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# The Story Of The Plott Hound: Strike & Stay



## Synopsis

Recognized now as one of the premier hunting dogs in America, the Plott bear hound is unique among hunting dog breeds because it descends from Germanic stock rather than the traditional English foxhound. The breed's story began when its original breeder, Johannes Plott, and his brother Enoch left Germany in 1750 with their prized hunting dogs. This trip across the Atlantic began the two-hundred-year journey that would culminate in the North Carolina mountains with the development of what is now arguably the world's finest breed of hunting dog. This fascinating story of the Plott family and the Plott hound is a classic American tale of adventurers and underdogs--a story that Bob Plott, the great-great-great-grandson of Johannes Plott, is uniquely qualified to tell.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Story of the Plott Hound: Strike & Stay is the brand new book about my favorite hunting breed, the Plott. The work is authored by Bob Plott, the great-great-great grandson of German immigrant Johannes Plott, the man credited with bringing the breed to America in 1750. The 188-page, perfect bound, soft-cover volume features the unique artwork of Elizabeth Ellison, whose composite drawing of a Plott dog is a blend of several different Plott dogs as well as her own unique perception of the breed. The cover is striking and is the harbinger of excellent things to come as one turns to the first page. The book consists of twelve chapters and an interesting and well-written foreword by noted Plott historian and fellow North Carolinian to Bob Plott, John Jackson. Strike & Stay showcases the writing talents of Bob Plott and is augmented by several historic photos of the breed

and of the family that engineered its success throughout the volume. The book is unique in that it at last represents an entire volume devoted to our breed, with the added bonus of being written by a member of the Plott family himself. Therein may lie the book's initial appeal to readers. As one begins to turn the pages, the story of the Plott and the Plott family comes to life in an informative, authoritative way but also in a manner that reveals the author's sincerity and candor as he seeks to find for himself the answers to his family's history and to that of the breed of dog for which the family is so very well known. The photographs in *Strike & Stay* are outstanding. My personal favorite is of Von Plott in the chapter titled *The Big Five*, in which the last of the famous hunters and breeders of the Plott family is shown with three Plott dogs, Jake, Maude, and Boss. The dogs are uniform in size and type and display precisely the Plott dog I try to emphasize in the Plott seminars I conduct across the nation as part of the educational process for conformation dog show judges. This photo was taken in 1920. Perhaps more so than with any other segment of Plott dog enthusiasts, Plott's book will appeal to history buffs. *Strike & Stay* is the most in depth expose on the breed to date and a work that no serious Plott enthusiast should ignore. From its origins in Germany to its newfound home in America, the Plott dog's history, purpose for being, and astonishing achievements as the premier big game hunter in the canine world, are examined, explained, and extolled in this volume. From this point forward, anyone who calls himself a dedicated fancier or serious student of the Plott breed will not be able to do so with any measure of sincerity without first having read this book. I highly recommend this volume to anyone with a genuine interest in one of the dog world's most fascinating breeds.

--Steve Fielder

Although many folks know the Plott hound is our official North Carolina state dog, fewer are aware of the breed's fascinating history. Now, thanks to Bob Plott and his new book, that situation has been rectified. Plott has a special connection with the breed he's written about. He's the great-great-great grandson of Johannes Plott, a German immigrant who came to America in 1750 with the ancestors of today's Plott hounds in town. That link gives *Strike and Stay* a personal touch. In addition to the Plott family's involvement, the book traces the progressive refinement of their four-legged namesake and some of the legendary personalities that were involved in breeding and hunting the type. Plott hounds were bred for going after big game, and *Strike and Stay* has plenty of action stories showcasing the breed's remarkable abilities. As Plott writes, the breed is well known for being iron-willed and feisty. Supporting that claim, he recounts a wealth of examples where Plott hounds past and present have charged fearle

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Robert Bob"? Plott is a great-great-great-grandson of Johannes Plott. He has spent most of his professional career working either as a manufacturing manager or as a martial arts instructor. He is an avid outdoorsman and an accomplished woodcarver and sketch artist. Bob is a member of the American Plott Association, the National Plott Hound Association and the North Carolina Bear Hunters Association. This is his first book. He lives with his wife, son and their Plott hounds outside of Statesville, North Carolina."

I noticed this book when it came up as a "frequently bought with" in regards to my own book. When I read the title I remembered reading several magazine articles about the author and his research for this book before it was written, but for some reason had forgotten about it by the time it was published and had never gotten around to reading it. So of course I had to order it. This book is a very good history of the Plott family and the Plott dogs. Don't get this book if you are just looking for a book of hunting stories, because you will be disappointed. I'm unsure if the author has ever been on a bear hunt, it is fairly obvious that he isn't what houndmen would refer to as a "real bear hunter" but he never claims to be. What he is, is an excellent historian that can make the history Plott breed into a riveting read. If you are interested in history and like hounds, whether Plotts or other breeds, I would highly recommend reading this book.

I was lucky enough to adopt a Plott Hound from our local animal shelter. This is a fun read that fills in the history of the breed. Reading through the book also gave me a greater appreciation of the

challenges American pioneers endured--and how indispensable dogs were to them. They needed a "do everything" breed that would protect the family, herd animals and hunt. Plotts do it all with style. The writing style is a little shy of "Great", hence the 4 star rating--but I'm grateful that Bob Plott put it all together!

If you have any interest in a rural life, enjoy history of hard working immigrant ancestors, or just plain love big loyal sporting/companion dogs, you MUST HAVE this book. I adopted a Plott Hound from a kill shelter. I have not decided which of us saved the other's life. I can't turn a page without learning at least one interesting, fact. Well written, and will never loan this book, as it is a daily source of interest to me.

great book I love how gritty the plott is .

Bob Plott did a very good job of putting this information together. HE gives credit to his family as well as many others that have helped to bring the Plott hound to its present day status! This book contains a lot of history as well as theory on some points!!...Job well done , BOB Plott !!

This little book is essential reading for those interested in the great hunters of western NC. The Plott Hound was a large part of their success, and the breed was considered as essential as a good rifle to good hunting. The author, Bob Plott, is the definitive source on this topic, as his family originated the Plott Hound breed. Really great reading, with great old photos!

I enjoyed this book. It helped me to understand better some of the characteristics of the best dog we have ever owned and in my opinion one of, if not the most interesting breeds. Our Plott Hound needed a home and came to us by luck at three years old and I was amazed at his behavior and intellect as is anyone who meets him. This book clarified that these are characteristics of the Plott breed and not unique to any one Plott hound. Some of the stories would be hard to believe if you don't own a Plott, but they're all believable if you have a one. A good interesting and informative read.

Love reading about my dog's ancestors and history! Very interesting stories and I like that the author includes lots of opinions regarding the plott.

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