

**Sierra Bulldog Club  
Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, May 20, 2007**

**3:10** In the absence of the President (Frank Irwin, AKA Doc-O the Clown, was hired to entertain at a birthday party), the meeting was called to order by Nancy Irwin, Club Secretary, at the home of Shane and Stacy Kunzel, Reno, Nevada.

**A total of 11 people and 8 bulldogs attended:**

**Patti Hawkinson with Beau**

**Connie Rottman with Winston**

**Karen Vigil with Mr. Biggs**

**Shane and Stacy Kunzel with Red and Candy**

**Kunzel friend Christina**

**Kelly Van Norsdall with Shooter**

**Ken and Lois Hays with Phantom**

**Nancy Irwin with Lady Brunhilde "Hilly"**

**"Doc-O the Clown" made a late appearance**

**3:12** Introductions were made all around and the minutes from last month's meeting were approved without reading.

**3:15** Nancy Irwin announced that at this meeting each bulldog owner would share a story about how they became interested in bulldogs as a breed and perhaps tell about the first bulldog they ever had. Any other interesting or entertaining stories about bulldogs, past or present, would be welcome.

**3:17** Patti Hawkinson talked about her involvement in bulldog rescue and how she planned to show Beau at the upcoming Fuji Park dog show.

**3:20** Connie Rottman talked of her love and devotion to Winston who is now 15 months old.

**3:24** Kelly Van Norsdall introduced Shooter, one of Hilly's pups, and told several funny stories about him imitating their cat and walking along the back of their

couch.

**3:27** Shane and Stacy Kunzel introduced Red, and later, Candy. Stacy is Frank Irwin's daughter and was raised with bulldogs, but mainly remembered Tank, an adopted bully who came into her life when she was around 14 years old. Shane, not a lover of flat-faced breeds was not that impressed with Candy, who he considered to be Stacy's dog. However, he admitted to falling in love with Red and enjoying regular wrestling matches with her.

**3:34** Ken and Lois Hayes told us the amazing story of Phantom, the Grand National Champion bulldog puppy. At only one year of age, he has won all the prizes a puppy can win. At next month's dog show, he will be required to be registered as an adult dog. The couple claimed that Phantom was the result of 20 years of hard work in training, showing, and breeding. They have 2 other bulldogs at this time at their ranch in Fernley.

**3:40** Nancy Irwin explained that she had never seen a bulldog, other than in pictures, until she met Frank almost 18 years ago. Besides becoming his clown partner, she soon shared his love and devotion to the breed of bulldogs, and now the two are partners in life and love.

**3:45** Because we felt so honored that we had in our presence the collective expertise of Ken and Lois Hays *and* Patti Hawkinson at this meeting, the floor was opened to asking questions about bulldogs. Most of the answers, unless otherwise noted, were from Ken, Lois, or Patti.

**Questions asked:**

**Do bulldogs swim?**

A few do, but ALL bulldogs should wear life vests when near water.

**Why do bulldogs have such a bad reaction to change,**

**like moving the furniture?**

**It seems to be part of most bulldogs' personalities.  
Are some bulldogs afraid or nervous of reflections?**

**Yes, their own and reflected light that throws itself  
around the room.**

**What can be done about snoring?**

**Soft palate surgery, if it is very loud and wakes you  
or your dog.**

**Is it dangerous?**

**Only if it is keeping the dog from breathing while  
sleeping.**

**Do you recommend soft crates for kenneling a bulldog?**

**No. Bulldogs can chew through them too easily, but  
it depends on the dog.**

**How can we help in bulldog rescue?**

**Call Patti Hawkinson at: 775-972-6497.**

**SPCA Donations were discussed by Karen.**

**Winston's bump on his skin was examined by Lois.**

**Recommended vets;**

**Baring - Too expensive**

**A-plus - Too expensive**

**Patty Rongo in Sacramento**

**All Creatures had mixed reviews depending on the  
vet.**

**Stacy had a question about eye allergies and asked if it  
was OK to use regular human-type antihistamine eye  
drops in a bulldog's eyes.**

**Yes, it's also OK to use Benedryl, liquid or capsules.**

**How do we keep bulldogs' tails and ears clean?**

**Constant vigilance and lots of gentle baby wipes.**

**Also: Panolog cream and medicinal or simply baby  
powder squirted into tight tail areas (not the ears!)  
using a hair-color-type plastic squirt bottle.**

**4:09 Nancy thanked the experts for their input.**

**Everyone was reminded that the June 2-3 dog show at  
Fuji Park in Carson City will suffice as our June Sierra**

**Bulldog Club meeting. If anyone wishes to socialize or get together at any other time during the month of June, it could be arranged.**

**4:10 The meeting was adjourned and those who wanted to participate in post-meeting "dog show ramp training," helped move the furniture back so we had more room.**

**Phantom, Beau, and Hilly participated in a pretend dog show officiated by pretend judge Lois. The dogs learned to walk, stand, stay, and get stacked. We learned about whisker-clipping, how to create shinier black noses, whiter white fur, and shimmery, wet, shiny coats with sprays, gels, and powders provided by Lois. Even the obvious subjects of bathing and claw-clipping were mentioned. The contestants walked up and down the steep ramp, generously provided by Patti, and were inspected thoroughly by "Judge Lois," who pretended to award Beau the winning prize. Everyone learned a lot about showing your bulldog and a good time was had by all. And we thanked Shane and Stacy for letting us over-stay our welcome.**

**Mark your calendar:**

**The next Sierra Bulldog Club meeting will most likely be at the Irwin house in Incline Village, Nevada 89451 (the North Shore of Lake**

**Tahoe) SATURDAY July 14 2:00 PM**

**Call for exact location: 775-233-2200**

**Then again on SATURDAY August 11 at 2:00 PM, possibly also up at COOL Lake Tahoe again. Perhaps at the Dog Bakery in Kings Beach...?**

**Anytime you want, you can read these minutes on our wonderful website, designed by David Vigil:**

**[www.sierrabulldogclub.org](http://www.sierrabulldogclub.org)**

**Bulldog Lovers Unite!**