

# Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

November 2019

#### Shep-O-Gram

Editor Julie Swinland 651- 457-5459 Blackforestgsd@msn.com

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#### **Board members**

Ann Jeddeloh Jen Johnston Laura Herweyer-Newland

Training Director Position Open



We lost a long time Honorary Member last month, Pat Peterson. She was approaching her 100th birthday. I found a few pictures that are on page 2 of this issue. Pat and her husband Chell were active in the club and handled rescue long ago. Chell passed in January 2008. If anyone has any pictures or stories they would like to share please let me know.

The US and Canadian National shows are over and I am sure there will be more brags sent in. I grabbed what I could find. Our breeders/owners did very well once again.

There was a GSD walk in Dawn Ebbenga's Pumpkin Patch this month and we have more events coming up such as the obedience/rally trials Oct 26-27 and The dog and cat first aid and CPR certification/presentation is on November 8. Please contact me (Julie Swinland) to sign up. We need one more person to get the reduced rate of \$70.

In December we have a Workshop Wonderland with pictures with Santa and a pot luck. More information will be coming on this in the next issue, Fun, Prizes, Raffles, Games, etc. At the November meeting we will have the vote on whether or not to separate Obedience and Rally from the annual specialty.

Of course the planning for the Annual Banquet has started and we have the Awards Form on page 13 for dogs who received an AKC title in 2019. When your dog earns his or her first AKC title he or she is eligible for a plaque. In the following years, if they earn more titles they can add bars to the plaque with the new titles listed. These are free to members. If you decide you would rather upgrade to a new

\$30 for each year, you must pay \$30 for each new plaque. Please complete the form printing clearly, and submit to Mada Skare. You need a separate form for each dog receiving a plaque or bar. The form is due by December 10. In addition you should include a write up about the dog receiving the plaque. This will be included in the program printed for the banquet. Remember to bring a framed 8x10 photo of your dog to the banquet.

Julie Swinland
Blackforestgsd@msn.com

#### Index

Page 1 Editorial

Page 2 Pat Peterson

Page 3 -6 Nationals Brags

Page 7 Other End of the Leash

**Book Review** 

Page 8-9 Pumpkin Walk and

**Workshop Wonderland** 

Page 10 Training and

**Communication with Amber Elsfeld** 

Page 11 Membership Applications

Page 12 Brags

Page 13 Annual Awards Form

Page 14-15 Is a Grain or Gluten

Free Diet Right For My Dog?

Page 16 Event Calendar

&Training Schedule

# **Pat Peterson**

December 24 1010- October 5 2019



1977 Awards banquet

Pat and Chell Peterson At the 1986 Awards Banquet

Patricia L. 'Pat' Peterson

Patricia L. 'Pat' Peterson

Peterson, Patricia L. "Pat" age 99 of Webster, MN passed away peacefully at her home on October 5, 2019. Pat was born on December 24, 1919 in Page, ND to Ralph and Anna Hemmesch. She retired from Cargill Corporation after 40+ years. Pat and Chell raised and rescued many German Shepherds throughout the years. Pat is preceded in death by her loving husband, Chell; parents, and brother, Donald Hemmesch. She is survived by her nephew, Daniel Hemmesch and her special friend and caregiver Debra and Rob Horejsi and their family. Funeral Service will be held 11 AM Thursday, October 10, 2019 at the White Funeral Home, 201 5th Ave NW., Lonsdale (952-269-2723) with a visitation starting at 10 AM. Interment, Sunset Cemetery, Mpls, MN Condolences: whitefuneralhomes.com

Published on October 8, 2019





Amber Eisfeld and Sheila D Williams-Metz and I are proud to add AOE\* Select Excellent to Pac's name. He is

AOE\* SEL EX FV CH Lindenhill's **Cold Pac V Gracelyne TC/CGCA/** CGCU/CD/RE/BN/TKP/OFA-H/E

Pac is out of SEL EX GCH CH **Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne** TC/ROM OFA H/E x Lindenhill's **Gracelyne Tin Cup ROM** 

Award of Excellence (AOE)- Pending\*



Ch. Lindenhill's Iron Throne v Gracelyne TC OFA H/E was fourth in the Maturity finals. Deacon is owned by Stephanie Steigerwald, Rick Seki and Mike. He was bred by Rick & Liann Seki, Sheila and Mike Metz.

Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH. Lindenhill's Martello v

Gracelyne x

Dam: Lindenhill-Gracelyne's

Tin Cup ROM



Kubistraum's Power Pack(aka Packer) was awarded Second in the Futurity Finals. Packer is owned and bred by Verna Kubik and Virginia Baily

Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH. Lindenhill's Martello

v Gracelyne TC ROM\*

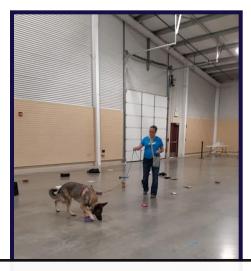
Dam: GCH CH Kubistraums Vista Of Aramist

**Peters Elite** 

Packer was handled to perfection by team

**Diane and Tim Brown** 





Bella and I earned 1st Place in the Excellent Interior search, 1st Place in the Excellent Exterior search and 3rd Place in the Excellent Container search at the inaugural GSDCA National Specialty Scent Work Trial on Oct. 8, 2019. We found 10/12 hides in all (missed two Buried hides). Bella and Sarah Falk

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 BEST BRED-BY EXHIBITOR MARQUIS' CRIMSON DN50052602. 5/4/2017

Breeder: Maria Oster/Liz Oster/Liana New. GCHP CH Marquis' Hermes V Kenlyn - Marquis'

I Love A Rainy Night. Owner: Maria Oster. GRAND VICTOR GCHP CH MARQUIS' HERMES V KENLYN

Dog DN43835101. 8/11/2015 Owner: Kent Boyles|Liz Oster.

BEST OPPOSITE PUPPY

KENLYN MARQUIS' SULTAN OF SWING SEVEN

**HILLS** 

Owner: Liz Oster|Kent Boyles.



Lindenhill's Spellbound v
Steffca was second in the
American Bred Class. Many
considered this the strongest
class of the national. Charm
is owned by Stephanie
Steigerwald, Rick Seki and
Sheila. She was bred by Rick
Seki, Naomi Swanson, Ingrid
Smith and Mike Metz.
Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH.
Lindenhill's Martello v
Gracelyne x



Top 20 agility dogs and handlers with judge Oksana Rhonda Meath and Dawn Ebbenga are in the middle.



At the 2019 GSDCA Nationals held in Loveland CO, club member Rhonda Meath & her 3 year old German Shepherd Dog Lila competed in the scent work trial and agility.

Lila earned her AKC scent titles in Novice Containers, Interiors & Exteriors as well as High In Trial at the All Breed Trial .This was Lila's first AKC scent trial.

MajestatiscHaus Sie Hat Das Aussehen Lila Madchen RN OAP OJP OFP CGC TKI

FUTURITY VICTOR / BEST OPPOSITE FUTURITY TODORHAUS TRIO KING KONG Breeder: Sharon Todoroff/Kelly Foehl OWNER: Sharon Todoroff|Kelly Foehl And Tifani King earned Reserve Jr Handler.



Continued on page 6



Marty will again be included in the GSDCA redbook as a top 10 futurity / maturity sire for 2019.

GO MARTY!!!!

Marty was bred by Rick and Liann Seki, and is owned and loved by Sheila, Rick, Liann and I.

Pending GSDCA confirmation, Marty has completed the requirements for his Register of Merit.

Title and Pedigree updates.

Sel.Exc.GCH.CH.Lindenhill's Martello v

Gracelyne ROM / TC / OFA H/E

Sire: AOE.GV.Ch.Mar Haven's Color Guard HT

PT TC ROM/ROMC OFA H/E

Dam: Gracelyne's Miki Moto ROM OFA H

### Top 20 Futurity/Maturity Sires Owned by Club Members

**GCH Ch Bloomsberrys Amadeus** 

**GCH CH Lindenhill"s Martello V Gracelyne** 

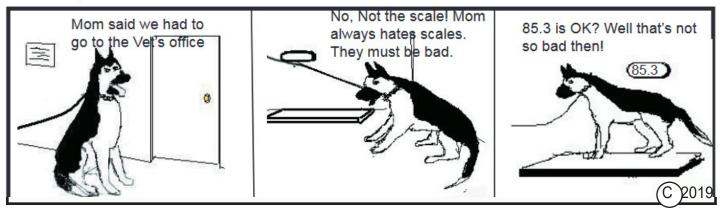
GCHP Ch Rosewood's Galileo CGC

GCH Ch Marquis' Hermes V Kenlyn



Paul Schumack and Belle, 3rd in Novice B Obedience and 4th in Rally Novice earning a Rally Novice title.

#### SOGGY by Julie Swinland

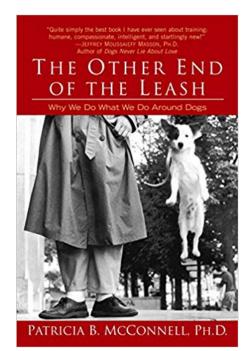


#### The Other End of the Leash, Patricia B. McConnell,

Ph.D.,Ballantine Book, 2002. Book Review by Cynthia Curran

Even though this book was first published 17 years ago, Patricia McConnell's insights and observations on dog behavior and training are still valuable today. One of the characteristics which sets this dog training book apart from the thousands available today is McConnell's doctorate in zoology with a specialty in the study of animal behavior. This scientific background brings a weight to her book and she has a lovely (and hefty) reference section at the back of the book, arranged by the subjects covered in each chapter. If the reader wishes to understand a topic in more depth, McConnell has made it easy. But please don't think this author writes in complex scientific jargon. Her prose is crisp and she wisely chooses to illustrate her points with anecdotes from her own pack of dogs or from the many clients she has worked with.

One of McConnell's main themes is that it is crucial to understand the differences in communication between primates (humans) and Canis lupus familiaris (dogs.) She argues that many dog behavior issues



stem from this disparity. One of her examples is the urge to hug. Primates hug babies out of affection and each other in reconciliation or tenderness. Dogs, however, are discomfitted by an arm thrown over the back which can mean a display of dominance or aggression. McConnell notes that many dogs come to tolerate hugging from their owners but others will growl or lunge. The same effect can be noted in direct, face-to-face contact. With primates, this is seen as an open and trusting way to greet but dogs are very uncomfortable with someone who approaches them head on, especially with a hand poised over their heads.

As interesting as McConnell's dissection of physical movements is, my favorite part of her book is when she pairs sound with movement when interacting with dogs. Many people put great store on the words they use to train dogs but McConnell uses her primary research and that of many others, to demonstrate that dogs respond far more to body language and to the tone and pitch of our voices. Low, guttural sounds will slow down an animal's movement while higher pitched rapid sounds will speed him up. Think of horses and the joyous 'Giddyup' or slower, deeper 'Whoa there.' McConnell has a fascinating chapter where she illustrates using these sounds instead of words to get an immediate, accurate response from dogs. She pairs the sounds with hand movements or shoulder positions for a fascinating glimpse into the trainer's behavior which influences the dog more than a vocabulary of commands. Just before I started to write this review, I told my dog Angus to get in his crate. I usually sweep my hand in front of the open door but for some reason, tonight I made a large upward sweep with my whole arm. To my astonishment, Angus made a giant leap from a standing position and landed on top of the crate! McConnell would say he was doing what I told him to do with my arm, rather than listening to the words 'Go to bed' that I say every day.

McConnell has many more fascinating insights and stories than I can sketch here. Her discussion of dominance and the misunderstanding and misapplication of this term to dog behavior is alone worth the time to read this book. She isn't a person who is blinded by idealism. She discusses the bleak situations where the only safe option is to destroy a dog in his prime. She also notes several tragic instances where dogs were needlessly put down because of a human's inability to read simple behavioral differences. Even if you read Patricia McConnell's book when it was first published, I urge you to do so again. I understand things now that I glossed over as unimportant the first time I encountered her views. For the examples alone and for McConnell's gentle and tolerant outlook, this volume is will deepen your understanding of yourself and your relationship to your dog.



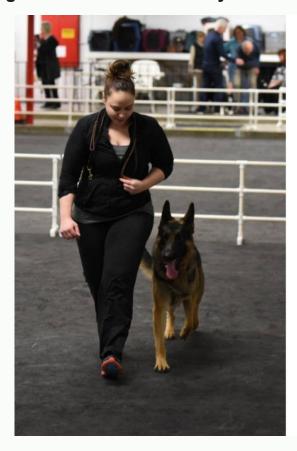
#### **Group Walk Confinued**

We had a beautiful day for the group walk at Dawn Ebbenga's Pumpkin Patch in Shafer MN. There was nice walk through the fields and lots of photo opportunities with various Halloween themes. One of the highlights of the event was the giant slide That was mostly for people but some dogs also went down the slide

There was also a shoe drive. For Skylar's Scholarships, a 501 C3 organization which is dedicated to fund raising for German Shepherd Dogs in need, along with supporting K9 departments with funding for equipment for their working dogs.



#### **Training and Communication by Amber Eisfeld**



TRUE
COMMUNICATION
GOES
BEYOND SAYING
COMMANDS. IT IS
THE FOUNDATION
OF MAKING
A TEAM STRONG.



#### Training & Communication

The fundamental form of communication is your attention. This is true whether you are teaching some new skill, practicing an old one, or refining an advanced behavior. When you give your attention to something your dog does - through touch, voice, eye contact, smiling, or laughter - you draw attention to the behavior. This tells your dog that you find the behavior worthy of interest. Dogs, being sociable creatures, find most interaction and attention reinforcing. They value it and will work to get it. - Julie Cantrell

I could not agree with this more. Here are a couple of tips on promoting this communication:

- Bring yourself into a training session committed to focusing on your dog to the same extent that you are asking him to focus on you
  - a. Avoid training when you are distracted or preoccupied.
     This is basic respect and consideration.
- 2. Invite learning with your facial expressions and demeanor
  - a. Training should be a positive, pleasant experience for you and your dog. Soften your eyes. Take a deep breath. Relax your body. Smile. When you are relaxed and happy, your dog will likely be more willing to work.
- 3. Communicate Confidence & Composure
  - Keep an upright but relaxed posture and be still. Too much gestures and body movement can create confusion.
- Be consistent & promote cooperation
  - a. Keep your words consistent along with your tone. Using different words and cues is confusing to your dog. You are a teacher, coach and a mentor. You do not need to assume a tough sounding voice in order to get your dog to listen.
- 5. Appreciation is sincere
  - a. Praise doesn't need to have a certain tone quality, pitch or gesture nearly as much as it needs to convey that you are sincerely pleased and happy at that moment.



Address:

State:

Zip

Phone:

Date:

Applicant Name (Please Print) \_

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

Membership Review Category Delivery Single Online only Single Print & online Family Prin		Cash: Club cash box: Online:
Membership Review Category Delivery Single Online only Single Print & online Family Online only Family Print & online Family Print &	Name & Signature  Endorser 2 Printed  Name & Signature	
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Membership Review Category Delivery Single Online only Single Print & online Family Print & online Last Name:  Country: Country: Country: Tor FAMILY Memberships, pro same household principal & or same household principal & or Telephone Telephone Telephone Telephone House Pet Obedience	1	Please direct any questions to
Membership Review Category Delivery Category Delivery Category Delivery Delivery Single Online only Family Print & online only Fa	ereas What activities do you enjoy v House Pet Obedience a	Please Note: At the next Membership Meeting following the date applied, the applicant will be amnounced 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 <a href="https://www.gsdcmap.org">www.gsdcmap.org</a> . 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 wear and the December Membership Meeming date of that year will be waited for the following year.
Membership Review   Category   Delivery		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:
(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to:		This application must be accompanied by a check for one year's dues and signed by a current club member
(\$) of any other dog clubs you belong to:	For FAMILY Memberships, provide	
	Country:Tele	ANT SIGNATURE:
Membership Review Category Delivery	City:	I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE CLUB AND AGREE TO BE GOVERNED BY ITS BY. LAWS.
dog clubs you belong to:  Number of Litters bred in the last two years:  VHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:  ion:  Agility:  Herding:  Breeding:  Other (please following activities:  Matches:  Programs:  Shep-O-Gram:  Training:  In Day:  State Fair:	Date of Birth:	ARD ABOUT THE CLUB: Facebook: ☐ Training: ☐ ocialization/Obedience Worksho
dog clubs you belong to:  Number of Litters bred in the last two years:  WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:  ion:  Agility:  Herding:  Breeding:  Other (please following activities:		Shep-O-Gram:
dog clubs you belong to:  Number of Litters bred in the last two years:  VHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:  Other (please		I would be interested in helping with the following activities:
dog clubs you belong to:  Number of Litters bred in the last two years:  WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:	R35P	Conformation:   Agility:
dog clubs you belong to:  Number of Litters bred in the last two years:		PLEASE INDICATE (X) THE AREAS IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:
dog clubs you belong to:	Family	Number of German Shepherds you own:Number of Litters bred in the last two years:
	Single	
Circle Your Desired Membership Ty	Desired rship Re	Please indicate the name(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to:



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

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.

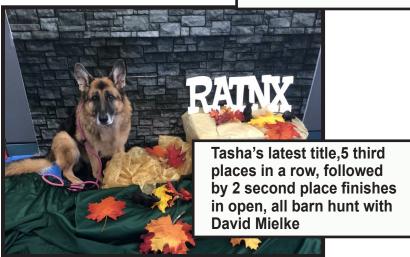
To apply and pay ONLINE with a credit card, please go to <a href="mailto:gsdca/apply-online">gsdca.org/join-the-gsdca/apply-online</a>. You can MAIL this form to Laura Gilbert, 557 Dunning Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322

	Circle Your Desired Men Membership Review Category Deliv	Circle Your Desired Membership Type: Membership Review Category Delivery	Type: One year	Three year	Five year	
	Single	Online only	\$45	\$130	\$215	
ed in the last two years:	Single	Print & online	\$75	\$215	\$355	
	Family	Online only	\$70	\$200	\$335	
TED:	Family	Print & online	\$115	\$325	\$545	
				Additional delivery charges	very charges	
Breeding: Other (please				Delivery in poly wrap: \$5.00	wrap: \$5.00	
				1st Class delivery: \$36.00	y: \$36.00	
				Outside United States: \$24.00	states: \$24.00	
1ep-O-Gram:   Training:						
	Membership In Last Name:	Membership Information (please print) Last Name:	rint) First Name:		Middle Initial:	itial:
ue:  State Fair:  Friend:	Date of Birth: _	Ju	(Juniors Only)			
Vet:	Address:					
TO BE GOVERNED BY ITS BY-	City:		State: ZIP,	ZIP/ Postal Code_		
DATE:	Country:	Те	Telephone:	Email:		
	For FAMILY Me	For FAMILY Memberships, provide 2nd memi	le 2nd member infor	mation. (Family men	nbership is defined a	For FAMILY Memberships, provide 2nd member information. (Family membership is defined as 2 people living in the same household principal & one other person)
ned by a current club member ake checks payable to the GSDC g or mail with check to:	Last Name	9	First Name:		Middle Initial:	ia:  -  -  -  -
	Telephone		Email: _			
ill be announced in the Minutes, whereas	What activities	do you enjoy with	What activities do you enjoy with your GSD? (Circle all that apply)	that apply) Agility	y Conformation	on Herding
to concerns are raised, the applicant  msp.org. Dues shall be assessed on a  ecome members between July of a given	House Pet (	Obedience Rally		Schutzhund/Working Dog Sport	Tracking Other	er
wing year.	Endorser 1 Printed Name & Signature	nted				
	<b>Endorser 2</b> Printed Name & Signature:	nted				
Mailed with Application:	Applicant/ Mem	Annlicant/ Member Signature:				Date:
		her Signature.				1010.

#### **BRAGS**



David Mielke and Gaetho took first place in Herding Started Sheep D Course at the North Star Rottweiler Herding Trial.





Owner/Handler Rhonda Meath & Bones had a fabulous weekend at the GSDCMSP Sept 2019 Agility Trial held at On The Run Canine Center in Ham Lake. He earned; QQQQ on Friday QQQ on Saturday QQ on Sunday

~ High In Trial German Shepherd Dog 2019 ~





# 2019 GSDCMSP Awards Form Presented at the Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting on Saturday January 18, 2020 Form Due Tuesday Dec 10, 2019

Did you and your dogs earn AKC titles during the 2019 year? If yes, please fill out the attached form to be recognized at the GSDCMSP Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting on Saturday, Jan.18, 2020 GSDCMSP is honored to recognize its members for their efforts in training, exhibiting, and ultimately earning titles with their dogs.

Eligible Titles/Awards: The Club shall present an award for all performance and conformation titles issued by the American Kennel Club and the Canadian Kennel Club. Awards are also given by the Club for titles earned at the American National Specialty Show, and titles earned from the GSDCA, including conformation, obedience, herding and agility: Grand Victor and Victrix, Select or Select Excellent, Futurity/Maturity Victor/Victrix, Winner's Dog / Bitch, Best Junior Handler, Best Puppy, Top Ten Stud Dog/Brood Bitch, ROM, Highest Scoring German Shepherd Dog in Regular Obedience Classes, Highest Scoring Champion in Obedience, High in Herding Trial, High in Agility Trial, Performance Award of Merit, Award of Excellence (AOE) and High in Tracking Trial, etc. Awards are also given for appearances in the annual Redbook Top 10 Futurity Sires and Dams, and the Top 10 AKC Major Pointed Sires and Dams.

In 2017, the membership voted to also include awards at our Awards Banquet to members earning performance titles with other reputable canine performance organizations (non-AKC) in Agility, Barn Hunt, Canine Freestyle, Dock Diving, Herding, Lure Coursing, Nosework, Obedience, Schutzhund/IPO, Rally, Weight Pull (see full list on page 2).

For certificates honored at the AKC and GSDCA level, the Club acknowledges the certificate in the Awards Program booklet in the "Honorable Mention" section. Examples include: Temperament Certification, Top 20 recognition, Herding Instinct Test, the Achiever Dog award that AKC is currently piloting, and other such certifications and awards.

**Eligible Members:** These awards will be presented to members of the GSDCMSP in good standing. This requirement may be met by being a Member in good standing at either the time the award is earned or at the date of the Annual Banquet at which the award is to be given or by becoming a Member Applicant by the date of the Annual Banquet at which the award is presented.

Plaques and Bars: The Club will present one plaque per members' dog for their first award. Any additional awards presented by the Club to that same dog, for the life of the dog, will be in the form of a bar, which is hung from the bottom of the plaque; however, a member may purchase a plaque instead of a bar each year for the difference in cost to the Club. Members and co-owners may purchase duplicates. Members may create an award for those titles not recognized by the GSDCMSP at the cost equal to the amount billed to the Club.

Please submit the required information for titles earned in the 2019 calendar year to have your plaque (or bar) ordered and ready to be presented at the Awards Banquet on January 18, 2020 (each dog's first award is paid for by the Club).

AWADDS	FORM: Places Cor	mplete for each dog, DUE DEC. 10	
Owner(s):	reviations):	mplete for each dog, BCL BLC. To	
You are encouraged to include write-up Awards Program booklet. Please bring		eparate page (must fit on one page of ou your dog to the Awards Banquet.	ır booklet) for the
Award Type: Please CIRCLE B	AR or	PLAQUE	
Upgrade from bar to Purchase additional		Please print clearly	
Purchase additional	• •		THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUI

Make check out to GSDCMSP, check must be enclosed

Mail or email this form, a check (if upgrading to plaque/ordering duplicate plaque) and write-up to:

Mada Skare 106 Twinkle Terrace Circle Pines, MN 55014

Email questions to: wildfanz@comcast.net

## Is a Grain or Gluten Free Diet Right For my Dog?

How to Know if Your Pet Needs Gluten or Grain Free Dog Food

By Lorie Huston, DVM



Choosing a diet for your dog is a task that should not be taken lightly. Grain free and gluten free pet diets have become extremely popular. This popularity has mirrored the appearance of similar products for people. These diets are particularly helpful for people that have celiac disease, intolerance to glutens in general, or allergies to wheat.

Many pet owners choose to mimic their own food choices when choosing a food for their pet. With the increase in the number of people choosing to consume a grain free or gluten free diet, pet food manufacturers have recognized that similar pet diets are attractive to pet owners. The popularity of these diets has led to an increase in the number of grain free and gluten free diets available for pets.

Are these diets the best choice for your dog? How do you know if your pet needs a grain free or gluten free dog food?

#### **Grain Free Versus Gluten Free**

Let's start by discussing the difference between a grain free and a gluten free diet. Grain free dog foods are, as the name implies, diets that do not contain grain. Gluten free dog food, on the other hand, may or may not contain grain as an ingredient. Gluten is the protein that is found in specific types of grain, namely wheat, barley, and rye. Gluten free dog food is, of course, free of these proteins. However, not all grains contain gluten. Therefore, gluten free dog food may or may not be grain free, while grain free dog food will always be gluten free.

#### Does My Dog Need a Grain Free Diet?

Most dogs do not actually require a grain free or a gluten free diet. But how do you know if your dog does require one of these diets? To answer that question, let's take a look at some of the common reasons pet owners choose to feed their dog a grain free or a gluten free diet.

Proponents of grain free diets claim that grains are an unnatural source of nutrition for our dogs. They argue that ancestors of our current-day dogs did not eat grains. While their ancestors may not have eaten grains, dogs have evolved to be able to digest grains and glutens pretty easily. Dogs possess several genes that have been modified

#### Is a Grain or Gluten Free Diet...... Continued

through the course of their evolution to allow them to easily digest carbohydrates.¹ That includes grains. So, while most dogs do very well eating a grain free diet, these diets are not required in terms of metabolization.

Another reason that many dog owners choose to feed grain free or gluten free dog foods is a mistaken belief that these diets are the best choice for dogs that have food allergies. While food allergies do occur in pets, corn and other grains are not among the most common allergens found in foods. In fact, according to some of the available research, corn is actually one of the least likely sources of food allergy. In one literature review, 278 dogs with food allergy were evaluated and the problem ingredient was clearly identified for each dog. Beef was the most common allergen, being responsible for 95 of the cases reported. Dairy was responsible for 55 cases, making it the second most frequent cause. Corn was identified as the offender in only 7 cases.<sup>2</sup>

For dogs that truly do have allergies to grains, a grain free diet would be an appropriate choice. The following are symptoms that would be expected in dogs that have food allergies (or other types of allergies):

- Itchiness
- Excessive hair loss
- Bald patches
- Inflamed skin
- Sore and scabs
- "Hot spots"

A food trial with a grain free food would be necessary to determine whether the food is beneficial for your dog.

#### Does My Dog Need a Gluten Free Diet?

Unlike in people, celiac disease is uncommon in dogs. As a result, most dogs do not require a gluten free diet. The exception to this is the Irish Setter. A small number of Irish Setters have been documented to suffer from a congenital disease that results in an intolerance to gluten. This has only been reported in certain Irish Setters and only in the Irish Setter in the U.K. These dogs, however, will benefit from a gluten free diet.

Shared from PetMD

#### Club Events

Nov 8 First Aid and CPR Course Tentative Nov 15 Membership Meeting Nov 17 Socialization and Obedience Workshop

December 8 Socialization and Obedience Workshop followed by with Pictures with Santa and Pot Luck 2:00-5:00

January 18 Annual Banquet Lake Elmo

#### **GSDC MSP Class Schedule**

#### Ring 1 and 2

No Obedience and Puppy class until Further notice. Puppy 1 & 2 .....,6:00-6:45
Beginning Obedience .....,7:00-8:00
Intermediate/Novice....,8:00-9:00

#### Ring 3

Rally Julie Swinland ......6:00-7:30 Conformation Ginny Altman...7:30-

Rally and Conformation continue and we will have some guest lecturers and a First Aid and CPR course coming soon.

The AKC has developed a temperament test which is a little different from our familiar GSDCA test. Purpose: The AKC Temperament Test (ATT) is a general temperament test for all breeds and mixed breed dogs that will assess the dog's reaction to a variety of stimuli. These stimuli will be in the following six categories: Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile (touch), Proprioceptive (motion) and Unexpected Stimuli. The purpose of the ATT is to test for fear, shyness, inability to recover, and lack of cooperation. I have been approved as an evaluator and hope to offer this test at upcoming events, possibly on a Friday night, and also at the Fun Day and the Herding trials. To receive the certificate from the AKC you must pass twice under two different evaluators. I will include more information on the test in the next issue