

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.*

*- Carl Bard*



The beginning of a new year is a great time for making a fresh new start. Two important components in moving forward are repairing of the old and preparing for the new. Repairing involves making changes and often starts with forgiveness and then making the necessary changes to correct our wrongs, and move forward.

I've often been amazed by some people's insistence on being negative. It is quite contagious and I find myself not really 'being myself' sometimes when I am at shows or with dog show people. Sometimes negative comments are made out of boredom, malice, ignorance or sometimes just to be saying 'something' at all. I too have spoken out of turn, just like we all have. I have tried to apologize to those I may have hurt when it was pointed out to me that I have done this.

One way I plan to start a fresh New Year is before I speak in public I am going to try very hard to think over what I want to say. Is it the truth or is it simply information I have heard elsewhere? Is what I want to say good or is it bad? Is it useful or not? There is no point in telling it if it's bad or not useful so I can stop speaking then and there.

I don't always have to add a comment to what is being said to me or around me. Just nod and a smile will suffice in most cases. We are living huge parts of our life on auto-pilot. We act out of habit. Breaking a bad habit will only takes you half way. From there, you must

build a new habit. Make your own judgment and don't react to pressures from those ringside to speak just because you are being engaged to do so.

Another way we can start fresh is to learn how to be ridiculous. Too often we're rejecting change and avoid starting fresh by fear of rejection. What if I'm going to be laughed at? What if people will reject me because I will be clumsy in the show ring? What if I trip over my dog, look like I'm flying an imaginary airplane in Agility or I do the wrong pattern in Rally? Well, they may reject you. You might be ridiculous if you start something completely new. And that's the good news. Learn how to be ridiculous. It's an art. Try to laugh more often and especially at yourself.

Focus on what matters. What other exhibitors say about you is not that important. In fact, it isn't really your business. What you really do with your life, your dogs, your time - that's important.

Your emotions work backwards too. So even if you don't feel positive, confident, calm or decisive you can act like it. And after you have done that for a few minutes, guess what happens? You will actually start to feel positive, confident, calm or decisive.

Live in the now like your dogs do! Don't focus on past disappointments. Visualize now how

great your future events will unfold - see and hear it - and also how great you will feel when you compete with your dog.

Stop comparing yourself, your dogs and your decisions to others. If you don't stop then you'll just create a lot of unnecessary pain in your show career. Enjoy your wins. And you will have wins. Enjoy them, but don't continuously bring them up either. Everyone knows you won. That was the day they may have lost.

And you will also lose, drop a bar, miss a station. Move on. Yes it hurts. Yes, you lost or screwed up. Accept it and move on. There is this very simple thing which many people are just blindly ignoring: you can't have a new victory until you close your current battle.

Michael Jordan once said: "I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

**Thank you to our followers for helping to promote health testing in the breed & raising money for Stafford rescues - Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!**

**Go hug your Staffords!**  
**Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor, Creative Director**

## FROM THE EDITOR

*We can chart our future clearly and wisely only when  
we know the path which has led to the present.*

*Adlai E. Stevenson, Lawyer & Politician*



How important is learning about the history of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier to a new breeder? It is possible to simply get a couple dogs and show them, breed them, sell the puppies and be happy with what you are doing and not be the wiser. There is no rule that states this cannot be the way to go. In fact, this is probably how most breeders around the world operate.

However, it is my opinion that learning the history of a breed is an important first step because the ability to learn from other's choices, mistakes and opportunities is valuable knowledge a serious breeder needs. If we didn't learn from others before us and in present time, we would be unable to grow, move ahead utilizing knowledge instead of guessing. We would be making the same mistakes and not improving upon the breed.

It is helpful to learn to use information that someone else provided by their experiences years ago. Learning about the past is important so we can start where they left off and move on, instead of just repeating what they did.

I am referring to health issues, advances in science, study of pedigrees, importance of nutrition and environment, training and interpretation of the breed standard, past show results, breeders of the past, known issues in a breed which affect behavior, contraception, structure - an array of things which contribute to knowing a breed. Knowing its history is knowing its future in a way. The Stafford Knot has from time to time republished articles

and images from the past that we find still valuable today. There are a lot of new folks in the breed now, many of whom do not have mentors who have been in the breed long themselves - or they do not have mentors at all and are just going about their interest in the breed without the advantage of this knowledge.

If you are new to this breed, please take advantage of the many folks who have been a fancier for generations. We are lucky to have a great many historians in this breed. Take the time to introduce yourself to them. Ask questions. Take notes. Always be willing to have an open mind and collect information from several resources so that you can then, with more experience, take all that you have learned and apply it to your own interpretation. Don't rely on repeating what you have heard or accepting a fact or opinion. Take your time and do your own research. Educate yourself and keep learning.

For me personally, I try to travel overseas and also attend as many Specialty shows as I can and I try to introduce myself to as many people in the breed as I can. I have found over the last 10 years that by listening and watching I have changed my own opinions and ideas the more I learn.

Get yourself books on the breed from the past and read what those people have to say. Look at their drawings and photos and compare that to what you have learned in your time in the breed. Learn the names of people and dogs and why they are important, what they contributed to the breed if

anything. Learn the about a name you recognize in a pedigree as being a popular stud dog or a big winner according to what you have been told - what were its siblings, grandparents, progeny like? Was that dog popular for good reason or just riding on the steamroller of fame. What specifically did it contribute to dogs you see today who are related that you feel meet the standard and are good examples not just popular names?

You may well one day breed or own the 'next big thing', but you are more likely to have successful and enjoyable years as a fancier if your focus is not on being a top winner, or producing the most champions, or being #1 every year. If you study the history and learn why and what you enjoy about the breed, learn its history, contribute to helping others do the same, then your 'next big thing' may very well be the fact that you are well respected and proud of your accomplishments outside the ring or whelping box. Be a winner because of your willingness to learn and share knowledge.

Of course history told is only as people doing the telling remember it to be - which is why it is important to study as much as possible from many sources before making your own deductions.

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Go hug your Staffords!  
Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor, Creative Director

## FROM THE EDITOR

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*  
- Margaret Mead (1902-1978)



I was taught at a very early age if I wanted something done to just get up and do it myself. I don't wait for others to do it for me. I jump right in and make changes or I volunteer my time to help others or create projects where I see a need.

I know that this is not how many people act and that's okay too. I don't volunteer my time to satisfy the needs of others but rather to satisfy my own wants and needs. If I see something that needs doing, I make arrangements to get it done.

Four years ago I saw a need for an informational unbiased publication, promoting health testing and at the same time - raising much needed funds for Stafford rescue. The Stafford Knot, Inc. began as a small way to just raise money and get information out to the world. We had no hidden agenda or anything so complicated as that at all. Just a simple fund raising newsletter.

In four years, 28 issues later, we have developed into a full sized publication with a distribution of thousands worldwide. We have a Facebook and Twitter following. Our website receives 1000's of hits daily. Each issue receives up to 10,000 unique hits and we have raised \$15,000+ for Staffordshire Bull Terrier rescues worldwide. We offer fundraisers of various types and we have now begun an incredibly complex database to track health and behavioral issues in the breed.

We appeal to pet owners, performance, sport and working dog owners, show folks and those just interested in the breed for other reasons. Judges in all registries around the world read The Stafford Knot, Inc. and according to their feedback - they like it! We have published over a dozen updates to our Illustrated Breed Standard project and are currently working with an artist on a new version due out early next year. We have worked with several breed clubs in putting together Judge Seminars for several registries.

All of this takes full time work, dedication and time - LOTS OF TIME! We have asked for volunteers in each issue over the last four years. There have been several dozen breed fanciers and several folks in other breeds volunteer in many ways. At this time we are looking for someone who is Mac savvy to take over my position as editor so that I can concentrate on my many other projects. We also need a web person to work closely with the editor to keep the website fresh and updated with each issue.

Until we find those volunteers we may not see another issue of TSK, but our Database project should be in full swing within the month. We are asking that each of our subscribers and followers PLEASE take advantage of this database by creating a Breeder or Owner profile and then create a page for each of your dogs - living and/or deceased. Be as detailed as possible. Any health certificates that you upload

are only visible to yourself and our Database moderator. Once you upload your certificate you will receive a VERIFIED status besides each certificate you send us. Until then, you may select that tests were completed, however you will see PENDING next to the test.

Within this Database, you will be able to track pedigrees, photos, behavioral issues, link with friends, send private messages, search dogs by tests completed, owners name or breeders name. The success of this project depends wholly on YOU! We are serious when we tell you that years of work is behind this project and we will rely upon YOU to help us make it work and offer value for our dogs.

Thank you to all who have advertised in TSK over the years and thank you also to those of you who have volunteered your time promoting the publication, writing articles, helping to sell advertising, sharing us on FB and subscribing. The next level is the Database and new version of the Illustrated Breed Standard. With your continued support we CAN make a difference!

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**Go hug your Staffords!**  
Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor, Creative Director





## FROM THE EDITOR



*"We don't need geography. Staffords are our world."*



**I would like to welcome our new Managing Editor, Helen Reaney (Rolenska) on board to help me run The Stafford Knot publication. Helen and I have worked tirelessly (along with our volunteer staff) over the last many months to bring you this issue. We hope that you not only enjoy reading & sharing it, but also would consider supporting TSK in our June issue by contributing articles, photos and purchasing advertisements. Proceeds go to Stafford rescues around the world. When we work together on our passions and hobbies we will find happiness, success and always something to look forward to. The Stafford Knot brings all Stafford lovers together for the same good cause. Thank you to all of you for your many years of support as I pass the**

**torch over to a new beginning with Helen and our new team.**

**—Lynn Caswell (Wavemaker)  
Sr. Editor, Creative Director**

Hello Everyone  
We're Back!!!, Yes the Stafford Knot is now back in circulation after a couple of years break. This has been a big learning curve for me and I am still learning but very much looking forward to the Summer 2016 edition so come on you Stafford lovers please send us your news from around the world. I have taken on the role of Managing Editor, however the founder and Senior Editor Lynn Caswell is very much involved – this is her baby.....

We have on board various people from around the world helping us but I must just say a big thank you to all of you who have provided us with articles and adverts. Big thank you to Gregory Wattrelos and Tina Walker who have come on board to help do the design



and layout of articles but would welcome anyone other people who are interested to help.

The main focus of the Magazine for this edition is the article on Clare Lee (Constones) the sudden loss of this special lady sent shock waves around the world. This edition of the Magazine is dedicated to her and her family. Thank you to Tony Lee for providing us with photos of Clare when she was young and for providing us with the article on his life with Clare.

From all of the team we hope that you enjoy this Edition of the Stafford Knot and we very much look forward to hearing from you during the next few months with articles, news and photo's. The next edition will include Champions from days gone by and also an article of Crufts 2016.

Helen E Reaney (Rolenska)  
Managing Editor



## FROM THE EDITOR



Hello Everyone

Firstly, I hope all our readers are keeping well wherever you are in the world.

We have some new people to the team following on from our last edition at the beginning of January. Welcome to Melanie Sinclair and to Angel Pinazo Amores both join us and the existing team look forward to working with them.

The June edition of the Knot is a bumper issue with many interesting articles, not least the grand Opening of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Heritage Centre, a must for overseas visitors. We have some excellent articles with some being kept back until the December edition as we didn't want our readers to get too bogged down with reading.

From my point of view, the team are working together really well, all are passionate about the breed and want the Knot to continue to grow and reach as many people as possible so please do share this with your friends, family.

Those who had their adverts in the December/January edition are included in this edition as your advert runs for two editions of the magazines so I will be contacting you in the hope that you will continue to advertise with us and get some of your friends as well.

Thank you for all the hard work the team has done these last few months and of course to our great leader Lynn Caswell who is slowly handing stuff over to us as Tina our master on the Apple Mac is getting her head around the layout etc. I am sure that the next edition Tina will be fully up to speed and Lynn can take a well-earned rest.

Please send us your news and views always happy to hear from you all

Helen

[rolenskasbt@gmail.com](mailto:rolenskasbt@gmail.com)



## FROM THE EDITOR

*"We don't need geography. Staffords are our world."*



Hello fellow  
Stafford fans -  
thank you for  
supporting TSK  
and for your  
continued participation

in not only this publication, but also  
in sharing our Illustrated Breed  
Standard project and our online  
rescue fund raisers.

I think if we step back and have a  
good look at the Staffordshire Bull  
Terrier around the world we will see  
its in pretty good shape overall.  
From my travels this past year (USA,  
UK, Australia) seeing 1000+  
Staffords, I believe the quality is  
really pretty good and folks are  
working harder to improve the  
fitness levels also. I believe there are  
more people doing more health  
testing and taking advantage of  
more performance events including  
Barn Hunt, Nose Work, Dock  
Jumping, Lure Coursing,  
Conformation, Tracking, Agility,  
Obedience and more. To me this  
says we are really showing that the  
Stafford is truly 'A foremost all  
purpose dog' as our standard  
requires. Good job everyone! There  
are some really excellent Staffords  
out there!

On the other hand, with Social  
Media we are also seeing a lot more  
complaining, division, frustration,  
and unrest over subjects that (as our  
terriers) people seem quite

passionate about. FB allows people  
to be influenced by their peers to  
adopt/accept certain behaviors,  
follow trends including trends that  
are bullying in nature sometimes  
unknowingly so. Things are typed  
and repeated which can be quite  
hurtful and sometimes untrue.

Whether or not you feel strongly  
about a topic concerning our breed,  
find a way to resolve the issue  
peacefully instead of enraging  
people online so that they act out  
parroting the information they hear.  
We all love this breed. That's why  
you are reading this publication right  
now. Let's find a way to accept the  
different ways we love them rather  
than creating anger and resentment  
and division amongst us all. It's  
really none of your business what  
some other Stafford person charges  
for their puppies or what their buyer  
pays, what color they breed, if they  
like big ones or small ones, who  
they sell to or whether or not they  
are judged on a ramp - as long as  
there are loving, responsible homes  
for puppies, help with rescue, health  
tests being done and mentoring  
available. Those things do matter.

If someone else has a differing view  
from yours let it go or engage them  
in calm conversation to see why. It  
could be they just don't know better.  
Maybe they did not have a mentor. If  
they are simply breeding for extra  
income (something I can't figure out

how they do since we spend many  
\$1000's on each litter) then there is  
likely nothing you can do to change  
it. You simply cannot legislate good  
sense. People are going to have  
different needs, likes and wants.  
That's called diversity. You can't ban  
something that you don't like and  
expect a change. (BSL & prohibition  
come to mind) You can't expect  
everyone to want what you say is  
right. It's not right for everyone. It's  
only right for you. Who are you to  
say what's right and what's wrong?

For example - if a judge wishes to  
examine your dog on a ramp - teach  
your dog to look damn good on a  
ramp. If it's made right that's easy to  
do. If you don't wish to breed blue  
dogs, DNA test your own dogs and  
any dogs you wish to use at stud  
and you have complete control over  
that.

In other words - be more accepting,  
helpful, compassionate and  
proactive. Be less judgmental,  
accusatory, nosey and angry.

—Lynn Caswell (Wavemaker)  
Sr. Editor, Creative Director



## FROM THE EDITOR

*"The average Stafford is a nicer person than the average person."*



Hello Everyone

Firstly, I would like to welcome you to the Winter edition of the Stafford Knot and I hope you enjoy the read.

I had my first Stafford back in 1988 and fell in love with the breed it wasn't until 1993 when I purchased Valglo Pacquesa that I finally got into showing and worked through the ranks to become a Championship Show Judge. Judging all over the world I have seen many beautiful Staffords and made many new friends. With Social Media as the main tool of communication these days one would wonder why people still do magazines, whether it be on-line as this is or in actual print to buy over the counter. There will always be a need for magazines such as this, we need more input from overseas and I am hopeful that we will get a report from New Zealand and Australia for the next edition.

This last 12 months we have lost in the UK and no doubt the world over some very respected people in the Breed who were great mentors to me and it has become apparent to me recently that I am now one of those old-school people in the breed now helping the new exhibitors and lovers of the Stafford as those who have passed away did back in the early 90's with me.

The Breed in the UK is going through a lot of change, registrations are down to under 5000, with over 70% of those being registered as Blue ..... the other colours are slowly ebbing away but the concern for me is the fact that how many of these Blue's being registered are from health

tested parents. In my breeding lines my bitches have the blue gene so it could happen that somewhere in the future a Blue will occur.

Education is important worldwide to let people know that we do have health issues and we as custodian of the breed should ensure that we pass on our knowledge and explain to the puppy buyer that whatever colour you are looking for ensure you go to a responsible breeder who has bred from health tested parents.

The Stafford Knot Auction page has done extremely well during 2016 and I am hopeful it will do so again in 2017, its all for a great cause worldwide. The next edition of the Knot will be in June and we would welcome any articles on the breed which you would like us to consider using

We are looking for people to join us and I wish that I knew more about web design and Apple Mac packages but sadly I don't so if anyone is able to come on board and help us we would love to hear from you.

On behalf of the team I would like to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and Happy 2017 and look forward to the next edition of the Knot.

Helen  
rolenskasbt@gmail.com





## FROM THE EDITOR

*"A Stafford teaches a boy fidelity, perseverance, and to turn around three times before lying down."*



Hello fellow Stafford fans - thank you for supporting TSK and for your continued participation in not only this publication, but also in sharing our Illustrated Breed Standard project and our online rescue fund raisers.

Wow what a year it has been! The Stafford Knot, Inc. has been able to publish several HUGE article packed issues and each one receives more hits than the last. We are breaking records with this publication! Our Illustrated Breed Standard and Judging Seminar project has now been used in over a dozen countries and has been translated into many languages as well. Thank you to all who have requested the use of the seminar. We would love to hear your feedback as we are always looking to make improvements. Maurizio continues to amaze us with his generosity in updating images as we request. THANK YOU to him - why not show your support of this talented artist by purchasing his book if you haven't done so already! It would make an excellent holiday gift. Look for Maurizio Molinari on FB and send him a message. He's a super guy and would love to hear from you.

The fund raiser auction page on FB has been an enormous success as well. We have managed to raise more money this year than last which is great news for Stafford rescues around the world. I have cleaned out my own personal collection by placing many items on auction for rescue, along with newer items I have made, and donations from others from all over the world. Please be sure to look on there often as we run the auctions all the time year round. We have some excellent items coming up donated by Mr Mansel Frayne and more items I have sewn and embroidered along with fun things donated.

You often hear people in the dog world being critical and complaining how unhappy they are with how

things are going. People can be quite rude to one another, clubs aren't always run the way you would run things, judges make decisions not everyone agrees with, people get angry, hurt feelings, etc.....but also on the flip side remember these few bits -

EVERYONE who enters a show wants to go home with a prize. Nobody enters to lose. Try to be happy for the winners and congratulate them if you can or say nothing at all until in the privacy of your own home. Be a good sport.

Judges are human and most do try to make good choices for the breed. If a new judge needs a little mentorship offer them our seminar or answer questions they may have. If a judge clearly has no clue or plays games, don't enter under them again.

Most people are kind and if given the choice will volunteer and offer a helping hand. Its usually only the few loud ones who won't join in. Let them be loud and move on. Their actions do not reflect on you.

Some people you will meet through Staffords will become lifelong friends. Others pass by your life in a flash. Try to focus on the ones who stick. Those are the people you look to when times are difficult and they will be there. Try not to focus on the negative folks. They will zap you of all the good inside you. Don't allow that to happen.

Life is far too short. Forgive if you can but move on.

—Lynn Caswell (Wavemaker)  
Sr. Editor, Creative Director





## FROM THE MANAGING EDITOR

*If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous he will not bite you.  
This is the principal difference between a dog and man.*

Hello Everyone

Welcome to this edition of the Stafford Knot I hope all you all enjoy the read.

A special welcome to three new team members Kelly Cromwell who has volunteered to be our Health Editor. Krissy Stanford who will be in charge of Social Media and last but not least to Debra Roseman as our Performance Editor.

This edition has many interesting articles and we thank everyone who has contributed. We would really like more people to advertise their dogs, as proceeds go to support many Rescue's around the world. Sadly social media today has affected many on line magazine and also paper magazines as we can all advertise our dogs etc on Facebook, Instagram etc.

The world of Staffords is changing none more so than in the UK with registrations down, to under 5000 in 2016. Compared to 12 years ago when they were at record highs of over 14,000.

Thankfully with on line magazines like this we can show the positive side of the breed in all its activities from showing, agility, obedience, therapy dogs and working dogs.

I judged in Stockholm in February and saw some wonderful dogs, I also did a breed seminar again to around 80 people, I used the Illustrated Breed Standard and the feedback and the contribution those in the room made was amazing, my co judges that weekend were Dr Archie Bryden and Mark

Davies and well all had a different spin on the Stafford. The feedback regarding the Illustrated Standard was excellent and now its available in book form can only be a good thing as so many new to the breed want to know what the Stafford should look like. So get your copy go to the link NOW...

Once again thank you to everyone who has contributed, to the team for all their hard work and a special thank you to Lynn Caswell who has the task of putting the magazine together and who I know tears her hair out sometimes.

I am off to South Africa end of June to judge and I hope to do an article for the December edition on the Stafford in South Africa.

Finally we do need someone who is prepared to help with design work for adverts as they come in, so anyone out there who is interested please let one of the team know.

Helen Reaney  
Managing Editor





## FROM THE EDITOR

*It's no coincidence that man's best friend cannot talk.*

Hello fellow Stafford lovers!

Firstly let me thank you all for the support given to The Stafford Knot, Inc. over these last 8-9 years. We began as a small monthly newsletter whose goals were to promote health testing in the breed, share informational articles and raise much needed funding for Staffordshire Bull Terrier rescues worldwide. We have done all of this and more! Thanks to you we have been able to grow into a hugely successful company with a worldwide presence and are followed by 1000's of people from all over the world on FB, IG, Twitter, website and email. We have raised many thousands of dollars for rescues, we have now sold hundreds of books in three formats and our little monthly newsletter has grown into a 50-70 page online magazine which publishes twice annually.



Speaking of our new books, many thanks to all who worked so hard over the years perfecting the text and submitting information and images. We are forever grateful to talented artist Maurizio Molinari whose patience and perfection really make these books the collectibles they are. Without all of the many people involved this could not have been as big of a success as it is.

As you all know, 100% of the profit we bring in from book sales will be donated to the TSK rescue fund just like items sold on our fundraising page and all advertisements sold. Our publisher does take a rather large cut of book sales but they also take orders, print the books and do all of our distribution

for us - its a quality product and I feel you will be happy with them. Don't forget to download the affordable eBook version to your phones and tablets so that you will always have it handy to share should the need arise. We made the eBook a low cost option hoping to attract judges and provisionals to the breed.

I would also like to thank Jason Nicolai for his dedication to editing and writing - taking dozens of seemingly disjointed parts and helping them make sense. Jason has worked on the last few versions of the book and seminar and has done so with the tenacity of a Stafford. Kudos Jason!

I would like to welcome our new team members - Health Editor Kelly Cromwell, Performance Editor Debra Roseman and Social Media Director Krissy Stanford. You ladies will make a fantastic addition to our already thriving staff here at TSK and I look forward to watching you all shine!

We hope you will enjoy another packed edition of the magazine and think about submitting your articles and advertisements for our next issue!

Lynn Caswell  
Sr. Editor, Creative Director



## FROM THE HEALTH EDITOR

*People love dogs. You can never go wrong adding a dog to the story.*

Hi everyone! Kelly Cromwell here. I am honored and excited to join The Stafford Knot team!

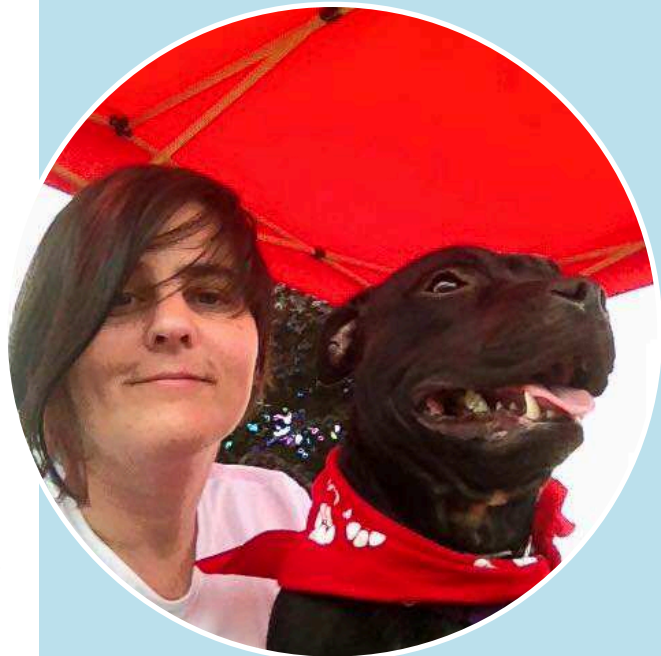
I live in Maryland where I work as Team Leader and Employee Training Facilitator for CVCA-Cardiac Care for Pets, the largest veterinary cardiology service in the world. I've been with CVCA for the past 8 years, but prior to that have worked as a veterinary technician and manager in emergency and critical care, general practice and at a large equine veterinary facility.

I've always had a strong passion for promoting health-conscious breeding, but having worked in cardiology for the last eight years, my interest has only grown stronger as my own knowledge base expands in regards to heritable and congenital issues. I am inspired to help encourage others to learn more about genetic health issues and to help bridge the gap between veterinary medicine and breeder/owners.

My first dog, an Australian Cattle Dog named Duffy (CH Jaroo's Sing Bleu Silver NA HIC) came into my life when I was 20 years old. He was my first AKC champion, first agility title and first herding title partner. Together with him and his daughter, Jess, I was owned by ACDs for almost 20 years. My first Stafford came along while I was looking for a new companion that would be better suited to apartment living than my ACDs. I had the opportunity to meet a Stafford at the vet clinic I was working in at the time and was instantly smitten. They are (as we all know) PERFECT...active, friendly, funny, snuggly little weirdos and I couldn't imagine myself loving

another breed as much as I do the Staffordshire Bull Terrier. I currently share my life with three Staffords (Ballyhoo The Black Rainbow - Midge, CH Dynastaff Always & Never RATS - Jemma and Mat-Staff Howling Commando RA - Dugan) and one Australian Cattle Dog (Jasper). We play and compete in agility, conformation, rally obedience, nosework and barn hunt. Over the last 20 years, I've bred four litters (three ACD, one SBT) under the Ballyhoo affix.

I look forward to sharing thoughts, information and articles to help spread awareness of health issues affecting the Staffordshire Bull Terrier with you all!



Kelly Cromwell  
Health Editor





## FROM THE PERFORMANCE EDITOR

*Dogs are the magicians of the universe.*

While Deb has owned and trained dogs her entire life, she is a relative newcomer to the world of Staffordshire Bull Terriers. She met her first Staffords in the early 2000s while attending agility trials with her rescued Elkhound and PitBull. She was smitten immediately by these spunky, muscular yet athletic dogs, but spent several more years rescuing and rehabbing shelter dogs before obtaining a Stafford of her own. Deb obtained her first Stafford “Bonnie” in August of 2010 (CH Elivid’s Shaken Not Stirred CD BN RN CAA CGC CD-C NW2 L1E L1V). She added “Harley” to the pack in 2015 (CH Ciera Homebrewed Dirty Side Down OA OAJ OF RATO NW1). Deb participates in all kinds of activities with her Staffords including conformation, agility, obedience, rally, barn hunt, nosework, lure coursing, tracking... amongst other things! Deb holds positions in

Stafford clubs at both the National and local level and uses these commitments to promote Staffords in sports. Deb strongly believes that an active lifestyle is important for any breed of dog and encourages everyone to explore activities that they can do with their Staffords! She is also passionate about rescue and does what she can to help.

Deb Roseman  
Performance Editor







## FROM THE SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

*In times of joy, all of us wished we possessed a tail we could wag.*

Hi! I'm Krissy Stanford, here to assist The Stafford Knot in the realm of social media exposure. I currently own two shiba inus and am an avid fan of the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, having gone to shows to support and watch them over the last ten+ years. My background is in the American Pit Bull Terrier where I have shown and competed in performance events since I was 17 years of age. I am a weight pull and conformation judge for an APBT specific registry and will always have an appreciation for the terrier breeds, more specifically the bull breeds.



It is my goal to take TSK and expand the viewer base through social media outlets, such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. There are numerous fanciers of the breed and rescue work that may not own a SBT but may some day or who may just want to help a good cause. Instagram and Facebook are growing networks in which TSK can and will benefit from. Fundraising activities, SBTs in need, and an awareness of what TSK is and does will be showcased for both existing and new followers. I am planning on hold some fun interactive posts and giveaways to expand our viewer base and keep followers engaged.

Krissy Stanford  
Social Media Director

# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



MR. W. A. BOYLAN WITH *Ch. SANDY BRIDGET*  
and two of his favourites

## From the Editor

### NEXT MONTH

WHAT IS HEREDITARY  
CATARACTS

THE LIVER GENE

THE RULE OF FIVES

AND MORE.....

ALL TOPICS SUBJECT TO  
CHANGES BEYOND OUR  
CONTROL AT PUBLISHING  
TIME. THE ABOVE TOPICS ARE  
ESTABLISHED AT CURRENT  
PRESS TIME.

The Stafford Knot began as a tool to help raise much needed funding for the ever increasing number of Staffords entering into rescues worldwide. We bring articles and information to you drawn from sources around the world. We are grateful to each and every person who has spent the time to help TSK with our publication, granted permission to use their articles and for those who assist me each issue with the day to day activities required to bring you this publication. The people mentioned on page two of each issue are but a few who actually assist in putting TSK together, researching, asking for ad sales, donating time and sometimes money. There are too many people to thank individually here, but I have made sure to reach out and thank each and every one of you - barring those who

passed before us. Many people who are no longer with us also contributed and for that we are also grateful - for you can never stop learning, never stop opening your mind and your eyes when you have a passion. If you wish to contribute to TSK please contact us - we always need help - financially & creatively! Donations and advertising sales are what keep us going and go to help many rescue centers, club rescues and personal rescues worldwide. Until we get a handle on this problem it is our responsibility to financially assist.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## From the Editor

### TSK WANTS YOU!

SEND US YOUR ARTICLES, EXPERIENCES, IDEAS PLUS QUESTIONS FOR OUR Q&A PAGE!

TSK BENEFITS STAFFORD RESCUES WORLDWIDE BUT WE CANT HELP WITHOUT YOUR HELP

THINK ABOUT A GALLERY AD, STUD AD, BRAG, CLASSIFIED OR BREEDER DIRECTORY AS AN AFFORDABLE WAY TO HELP RESCUE PLUS ADVERTISE YOUR DOG, KENNEL, COMPANY OR PRODUCTS.

A lot of people rush and skip right past the opening four words of this portion of the Breed Standard - **"From the past history"** - remember what this breed was bred for originally. When taking in the assessment of the Stafford temperament, this should not be forgotten. No, we don't want raving lunatic unmanageable dogs on our hands, nor do we want shy fearful cowering animals. What we are striving for is bold confidence. A dog who trusts that his owner will not put him in harms way and who will quietly, confidently be on alert, on his toes, but in control. A confident dog is not a loud dog, nor is he obnoxious and rude.

He understands 'dog manners' and understands pack order. A bold, confident Stafford will not start a fight, but he will also not back down from a challenge. This is one important thing one must remember

when owning a Stafford. The responsibility lies strictly on the dogs owner/handler to always be in control of the dog and always make sure the dog knows that. The owner/handler must be confident in understanding and recognizing canine behavior and always know what to look for - signs, that any trouble may occur. If a Stafford gets noisy in the ring, fires up or 'talks back' this is normal and should be accepted. This is no different that other terriers who are on their toes, and asked to 'spar' in the ring. A Stafford, needn't be asked to spar, nor should they be - but should already be on his toes, at the ready, but under control. He is, after all, a terrier.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor

# The Stafford Knot The Back Page

## WHITE ENGLISH TERRIERS



One of the very few KC registered breeds to become extinct since dog shows started, the White English Terrier. These are three of the last champions. Queen, Silver Blaze and Morning Star, from 80 or more years ago.

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## From the Editor

### Soundness of Construction and Movement

*In order not to reinvent the wheel - I share with you the following paraphrased from Tom & Julie Bridge -*

“The best way to look at dog construction is through function. What is the function of the breed, what is the characteristic movement for that breed and so on.

Take an overall view of the animal. How does the animal appear to you? Does it look like a representative of its breed? Is it balanced in its

angulations front to rear? When moving, is your impression one of all parts flowing harmoniously, or three dogs trying to move at the one time?

Before one can assess soundness and movement it is important to understand the 'parts' that make up the dog. Every dog has the same type and number of bones (apart from length of tail)

but the relative lengths of the bones give the great variation of appearance to the breeds. There are ideal proportions written down for each breed (the 'standard'), but the basic bone structure is similar. Ideal proportions for each breed usually relate to two main areas:

1. **height** (at the wither) **to length** (from the point of the chest or prosternum to the rear edge of the pelvis or ischium) and 2. **depth of chest** (wither to the lower edge of the chest) **to length of leg** (usually measured from the point of the elbow to the ground). The proportions combined with the angulations that are ideal for the breed combine to produce the characteristic movement of the breed.

Think of the dog as a system of levers and pulleys. The back acts as a bridge connecting the front and rear assemblies. If the ratio of the lengths of the bones of the front and rear are even, then the dog is balanced for that breed. The ideal lengths vary between breeds, but the principle always holds.”

Thank you for another year of success in helping promote health testing in the breed and raising money for Stafford rescues - Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



*Mistress and Staffordshire Bull Terrier. c. 193*

## NEXT MONTH

UNDERSTANDING JUDGING  
CONSISTENCY

TAMMY

WHAT IS CERF?

STAFFORD OBEDIENCE

A PICTORIAL LOOK AT THE  
EARLY YEARS

ALL TOPICS SUBJECT TO  
CHANGES BEYOND OUR  
CONTROL AT PUBLISHING  
TIME. THE ABOVE TOPICS ARE  
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PRESS TIME.

## From the Editor

Ever wonder why Stafford owners and breeders are so protective, proud and rather boisterous when it comes to discussing this breed?

How many people have told stories about when they first learned of the breed and their first encounters with Stafford owners and breeders? Some say its like a nearly impenetrable wall. Or that they had to learn a secret handshake in order to be accepted into the Stafford family.

Could the old saying be true that people dont choose dogs, but that dogs choose their people?

I think this is the case with Staffords. I have yet to meet a Stafford owner without strong opinions. ...and they

aren't afraid to voice them either.....loudly too!

This tenacious trait can be a good thing, or it could be perceived as troublesome. We all want our dogs to be well behaved in public, don't we? ...to represent the breed as true ambassadors?

How about all of us owners, breeders and enthusiasts try to do the same? Could we?

Sure, fire up when appropriate, but sometimes its that quiet dog who gets his point across best.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## From the Editor

### NEXT MONTH

HIP DYSPLASIA

THE LIVER GENE

PET VACCINATION

PREFERRED BREED TYPE

WHAT VETERINARIANS ARE  
SAYING ABOUT THE RAW DIET

SEND US YOUR QUESTION  
FOR OUR Q&A PAGE!

AND MORE....

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The Stafford Knot exists due to hard work, dedication and team work. Wouldn't it be idealistic of me to think those qualities and attributes could/would/should flow over easily into everyday life - or - even more wildly - into the show dog world? Wow - just think what we could accomplish if we were to put our angry words and fears behind us for just a little while and come together to help support this wonderful breed.

The breed is why you are reading these words today - therefore we must have some common ground to stand on, right?

Just because you may not like something about another Stafford fancier's dogs/breeding/decisions - as long as they do right by the breed and act with morality -

why can't we agree to disagree and work together? I say we can - and we should.

Begin today - reach out to a fellow Stafford owner you may have had a disagreement with and make amends. Accept them for who they are and their passion for the breed. This doesn't mean you have to agree with their choices - but they may be able to offer you some bit of knowledge you don't have and vice versa. You never know unless you try.

Everyone has something to offer.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor

# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



**CHAMPION  
BLACK ICE**  
Desperado Cossack ex Wilko's Evil Edna

**KABLICE MIDNIGHT CALLER**  
Ch. Constones Yer Man ex Ch. Black Ice

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PRODUCTS.

## From the Editor

### **Would rescues exist - if 'Rescues' didn't exist?**

I have often wondered if by providing an outlet for people if we aren't enabling them. You know, making it too easy to toss away an otherwise decent dog. By raising money and providing foster homes and taking them in no questions asked, are we actually making the rescue situation worse?

What if there were no options available but to keep the dog, put in the time needed to train the dog, care

for the dog...in other words - take responsibility for the animal you **CHOSE** to purchase!

Would the streets really be filled with strays like the hard core animal rescuers would like you to think? I bet not. I bet that more people would think twice before acquiring the dog.

Maybe its too late now - but if the shelter and rescue business hadn't grown to such gigantic proportions as it has today, then perhaps it wouldn't have become the business that it has become. Yes, I said business. Because most shelters and rescues are in business. They don't do this hard thankless job out of the goodness of their hearts...well most don't. They take dogs in, trade dogs to parts of the country that needs more to 'adopt' (read sell) and they even hold auctions and import dogs from other countries. The purebreds bring in the most money. There are even 'shelters and rescues' that breed purebred dogs in order to fund their business. Its true. I cant make this stuff up.

How do we fix this? I'm not sure we can at this point. Education is certainly the best answer I can come up with. But if public schools cant teach kids how to read, and parents cant teach kids not to act so entitled, I'm not sure we can teach animal responsibility. successfully. Until a solution is found, we will continue taking care of someone else's problems for them. As always - just something to think about.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you to all of you for supporting TSK!

Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Sr. Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page

## The Stafford Knot

An Internet Only Staffordshire Bull Terrier Magazine

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[editor@thestaffordknot.com](mailto:editor@thestaffordknot.com)



## NEXT MONTH

1. TRAINING YOUR SBT BY  
WENDY CLEWLEY
2. FOREQUARTERS BY MICK  
SMITH
3. WHAT PRICE GLORY -  
WHEN WINNING IS  
EVERYTHING BY C.A.  
SHARP
4. EARLY NEUROLOGICAL  
STIMULATION BY DR.  
CARMEN BATTAGLIA
5. BSL AND WHAT YOU CAN  
DO BY LORELEI CRAIG

## From the Editor

I want to send out a hearty and resounding THANK YOU to everyone who helps make the TSK such a great success month after month. To those of you who wish to remain anonymous, yet tirelessly work on sending in articles, photos, projects and ideas - THANK YOU and keep it coming! If you are out there enjoying this publication and wish to join the team - please feel welcome to do so. TSK cannot succeed without the help from the Staffordshire Bull Terrier community worldwide. I told myself I would give TSK one full year of my time and just

see if we can make a difference. Well after only 3/4 of a year I believe we have! TSK has made half a dozen monetary donations directly to aid Stafford rescue and we have helped two Stafford owners in need. We also sponsor trophies and tried to organize a CERF clinic earlier this year. Unfortunately the importance of health testing has not reached all SBT owners. Between the TSK team and you, let's try harder to get information out there! Thank you to all of you!

Lynn Caswell, Editor TSK



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## NEXT MONTH

THE NEXT ISSUE OF TSK WILL BE A TWO MONTH ISSUE - JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2011

WE WILL BE PHASING OUT THE WEBSITE FOR NEW ARTICLES AND ISSUES AND PUBLISHING ALL NEW MATERIALS IN DIGITAL MAGAZINE FORMAT

ALL TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGES BEYOND OUR CONTROL AT PUBLISHING TIME. THE ABOVE TOPICS ARE ESTABLISHED AT CURRENT PRESS TIME.

## From the Editor

The reason you are reading this publication is because you and I both share a passion for Staffords. What has brought us together is this passion. It is very unfortunate that so many people who are drawn together by a love of something seem not to be able to get along. There is a lot of pre-judging, stereotyping even amongst ourselves.

It makes no logical sense, does it? Why cant we enjoy one another's company, share discussions about this breed and learn from one another? Perhaps it is because we are too tenacious ourselves, like our dogs. Sure, debates can be heated, opinions run strong and preferences are bound to be different. Thats ok though. Thats why we SHOULD be getting on with one

another. Its those differences that should make being together all the more interesting. I certainly don't expect others to always agree with my opinions all the time, and vice versa. What we should be doing is coming together for the common good of the breed. What we should not be doing is dividing, drawing lines, separating ourselves from one another. Talk with someone who has a different view than you do today! Listen to them, and ask them to listen to you. Who knows - you may make a new friend.

Share TSK with someone! Thank you for a wonderful 1st year! Go hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## NEXT MONTH

1. HOW CASSIE BECAME AN AUSTRALIAN OBEDIENCE CHAMPION
2. THINGS DON'T ALWAYS GO ACCORDING TO PLAN - BOTTLE FEEDING PUPS
3. THE PAT (PETS AS THERAPY) DOG SCHEME
4. UNDERSTANDING RECESSIVE GENES
5. ARTHRITIS

ALL TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGES BEYOND OUR CONTROL AT PUBLISHING TIME. THE ABOVE TOPICS ARE ESTABLISHED AT CURRENT PRESS TIME.

## From the Editor

This month I would like to talk a little bit about sharing knowledge without being too opinionated, pushy or condescending to other Stafford enthusiasts and people new to the breed.

While it is very important to share what you have learned with others, it is equally important not to come across as lecturing or to be too unbending in your thoughts and opinions.

We all have more to learn and we have all been wrong before. Yes, its true - we dont all know everything.

Spend some time using your ears as well as your mouth and you will find you may enjoy your time spent discussing Staffords a bit more. You just never know when what you thought was correct all this time may not be so - or maybe you can see things from another persons perspective.

At the very least, remain open to the idea of change. Share what you know, but also ask questions of those who view things differently sometimes.

Share TSK with someone today! Thank you and hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Editor

# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## NEXT MONTH

1. UNDERSTANDING RECESSIVE GENES
2. THE VERSATILE STAFFORD
3. PET ASSISTED THERAPY
4. LINE BREEDING

ALL TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGES BEYOND OUR CONTROL AT PUBLISHING TIME. THE ABOVE TOPICS ARE ESTABLISHED AT CURRENT PRESS TIME.

## From the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters who regularly send us feedback and suggestions. Please be sure you spread the word about our publication as we strongly feel that not only are we promoting health testing in Staffordshire Bull Terriers, benefitting Stafford rescues worldwide - but we are also educating people about this breed with our articles and the illustrated breed standard.

If you are a fan of this breed you will understand the importance of all three to the future of the breed. Any Stafford who is bred from, and anyone doing

performance needs to know that their dogs are clear of L2-HGA and HC and also understand the results of other health tests to make informed decisions about the future of the dogs. Anyone buying a Stafford as a pet should also know that they come from tested parents.

Stafford rescue needs us more now than ever due to the popularity we are currently 'enjoying' of this breed. Not sure if that's a blessing or a curse really.

Share TSK with someone today! Thank you and hug your Staffords!

Lynn Caswell, Editor



# The Stafford Knot The Back Page



## NEXT MONTH

1. LIVING WITH CUSHINGS DISEASE BY HARRY & MARY COBLE
2. MIRACLES DO HAPPEN BY ARCHIE & MARLENE BRYDEN
3. THE VERSATILE STAFFORD BY WENDY CLEWLEY
4. USING GENETIC PEDIGREE TO SELECT AGAINST GENETIC DISEASE - 3RD IN A SERIES BY G. PACKARD

## From the Editor

I am thrilled to announce that the TSK team has been hard at work making many improvements to this publication.

If you are reading this, then you are already aware that we are changing formats. We will no longer simply be a website, but more of a digital publication. Improvements also include more live links and easy downloads, printing capabilities and easy sharing. All these improvements do come with a price, however. We recently began to charge the Paypal fees but have kept our advertising rates the lowest in the business. We hope that you will continue to support TSK and in doing

so you help support Stafford Rescue and promote health testing in this breed.

Also, a HUGE thank you goes out to those who gave me extra support during the publication of the September issue that last week in August as we welcomed the first litter with the Wavemaker affix. We are proud and grateful to those who supported us along the way. Don't miss our puppy cam! We have met some terrific friends in Staffords who continue to amaze us with all they do. Thank you!

Lynn Caswell, Editor