



# TBAALAS Newsletter

Winter  
2022



**TEXAS  
STRONG**  
59th Annual  
Meeting  
Rescheduled!





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## About The Cover

Horses (*Equus caballus*) are a less commonly used research animal, being used in studies for physiology and hematology research.

The latest research with horses being used is in cognitive and behavioral research, focusing on anxiety.

Horses are a great model for exercise physiology research for metabolic disorders such as obesity due to having similar body systems to humans.

Recent studies using horses include uveitis cancer, skin cancer, and respiratory diseases.

## The President's Message



Happy New Year!!

I hope all of you had a very safe and enjoyable holiday season to finish out 2021. Time certainly has flown by! We are in a new year and I am getting close to the end of my term as President. Although my term has been strange (with all things COVID), I have enjoyed serving in this position. As you all know, we are slated to have an in-person conference at the end of February.

The Program Committee and the Board are looking at travel restrictions across institutions and taking some other things into consideration. This may mean that our planned meeting may be postponed yet again. Our main goal is to make sure that everyone is safe and that we can have a productive and full educational schedule. Please stay tuned for more information in the next couple of weeks.

I hope that everyone has participated in the TBAALAS election, as new officers will be announced soon. Good luck to all of the nominees! Please remember that every organization is only as strong as its members and volunteers. Please encourage those around you to renew their TBAALAS membership or become a member. There are many committees and positions that we need volunteers for, and we would love to boost our number of active members over the next year.

If you have any questions on how to get involved, please feel free to email me at [julie.roller@utsw.edu](mailto:julie.roller@utsw.edu) and I will assist you or get you connected with the President-Elect Mona Jaffari. Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your President and I look forward to continuing to serve the board in this upcoming year. I hope you all continue saying safe and healthy and that we can be together soon!

~Julie Roller

# **59TH ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE**

**Hello TBAALAS Members,**

**I hope you are all doing well! As excited as we were to have an in-person meeting in February, we have received many questions and messages from concerned members regarding whether or not this meeting is actually going to happen. After discussion with the board and the program chairs, the difficult decision has been made to move the conference to a later date. The number of COVID cases is just too high, and it appears that many institutions will continue to restrict travel for upcoming months. The good news is that the hotel understands our situation and is working with us, allowing us to resign a new contract with no penalty. The new conference dates will be August 10 - 12, 2022. Updated information will go out soon to replace the current meeting links on the website. This date change allows us to limit the financial impact associated with completely cancelling the meeting, or holding it with skeleton attendance. It will hopefully allow for more attendees and abstract submissions.**

**There are a few people that had already registered for the upcoming meeting, we will of course honor those registrations for the new dates. Anyone that is unable to attend the new dates that has already registered may receive a full refund if changing the date has affected their ability to attend. Abstracts will be opened back up, as we are still in need of some content to round out our program.**

**Lastly, information will come out soon regarding the results of the recent elections. The board year will change over as normal, with our new board taking their positions in February like they normally would. The board sees no reason to delay the start of the new board year. Everything else in regards to the conference will just be delayed.**

**We hope that you can join us in August! Until then, stay safe and we hope to see everyone soon!**

**Julie Roller  
TBAALAS President**

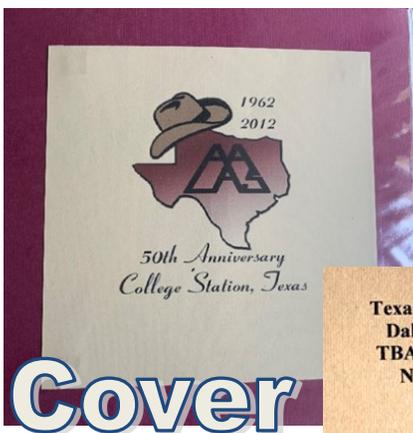
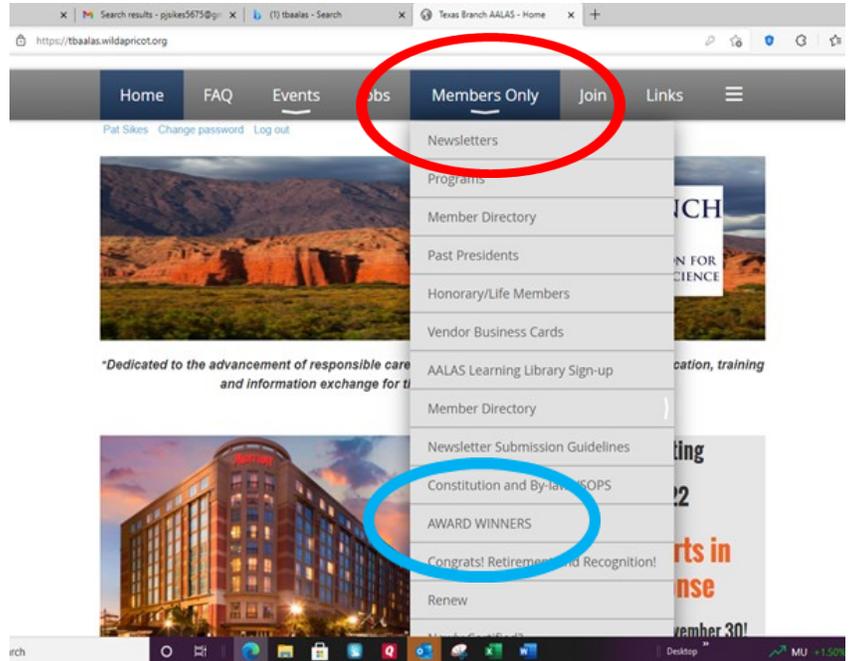
# TBAALAS Historian's Corner

- Pat Sikes, Historian

Since taking over this honorable position as TBAALAS Historian, one of my goals has been to eliminate paper. I have located any stored PDF documents and loaded them to the TBAALAS website. I have scanned **newsletters and programs** and the past 20 years are all on our website (older documents are on a secured external hard drive).

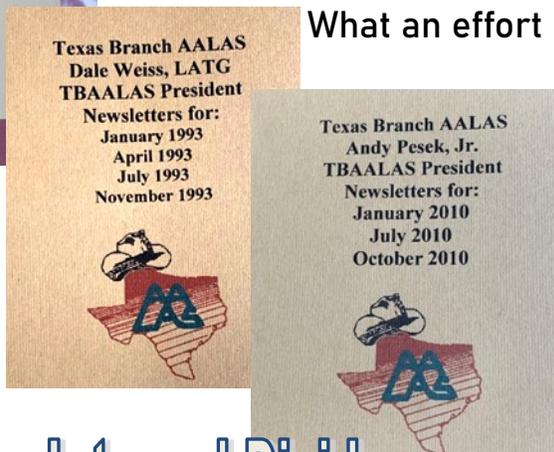
Use your membership access to check out these pieces of history!

Also, check out some recent **award winners!** [www.tbaalas.net](http://www.tbaalas.net)



How many of you were at the 2012 TBAALAS meeting in College Station? It was our **50<sup>th</sup> year** as an AALAS branch!

Stacy LeBlanc put together 2 wonderful notebooks of newsletters and programs from 1993 to 2010! What an effort and so enjoyable to look through this history at that meeting!



All of these documents are now on the website for everyone to enjoy!

I was able to locate some of the missing pieces as well!

Internal Dividers

# TBAALAS Historian's Corner

- Pat Sikes, Historian



## ATTENTION ALL HOARDERS!!

I need your help! Do you have any TBAALAS documents sitting in file cabinets or boxes? If you have any of the following, please contact me and we can arrange for pickup or mailing.

I am **missing** the following documents -

Newsletters from 1983 and earlier (I have July 1983); summer 1987; Dec 1988; Jan 1989; Dec 1989; all 1990 ( except July); Sept & Dec 1992  
Missing programs from 1989-1992 and pre 1988 (I have 1988).

I hope to see many of you in Sugarland at our annual meeting, February 23-25, 2022. We will be awarding several Life Memberships at the meeting. Come see who will be honored!!



# AALAS Foundation 2021 National AALAS Meeting



Texas Branch won the 2021 Public Outreach and Education (POE) Award. Julie Roller accepted the award at the National Meeting in Kansas City.



Lindsay Holmes received an award for her service on the AALAS Foundation board of directors.



UT Southwestern won the fan favorite vote for the Swing into Science monkey decorating contest. Katie Head and Courtney Nesline accepted the award.



## UT SOUTHWESTERN'S 2021 ANNUAL CANNED FOOD

UT Southwestern hosted their annual canned food drive competition. The winning area collected 118 food items, and all together the staff collected over 600 items totaling 575lbs of food to donate to the North Texas Food Bank. Thank you UT Southwestern for your generosity during the holidays!





# Celebrate Technician Appreciation Week January 30—February 5



# Technician Spotlight

## Monterrious Reynolds



**Facility:** Baylor College of Medicine

**Job Title:** Cagewash Technician

**Years in field:** 8 years

**Education/Certification:** High School

**Membership (local/national):** None

**What is your favorite quote?**

Provide yourself with what is right and fair, because you also know that you have a master in heaven.

**What is your favorite movie?**

I can't decide!

**What is your favorite TV show?**

How I Met Your Mother

**What is your favorite food?**

Too many

**What are your hobbies?**

Being active and artsy

**How did you get into this field?**

My brother and cousin introduced me.

**Why did you choose to go into the lab animal science field?**

I'm a bit of an animal person.

**What are your current interests in lab animal science?**

I just enjoy working with animals.

**What do you like most about your job?**

Working with the pigs.

**Who are your mentors?**

Darren, Porsha and Jermario.

**What are your career goals?**

I'm still working that out!

**What advice do you have for others in the field?**

Get the certifications.

**What companion animals (pets) do you have?**

Too many! 4 turtles, 2 gerbils, 2 hamsters, a bird, a cat, and a dog.

**When you were a kid, what did you want to be?**

A star, so I can shine bright.

**If you were not in your current position, what would you like to be?**

A star!

A Message from the Membership Committee:

# CONGRATULATIONS

to all of you who have recently become AALAS certified!



## UT Southwestern

## UT Medical Branch

Kourtney Jackson – ALAT  
Erin Adams - LAT

Ashley Manning – ALAT

**Each of our newly certified individuals receives a complimentary one-year TBAALAS membership!**

**If you've recently become certified, contact the membership committee:**

**Tocarra Reynolds**

[tocarra.reynolds@bcm.edu](mailto:tocarra.reynolds@bcm.edu)

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# We want to hear from YOU!

- News from your facility
- New AALAS Certifications
- Staff Promotions
- Job Openings
- Technician Tips
- Showcase your pets



**Email your submissions to**  
**Katie Head at [katherine.head@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:katherine.head@utsouthwestern.edu)**

# TBAALAS Board Meeting

December 17, 2021

12:03-1:03pm

Teams Meeting

## In Attendance or Attended by Phone

Name	Role		Name	Role
Julie Roller	President		Katy Torres	Awards Chair
Lindsay Holmes	Local Arrangements		Jackie Bludworth	Nominations & Elections Chair
Valeri Lansford	Parliamentarian		Mona Jaffari	President Elect
Kelly Gale	Program Chair		Sheri Brodie	Secretary
Mike Dvorak	Board Member		Adrienne Duran	Past President
Skye Prezio	Commercial Liaison Chair		Jeremy McNeal	Program Co-Chair
Katie Head	Publications Chair		Chris Rodgers	Board Member
Ryan Byrd	Education & Training Chair		Michelle Sager	Sponsorship Chair
Pat Sikes	Historian			

## Not In Attendance

Name	Role		Name	Role
Jennifer Teague	Awards Co-Chair		Jaime Greaver	TBR
Monica Torres	Sponsorship Co-Chair		Cordelia Rasa	Webmaster
John Donaho	Webmaster		Mark Goza	Nominations & Elections Co-Chair
Jennifer Mitchell	Legislative/TSBR		Eli Rodriguez	ALL Chair
Amy Pierce	District 7 Trustee		Joe Ortiz	Galveston Metro-Coordinator
Letitica McGuffy	Treasurer		Brian Geyer	Commercial Liaison Co-Chair
Tocarra Reynolds	Membership Chair		Luis Zorrilla	Board Member
Jessica Cobos	Central Metro-Coordinator		Kathryn Cavanaugh	DFW Metro-Coordinator
Christina Safieddine	DFW Metro-Coordinator		Michael Chandler	Panhandle Metro-Coordinator
Oscar Sanchez	West Texas Metro-Coordinator			

# Minutes

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:03PM by Julie Roller.

A Quorum was confirmed.

**President Remarks** – Julie Roller: She welcomed everyone to the last meeting for 2021.

**Treasurer's report-** Leticia McGuffey –

### TBAALAS Treasurer Report (as of 11.30.2021)

Wells Fargo Checking: \$38,469.50

Wells Fargo Savings: \$34,629.20

\*PayPal: \$7,597.35

\*I prefer to leave some money in the PP account to help directly pay meeting expenses.

**2022 Program** – Kelly Gale/Jeremy McNeal – Still lacking abstracts and posters; have received 13 and 8 respectively. One could be a wet lab. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Brining. She will be reaching out to him to see if he will still be able to attend. Have Skye reach out to the vendors to ask for abstracts and/or vendor talks. Be sure to state that this is an educational presentation and not a sales pitch. Sheri will contact Chuck Redding, Falconer, to see if he might be willing to give a presentation.

**2022 Local Arrangements** – Lindsay Holmes – The welcome reception will be at the hotel. May use door prizes to keep attendees there. We should plan to have it start immediately after the meeting. She will get with TBR for information regarding tech Olympics. She needs to know her budget. Pat suggested having a Past President Reception at the same time. Pat will get a letter together to send them the invitation. This would also be hosted in the vendor area.

**Trustee's report-** Amy Pierce/ Ryan Byrd–

- National Meeting:
  - over 1600 onsite registrants
  - 1,000 virtual.
  - 170 exhibitors (please visit the hall)
- AALAS membership over 15,300 as of end of Sept.
- New features to ACE this year
  - Calendar
  - Library redesign
- New AALAS programs and features to coming in next 12-18 months
  - AALAS will be developing a digital hub that will allow the sale, subscription, and delivery of digital products (e.g., e-books, videos, and podcasts).
  - Updated AALAS website which will enhance usability by users, employ artificial intelligence to deliver increased personalized content and more relevant search results, and provide more marketing opportunities for AALAS and our commercial members. The website will incorporate the new “digital hub” component where members can search on topics across all various formats (e.g., webpages, video, audio, PDF, ACE postings, etc.).
  - Podcasts that will focus on providing listeners valuable insights into some of the latest topics and trend of the lab animal field through discussions with many of the top members of the field
  - Implement mentoring platform as member benefit
- Action Resolutions approved by the board
  - Texas Society for Biomedical Research approved as an affiliate
  - Send survey to AALAS membership from Veterinary Consortium for Research Animal Care and Welfare
  - Dr Thomas Meier reappointed to as AALAS rep to AAALAC
  - Update AALAS website

# Minutes

- Approved 2022 budget
- Dr Deb Hickman appointed to Foundation Board.
- ILAM met in August and 96 students attended.
  - 2022 applications opened October 1 and only a few slots available.
- AALAS Office
  - If you wish to have the AALAS president or Executive Director attend your branch event, complete our leadership request form so you can get them on your calendar early! Form is located on the leadership page of the website or contact AALAS for the form.
- AALAS Foundation
  - Virtual Area Program
    - Virtual Area program on Sept 30<sup>th</sup> for 614 high school students representing 11 states. This program can serve as a model for branches
  - Auctions
    - *Virtual Silent Auction*: A total of 191 people participated in the virtual silent auction, and we have raised a total of \$6,690.98. The in-person silent auctions typically raise \$7,500-\$8,000.
    - *Live Auction*: The live auction raised approximately \$19,130.
- Swing into Science
  - Raised a total of \$8,825
- WINNERS
  - **Public Outreach & Education (POE) Award – Texas Branch!**
  - Branch Auction Item Challenge Award – Central Illinois Branch
  - Charles River Door Prize Drawing - Diana Baumann
  - Swing into Science Winners:
    - Individual Category Winner - Terri Swanson
    - Branch Category Winner - Louisiana Branch
    - Corporate Category Winner - Bristol-Myers-Squibb - Redwood City Institution Category Winner - Univ. of Maryland/College Park
  - **Fan Favorite Winner - UT Southwestern Medical Center**
  - Best of Show Winner – Abveris
- Volunteer Form Submissions
  - Tiffany Lavinder, [tiffany.lavinder@crl.com](mailto:tiffany.lavinder@crl.com) – Houston, TX
  - Stara Robertson, [snrobertson17@gmail.com](mailto:snrobertson17@gmail.com) – Houston, TX

## Committee reports:

**Awards-** Katy Torres, Jennifer Teague – She emailed Superior Trophy and has not heard back from them. She will follow up with a phone call. She has contacted the previous award sponsors to ensure they will still participate.

**Education/Training-** Ryan Byrd – Received the Pfizer Area Program Award to assist with our Area program. We have interest from VTI. If the money isn't used it will be sent back to Pfizer. Sheri and Julie will be happy to help, and he will be reaching out to metro-coordinators for their assistance. Currently no applicants for the Technician Assistance Scholarship. There are two that will be submitted soon.

**TBR-** Jamie Greaver– No Report

**Sponsorship** –Michelle Sager/Monica Torres – Early enrollment for previous sponsorships. Has worked with John to contact other vendors for sponsorships. Did we get the survey results? Julie shared the following results: 75% were attending and only 20% would not be attending.

# Minutes

**Commercial Liaison 2022**– Skye Prezio/ Brian Geyer – No report

**Metro Coordinators: No Report**

**Publications**- Katie Head – Newsletter deadline due by December 31, 2021

**Webmaster** – Cordelia Rasa/John Donaho-

Can each board member, please review their respective sections on the webpage to make sure it is up-to-date and accurate? If any changes are needed, please provide the corrected information for us to upload.

We need the following information to activate Vendor registration:

Do we require TBAALAS membership to register to exhibit?  
Vendor registration fee. How much? Does it include a second person? We generally have the single fee for two people per booth. Additional vendor attendees will pay either standard member or non-member rate to attend the meeting.

Is there a penalty for late registration? At some point there is late registration fee.

Are there any changes to our basic vendor floor protocols? This is how it was worded for the 2020 meeting:

**Meeting registration includes a table with electricity and two exhibitor members. For over two exhibitors, please register additional exhibitors as members for the meeting. Please note: Meeting registration is for the meeting only. For membership renewal visit Membership renewal tab at [www.tbaalas.net](http://www.tbaalas.net).**

This verbiage needs to be clarified and clarification regarding the cost for electricity. Confirm that TBAALAS vendor membership is \$300 annually. Send a board vote Monday!

The approved verbiage for vendors is:

“The vendor membership to TBAALAS is \$300 (annually). Standard Vendor Meeting registration is \$110 that pays for the table, electricity may be extra depending on venue, and two vendors. After late registration it will be \$165. TBAALAS membership is separate from vendor registration and allows for these privileges. If a vendor wants to send more than 2 people, they will have the extras individuals join as TBAALAS members to get the member registration rate or pay the non-member registration. As a note, some venues may charge extra for wi-fi connection as well.”

**Membership**- Tocarra Reynolds – No Report

**Nominations/Elections**- Jackie Bludworth/Mark Goza – The ballots have gone out on Dec 14. 20% response as of today. She will have an email blast to remind folks to vote. Have 336 active members.

**Legislative/TSBR**-Jennifer Mitchell – No Report

# Minutes

## **Historian—Pat Sikes**

I've alerted Katy and the awards committee that there will be at least 3 Life memberships awarded in February. I hope there will be 1 or 2 more approved before that time! I would like time at the Awards Luncheon to say a few words about each winner.

2022 Life members -

Patricia Sikes

Dale Weiss

Ken Gray

My next newsletter article will highlight the work I've been doing to get all of the newsletters and programs that I had access to, scanned and saved on the TBAALAS website. From 2000 to now are all on the website. Older documents are saved to a secured external hard drive that will be passed to each Historian. I've still got some photos to scan as I really want all paper eliminated.

Of note to our Awards Committee – I've updated photos on the website to include award winners from recent history. This should be updated with each meeting.

**Long range planning-** Adrienne Duran – No report

**Parliamentarian-** Valeri Lansford/Brian Gillman – Working on the SOP. Working on update to the new board member orientation. They are requesting a new TBAALAS Member that is interested in stepping in as Parliamentarian, to contact Valeri or Brian

**AALAS Learning Library-** Eli Rodriguez – No Report

## **Old Business –**

Vacant Committee Positions: Mona has been working on this.

Membership Co-Chair

Technician Branch Rep Co-chair

Local Arrangements Co-Chair

Education & Training Co-chair

San Antonio Metro-coordinator

## **New Business –**

Discussion regarding masking at the meeting. Unless something changes, it will be left up to the individual as to their preference.

Mona made a motion to adjourn, and Adrienne seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm.

## Elected Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairs 2020-2021

<b>President</b>	<b>Past President</b>	<b>President Elect</b>	
<u>Julie Roller</u>	<u>Adrienne Duran</u>	<u>Mona Jaffari</u>	
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>District 7 Trustee</b>	<b>Alt District 7 Trustee</b>
<u>Sheri Brodie</u>	<u>Leticia McGuffey</u>	<u>Amy Pierce</u>	<u>Ryan Byrd</u>
<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<u>Luis Zorrilla</u>	<u>Chris Rogers</u>	<u>VelvetLee Finckbone</u>	<u>Mike Dvorak</u>

<b>Historian</b>	<b>Parliamentarian</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Legislative/TSBR</b>
<u>Pat Sikes</u>	<u>Valeri Landsford</u>	<u>Tocarra Reynolds</u> <b>Co-Chair TBD</b>	<u>Kelly Gale</u>	<u>Jennifer Mitchell</u>
<b>Nomination/ Election</b>	<b>Education/ Training</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Local Arrangements</b>	<b>Commercial Liaison</b>
<u>Jackie Bludworth</u> <u>Mark Goza</u>	<u>Ryan Byrd</u> <b>Co-Chair TBD</b>	<u>Katie Head</u>	<u>Lindsay Holmes</u> <b>Co-Chair TBD</b>	<u>Skye Prezio</u> <u>Brian Geyer</u>
<b>Awards</b>	<b>Sponsorship</b>	<b>Web Master</b>	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	<b>Meeting Planner</b>
<u>Katy Torres</u> <u>Jennifer Teague</u>	<u>Michelle Sager</u> <u>Monica Torres</u>	<u>Cordelia Rasa</u> <u>John Donaho</u>	<u>Adrienne Duran</u>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Technician Branch Rep.</b>	<b>AALAS Learning Library Coordinator</b>	<b>Metro Coordinator Central</b>	<b>Metro Coordinator West Texas</b>	<b>Metro Coordinator San Antonio</b>
<u>Jamie Greaver</u> <b>Co-Chair TBD</b>	<u>Eli Rodriguez</u>	<u>Jessica Cobos</u>	<u>Oscar Sanchez</u>	<b>TBD</b>
	<b>Metro Coordinator Panhandle</b>	<b>Metro Coordinator Galveston/Houston</b>	<b>Metro Coordinator DFW</b>	
	<u>Michael Chandler</u> <u>VelvetLee Finckbone</u>	<u>Joel Ortiz</u> <u>Kelly Gale</u>	<u>Christine Safieddine</u> <u>Kathryn Cavanaugh</u>	

# PET SPOTLIGHT



## Jim



Jim is a 3.5 year old border collie that I train for sheep herding trials. I don't have my own sheep, so we travel 6 hours round trip every Sunday to train. He's a joy to train and have around the house as a pet too! Our first year of competing he qualified for the National Nursery Finals (for dogs under 3 years old). The finals were cancelled due to COVID, so we are getting ready for the Open Class, as he's too old for Nursery now!

-Jackie Bludworth, UT Houston



### Delta



Delta is 8 months old, and was surrendered to me at 4 weeks. We are working on advanced obedience!

### Stetson



Stetson is 10 years old, and is my absolute best friend. We call him "The Lorax".

### Tesla



Tesla is 3 years old, and is quirky, tiny and absolutely obsessed with playing fetch.

### Tango



Tango is almost a year old, and will be attending his very first dog show in September!

-Sydney Marley, Texas Tech University