

ATFTC - Notes From the President
Susan Thibodeaux

As most of you know, Billy Hodges resigned from his position of President in July. He has many things going on in his life and unfortunately for us, they must by need take priority. I would like to thank him on behalf of the club for his many years of service to the club. Billy's hard work and dedication to the ATFTC and its members was a constant source of motivation to his fellow board members and the club benefitted greatly from his leadership. I personally would like to thank him for his friendship and am grateful for the times we worked together on behalf of the club.

We had a wonderful 20th Anniversary National Specialty. Congratulations to Wendy Howard and Julie Sandoval on their Best of Breed win with their bitch GCH DAR-RICH ALL STAR ETS MAYBE YES MAYBE NO BCAT. A huge note of appreciation to everyone who worked so hard to put on such a great week in Oklahoma City. The shows, the banquet, the breed education seminar, the raffle, the shirts, the prizes, the list goes on and it was all due to the wonderful volunteers and supporters who worked tirelessly for many months before and during the shows. Pam Cox, Carolyn Lichty, Teresa Watson, Mary Bowlan, Carrie Fletcher, Rebecca Rivera, Denise Monette, Arlene Irby, Steve Thibodeaux and others all stepped up for our National Week. We had to overcome some real challenges, but the folks volunteering rose to the occasion and our 20th anniversary show was a success. We learned a lot from this show and have instituted some "must haves" for future shows to ensure we don't have the issues we encountered again.

It was an absolute pleasure to recognize our members who have been with the club since Toy Foxes gained full recognition by the AKC. You will see the photo from the banquet and the names in the next newsletter. The club owes its long success to these members who have given so many years of their lives to our breed and this club.

As soon as our show in OKC was over we were already targeting our next shows. In December during Royal Canin week, the ATFTC Regional Specialty will be on Friday, December 15th. Prior to that, the Central Florida Toy Fox Terrier Club will have a concurrent specialty and host a designated specialty as well.

Our 2024 National Specialty will be Memorial Weekend in Rhode Island and Pam Liddy and the members in the northeast are putting together a great show for us in conjunction with the Toy Club Cluster shows. Mr. Chad Howard has accepted the invitation to judge. We need a trophy chair so if you are interested, please contact Pam and volunteer!

There are members on the west coast working to put together the 2025 specialty in their region and once it's solidified, we will get the information out to everyone. It is this Board's hope to get the Nationals through 2028 tentatively set. If we can accomplish this, our members will be able to choose judges before they are committed to other

shows. Speaking of the future, we already have a show chair and tentative location for 2028 as it will be the 25th Anniversary Show! More information on that is to come.

Mandy Halsey attended the 2023 National Parent Club Canine Health Conference virtually on behalf of our club and will be sharing what she learned with us. On an even more exciting note, she is leading a health committee which will be surveying Toy Fox Terrier owners on the health of their dogs. It's been a number of years since we've done this. This survey will help us determine what health concerns our breed currently has and what health testing we should focus on. This is a really big undertaking, and the committee has spent many hours consulting with experts and developing the questionnaire. We encourage you to support the survey when it comes out so we can get the most complete picture of the state of our breed's health as possible.

We've had a number of new members join the ATFTC in the last few months. If you see them at shows, make sure you welcome them to the club. Welcome to Felicity Trammell, Jamie Bozzi, Rebekah & Michael Rivera, Yvonne Bailey, Ricky McKean, Pamela Savoye, Amaya Rivera, Sharon Weaver, Tyler Luck, Mary Lathlean, John & Shannon Breier, Denise Sisneroz, Catherine Fortney, Lisa Jumper, Kimberly Mitchell & Denise Brown. We are happy to have you!

We have two folks who have volunteered to lead the Sunshine Committee so we'll be reaching out to them. Chris Bowker and Jen Duffy have agreed to co-chair the performance committee. We still need someone to chair the Meet The Breeds committee.

Speaking of which – if you can support the Columbus Ohio AKC Meet The Breeds on October 14, 2023 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center please let me know immediately.

Don't forget to list your litters on the ATFTC.com website and alert our puppy referral committee members when you have puppies expected or arrived. And if people contact you, please talk to them and send them to our puppy referral people and website if you don't have any available. There are many scammers on social media selling non-existent puppies, resulting in people not getting the wonderful Toy Fox Terrier puppy they were seeking. Let's stay visible and help them and our fellow members.

Don't forget to support the newsletter with ads and articles. This is more than a fundraiser for the club – ads with photos help future breeders see the dogs that might be in their dog's pedigree. It's really difficult to find photos of all the dogs in our dogs' pedigrees – you can help future Toy Fox breeders while bragging on your dog. Mary will have the newsletter out soon - be looking for it in your inbox.

Hope to see you all around the ring.

Susan