

**ORKC Membership Meeting (In-person & Zoom)
March 7, 2024 @ 6:30 PM ET**

Members in attendance: Richella & Robert Veatch, Susan Varrasso, Bonnie Hornfisher, Naoko Blue, David Miller, JeanneLove Ferguson, Cindi Chilbert, Susan & Greg Sinatro, Jamie Nye, Sally Coad, Mary Sonner, Ashley Miller, Sheryl Morales, Cheryl Bingham, Linda Hargis, Jackie Mascioli, Courtney Kleiman. **Guests in attendance:** Shari Butters, Linda Bayless, Heidi Straub, Sharon Parker, McKinnely Earles, Daylan Kirby, James Gwin, Gail Schroth, Charyl Jones, Deborah & Austin Hogan, Sharon Lemelman, Chris Hardy-Atwell, and Sandy Morris. **Zoom Attendance:** Michael Beasley, Ruth Andrich, Carol Malec, Becky Malivuk, Susanne Foxx, Sandy Hunn, Sharon Zickler, Erin & Greg Lonas, Pamela Sonksavath, Mary Shephard, Beth Small, Alice Kitts, Joanne Innis, Ken Dudley, Kathy Ambrose, Morgan Jenkins, Taylor Seay, Alice Kitts, Amy Hoelzer, Carmen Davis, Carol Malec, Maddy Davis,

Minutes of Last Meeting: Minutes from January and February 2024 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Susan. We started the month of Feb. with \$105,226.00 in our checking account. We took in money from the Obedience and Rally trial, sent the scholarship check to UT, paid for the Obedience show, had expenditures of \$6900.00 and we will end the month with \$105,359.00. There is \$3200 in Savings which brought Truist to \$110,642.00. Vanguard is \$68,883 bringing our total cash to \$179,525.00. **Susan reporting on the Obedience and Rally show:** Feb. 24th & 25th We were down about 50 entries from the fall show but this show could not have gone better. We had a revenue of \$7598.00 expenses of \$6513.00 ending with a profit of \$1085.00. The 50 entries we were down from last time would have been about \$1000 more income. The use of PayPal is working out and we have \$3972.00 in PayPal. Treasurers report Motioned, 2nd and approved

President's Report: Richella spoke about our code of ethics asking those present to take a copy. Some folks in the club have been complaining and they are not the people who are working. This is not fair to the people who work hard to keep the club going, cleaning, and putting on all our programs. If people are complaining they need to step up and fix what they are complaining about, don't just complain. Treat everyone with respect.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Jeanne reporting and asking those applying for membership to stand up and speak about themselves which they did. 6 applying members spoke and were approved and voted into the club. Please contact Jeanne for their names. Jeanne clarified the benefits of membership. For the next session sign up they will be able to apply earlier. If they volunteer 10 hours for the year, attend 2 meetings they will be eligible for reduced class fees and access to the campus. Continuing with her explanation, membership renewal and dues payment begins in December and can be paid up until the end of March. If payment is not received by then reapplication must be made. A membership list is on the website on the members only page.

Facilities: Bonnie Hornfisher reporting. Our metal building was broken into approximately last Tuesday or Wednesday. Some repair to the latch has been made and we need to replace the locks. Richella asked for a motion to replace the locks, but things moved on without. Discussion as to why and if anything was stolen. Bonnie reported that the gate was again discovered to be

unlocked this morning. This is of course very concerning. The board has been discussing getting a camera system for security purposes. Several members voiced concerns about safety when it is dark and there was much discussion. Motion made and 2nd to have the Facilities Chairman (John) investigate getting a system for cameras or security. Approved.

Bonnie explained about the lock in-service and about the code changing on the gate lock. She has reached out to everyone she can think of about the in-service and the lock combination changing soon. A lock in-service was conducted so that the zoom members could see as well as those present in the building. The facility access form must be completed by all who want access. Bonnie will keep track of all who have the combination to the gate as we are required to know who always has access to the grounds.

Fire inspection: Richella reporting: John was here for the Fire inspection, and we passed that inspection. While here they offered a CPR in-service for the club. We would have it at the May meeting. Let us know of your interest before the next meeting.

Training Committee: Bonnie reporting. Registration is closed for the March/April session. We have 28 classes conducted by 27 instructors. Thank you to all instructors. The training program is expanding through the dedication of our volunteer instructors. It will be an excellent session.

Cluster report: Richella reporting: We combine with the Tennessee Valley Kennel Club to put on shows in September. Conformation, Obedience, Rally & FastCat. 4 shows. TVKC will have Sept. 26th and 28th and ORKC will have Sept 27th and 29th. We switch days each year. The committee consists of Barb Byrum, Julie Burns, Cindi Chilbert, and Richella. We had the 1st Cluster planning meeting a few weeks ago. Show applications are in to AKC and we have a few judges. If you would like a particular judge for your breed please let Richella know. We have several specialty clubs associated with the Cluster, Collies, Newfoundlands, Vizslas, & Bull Dogs. We need a lot of volunteers for this event so please help if you are available. If you are showing and available after that, please volunteer as we need volunteers from ORKC there all 4 days and TVKC will do the same. Barb Byrum is handling Catalogs. Ashley Miller is on the trophy committee. **Ashley speaking:** The trophy committee went to Gatlinberg and met Mike Fowler of Fowler Pottery who did our trophies last year. Ashley explained and showed pictures of the various pottery items they selected for trophies both days. She asked if anyone would like to sponsor a trophy or trophies for their breed to please contact her. Financial commitment for the shows comes to \$1401.90 plus tax. The revenue from the shows is approximately \$20,000.00 so this support is great for the club.

Richella speaking: We need lots of volunteers for this event. We can train you. We need an Obedience and Rally chair for the show. Richella is the Show Chairman for Conformation. Cindi is the Assistant Show Chairman. Hopefully Susan will be the treasurer. We need set up people, a FastCat Coordinator, Catalog sales, Visitor assistance, Volunteer scheduler and a Safety Coordinator. We need someone there who can do CPR. We need Obedience and Rally stewards, and we need FastCat volunteers. Volunteering does not stop people from showing and the whole show is indoors except FastCat. This brings in a lot of money for our club and you can get your hours in. We hire conformation stewards, but we do need stewards in Obedience and Rally. Bonnie offered to conduct a steward class. Michael Beasley asked if there was a written description of what a Rally Chair will do. Michael Beasley is considering being the Obedience and Rally Chair. Cheryl Jones volunteered to help with FastCat.

Cleaning Committee: Cindi going great. nothing to report.

Obedience and Rally Committee: Susan: Next show is November 9th and 10th.

Tracking Committee: Jean Burdick reporting: Tracking test is on track for Sunday. Committee will be setting up lunch on Sunday at club after the test is over. The committee is a good group, and we have lots of fun. Jean thanked all the volunteers.

Michael Beasley interjected here that the Obedience and Rally show ran so very well, and the committee and the chair are to be congratulated and everyone applauded.

Agility: David reporting: The Agility Trial is April in Harriman, please volunteer to help.

Barn Hunt: Becky reporting. We have 2 dates on the calendar for BH practice in March. We hope to hold a few more training days in April weather permitting. Need to discuss further about the Barn Hunt trial planned for August 9-11th which the Board has already approved. There is concern about an acceptable temperature to set the building at as the trials are advertised as climate controlled. If we cannot hold BH training and ring rentals the month of July in the West Bldg., then it would not be recommended we hold a Trial in August. Jeanne thought the temp being set at 72 deg was ok but the filters needed daily changing because of dust and debris. Cooks put in the system. The procedure Cooks recommended of changing the filters every day was done and the new system did just fine. Discussion continued about what temp setting would be acceptable for July and Aug. events. Becky reported that in 2022 during the July and Aug. events (6 to 8 weeks) and under the old system the temperature held at 68 and worked just fine. In 2023 July and Aug. with the temp set at 70 or 72 we had the malfunction. Historically there aren't Barn Hunt trials held in the south in the summer months because of the heat. Rats cannot regulate their body temperature therefore they do not handle heat or cold and dogs that are panting from heat do not source odor well. Competitors will not participate in the training sessions or the Trial if the building temperature is not 72 degrees. The Event Production company (Sue) makes more of the money from the event although we make some from the the event and training sessions. Becky did and would continue to change and date the filters during Barn Hunt training events this summer. Becky wants the best for all parties and for the Club therefore she requests a decision from the Club on the temperature setting of 72 degrees and no warmer. Richella reported that the Club/Boards decision that the temperature setting at 70 or 72 degrees was acceptable and the filters were to be changed every day but there can be unforeseen circumstances that could affect that. A question was asked as to why this is done in the summer heat. We typically do not hold classes in the west Bldg. during July and Aug. so it is available for BH use. Jeanne made a motion that at the next Board meeting we discuss as to whether we can meet the requirements needed for the Barn Hunt training and Trial to be held here in the summer. Cindi 2nd all approved. The Board mtg is the last Thursday of the month and Becky will be invited. Becky continuing, she has a party that is interested in buying our Barn Hunt training equipment. This facility is in Knoxville and could hold a trial any time of the year. This is to make everyone aware of this being an option.

CGC/Trick Dog and Fun Match: Jeanne began: ORKC held its first CGC/Trick and Puppy Match March 2nd. We had a total of 7 CGCs, 4 CGCAs, 8 Novice Trick dog, 3 Intermediate Trick Dog and 1 Advanced Trick dog test. **Cindi Continuing:** We took in \$320 which included \$70 earned through the Conformation puppy Match competition. Cindi thanked all the volunteers, they were Susan & Greg Sonatro, Denise Davis, Kelly Alley, Ashley Richardson, Terry Albert, Rachel Hawkins, Richella Veatch, Ruth Andrick and George Rhody. Of course, Courtney

Kleiman and Jackie Mascioli were part of the organizational committee along with Jeanne and Cindi. It was a beautiful and very successful day. We hope to do another Puppy Match in July and it was suggested that we have an afternoon start time to allow more attendance from the Central time zone. Jeanne spoke of possible plans for other event matches in the fall like the puppy match, Agility jumpers match, an ATT test and a CGCU. We plan to do a better job advertising these events next time.

Old Business: None

New Business: Nominating Committee, Cindi Chilbert: The nominating committee has been formed. It is made up of Cindi Chilbert, Sharon Walker, and Mary Shephard. We know how many people are leaving the board and we do have a few people who have agreed to run for the board, but we do not have a full slate yet. We still need a secretary and a 2nd vice president. These are positions required by our current constitution and by-laws. We are planning to revise these requirements in a new Constitution and by-laws, but we haven't done that yet. If anyone is interested in serving on the board, please come and see me. We will also take nominations from the floor at the April meeting.

Richella speaking: With dog show groupings running Thursday through Sunday what about changing our meeting day to Tuesday or Wednesday. Please think about that. Discussion.

Kathy Ambrose bragged on our club and all the volunteers at the Obedience and Rally Trial. Bonnie bragged on Kathy Ambrose as well. Gwen bragged on her goldens earned an advanced trick title and a CGC title. Michael Beasley bragged that Cassie got her first 2 legs of RAD and Cassie got her invitation to Rally Nationals in July. Sally's Aussie got her CGC and trick dog novice and did well in the puppy match. Susan and her dog got her 9th RAE leg and our CGCA last weekend and got her very first detective leg. Jeanne and Vanda got her CGC and Novice Trick dog title. Ruth Andrich and Fancy got her 2nd leg in Novice B and Katie got her Preferred Novice title and she got a point toward her ROC title. Courtney Kleiman's dog earned his Senior Rat title and his FCat title. Richella got her rally nationals invitation.

Books by the wall are free for the taking. Please check out the books.

Adjournment: No April meeting. Jeanne motion to adjourn, Cindi 2nd, adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Cindi Chilbert