

# The Plaid Piper

Volume 21, Number 3    The Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago, Inc.    January, 2019

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January has always been a time of reflecting on the past year, evaluating successes and what could have been done better. January, 2019 is a blank slate where new dreams and goals can be made.



STCC is expanding into a more diverse Breed Club. Breeding beautiful, healthy Scotties, with great dispositions that aspire to the Breed Standard, is still our primary goal as a Breed Club. Not every Scottie is bound for the show ring, however because of their superior intelligence and strong willed personalities, Scotties need something to challenge them. We had a program on Barn Hunt last October that was very well received, and this coming April we will have an agility program. It is my wish that every Scottish Terrier discovers his special gift and pursues it.

It is my fault that the Plaid Piper is a bit delayed. I had the privilege to watch 6 young adults complete the Disney Marathon in Orlando, Fl. last week; 2 of them were my kids. What an inspiration these kids are! I saw each one of them dig deep into themselves and complete a daunting challenge in spite of many obstacles.

When I returned, Roxy was as big as a house. She was bred to Tucker November 27th and a pregnancy test was run 3 weeks ago, which was negative. I questioned my vet on this because she was "acting pregnant". He answered that the test was 90% accurate. Guess what?! Roxy is that 10% that's positive. X-ray shows 5 puppies. She will be having a C-Section Saturday, January 26th. Her daughter, Clover, will be showing in the Kool Cluster in Grayslake, Il this week. Makayla Ouwerkerk, a Junior Handler, will be showing her Saturday and Sunday. If you get a chance, please go and cheer her on. She shows at 10:30am Saturday in Ring 2 and 1:45pm on Sunday in Ring 6. I will probably be too busy to be there.

If January is any indication of what 2019 will be like, hang onto your hat and get ready for a wild ride!

See you March 24th at Animal Feeds and Needs in Arlington Heights, IL for a program on Animal Nutrition.

*Thank you,  
Kathy Hufnagle,  
President, STCC*



www.stcchicago.org

## The Plaid Piper

Volume 21, Number 3 January, 2019

Marilyn Flanagan / Mindy Smouse, Editors

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Opinions expressed within *The Plaid Piper*  
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Articles may be republished with appropriate  
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Submission of articles, announcements, and  
photos are welcome. These can be sent,

**preferably via email to:**

Marilyn Flanagan

**Marilyn.flanagan@aol.com**

1101 Camden Ct., Glendale Hts., IL 60139

- or -

Mindy Smouse

**msgmgs@gmail.com**

The editors reserve the right to edit  
submissions for publication.

Submission deadlines are: the 1st of January,  
March, May, July, September, and October.

## Congratulating Mackenzie !!

Recently, Eleanor Goss sent us this proud brag about her  
Scottie, Mackenzie:

“On Sept 9 at Kenosha Kennel Club, Mackenzie earned her  
CDX title with a first place win. In fact, two out of the three  
legs were first place. You don't see many Scottish Terriers  
competing in obedience. Needless to say I am very proud of  
her.

The accolades (ribbons) that were earned are not an easy  
task. The significance of the 3 ribbons earned was:

Green - Qualifying;

Blue - 1st Place; and

Blue and yellow combo - New Title of CDX  
(Companion Dog Excellent).

For a Scottish Terrier to attain this Title with 2 - 1st Placements  
is quite unusual. A number of AKC Obedience Judges shared  
with me that Mackenzie is the best performing Obedience  
Scottie they have seen.”

Congratulations Mackenzie and Eleanor!!





**Clover, in pictures from Rosemont  
- Handled by Makayla -**

The next event: The Kool Cluster  
Lake County Fair Grounds, IL

**Scottish Terriers**

Saturday, 10:30 am - Ring 2  
Sunday, 1:45 pm - Ring 6

Who all from STCC will be there and starring ??



Roxy, mom-to-be.

Roxy's belly.

5 puppies.

STCC is all about our  
puppies and  
our champions.



**SPECIALTY 2019**

The Specialty Committee would like to thank the following individuals who have donated towards trophies:

**Best of Breed (\$200)** - Marilyn Flanagan, \$200

**Best of Winners (\$150)** - Alice and Shelly Kurtz, \$150

**Best of Opposite Sex (\$200)** - Kathy Hufnagle and Mindy Smouse, \$175; Michael and Ruth Joseph, \$25

**Winners Dog (\$150)** - Michael and Ruth Joseph, \$150

**Reserve Winners Dog (\$100)** - Beryl Gersch, \$100

**Winners Bitch (\$150)** - John and Mary Ellen Kanthack, \$150

**Reserve Winners Bitch (\$100)** - Stan and Deb Senalik, \$75; Beryl Gersch, \$25

**Bred by Exhibitor Dog (\$125)** - Patricia Stevenson, \$125

**Bred by Exhibitor Bitch (\$125)** - Steve and Debi Russell, \$125

**Best in Sweepstakes (\$125)** - Richard C. Bumstead, \$125

**Best of Opposite to Best in Sweepstakes (\$100)** - Carol Mallquist, \$100

Additional donations are still needed for 1st Place in Regular Classes and Non-Regular Classes.  
(Donations are not tax deductible, but, highly appreciated!)

This year's Specialty will highlight **"Our Newest Litters and Rising Champions"** through trophies designed by artists Barbara A. Guitas and Jim DeArmond.

## SENIOR DOGS HEALTH SCARES

Richard C. Bumstead

When you live with older dogs, you mentally prepare yourself for the health issues that will pop up as they age. Their bodies just slow down, and being terriers, their stoicism is always working against you and thus you need to be even more observant as to any minor changes, both physically and in demeanor. At the end of October, I got hit with a double dose of old dog issues with both Owen and Quinn, within a week of each other.

### QUINN

Quinn has always been the most independent of all my Scottish Terriers and would spend whatever time she had outside wandering the backyard, mostly out of sight. Throughout the late summer and early fall, I did notice an increased effort at urination during our evening walks, and I checked in with my veterinarian as I suspected a bladder infection, or worse. We did the usual bloodwork and urinalysis, and with those results in hand, we scheduled an ultrasound. The ultrasound confirmed my worst fear, bladder cancer, with both TCC, as well as a separate tumor in the bladder. Inoperable, and the best option was to control pain and discomfort. This was my first instance of bladder cancer and I was immediately in contact with numerous resources, and fortunately my veterinarian was a Purdue graduate and knew Dr. Knapp, so she was up to date on the latest research and treatment options. When I reached out to a fellow STCA member who has extensive experience with bladder cancer, she became my counselor in what approaches have typically worked well. She also has been monitoring a male from my first litter who has been living with bladder cancer for four years, so I had guarded optimism that this might not be an immediate death sentence for Quinn. We all agreed that Deramxx was the drug of choice for her treatment and started immediately. About three weeks into treatment, I panicked when I saw blood in her urine, and was told this was actually a good sign, it meant that the Deramxx was working and was killing the tumor and the bloody discharge was the dead cells being expelled.

I must say, I can see a big difference in Quinn since we started treatment. She must have been experiencing significant discomfort as she has become more engaged in the household, wants to be with me up on the sofa, and is much more affectionate – for her. I am very happy with the results and have been thankful for each day that she is part of the pack. She has since turned 11 years old, and I hope that with treatment, I will get to see her turn 12.

### OWEN

About 18 months ago, Owen was diagnosed with Cushings Disease, and he has been on Trilostane and doing remarkably well. He is an asymptomatic Cushinoid dog, as the only outward signs were and increased appetite and thirst. His muscle tone was great, no pot belly, his coat was thick, and the guy has bundles of energy for a 13 year old Scottie (he actually won Best Veteran at the Michigan Specialty in September).

When we all got up on a Monday morning, Owen was not himself, wobbly on his feet, disoriented, and seemed to be unable to control his front legs. We immediately went to the veterinarian and started triage to figure out what was going on. I suspected some type of seizure, but really couldn't understand much more than I knew he was in a crisis. After an initial exam, we checked him into the clinic for IV fluids and tests. A few hours later, his initial bloodwork came back fairly well, his cortisol reading was right where it should be, but with some indications that there were underlying issues, so more bloodwork was needed to be sent out. The next morning we had the diagnosis: acute pancreatitis. Turns out that dogs with Cushings are more susceptible to pancreatitis. Three days of hospitalization to stabilize him and he was appearing to be much better, but had no appetite, so I began the search for anything to get him to eat. We took him off the Trilostane in the hope that the Cushings Disease would stimulate his appetite.

*Continued on Page Five – Senior Dogs*

From Page Four – Senior Dogs

After a week, Owen showed some signs of being hungry and I was relieved, but he had lost significant weight. We decided to keep him off the Trilostane for a month in order to let him regain some of that weight, and then reintroduced the medication. After 10 days, we did the fasting and suppression tests to get a read of where his Cortisol levels were, and they came back as over suppressed. Not what we wanted, so we again took him off the current dosage and regrouped, trying to figure out how to treat the Cushings. By this time Owen was back to his exuberant self, running up and down the hall in anticipation of the evening walk and back on his usual diet, though he is now switched to a low-fat diet to ward off any recurrence of the pancreatitis. (NOTE: do read labels on dog foods as I found one pricey duck treat I purchased had 30% fat content, it immediately went into the trash.)

We did another Senior blood panel with a Cortisol test after the Trilostane was out of his system, and the veterinarian called with extraordinary news: Owen's Cortisol level WITHOUT medications was within the normal range. She was as dumbfounded as I was, as everything I ever read about Cushings was that it was irreversible, and once on medication, it was a lifetime commitment. But during the crisis, something happened (we suspect adrenal necrosis, which can also trigger the pancreatitis), that recalibrated his blood chemistry. But Owen is his same happy self, and I must say I am as happy as he is. My miraculous boy, well actually, my miraculous old man.

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#### **From the Editor:**

While attending a recent dog show, the following information was displayed on a poster by the host kennel club. I thought I would share it here. Marilyn

### **OBEDIENCE**

(Adapted from the AKC website)

OBEDIENCE trials demonstrate the dog's ability to follow specified routines and emphasize the usefulness of the purebred dog as a companion to humans.

The basic objective of obedience trials is to recognize dogs that have been trained to behave in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs in a manner that will reflect credit on the sport of obedience.

Performance trials, unlike CGC (Canine Good Citizen), which is a pass or fail test, require 3 qualifying scores from 2 different judges. Of a possible 200 points, a dog must receive a score of 170 or better for a qualifying score.

Obedience has three basic levels: **Novice, Open & Utility**. Each level is divided into A & B. Dogs that have not shown in that level before are in Level A and Level B is for more advanced dogs and/or handlers.

**NOVICE** has both on and off leash patterns. To complete the exercises, a group 1 minute "sit" and 3 minute "down" are done.

All **OPEN** exercises are done off leash. The group exercise is 3 minute sit and 5 minute down out of sight. The handlers leave the ring and go to a designated area where the dogs cannot see them. Up to this point most of the dog's commands are verbal. However, hand signals may be used instead of verbal commands.

In **UTILITY**, most of the dog's commands are hand signals. This level is also all off leash. The dog does most of their exercises away from the handler.

Obtaining AKC titles takes dedication to the sport and is well worth the effort for both the dog and its owner/handler.

**“THINGS I WISH I COULD TELL YOU, FROM THE OWNER OF A REACTIVE DOG...”**

The following article was sent in by Beryl Gersch. Many other helpful articles can be found at <https://dogstodaymagazine.co.uk>. This article was from the April 13, 2017 issue; an anonymous guest essay.

“Don’t worry, he’s friendly.”

“Mine is not!”

I wish I could tell you what is behind that response. The truth is, my dog is relatively mildly reactive to some other dogs, and occasionally, when he feels threatened, some people.

On the reactivity scale, he is not bad; he will bark and that is it. He did once flip and pin another dog who would not leave him alone. The barking is simply a method of putting space between him and the thing that he finds scary. He has never bitten. He has chronic pain and is a nervous dog who does not enjoy the company of strangers.

My dog will send signals through his body language that he wants to be left alone, but to humans, unless you know what you are looking for, these signals will be subtle and most probably missed. Today’s dog park culture means that a lot of owners believe that their dog must play with as many other dogs as possible to have a fulfilling life, so many dogs are often not taught to take notice of body language either and see every other dog as a potential playmate. My dog is not a potential playmate! So I have to react every time we see another dog coming, usually by turning 180 degrees and walking the other way, simply because I do not know if the incoming dog is likely to bounce on my dog or just walk past.

Many other dog owners often do not quite understand. I did not either until I got my dog – I did not realise how isolating or frustrating having a reactive dog could be. I thought all dogs could be fixed by basic training, structure and good walks. This is simply not the case. Just like humans, some dogs have issues that can’t be cured – they can be improved and managed, but not totally fixed. I have been told that he needs training, that I must cause his reactivity or that I should give him a kick if he barks.

People love to make assumptions and judge but the truth is, you can not tell if a dog will be reactive just by its breed or background. Some are rescues, while some have been in the same home all their lives. Any breed can be affected, some may be genetically predisposed, sometimes the dog has suffered a traumatic incident or abuse. But having a bad experience will not necessarily cause any issues either. Some dogs, like mine, may be in pain; it is impossible to generalise. I occasionally get comments that I should “just train him”. We work with a veterinary behaviourist, a dog trainer, have attended specialist classes, and a huge amount of my time is spent researching and implementing training methods. I spend far more time, money and resources on training than the average dog owner.

The behaviour modification methods I am using are modern and positive (punishing a terrified dog or one in pain will be counterproductive). It requires working with him while he is under his threshold – that is, at a safe enough distance from other dogs to not get a reaction. When we started, this was around 20 metres. He can now do a pass with an on lead, calm dog at around two metres. Occasionally he will now do a normal, friendly greeting with non-threatening dogs and he has a growing number of trusted canine “friends” who he is happy and relaxed around.. However, he will still react to unknown dogs, especially if they are bouncy, as the bouncy ones hurt the most!

The experts tell us that every time a dog has a reaction, his cortisol (stress hormone) level builds, meaning that he is more likely to have another larger reaction, then another, then another.... Cortisol will take a few days to reduce again which means that the reaction caused by a playful ambush from another dog that causes a surge of pain in my dog is not over when the barking stops, it still affects him and holds back his training for days.

*Continued on Page Seven – Reactive Dog*

*From Page Six – Reactive Dog*

This is why I turn and go the other way when your dog approaches. Sometimes I will ask you to call him. If your dog is approaching at speed, I will stand in front of mine and shout “NO”. Please do not take offence. I have been chased down the road by indignant owners telling me that their dog is friendly – I get that there is prejudice against some breeds but my reaction is the same whatever size or breed your dog is. There is usually not enough time to explain all this while I am trying to persuade you that however wonderful your dog is, mine does not need or want to meet him – so I have to be abrupt.

It is painful for me to have to portray my dog as some kind of devil dog to you to get my point across. He really is not; he is funny, intelligent, and the most loving dog I know. I do not think any less of him for his reactivity; in fact it has made our relationship even stronger than if he had been ‘normal’. I have had to shift my expectations. I can’t just take him to the park and unclip his lead, our walks involve lots of training to keep them interesting and to teach him to be more engaged with me. Sometimes we have a day off walks altogether to allow his cortisol levels to go down, and during this time we play games do scent-work, trick training and general obedience. He is certainly much more trained than my previous ‘normal’ dog, who was naturally happy and sociable.

When the extent of his reactivity first became apparent, I had an awful period, almost like mourning the dog I had hoped I would get. We would not get to go to the fun dog shows, go to the popular dog walking areas or pop into a dog-friendly cafe. But I now know what he can and can’t do and have adapted his activities accordingly. He is making progress but will never be a social butterfly and I am okay with that.

It would be great if you could help us and our reactive dogs by doing just one simple thing – stop your dog running up to mine (we are usually the ones with an on-lead dog trying to make it clear by our body language that we do not want to meet!). If that means calling yours to heel or putting him on a lead for 30 seconds while we get out of the way, that would be great. I will not walk mine into an area with a lot of dogs, we keep away from parks with off lead dogs playing and we keep to areas with good visibility. I do my best to not impact on your walk, but it is increasingly difficult to find quiet areas, especially as the weather improves. So the chances are, we will meet at some point.

My dog has to be on lead if there is a chance that other dogs in the area and whilst it is annoying for you to have to put yours on lead for a minute or two, try to imagine what our walks are like – we have to plan with military precision, to avoid certain times when we know particular dogs will be out, many places are total no go areas, we frequently have to give up and go home as there are loose dogs in all of our quiet places, our walks are certainly not relaxing.

I understand that dogs do blow their recall – that is okay, we do not expect perfection and the odd slip up is expected, but if you know that your dog constantly runs up to others, consider using a long line and work on their recall. Twice recently we have had dogs run through hedges to say hello to mine. If my dog reacts, yours may be scared into the road, I am concerned for their safety too.

I try to walk my dog in on lead only areas, like cemeteries and nature reserves, however, there always seems to be someone with their dog off-lead. Please, give us these few places by keeping yours on lead too – you have your pick of off-lead parks, fields and footpaths for your dogs to have a run, our dogs only have these few areas where we can truly relax and enjoy our walks.

Having a reactive dog can be isolating and overwhelming. We would like nothing more than to chat with the other owners while our dogs join in with the fun, but for most of us, that is a rare occurrence, for some it may never happen. I often feel like other owners are judging me and my dog and have overheard the occasional hurtful comment. If you see us out and about, a friendly smile to let us know that you acknowledge the work we are putting in to our dogs would make a huge difference too.

**INTRODUCING A MEMBERSHIP APPLICANT ....****Beryl Gersch**

Beryl fell in love with Scotties as a child in Switzerland, but could not fulfill her dream for many years. Her first Scottie, Tess, was a true heart dog, charming everyone she met including Beryl's real estate clients. Beryl now resides in the far south suburbs with her two Scotties, Klara, age 3 (pictured right with Beryl) and Bijou age 7 and a Swiss Shepherd, Hans, age 9. Beryl has always been active with her dogs, involved in various dog sports, training and hiking in nature preserves.



Bijou (pictured left) competes in Nosework both UKC and NACSW. Klara is deciding between Nosework and Happy Ratters - an urban rapping version of Barnhunt. In addition to nosework the Scotties enjoy tricks classes where they learn to perform all manner of behaviors. Bijou has even performed for a live audience at a Holiday Show at our training center. Tricks classes help the Scottie girls develop agility, confidence and focus. and they love to perform their routines. Beryl also volunteers at Nosework trials in the area. Without volunteers there can be no trials.

Beryl is a former STCC member and was the editor of the Plaid Piper a number of years ago. For the past 15 years Beryl has managed CyberScots, one of the oldest Scottish Terrier e-mail forums in existence. Beryl has organized fund drives on CyberScots to memorialize members' or member's relatives passing, with donations to the STCA Health Trust fund, making significant contributions over the past few years.



Beryl has good computer and organizational skills and would be happy to use her skills to assist the club in furtherance of the Scottish Terrier breed.

Motto: Get out there and play with your dog! Your dog will reward you for it in ways you never imagined.

The Ohio State University

Veterinary Medical Center

**Blue Buffalo Veterinary Clinical Trials Office****Dogs with transitional Cell Carcinomas-TCC**

The goal of this clinical trial is to evaluate the activity of an investigational drug (PLX4720) in dogs with TCC and with BRAF mutation and to assess adverse events associated with chronic PLX4720 dosing.

For more information visit:

<https://vet.osu.edu/vmc/cto/clinical-trials/dogs-bladder-cancer-transitional-cell-carcinomas>

(Note: The above information and link compliments of Mindy Quigley, Virginia Tech)



**STCC MEETING NOTES: December 2, 2018**

*(These notes are provided as an overview of the business conducted during both the board and general meetings. Please read the official minutes for full details. The Editors.)*

**Board Meeting**  
(12:05pm to 12:43pm)

Present: Kathy Hugnagle, President  
Barbara Wicks, Secretary  
Barbara Sciarra  
Michele Harland

Absent: Marilyn Flanagan, Vice President/Show  
Matt Lubeck, Treasurer (Late)  
Michael Joseph

**President:** (Kathy) She was asked if donations to trophies are tax deductible. She said under our 501c7 status, donations are NOT tax deductible. She said we may have to do a 501c3 if we start doing internet sales and with the upcoming rotating specialty in 2021.

**Secretary:** Nothing to report.

**Committee Reports:**

**Specialty:** (Via Kathy) Trophy amounts have been adjusted. Kathy stated ours were too low in comparison to other dog clubs.

**Hospitality:** (Via Kathy) There is a gift exchange during the membership meeting. Santa Paws has a gift for every Scottie having their picture taken.

**Membership:** (Kathy) One application pending, Beryl Gersh, who is attending today.

**Communication:** N/A

**Education:** (Barb S.) Next meeting may be ‘Nutrition for your Dog’ or ‘Is Rescue Right for You.’ Kathy said she would like to see the membership become interested in getting a title for their dog.

**Fundraising:** (Via Kathy) There is a 50/50 raffle during meeting and a 2021 Rotating Specialty donation jar. Rosanne Lubeck is looking into internet sales.

**Old Business:**

**STCA Rotating 2020:** Barbara Wicks has not heard back from Christine O’Brien re: judging sweeps.

**SOP’s/Procedures:** Kathy encouraged Board and Directors to write down what they do for 2019 deadline.

**Club Meeting**  
(1:05pm to 1:18pm)

**President:** (Kathy Hugnagle) She welcomed members and guests. Asked membership if anyone knew of an animal nutritionist. If so, talk to Barb Sciarra.

**UPCOMING STCC MEETING****Scottie Friendly!**

DATE: March 24, 2019  
TOPIC: **Animal Nutrition**  
TIME: 1 pm to 4 pm  
LOCATION: Animal Feeds and Needs  
401 W. Golf Road  
Arlington Hts. 60005  
(847) 437-4738  
[www.animalfeedsandneeds.com](http://www.animalfeedsandneeds.com)

REMINDERS: Scotties are enthusiastically invited!  
Please: No Flex leashes  
Bring your own chairs!

**STCC MEETING DATES**

April 14 or 28, 2019 - Agility  
June 15, 2019 - Specialty  
August 18, 2018 - Annual Luncheon  
October 20, 2019 - TBD

Ruler shares a photo of his and Belle’s Christmas present (and our new condo housewarming gift): A storm door with a window big enough to meet a Scottie’s soul. The front yard and courtyard has now been owned by the Flanagan Scotties!!



## *The Plaid Piper*

c/o Marilyn Flanagan  
1101 Camden Court  
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

### *The Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago*

The Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago was founded in 1930 by T.E. Weible and Mrs. M.F. Hills. On September 17, 1979, we were formally incorporated as a Not For Profit in the State of Illinois.

Our club is the 2nd oldest Scottish Terrier club in the nation. (California being the oldest club.) It is interesting to note that in 1959 there were still only eleven regional clubs. However, today, STCC is proud to be one of twenty Scottish Terrier regional clubs recognized by the Scottish Terrier Club of America.

STCC held its first Specialty show in November, 1930. Today, our Specialty shows are held annually the third Saturday of June at the Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, IL.

Across the years our club has changed leadership and direction, as has every regional club. The allure of the Scottish Terrier has decreased, and nationally there is a strong conversation as to how to rebuild the breed, and our clubs. At our height we had 80 members. Although our membership declined, our current initiative is to expand our clubs footprint, and we are reaching out full force to add new members and, thus new energy and ideas. Today we boast 57 members and counting.

Most of our tenured members have served this club in a leadership capacity - at least once. And, there is a strong knowledge base across our club, focused on our mission. Breeders, exhibitors, and those with companion Scotties have come together with determination to improve the lives and futures of our Scotties.

In recent years, successes have been made for our breed. A test is available for Cushings Syndrome through Dr. Zimmerman and UTenn. Studies at Purdue University have increased our knowledge of bladder cancer. A home collection kit, made possible by Dr. Breen, allows owners to send in urine samples for diagnosis.

If this is the first (or 100th) time reading *The Plaid Piper*, you may have a strong, personal interest in our breed you would like to share. If not already, please consider joining as a member of STCC. Thank you.