

Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

August 2010

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Board members

Linda Salava Ginny Altman Lisa Marie Fortier

Training Director

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Web Guy Dave Bissonette Jecoda@dishup.us July was another busy month for our club with the Herding Fun Day and the German Shepherd Fun day in one weekend. This was our first attempt at a GSD Fun Day and we had lots of activities. We had about 75 people. A very good turnout considering the weather people were predicting a 60% chance of thunder storms. There is an article with pictures of the event on pages 3 and 4.

Now for some exciting news! Connie Karner's GCH AM & Can CH Mythical Zeus of Black Forest OFA EX was the eighth German Shepherd to qualify for the new Grand Champion title and will receive a special medallion from the AKC for being among the first ten German Shepherds to finish. Let's all congratulate Connie and Zeus!

Remember to come to our next membership meeting if you want to have a vote in the scheduling of our futurity and selecting the specialty show judges for 2011. The futurity is currently scheduled for a Sunday. Is that what YOU want? Or would you rather have it on the Friday before our specialty shows? Or would you like to have a specialty show in the evening on Friday? It is up to you to come and vote. Mike Metz is going to lay out the possibilities for us at the meeting. Bring your suggestions for specialty show judges so we can vote. There may also be discussions about moving the obedience away from the specialty show weekend. So all you obedience people be sure to come to this meeting and let your wishes be known! The Quad Cities club disbanded so we will not be competing with them for entries.

If you intend to come to the Fair and participate in the demos on German Shepherd Day please contact Lisa Marie Fortier. If you do not sign up very soon, you will not get a free ticket and parking pass for that day. Remember what fun we had the last few years since the demos moved outside. If you want to refresh your memory on that, the article on last year's event was in the October 2009 Shep-O-Gram complete with many pictures. You can see that article in the Shep-O-Gram archives on our web site. Click on the library button to get to the archives. That article was reprinted in the German Shepherd Review also.

Ron Halling's Obedience workshop will be on August 15 at St. Paul Dog Training in South St. Paul. . There is more information on page 9 and the full handout is on our club web site .

Our second annual herding trial is September 11-12. Try to come and watch or help. This is a great opportunity to see different breeds herding.

Julie Swinland. (651) 457-5459 Blackforestgsd@msn.com

SOG Due Date Sept issue - Aug 21

August 13 membership meeting 8:30 Animal Inn

JOIN THE GSDC	OF AMERICA TODA	Y!	
lembership Application			
Must be in good standing with A	AKC. Membership inc	ludes subscription to	The German Shepherd Dog Revi
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de the US add \$24.00)			
	City	State	Zip
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This is the membership application for the German Shepherd Dog Club of America. For the application for our club see the club web site or pick one up at training



AKC Grand Champion Title

On May 12, 2010 the Grand Championship competition will start concurrent with the implementation of the 2010-2011 Schedule of Points. Competition for this new title will be judged concurrently with Best of Breed competition at both all-breed and specialty shows.

How does a dog earn the Grand Champion title?

- Only Champions are eligible to earn Grand Championship points. (This includes dogs that are "moved up" to Best of Breed competition from completing the requirements for their CH title at a previous show.)
- Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Select Dog and Select Bitch are eligible to earn Grand Championship Points. Select Dog and Select Bitch are Champions that were recognized as the top quality of their sex after BOB and BOS have been awarded. Judges need not award Grand Championship points to dogs that in their opinion are not worthy of the award.
- Grand Championship points are earned using the same schedule of points as is used for Championship points and the title requires:
 - Twenty five Grand Champion points including,
 - three "majors" (three or more points) won under three different judges,
 - and at least one or more of these points won under a fourth judge.
 - They must also have defeated at least one other AKC Champion at three shows.

Tick Removal

Removing a tick from your cat or dog is easy if you just follow these simple steps.

To remove an attached tick, use a pair of fine-tipped tweezers or special tick removal instruments. These special devices allow one to remove the tick without squeezing the tick body. This is important as you do not want to crush the tick and force harmful bacteria to leave the tick and enter your pet's bloodstream.

Grab the tick by the head or mouth parts right where they enter the skin. Do not grasp the tick by the body.

Without jerking, pull firmly and steadily directly outward. Do not twist the tick as you are pulling.

Using methods such as applying petroleum jelly, a hot match, or alcohol will NOT cause the tick to 'back out.' In fact, these irritants may cause the tick to deposit more disease-carrying saliva in the wound.

After removing the tick, place it in a jar of alcohol to kill it. Ticks are NOT killed by flushing them down the toilet.

Clean the bite wound with a disinfectant. If you want to, apply a small amount of a triple antibiotic ointment.

Wash your hands thoroughly.

Please do not use your fingers to remove or dispose of the tick. We do not want you in contact with a potentially disease-carrying tick. Do NOT squash the tick with your fingers. The contents of the tick can transmit disease.

Once an embedded tick is manually removed, it is not uncommon for a welt and skin reaction to occur. A little hydrocortisone spray will help alleviate the irritation, but it may take a week or more for healing to take place. In some cases, the tick bite may permanently scar leaving a hairless area. This skin irritation is due to a reaction to tick saliva. Do not be worried about the tick head staying in; it rarely happens. GSDC MSP Herding Tests and Trials September 11-12 Elysian Farm, KIm and Joe Schneider 23322 Russell Rd Pine City, MN 55063



Learn about herding



For more information look at the club web site www.gsdcmsp.org

German Shepherd Fun Day

Sunday July 11 we held our first German Shepherd Fun Day at Verna Kubik's Kubistraum German Shepherds in Houlton WI Although we had weather predictions of a 60% chance of thunderstorms with some being severe, we went ahead as planned. The weather was actually very nice with just a few sprinkles that didn't even get the ground wet.

The purpose of the Fun Day was to introduce people to the German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, to allow people the opportunity to try various activities with their dog, and to socialize with other German Shepherd people.

We arrived early to set up the club EZ Ups and tables for the vendors just outside the building.



We set the information table up near the indoor ring with all the flyers about the club and our activities. The posters showing last year's events were on the walls. The night before I had the bright idea to try to sell the club T-shirts and sweat shirts that had recently turned up. They went like hot cakes!

The facility was beautiful and the view from the outdoor ring was fantastic.



The building has enough space for a large ring, places for chairs for an audience, and there was also an area to set up for the pot luck lunch and tables where people could eat. Some people chose to eat outside under the trees. I saw many club members, people and dogs I have seen at our Friday night training, and some totally new people. We had a chiropractor, masseuse, animal communicator, T Touch practitioner, and a Canine Good Citizen evaluator.



So between the organized activities; tracking, agility, obedience, geocaching, rally, and carting, there were other things to do, and of course there was a lot of socializing too. Our "Up North" members came down to facilitate tracking and to participate in the other activities. We have a fair number of Wisconsin members and many were there.



We had both American and German bred dogs. I did not hear a single growl.

The people I talked to all said they would like to see this as an annual event and the vendors all want to come back again too. With the T-shirt sales, CGC tests, donations, vendors, and new membership, we took in over \$300. Verna let us use her wonderful facility for free and Jinny Bailey donated the Porta Potty.

This was a team effort, Roger and Linda Salava hauled the club trailer to Verna's. Sheryl and Tom Carlson brought tables and chairs and helped all day long, Janice Anderson organized the food, Judy Morin and Jill Myers could not attend but distributed flyers, Eileen Varhalla, Mary Bente, Pam Magadance, Nancy Kehoe, Karlyn Berg, and Jinny Bailey all facilitated classes. I led the geocaching event. Haines Clausen and Barbara Duncan helped with taking the Easy Ups down and storing them in the trailer. There are undoubtedly people I am forgetting. Of course much of the success of this event is due to Verna and Jinny offering their wonderful place to host the event and Verna made excellent sloppy Joes too!



Carting, learning to pull





Obedience



Canine Good Citizen



Tracking

Editor's Note: This is an interesting article on training to stack. Of course German Shepherds stack with one rear leg forward and one back So adapt training accordingly.

Sue Ailsby's

TRAINING FOR CONFORMATION Part 1

* STACKING *

Most people think that a dog is "conformation trained" if it walks on a leash and doesn't sit or bite the judge. Professionals know that training a dog for the Specials ring is, in fact, as complicated as training a dog for Utility. The more a dog knows about how to do his job in the ring, the closer he is to that elusive "Ch" title.

EASY BEGINNINGS

As a starting point, you will need the dog ready to go to work, standing up, willing to be handled in all his parts, facing your right hand, understanding the clicker, and wanting treats. Only one part of that is within the bounds of this article, and that is "standing up". We tend to put a lot of effort into clicking pups for sitting. To train a conformation dog, we'll have to put an equal amount of time into clicking the pup for standing. Don't get fancy - observe the butt in the air, click, treat. Are his front feet even? Who cares? Are his back feet even? Who cares? Is his head up? Who cares? Simply click and treat when his feet are down and his hips are off the ground.

What do we call this behavior? Don't call it anything. First because it isn't an end behavior, it's just a beginning. Second, I use very few voice cues for conformation. I prefer to speak to the dog with my body. Conformation becomes a dance cued with subliminal signals.

HAND STACKING

Hand stacking is the art of physically placing the dog's feet in the best position. Determining the best position for each dog is as individual as the dog is, but there are a few things that remain constant. You cannot control the dog's feet until you control his head

Write this down on a piece of paper and stick it on your fridge: you do not control the dog until you control his head. If you have a small dog, put him on a grooming table. A medium to large dog will do best standing on a pause table or other table off the ground. You can practise this with the dog on the ground, but you can see his feet better with him up higher.



Another tip - conformation is a sport of inches. When you move his head, you will be moving it an inch to the right or left. When you move his foot, you will be moving it an inch forward or back. Subtlety is the key to a polished performance.

Start with the dog standing in front of you, facing your right hand. Take his muzzle in your right hand.

Click and treat. Repeat until he's comfortable with you holding his muzzle while he stands unresisting in front of you. Now hold his muzzle and move his head to his left. If he goes with the pressure, click and treat.

Usually you can feel some tension in the neck when you try this - do it gently, do it calmly, click when he releases the neck tension, when he moves his head willingly with you. Keep your touch light - this is fingertip pressure. The dog is releasing his head to you, you are not forcing it from side to side. When you can cup your hand under his muzzle and move his head easily from side to side, it's time to pay attention to his center of gravity. When he's standing naturally, he'll have his weight evenly on his right front foot and his left front foot. As you move his head to the left, his weight shifts more to his left foot, taking the pressure off his right foot. When



you move his head to his right, he will have more weight on his right foot and less on his left foot. We're going to take advantage of this.

First, however, a tip: How To Avoid Looking Like A Newbie In The Conformation Ring. When you lift the dog's front foot, you do it from the ELBOW. Under no circumstances in the ring will you ever, ever, ever touch a dog's front legs below the elbow

To move the dog's left front leg, reach over him with your left hand, take his left elbow firmly in hand, lift and move the leg to where you

want it, and put it down. Whoa there! You forgot the head - remember, if you don't control the head, you don't control the dog. Moving his leg starts from his head. With your right hand you are moving his head to his right, taking the weight off his left foot. He knows how to do this. Now reach over his withers and lift his left elbow up, click and treat. How did you click? I don't know - you had one hand full of muzzle and one hand full of elbow. Maybe you had a toe clicker. Maybe you had a



1Move the front leg from the elbow. Note the dog's weight is evenly distributed on the remaining three legs, and the dog is perfectly balanced.

helper. Or maybe you were using a vocal Conditioned Reinforcer such as "yes" instead of the click. However you did it, be sure that you don't ask for more until he's comfortable with you controlling both his head and his elbow.

The last stage of moving his left foot is to put it back down. In the beginning, don't worry about WHERE you place it, you are just teaching the dog to allow you to pick it up and put it down. If he was comfortable with the foot where you got it from, put it back there. As the paw touches the ground, move his muzzle back to the left. This will shift his weight back onto the leg you just moved, thus anchoring it right where you put it. Click and treat for the weight shift.

There are two ways to move his right front leg. You can leave your right hand to move his muzzle to his left, lean back a bit, and use your left hand to lift his right elbow. Or, you can stand over him, switch his muzzle to your left hand, and use your right hand on his right elbow. Personally I prefer the first way, as I want to leave the dog with as much personal space as possible.

There are a hundred tiny victories for your team between holding the muzzle and placing both front legs correctly, I've only described a few of them. Sometimes you click because he's comfortable with you holding his muzzle. Sometimes you click for a weight shift to the left or right. Sometimes the click is for the appropriate paw lifting - by all means click when you feel the elbow rising to meet your hand when the weight is off it.

The same rule applies to the rear as to the front: you will never, ever, ever touch the back leg below the hock joint

It will be harder to get the weight off a rear leg, and it's important that you allow the dog a moment between gripping the hock and lifting it, in order to be sure that the dog's center of gravity is ready for your lift. To shift the weight off the left rear leg, move the dog's head to his right and slightly forward. Click the weight shift. When he's comfortable shifting his weight,

pick up his left hock with your left hand, put it back down, and shift his weight back onto the left hind leg by bringing his head back to a neutral position. Repeat for the right hind leg. Again, click and treat each tiny step. The dog needs to be completely confident that your cues to "shift and lift" will be calm, reasonable, and within his power to respond to.



Figure 2Again notice the dog's weight is evenly balanced while the hind leg comes up. Muzzle is turned slightly to the right to take the weight off the left hind leg

Reprinted with permission of the author. Part 2 next month

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul July Board Minutes July 09, 2010

Mada Skare, President, Julie Swinland, Vice President, Jill Myers, Secretary, Roger Salava, Treasurer, Linda Salava, Board (3 year term) Ginny Altman, Board (1 year remaining) Board Members: Lisa Marie Fortier, (2 years remaining)

This month's meeting was held at the Animal Inn training center.

President called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

- 1 President's Report none
- 2 Vice President's Report none
- 3 Secretary's Report -
- 2011 Futurity judge will be voted on at the parent clubs board meeting on July 24th.
- 4 Treasurer's Report -
- Ending balance for June in the checking account is \$2,533.02, ending balance for the money market account is \$5,709.47. Roger Salava did note that there are checks from the show that have not cleared yet.

5 Membership Report -

- Linda Salava noted a new member application from Bob.Voelz.
- 6 Shep O Gram none
- 7 Training none
- 8 Training Director –
- Ron Halling's next Obedience Workshop is August 14th.
- 9 2011 Futurity & Specialty Show -
- Jill Myers will work with Verna as the Futurity Show Secretary. A Chair and Secretary is still needed for the Specialty Show.

10 Regional Challenge -

Mada Skare will handle all the paperwork but she'll need others to send her the documentation for awards and titles earned. Julie Swinland will gather what's been published in the SOG.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28pm

Next Board meeting: **Tentatively Saturday August 7th.** Jill Myers, Secretary

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul July 09, 2010

Board Members: Mada Skare, President Julie Swinland, Vice President Jill Myers, Secretary Roger Salava, Treasurer Ginny Altman, Board (1 year remaining) Linda Salava, Board (3 year term) Board Members Absent: Lisa Marie Fortier, Board (2 years remaining)

The President called the meeting to order at 8:25pm

- 1. President's Report:
- None
 - 2. Vice President's Report:
 - None
 - 3. Secretary's Report:
 - 4. Mike moved that the minutes to the June member meeting be corrected to state the judge voting will take place at the August member meeting; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
 - 2011 Futurity judge will be voted on by the parent club at the July 24th board meeting.

5. Treasure's Report:

 Money Market account balance is \$5,709.47; Checking account is \$2,533.02 although many checks from the show have not cleared yet.

6. Membership Committee:

- Linda Salava reported on the new members that we have which include Ron & Ann Halling, Nancy Rowe, Sandy Heinz, Mary Sorcic, John & Krys Daily. Congratulations & welcome!
- 7. Shep-O-Gram & Website:
- None

8. Training Director:

 Not present but Mada mentioned Ron Halling's next workshop will be on August 14th. Ron says attendance is ramping up so you may want to sign up early.

9. 2010 Specialty:

• Results are on the website. Many accolades for the fantastic job Holly Bryan did again and a thank you to the many volunteers from Mike Metz.

10. 2011 Futurity Show

- Verna Kubik is the Show Chair and Jill Myers will work with her as the Show Secretary.
- Verna stated we need to confirm the date the Futurity will be held at the August meeting.
- Mike Metz is preparing a report to present various options for our 2011 show at the next meeting. Get

any preferences or suggestions to Mike before August 1st.

11. GSD Fun Day

• Julie Swinland moved that up to \$100 be authorized for purchase of food; the motioned was seconded and passed unanimously.

12. Breeder Liaison

- None
- 13. Breeder's List Committee
- No activity.

14. 2010 Herding Trial:

 Barbara Duncan moved that any left over dog toys or trophies from the Specialty Show be used as awards for the Herding Trial; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

15. Regional Club Challenge

 Mada Skare will be handling the paperwork for this. She needs any certificates or other documentation for all awards sent to her asap.

16. Other Upcoming Events

- Herding Fun Day at Kim's July 10th.
- Ron Halling's next Obedience Workshop on Saturday August 14th. See our website for cost and details.
- State Fair GSD Demo Day will be on September 5th this year.

17. Old Business:

• Mada is still looking for a volunteer to be the Program Chair.

18. New Business:

None

At the next membership meeting scheduled for August 13^{th,} voting for All Breed and Specialty judges will take place as well as important decisions for next year's Futurity and Specialty Shows.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm

Jill Myers, Secretary

Elections are coming up in January What office do you want to run for?

Obedience Workshop with Ron Halling August 14.



For the non-competition team learn ideas that make owning a GSD a pleasure and not a stressful day in the park. Learn why GSD's are considered such a smart breed and bring out the best in your pet.

If you are competing, learn ideas to polish you and your dog's ring presence and make you "that team" at the shows or at social functions. While looking professional you will also learn how to minimize ring errors, to own the ring and practice overcoming distractions. We will work on your particular problems in class. A pop machine and a main dish will be supplied in the lunchroom/kitchen area. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share in the lunchroom and acquaint themselves with other GSD owners or merely train at the allotted time and enjoy the rest of the day as planned. **Notebooks for homework assignments are highly encouraged**

Where: St. Paul Dog Training Club (Please acquaint yourself with parking and exercise rules)!					
Time: (\$10.00)	Рирру	10:00 -10:45 am			
Beginners	11:00 am -12:30 pm				
Ũ	Novice	1:00-2:30 pm			
	Open/Utility	3:00-4:30 pm			
Specialty Class, (brace, team etc & Run-Thru's 4:45-???					
Price: \$20.00 for the first dog and 15.00 for a					
2nd dog or workshop. Critiqued Run-Thru's- \$5.00					
Questions or concerns; Hallings@frontiernet. net					

Come to the Fair!



September 5, 2010

Remember last year?



Let's make this year even better!

Let Lisa Marie Fortier know if you are coming so tickets and parking passes can be ordered. puptrner@hotmail.com



SOGGY by Julie Swinland



Heatstroke (Hyperthermia)

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Heatstroke occurs when normal body mechanisms cannot keep the body's temperature in a safe range. Animals do not have efficient cooling systems (like humans who sweat) and get overheated easily. A dog with moderate heatstroke (body temperature from 104° to 106°F) can recover within an hour if given prompt first aid and veterinary care (normal body temperature is 100-102.5°F). Severe heatstroke (body temperature over 106°F) can be deadly and immediate veterinary assistance is needed. Signs

A dog suffering from heatstroke will display several signs:

Rapid panting Bright red tongue Red or pale gums

Thick, sticky saliva
Depression
Weakness
Dizziness
Vomiting - sometimes with blood
Diarrhea
Shock
Coma

What you should do

Remove the dog from the hot area immediately. Prior to taking him to your veterinarian, lower his temperature by wetting him thoroughly with cool water (for very small dogs, use lukewarm water), then increase air movement around him with a fan.

CAUTION: Using very cold water can actually be counterproductive. Cooling too quickly and especially allowing his body temperature to become too low can cause other life-threatening medical conditions. The rectal temperature should be checked every 5 minutes. Once the body temperature is 103°F, the cooling measures should be stopped and the dog should be dried thoroughly and covered so he does not continue to lose heat. Even if the dog appears to be recovering, take him to your veterinarian as soon as possible. He should still be examined since he may be dehydrated or have other complications.

Allow free access to water or a children's rehydrating solution if the dog can drink on his own. Do not try to force-feed cold water; the dog may inhale it or choke.

What your veterinarian will do

Your veterinarian will lower your dog's body temperature to a safe range (if you have not already) and continually monitor his temperature. Your dog will be given fluids, and possibly oxygen. He will be monitored for shock, respiratory distress, kidney failure, heart abnormalities, and other complications, and treated accordingly. Blood samples may be taken before and during the treatment. The clotting time of the blood will be monitored, since clotting problems are a common complication.

Aftercare

Dogs with moderate heatstroke often recover without complicating health problems. Severe heatstroke can cause organ damage that might need ongoing care such as a special diet prescribed by your veterinarian. Dogs who



suffer from heatstroke once increase their risk for getting it again and steps must be taken to prevent it on hot, humid days.

Prevention

Any pet that cannot cool himself off is at risk for heatstroke. Following these guidelines can help prevent serious problems.

Keep pets with predisposing conditions like heart disease, obesity, older age, or breathing problems cool and in the shade. Even normal activity for these pets can be harmful.

Provide access to water at all times.

Do not leave your pet in a hot parked car even if you're in the shade or will only be gone a short time. The temperature inside a parked car can quickly reach up to140 degrees.

Make sure outside dogs have access to shade. On a hot day, restrict exercise and don't take your dog jogging with you. Too much exercise when the weather is very hot can be dangerous. Do not muzzle your dog.

Avoid places like the beach and especially concrete or asphalt areas where heat is reflected and there is no access to shade.

Wetting down your dog with cool water or allowing him to swim can help maintain a normal body temperature.

Move your dog to a cool area of the house. Air conditioning is one of the best ways to keep a dog cool, but is not always dependable. To provide a cooler environment, freeze water in soda bottles, or place ice and a small amount of water in several resealable food storage bags, then wrap them in a towel or tube sock. Place them on the floor for the

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Club Events

August 13 Membership meeting at 8:30 at Animal Inn.

We will be voting on the specialty judges for next year and deciding what day the Futurity will be. Come prepared with ideas, and names and bios of judges you wish to nominate.

August 14 Obedience Workshop with Ron Halling

Sept 5 GSD Day at the State Fair

Sept 11-12 Herding Trials Pine City

Shep-O-Gram 1087 Allen Avenue W. St Paul, MN 55118



German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis & St Paul

GSDC MSP Class Schedule Obedience Classes effective Ju Ring 1 Eileen Varhalla					
Run throughs	6:00-6:45				
Intermediate Novice	7:00-7:45				
Beginning Ob or Advanced Puppy	8:00-8:45				
Advanced Puppy will be offered between					
Beginning Obedience blocks					
Ring 2					
Lisa Marie Fortier					
S.T.A.R. Puppy Class	7:00-8:00				
Jinny Bailey					
Rally Class	8:00-8:45				
Ring 3 Jinny Bailey					
Competition Obedience	6:45-7:30				
Various Trainers					
Jr Handlers/Puppy Conformation	7:30-8:00				
Adult Conformation	8:008:30				
Puppy Socialization -designed for b					
owners to chat	8:30-9:00				
Training Director: Sheila Metz					
Sheilawm@comcast.net					
651-489-7467					