



**ESAA Board of Directors  
Teleconference  
May 3, 2017**

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

The meeting called to order at 8:04 PM EST.

**E-Communication**

Janet gave background information as to how the e-communication necessity came about: frequent requests for mass mailings, timely information needing to get out, and no volunteer to publish our ESAA newsletter. Coleen suggested to Janet that she check to see if we had volunteers listed with our 2017 renewals. Rhonda gave Jennifer Strickland and Lisa LeTourneau's names. Jenn had experience at her prior place of employment, and sent a sample of her work to Janet and Lisa. Linda Lauby was also added to the committee.

- ✿ This is NOT intended as a replacement to our published newsletter, but is intended to be an additional avenue of communication at this point in time. Coleen will be contacting the eleven members who do not currently have e-mail access.
- ✿ Kathy Cunningham-Roy expressed her thoughts in believing it is a wonderful concept to get information to our members in a timely manner.
- ✿ A question of the flow of information was brought up. Initially information will go through Janet to the e-communications committee. Eventually information will be able to go directly to this committee.
- ✿ It was suggested that Dave create the address [esaanewslettereditor@esaa.com](mailto:esaanewslettereditor@esaa.com) to go to Jennifer Strickland.
- ✿ Concern was expressed that these communications not be sent out too frequently. What is deemed to be "emergency" information will continue to be determined by Janet as it has been in the past with mass mailings.
- ✿ The software package is a 6 month lease for \$500.
- ✿ It was asked if there would be a deadline for submission of information. That will probably be determined in the future once this project gets started.
- ✿ Advertising was discussed. The hope is to possibly have ads at a lesser charge than our printed newsletter, but that will also be determined at a later point in time.
- ✿ This will be a perfect venue for information regarding our National Specialty information.
- ✿ The question was brought up regarding why we are continuing with a paper newsletter when we have a forum that has the capability to do so much more.
- ✿ Dave Mates made a motion to approve Jennifer Strickland as the Chair, with Lisa LeTourneau and Linda Lauby on the committee. It was seconded by Anna Quigley and approved.
- ✿ Since we do not have a volunteer to edit a paper newsletter at this point in time, the Board approved an Electronic Newsletter on an interim basis for the next 6 months on a Mates/ Quigley motion.
- ✿ Any additional questions the Board members might have for Jennifer, please do not hesitate to send them to Janet.

## Health and Genetics

Janet gave a summary of the Health and Genetics funding for Dr. George Strain's study on deafness, and Dr. Petroff's study on thyroid, particularly as they pertain to English Setters.

- \* When discussion began at the Mar. 7 conference call, several Board members indicated they would vote no unless the study was part of CHF. Since the study did have a CHF #, it was unanimously approved, so that part of the conversation did not appear in the minutes. Michelle Raisor was notified of the approval of her recommendations that evening following the meeting.
- \* March 10 Michelle received an e-mail from Dr. Strain explaining how the funds could be paid directly to the study foundation through LSU. This information was shared with Kathy Cunningham at some point, who also shared it with Julie Quirk, then with the full Board earlier today.
- \* At some point in time after March 10, it was discovered that the Strain and the Petroff studies did not go through peer review required for CHF funding. At that point, since it was important to the ESAA Board that a new English Setter portion added to the study also be supported by ESAA/CHF, Janet made contact with both Dr. Strain and CHF to get this approved in an expedited manner. Dr. Strain needs to complete his current studies on his initial breeds by October of 2017. Janet spoke to Samantha Wright at CHF, who got approval from her committee to send an abbreviated form to Dr. Strain adding English Setters to his study, once his October deadline for the other two breeds has been met.
- \* The donation had been previously approved, based on the ESAA BOD's erroneous belief that the entire study, including the addition of English Setters, was approved by CHF. Since the addition of English Setters had to undergo a separate approval through CHF, the funds will be transferred to Dr. Strain's fund in the very near future.
- \* Janet also spoke to Dr. Petroff regarding his Michigan State thyroid study that has not yet gone through peer review through CHF. His current study is fully funded. He has requested a pilot study to be initiated through CHF, for which approval was requested in February. He is expecting that study to be approved in the very near future. Initially his need will be for \$20,000.
- \* Currently the ESAA/Canine Health Fund has \$21,000, \$12,000 of which will be going toward the Strain study, once the CHF peer review is approved. That will leave \$9,000 remaining in ESAA/CHF. ESAA's Health and Genetics fund currently has \$15,000. The Petroff study will be funded as his need arises, between CHF, ESAA H&G, and OFA, and the ESAA General Fund once the BOD approves Dr. Petroff's pilot study.
- \* The details of all the thyroid funding for Dr. Petroff's various studies will be looked at by the Board off-line initially. A specific updated proposal will be requested for approval once more details are available.
- \* We will ask Michelle Raisor, as our H & G chair, to be included in future conference calls to discuss Health and Genetics and ESAA/CHF funding to verify CHF approval.

There was a brief discussion on using ESAA members and/or friends to count our officer's ballots to save the cost of an accountant. Board members are encouraged to send Janet their thoughts.

An update on a proposal for the request that ESAA purchase and maintain a pedigree database for English Setters will be forthcoming in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM EDT on a Quigley/Mates motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Coleen M. Raber*

Coleen M. Raber  
ESAA Secretary