



Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

February 2009

Shep-O-Gram

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We had a great banquet to celebrate all of the accomplishments and victories of 2008 and now we are ready to create new memories in 2009. I was honored to be named an Honorary Member and also to receive the President's Award. That was a very nice surprise. Other new Honorary Members are Linda and Roger Kofstad, and Carol Ouhl. Sheila Metz also received a President's Award. Randy Cliff was awarded the Don Cliff Sportsmanship Award. There were also awards of recognition given to Paul Johnson, Eileen Varhalla, and Lisa Marie Fortier.

We held the annual meeting and announced the new officers and board members. President Mike Metz, Vice President Julie Swinland, Secretary Jill Myers, Treasurer Mada Parnell, Board members, Liz Oster, Virginia Altman, and Lisa Marie Fortier. Contact information is in the left column on this page and will be posted on our web site

The banquet this year was held at Chammps in Maplewood. It was very nice, but keep thinking about the perfect location for next year and let Linda Salava know. Speaking of locations, if you have an idea for show locations, for 2010 please let Mike Metz or one of the board members know.

I noted that some of our members were listed in the GSD Review as 30 year members of GSDCA, Virginia Altman and Sharon Todoroff. We also had two members listed as 10 year members, Craig Carson and Peggy Simmerson.

The Web committee has new goals for 2009. One of our first goals is to have an area on the web site to make entries for our specialty shows online. This could also be a way to pay dues and buy training blocks. We will keep you posted on the progress. We are also working toward having Flash presentations of pictures of our events, and a members only area where we can have the directory.

If you have any brags you would like to have in the Shep-O-Gram please send them to me.

Last but not least, lets all thank our outgoing officers, Paul Johnson, and Jan Anderson who both did a wonderful job for our club in 2008.

Julie Swinland.

(651) 457-5459

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SOG Due Date

March issue - Feb 21

February 20 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 _____

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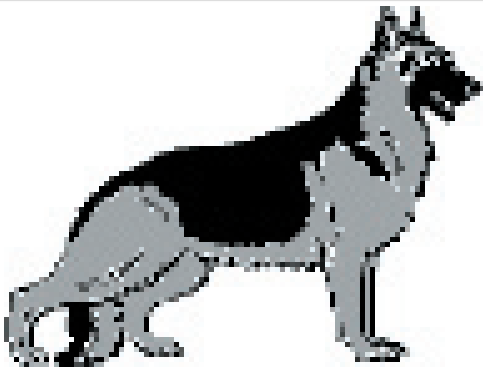
I (we) hereby make application to the above Club and agree, if accepted for membership, to abide by its Bylaws and the Bylaws of the AKC. Upon application I will be eligible for all privileges except the right to vote. Thirty days after my name is published in the Review, provided no objections have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

February

2 North Star Herding Group Club, St Paul

3-4 Land O Lakes St Paul Xcel Centre

February

15 Keomah Kennel Club, Inc., Des Moines IA

28 Wisconsin KC, West Allis WI

March

1 Wisconsin KC, West Allis WI

14-15 Dubuque Kennel Club, Dubuque, IA

April

18-19 Waterloo Kennel Club, Inc. Waterloo IA

Obedience/Rally only

February

7-8 Des Moines Obedience Training Club

Des Moines IA

21-22 Minneapolis Kennel Club, Inc. TCOTC,

Mpls, MN

March

7-8 Wright County Minnesota Kennel Club,

TCOTC Mpls, MN

For details and more shows
go to events -at www.akc.org.

Cold Weather: Traveling & Outdoor Safety

Veterinary Services Department, Drs. Foster & Smith, Inc
Holly Nash, DVM, MS



Hypothermia is a major concern during cold weather. Inadequate shelter, insufficient *calories*, or becoming wet can make a pet much more susceptible to this condition. There are additional indoor and outdoor hazards associated with cold weather.

We hope this article will help you become more aware of how you can keep your dog comfortable and safe during the cold weather season.

Outdoor housing Make sure **doghouses** are not too large. A correctly sized doghouse should allow your dog to comfortably lie down and that is it. A doghouse that is too large will not provide proper insulation to keep your dog warm and **frostbite** on tails and tips of ears can occur in severely cold weather. Preferably, the doghouse will be placed on top of styrofoam insulation and the dog will have a mat or bed inside the doghouse.

Pets who are outside in cold weather will need extra calories to keep warm. When the temperature is below freezing, you may need to increase calories by as much as 30%, depending on the pet and housing conditions.

Shivering is a sign your pet is too cold and indicates the start of **hypothermia**. A shivering pet should be slowly warmed until signs of hypothermia are gone.

Provide your pet with fresh, unfrozen water available at all times. Avoid stainless steel or metal bowls; instead, use heated buckets or bowls.

Walking in the cold Sidewalk ice melters like salt, magnesium, or calcium chloride can cause irritation to paws and are toxic when ingested causing stomach upsets, and if enough is ingested, nerve damage. To prevent **salt from hurting your pet's feet**, we recommend using dog boots and a non-toxic ice melter like Safe Paws for your own sidewalk. If your pet has walked on a salty area, wipe off his paws with a moist towel.

Snowballs can be fun unless they are between the toes. Snow collecting between the toes of dogs can be very painful, and if large enough, obstruct blood flow to the toes. Help your pet remove these collections of snow while you are out walking. Dog boots would help eliminate this problem.

Thin ice on lakes is hazardous for people and animals. Keep your pet away from lakes or other bodies of water which may have thin ice.

In the northern United States, remember that snowmobile trails can be dangerous places. Be sure to keep your pets

off of the trails. One of the most seriously injured dogs I have cared for was hit by a snowmobile.

Ice on walks is not only dangerous for us two-legged creatures, but for our four-legged friends as well. Slipping on the ice is of special concern for older dogs who may already be stiff due to arthritis.

Keeping warm Speaking of arthritis, as in people, cold can increase the discomfort of arthritis. Providing an orthopedic bed in a warm part of the house, using a dog sweater, and providing some indoor exercise can help arthritic pets be more comfortable.

During the cold winter months, many people use space heaters and woodburning stoves. Do not allow unsupervised pets in areas with space heaters which could be bumped over by the pet. Placing 'Scat mats'

on the floor may also be helpful in keeping pets away from stoves and heaters.

Antifreeze



Antifreeze should be out of pet's reach. Antifreeze, which contains ethylene glycol, is extremely poisonous; a few teaspoons can be lethal. Its sweet taste attracts pets, and ingesting even a tiny amount causes fatal kidney toxicity. In the body, ethylene glycol is *metabolized* into 3 major

compounds. Some cause central nervous system (*CNS*) and *respiratory depression*, others cause *metabolic acidosis*, and oxalate which combines with calcium to form crystals, causes blockage of the tubules in the kidneys. So, when tuning up your car for that holiday trip, make sure your pet does not have access to antifreeze containers and clean up any spills immediately. Better yet, use the new types of antifreeze such as Prestone LowTox and Sierra Antifreeze Coolant that are safer. If you think your pet has consumed antifreeze, contact your veterinarian immediately. Time is of the essence.

Boarding and Traveling

If traveling with your pet for the holidays, be sure to make the necessary plans early.



Pet carriers and crates are the best way to **restrain your dog while traveling**. Check the condition of your pet's crate, and if traveling on public transportation, be sure the crate meets the carrier's requirements. Clip your pet's nails so they will not become caught in the crate

door or other openings.

Reservations with airlines and hotels should be booked

Cold Weather Continued

early. Be sure they know you are bringing your pet so they can advise you of any special requirements.

A health check-up for your pet and up-to-date vaccinations are important. An interstate health certificate and a copy of the vaccination records may be necessary in some cases.

Pack your pet's medications and special diets where they are easily accessible. Be sure your pet has water available.



Place a collar on your dog, and always have a pet identification tag attached to your dog's collar or harness. Make sure the address and phone number are current. Include a phone number that can be reached when you are away from home.

Some pets are afraid of traveling and others may have motion sickness. See our article [Car Sickness and Fear of Riding in Cars](#) for help with these issues.

If heading South, remember it will be warmer and make allowances for your pet. Protect your pet against fleas and heartworms, too.

When traveling into snow country, your pet may need a sweater. Boots can help protect your pet's feet from ice, snow, and salt.

If you are traveling during the holidays, and need to leave your pet(s) at home, start to make accommodations for your pet(s) early. Many boarding facilities fill up very fast. Responsible pet sitters are a good alternative. If they are unfamiliar with your house or pet(s) have them come over

and get acquainted before you leave.

Wherever you may be with your pet this winter, we hope it will be a happy and beautiful season for you.

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K-STATE VETERINARIAN WARNS PET OWNERS OF COMMON HOUSEHOLD DANGERS

MANHATTAN -- Household products that people use every day can pose threats to a pet's health, according to Dr. Susan Nelson, a Kansas State University veterinarian.

Commonly used products like bleach, all-purpose cleaners and other disinfectants can cause chemical burns on pets' skin and can be toxic if ingested. Nelson said this often happens because pets come into contact with the cleanser after the bottle spills on them or they walk on a freshly washed floor or bathtub. Dogs or cats that walk on these types of surfaces can get burns on their paws. Also, when they lick their paws or fur it can cause burns to the mouth and esophagus, she said. The best way to prevent such burns is to make sure that surfaces are completely dry before letting pets on them and to tightly recap cleaning product bottles after using them, Nelson said. And, just as with children, she also said to not forget to put such products where pets can't get to them.

"All dogs are prone to chewing on objects; and dogs with separation anxiety and puppies have even more of a tendency to do this," Nelson said. "They may even chew on cleaning product bottles. The best thing to do is make sure that all cleaning products are put away and out of reach of pets. And, always remember to read the warning labels and instructions on all household cleansers before using them."

Nelson said it is important to remember that pets, especially dogs, are not discriminating about what they will try to eat. It is not uncommon for dogs to swallow human medications, like anti-anxiety pills or pain medication such as aspirin, ibuprofen or acetaminophen. Sometimes pets may just want to chew on the medicine's bottle and end up accidentally swallowing some of the pills, which can lead to gastrointestinal issues and organ failure.

"Call your veterinarian first before taking any type of action when this happens," Nelson said. "Know the exact type of medication the pet swallowed and how much they ingested, if possible. Sometimes we will advise owners to induce vomiting at home, but it is done on a case-by-case basis, so always call before doing anything."

Nelson also warns pet owners to be cautious of any flavored medication that their pet may currently be taking. These medications smell and taste good for pets, so if they are left out they will most surely be eaten.

Many human foods are dangerous for pets. The top foods on this list are chocolate, raisins, grapes, macadamia

SEVEN CLUES THAT YOUR DOG MIGHT BE IN CHARGE

- 1) You bought a bigger bed so that the dog could have more leg room.
- 2) You never forget to kiss your dog before you leave the house: the same, however, cannot be said of your disgruntled spouse.
- 3) You introduce yourself to every dog you meet as "(Your dog's name)'s mamma/papa."
- 4) Your dog's wardrobe is as large as yours.
- 5) You let your dog have canine guests over; in fact, you insist that he socializes.
- 6) You tell your dog secrets you wouldn't dare tell your spouse.
- 7) You watch TV sitting on the floor, so that the dog can sit on the couch behind you and rest his chin on your shoulder for a good view.

nuts, onions and garlic, according to Nelson.

"Also be aware of moldy and spoiled food, too," she said. "Keep trash cans covered because dogs will eat anything."

Other common household dangers that owners might not think about are things like electrical cords, batteries, cigarettes and certain houseplants. Electrical cords can be especially hazardous to young pets who like to chew on things. If a pet gets a hold of batteries, the battery acid can burn their mouths and be toxic if ingested, Nelson said.

Common houseplants like philodendron and dieffenbachia are also toxic to pets if ingested, she said. Lilies can be especially dangerous to cats. Even the pollen of a lily can be harmful if it falls on a cat's fur and is then licked off.

"Another thing to worry about is secondhand smoke," Nelson said. "Cats who have owners that smoke are twice as likely to develop malignant lymphoma than cats who have non-smoking owners. Also be aware of cigarette butts that are left out because pets can develop nicotine poisoning if these are ingested."

Antifreeze is another potential danger for pets, especially for those who spend a lot of time outdoors or in the garage, Nelson said. Sometimes antifreeze will leak from a car onto the floor or into an existing puddle of water and pets may unintentionally drink it. A small amount of ingested antifreeze can be fatal to a dog or cat, causing the kidneys to shutdown.

"Always keep antifreeze tightly sealed and out of reach from pets, Nelson said. "You also should check your vehicle frequently for antifreeze leaks. One should always make sure your pet has fresh drinking water available. However, the temptation to drink antifreeze will still be there, so prevention is key."

Other harmful products that may be found outside the home or in the garage include fertilizer and insecticides. Certain types of fertilizer can cause skin irritation to pets. If a pet ingests fertilizer or insecticides, there is a risk of gastrointestinal distress or even death in some instances, Nelson said.

"Again, follow the label instructions and keep these products out of reach," she said. "If you think your dog or cat has been exposed, be sure to bring in the product label to the veterinarian. It is much easier to treat a pet if we know exactly what chemical they got into."

If your pet comes in contact with a dangerous material and you cannot reach your veterinarian, there are poison control hotlines specifically for pets. Nelson suggests the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals poison control hotline at 888-426-4435. You can also visit the society's Web site at <http://www.asPCA.org> for more information.

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Source: Dr. Susan Nelson, 785-532-5690, snelson@k-state.edu <http://www.k-state.edu/media/mediaguide/bios/nelsonbio.html>

News release prepared by: Nellie Ryan, 785-532-6415, media@k-state.edu

2009 Trophy Donation



Fund raising calls for donations for the 2009 trophy fund will begin the first week of March. Holly Bryan and Laurie Schray will be calling your home asking for a donation at one of the following levels:

Platinum:	\$50.00 or more
Gold:	\$25.00 or more
Silver:	\$10.00 or more

This process worked well last year and simplified our fund raising efforts, printing of the catalog and billing procedure. The total amount will be added together for both days and your name will appear under the appropriate listing. For example, if you want to donate \$20.00 each day to the show, your total will be \$40.00 and your name will appear under the Gold Category listing in the show catalog.

Your support, as in the past, is very important to our club. It takes the entire team to make our club successful. Our specialty show is a time to showcase our beautiful dogs, enjoy each other's friendship and come together as the number one German Shepherd Dog Club in America!!

You may email your donation request, to Holly Bryan at Hollybryan1@aol.com. If you have any questions and would like to speak with either Holly or Laurie we can be reached at:

Holly Bryan: 952-472-7842 Home
612-239-5293 Cell

Laurie Schray: 651-459-2411 Home

Holly and Laurie will be at the Spring Match with their donation table setup. Please stop by if you have not already spoken with them and make your donation.

Campaigning *a* Special

BY CORKY VROOM



Once a show dog has earned his championship, you can consider whether to special the dog. Just as the word “special” implies, it takes a special dog that is very good to succeed at this elite level of competition. It also takes a knowledgeable owner-handler team to strategize the best campaign for this dog.



A stellar presentation every time you enter the ring is an inherent part of showing a Special.



Campaigning a Special involves a great deal of time and money. You want to first make sure that the dog is “right” for a national campaign, and then take steps to promote the dog. Timing is a huge part of the equation. You may have a really good dog, but so may others. This can dilute the opportunity. On the other hand, you may be lucky enough to have a really good dog, and no one else does.

Chances are you may have a young dog that has won a great deal that is not yet in his prime. You have to decide whether to let the dog sit out until he or she matures or to continue the campaign as a special. My advice is to generally continue the campaign. You never know what will happen six months from now, and waiting for a dog to mature puts you in that uncertain future.

Once you have committed to a national specials campaign, there are important steps to take. Most importantly, you want to be sure the dog is happy and alert. Having fun is as essential as proper conditioning, grooming and nutrition. These dogs are naturals at showing. They all have an attitude that they are the best in the ring. It is your job to maximize their opportunity.

Most Specials are shown by professionals, but not always. Some Specials are campaigned by owners who are retired from former full-time jobs; others are shown by owners who must hurry back to work. The reality is that a high-profile specials campaign can involve traveling to dog shows virtually every weekend. It can be tiring and demanding. It can easily be a full-time job.

All top-winning dogs have an underlying self-confidence and showmanship. You can nurture that mindset, but dogs have to be born with it to succeed. After all, it is their heart and desire

“I think animal testing is a terrible idea; they get all nervous and give the wrong answers.”
Unknown

that ultimately makes the difference in the outcome of the campaign.

Here is a formula I use for determining if a dog is likely to go all the way. A top-ranked dog is one that wins his or her breed at least every other time, who wins his or her Group at least every three times, and who takes Best in Show at least every fifth time. These dogs perform consistently every time in the ring.

If this is the caliber of dog you are campaigning, you should start by setting a goal. You may want to be No. 1 in the breed or No. 1 in the Group. You may want to be among the Top Five all-breed dogs. All are admirable goals. To place among the top-ranked dogs of any breed is difficult and hard to achieve.

Once you have decided to campaign a Special, it is time to strategize the best way to achieve your goals. This requires strategic management by the owner and handler. You have to carefully choose the shows you attend and devise an effective advertising campaign. Many years ago, dogs were shown primarily in the geographical area of the owner or handler. Today it is not unusual for a Special to be on an airplane every weekend chasing major points.

Keep in mind a dog can wear out his welcome; no one enjoys a dog that wins nonstop. This usually occurs when a dog has been campaigned heavily at a high level for some time. In planning a dog's show campaign, be sure to mix up the shows and judges. Obviously you will enjoy showing under a judge who likes your breed and style of dog, but you do not want to exclude showing under other highly reputable judges. Winning under a highly respected judge gives your dog credibility.

Running an effective advertising campaign is an essential part of campaigning a special because it helps to make people aware of your dog and that he or she is winning. Should you win under a highly respected judge, you should promote the win to help give your dog credibility.

I personally do not think you should have to advertise every week, although it helps to run a full-page color ad two times a month. Say you

captured Best in Show on Sunday. By the following weekend, you could have the "win" photograph included in an ad in your targeted publications. You should selectively choose the publications in which you advertise. Look for those that are readily available and that everyone in the fancy seems to be reading.

Keeping a Special happy on the road is important. Some dogs bond with assistants or even another dog. Obviously these individuals should be

cism. This also helps to boost a dog's attitude.

Show dogs should be alert and fresh every time they enter the show ring. Those that appear worn out and bored don't go far. This becomes especially crucial toward the end of a year as a campaign draws to a close. These top show dogs may have easily traveled to 100 or more dog shows during the year. The ability to give a dog a "breather" every now and then goes a long way toward helping to invigorate a campaign.



Specials should be properly conditioned to help keep them fit and boost their attitude.

part of the campaign. Keeping a show dog's routine as consistent as possible is fundamental to success. You want to feed the same dog food on the road as at home. You should choose a complete-and-balanced dog food that offers optimal nutrition to support the dog's energy needs. If you cannot bring water from home, you should consider transporting or buying bottled water. Tap water from unfamiliar places could cause digestive problems.

Conditioning is also important. The larger the dog, the more challenging it is to get the dog from point A to point B to exercise. Dogs can become stale lying around hotel rooms and in crates at shows. You want to run or exercise a dog at a nice, easy gait three to five times a week, depending on the breed and its athleti-

campaning a Special is hard work but very rewarding. During my career as a professional handler, I had the pleasure of campaigning three dogs ranked No. 1 in all-breed competition. These dogs were the best of the best. Getting them to the top required a great deal of effort on my part and the owners' but in the end it was worth it. ■

A retired professional all-breed handler, Corky Vroom of Denton, Texas, achieved more than 1,000 Bests in Show during his 40-year career. Vroom now teaches people at all levels how to show dogs in his "Corky Vroom Seminars: Learn to Beat the Pros." For information, contact Vroom at (940) 497-4500 or by e-mail at cvroom@charter.net.

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"Whoever said you can't buy happiness, forgot about puppies."
Gene Hill

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

January 3, 2009

Mike Metz, President, Paul Johnson, Vice President
Jan Anderson, Secretary, Mada Parnell, Treasurer,
Board Members: Julie Swinland, (1 year remaining),
Liz Oster, Board (2 year remaining), Ginny Altman,
Board (3 year term)
Board Members Absent: None

Guests – Randy Cliff, Joe Beccia, Holly Bryan. Jinny
Bailey, Nils Anderson, Verna Kubik, and Diane Mehra

President called the meeting to order at 10:06 am at
Joseph's, Wabasha, St Paul. The abbreviated board
meeting agenda included the following:

1 President's Report:

- Mike reported on his conversations regarding the upcoming all-breed show in Cambridge (Anoka County Kennel Club) on our show weekend. They are willing to allow us to influence their choices of GSD provisional judges for the 2009 show. They are working to try and obtain these judges and provide a large ring.

- There will be a 2009 Show Committee meeting following the board meeting to plan the strategy for advertising and promoting our shows.

- At the Awards Banquet (Champp's, Jan 24, 1pm) Mike will announce the Don Cliff Sportsmanship Award as well as two President's Awards.

- He acknowledge with his thanks that this was the last board meeting for Paul, Jan, and Julie (although she is running for Vice President) for helping implement the policies which are in place and will be building blocks for the next year.

2 Vice President's Report:

Paul noted it was a pleasure working with this board. The attitude and goals of the board were positive and will only get better and continue for the future.

3 Secretary's Report:

Jan found this year to be fun and productive and noted that she knows the incoming Secretary will be most efficient in managing the duties she is given.

4 Treasurer's Report:

No report

5 Training Report:

- Verna asked Mada to check on the reimbursement to Pam for the CD Rom from AKC used to update the Breed Club Challenge information.

- The new beginning obedience class starts January 9, 7:45pm and it appears that there will be at least four participants, a nice sized class.

- Requested that a summary of training by category/revenue/etc be provided as was indicated earlier in the year that it would be.

- Stated that the second Friday in February is the Illini & Shoreline KC shows and asked for a consensus of the board as to whether we should have training (the date is also the one at which during the membership meeting the judges for the next year are chosen.)

NOTE: The board approved moving the membership meeting to the third Friday in Feb (February 20th) to allow the maximum number of members to opportunity to vote for judges.

6 2009 Show Committee Report:

- Holly provided an update on progress so far for the shows. (A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.)

- A show committee meeting is scheduled following this meeting for the purpose of nailing down the promotion of the shows and advertisement (deadline is February 1st.)

7 Awards Banquet Report:

- Location is Champp's, Roseville, Saturday, January 24, 1 – 5 pm, reservations to Linda with appropriate fees by Jan 20th (it's on the web if you don't have a copy.)

- Two President's Award, and the Don Cliff Sportsmanship Award will be awarded.

- Honorary member announced

8 Match Chair

- Cindy Muelbauer has stepped down but is willing to mentor the new Match Chair. If interested, contact Mike. First match of the year is traditionally in March

9 Shep-O-Gram Report:

- The article on Stem Cells was very well received. Keep your eye out for articles which could be reprinted (with approval of author to avoid copyright issues) for future SOGs· Going well

Next membership meeting Saturday, January 24, 2009, 1:00pm.

Next board meeting to be determined by the new board elected Jan 24, 2009.

February membership meeting, Friday, February 20, 2009, 8:30pm VOTING ON 2010 JUDGES

Meeting adjourned at 10:38am Jan
Anderson, Secretary

1-03-09 Show Meeting

Done:

- Armory lease signed, Mada sending in deposit.
- Eileen is taking care of renting mats from Total Recall for Obedience.
- Called hotels on last premium list, still take dogs, rooms available pricing from \$55.00 to \$120.00. We can post the same ones in the 2009 premium list. Other hotels that should be included please get info to Holly.
- Judges gifts purchased over the holiday to take advantage of price breaks.
- Judges will be picked up from hotel, delivered to show and entertained by: Ginny Altman – Michel Chaloux, Kelly Knight – Lew Bunch.
- Photographer - Valarie Harrington will be staying with Bo and working our show both days. Jan has a confirmation letter.
- Ginny Altman will bring a speaker box and microphone for show announcements and dog placing
- We have an Emergency Procedure/Disaster Plan done and already submitted to AKC according to Jan and in our file.

Show meeting Continued

- EMT on-site for show both days will be Scott Anderson – Maple Grove Fire Chief.

To Do:

- Sheila & Mike Metz are handling all Advertising issues, Mating Game write-up and criteria, 2009 Futurity, Maturity Catalog ad due by February 1, 2009. Review ads for March, April and May. Flyer write-up on show details.
- Ginny Altman is working with the AKC to judge our Team group, once approved we will need to get paper work completed for the AKC.
- Ginny Altman will judge Juniors Sunday June 21st – we need to complete paper work for the AKC to add this if it has not already been done. Jan to check.
- K9 Police Demonstration on Saturday will be coordinated by Joe and Kelly Knight.
- Will need a Special Attraction K9 AKC form sent to the AKC if we get the Police demo to commit.
- Donation funds – Holly and Laurie to begin in March at Spring Match.
- Arm Bands for show need to be ordered – Mike Metz will take care.
- Inventory of trophies, ribbons and money left over from last year show.
- Gift baskets for judge's rooms need to be put together – it would be nice if someone would donate them.
- I need more Conformation Stewards
- Premium list needs to begin to be put together and ready to be mailed out by drop dead date (???).
- Insurance coverage for show, letter for the file – Mada
- Do we have a Red Cross Approved Emergency First Aid Kit on hand to be at the show site? This should be updated and kept in our file cabinet at the Animal Inn.
- Armory asked for Food License from City if food is sold on location. – Holly will check into this further.
- Check to see if Dr. Lisa Lunde will be at show both days and if we need list her in the catalog under Veterinarian on-site (we already have the same info as last year reported to AKC per Jan)
- A reminder – a minimum of 2 ex-pens need to be setup at show per AKC.

**German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul**

**January Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet Minutes
January 24, 2009**

Mike Metz, President, Paul Johnson, Vice President, Jan Anderson, Secretary, ada Parnell, Treasurer, Board Members: Julie Swinland, (1 year remaining), Liz Oster, Board (2 year remaining), Board Members Absent:, Ginny Altman, Board (3 year term)

Members, Member Applicants, and Guests – over 50
President called the awards portion of the meeting to order at 3:15pm

1: President's Report/Highlights of the Year:

- This was the best year for camaraderie, there was fantastic co-operation
- The 2008 Specialty Show was highly successful under Sheila as Show Secretary and Joan as Show Chair
- The trailer party for refurbishing, reorganizing the trailer was a huge success and lots of fun – shouldn't have to do it for another 10 years
- Under Eileen's guidance the first Herding Fun Day was another success story; will do it again next year; come and see what it's all about
- Shepherd Demo Day at the State Fair was definitely a highlight. Participation was phenomenal; Lisa Marie kept the audiences informed of what they were seeing; it was FUN! Don't miss it in 2009.
- Matches with Cindy as Chair were fun and she's leaving this position open for next year – volunteer for it; she's willing to mentor you
- Julie as Chair of the web rewrite committee, along with Dave, Cristina, and Gina have made a real difference and

a great beginning to other new and exciting changes which are in the works (online entries for 2009 show, members only section, etc.)

- Eileen encouraged the Club to offer the Team and Brace classes at our 2008 show which we will have again in 2009; their team would like to show in the class at the 2009 National and we will offer our help, fundraising, etc to make it happen. Because the obedience judge brought the class outside on Saturday, it gave enjoyment (amusement, Karen) to the spectators too
- Thank you to the board for all its hard work throughout the year
- Financially we are in very good shape and controls put in place will allow comparisons in 2009 and future years to keep us on track; we're moving in the right direction
- We tried lots of new things this year (Mating Game, etc) and will continue to do so in 2009
- The trainers and all participants in all classes made it even more financially viable for the Club
- Linda Salava, our membership/banquet chair, organized this wonderful event. It's success is a direct result of her incredible management of the event.

2 Special Presentations:

- Special thank you to Bobby Moore for the her work in putting together the presentation slide show.

3 Honorary Members:

Holly Bryan, Chair, Roger and Mada presented the following three Honorary

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



Members citing the role of each which made them outstanding representatives of the Club and worthy of this status

- Carol Ouhl
- Linda and Roger Kofstad
- Julie Swinland

4 President's Awards – Certificates of Recognition

- Lisa Marie Fortier for her part in training, assessing dogs, and State Fair Demo Day
- Eileen Varhalla for her part in the working dog activities and being the force behind most of the herding activities the Club sponsored; and
- Paul Johnson for being my sounding board and assistance in all areas of expertise

5 President's Awards

- Sheila Metz for the fantastic job she did pulling the 2008 specialty show together and making it the success that it was
- Julie Swinland for her work on the Shep-O-Gram and the web rewrite committee, as well as all of the things she did for the obedience side of the 2008 show. It was over the top! A true, "can-do" person.

6 Don Cliff Sportsmanship Award

- Randy Cliff exemplifies the qualities which make up "sportsmanship" as it applies to the sport of dogs, and life in general. He has dedicated his life to the game and remains faithful to the past with an eye to the future.

7 Business Meeting:

- By consensus dispensed with the regular meeting agenda noting the announcement of the awards, special presentations, and the results of the election for the 2009 officers/board would be the substance of the meeting
- Roger Salava, Chair, Nominating Committee presented the newly elected officers:
 - a. Secretary – Jill Myer
 - b. Three Year Board Term – Lisa Marie Fortier
 - c. Treasurer – Mada Parnell
 - d. Vice President – Julie Swinland

- e. President – Mike Metz
- f. NOTE: Other returning Board members are Liz Oster with one year remaining and Ginny Altman with two years remaining in their respective terms of office

Next board meeting at the discretion of the new board.

Next membership meeting, Friday, February 20, 8:30pm VOTING ON 2010 JUDGES

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm
Jan Anderson, Secretary

Web Committee Minutes

Meeting Oakdale Library 6:30 PM January 21, 2009

Present Julie Swinland, Dave Bissonnette AKA The Web Guy

Absent: Mike Metz, Cristina McColl

First order of business was to call Mike and we found out he wasn't able to attend. Cristina had called earlier and had car trouble. Mike suggested identifying 3 projects to tackle. We identified the following:

- make online entries available by the time of our spring specialties
Dave has some code that we had looked at last year but there was something wrong last year and we didn't implement.
He will contact Val Harrington and get advice since their club is successfully taking online entries.
- get Flash files to run on our site. Julie will send files again.
- Look into getting a member's only area on the web with password protection
Dave and Julie will both look at their FrontPage books for ideas on this.
_ Bonus item!!! lets look at having drop down (flyout) menus on our buttons on the home page so we can clean up the cluttered look.

Action items:

- Dave contact Val regarding online entries
- Julie send Flash files to Dave again
- Dave and Julie and anyone else look for ways to have password protected area on our site
- Dave and Julie and anyone else look for ways to make drop down menus

Also discussed:

Yahoo needs to be monitored more closely so erroneous meeting notices don't go out to the membership.
We would really like to work from one web site only as soon as possible to lesson confusion.

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:45 PM

Club Events

Herding Fun Day

We are planning another Herding Fun Day, May 17. The cost will be approximately \$15-20 and there will be a pot luck. This was a lot of fun last year. Let Eileen Varhalla evanhalla@aol.com know if you are interested. There will be a registration form soon. This is a chance to get started before our fall Herding Trial.

Geocaching Event

We are planning to have a geocaching day with a picnic at Afton State Park. No date set yet. Let Julie Swinland know if you are interested. blackforestgsd@msn.com.

Spring match,

Date and location to be determined. We are looking for a match chair. Let Mike Metz or a board member know if you would like to volunteer. michael.metz@comcast.net

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

Training information can be found at www.gsdcmsp.org

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

Herding

Watch for upcoming herding events. The herding fun day will be May 17 and AKC has approved having a herding trial in 2009. Time to get your dogs started. Our trial will probably be in the fall in conjunction with the Rottweiler Club trials in New Richmond WI.

Shep-O-Gram
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German Shepherd Dog Club
of Minneapolis & St Paul