



Shep-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

April 2020

Shep-O-Gram

Editor Julie Swinland

651-457-5459

Blackforestgsd@msn.com

GSDC MSP Officers

President Mike Metz

651-489-7467

lindenhillgsd@comcast.net

Vice President

Julie Swinland

651-457-5459

Blackforestgsd@msn.com

Secretary Kim Morris

651-270-2351

kmorris4369@hotmail.com

Treasurer Laura Meyer

651-451-4013

Blcmeyer920@msn.com

Board members

Ann Jeddelloh

Jen Johnston

Laura Herweyer-Newland

Training Director

Position Open



I find it very difficult to write an editorial this month. If you are aware of the agility community, you probably know that Clark Osojnicki was one of the first to pass of Covid-19. No, he was not a member and he didn't have German Shepherds, but he competed in all of our agility trials. This makes it all more real. I haven't heard if any of our members or their families have been struck with this terrible virus. Hopefully not.

How is everyone doing with the pandemic and stay at home orders? My dogs are going nuts with no classes to go to. What are you doing to keep your dogs occupied? There is always walking, or toys, training exercises, obedience, rally, scent work, etc. One thing I sometimes do is find a space to set up a few low jumps in the living room. If you don't have jump bars, brooms work well. Amber Eisfeld has provided an article in this issue on obedience that might give you ideas also.

All of our club events have been cancelled until June. I believe Ron Halling might have one exception with the obedience and socialization workshop which might be held outside in Apple Valley. He will send out a notice when workshops resume. At this time, the June 20-21 Obedience/Rally trials are still on.

We are working on rescheduling some events. The German Shepherd Fun Day has been rescheduled to Sept. 27. Mike Metz is working on rescheduling the specialty shows in conjunction with the St. Croix Valley shows in August if possible. We might have the GSDCA Temperament Test in conjunction with a match or as a standalone.

At this time it looks like we will probably not have a German Shepherd Dog Club demo day at the State Fair. Our day has been taken over and there are no other openings unless a club drops out. The Herding trial will still be held September 19-20 and the October Obedience/Rally trial will go on.

Julie Swinland
Blackforestgsd@msn.com

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April 24 Membership Meeting 8:00 by phone

Can I Walk My Dog During A Pandemic? Addressing U.S. Coronavirus Concerns

By William Hank

Mar 18, 2020 | 3 Minutes



On March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 novel coronavirus outbreak was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization. As the virus and ensuing panic has spread to countries across the world, the big question concerning pet owners is: can dogs get coronavirus?

There is currently no evidence that this strain of coronavirus, COVID-19, is believed to be a threat to dogs. That said, dog owners face the unique responsibility of maintaining their dogs' health and safety while adhering to increasing recommendations towards social distancing, self-monitoring, and even quarantines. To help educate on how to care for dogs during the coronavirus pandemic, we've put together some basic information that can help decipher dog owner questions during these trying times.

Due to the uncertain and evolving nature of the pandemic, be sure to stay up to date with local, state, and federal protocols each day, as available information and health recommendations remain subject to change.

Can I Walk My Dog?

Since the early days of the outbreak, when social media showed photos of dogs in masks and full bodysuits, it's been determined that dogs are not in fact at risk to COVID-19. While dog ownership has its health benefits, all humans are currently at risk to the coronavirus outbreak. So does that mean you shouldn't leave your house to let your dog do their business?

First, if you test positive for COVID-19 or have been exposed to the coronavirus, experts recommend restricting contact with your pets. Doing so helps the virus from transmitting to their skin or coat, which might then be passed on to another person who touches your dog. In these cases, owners should consider asking family members or friends for help walking your dog or dogs.

Physical and mental exercise is extremely important for dogs and dog owners alike. As long as the area in which they reside remains safe enough to venture outside, dog owners feeling healthy and well should plan to continue walking their dogs daily, albeit with added safety measures. Observe any local ordinances concerning curfews, even if that means adjusting your dog walking schedule.

Owners should wash their hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds before and after each walk. Consider carrying around a pocket-sized bottle of hand sanitizer during your walks. Practice social distancing measures by walking your dog in uncrowded areas when possible. If you live in a big city, make efforts to take your dog down less-heavily-trafficked blocks, or try adjusting walks to less busy times of day and night.

Can I Play With My Dog Outside?

For owners fortunate enough to have fenced-in yards, outdoor play is acceptable and encouraged. Again, however, hygiene and cleanliness are more important than ever during a pandemic. So, wash hands before and after outdoor play, and wipe your pet's paws down before they come back inside.

Keeping Your Dog Active Indoors

While outdoor exercise is still possible for some dog owners during the pandemic, it's not necessarily an option for all, such as those being asked to shelter in place. Thankfully, there are plenty of ways to exercise and entertain your dog indoors, including indoor scent games, dog sport training, and even treadmills for dogs.

The bottom line is that dog owners have a responsibility to be educated, aware, safe, and responsible with their dogs during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Life in America has been upended in many ways, and dog ownership is no exception. However, with the right knowledge and precautions taken, dog owners can help guide their pets through this pandemic in a socially responsible way.

The AKC is here to help dog owners adapt to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Find answers to all your coronavirus concerns, plus at-home activity ideas, training tips, educational resources, and more at our 'Coping With Coronavirus COVID-19' hub.



Do I Need to Clean My Dog's Teeth?

Yes! Home dental care is one of the best ways to help keep your dog's teeth and gums healthy. Start as early as possible in your canine friend's life so he or she will become accustomed to the brushing process.

What should I use to brush my dog's teeth?

Use a moistened dog toothbrush with soft bristles. If you do not have a specially designed pet toothbrush, you can also use a child's toothbrush, a finger toothbrush, gauze around a finger or a cotton swab.

Do I need to use a special toothpaste to brush my dog's teeth?

Pet toothpaste, often flavored like poultry, malt and other dog-friendly varieties, is your best option. Never use human toothpaste, baking soda or salt. While safe for you, these cleaning agents can be harmful to your dog if swallowed.

At-home teeth cleaning tips

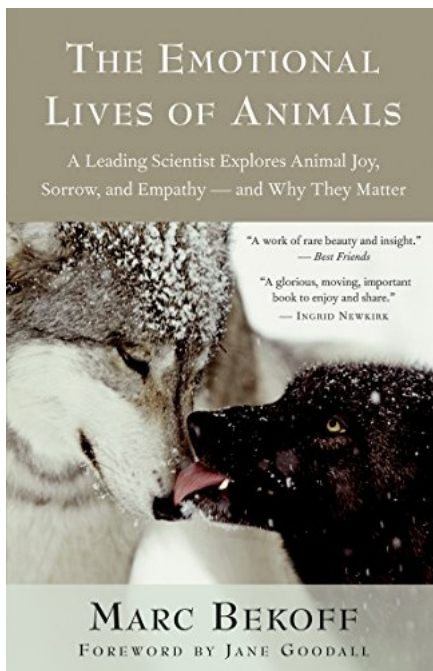
Keep the following tips in mind to make the process easier for you and more comfortable for your dog. You can also watch our at-home dental care video to see the process in action.

- Use a specially designed dog toothbrush or a recommended alternative.
- Never use human toothpaste. Instead, use pet-safe toothpaste with a flavor favorable to your dog's taste buds. Give your dog a small sample of the toothpaste to introduce the taste.
- Lift the lip to expose the outside surfaces of your dog's gums and teeth.
- Brush with gentle motions to clean the teeth and gums, as you would your own.
- Clean the outside (cheek-facing) surfaces, as most pets will not allow you to brush the inside surface of the teeth. Be sure to reach the back upper molars and canines, as these teeth tend to quickly build up tartar.
- Reward your dog with play, petting or a favorite activity to positively reinforce the brushing process.

How often should I brush my dog's teeth at home?

Your dog's teeth should be brushed as often as possible, ideally every day. There are numerous dental care products, pastes, solutions, brushes, chew toys and dental diets that help you provide your dog with the home dental care he deserves.

Marc Bekoff, *The Emotional Lives of Animals*. New World Library. 2006.



Marc Bekoff is Professor Emeritus of biology at the University of Colorado—Boulder and he has spent the latter part of his professional life in the field of cognitive ethology, the study of emotions in non-human animals. He clearly wrote this book for a popular audience although his credentials as a scientist and his useful notes and bibliography provide reading signposts for those who wish to delve a bit more into this topic.

Bekoff has three main arguments woven into his volume. First, he presents anecdotal as well as scientific evidence to counter those who argue that animals feel no emotions but are merely exhibiting a response to environmental or social stimulus. It may seem self-evident to anyone who lives with animals that they experience happiness (just take out that leash) or sadness (on the death or disappearance of a pack member) but just the other day an article popped up on my feed giving this very reading of animal behavior. So, it seems as if Bekoff's book is still relevant even 14 years after its initial publication. Bekoff widens this theme to

include statements from prominent psychologists and philosophers, amongst others. Some scholars make sweeping claims such as that humans are the only animals who think about the future or that empathy sets the human brain apart from all other brains. Bekoff argues that these claims are not accurate, and he presents proof to show otherwise.

Bekoff's second theme is to widen our understanding of emotions in non-humans to the whole of the animal kingdom. Those of us who are very involved with dogs know first-hand that they have feelings. It's a no-brainer. But many of Bekoff's examples of emotional displays are chosen from the wild in animals such as elephants, magpies or chimpanzees; however, these aren't random anecdotes from unnamed individuals. Jane Goodall herself wrote the introduction to this book and Bekoff is careful to name other scientists who provide case studies. In addition, the author isn't focusing on one emotion but on a wide variety of exhibited behaviors such as sadness, grief, joy and—my favorite—a sense of humor. For anyone interested in animals, the detailed descriptions of animals reacting in ways that seem familiar is fascinating. Be warned, however, that many of these sketches involve pain or fear; I read quite a few pages with tears in my eyes.

And this leads to the author's third, and perhaps most important, theme in this book. By using scientific evidence and numerous examples of emotional displays from the animal world, Marc Bekoff wants to remind humans to act with compassion toward those who share this earth with us. If diverse animals have rich and deep emotional lives, why do we tolerate factory farming or needless use of animals in laboratory situations? Bekoff ends his book with the same question that he frequently asks other scientists: 'Would you do this to your dog?'



PROGRESS REPORT



Curbing Tumor Growth and Chemotherapy Resistance in Canine Hemangiosarcoma

Erin Dickerson, PhD, University of Minnesota, D17CA-059

Projected End Date: 06/30/20

Morris Animal Foundation-funded researchers are evaluating if the beta-blocking agent propranolol can interrupt or block a common cellular signaling pathway associated with hemangiosarcoma, an almost uniformly fatal cancer in dogs. Propranolol is a drug commonly used to treat heart disease in dogs and people that also has shown promise as an adjunct treatment for hemangiosarcoma.

So far, researchers found propranolol prevents tumor cells from harvesting essential nutrients from the surrounding environment, which in turn impedes tumor growth.

In another arm of the study, the team is evaluating the effects of propranolol alone, doxorubicin (a chemotherapeutic agent commonly used to treat hemangiosarcoma) alone, or a combination of propranolol and doxorubicin on tumor growth. Early data indicates combining propranolol and doxorubicin was superior in slowing tumor growth compared to propranolol or doxorubicin treatment alone.

The team also is testing to see if the administration of propranolol can re-sensitize doxorubicin-resistant hemangiosarcoma cells to the effects of doxorubicin. Preliminary results are encouraging and the team is looking more closely at the mechanisms behind this phenomenon.

Hemangiosarcoma is a devastating and deadly cancer. The tumor grows quickly and spreads rapidly, with half of all dogs dying within four to six months of diagnosis even with treatment. Prognosis for dogs has not changed in more than a decade, and new treatments are desperately needed.

Findings from this study were used to inform the design of a clinical trial. A clinical trial is now underway at the University of Minnesota, the University of Pennsylvania, and Purdue University to determine if propranolol in combination increases the survival time of dogs with hemangiosarcoma. The trial will further inform whether this drug combination can be used for the treatment of hemangiosarcoma in dogs.

Thank you to the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation and to other generous sponsors of this study!

What does exposure mean? by Amber Eisfeld

People always ask me what I mean by the rule of 7. This is something that whether I am teaching a group class or doing a private lesson I make it a priority for all puppies to experience at some point before the age of 4 months. Even if your puppy didn't get to experience all of the rule of 7's before...it's never too late to start.

Number 1

Been in 7 different environments. This could include inside your house, your backyard, a training facility, a local park, a local pet supply company, etc.



Number 2

Have met at least 7 different types of people. People of all ages from young children, adults, and seniors. People with physical and intellectual disabilities. Encourage your dog that wheelchairs or walkers are OK!



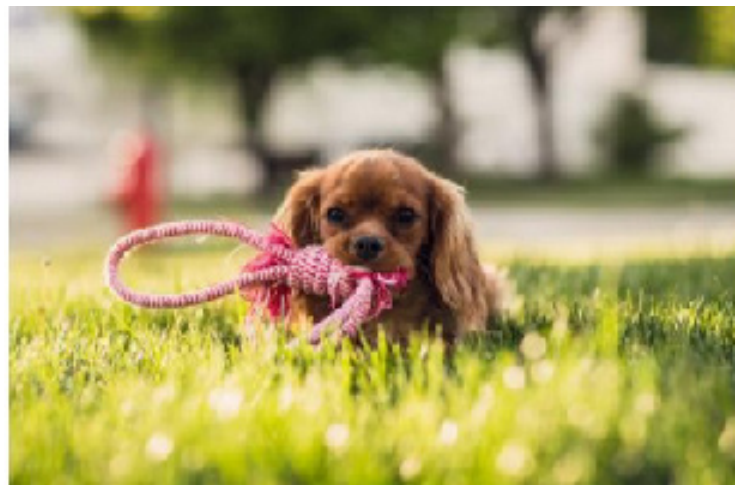
Number 3

Heard 7 different types of sounds. This can include thunder, fireworks, motorcycles, buzzers, alarm clocks, music, etc.



Number 4

Puppy has played with 7 different types of toys. Toys can range from tug toys, kongs, balls, stuffed animals, squeaky toys, plastic items, etc.



Number 5

Eaten from 7 different food containers and in 7 different places. This can include their own bowl and your hands. Move the location of the food so your puppy doesn't get set on eating in only one location.



Number 6

Been exposed to 7 different types of surfaces. This could include going through a tunnel, going up/down stairs, sand, wood, etc.



Number 7

Meet 7 different types of animals (if possible). This should be easy if you are in an all breed class for dogs but if you have the opportunity don't be afraid to have your puppy see horses, cats, cows, sheep, etc.



When exposing your pup to these new situations take it slow and make it positive. Do not force your puppy to do something or they will end up not liking it at all. Instead, build their confidence with rewards and praise. A well-socialized pup will be a better-behaved adult dog that will be easier and safer to handle

Lastly, keep the challenges coming!

The next Socialization/Obedience Workshop with Ron Halling & Lisa Veit is TBD.

10 am sharp lecture
11:15 hands-on class
12 pm Potluck lunch
1 pm activity class.

This month's afternoon class will continue to build on our advanced heeling and control. We'll also continue our "way of life" series preparing people for upcoming CGC and Therapy Dog testing coming up in June. This month we'll also do directed jumping and off-leash recalls.

Ron Halling
hallings@frontiernet.net
612-720-1536



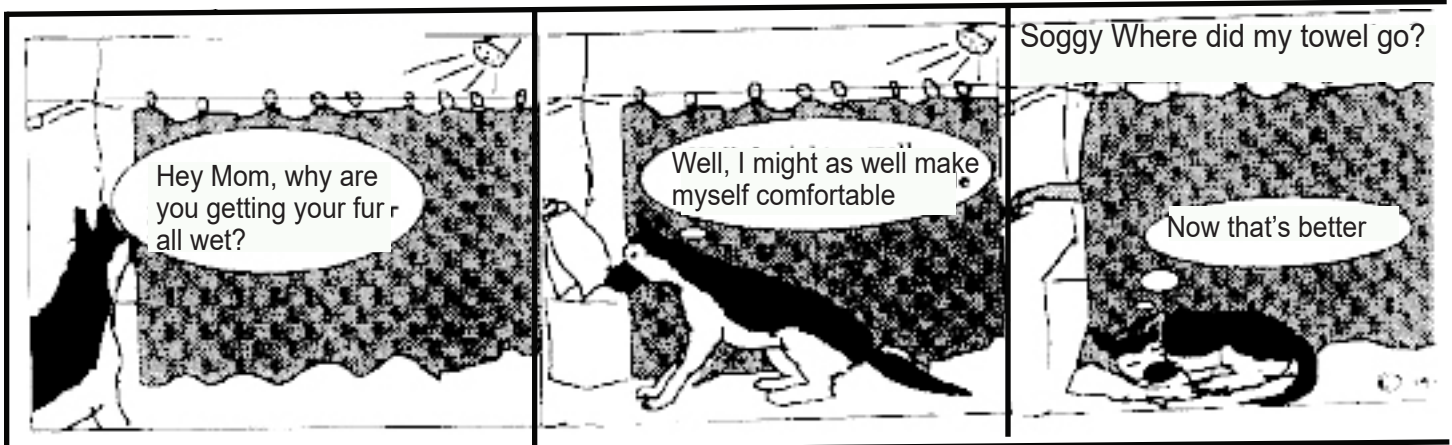
If you're new to the workshops, please contact Ron to discuss which class is right for you and any issues ahead of time.

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



SOGGY by Julie Swinland

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Continued on page 9

Braggs Etc.

Bones is the # 5 AKC ranked GSD in the USA as of right now. Not sure how the outcome of the qualifying period for the 2020 AKC Invationals will pan out. The period ends on June 30th. With all the country in a Stay At Home status and no one is trialing, I'm not sure how the AKC is going to proceed... he is in the top 5 so he would get an invite as of now.



David Mielke provided an example of what happens when dogs are allowed to amuse themselves!



Soggy says..

Shelter in place and find something good to chew on.



DOG-FRIENDLY OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS

Always ask a veterinarian before giving any medication to your dog. Even "safe" human meds can be toxic to certain breeds or pets with preexisting conditions.



BENDADRYL
FOR ALLERGIES AND ITCHING
1 milligram per pound of dog

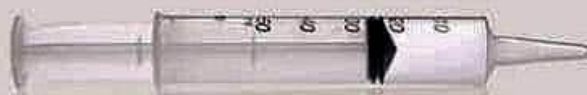


BUFFERED ASPIRIN
TO RELIEVE PAIN AND INFLAMMATION

1/2 baby aspirin for dogs under 10 pounds
1 baby aspirin for dogs 10-30 pounds
1/2 regular aspirin for dogs 30-50 pounds
1 regular aspirin for dogs 50-100 pounds
2 regular aspirins for dogs over 100 pounds

DRAMAMINE FOR MOTION SICKNESS

12.5 milligrams for small dogs
25 milligrams for medium dogs
50 milligrams for large dogs



HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

USED TO INDUCE VOMITING AFTER ACCIDENTAL INGESTION OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES

10 milliliters by mouth



PEPTO BISMOL

FOR DIARRHEA, VOMITING AND GAS
1 teaspoon per 20 pounds of dog's weight (toxic to cats!)



HYDROCORTISONE

FOR ITCHING OR IRRITATED SKIN

Small amount applied topically up to twice daily

GAS-X



TO MINIMIZE FLATULENCE OR GAS DISCOMFORT

1/4 adult dose for small dogs
1/2 adult dose for medium dogs
1 adult dose for large dogs

PEPCID AC (FAMOTIDINE)

TO REDUCE STOMACH ACIDS CAUSED BY ULCERS, ACID REFLUX OR BELLACHIE

1/4 tablet for dogs under 20 pounds
1/2 tablet for dogs 20-60 pounds
1 tablet for dogs over 60 pounds



IMODIUM A-D

FOR DIARRHEA

1 milligram per pound of dog

ROBITUSSIN DM

FOR COUGHING OR HACKING
1 teaspoon per 10 pounds of dog's weight





The German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Name (Please Print) _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Please indicate the name(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to: _____

Number of German Shepherds you own: _____ Number of litters bred in the last two years: _____

PLEASE INDICATE (X) THE AREAS IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:

Obedience: Rally: Conformation: Agility: Herding: Breeding: Other (please specify): _____

I would be interested in helping with the following activities:

- Specialty Shows & Trials: Fun Matches: Programs: Sheep-O-Gram: Training:
- Hospitality: Fundraising: Fun Day: State Fair:
- Breeder: Club Member: Facebook: Training: Rescue: State Fair: Friend:
- Show/Trial: Fun Day: Socialization/Obedience Workshop: Vet:

PLEASE INDICATE HOW YOU HEARD ABOUT THE CLUB:

I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE CLUB AND AGREE TO BE GOVERNED BY ITS BY-LAWS.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

MEMBER PROPOSED BY: _____

This application must be accompanied by a check for one year's dues and signed by a current club member sponsor. Dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for a couple. Please make checks payable to the GSDC of Mpls & St. Paul. Return this application at a training class or club meeting or mail with check to:

Please Note: At the next Membership Meeting following the date applied, the applicant will be announced in the Minutes, whereas any Club members that may object to membership have 30 days to raise their concern. If no concerns are raised, the applicant receives Membership status as stated in the Bylaws which are on the website at www.gsdca.org. Dues shall be assessed on a yearly basis from October 1 through September 30. Membership dues for applicants that become members between July of a given year and the December Membership Meeting date of that year will be waived for the following year.

Please direct any questions to _____

To be completed by Membership Chair:

Date Dues Paid: _____ Check: Cash: Club cash box: Online: Mailed with Application:

Applicant's name added to membership list:



German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. Application for Membership

There are two types of membership: **Regular Members:** Minimum age of 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. Applicant (and renewing members) agrees to abide by the GSDCA by-laws and the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club. Two endorsements by current members must be provided by new applicants. Applicant's name will be published in the German Shepherd Dog Review. Provided no objections have been filed within 30 days of publication in the Review, applicant will be notified that he/she is eligible for all privileges including the right to vote. **Junior Members:** Must be 10 years of age and not more than 18 years of age and shall subscribe to the same criteria as Regular Membership with the exception of the requirement to pay dues. Junior members cannot vote, hold office, or serve on committees other than Junior committees.

To apply and pay **ONLINE** with a credit card, please go to gsdca.org/join-the-gsdca/apply-online. You can **MAIL** this form to Laura Gilbert, 557 Dunning Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322

Circle Your Desired Membership Type:

Membership Review Category	Delivery	One year	Three year	Five year
Single	Online only	\$45	\$130	\$215
Single	Print & online	\$75	\$215	\$355
Family	Online only	\$70	\$200	\$335
Family	Print & online	\$115	\$325	\$545
		Additional delivery charges		
		Delivery in poly wrap: \$5.00		
		1st Class delivery: \$36.00		
		Outside United States: \$24.00		

Membership Information (please print)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Date of Birth: _____ (Juniors Only)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP/ Postal Code _____

Country: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

For FAMILY Memberships, provide 2nd member information. (Family membership is defined as 2 people living in the same household -- principal & one other person).

Last Name _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Telephone _____ Email: _____

What activities do you enjoy with your GSD? (Circle all that apply) Agility Conformation Herding

House Pet Obedience Rally Schutzhund/Working Dog Sport Tracking Other

Endorser 1 Printed Name & Signature _____

Endorser 2 Printed Name & Signature _____

Applicant/ Member Signature _____ Date: _____

Club Events Calendar

April 24 Membership Meeting -by phone

May 18 Ron Halling Workshop? - TBD

June 20-21 Obedience/Rally Trial -Animal Inn

August Specialty Show?

Sept 19-20 GSDCMSP Herding Trial and Farm Dog Certification - Polly Simpson's

Sept 27 GSD Fun Day Animal Inn

Oct 24-25 Obedience/Rally trial Animal Inn

GSDCMSP Class Schedule

**AT THIS TIME WE ARE CLOSED THRU MID JUNE
Ring 3**

Rally Julie Swinland6:00-7:20

Conformation Ginny Altman.....7:30

Rally and Conformation will continue when we reopen while we work on recruiting and training new obedience trainers. If you are interested in learning to train or know someone who is, please contact:

**Ron Halling
hallings@frontiernet.net
612-720-1536**

**AMERICAN GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG
Charitable Foundation**

To the Health of the Breed

Donations make it possible for the AGSDCF to continue supporting grants and fellowships. Please join us in our mission to better the health of our beloved breed.

[click here to donate](#)

Hemangiosarcoma is a deadly cancer and prognosis has not changed in more than a decade.

Dr. Erin Dickerson and her researchers at the University of Minnesota have come up with exciting information which has resulted in a new clinical trial now underway at the University of Minnesota, the University of Pennsylvania, and Purdue University.

The AGSDCF is extremely proud to have helped sponsor Dr. Dickerson's study "Curbing Tumor Growth and Chemotherapy Resistance in Canine Hemangiosarcoma".

[Click here to read Dr. Dickerson's Progress Report](#)

The only way we can continue to fund studies is through your generous donations.... our beautiful breed, the German Shepherd Dog, truly appreciates your support.



Sit, Stay.....



This notice refers to the progress report on page 5