

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By now most everyone should be aware of the unfortunate death of Dick Hensel. Those of you who knew Dick personally, even for a short time, appreciate his contributions to Scotties, S.T.C.A., and to many of our Regional Clubs. To my knowledge, we have also lost two other members in the past year — Mildred Charves and Florence Wolman. Our sympathies go to the families of these members. They will truly be missed.

On a brighter note, the time is approaching for the annual gathering of the clans at the Montgomery County Kennel Club on the weekend of October 7, 1984. We hope to make this one of the more enjoyable weekends in recent memory. In addition to the shows, the hospitality and banquet functions, I hope each of you will remember that your Board will also be meeting. I urge you to communicate to me any matters of concern which you wish your Board to consider. At our annual dinner last year many comments were made to the Board from the floor of the meeting. Some of the thoughts and concerns expressed were constructive and useful. However, I want to remind you that for the last two years, I have used this column to solicit criticisms and suggestions from our members. Despite my repeated invitations, to date only a couple of responses have been received over that two-year period. My point is this. If something is important enough to justify comments from the floor at our dinner meeting, it should be important enough to write me about!

At this year's meeting, the chair does not intend to view with favor comments by members who have not requested **IN WRITING** prior to the meeting the opportunity to speak on a specified matter. So please give me your comments prior to the meeting.

Work on the new handbook and grooming manual is progressing. Anyone having ideas for topics to be included in the handbook should communicate them to Mrs. Jackie Seelbach, 17 Pine Tree Road, Ramsey, New Jersey 07446.

The San Francisco Bay Scottish Terrier Club members were marvelous hosts for our 1984 National Rotating Specialty. Those who were not there missed a real treat. The Northern California weather was unusually cooperative and our host club spared no effort in making the weekend enjoyable for all. To those members and friends who worked so hard and to the exhibitors, we extend our sincere thanks.

I hope to see many of you at Montgomery County this year. Unfortunately, your officers and Board will be involved in extensive meetings. However, we will be available at the hospitality room and prior to the dinner. Please make an effort to give us your feedback on S.T.C.A. matters.

J. Edward Ingram, *STCA President*