



Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

April 2009

Shep-O-Gram

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Sadly, MaryAnn McNichols-Erdes lost her husband Gerald, in the past week. A reprint of the obituary from the St. Paul paper is on page 3.

We have some great programs being planned for Friday nights. On April 24 Paul Johnson will give a presentation on conformation, form vs function. In May we are planning a dog chiropractic program with Josee Girard. The herding fun days are May 17 and 24. They filled quickly. Come to watch if you haven't signed up. Our geocaching event is scheduled for May 30 at Afton State Park with a picnic following. The Minnesota State Parks will have a geocaching program again this year starting May 2 and they will be offering the free use of GPS units again. I have included some information on this program on page 3.

We had another successful match thanks to Charles Reinhardt and many others including our judges, Mike Wakeling and Kathy Sianko. Also thanks should go to all the people who brought the ethnic food. There was so much to pick from! The results from our match are in this issue.

The Shep-O-Gram was delayed some this month due to computer problems. After days of fighting with it I finally called Dell and had both hard drives replaced. Luckily there were still 20 days left on the warranty. So now I am in the process of reinstalling numerous programs. In the mean time the W32Skybot.worm attacked my computer and I found deworming a computer is worse than deworming a dog. After reinstalling the basic system I discovered that I had the problem that some of our members have experienced, the buttons on our web site appeared as small boxes with a little red x in the corner and did not work. After trying an assortment of potential fixes I tried downloading Java, a free download from the internet and the problem was fixed.

We are looking for donations for our performance side raffle for our specialty shows. Let me know if you have something to donate or are willing to try to get donations from your local pet supply store or other location.

Julie Swinland.

(651) 457-5459

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SOG Due Date

May issue - April 21

April 10 Membership Meeting 8:30 PM Animal Inn

JOIN THE GSDC OF AMERICA TODAY!

German Shepherd Dog Club of America Membership Application

Requirements: Minimum age of 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. Membership includes subscription to *The German Shepherd Dog Review*.

Membership Type: (circle one)

Single \$66.00 Family* \$100.00

*Dues are not tax deductible * Family is defined as same household or significant other.*

Make checks payable to GSDCA (Outside the US add \$24.00)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone (s) _____

Fax _____

Email _____

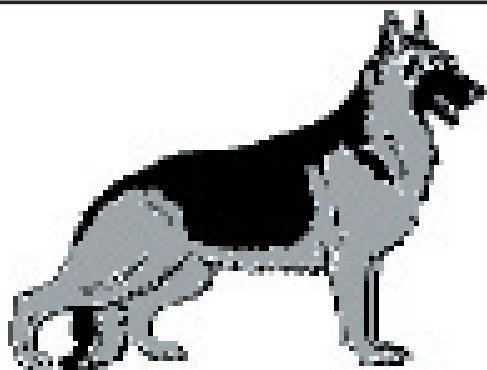
I (we) hereby make application to the above Club and agree, if accepted for membership, to abide by its Bylaws and the Bylaws of the AKC. Upon application I will be eligible for all privileges except the right to vote. Thirty days after my name is published in the Review, provided no objections have been filed I will be granted the right to vote

Signed _____

Signed _____

Mail to: Gail Hardcastle, 49 Lakeview Road, White Salmon, WA 98672

hardcastle@starband.net



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 advertising.

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.

Upcoming Shows

April

18-19 Waterloo KC, Inc. Waterloo IA

25-26 Heart of IA KC, Marshall Town

May

16 Oskosh KC. Oshkosh

17 Winnegamie KC Oshkosh

23-24 Key City KC St Peter

29-31 Fargo-Mhd KC, Fargo

Obedience/Rally only

April

11-12 Wisconsin Rapids Kennel Club, Amherst Junction, WI

24-26 St. Paul Dog Training Club, South St Paul

There are many more shows in MN, IA, WI and the Dakotas. See Events at www.akc.org for a complete listing.



Gerald D. Erdes

Erdes, Gerald D. "Big Jer" Age 55 of St. Paul Unexpectedly on March 26, 2009. Preceded in death by his father Frank. Survived by his wife Mary Ann; daughter Tamara; step children Lindsey & Christopher McNichols; grandchildren,

Camilo & Christian; mother Rosabelle; brother Bill (Nancy) and many nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

In lieu of flowers memorials to The American Heart Assoc or American Diabetes Association Big Jer will be greatly missed by numerous family & friends.



Geocaching in the State Parks

The new geocaching program at Minnesota State Parks has been a big hit, and will feature information on Minnesota wildlife this year. Minnesota State Parks are rolling out a new geocaching adventure this year, after introducing a geocaching program last summer that was a big hit with park visitors. Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt, where participants use

hand-held GPS (global positional system) devices to track down a stash hidden in a weatherproof, camouflaged box at a location designated by latitude and longitude.

Since this activity has grown so popular, Minnesota State Parks decided to add geocaching to the many outdoor recreation activities available in the parks.

Almost 20,000 geocache finds were recorded in state parks during the 2008 Geocaching Challenge. This year, the program will have a wildlife theme. For the new Geocaching Wildlife Safari, the "critter caches" in all the parks will feature collectible cards, each with information on a mammal, insect, fish, reptile or amphibian that lives in the park or did in the past. A cache may occasionally include a "wild card," offering the finder a special reward.

All state parks are part of the Geocaching Wildlife Safari, but 24 of them across the state will be demonstration parks, where GPS units will be available to be checked out free of charge. These parks will also offer some "Geocaching 101" how-to programs to get people started in this activity.

Many of the parks will have multi-caches, where participants will find multiple boxes, the first ones offering quick quizzes or puzzles and the coordinates for the next cache on the route. All of the routes are fairly easy hikes, and are designed to lead people to interesting places in the parks.

The Geocaching Wildlife Safari begins May 2. For more details, including a list of demonstration parks, go to the Minnesota State Parks website, www.mnstateparks.info [2].

GEOCACHING May 30

Our first geocaching event will be May 30. We can meet at Afton State Park at 9:30 AM. We may form teams if there are enough people to warrant that. This is a hilly park so dress accordingly. If you do not have a handheld GPS, you may be able to sign one out at the Park Ranger's office. They will have some to loan. If you do not get a GPS, don't worry, often times I geocache with people who do not have one and while I am studying the GPS, the other person finds the cache.

This will be fun. To avoid chaos, let's confine ourselves to just one dog per person.

This is a very pretty park and they have excellent picnic facilities. If we each bring some picnic items we should be able to have a fine picnic following our hike. I will include a map in the next issue.

Bring a camera, bring food, bring a handheld GPS if you have one. This will be a great social event where we can get out and enjoy our dogs in nature

Some of the State parks offer a Geocaching 101 course so if you want to prepare in advance you can check out the DNR web site and find out when and where classes are offered.

Typical handheld GPS units



Probiotics For The Dog

Diane Jansey,

To see a vibrant, top winning show dog working the ring with his handler abiding by the "Rules of Sportsmanship" will truly take your breath away.

Keeping a dog in tiptop shape and a true contender is a true art form in today's environment. What keeps these dogs winning and in that shape? This is a question I hear at every show; perhaps this article will give you one of the keys to their success and hopefully to your success, too!

Probiotics can be the offense strategy to keep your dog in tiptop shape as well as the first line of defense when your dog's system has been compromised. We are fortunate that there are so many products available for use and competent professionals to help you choose what would be correct for your dog, how to use them, and when to use them. The boosting of the immune system is directly related to the quality of health in the digestive system, starting with the mouth and ending at the backside with completed digestion.

Advertising for probiotics to people of all ages can be viewed daily on TV. Some are billed as the new cure for whatever ails the stomach and intestines. For dogs, we now have probiotics being made available to us from most of the major dog food manufacturers as well as canine holistic pharmacies. The truth is that probiotics have been identified and understood since the late 1800s. We can credit the first identification of probiotics to Pasteur (a scientific researcher) and then later by Lister when he found it in spoiled milk in 1878, he identified several strains of probiotics in the intestinal tract.

One of the most valuable diagnostic tools you will ever have in keeping your dog in great health is looking at the stool.

Although there is not a lot of glamour in this, it does give you indications of what shape the digestive system is in. The rules to checking stool are to note frequency, color, texture, consistency, odor and quantity.

When any of these factors change to the negative side there are things you can do to alleviate the stress and perhaps correct whatever compromised the digestive tract and/or the immune system.

We understand that there are over 500 different strains of probiotics that inhabit the digestive track in all animal species.

Each of the strains has different avenues of staying power within the intestines. Colonization of probiotics on the intestinal wall has been identified three different ways: adherence, aggregation (high growth to avoid washing out) or continued consumption of probiotics. These strains ensure that the intestines maintain and repair themselves on an ongoing basis. What is needed is for probiotics to have an adherence and high colonization level in order to exclude competitive pathogens for the same space within the intestines. To give a visual example of what was just stated, a healthy dog will have a stool that looks like a tootsie roll log in segments with good color of brown and only a slight odor.

While having a compromised digestive system (such as stress in going to a dog show, or a course of antibiotics) will give you a stool every shade of color from yellow, light brown, red or black with a pudding texture and a putrid odor level.

Understanding the many different ways the flora (good bacteria level) digestive track can be compromised will help you in understanding how important it is to help your dog rebuild this system for optimum health. Listed below are some of the ways that the normal levels of flora can be disrupted: medications (steroids, and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs), antibiotics (short or long term), surgery, birthing, weaning, illnesses, chlorinated drinking water, diets that are high in fat, high in sugar, and stress to the dog's life such as travel, dog shows, anxiety separation, and changing owners or handlers.

Once the animal's intestines have been compromised and the immune system is no longer boosted, a variety of health issues start to form, symptomatically showing up in poor stools, loss of coat, tarter build up on teeth, yeast "over growth" starts to show up around the mouth, skin, ears, pubis sheath, vulva and anus as it starts to discolor the coat from all shades of pink to red to brown to black.

Other maladies that may have developed from the compromised balance of good bacteria (flora, probiotics) would include chronic gastrointestinal tract disorders, such as irritable bowel syndrome, recurrent gas and bloating and inflammatory bowel disease. Other symptomatic issues would include diarrhea, vomiting, stool eating, chronic skin problems, and allergies. There are life threatening issues such as vaccine reactions, parasite invasions (from a lowered

resistance to parasites), endurance fatigue (failing to fulfill a task), hypertension, and joint problems.

In other words the micro flora and the immune system are intrinsically connected.

The benefits to probiotics and keeping the intestinal track healthy with correct balance of good bacteria include the synthesis of vitamin K, most of the B vitamins, biotin, folic acid and help to absorb amino acids. Another benefit is a good appetite with digestion improving and percentage of utilization of food increases. Some dogs have a utilization rate as low as 12% and after a course of probiotics will improve to 69% in as little as 10- 14 days. Dogs that have never had their intestinal track compromised will have food utilization as high as 87% (we call these dogs “good keepers”). A very important benefit to using probiotics is to eliminate the toxins from the dogs’ body caused by Yeast over growth” that can overload the liver, kidney and bladder.

This reduces stress levels in the dog and therefore may reduce allergic symptoms. Another side benefit is the increase of resistance to inflammation in the joints and tissues caused by high bacteria levels. All of this allows for the increase of energy levels. Finally we have gotten to the benefit at the end of the dogs’ digestive tract by helping with proper elimination and naturally deodorizing the stool as well as decreasing the amount of stool. One thing to keep in mind is the disappearance of symptoms does not mean that you have resolved of the issue with your dog.

Sources of probiotics in the natural form can be found in yogurt and kefir (fermented milk products). These should be given first thing in the morning before food is eaten to allow for the probiotics to seed throughout the intestine minimizing wash out. The best probiotics to use in the morning would be ACIDOPHILUS while the best probiotics to use at night would be BIFIDUS (you can see this in the example label below). Most products have a formula of several different strains in the same product to make it easy to use morning and night. The morning meal should wait a minimum of 15-30 minutes after probiotics are given. When using probiotics at night they should be given after eating the evening meal 15-30 minutes later. Other forms of probiotics with best usage associated with them would be liquid first, then powder, after that tablet form, and finally a treat form. All of these forms have different levels of viable probiotics which are counted in the millions or organisms per dose.

All packaging of probiotics carry a CFU which is the indication of colony forming units or the viability of the product, although it is wise to understand that the longer the product has been away from the manufacturer, the fewer colony forming units will be viable in the unopened package. Therefore you should look for expiration date or best used by date.

Below is a sample of what you might expect to read in a product: Acidophilus for Dogs & Puppies: Digestive Enzymes & Acidophilus Contains Billions of Friendly Micro Organisms Naturally deodorizes Purifies and conditions the digestive tract.

Guaranteed Analysis - Contains LIVE cultures of: Lactobacillus acidophilus 400 Million CFU/g Lactobacillus casei 400 Million CFU/g Streptococcus faecium 400 Million CFU/g Bifidobacterium longum 400 Million CFU/g Saccharomyces cerevisiae 200 Million CFU/g CFU/g: Colony-Forming Units per gram Manufacturer Date 07/05/08 Expiration Date:

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Collars and other information from the AKC Regulations

I saw some disappointment at our recent match due to rules on acceptable collars. Many people do not realize that prong (pinch) collars are not allowed on the grounds of an AKC event much less in the ring. We train with them and take them for granted. I found some rules from the AKC regulations regarding this. While these are taken from the Obedience regulations, they do apply to all dog shows and matches sanctioned by the AKC.

Section 17. Collars. All dogs in the obedience ring must wear a properly fitted collar approved by the judge. No special training collars, such as electronic collars or prong collars, will be permitted. Nothing may be hanging from the dog’s collar.

Prong collar definition-Collar used for training dogs. It has metal pieces on it that pinch a dog. It is against AKC rules to use this type of collar on the show grounds. Also called pinch collar.

Link to the 2009 AKC regulations for Obedience and Rally:
<http://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RO2999.pdf>

GSDC MSP AKC Sanctioned Match March 27 2009



CONFORMATION Judge Mike Wakeling

Puppy bitch 3-6

- 1st Devine lets get the party started Jennifer & Danielle Souster
2nd Trios Matline Lime The Salava's & Liz Oster
3rd Devine's into the fire Jennifer & Danielle Souster
4th Steffca's United Regan Stephanie & Carl Steigerwald

Puppy Bitch 6-9

- 1st Kubistraums Jetta Verna Kubik & Virginia Bailey
2nd Blackwood's dancing Queen Diane Mehra

Puppy Bitch 9-12

- 1st Zytut's say it isn't so Jan and & Nils Anderson
& Christy and Clint Heiman
2nd Granites Meet Ms Black Scott & Laurie McDermid

Novice Bitch

- 1st Granites Alwring in black Scott and Laurie McDermid

Puppy Dogs 3-6

- 1st Trio's under the Influence Linda Salava
2nd Devine's Indestructable Jennifer Souster
3rd Steffca's Ian Fleming Stephanie & Carl Steigerwald
4th Steffca's Midas Touch Stephanie & Carl Steigerwald

Puppy dogs 6-9

- 1st Kubistraums BMW Verna Kubik & Virginia Bailey
2nd Eclipse Sheriff of Hazzard County Rebecca Brusven

Dog 12-18

- 1st Kubistraums Quick Pick Verna Kubik & Virginia Bailey

American Bred Dog

- 1st Mytimes Bear with Me. Jennifer & Danielle Souster

Open Dogs

- 1st Kubistraums Quasar Shadow Liza & Elizabeth Lunde

Novice Intermediate Handler

- 1st Jet Von Der Jerland James Stein

Best Puppy Trio's under the Influence Linda Salava

Best Opp puppy Zytut's say it isn't so Jan & Nils Anderson
Christy & Clint Heiman

Best iAdult n Match Kubistraums Quick Pick Verna Kubik
& Virginia Bailey

Best Opposite Adult Granites Alwring in black Scott
& Laurie McDermid

RALLY Judge Kathy Sianko

Rally Novice A

- 1st Adeline Koppman Brummond Gina McCuen 100
2nd Ch. Willaway's Cannonball River Lori Pearson 99
3rd Jet Von Der Jerland Linda Stein 98

Rally Advanced B

- 1st Ch. Oak Haven Xena of Black Forest RE
Julie Swinland 100

Rally Excellent B

- 1st Otto Koppman Brummond Gina McCuen 99
2nd Ch. Oak Haven Xena of Black Forest RE
Julie Swinland 98

OBEDIENCE Judge Kathy Sianko

Open A

- 1st Henrich Vom Wienze Julie Davis 193.5
2nd Rivaden's Erda Nibelung Eileen Varhalla
193.5

Novice A

- 1st My Jake Michell Patet 183
2nd Marquis I'm so Vain- Carly Jill Myer 179

Novice B

- 1st Henrich Vom Weinze Julie Davis 195
2nd Otto Koppman Brummond CD RA Gina McCuen
192
3rd Adeline Koppman Brummond Gina McCuen
186.5

Pre Novice

- 1st Ch. Willaway's Cannonball River Lori Pearson
156
2nd Ch. Willaways Mount Olive Linda Fisher 153.5
3rd Ernie Eileen Varhalla 151
4th Rail of the midnight zephyr Donna Weiss
151



FOUR MORE STATES PASS AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN® RESOLUTIONS BRINGING TOTAL TO 39

-- Arkansas, Iowa, Rhode Island & Vermont Recognize Importance of Responsible Dog Ownership --

New York, NY - As a testament to the important role that training and responsible dog ownership play in ensuring that dogs are well behaved members of society, four states have recently joined the growing list that have passed American Kennel Club® (AKC) Canine Good Citizen® (CGC) resolutions. AKC CGC is a 10-step certification program that rewards dogs with good manners at home and in the community. The resolutions signify an endorsement of the AKC CGC program at the state level.

Iowa, the most recent addition to the list, passed its resolution in March, following closely behind Arkansas, Rhode Island and Vermont, who passed their resolutions in January and February 2009.

“Many dog owners choose CGC as the first step in training their dogs,” said Mary Burch, PhD, AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy and CGC Director. “The support provided by the 39 state legislatures that have endorsed the program clearly demonstrates that CGC is becoming increasingly accepted as the nationwide gold standard in basic training.”

Due to the success and recognition the AKC CGC program has received, AKC recently introduced a natural precursor to becoming an AKC Canine Good Citizen®, the AKC S.T.A.R.sm Puppy Program. “S.T.A.R.” stands for what every puppy needs - Socialization, Training, Activity and a Responsible owner. The program provides all dog owners with the early guidance needed to get their puppies off to the best possible start in life and set them up to thrive as adult dogs.

“Practicing responsible dog ownership is the best way to combat restrictive dog legislation and ensure that reasonable ordinances are proposed in every community,” added Dr. Burch.

In total, 39 states have adopted CGC resolutions, including Alabama, Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and the U.S. Senate.

Viewed as the first step in dog training, S.T.A.R. Puppy and CGC lay the foundation for other AKC activities such as obedience, agility, rally, tracking and performance events. Additionally, police and animal control agencies use CGC for dealing with dog problems in communities; therapy dog groups use CGC as a partial screening tool; and some 4-H groups around the country have been using the CGC as a beginning dog training program for children.

For more information about AKC CGC, S.T.A.R. Puppy or to find an evaluator near you, visit: <http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/>

The American Kennel Club (AKC), proudly celebrates its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The AKC is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the AKC advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate AKC organizations include the AKC Humane Fund, AKC Canine Health Foundation, AKC Companion Animal Recovery and the AKC Museum of the Dog. For more information, visit www.akc.org.

Diarrhea & Vomiting in Dogs: When to Call Your Veterinarian

Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc.

Race Foster, DVM

At one time or another every dog has a bout of vomiting or diarrhea. Usually they have eaten something disagreeable, eaten too much, too fast or exercised too soon after eating, are overly excited or nervous, or their body is reacting to any of a number of other non-serious conditions.

If your dog is not showing other signs of illness, you can save yourself a trip to the vet if you wait 12 hours and do the following:

1. Take away all food and water so that the irritated intestinal tract can settle down. Nothing makes a vomiting dog vomit more than a big drink of water or a large meal. You may allow the dog to drink very small amounts, and in this short time, if your dog is otherwise healthy, you do not have to worry about dehydration. If the diarrhea resolves, after 24 hours, you may give your dog very small amounts of a bland food, such as drained, cooked hamburger mixed with an equal amount of cooked rice.

2. Observe your dog closely. Is behavior and activity otherwise normal? Think about and try to identify the cause of the problem. Could your dog have eaten something (like grass, garbage, or a dead animal) that upset its digestive system? Has your dog been wormed lately? Watch how your dog vomits or eliminates so you can describe it to your vet if symptoms persist. Examine the stool or vomit. Collect samples if you believe you will need to take your dog in. Monitor the dog's weight for possible weight loss.

When you should call your veterinarian

Vomiting:

- blood in vomit
- vomiting accompanied by diarrhea
- vomit looks and smells like stool
- vomiting is projectile
- vomiting is sporadic and there is no relationship to meals
- multiple bouts of vomiting occur over a short period of time
- ingestion of a poison (like antifreeze or fertilizer) is suspected
- vomiting persists more than a day or two
- stomach bloating occurs or your dog tries to vomit but can not
- dog also appears listless
- there is weight loss
- dog is showing other signs of illness such as labored breathing or pain

Diarrhea:

- bloody diarrhea
- diarrhea accompanied by vomiting
- multiple bouts of vomiting occur over a short period of time
- ingestion of a poison is suspected
- fever and other signs of toxicity are present
- diarrhea persists more than a day or two
- dog also appears listless
- there is weight loss
- dog is showing other signs of illness such as labored breathing or pain

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**German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
March Board Minutes
March 07, 2009**

Mike Metz, President

Julie Swinland, Vice President

Jill Myers, Secretary

Mada Parnell, Treasurer

Board Members:

Lisa Marie Fortier, (3 year term)

Board Members Absent:

Ginny Altman, Board (2 year remaining)

Liz Oster, Board (1 year remaining)

Guests – none

President called the meeting to order at 12:15pm

1 President's Report -

- Obedience attendance has been very impressive and we want to keep that going

2 Vice President's Report –

- DVD's are available for rental, the club storage cabinet needs to be cleaned out so these can be made available to members
- Updated survey is on the website
- Flyer for the March match is available for posting

3 Secretary's Report -

- Futurity Packet for 2011 is still missing the membership list for March 17th deadline
- All 4 judges needed for the 2010 Specialty Show have been contacted and since our meeting have all accepted
- AKC letter stating Rally competition has been approved for our March match

4 Treasurer's Report -

- No report

5 Training Report –

- Recapped Verna's Friday night training

6 Budget and Finance Report –

- No report

7 2009 Show Report –

- Holly updated the board on what has been done and what still needs to be done

8 Match Report –

- March 27th fun match; Mike Wakeling will be judging
- Ethnic pot luck will be supplemented with beverages from the food budget

9 Membership Report -

- Directory needs to be updated and printed for hand out at the March 27th match
- Need to locate current version of Standing Rules & By Laws

10 Shep-O-Gram Report –

- March issue is out

11 Program Report -

- Mada will book Josee Girard, Animal Chiropractor for Friday evening May 22nd
- GSD structure i.e. working dog vs show dog, Paul Johnson will present April 24th with a panel discussion to follow

12 All Breed Liaison –

- Mike will initiate a chat with St Croix Valley

13 Website Report –

- A meeting is scheduled for 6pm this Wednesday at Maplewood Library
- On-line entries were discussed
- Mada will look into using Paypal for on-line payment

14 Breed Club Challenge –

- No report

15 Old Business -

- Geocaching, again discussed for an end of May event

16 New Business –

- None

Next Board meetings **Saturday March 7th & April 4th**

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm

Jill Myers, Secretary

Form VS Function presentation with Paul Johnson April 24

Have you ever wondered why your German Shepherd is built the way he or she is? Have people asked questions like why is your dog sloped like that? What's wrong with your dog? Are your dogs back legs short or what?

Paul will show a video of a GSD in motion and explain the form vs function of the breed. We will see a dog in slow motion video concentrating on each part of the dog as he gaits. This is an excellent opportunity to really focus on exactly what is happening in the front and rear and how they work together to produce the effortless ground covering gait we appreciate in our breed.

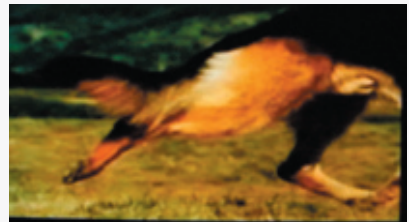


From the AKC German Shepherd Dog Standard: "A German Shepherd Dog is a trotting dog, and its structure has been developed to meet the requirements of its work. General Impression-- The gait is outreaching, elastic, seemingly without effort, smooth and rhythmic, covering the maximum amount of ground with the minimum number of steps. At a walk it covers a great deal of ground, with long stride of both hind legs and forelegs. At a trot the dog covers still more ground with even longer stride, and moves powerfully but easily, with coordination and balance so that the gait appears to be the steady motion of

a well-lubricated machine. The feet travel close to the ground on both forward reach and backward push. In order to achieve ideal movement of this kind, there must be good muscular development and ligamentation. The hindquarters deliver, through the back, a powerful forward thrust which slightly lifts the whole animal and drives the body forward. Reaching far under, and passing the imprint left by the front foot, the hind foot takes hold of the ground; then hock, stifle and upper thigh come into play and sweep back, the stroke of the hind leg finishing with the foot still close to the ground in a smooth follow-through.



The overreach of the hindquarter usually necessitates one hind foot passing outside and the other hind foot passing inside the track of the forefeet, and such action is not faulty unless the locomotion is crabwise with the dog's body sideways out of the normal straight line."



The plan is to have a panel discussion following the video and possibly one or more demo dogs.

Watch the web site for the exact time of this presentation

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



**German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
March 13, 2009**

Board Members:

Mike Metz, President

Julie Swinland, Vice President

Jill Myers, Secretary

Mada Parnell, Treasurer

Liz Oster, Board (1 year remaining)

Board Members Absent:

Ginny Altman, Board (2 year remaining) Lisa Marie Fortier,
Board (3 year term)

President called the meeting to order at 8:38pm

1. Motion by Mada Parnell to dispense with the reading of the minutes as printed was seconded and carried unanimously.

2. President's Report:

- Mike gave kudos to the great club training we've got going on and the fantastic turn out we've been having!
- An additional advanced, competition oriented class will be offered with Virginia Bailey as instructor. A synopsis is being developed.
- AKC Star puppy program is offered in Lisa Maria Fortier's class, April 10th will be the first test.
- Programs – Paul will be presenting a program of the structure of the GSD, working vs show on April 24th, Mada has scheduled a presentation by a dog chiropractor for May 22nd.
- March Match –Events - Geocaching weekend event tentatively planned for May; stay tuned for more information

3. Vice President's Report:

Survey results for a CDC and/or TDI class will be gathered from the website survey.

4. Secretary's Report:

- Futurity Bid for 2011 has been confirmed as received.
- Dick Jones, Tony Monk, Kathy Galotti & Chuck Kline have all accepted invitations to judge at our 2010 Specialty Show

5. Treasurer's Report:

- As of 2/19/09, savings/money market account balance is \$5,698.07 and as of 2/27/09 checking account balance is \$6,202.65

6. Show Report:

- Holly will head a committee to find a new show site for our Specialty Show in 2010 and asked that all members be on the look out for potential locations. ON the spot volunteer committee members were Nils Anderson, Paul Johnson, Judy Morin.
- Holly gave an update on the upcoming 2009 show and

everything is progressing nicely.

7. March Match Report:

- Everything looks good, Mike Wakeling and Kathy S. will be judging, the pot luck will be an ethnic theme. As these minutes were written after the match, it was a fantastic turn out with lots of food and fun competition.

8. Membership Report:

- Linda and James Stein are officially new members of the club! This was the 3rd meeting attended. Welcome and congratulations! They received a round of applause.
- Amy and Craig Hooker, Connie and Debbie Halfen and Donna Weiss each were attending their 1st meeting.

9. Events Reports:

- Jan and Nils Anderson are fundraising for the Animal Humane Society's Walk for Animals on May 2nd for services to help turn "unwanted animals" into adoptable pets. A motion by Holly Bryan was made to donate \$50 from the club. It was seconded and carried unanimously.

10. Programs Report:

- A CPR program will be presented later in the year, more information will follow.
- A youth program was asked about and President Mike Metz agreed it is a gap in the club that needs to be filled. This will be followed up on.
- Breed Club Challenge – get your information to Pam Magadance.

11. Website Report:

Mike, Dave and Julie met and discussed code for on-line entries, Paypal, consolidating the site with less clutter, adding history & famous dogs. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 10th at the Oakdale Library. All with ideas are welcome.

12. Legislative Issue Update:

HF 253 wording limits number of breeding bitches allowed. A motion by Bo Vujovich to send a letter to the Senate as a club was 2nd and passed unanimously. Sheila Metz will compose the letter.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25pm

Jill Myers, Secretary

BRAGS

Zachery Von Hochsicht Completed his CDX
Judith Morin



Club Events

Herding Fun Day

The herding fun days have filled but come and watch May 17 and 24. There will be a pot luck. This was a lot of fun last year. Directions will be in the next issue.

Geocaching Event May 30 9:30 AM

We are planning to have a geocaching day with a pot luck picnic at Afton State Park. Let Julie Swinland know if you are interested. blackforestgsd@msn.com.

Team Obedience

We have two teams set up. Our plan is to compete at our June specialty shows and possibly form one team that goes on to the nationals. We are looking for ways to help sponsor our club team to go to the nationals.

Training Friday nights at the Animal Inn Lake Elmo

The next beginning Obedience class starts April 10.

7:00 Conformation (handler class), intermediate obedience, puppy socialization, 7:45 Rally - all levels, conformation. See Ring schedule and new Spring schedule on the web www.gsdcmsp.org under training.

Herding

Watch for upcoming herding events. The herding fun day was extended to two days, May 17 and May 24. Both days have filled and Eileen is looking into holding another herding fun day this summer. The AKC has approved having a herding trial Oct 2nd. There will be A- Course Sheep and A&B Course Ducks. Also HT&PT.

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