose only experience is academic and observational. We have continued with this tradition since then and exhibitors have come to expect that we will ONLY have a judge who is also a respected breeder. The number and quality of entries has remained high.

This brings us to 2022 and our 50<sup>th</sup> Specialty! This year's judge was Jean Surfus, who has bred and shown under the kennel prefix of Darbywood for decades, and Sweeps was judged by Pat Reed, a Canadian who has shown both Welsh and Airedales, also for decades. This year we had 27 entries.

A shout out to Deb Todhunter, our Trophy Chairperson, who worked hard purchasing and organizing our special trophies, and overseeing the design and ordering of the 50th anniversary specialty mugs, given to each entry to celebrate our 50th Speciality Show!



The Commemorative Mug for our milestone 59th Specialty Show!



The Best of Breed Trophy named for Russ Hammond.



Ringside setup of the ATCMW trophy table.



First time exhibitor, Chris Chappelle, with his puppy.



Sweeps judge Pat Reed checking exhibitors' numbers.

## Specialty Results



### **Best of Breed**

Ch Reydaleterrydale The Greatest Showman

Breeder: Gerardo Reyes

Owner: Gerardo Reyes





**Best of Opposite Sex**

CCHB CH Singing Hills They Call the Win Moriah Owagginaire

Breeder: Bruce and Caron Jones

Owner: Bruce & Caron Jones & Chandler Wible & Elliot Smith

*(Picture from a different show)*



**Best Puppy in Sweepstakes**

Meadowaire Joval In A Galaxy Far Far Away

Breeder: Nancy Nykamp, Valeria Rickard, Hugh and Olivia Garner

Owner: Nancy Nykamp, Valeria Rickard, Hugh and Olivia Garner

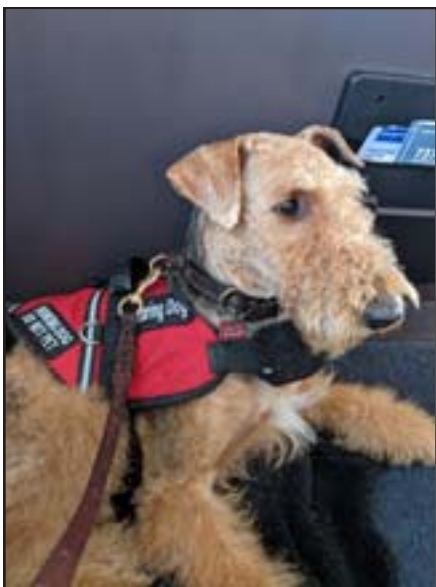
# The End of the Flying ESA (And Why I, for One, Am Not Mourning Its Passing)

by Jessica Rabin

Most dog lovers who fly have seen dog in a vest in an airport and thought, “I wish I could take my dog with me on the plane!” And for a while there pretty much anyone could. People could take their dog—or peacock, or lizard, or pig—with them in the cabin for the price of a letter from an online doctor they never met who was willing to declare that the pet was an Emotional Support Animal.

Unlike Service Dogs, which are individually trained to perform tasks that mitigate their handler’s disability, ESA’s ostensibly provide comfort through their presence alone. Wait a minute— isn’t that the definition of a pet? The whole premise of an ESA as a category is a bit counterintuitive, if not absurd, in my opinion. As the subtitle of Jon Katz’s 2004 book *The New Work of Dogs* indicates, “Tending to Love, Life, and Family” is the “job” of today’s pets. All pets are ESA’s; we feel better when we are with our pets. That’s why we have them. Providing emotional support, companionship, and joy is valid, valuable, and praiseworthy. But it isn’t a disability accommodation.

Many people are surprised to learn that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) does not govern the rules of access for dogs on airplanes. Instead, the Air Carrier Access Act determines which animals can fly in the cabin and under what circumstances. ESA’s have never been recognized under the ADA, and yet for many years the airlines welcomed them in-cabin. In contrast, Service Dogs in Training are not permitted on aircraft, which is ironic because most SDiT’s have received substantial training, unlike ESA’s. The SDiT ban is also unfortunate because it can be hard to prepare an SD for flying without an opportunity to practice. (I tried to prepare Caleb for the sounds and vibrations of flying by taking him on the Baltimore subway and DC Metro—thanks, Ann Riley!—and on a pontoon boat.) Furthermore, the first thing that many Guide Dogs will do upon being partnered with their blind handler is fly home with them. It would be nice if that weren’t the dog’s first experience on a plane. But I digress....



Caleb curled up at Jessica’s feet on the airplane. A quiet, relaxed Service Dog on duty.

Recognized and given access only by airlines and in some housing situations, an ESA needs no training at all—not even basic obedience or manners (such as could be documented with an AKC Canine Good Citizen title). Not surprisingly, many were a menace to travelers, SD teams, flight attendants, and airport employees, and a hazard to navigation. As an example, when Caleb and I flew from BWI to Ft. Myers in December 2020, a small dog in an ESA vest got loose in the cabin mid-flight, ran up and down the aisle, urinated and defecated, and jumped on a passenger with Down Syndrome, who was apparently terrified of dogs. When I expressed my sympathy to the flight attendant who had to corral and clean up after the dog, she responded with exasperation, “There are nine dogs on this airplane, and yours is the only one that belongs here.”

There are also stories of ESA’s biting and severely injuring passengers (e.g., a May 2019 *Washington Post* article describes a lawsuit filed against Delta by a

man who was attacked by an ESA and required 28 stitches). Untrained ESA's can also injure or distract legitimate Service Dogs, putting their disabled handlers at risk.

I place the blame for the proliferation of ESA's squarely at the feet of the airlines. At the same time that they essentially created this category of pets-in-vests, they dramatically increased the cost for flying with a pet in-cabin, almost guaranteeing that people would try to find ways to get around the pet fee. People with pets that would not fit under the seat also embraced this opportunity to bring their pets along for the ride. Unscrupulous internet "registries" and "doctors" (including chiropractors and other non-mental-health professionals) gladly took people's money in exchange for fraudulent documentation. Predictably, chaos ensued, creating unsafe travel and work conditions.

A corollary of the proliferation of ESA's was the increase in people assuming that Service Dogs for invisible disabilities were ESA's rather than Service Dogs and demanding the documentation that is required for ESA's and illegal to require for SD's. I experienced this firsthand when ticket agents suddenly started asking for my disability letter, forcing me to explain that while I was happy to share my documentation, my SD was not an ESA and therefore didn't need documentation. The wide variety of animals being claimed as ESA's also increased the bias faced by those of us with non-traditional SD breeds (i.e., not Labs, Golden Retrievers, or German Shepherds). While I have no issue with identifying myself as hard-of-hearing, some people with medical or psychiatric conditions might prefer not to disclose the nature of their disability, and the law says that they do not need to share this information. Navigating those situations was challenging for me because I often couldn't understand the person questioning me (I try to bring a friend or family member when I check in for that reason), but it could be devastating for a person who is already stressed by managing their PTSD or anxiety, for example.

### **Definitions and Access Rules**

**Service Dog (SD):** "Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability" (ada.gov). The ADA guarantees access to most public accommodations for SD teams.

**Psychiatric Service Dog (PSD):** Task-trained service dogs that provide assistance to people with psychiatric disabilities, such as severe depression, anxiety disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PSD's have the same access rights as other SD's.

**Therapy Dog (TD):** Dog trained to provide comfort or support to people other than their handler. Therapy dogs are invited guests to venues such as hospitals and libraries; they do not have public access rights.

**Emotional Support Animal or Comfort Animal (ESA):** "Animals that provide comfort just by being with a person. Because they have not been trained to perform a specific job or task, they do not qualify as service animals under the ADA" (ada.gov). ESA's are still accepted in some housing situations but are no longer generally accepted on domestic aircraft.

**Service Dog in Training (SDiT):** access for Service Dogs in Training and their professional or volunteer is determined at the state level. SDiT's are not permitted on aircraft.

After years of increasing chaos (and lawsuits), the Department of Transportation and the airlines finally decided to rein in the disaster that they had facilitated, if not outright created. The [Service Animal Final Rule](#),

<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2020-12/Service%20Animal%20Final%20Rule.pdf>

which went into effect in early 2021, is 122 pages long and actually a fascinating read (I read every page of it). Stakeholders whose voices contributed to the final determination included veterinarians, behaviorists, (human) doctors and mental health professionals, dog trainers, service dog organizations, and service dog partners. All gave their input to try to create a balance between the needs/rights of individuals with disabilities and the safety/comfort of the flying public, as well as that of flight attendants, gate agents, and other public-facing employees. There was also a desire to provide a path for owner-trained dogs (like Caleb) to be recognized as Service Dogs as opposed to limiting access to program dogs. Ultimately, the decision was arrived at to allow fully trained Service Animals only and to require handlers to complete an affidavit attesting to the dog's training, health, and behavior.

Even with the changes implemented in the wake of the Final Rule, flying with a Service Dog is not without its challenges. Willa was always somewhat put off by barking bags, dogs being transported as under-the-seat pets, either being carried at hip level or rolled like luggage. Caleb is less bothered by being barked at by confined pets, but there are still plenty of people who ignore airport requirements that pets be kept in their carriers while in the terminal, so we continue to encounter some unruly pets as we are making our way to the gate or picking up our luggage. And



there are still some people who are willing to lie on an official government document by trying to pass their pets off as Service Dogs, despite the form's stern warning: "It is a Federal crime to make materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements, entries, or representations knowingly and willfully on this form to secure disability accommodations provided under regulations of the United States Department of Transportation (18 U.S.C. § 1001)."

Persistent challenges notwithstanding, flying with Caleb to Ft. Myers in December 2021 and back to BWI in January 2022, after the Final Rule had taken effect, was a very different experience than in the past. The ticket agents in both airports asked for the Department of Transportation form and verified the information; there were no questions about whether Caleb was an ESA. The code on our boarding pass alerted other employees that Caleb's status had been confirmed, so we didn't have to go through the Q&A process multiple times. The airport experience itself was more manageable and less stressful, too, with fewer untrained, uncrated dogs to contend with. Interestingly, our flight from Ft. Myers to BWI this past January was the first time we flew with another legitimate Service Dog, a yellow Labrador. Both Caleb and the Lab behaved appropriately in the waiting area, during the flight, and at baggage claim. On the plane, the other handler and I each took window seats in opposite bulkhead rows, and the dogs studiously ignored each other. Other passengers seemed fascinated and perhaps a little surprised by how well our dogs behaved, which also says a lot about the ESA era.

I will be the first to concede that it is nice to be able to fly with my dog. But it's not just nice—it's critical. Caleb allows me to navigate the airport with confidence because I know he will keep me safe and provide crucial environmental awareness. With the implementation of the Final Rule and the end of the flying ESA, I can embark on air travel knowing that, the odd uncrated dog or scofflaw's pet-in-vest notwithstanding, I will only need to deal with delays, cancellations, overbooking, understaffing, and air rage. It's always an adventure.

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## **Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual ATCMW Bethesda Picnic**

**June 4, 2022**

The Airedale Terrier Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC met on Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Cabin John Regional Park in Bethesda, Maryland for a meeting and picnic.

Following an ATCMW Board Meeting, Corally Burmaster, President called the General Club meeting to order and welcomed all attendees.

#### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

It was announced that the meeting notes from the last meeting were in the most recent newsletter. To receive past newsletters, sign in with email addresses and Corally will send you the previous newsletters.

Corally noted that if current participants to today's picnic had been in attendance for two events, they can apply for membership to the Club.

The next meeting will be a picnic and Club meeting at Frying Pan Park in Herndon, Virginia on September 25, 2022.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was not presented at the meeting.

#### **Specialty Shows**

Corally Burmaster presented a description of specialty shows versus other conformation shows.

Dog shows are put on by dog clubs who are licensed by the AKC and can include all breeds recognized by the AKC. Specialty shows are put on by specific breed clubs recognized by the AKC. The ATCMW is an Airedale club and it's Specialty is limited to just the Airedale. The ATCMW held its 50<sup>th</sup> Specialty show April 22, 2022. We had an entry of 22.

#### **Airedale Rescue Report**

Pam McKusick, head of the Airedale Rescue, reported that one Airedale, a one-year-old male, has been rescued and now has a home. There were very few dogs requiring rescue during the pandemic but this is expected to increase at this time.

#### **Thank You**

Corally thanked Wilder Leavitt and Mary Morningstar for planning and coordinating today's event including preparation, refreshments and communications.

## **Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

None

There was a motion to adjourn and seconded. The business meeting was followed by a picnic lunch provided by the Club.

## **Special Program – AKC Rally & Demo**

The special program for the event was a presentation by Corally Burmaster on the description and rules of a Rally and a demonstration by Jeanne Esmond and her dog, Indie.

An AKC rally started as a fun family sport to complete prior to obedience training. It is a perfect starting point for those new to canine sports and a challenging introduction to all events for dogs and handlers to strengthen their skills. Unlimited communication from the handler to the dog is encouraged and not penalized.

The process is for you and your dog to navigate a course side-by-side as you steer him through a course of 10-20 different signs. Each sign provides instructions regarding the next skill to be performed. The dog and handler move continuously throughout the course with the dog under control at the handler's left side.

Scoring in Rally is less rigorous than in other competitions like obedience or agility. You begin with a perfect score of 100, with points deducted along the way. If you retain a score of at least 70 points, you will qualify toward earning a title.

Rally Novice is done on leash, but both Advanced and Excellent are performed off leash:

A hand-out was provided with links to the AKC Manual, videos of how the signs are performed, how to get titles by performing the exercises and show information in the various areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine LaMontagne

## **Attendees**

Margaret Goodyear  
Corally Burmaster  
David Smith (Rosie)  
Kris Smith  
Noah Smith  
Elaine LaMontagne (Ali)  
Pam McKusick  
Bernard Groeneveld (Inti)  
Josefina Groeneveld  
Jane Groeneveld  
Luke Groeneveld  
Lynn Nelson  
Bill Nelson (Alex)  
Mary Morningstar  
Wilder Leavitt (Juno)

Anne Benenson (Spright)  
Deborah West  
Jackie Peebles (Chance)  
Jeanne Esmond (Indie)  
Felicia Furnary (Seaco)  
Josh Furnary  
Jessica Rabin (Caleb)  
Lindsey Kennedy  
Kathy Kennedy  
Mathew Kennedy  
Millard Moody (Cooper)  
Julia Greninger (Max)  
Carston Greninger  
Linus Greninger

## Airedale Rescue Fostering Opportunities

ATCMW has not received many Airedales lately, but we have occasional need for Foster Homes for the dogs who come into our care. This is a temporary arrangement and allows us to learn more about the dog and his/her likes and dislikes.

- How does the dog react to children — unless we have information to the contrary from the surrendering family, we will not place a foster dog in a family with children under age 12.
- Does the dog like other dogs? What about cats? Obviously we will not place a foster dog in a home with cats unless we know the dog has previously successfully lived with cats.
- How does the dog react on a leash and when meeting other dogs?
- Is the dog afraid of thunder, fireworks, loud noises? Do they like to cuddle or to make friends on their own terms? Is the dog rambunctious or a couch potato?
- Is the dog house trained? Does he bark a lot? Does he ride well in the car?"

These are just some of the characteristics a foster family will be able to determine as they provide support to the foster dog. Their information will be very helpful in selecting a permanent home that is well-suited for the dog.

Having a fenced yard is very desirable, but an individual committed to several walks a day is fine, too.

All medical and training and occasional day care expenses are fully covered by Rescue, but we do not pay for food unless providing food for the dog is a hardship for the foster family.

Providing a foster home for a dog who comes into Airedale Rescue's care is a very generous gift and greatly contributes to the dog's successful adoption and new beginning.

The Airedale Terrier Club of America Rescue and Adoption Committee has a very extensive section devoted to Fostering which I would recommend to you if you are considering becoming a foster parent for ATCMW:

<https://www.airedalerescue.net/volunteer-information>

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer as a foster parent.

Thanks very much for your consideration!

Pam McKusick

McKusick@verizon.net



Congratulations to Ann Riley and "Gibson" for the first leg of their Canadian Utility Dog title.