



## President's Notes

First – Happy New Year to everyone! I hope your holidays were great.

Did you make resolutions and plans for this year? Do you have litters planned, shows lined up, puppies to start or maybe you're eyeing FastCat or Barn Hunt to see how your Toy Fox will do? The Board has been busy making plans too and we're excited to see what we can accomplish in this new year!

First – a look back at our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. We had a wonderful large National Specialty in Oklahoma City with 59 entries, 6 juniors and 28 in sweepstakes. Our Regional Specialty in Orlando was also well attended with 40 entries and 8 juniors! We had columns in the AKC Gazette celebrating our 20 years. Our members presented Toy Foxes to the public at AKC's big Meet The Breeds in Columbus, OH. Several others participated in Atlanta Kennel Clubs's smaller Meet the Breeds. Our membership grew. Unfortunately, along with the positives we had some sad when we lost several members including Gene Bellamy and John Rawleigh. They made a tremendous impact on our breed and are missed.

Our National Specialty this year moves to the northeast on May 25 at the Wide World of Indoor Sports in North Kingstown, RI. It is being held with the Nor'East Toy Dog Cluster – four Toy Group shows. Additionally, the cluster includes agility, rally, and obedience. These events are for toy dogs only. The show committee is planning some fun activities in addition to the shows. Rumor has it we may have a 'whale' of a good time!

Plans are also well underway for the 2025 National in Arizona in March of next year in Phoenix, Arizona. Voting for judges will start soon so be looking for that to come your way.

In the performance area – congratulations to our members who competed in the AKC Agility Invitational in Orlando. You did us proud! Jen Canfield, our Secretary, posted the runs on the ATFTC public Facebook page – be sure to watch the videos – they are amazing.

Speaking of performance – our little dogs are wonderfully versatile and so many of you are out getting titles in all different events. The Board has approved the new versatility recognition program spearheaded by Chris Bowker. The combined title award will recognize Toy Foxes who have excelled in more than one event and which have received recognition for those events. There are different levels as you achieve more titles. Chris will have the details in the next newsletter and we will have the forms available on the website as soon as the information is published. Dogs recognized with these certificates will also be named in our newsletter – we are proud of all the great things you do with your Toy Fox Terriers!

Look also for information from Jen Canfield about the performance parade and recognition of performance dogs at our National.

The Health Committee will be wrapping up the health survey soon. If you have not entered your dogs' information (it's anonymous!), please do so. We've had more pet owners than breeders participate, and we need a holistic picture for the most accurate representation.



We do have some sad news if you haven't seen it already. Violet Denney, a long time breeder of Toy Fox Terriers and mentor and friend to many in our breed, sadly passed away in December.

For those who have procrastinated a bit when you got busy over the holidays, our constitution gives a grace period for renewing your dues. There are still just a few of you who haven't sent them in. Remember, under the C&BL you can't vote until they are current so please send them in before the preliminary judges' polls for the upcoming 2025 National goes out.

Speaking of voting, as an AKC member club we have been asked to vote on the 2023 American Kennel Club Lifetime Achievement Awards. The list of nominees is:

<u>Conformation</u>	<u>Companion Events</u>	<u>Performance Events</u>
Michael Canalizo	Dianne Allen	Sharol & Sean Hathaway
James (Jim) Corbett	Curt Curtis	Laurie Soutar
Sandy Lady	Judie Howard	John (Jack) Unbehaun

Here are their bios (copy and paste into your web browser and hit enter) – please review and in each category, let me know who you think we should vote for. Please reply to me by February 10 so the Board can have your input before our meeting.

[www.akc.org/about/awards-and-honors/lifetime-achievement/nominees/2023-lifetime-achievement-award-nominees/?sc\\_src=email\\_514759&sc\\_lid=29330881&sc\\_uid=9wwD3pJMxt&sc\\_lid=920&sc\\_eh=f6465f87b91910431](http://www.akc.org/about/awards-and-honors/lifetime-achievement/nominees/2023-lifetime-achievement-award-nominees/?sc_src=email_514759&sc_lid=29330881&sc_uid=9wwD3pJMxt&sc_lid=920&sc_eh=f6465f87b91910431)

Mary Watson is putting together our newsletter and is looking for your ads to celebrate your Orlando wins. Please contact her at [foxtalesnews@gmail.com](mailto:foxtalesnews@gmail.com) to arrange for a half or full page ad and brag on your wins!

Thank you to everyone who has helped make all we are doing a success. You are all appreciated!

See you around the rings,

*Susan Thibodeaux*