

# *The Plaid Piper*

*Volume 27 Number 3 The Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago, Inc. 2024 Year in Review*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The Holiday Season always causes me to reflect on what I am grateful for; black, furry, charismatic family members top the list, as well as a Club with whom I can share the joys of being owned by a Scottish Terrier.



It has been an interesting year for STCC, full of great programs and activities. Our year started out in January with Michele Bronski giving us an update with the accomplishments of STCA's Health Trust Fund.

In March, Steve Russell gave an informative interactive presentation on what a Judge is looking for when he is watching and going over a Scottish Terrier in the Conformation Ring.

This year's Specialty was held in Joliet, Il. Even with its challenges, it was a great learning experience. Our Specialty in 2025 will be back at Lake County Fairgrounds in Grayslake, Il.

August was our Annual Awards Banquet held at Dover Straits Restaurant in Mundelein, Il.

Our Annual Howloween Party was held at For Your K9 at the end of October. We also got an opportunity to try out Rally Obedience with our Scotties.

We had our Holiday Party at For Your K9 on December 8th. A good time was had by all. Barb Alstadt gave us amazing treats and goodies for the festivities.

Happy New Year in 2025.

**Kathy Hufnagle**  
**President STCC**

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## **Edition Content - 2024 Year in Review**

- Michele Bronsky's update with the accomplishments of STCA's Health Trust Fund
- Steve Russell - what a Judge is looking for going over a Scottish Terrier in the Conformation Ring.
- Great Lakes All Terrier Association Specialty Show
- Annual Awards Banquet held at Dover Straits Restaurant
- Annual Howloween Doggy Costume Party and Rally O at For Your K9
- Commanday-Mirosav's New Champion, COCO
- Holiday Party at For Your K9
- Focus on the Club - Bob & Sue Grant

January 14 Health Trust Fund of the STCA, by Michele Geiger-Bronsky



## HEALTH TRUST FUND of the Scottish Terrier Club of America

*Dedicated to Improving the Health of Scottish  
Terriers by Funding Research and Outreach*

Presented by  
Michele Geiger-Bronsky, Trustee



## HEALTH TRUST FUND DNA BANK PROJECT

- As of 1/2024 DNA Bank currently holds more than 550 samples !
- HTF has spent \$3,905 in 2023 for storage fees and processing
- Goal by 2025 is to provide on line owner access for updating health information on individual dog(s)



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell****Judging the Scottish Terrier**

Science has been described as ever lurching after exactitude, and every time it appears within our grasp it takes another step away toward infinity. In essence, the more closely you examine something, the more you learn about it, but also the more questions emerge. Many years ago, I wrote an article to describe judging my breed. This rewrite has been informed by my own experiences and the pertinent questions of other judges, who are lifelong learners, as they engage in judging the "Diehard." I have also attempted to add more of the "why" in addition to the "how" of judging the Scottish Terrier.

– Kathi Brown

*"HIS COMMANDING PRESENCE, HIS UNFLINCHING GAZE, HIS DEEP-ROOTED CONVICTION THAT HE IS HIS OWN MAN; THESE ARE THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE ADULT SCOTTISH TERRIER OF A PROPER TYPE. ONCE WITNESSED, THIS ATTITUDE IS HARD TO FORGET."*

– Evelyn Kirk 1996

**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

The silhouette of the Scottish Terrier is one of the most recognizable in dogdom. As a judge, we go well beyond and are able to recognize, compare, and contrast specimens according to the salient features and disposition of the breed. The Scottish Terrier is in all aspects a small, sturdy dog of serious purpose that will fearlessly go to earth after badger and other prey.

Scottish Terriers should enter the ring with confidence, owning the ground they stand upon. Many are busybodies and may resist the handlers' efforts to face in the predetermined, proper direction. Each dog should convey the belief that he is the best, regardless of your judgment. Stand back and assess each entry. Although many handlers will kneel and stack their dogs, your eye should seek a small, compact, muscular dog of good bone and substance, with a head that is long in proportion to its size. Check for a smooth flow of neck into shoulder, level topline, a pronounced forechest, and rump extending beyond the tail—the tail is NOT the end of a Scottish Terrier! Move to the front of the line looking for a varminty expression and also for the proper width of each dog.

The dog goes around the ring covering ground even with short legs, reaching out with its front feet almost to the point of its nose, and powerfully pushing with its rear, showing good extension of the rear foot. Do not misconstrue lots of quick little steps for effective reach and drive. Ears may fold back while in motion, but the tail is carried up. Recheck for a level topline while on the move.

Judges should be sure to avail themselves of two major opportunities to evaluate the Scottish Terrier; table examination and free-standing. The first is a breed-specific examination on the table, which can confirm or change your initial opinion. Skillful grooming can both enhance the dog and camouflage problems. Hands on the dog will uncover where hair is filling holes. Check the proportion and height of the dog (10" at the withers) with your hands. The Scottie at work must be small enough to invade dens and small burrows without being trapped by his own height and bulk.



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

Stand back and take a minute to carefully observe expression. The ears contribute greatly to proper expression, being "set well up on the skull" forming a straight line up from the side. They are relatively small and mobile, thus you will want to check these again when on the ground and alert. I often check the ear set both from the front and behind the dog, where it cannot be hidden by grooming. The correct expression once seen is hard to miss again. The Scot will generally look down his nose at you with a penetrating gaze letting you know that he is in charge. This is described as "varminty" and should NEVER be sweet, appealing or cute.



The eye set (deep with fill under the eye), shape (almond), and color (dark) are critical components of expression. "The head should be long in proportion to the overall length and size of the dog." The length is well-balanced. It should not be achieved by over refinement of the skull or by an unbalanced, elongated muzzle. The standard is clear that the skull is of medium width, giving the impression of narrowness due to its cleanness of skull and overall length. This skull should be clean; not cheeky or coarse, which would detract from the necessary strong, powerful bite. The bite is level or scissors with LARGE teeth capable of encountering and disposing of quarry.



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

When I approach the dog on the table for hands-on examination, I generally speak to the handler, "good morning" or "good afternoon." This is not to be a congenial person, but to elicit a response from the handler which will indicate to the dog that I am an acceptable person about to examine him. Reach out, cupping the head underneath the muzzle at the same time to determine its strength that fills a man's hand, and for a punishing, strong underjaw.

Check for the proper equal proportion of skull to muzzle, placing your thumb into the stop to determine if the correct "slight but definite stop" is present, rather than cut-in by grooming. Feel under the hair to determine that there is true fill below the dark, almond, wide-set eyes. Although slightly domed, the skull should appear flat and the planes, viewed from the side, parallel.



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

While at the front of the dog, I bring my cupped open hand on the chest feeling for the required forechest and prosternum. This procedure is stated within the standard. It is important to feel for the forechest as it is often covered by careful grooming. Then drop your palm straight down between the legs to ascertain the relative straightness and width of the forelegs.

Move to the side, running your hand down the strong "moderately short" neck, across the shoulders and body to reconfirm a smooth transition into the "well laid back and moderately well knit" shoulders specified in the standard. It is important to check for an upper arm approximately the same length as the shoulder blade, bringing the elbow next to the body below the widest point of the rib and well back on the dog. Judges should feel for the chest, which is described as "broad, very deep and well let down between the forelegs." It is a heart-shaped (not slab-sided or barrel-shaped) chest in cross section, tapering to a point and dropping down **BELOW** the elbow.



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

The standard is clear that the "lowest point of the brisket should be such that an average man's fist would fit under it with little or no overhead clearance." To properly examine a dog according to the standard, the judge should therefore measure width and depth by actually placing his fist under the dog. I prefer to do this measure from the side just behind the front leg at the deepest rib. If you are tall enough to do so from the front, make sure that you do not place your face in the dog's and go back to the lowest point under the brisket.



Continue along the ribs which should be "well back into a short, strong loin, deep [in] flanks..." The inverse carrot tail is set-on high and carried proudly. Check behind the tail for the point of ischium and the broad, muscular hindquarters with a well-bent stifle allowing for the breed to spring from rock to rock as well as to pull the vermin out of its den. The length from hock to heel is short and perpendicular to the ground.





**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

A Scot's coat is critical to the climate of the country of origin and to the work it needs to accomplish. This is a double-coated breed with a HARD, wiry topcoat covering its dense, soft undercoat. Check the texture by rubbing the top hair between your thumb and index finger, then pick it up, looking for the requisite undercoat. The dog's jacket should blend smoothly into its furnishings. The furnishings should never resemble a billowy skirt. The preparation and presentation of the Scottish Terrier takes skill, dedication, and time on behalf of the owner and should be carefully evaluated and respected. Never rake the jacket backward toward the head. Scottish Terriers come in coats of many colors (except white)—all are equal; none preferred. White is allowed ONLY on the chest and chin, and this to a slight extent.

The dog will most often shake himself out once again, getting comfortable before moving. Going away, the rear movement should be straight and true with good flex at the hock. The pads of the rear feet should turn up toward you. When judging front gait, the forelegs are not exactly parallel to each other; there is a slight turn in as they reach out around the deep chest of the dog. The Illustrated Guide to the Scottish Terrier states, "It is important to note that a dog that is higher in leg will appear to move better in a generic sense. This is not desirable and is at the expense of Scottish Terrier type." The Scottish Terrier is a "short-legged" breed. To infer that he can be too short-legged is far too simplistic. The entire harmony of parts is critical on a small dog measuring ten inches at the shoulder, yet a big dog in body. Too many are lacking the essential heart-shaped chest and the desired angulation that are essential to function and movement. From the side, the dog carries a level topline. The reach from the front and the extension and powerful drive from the rear should be evident.



**March 22 Judging the Scottish Terrier by Steve Russell, cont.**

The standard states clearly, "No judge should put to Winners or Best of Breed any Scottish Terrier not showing real Terrier character in the ring." A Scottie is never timid, and one with its tail down should not be your choice. What then is true Terrier temperament? While structurally the breed is a big dog on short legs, it is a bigger dog in his mind as well; self-confident, sturdy on the ground which is "all his," and more than willing and capable of dispatching vermin in its den.

This is displayed by the carriage of his tail, head and ears. It is helpful that you as a judge view the dog standing on his own rather than being poked and prodded into a predetermined stance. Sparring is useful to have the Scottish Terrier show himself. Judges should use the spar judiciously. You need not spar every dog. When pulling dogs to be sparred, make sure you set specific guidelines to be followed. Dogs already exhibiting feisty behavior may not be necessary to engage with others. I generally spar two dogs under consideration and am thoughtful regarding those I need to see. It is not necessary to have the dogs cause a ruckus (although this may occur), but only to collect themselves and stand boldly, four-square.

**I would offer all judges a few suggestions:**

- Always move the Scottish Terrier prior to table examination. This is a breed that in temperament needs to "get the kinks out" and assess the ring on his terms.
- Never reach down and examine the dog while on "his" ground; if you need to check the dog, request it to be re-tabled.
- Remember this breed is dignified, self-confident yet sensitive, and they do not easily tolerate intimacy from strangers. So do NOT baby-talk, grab and hold his beard, pound on him or become nose-to-nose with him.
- Provide shade on hot days for this generally dark, double-coated breed.
- Control the ring, separating overly feisty dogs, and control the spar.

The Illustrated Guide to the Scottish Terrier may be obtained from the [Secretary of the STCA](#) and contains a single-page quick check of the key elements of the breed for your judge's book.

Read *Lovely Fire* by Mrs. Evelyn Kirk as printed in the September 1977 AKC Gazette.

**KATHI BROWN**

Kathi Brown is a breeder, exhibitor and AKC judge. She serves as Judges' Education Coordinator for the Scottish Terrier Club of America. She is a member of the Standard Review Committee as well as the committee that produced the Illustrated Guide to the Scottish Terrier. Kathi has written numerous articles on the Scottish Terrier. She has judged many Specialties and Terrier Group shows, including the Scottish Terrier National Specialty in Canada and in the US. Her limited "Blueberry Hill" breeding program has yielded top-quality Scottish Terriers for 45 years. Her dogs include many [Best](#) in Show and National Specialty winners as well as three years as number one in the Breed. She is Past President of Ladies' Dog Club, the Scottish Terrier Club of America, New England Terrier Club, and the Scottish Terrier Club of New England. Professionally, Kathi is an education consultant working with states, districts and colleges, providing professional development on learner and outcome-based instruction.

**June 15-16 Great Lakes All Terrier Association Specialty Show**

June 15-16. 2024 as part of the  
Great Lakes All Terrier Association.

The new show site is  
Weitendorf Ag Center in Joliet, IL.  
7840 W Laraway Rd, Joliet, IL 60433

- Best Bred by Exhibitor and Beginner Puppy on Saturday.
- All Terrier Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes on Sunday.
- Junior Showmanship and
- National Owner Handler both days.

The Scottish Terrier Club of Chicago presented two specialties as part of the Great Lakes All Terrier Association at the Weitendorf Agricultural Center in Joliet, IL. And the winners are!

**Saturday June 15****Sweepstakes**

Best in Sweepstakes: Woburn Captain Britain

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

**Regular Classes**

Best Scottish Terrier: Woburn Memory Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

Best of Opposite: Woburn Odds Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell, Sally Wenckus

Best of Winners: Woburn Memory Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

Winners Dog: Woburn Odds Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell, Sally Wenckus

Winners Bitch: Woburn Memory Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

Select Dog: CH Oban's P51 Mustang

Owner: Bridget Bower and Jacglen Oban

Select Bitch: GCHS Glenby's Woburn Captain Marvel

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

Best Bred-By-Exhibitor: Woburn Memory Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

**June 15-16 Great Lakes All Terrier Association Specialty Show, cont.**

**Sunday June 16**

**Regular Classes:**

Best of Breed: GCHS CH Sodak On the Road to Stardom

Owner: Susan Jacobsen and Scott Jacobsen

Best of Opposite: CH Oban's P51 Mustang

Owner: Bridget Bower and Jacglen Oban

Best of Winners: Woburn Odds Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell, Sally Wenckus

Winners Dog: Woburn Odds Maker

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell, Sally Wenckus

Winners Bitch: Royal Dragoon's Coco Chanel at Malibu Magic

Owner: Karla Commanday - Mirosav & David Commanday

Select Bitch: CH Jacglen's Oban Platinum Jubilee

Owner: Jacglen J, Knl and Oban Knl

Best Owner Handled: GCHS CH Sodak On the Road to Stardom

Owner: Susan Jacobsen and Scott Jacobsen

Award of Merit: GCHS Glenby's Woburn Captain Marvel

Owner: Debra and Steve Russell

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August 11 Annual Meeting and Award Luncheon at Dover Straits

# Annual Meeting and Award Luncheon

August 11, 2024

1:00-4:00 P.M.

## Dover Straits Restaurant

890 US-45, Mundelein, IL 60060

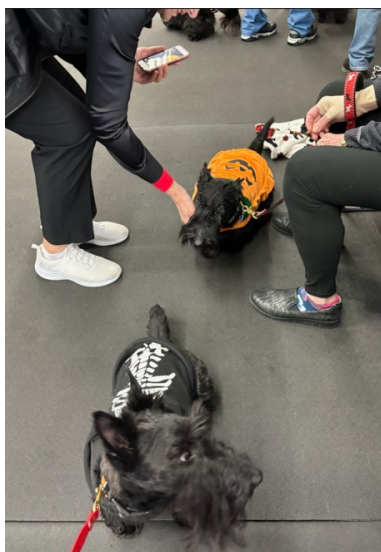


## October 27 Annual Howloween Doggy Costume Party and Rally O at For Your K9

### What is Rally-O?

It's a super fun dog sport that tests your relationship, handling skills and your dog's obedience skills! You will learn a variety of obedience signs that are put into a course that will challenge you and your dog as a team! Everyone can participate in this fun class! So long as your dog is able to be around other dogs, food motivated and wants to have fun then this is the class for you!

### Annual Howloween Doggy Costume Party



October 27 Annual Howloween Doggy Costume Party and Rally O at For Your K9

Annual Howloween Doggy Costume Party



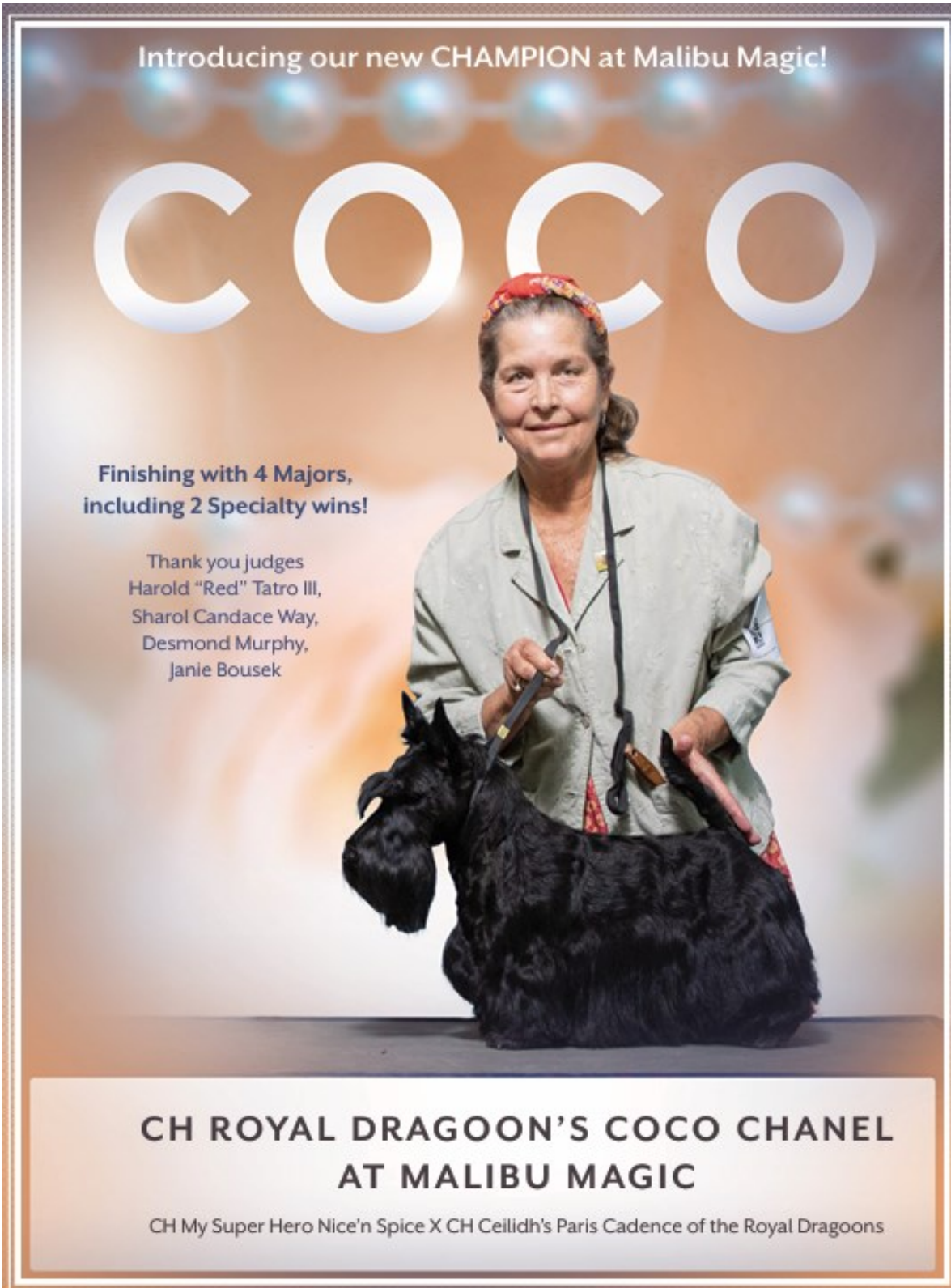
October 15 Karla Commanday-Mirosav's New Champion, COCO

Introducing our new CHAMPION at Malibu Magic!

# COCO

**Finishing with 4 Majors,  
including 2 Specialty wins!**

Thank you judges  
Harold "Red" Tatro III,  
Sharol Candace Way,  
Desmond Murphy,  
Janie Bousek



**CH ROYAL DRAGOON'S COCO CHANEL  
AT MALIBU MAGIC**

CH My Super Hero Nice'n Spice X CH Ceilidh's Paris Cadence of the Royal Dragons



December 8 Annual Holiday Party at For Your K9



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY



December 8 Annual Holiday Party at For Your K9

# ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY



December 8 Annual Holiday Party at For Your K9

# ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY



December 8 Annual Holiday Party at For Your K9

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Latest Club Member  
Victoria Pho  
with her Scottie, Tofu.

**Victoria Pho being announced by Kathy as our latest club member.**



Victoria was quite the winner at our raffle winning multiple times.

And Victoria's cute Scottie, Tofu.



**Focus on the Club****In this edition, we introduce you to Bob and Sue Grant**

Hi, we are Bob and Sue Grant, and this is our Scottie doggy story.

We started with Scotties 37 years ago.

In 1988, we got our first Scottie, Angus. Angus was a fun loving dog, and he was also quite humorous. When he would play outside, in the backyard, or at a park, he would always find the largest branch that had fallen on the ground. Angus would grab ahold of that branch with his mighty jaws and shake the branch... so he thought. However, the reality was that the branch would be so big and heavy that the only thing shaking was his tush. But when he was done shaking that branch he would walk away proud as punch.

When ever we would take Angus to the beach, he would always go to the edge of the water and bite at the waves. Some times when a big wave would come in and Angus would open his mouth to take a bite, he would end up choking on the water. After which he would immediately turn to see if we were watching and saw him choke. We would always turn away so he didn't think we saw what had just happened. We think he was embarrassed by the event.

Angus lived to 12 years old. Passed 2000.

Angus



**Focus on the Club****Bob and Sue Grant, cont.**

In 1998, Angus was 10 years old, we got our second Scottie, Molly. Molly was the queen bitch, literally. Right from the start, Molly would antagonize poor Angus. But Angus did not have a mean bone in his body. So, he would just accept whatever Molly was dishing out.

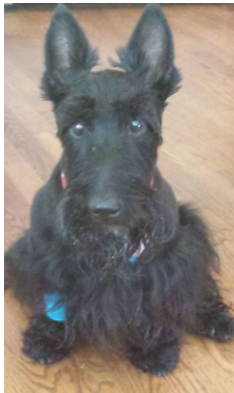
We have hardwood floors throughout the house, and early on, when Molly was still a tiny pup, she would start running at Angus, and just before she got to him, she would slide on her back under his chin and bite on to his beard. Of course, Angus did not like that so he would start running around the house, and Molly would get a ride. For the longest time, we could not figure out why Angus' beard was getting so shabby looking. Not until we saw Molly in action did we figure out what was happening to Angus' beard.

Molly



In 2002, Molly was 4 years old, we got our third Scottie, Duncan. When we got Duncan, his personality was larger than life. He would strut around like he was king of the hill. Duncan definitely had the Alpha attitude. However, this did not sit well with Molly because she knew she was the Alpha. So, throughout their whole life together they were always tussling between themselves.

Duncan at middle age



Molly, about to bite Duncan, and Duncan saying, mommy please save me.



**Focus on the Club****Bob and Sue Grant, cont.**

In 2008, we got our fourth Scottie, Charmer. We definitely named him right... he was the "charmer". He would charm the pants off of anyone. So, for a couple of years we had three Scotties (Molly, Duncan, and Charmer), which at times posed some challenges. Charmer was just like that little kid brother, always needing his older brother, Duncan. Charmer was just acting goofy, but Duncan would only take just so much, then he would go after Charmer like the Tasmanian devil, and Charmer go screaming away like a girly girl.

Duncan was a character in his own right, and food was always his top priority. One time, we got back home from food shopping. We put some of the groceries on the sofa while we were putting away some of the other groceries. While some of the groceries were still on the sofa, still in their shopping bags, Duncan quietly jumped up on to the sofa and pulled out a 3 lbs package of ground beef. Very quietly, he peeled off the plastic wrapper, and ended up eating one lbs from the center. When we realized this we called our vet to find out if we should make him vomit, or bring him in to an urgent care, or something else. The vet said just to watch him over the next few hours in case he gets sick. Well, Duncan did not get sick, but not making him vomit was a mistake because after a short period of time he ended up with pancreatitis, which would resurface time and time again for the rest of his life.

In 2010, we lost Molly due to bladder cancer. Molly was 11 years old.

In 2016, we took Charmer to our local vet for teeth cleaning. At the age of 8, although he was still acting like a puppy, the vet staff put Charmer under to clean his teeth, but Charmer never woke up. He died on the vet table. This was so disheartening, both Sue and I, Robert, seriously considered not getting any more dogs.

Charmer at the age of 6



In 2017, we lost Duncan due to continued issues caused by his pancreatitis and liver cancer.

Focus on the Club

**Bob and Sue Grant, cont.**

During the Spring in 2017, Sue and I went to a local Scottie dog show in Illinois. That was the best thing we could have ever done. For that got us back interested in owning a Scottie. In July, 2017, we met with Kari Endvick, owner of 4 Paws, in Stanley Wisconsin, and ended up getting one of her puppies. Labor Day weekend, at the age of 4 months we brought home Dapper. Again, like with Charmer, we named Dapper perfectly... because, ... he is dapper.

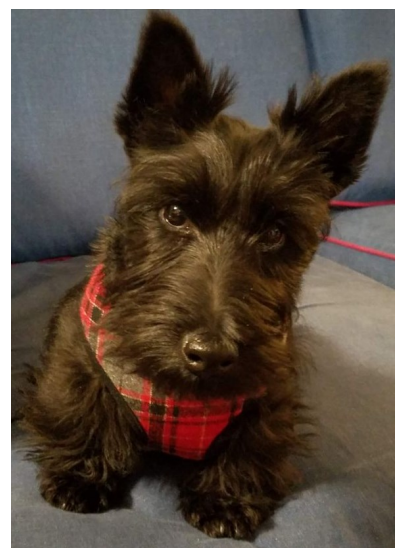
Meeting Dapper for the first time at 4 wks



Picking up Dapper at 4 months



Dapper being inquisitive



Dapper at 2 yrs



Dapper at 6 yrs





Focus on the Club

Bob and Sue Grant, cont.

We have enjoyed Dapper so much that two years later, December 2019, we went back to Kari Endvick and got Magnus. His full official name is “Magnus the Magnificent”.

Dapper meeting Magnus for the first time



Magnus IS the toy hog



Magnus, the joyous sole that he is, is always laughing



Dapper and Magnus, the best of buds



Dapper and Magnus, doing the countdown to the New Year



Dapper and Magnus always wanting to be together. They even sleep together.





[www.stcchicago.org](http://www.stcchicago.org)

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*Robert Grant/Beryl Gersch*

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- or -

Robert Grant  
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The editors reserve the right to edit  
submissions for publication.

Submission deadlines are: January 1,  
March 1, May 1, July 1, September 1.  
and November 1.

**2025 MEETINGS  
and EVENT DATES**

March 23 - in person club meeting at For Your K9

June 14 & 15 - Two Specialties as part of GLATA at the Lake County Fairgrounds. This will include the annual meeting and award dinner at Dover Straits (still needs to be confirmed).

Halloween party - date & place TBD.

December holiday party - date & place TBD.

*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 Cushing's 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.