

Committee Chairs for 2023 CCA National

From Robert Myers, Show Chair and Laura (Lori) Barnes, Co-Show Chair

I've spoken to Lori Barnes, Assistant Show Chair for 2023, she has provided the list of Committee Chairs and their Bios.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help her with this National event, please let her know of your desire and expertise.

I will be sending this list of chairs and their bios for vote at the October 12, 2022, meeting.

The Chair Biographies

Host Show Chair: Robert Myers

I have been an active member of the CCA for over 40 years. With my wife Lynn we bred, showed, and handled both smooths and roughs for many years. 30 years ago, I was asked to be asst. national show chairman and facilities chairman for the Louisville national. Thus began a passion to work and make our nationals the best they could be. When asked I always accepted whatever position was asked of me. Most times not always this with total approval of my wife, but she was always supportive.

Over the years I have done numerus jobs. 3 times assistant Host chair. 5- or 6-times facilities chair, either 4- or 5-times national host chair. Also asst. to the national chairperson and 2 years. National chairperson. The last few years I have given behind the scenes work for several of the host clubs. I also been the announcer. Several of the last shows a job I really enjoy.

When Susan called and ask if I would consider host chair position for 2023, I never had to think very long about it.

It would be my honor to work in that capacity again. Thank you for your consideration I am truly looking forward to 2023.

Host Show Co-Chair: Laura (Lorie) Barnes

I am co-chair of the 2023 Collie Club of America national to be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

I grew up on a farm in mid- Michigan and we raised all different kinds of animals. One day my dad brought home a puppy which was a mixed bred with collie, it was black, white, and

tan which I now know is tri color. This was my heart dog and is what started my love of the collie breed. As an adult I longed for this dog and realized he was a smooth collie, which I had never heard of before. At that point I was on the search for a Tri smooth collie, so I called CCA district director of Michigan. She gave me the name Lilah Williamson and I contacted her to see if she had any tri smooth puppies. She said she had a bitch in welp and should have tris and sables. I told her I wanted a tri, so she put me on her list. Well, the puppies were born all 10 of them and do you think there would be a tri in the bunch? Nope not one! I was very disappointed but after talking decided on one she said would be dark. He would be my first show dog and first champion CH Hollyoak's Spartacus "Sparty". Lilah became my mentor and one of my dearest friends.

The name of my kennel is 5C's Collies. It was my friend Mildred Corner's kennel name, and she named it after her 5 collies that their names began with the letter C. I took the name after she lost her battle with lung cancer. I stayed with her in the hospital towards the end of her life and I promised her I would finish her 2 pick puppies from her current litter and would not let her kennel name die. I have felt honored to do this for my friend. I took 2 blue smooth collies (Hank and Ivy) from her litter and took them on to their grand championships. Hank was one of the first smooth collies to earn the title, grand champion.

I currently am a member of the following organizations: Collie Club of America; Collie Health Foundation; Toledo Collie Club (President); Ingham County Kennel Club.

I have helped at several of the CCA nationals with state baskets, handing out yearbooks, auction table, and donating to the collie health foundation live auction.

Agility Show Co-Chair: Debbie Held

I've had collies my whole life and got involved in performance in 2001 with my collie, Rose. I'm currently teammate to Flag and Reign, my 3rd and 4th performance collies. We have achieved many Herding, Rally, Obedience and Agility titles together. My four last collies have all been certified Therapy dogs.

Both Grace and Flag have taken me to six AKC Invitational championships. Flag made it to the Finals round in 2017. Together, we've earned 19 agility championships.

I have been the Indiana Collie Club's Agility Chair for more than 15 years, hosting 2-3 trials per year.

I've served on many CCA Agility committees. I currently instruct agility at the Greater Lafayette Kennel Club

Agility Show Co-Chair: Noreen Bennett

My parents trialed their collies in Obedience in the 1950's. I grew up going to dog shows and classes. At age 15, I put my first obedience title on my grandparents' sheltie and finally got my own collie when I was 19. I've always been active in dog sports and clubs. In 1995, I got my first show prospect Ch Mariner's Poetic Justice CDX RN OA NAP AJP HT VX who also became my first herding dog and first versatility dog. I am an agility trial secretary and continue to love the versatility of our breed. VCONE (Versatile Collies of New England) was created for those of us that love Collies. We have hosted herding clinics, obedience seminars and collie only trials. Each of my Collies has brought something very special to my life including some very special people and special memories that I will always cherish.

I was Agility trial secretary/chairman for CCA 1999, and secretary for many others. I am happy to lend whatever help and experience that will make this a special event.

Herding Show Chair: Deanna Levenhagen

Although I grew up and have always had dogs all my life, it wasn't until I finished my doctorate degree that I started getting involved competing. I've owned collies for over 20 years. I've competed in obedience, agility, herding, rally, conformation and have earned advanced titles in all the performance venues with my collies. Additionally, my dogs are also certified in pet therapy, and we make regular visits to assisted living facilities. During the past 20+ years, I've held several board and club positions for the local dog clubs (including registrar, secretary, and instructor). Additionally, I've also served in many roles on several trial committees (including chair, secretary, hiring of judges, course director, etc.) in multiple performance venues including obedience, agility, and herding for local clubs and in association with several CCA National Specialties. I am also a herding judge for the American Herding Breed Association (AHBA). I am currently employed at Medtronic as a Principle Clinical Research Specialist where I am the global trial lead responsible for various cardiac device studies. As part of my education and professional background, I have extensive computer application experience, technical writing, database design, and project management. I currently serve on the WCC committee. I look forward to the opportunity to use my skills to promote collies and further the mission of the CCA by showcasing this wonderful breed. Joined the National Show Committee in 2021.

Obedience/Rally Chair: Jill Hansrote

I have been showing my collies for about eleven years. Primarily I do rally, obedience, agility and herding. I am a member of Central States Collie Club, and I am the chair for the obedience and rally of their show. Four of my dogs have attended the annual Rally Nationals for five years. Rally is something we really enjoy, and I like to promote for seasonal and new exhibitors. I was co-chair for Herding at the 2019 CCA National held in Peoria, IL. For many years I have been the recipient of everyone's hard work at the National Specialty and I appreciate this opportunity to make this a great National for everyone!

Treasurer: Mike Esch

I have been a Collie Club of America member since 1978. I was President for the CCA from 2000-2004 and have been Club Treasurer for the last sixteen years.

I work for Church & Dwight, Inc., a mid-cap consumer product company. Our brand names include Arm & Hammer, Trojan, Nair, Oxiclean, Close Up, Pepsodent, Simply Saline, Orajel, First Response, Spinbrush and Xtra among others. I am responsible for the world-wide supply chain. I manage a \$1.4 billion dollar budget with a headcount of 3,835 people across 12 plants and 12 countries. I am responsible for setting budgets, managing assets and working to provide excellent service for our customers.

I have been show chair for three CCA Nationals and show treasurer for nine other Nationals. I am licensed to judge Collie and Shelties and am a lifetime member of the Central States Collie Club. I judge Bitches at the 2013 CCA National held in LaCrosse.

Reserved Grooming Chair: Debbie Holland, Fantasy Collies

- Acquired first collie in 1970
- Participated in numerous breed education presentations
- Gave educational presentations for Central States Collie Club, CCA Northern California Members, Collie Fanciers of Japan (five times), Indiana Collie Club, Columbus Collies
- Grooming seminar: Midwest Collie Connection (IL), Getting to Know You gathering (Alabama)
- Member of CCA Breed Education
- CCA: BOB 2010

- CCA: WB 1996, 1997, handled 1999, 2002
- CCA: handled BOS to BOV 1994, 1995, 2001, 2002; 2003, 2006 WB, BW 2004, RWD 2006
- Retired both the Dot Gerth Bred By Exhibitor trophy 1996, Best Puppy Trophy
- Best Bred By Exhibitor 2018
- Handed rough winner's dog 2017
- RWD 2007, handled WD- smooth, WB/BW smooth
- 2009 WD smooth, WB smooth
- BOV smooth 2016
- CCA: WD 1998, 1993 handled BOV Smooth
- BOV handled Westminster 2000.
- Champion Fantasy's Bronze Talisman, Brandon, has produced 171 champions
- Produced numerous ROMs

I joined CCA in 1975. I have been the Reserve Grooming Chair and Co-Chair for many Nationals. I am the Reserve Grooming Chair for the 2022 CCA National Specialty to be held in Utah.

Facilities Chair: Susan Kaelin

I have been breeding and showing collies over 40 years and was given my first collie puppy when I was a year old. Collies were the only breed my parents would allow in the family. At a very early age I wanted to be two things: a collie breeder and exhibitor and a veterinarian. I didn't become a veterinarian, but I did pursue the dream of breeder and exhibitor. I show my dogs under the prefix of Calibre (pronounced caliber). Those who don't know me personally, know me as the person owned by Cooper, GCHP Calibre's Key To The Fortune ROM.

I have no experience as the facilities chair but have volunteered on other National committees. I also negotiated all the contracts for the venue, transportation, etc for the "2016 Take The Lead on Millionaire's Row," that was held before the 2016 CCA held in Louisville, KY.

I am a lifetime member of the Louisville Kennel Club in Louisville, Kentucky where I have been on various committees, most recently the Vendor co-chair for the four day all breed. I am a member of CCA and the Kentucky District Director, as well as a member of the Collie Health Foundation.

In my professional life, I am an IT Project Manager for the Kentucky utility that provides power to all of Kentucky, parts of Virginia and Tennessee. I am the project manager of the Officers of this utility and deliver the top initiatives for the various lines of business within the utility organization. In this capacity I determine the project budgets, manage

budgets in excess of \$500M, negotiate contracts, manage vendors and company direct reports. This position normally has me involved in learning about things I have no knowledge of and I have to ramp up quickly, such as gas pipelines, electric and gas distribution, power plants, cybersecurity, Department of Transportation, Federal and State regulations as it is associated with the industry, etc. Yes! I own steel toe boots, hard hat, and various safety equipment to be out on the job site when not in the office. I am confident that even though I have not been facilities chair in the past, I can leverage the same skillset/aptitude I use at work to prepare myself to execute and deliver to you as a successful facility chair.

Facilities Co-Chair: Pam Eddy

I have quite a few years of experience now as a ring steward at our national show. I also have assisted in other capacities over the years doing positions such as reserved seating and vendors and one time many years back as treasurer. I look forward to assisting once again this exciting national in my former home state.

Being the Chief Ring Steward is a perfect co-chair for Facilities, as everyone comes to the ring steward to ask questions.

Merchandise Chair: Alice Holm

I have been owned by collies for 25 years. I show primarily in agility and conformation. My smooth collie, Guinness qualified for the agility invitations 4 years in a row, 2 of those years he was the #1 collie in agility. I was both the agility chair and merchandise chair at the CCA 2003 held in Rochester, MN.

Seating Chair: Katie Skilton- Rendina

I am Katie Rendina of Alexy collies. I got my first collie in 1994 when I was five years old and started doing peewee handling and tagging along with my mom to shows. I am happy to say 26 years later I'm still hooked! Staying active in the breed I competed in junior showmanship from ages 10-18. Since then I have bred as well as finished multiple championships. IN the past with CCA I have been on the Yearbook committee for multiple years as well as the Constant Contact Committee. I stay active in my local club, the Cleveland Collie Club and serve on different boards and help put on our yearly specialty show. I am very excited to help participate in the Fort Wayne National!

Seating Co-Chair: Amanda Sullivan

See decorations

Vendor Chair: Nancy Anstruther

My first CCA was in 1981 and it contained many firsts. First plane trip by myself, first national, and the first time going to a dog show in the states. I remember not being able to sleep for the butterflies, and they still hit me to this day. There is always that sense of awe when you walk into the building, the electricity in the air, the dreams floating about every exhibitors head, the realization that you are here to see the best, to compete with the best, and to walk among the giants in our breed.

So as a National junkie, I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to held make the Ft. Wayne, Indiana National the best ever. Thank you to all the members who have supported this bid.

Vendor Co-Chair: Mary Landis

I started showing collies in 1986. I had smooth winners bitch at the National in 1988 with CH Cottonwood's Once in a Blue Moon. I bred and owned the top producing smooth dam in the history of the breed, CH Rainbow's Instant Karma. I have bred both rough and smooth winners of the National. My dogs have won numerous awards of merit at the National.

I have worked in education for over 25 years. I am still very active in breeding and showing my collies.

Trophy Chair: Pati Merrill

First worked on a CCA in 1979, was chair in 1992 and advisor for several years after. Presently Bulletin committee, VP CHF, Breed Education, Sunnybank Gathering Committee. Past CCA president past CHF president.

Trophy Co-Chair: Lydia Filzen

I have loved and shown Collie First worked on a CCA in 1979, was chair in 1992 and advisor for several years after.

Presently Bulletin committee, VP CHF, Breed Education, Sunnybank Gathering Committee. Past CCA president past CHF president.

I saved my allowance to purchase my first at age 13. I showed her in Juniors, put a CD on her, and got her pointed in breed. I was one of the founding members of the Junior Collie Fanciers of America in the 1960's along with Ann Bowley, John Buddie, Bertha Frank Garrison, and others. Flash forward, and I have since bred, shown and finished many rough and smooth champions, some group and specialty winners, under the Foxfire prefix. I also compete in agility with my dogs, and have titled dogs in herding, obedience and rally as well.

I have been President of Greater Jacksonville Collie Club for many years. Seems nobody else will take the job! I have been Treasurer of the Greater Orange Park Dog Club for many years as well. At least 10, though I'd have to look it up. Again, nobody else wants my job. It's been like a CFO position. LOL

My husband and I ran an electrical contracting business for 34 years before we sold it to retire.

I am an author, having published four novels set during the War Between the States, two of which were made into independent movies. Also I wrote and published Silent Witness, the world's first dog agility suspense novel, with a Smooth Collie as a main character.

Chief Ring Steward: Pam Eddy

I have quite a few years of experience now as a ring steward at our national show. I also have assisted in other capacities over the years doing positions such as reserved seating and vendors and one time many years back as treasurer. I look forward to assisting once again this exciting national in my former home state.

Artist: Sheela "Mike" Cheatham

I have bred and shown collies under the prefix of Southland for 40+ years. My dogs have won Best of Breed at the National Specialty, and I have three generations of Winners Bitch awards as well. I have created many logos for the National Specialty, most recently

the 2019 and 2016 National Specialty. I am honored to have been asked to create the logo for the 2023 National Specialty Sowing Seeds of Greatness theme.

Welcome Party Chair: Lisa and Steve Finken

Steve and Lisa's show their collies under the kennel of Tapestry Collies. He and his wife, Lisa, are members of North Texas Collie Club for 34 years. Members of Collie Club of America 32 years, and charter members of the Central Iowa Collie Club for 18 years. We were also members of Chesapeake and Maryland Collie Clubs. We have both held board positions including president in our local clubs. We have bred collies for 32 years. Steve is a certified executive chef and has been in the food service industry for 51 years. Lisa is a Registered Dietetic Technician and has been in the food service industry for 41 years. We organized the welcome party food at three CCA national shows. Tulsa at the 125th anniversary show, Oklahoma City, and in Peoria, IL. We were the chair persons for the Judges Hospitality CCA National 2019.

Catalog Advertising Chair: Isabel Ososki

I am a 40+ year member of the CCA. I currently serve as a CCA district director for Illinois and have had one article published in the Bulletin (March 2000). I am also chair of the Operations Manual Committee. I have volunteered at several of the past CCA national shows most frequently as a steward. I also serve as a Corporator for the Collie Healthy Foundation and have volunteered for the CHF, typically the auction table at the last several shows. I have served my local all-breed club and the St. Louis Collie Club in many capacities over the years including president, treasurer, vice president, cluster committee member, and board member. Most currently I serve as the show chairperson, board member, and AKC Delegate for the St. Louis Collie Club. I have been the chief ring steward for the Sandemac Kennel club all breed show for the last 4 years. I bring a strong sense of process to the table of any committee on which I serve and have experience serving in various roles on several specialty and all-breed show committees.

Catalog Chair: Lisa Schmidt

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Collie Club of America. I volunteered for this assignment because of my passion for the breed, the Collie Club of America and our prestigious National Specialty show.

I discovered the Smooth Collie in the late 80's after spotting one at an Indianapolis all-breed show (I was on the hunt for a liver and white Dalmatian!) My mind was forever changed that fateful day. I obtained my first collie in 1991 and have been involved in conformation, obedience and therapy in the years since. I have been a member of the Collie Club of America for 28+ years, a member of the Collie Health Foundation and served

in 5 breed clubs across Kentucky, Indiana, Tennessee, Georgia and the Carolinas. In most of those breed clubs I served as an officer or board member. I've bred and co-bred a number of Champions under my kennel prefix "Julep" and have also enjoyed showing, owning and co-owning Champions from incredible breeders in the fancy.

In 2016 I served as Catalog Chair for the CCA National Specialty in Louisville and have sold catalogs for a number of CCA Invitationals. In my professional life I'm a Sr. Technical Project Manager at a national telecommunications & multi-media corporation and feel I have the attention to detail and willingness to work with fellow club members to ensure success. Above that, I love people and especially the opportunity to meet new folks and invite them to become active members of our club (all while enjoying a little humor along the way.)

Catalog co-chair: Lily Russell

My husband and I live on an acreage in Southeastern Iowa. We are a very small kennel and routinely do not have more than 6 or 7 dogs at a time.

I started showing Collies in 1987, joined the Collie Club of America and purchased my foundation bitch from Betty Steward, Debonair Collies in 1989.

Since then, we have bred 20 champions have the Tango prefix and finished several other dogs that we have purchased.

I started judging the Collie in 2008 and currently have regular status to judge the Herding Group, Dalmatian and Chinese Shar Pei. I have permit status for 6 more Non-Sporting breeds.

I have served the Collie Club of America in the following manner:

District Director for the State of Iowa - 12 years.

Director at Large for CCA - this last term prior to the realignment

The last CCA committee that updated the CCA Code of Ethics.

Assistant Show Chair to Mary Murphy, CCA 2019 National Specialty

Chair for Catalog Presales - CCA 2022 Sandy, Utah

I am presently serving on the Breeder Education Committee for the 2023 Collie National Specialty.

I am a member in good standing of the following:

Collie Club of America; Collie Health Foundation; Central Iowa Collie Club - charter member

Burlington Kennel Club, Inc - serving as Secretary and Assistant Show Chair.

American Dog Show Judges Association; Dog Judges Association of America

RV Parking Chair: Robert Meyer

State Baskets Chair: Martha Skilton

I have been in collies for 40+ years, and I am the former District Director of Ohio. I am the president of the Cleveland Collie Club.

I bred and owned Lily, CH Alexy Even Sweeter, who was the number one smooth in 2006.

I was the State Baskets Chair for the 2009 National Specialty held in Massachusetts.

State Baskets Co-Chair: Katie Skilton- Rendina

I am Katie Redina of Alexy collies. I got my first collie in 1994 when I was five years old and started doing peewee handling and tagging along with my mom to shows. I am happy to say 26 years later I'm still hooked! Staying active in the breed I competed in junior showmanship from ages 10-18. Since then I have bred as well as finished multiple championships. IN the past with CCA I have been on the Yearbook committee for multiple years as well as the Constant Contact Committee. I stay active in my local club, the Cleveland Colie Club and serve on different boards and help put on our yearly specialty show. I am very excited to help participate in the Fort Wayne National!

Invitational Co-Chair: Nancy McDonald

I bred my first Collie litter while still in high school from a wonderful pet shop bitch in the late 60s. Since then, there have been over 90 homebred Barksdale champions, including CCA winners Ch. Barksdale Early Light, Multi-BIS Ch. Barksdale Blush, ROM, Ch. Barksdale Beneficiary, ROM, ROM-P and Ch. Barksdale Beauregard of Belleville.

Other homebred ROMs are Ch. Barksdale Luminary, and Barbara Cleek's Ch. Barksdale Lochlaren Liaison, ROM, top sire in the breed 2012, 2013, 2014 and herding group for 2012. Barksdale Collies have achieved numerous other CCA Select, Merit Award, and stud dog and brood bitch class wins. I'm proud to show my own dogs in the BBE class and have finished 28 titles exclusively from that class.

I have published *Collie Expressions* since 1992, have been President, VP, and Treasurer of the Collie Health Foundation since where I am a life member, also a Quarter Century member. I have served on breed Education committee 2005-2022 present, served on CCA Standard Review Committee 2009, and have devoted most of my life to learning about and sharing knowledge of Collies.

I was the Invitational Chair at the National Specialty in 1998, and look forward inviting you to enjoy our top dogs of 2023.

Invitational Co-Chair: Carrie Lenhart

Collies raised me and as I continue the Marnus legacy from my parents, I view the National as inspirational every year. The opportunity to see the best of the best and celebrate with them is a special night indeed. The Invitational Event is a signature event for the CCA and one to look forward to ... every National and Nancy McDonald and I are excited to co-chair for 2023.

Advertising/Communications Chair: Laura LaBounty

I have bred over 100 Collie Champions and my National Specialty winners include BOV, BOS, AOM, WD, RWB and HIT Agility and HIT Obedience. I was the Host Chair for both the 2014 and 2020 Collie National Specialties. I currently judge 20+ breeds. I have worked as an Accountant for more than 35 years.

Ring Décor Chair: Laura Zippay

I am a member of the Collie Club of America and the Cleveland Collie Club. I am the former vice president of the Trumbull County Kennel Club.

The 2016 National Specialty held in Kentucky was first national, and I have been hooked ever since.

I finished my first champion in 2019 and love this breed.

Ring Décor Co-Chair: Amanda Sullivan

Though I am relatively new to showing dogs and the collie breed, I have been a professional in the Quarter Horse industry for many years. The knowledge learned in horses translated very well to my development in dogs. I grew up with Shelties and had a Greyhound before getting into Smooths. I also have an MFA from Pratt Institute, my

background in art and attention to detail have helped in my understanding of this beautiful breed. I have finished two Grand Champions, and have a young bitch well on her way to finishing now. I have been very fortunate to work with several exceptional breeder mentors. Though still in its formative state, my kennel name is Verterra, which means truth of the land. I strongly value movement and structure while retaining beautiful head properties, temperament, and health.

Announcer: Linda Tefelski

I began my journey in collies in December of 1976 and joined the CCA in 1977, attended my first CCA in 1978 and finished my first CH in 1988 (after a few start overs). Over the years, I have finished a couple dozen champions for myself and others.

I started stewarding in 2003 as part of the process of becoming an AKC judge and discovered that I loved it so much, that it has become an ongoing and big part of my life. I have stewarded for hundreds of shows since 2003 (mostly all breeds including more than a handful of Chief Steward assignments for the CCA, first being Idaho in 2006 and currently on a roll with both 2019 and 2020 on my calendar. I was the announcer for the 2017 Sacramento CCA. The pinnacle of my judging career has been judging Bitches at the CCA in 2015, which also adds to my experience at the CCA.