



# AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED 1900

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB

[www.airedale.org](http://www.airedale.org)

## OFFICERS

June 6, 2009

### PRESIDENT

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Gail Golab

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Ms. Golab,

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The Airedale Terrier Club of America is the parent club for Airedale Terriers in the United States. We take pride in the versatility and intelligence of our breed and we are committed to safeguarding the health and well being of the Airedale Terrier.

### SECRETARY

Shirley VanOver  
1897 S. Tulane Road  
Hernando, MS 38632

We are aware of your policy on tail docking and ear cropping and encouraging the elimination of these procedures by labeling them as "only cosmetic". The docking of the last third of an Airedale's tail is also for utilitarian purposes. The docking has allowed our breed, throughout history, to be used effectively in various sports, hunting and working endeavors. These include Airedale's serving our country in WW I to law enforcement, today.

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Myrna Whatmough  
6171 Gulf of Mexico Dr.  
Longboat Key, FL 34228

The mischaracterization of "only cosmetic" shows a lack of understanding and research by your organization about the history and functions of dog breeds. Over a hundred years ago, the original breeders chose to dock the Airedale's tail. We have continued the procedure, but see a few cases of uncared for undocked Airedales through our rescue groups. Two thirds of the tail is strong and has been and can be used as a handle to pull the Airedale to safety, but the last third is weak and prone to accidents. Please see the attached photo of an undocked rescue Airedale. The tail is broken in the area that is customarily docked.

### TREASURER

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### DELEGATE TO AKC

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### DIRECTORS

Class of 2009  
Nancy Arnold  
Charles J. Foley  
George Gordon  
Martha Graham  
Susan Metcalf

The AVMA is very vague on whether tail docking is truly harmful to our pets. We oppose subjecting our breed to unnecessary painful tail injury resulting from the elimination of this safe and virtually painless procedure of young puppies, 3 – 5 days old.. We strongly support the right of every breeder, jointly with our veterinarians, to make his or her own choices about tail docking, ear cropping and dew claw removal.

### Class of 2010

Patricia Gregg  
Mareth Kipp  
William Kochler  
Stephen Lehrer  
Philip Weinberger

Sincerely,

### Class of 2011

Linda Coates  
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