



**ESAA Board of Directors  
Teleconference  
May 23, 2017**

**In attendance:** Colleen Bell, Julie Brimble, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, John Fabelo, Jane Flynn, Janet Gray, Judi Hunter, Donna Jordan, Dave Mates, Carl Necker, BJ Parsons, Anna Quigley, Julie Quirk, Coleen Raber, Ross Rice.

The meeting called to order at 8:06 PM EST.

Janet opened the meeting with a few comments:

- Concern was expressed regarding misinformation which is leading to unnecessary controversy.
- She asked everyone to please request clarification during discussion if someone is not sure of exactly what is being said.
- Janet clarified that she has always been in favor of continuing with an ESAA Annual.
- The electronic newsletter has absolutely nothing to do with the Annual; it is simply an additional method of communication.
- Janet also expressed concern regarding rumors that ESAA is not doing all it can to get some of our health and genetics issues funded. On the contrary, Janet has spent many hours on the phone with CHF, as well as the leaders of the studies currently in question.

**ESAA Annual Proposal**

- Kathy Cunningham-Roy started discussion of her new proposal regarding the ESAA Annual. Her report was very concise, with the detailed financial background going to the finance committee and to the treasurer. The finance committee has agreed with the general summary as outlined in Kathy's proposal.
- Kathy's proposal included the belief that it is very important to maintain a historical document.
- The high cost of the printed newsletter that ESAA has maintained has increased in cost over the years, while social media has greatly reduced the income for advertisements that were needed to help keep the newsletter afloat. Social media allows members to post brags instantly, rather than having to wait a month for the newsletter to be published.
- If ESAA continues to progress with an electronic newsletter, the funds that were put toward the printed newsletter could go toward funding an Annual that could be produced and offered free of charge to all members.
- It is hopeful that, as members realize that everyone will get an Annual free of charge, this will result in an increase in ads in the Annual in the future.
- For this year, it is not possible to produce an Annual in time for the National in September. It is deemed a better solution to go with a 2-year Annual for this next issue, and then return to a yearly issue in the future.
- The cost per book would be very reasonable in the future, estimated to be below \$25 cost per member, which would include domestic shipping. That full cost would be absorbed by ESAA.

- A detailed financial breakdown will be sent to the Board from the Finance Chair.
- A Mates/Bell motion was passed to put this into effect on a one issue trial basis to be distributed in 2018 at the National in Pennsylvania.
- If this effort is successful, there were several ideas discussed that might be added in the future to be sure those receiving the Annual truly are interested in this wonderful historical document.
- The Board is so excited to be able to offer this to our members!

### **ESAA Pedigree Database Proposal**

- Julie Quirk and Colleen Belle presented the background on the PEDWIN database. The software does require each entry to be typed in manually. Dick Fox had started this as a labor of love, and got access to the AKC Stud Book and continued to add to the data base each year.
- The discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Health and Genetics**

- Janet spoke once again to Dr. Strain regarding the next phase in his study. He understands the funding and grant process and is patient for the next step to be approved. In the meantime, he is able to begin collecting data and samples for the addition of English Setters to his research.
- Samantha Wright, from CHF, has Dr. Strain's approval on the agenda for their July 12 meeting. He will begin to have access to funds the very next day.
- ESAA is sending a memorandum of understanding that we are committed to sending \$14,000 to Dr. Strain's study as soon as it has been approved at the July 6 CHF meeting. \$12,000 is targeted for the study, \$2,000 will pay the administrative fees. This amount will fully fund this portion of the study.
- We will request that future recommendations need to go through Michelle Raisor to limit confusion. We will also ask Michelle to participate in future conference calls regarding health and genetics issues, if she is available.
- Samantha Wright, from the Canine Health Foundation, told Janet that CHF did not approve the thyroid study by Dr. Petroff at Michigan State as it has been submitted. Parent Breed Clubs do not have the expertise to do the peer review that CHF can provide. Dr. Petroff will be able to resubmit his study to CHF, hopefully with the corrections that CHF has requested.
- Samantha Wright sent an e-mail to Dr. Petroff explaining that ESAA is very interested in supporting his next study with funding, and she has encouraged him to please resubmit his proposal with the CHF recommended changes incorporated.
- A Mates/Jordan motion was passed to rescind the previously passed motion to fund Dr. Petroff's study. It will be revisited in the future if/when it is able to be submitted and to pass the CHF peer review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM EDT on a Mates/Jordan motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Coleen M. Raber*

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ESAA Secretary