



# Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

March 2008

## Shep-O-Gram Monthly

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## Board members

Julie Swinland  
Liz Oster  
Virginia Altman

## Web Guy

Dave Bissonette  
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## GSDC MSP web site

WWW.gsdcmsp.org

It is a time of hellos and good byes, First we must say goodbye to long time Honorary Member, Chell Peterson. Chell and Pat Peterson were the mainstays of Shepherd rescue in our area for many many years. Paul Johnson has written a tribute to Chell which is on page 2 of this edition.

It is time to say hello to our new slate of officers, Mike Metz, President, Paul Johnson Vice President, Jan Anderson Secretary, Mada Parnell Treasurer, and our new board member Ginny Altman. Liz Oster and I will continue in our board positions.

The banquet is over and some points were made worthy of repeating. Virginia Bailey mentioned in this time of Anti Dog legislation it is important to get our dogs out there and be seen doing good things, such as therapy work. Kathy Duvall recounted some touching incidents from her work in that area. It is a place where we can make a difference in the lives of others and as a side benefit show people how valuable our canine companions are in bringing hope to people who really need it. The last two issues of the Shep-O-Gram had the article by Carol Ouhl about Therapy work and how you can get involved.

I Took Xena in for a CERF exam. I have never been to one of these before and I love to try new things. There was a short article in the February SOG about Dr. Schoster, veterinary ophthalmologist, holding eye clinics at the Highland Park Vet Clinic in St. Paul on weekends. The exam takes about 15 minutes. Dr. Schoster is a very kind and gentle vet and Xena really liked him. The cost of the exam is \$30. If you want to send in for an official certificate when your dog passes it is an additional fee. The certification is valid for 1 year. To set up an appointment either go to [www.schostercerf.com](http://www.schostercerf.com) or call 651-341-8494.

Our Specialty shows this year promise to be innovative and exciting. Mike and Sheila have come up with some marvelous promotions that hopefully will guarantee great specialty shows with large classes in conformation, obedience, and rally. Watch for updates on the club web site.

We have a new potential handler in the club, Daniel Oster, son of Doug and Liz Oster. He arrived February 19 and weighs in at 8 lbs 12 oz. and is 20 1/2 in long.

**Remember to come to our match on March 28 at the Animal Inn, entries 6:00 PM, match starts 7:00 PM. See details on Page 3.**

Julie Swinland.

**Come to the GSDC/MSP Sanctioned Match March 28 Mark your calendars**

## A Tribute to Chell Peterson

by Paul Johnson

Chell A. Peterson

January 13, 1916 - January 24, 2008

As many of you already know, Chell Peterson, Honorary Member of our club passed away January 24, 2008, His funeral was Jan 29th at Webster MN, attended by many of his friends from his varied passions of Dogs, Horses, Vintage Cars, Antique Clocks, Schutzhund Protection work and Rescue. For those of you who did not know Chell, That is your loss, he was one of the nicest , pleasant, generous, true gentleman that I have had the pleasure to be associated with. His trade mark, I think, was the mischievous twinkle in his eye, and his playful teasing. Chell and his wife Pat, had served the club in past years in many ways , from holding offices, to training Obedience Classes, As I was reminded by Marlie Whiting at the funeral, Chell, to her knowledge, still holds the record, for the quickest finish of CD thru UD with his dog FRITZ. Chell & Pat, during the last few years had not been very active in our club, concentrating most of their efforts toward Rescue,. They both shall be long remembered, by those who knew them- as kind, good spirited, healing people



**Chell Peterson showing Patchells Ruffian under Judge Joe Peopping Aug 26-1978**

### **DON CLIFF Memorial Good Sportmanship Award:**

Nominations for the Award and short article may be made and submitted to the Committee by GSDCA, Inc. members at-large.

The individual nominated and named as the recipient will remain confidential until announced at the Annual Meeting or Victory Dinner. The named individual shall meet the following criteria to qualify for this Award:

- \* Member of the GSDCA, Inc. for a minimum of 10 consecutive years.
- \* Demonstrate Good Sportsmanship as an exhibitor, whether winning or losing.
- \* Gives of time, energy and/ or means to the Sport of Dogs and the German Shepherd Dog Breed.
- \* Demonstrate kindness and consideration for newcomers in the Breed by encouraging and supporting their growth and knowledge in the Breed.
- \* Active in Conformation or Performance .
- \* Maintain high ethical standards in all circumstances.

The Committee Chairman is Carolyn Martello [marhaven@jps.net] with Nancy Vaught [masstana@aol.com] and Paul Johnson [pauliej@integra.net] the remainder of the committee. Please submit Nominations ASAP



**Chell Peterson, showing Patchells Ruffian, 1977. One of his Champions.**



**German Shepherd Dog Club  
of Minneapolis/St Paul  
Sanctioned B Match  
March 28**

Entries start at 6:00 PM

Match starts at 7:00 PM

\$5 for first entry and \$4 for second entry of same dog

**Judges**

Conformation: Sheila Metz

Obedience: TBD

Rally: Donna Bonnicksen

Cindy Muehlbauer Match Chair

763-262-1177

cinosaamgsd@yahoo.com

Nils and Jan Anderson will host the match

**Conformation**

Dog and bitch classes

3-6 month puppy

6-9 month puppy

9-12 month puppy

Novice

Bred-by

American bred

open

Best puppy in match

Best opposite puppy in match

Best adult in match

**Obedience**

Pre-novice

Novice A & B

Open A & B

Utility A & B

Veterans

High in Trial

High Combined

**Rally**

Novice A & B

Advanced A & B

Excellent A & B

**We need volunteers to help!**

**German Shepherd Dog Club  
of Minneapolis/St Paul  
Board Meeting Minutes**

January 26, 2008

Board Members in Attendance:

Verna Kubik, President

Kelly Salava, Vice President

Pam Magadance, Treasurer

Board Members:

Eileen Varhalla, (outgoing)

Julie Swinland, (1 year remaining)

Liz Oster, (2 years remaining)

Board Members Absent:

Connie Sokolouski, Secretary

President called the meeting to order at 9:30 pm

1. Verna thanked those involved in making the banquet a success and also those who worked so hard throughout the year.

Motion by Jinny Bailey to dispense with the normal meeting business was seconded by Paul Johnson and carried unanimously.

Verna then called for the results of the election and Dave Bissonnette announced the following officers for 2008:

Mike Metz, President

Paul Johnson, Vice President

Jan Anderson, Secretary

Mada Parnell, Treasurer and

Ginny Altman, Board (3 year term)

Motion by Verna to destroy the ballots was seconded by Craig Simerson and carried unanimously.

2 Mike outlined the focus for next year:

- Matches and other fun things to engage the membership

- Be a resource for membership

- Successful promotion of specialty shows

- Maintain financial healthiness

- Training Director organization/reorganization.

3 In 2013 the WUSD will be bringing a Shutzhund team to the United States which offers another facet of the German Shepherd dog. More information as it becomes available.

4 A new Yahoo Email list has been created for club communications, polls, etc. Go to <http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/GSDCMSP/> for sign-on directions. Probably requires creation of a Yahoo account to complete the process.

Next membership meeting Friday, February 15, 2008, selection of judges.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36pm Acting Secretary Jan Anderson

*Jan Anderson*

**German Shepherd Dog Club of  
Minneapolis/St Paul  
Board Minutes  
February 9, 2008**

Mike Metz, President  
Jan Anderson, Secretary  
Mada Parnell, Treasurer

Board Members:

Eileen Varhalla, (outgoing)  
Julie Swinland, (1 year remaining)

**Board Members Absent:**

Paul Johnson, Vice President  
Liz Oster, Board (2 year remaining)  
Ginny Altman, Board (3 year term)

Guests: Holly, Myra, Verna, Kelly K, Sheila, Nils

President called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm

1. Mike welcomed the board and guests and asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the January board minutes which were posted on the website.

**Motion** by Mada to dispense with said minutes was seconded by Jan and carried unanimously.

2. President's Report: Mike outlined the objectives for 2008 as follows:

- Short term/ongoing – communication including the Yahoo list
- Long term – web rewrite. Julie Swinland has agreed to head this effort, with Dave as the Web Guy and others to be added as necessary
  - Find ways to increase show entries to maintain financial health of the Club
  - Support all aspects of the GSD – confirmation, performance, herding, etal
  - Board and membership meeting options not just on Fridays after training try other venues, include programs, for example. Mike asks that the Board send him your suggestions.
  - All breed club supported entries, trophy donations dialogue needs to be initiated.

3. Secretary's Report: The AKC and parent club have been notified of the 2008 officers. Letter from St Croix Valley KC received requesting supported entries and trophy donations for their August 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> shows. Deadline for response March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Action Item:** Change address with MN Secretary of State and USPS

4. Treasurer's Report: Mada stated the audit has been set for March 23<sup>rd</sup> by Roger Salava and his committee. Insurance is due March

1<sup>st</sup>. Funds transfer from S & C (old) bank to Associated (new) bank is in the process of being completed. Bills from Mike's Pro Shop for plaques in the amounts of \$970.49 and \$84 will be paid when transferred funds received in new bank.

**Action item:** Mike will contact Pam to assist in smooth transfer.

5. Training Report: Mike reported Verna has agreed to stay on as Director of Training under the newly-revised structure. Desk duty will be on a rotating basis among board and members which will free the Director of Training to concentrate on this aspect of Club business. Mike and Sheila will start the rotation and other board members will volunteer as fits their schedule.

**Action item:** Board members to contact Mike with their choice of desk duty.

**Action item:** Analysis to be made of free training for board members with recommendations.

6. Budget & Finance Report: Kelly Knight, Chair, Roger Salava, and Mada are present members of this committee. The committee will do an analysis of training income/ expenses and report back.
7. 2008 Show Report: Sheila stated all AKC approvals have been received, the ad for the Review has been sent and will appear in the April issue (covered by a donor whom will remain anonymous.) An ad will also go on the back cover of the futurity catalogs at a cost of \$200. The contract with the Roseville Armory has not been signed yet and a second visit to the site is anticipated because the original obedience space does not meet ring requirements. Suggestion that pre-novice, brace, and team obedience classes be offered. She shared some exciting new promotional ideas to encourage entries.

**Action item:** Board recommends membership approval; add to Membership meeting agenda.

8. Match Report: Although Match Chair Cindy Muehlbauer was unable to attend the meeting she provided Mike with the following update. Sheila Metz will be the breed judge. The tentative date is March 21<sup>st</sup>. Match Report – Performance – Eileen, Chair, indicated she, Jinny and Verna are proceeding with AKC approval. There is also the possibility for a herding clinic in the spring.
9. Membership: No report.

**German Shepherd Dog Club of  
Minneapolis/St Paul  
Membership Minutes  
February 15, 2008**

- 10 Shep-O-Gram: Request for \$200 advance for approximate 2 to 3 months worth of SOG issues to those members who are now receiving their issues via USPS rather than electronically. A survey will be taken to determine if these members could/would like to receive their issues electronically to make the Club more fiscally responsible.

**Action item:** Mike will arrange for survey to be implemented so that a financial analysis may be made and results provided to membership.

**Motion:** Motion by Mada to recommend to membership that \$200 be advanced for toner expenses for the Shep-O-Gram was seconded by Jan and approved unanimously.

- 11 Programs: No report.
- 12 All-Breed Liaison: Mike will contact Bobbi Moore to determine interest in continuing this position. Discussion as to what is/should be our role in their shows, and their role in obtaining judges to ensure a supported entry.
- 13 Website: Julie will Chair this new rewrite of the website, committee members to include our web guy, Dave Bissonnette, and other resource people as needed. Volunteers welcomed.
- 14 Breed Club Challenge: Pam has indicated a willingness to remain as point person for this endeavor. Mike will confirm.
- 15 Old Business Standing rules: Now that we have reviewed the By-laws, our standing rules will be reviewed to bring them into agreement. It is likely that a policies and procedures format will evolve from this as well.
- 16 New Business – Committee Chairs: All positions have been filled except Program.  
New Business – Discussion regarding the Yahoo List and how it supplements our current website. Clarification of what each is expected to accomplish.  
New Business: Temperament test, Canine Good Citizenship test, and Therapy Dog International test as an offering either in conjunction with our Specialty Show (i.e. Friday before) or in some other context (when/where) was discussed.

Next membership meeting **Friday, February 15, 2008, selection of judges.**

Next board meeting TBD

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm  
*Jan Anderson*, Secretary

Mike Mitz, President  
Paul Johnson, Vice President  
Jan Anderson, Secretary  
Mada Parnell, Treasurer  
Board Members:  
Julie Swinland, (1 year remaining)

Board Members Absent:  
Liz Oster, Board (2 years remaining)  
Ginny Altman, Board (3 year term)

Members: 26; Member Applicants: 2 (each second meeting), and Guests: 2

President called the meeting to order at 8:30 pm

1. Secretary referred the membership to the Consolidated Reports distributed for the information and read the January 26 membership minutes which were posted on the website.  
**Motion** by Mada to approve the minutes as read was seconded by Verna and carried unanimously.
2. President's Report: Mike outlined the objectives for 2008 as follows:
  - Short term/ongoing – communication including the Yahoo list
  - Long term – web rewrite. Julie Swinland has agreed to head this effort, with Dave as the Web Guy and others to be added as necessary
  - Find ways to increase show entries to maintain financial health of the Club
  - Support all aspects of the GSD – conformation, performance, herding, etal
  - Board and membership meeting options not just on Fridays after training try other venues, include programs, for example. Mike asks that the Board send him your suggestions.
  - All breed club supported entries, trophy donations dialogue needs to be initiated.

- 3 Vice President's Report: A survey was taken of area training facilities to determine if there were any openings for other than Friday evenings, and in what areas of the metropolitan twin cities area they may be with the idea of a more central location for members. The only evenings open were on Fridays. No change in venue is foreseen.
- 4 Secretary's Report: The AKC and parent club have been notified of the 2008 officers. Letter from St Croix Valley KC received requesting supported entries and trophy donations for their August 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> shows. Deadline for response March 20<sup>th</sup>.  
**Action Item:** Change address with MN Secretary of State and USPS
- 5 Treasurer's Report: Mada stated that the balance in Associated Bank is \$630.25. She has two checks totaling \$5,337.51 from the previous checking account (S & B Bank) to be deposited and then the \$1,000 advance to checking will be transferred back to the Associated Bank Money Market Fund. Audit has been set for Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> by Roger Salava and his committee. Insurance is due March 1<sup>st</sup>.  
**Motion** by Nils to approve the Treasurer's report was seconded by Bo and carried unanimously.
- 6 Training Report: Mike reported Verna has agreed to stay on as Director of Training with the focus on overall training and financial aspects. Desk duty/host responsibilities will be expanded and on a rotating basis among board and member volunteers with Mike and Sheila taking February. Next beginning obedience class starts April 11<sup>th</sup>. Mike noted that he is asking for and has already received trainer bios which will be posted to the website so that prospective participants are able to see the qualifications and experience of our trainers.
- 7 Budget & Finance Report: Kelly Knight, Chair, Roger Salava, and Mada are present members of this committee. The committee will do an analysis of training income/expenses and report back.
- 8 2008 Show Report: Sheila stated all AKC approvals have been received, the ad for the Review has been sent and will appear in the April issue. An ad was circulated which will go on the back cover of the futurity catalogs at a cost of \$200. She requested the Club approve this expenditure in light of the fact than an anonymous donor paid for the Review ad.  
**Motion** by Nils to approve the \$200 expenditure for the back cover of the Futurity/Maturity catalogs was seconded by Kelly S and after discussion approved unanimously.  
The Roseville Armory site was revisited to assure that the original obedience space would meet ring requirements.
- Action item:** Bo will contact hotels in the Roseville area where dogs are accepted and we might provide lodging for judges. Trophy expenditure for the show is \$2,000 and Peggy S will do an inventory of how many and what types of trophies we have on hand so that the best use of funds for trophies can be made
- Agenda item for March Meeting:**  
Analysis by Budget and Finance committee as to the results of inventory.
- 9 Match Report: Cindy Muehlbauer, Chair indicated that tentative date of the match was changed from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> due to a conflict at work. Discussion as to which date would be more acceptable (Good Friday 21<sup>st</sup> or Dubuque 28<sup>th</sup>) followed with this compromise agreed upon. Cindy will do all of the pre-match work and Nils volunteered to be the "on-site" person on the 28<sup>th</sup>.  
**Motion** by Verna to hold the match on Mar 28 with Cindy doing pre-match work and Nils doing "on-site" match was seconded by Mada and carried unanimously.  
(Note: Sheila Metz is conformation judge.)
- 10 Membership: Linda reported three new member applicants and welcomed Gina & Anna in attendance tonight for their second meeting. (Secretary apologizes for not having last names.)
- 11 Shep.-O-Gram: Julie noted that among the things she would like to see happen with the SOG would be to have a library of SOGs on the web this would tie to the web rewrite a later agenda item. She also requested \$200 to cover cost of toner and stamps for approximate 2 to 3 months worth of SOG issues to those members who are now receiving their issues via USPS rather than electronically. A survey will be taken to determine if these members could/would like to receive their issues electronically to make the Club more fiscally responsible.  
**Motion** by Verna to appropriate \$200 for SOG supplies was seconded by Paul and carried unanimously.  
**Action item:** Mike announced that Yvonne will do the telephone survey so that a financial analysis may be made and results provided to membership.
- 12 Programs: No chair at present per Mike however options are being considered to move the programs off the Friday training night and that several members have suggested possible topics. If you have one of particular interest, please let Mike or any board member know.
- 13 All-Breed Liaison: Mike noted that at present this position was open

### **Agenda item for March meeting.**

- 14 Website: Dave noted that the application for the Website contest had been submitted.
- 15 Breed Club Challenge: No report.
- 16 Old Business Standing rules: No report.
- 17 New Business – Discussion regarding voting for 2010 judges.

**Motion** by Kelly K to require judges to book airfare at least 21 days prior to travel was seconded by Mada and carried unanimously.

**Motion** by Verna to limit obedience judges to \$200 or less plus gas and one night's lodging if more that 50 miles away and/or if necessary was seconded by Jinny and carried unanimously.

Voting on conformation judges proceeded until seven judges were chosen.

Voting on obedience judges proceeded until seven judges were chosen.

**Motion** by Nils to adjourn was seconded by Bo.

Next membership meeting **Friday, March 14, 2008.**

Next board meeting Saturday, March 8, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm  
Jan Anderson, Secretary

### **Upcoming doggie events**

Doggie All Breed Carnival at the Animal Inn on June 8, held by the Boston Terrier Club.

Red Cross has Pet First Aid classes. Contact : American Red Cross of the St. Paul Area, St. Paul [redcross@arcstp.org](mailto:redcross@arcstp.org) ,651-291-6789 for more information.

### **Sponsors and ad rates**

In order to keep costs down, we are offering sponsorships (you can donate whatever amount you want) and you will be listed as a sponsor in the issue(s) you sponsor. We also will accept advertsing.

Business card - 1 time \$10

1/4 page \$35

1/2 half page \$50

full page \$75

This is based on a page size of 8 1/2X 11 All rates are for black and white print, but may appear in color in the PDF version.

### **Reviews**

Positively Ringwise by Patty Ruzzo

Patty Ruzzo was a very successful obedience trainer in the 1980's and 90's, She passed on in 2006. This is a CD of tips to get the most out of your obedience dog starting when you complete the entries and leading right up to entering the ring gate and performing in the class.

She believes that the human half of the obedience team has a responsibility to the dog to show leadership and confidence in the ring. She is a positive trainer. She reviewed her behavior and her dog's behavior and found that she was causing her dog to have problems. She was nagging at the dog from the time she sent in her entries. She was concentrating on all the things her dog did wrong and forgetting what he did right. She saw that her dog was miserable entering the ring. Everyone told her the dog was "ring wise" She thought about it and found that her behavior triggered the dog's unhappiness. She give many tips and tricks on this CD to help a person prepare for their role in the ring to bring out the best in their dog. I listened to this on my way to the last two rally trials and I think it was quite beneficial. I still made mistakes, but I think I was better than I would have been without it.

Patty also has a two DVD set that I have not had the time to watch yet. She uses humor in her presentation and the love she has for her dogs comes shining through. This CD runs about \$19.95 and can be purchased online at [www.dogwise.com](http://www.dogwise.com) or you could visit [http://www.healthydogstore.com/ruzzo\\_bio.php](http://www.healthydogstore.com/ruzzo_bio.php) to read a biography of Patty and also order her materials.

**Don't miss the March  
Membership Meeting  
March 14**

## How Do I Determine if My Dog is Overweight?

Holly Nash, DVM, MS

Veterinary Services Department, Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc.

Q: When is a dog considered to be fat?

A: Veterinarians often use a 9 point scoring system to evaluate the body condition of pets. A point value of 1 means the dog or cat is extremely thin to the point of emaciation. A score of 9 means the pet is grossly overweight. And like Goldilocks and the three bears, a score of 5 is 'just right.' To determine body score, there are several specific areas of the dog or cat we look at. Remember, these are guidelines. A Greyhound with a score of 5 is still going to be thinner than a Bulldog with the same score.

NOTE: We have included some illustrations at the end of this article which depict the contours of various body scores.

To perform the rating, we first feel the pet's ribs. We should be able to quite easily feel the ribs. There should be a slight amount of fat over them, but each rib should be distinct. If you can see the ribs, the pet is too thin. If you can not feel them at all, the pet is very overweight.






Second, check the area near the base of the tail. There should be a slight fat covering over this area and it should feel smooth. If the bones protrude, the pet is too thin; if you can not feel any bones at all, the pet is very overweight.

Third, feel other bony prominences on the pet's body such as the spine, shoulders, and hips. Again, you should be able to feel a small amount of fat over these areas. If these bones are easily felt or visible, the dog or cat is too thin. If you can not feel the bones beneath the layer of fat, the animal is obviously overweight.

Fourth, look at your pet from above. The animal should have a definite waist behind the ribs. If the waist is extreme, or again, bony prominences are visible, the animal is too thin. If there is no waist, or worse yet, the area between the ribs and hips is wider than the hips or ribs, the dog or cat is grossly overweight.

Fifth, look at the pet from the side. Dogs and cats should have an abdominal tuck, i.e., the area behind the ribs should be smaller in diameter than the chest. This can vary a lot between breeds. Irish Setters and Greyhounds, for instance, appear to have a much more distinct abdominal tuck, since they are so deep-chested. An animal who is too thin will have a very severe abdominal tuck. Overweight animals will have no abdominal tuck.

If you feel your dog is overweight, consult your veterinarian to determine if there are any other medical problems before starting the animal on a weight reduction program. Your veterinarian can also suggest various diets, how fast your pet should lose weight, etc.

	<p><b>Very Thin</b> Body Score = 1</p>		<p><b>Thin</b> Body Score = 3</p>
	<p><b>Ideal</b> Body Score = 5</p>		<p><b>Overweight</b> Body Score = 7</p>
	<p><b>Obese</b> Body Score = 9</p>		





# German Shepherd Dog Club of America (GSDCA) Board-O-Gram

## January 2008 Board Meeting

Written by Dr. Tom T. Mesdag

Edited and Approved by Gail Hardcastle

### Highlights of the January 2008 Board Meeting

New Board members were introduced. Guests were introduced. The minutes of the Oct. 2007 Board meeting were reviewed and approved. The minutes of the October 2007 Annual Meeting and Victory Dinner were approved.

The Class of 2008: Joan Fox, Carolyn Martello, Dalene McIntire, Carmen Battaglia, Dean Wylie, Dave Fritsche, Nancy Harper.

The Recording Secretary was not in attendance and no report given.

Ratification of several previous committee action items was accomplished. The new Board of Directors class of 2008 was seated. Kathaleen Strong was appointed to a one year term to fill the board position vacated by the new President elect Gail Hardcastle.

#### **President's Report:**

Several motions were presented to the board for approval. The Parent Club office will now be the location for Title Pins and Certificates. The RALEEF committee was terminated. A new Illustrated Standard Committee was formed. One committee will now direct the nomination and award distribution of the several prestigious awards.

A chairperson was identified for each committee of the GSDCA. A standing board member will be identified as liaison for any committee where the chairperson is not a standing board member.

A few committee assignments were voted on by the board. These included Illustrated Standard/Kathaleen Strong, Education /Helen Gleason, WDA Liaison/Tom Mesdag, WDS/SV/WUSV/David Landau, AKC Delegate/Carmen Battaglia. Purina Pro Plan Alliance Agreement was revisited by the Board. A new renewal is in force. This fund, generated through the alliance, is targeted to support the future, health and integrity of the GSDCA. The membership is encouraged to continue their support of this program.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Board nominated a new Executive Committee: Gail Hardcastle, Carolyn Martello, Nancy Harper, Tish Walker, and Dania Karloff.

**Treasurer's Report:** The resignation of Treasurer Bill Pfeiffer was ratified and Nadine Grady was appointed to complete his term as Treasurer of the GSDCA. Transition of all accounts is currently being integrated into a new accounting system. This will allow for more expeditious retrieval of committee financials.

## Board O Gram Continued

**AKC Delegate Report:** AKC National Obedience and Agility Invitational will be held on Dec. 13 and 14 2008 in Long Beach CA. AKC is developing standard contract language that clubs could use for their judges. A change in a dog's name with permission of the breeder will be considered at the March 2008 meeting. AKC has approved a new class for all shows called the Amateur Owner/Handler class. AKC has established the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award that each club can give each year. The new GSDCA awards committee will bring back recommendations for criteria in April. The proceedings of the 2007 Parent Club conference are available for download at [www.akc.org/clubs/pcc2007](http://www.akc.org/clubs/pcc2007)

**Budget and Finance:** A new budget for 2008 was submitted and approved by the Board of Directors. \$4000 was donated to the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation from the Purina Funds.

### National Specialty:

2009 Judge's nomination documents will be mailed to all Board of Director members in February. Board approved 2008 Show Committee: Lea Ruggieri, Patty Korsch, Bob Braue, Ken Bryan, Judy Bryan, Olivia "Sam" Colvin, Dania Karloff, Shirley Melvin, Alan Melvin, Tom Mesdag, Dalene McIntire. Show sites in Lexington, KY, Louisiana, and Kansas will be investigated.

### Obedience Report:

Attention all Obedience exhibitors! The AKC Obedience Advisory Committee has submitted their proposed changes to the AKC Obedience Regulations. Please take the time to read them over. You have until March 15th to send AKC any comments you may have (for or against) regarding these changes. This is your chance to have some input regarding the regulations you will be bound to follow in the future. The URL for these changes is: <http://www.akc.org/pdfs/events/obedience/OACrecommendations2007.pdf>.

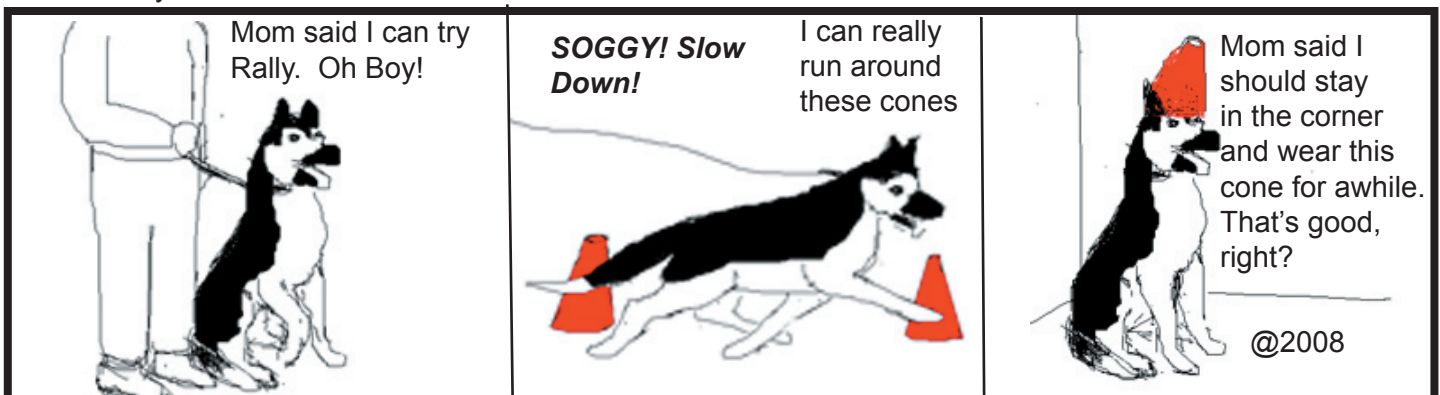
Dalene McIntire made a motion to start an award for the top scoring Obedience Dog each year. The statistics would be taken from Front and Finish. It has been proposed that the award would be presented at the National.

### Futurities

- Rau will soon be mailing Futurity entry forms. Entries close March 7, 2008.
- Deadline for catalog ads is February 8, 2008, Kelly Knight is advertising chair.
- Amateur judges were approved: NE-Vicki Burley, MW-Patty Szymczak, MA-Gene Warrick, SW-Gail Stiefferman.
- 2009 litter nominations are to be sent to Laura Gilbert, not Rau Dog Shows. Futurity/Maturity Judges for 2009 are presently being selected by the host clubs.
- It was recommended that a survey of the membership be conducted concerning both membership and futurity issues.
- Club Members who might be interested in the position of National Futurity Chair should forward their resume to GSDCA President, Gail Hardcastle.

Continued on next page

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



## Education report:

## Board O Gram continued

Helen Gleason as committee chairperson is assisted by Diana Mehra, Dave Rinke, Tish Walker, Dick Jones, Lana Wallace, Ann Barbash, Ed Barrett, Kay Reamensnyder, Michel Ebertin, Dean Wylie, and Ileana Noguerras.

The GSDCA National Specialty Education Program will be held Wednesday evening 11/12/08. Patricia Trotter, noted judge and breeder, will speak on Form and Function. An AKC Program, "How to put on a Dog Show" will also be presented. The \$35 attendee fee for the AKC program will be paid by GSDCA. This is available to one member from each of the first 35 clubs that apply for attendance. More information to follow. If you are interested please contact Helen Gleason.

A second judge's Education Seminar is planned in conjunction with the Advanced Herding Seminar in Chicago 02/21/08.

We will also be holding a Judge's Education Seminar at the National Specialty show in Beaumont Texas on Tuesday 11/04/08. Diane Mehra will be coordinating this event. Attendance at these Judge's Education seminars fulfill the GSDCA Education Seminar requirement to judge futurities.

Any Regional Club interested in assisting the Parent Club with the organization of other GSDCA-WDA trials for 2008 should contact the WDS Committee Chair David Landau 115 Deerfield Rd., Bogart, GA 30622 or e-mail [dlandau@hal.physast.uga.edu](mailto:dlandau@hal.physast.uga.edu).

The GSDCA-WDA is soliciting contributions for travel support for the GSDCA Team at the World Championship in Cincinnati. Checks should be sent to GSDCA-WDA Treasurer, Claudia Behnke, 14230 Chase Rd., Reed, KY 42451 and marked for the World Team Fund.

### The Nominating Committee

Chairperson is Joan Fox. Her committee is made up of the following:

Northeast: Bob Kish, Dan Smith alt Heartland: Rita Sandell, Vicki Roye alt

Mid-America: Kathy Potter, Didier Ardoin alt Western: Dorothy Linn, Ellie Carson alt

If you would like to run for a Board Position, be sure to contact someone on the nominating committee.

### Internet:

The website is being transferred to a new server shortly after February 1<sup>st</sup>. John Ayotte is the new internet chair.

German Shepherd Dog Club of America (GSDCA)  
PO Box 2378  
White Salmon, WA 98672

## Braggs

### Thirteen Club!

#### Jecoda Rookie of the Year

Owned by: Dick and Judy Lunzer

Bred by: David and Connie Bissonnette

"Rookie is doing very well for an old guy. He has slowed down this past year and is hearing impaired (when he wants to be), but for the most part, he is happy, healthy and continues to be his sweet, charming self."

### Ch Oak Haven Xena BLK Forest RE TC OFA H&E

Bred and owned by Julie Swinland

Finished her Rally Excellent title Janaury 27

### Puppies

Sire: Select Ex. Champion Rosewoods Maestro OFA

Dam: Tonor's Devine Miss M - OFA

5 Males 4 Females

Born: 12/01/07

Bo Vujovich

651-450-0176

Bo@Toochic.com

**Sanctioned match March 28  
conformation - obedience - rally,  
Training Friday nights at the Animal  
Inn Lake Elmo**

Check the web site for exceptions

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

7:00 Conformation

Intermediate Obedience

7:45 Beginning obedience

Rally - all levels

March Membership meeting March 14

## Upcoming Shows

### March

01 Wisconsin Kennel Club, Inc.

02 Wisconsin Kennel Club, Inc.

08-09 Wright County Obedience & Rally

22 Dubuque Kennel Club

23 Dubuque Kennel Club

29 Clinton Iowa Kennel Club

30 Clinton Iowa Kennel Club

Check events at [www.AKC.org](http://www.AKC.org) for more information

Shep-O-Gram

1087 Allen Avenue

W. St Paul, MN 55118



German Shepherd Dog Club  
of Minneapolis & St Paul

## Interested in Herding????



Herding  
Clinic

We are planning a herding clinic in the spring. We need to have commitment by at least 10-12 people in order to bring in a top herding instructor, possibly Dorothy DeLisle (Dot) from California. Dorothy has trained many top GSD herding dogs.

This will be a great experience for inexperienced to advanced handlers and dogs. You can prepare for the herding sanctioned plan A trial we plan to hold this year or just to see if you like the challenge of herding with your dog.

Contact Eileen Varhalla at [evaharlla@aol.com](mailto:evaharlla@aol.com) 651-462-1220 or Virginia Bailey [vmk4gsds@dishup.us](mailto:vmk4gsds@dishup.us) (715) 549-6365 or (651) 436-6982 to let them know you are interested.