



President's Notes

Greetings!

Wow, its April already! We're less than a month away from the closing date for entries for our National Specialty in Rhode Island. Pam Liddy, Laura Johnson, Denise Monette and others have been hard at work coordinating the weekend for us and we expect a great time. I am attaching the premium and entry form for your convenience – please note that it has a show secretary and not one of the superintendents so you will need to make sure you send your entries in time for them to arrive by the closing date. Links for all the associated shows that weekend are on our website www.atftc.com and also I have emailed them out to you a couple of times.

Our original restaurant for our banquet had a fire and we had to regroup. The banquet will now be held Thursday, May 23rd at the Meritage. Pricing and menu will be posted in the next few days – reservations will be handled by Pam Liddy and our Treasurer LeaAnn Boles will handle the payments.

Our meeting will be Friday, May 24th on the Mezzanine at the show site. Current time is 30 minutes after the toy group is done.

Don't forget with four toy group shows and our National Specialty show you have five opportunities to show and also agility, obedience, rally and other titling events are offered for toy dogs only in conjunction with the shows.

Even while we're finalizing our preparations for this year's National, the 2025 National Specialty committee, led by Barb Kelley, is planning next year's show. The judge the membership selected is Mr James (Jimmy) Moses and he told Barb he is honored to be asked to judge our National. Spring in Arizona is supposed to be really pretty and word is we're with a great cluster.

The Board is discussing 2026 and 2027 hoping we can get dates and locations chosen so we can get the judges the membership desires before they are committed to other shows. We'd love your input – if you have a favorite cluster you think would make a great location for a National Specialty, please let us know. Also, if you loved a past location tell us that too. And if you want to help on a future National Specialty – we need you!

AKC recently sent out the 2023 registration statistics. I'm going to share them with you. Our toy fox terrier numbers are down. If you look at the toy group, its down as well. My personal theory is it's because many of the toy breeders are aging. AKC registrations overall are up. We must continue to strive to get our breed better known and attract new people to the breed. Laura Johnson has some great ideas about introducing our breed to Juniors, more to come on that as we develop her idea to something we can push out to our specialties and members.

Speaking of juniors, in case you didn't know, Tabs Dvorak is our Junior Coordinator. If a junior is interested in doing things with their Toy Fox, it's a great opportunity to connect them with her.



The other big thing the ATFTC is kicking off is our Versality Recognition Awards. We know how smart and versatile our Toy Foxes are and we want to celebrate their achievements with you! If your dog has two or more titles in different events – conformation, rally, agility, Barnhunt, scent work, obedience, etc – you will be able to send in a form and copies of your titles and get a lovely certificate from the ATFTC recognizing you and your pup’s achievements. As you add titles –you can continue to earn certificates and recognition. Additionally, the recipients of these awards and their photos will be posted in the newsletter. I’m attaching a copy of the form and an example of the certificate to these notes. We’re proud of all your Toy Foxes so this will include past dogs and past titles. If you have any questions about it, please contact our performance co-chair Chris Bowker who is spearheading this initiative.

I want to give a shout out for Barb Kelley and Pam Cox. Barb presented an educational breed seminar on the Toy Fox Terrier breed standard in February as part of the Arizona Judges Institute. Pam Cox assisted her with the hands on section of the seminar. Thank you ladies for representing our club and our breed so well and educating future judges on our breed.

Going to end this with a reminder to get your entries in for the National Specialty. Five chances for points over three days!

See you around the rings ,

Susan Thibodeaux