



Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

March 2010

Shep-O-Gram

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We have a nice line up of articles again this month, Dr LaVallie, canine (and human) chiropractor, sent in an article on how to know if your dog needs a chiropractor. I noted that Dr Lavallie mentioned Hip dysplasia in German Shepherds so I would like to refer you to the statistics on that from the OFA. When I looked the statistics up recently the GSD was ranked 40th behind breeds such as Golden Retrievers, Rottweilers, and Cardigan Welsh Corgis. The dogs at the top of the list? Bulldog, Pug, Dogue De Bordeaux, and Otterhound.

I have heard many questions om collars at training lately so I found an article on the types used in training.

We have some changes in our training schedule, please refer to the back page for that information. It is mostly in Ring 3, conformation.

Remember the match on the 19th of this month. Conformation, Obedience and Rally. Sheila has added some special classes for white and long coated dogs and Stud Dog and Brood Bitch. There will be a silent auction, please bring items to donate. We have some items from Doris Zahn's collection, including a very nice painting of her first two German Shepherds. There will also be a 50/50 raffle with 50% going toward the expense of the herding trial in September.

Eileen Varhalla has scheduled three Herding Fun Days. Space is limited so sign up soon. The form is on page 10.

We have a letter from Holly Bryan to the membership about the importance of donations and how they will work for our 2010 shows. Speaking of the Specialties, we have Grad Novice Obedience and that is now an AKC titling class. The AKC has added several new titles in addition to Grad Novice that you may want to check into. Grad Open is now a title. In July Beginning Novice will become a title. There is a new Championship title for conformation dogs, Grand Champion. I am hoping to have an article with more detail on these titles in an upcoming issue, but you can look at the AKC web site and find more information now. www.akc.org.

Remember if you come to the match that no prong (pinch) collars are allowed at AKC events.

Julie Swinland.

(651) 457-5459

Blackforestgsd@msn.com

SOG Due Date

April issue - Mar 21

Mar 12 - membership meeting 8:30 Animal Inn

JOIN THE GSDC OF AMERICA TODAY!

German Shepherd Dog Club of America Membership Application

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

Membership Type: (circle one)

Single \$66.00 Family* \$100.00

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

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

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone (s)

Fax

Email

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

Signed

Signed

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

hardcastle@starband.net



Sponsors and ad rates

In order to keep costs down, we are offering sponsorships (you can donate whatever amount you want) and you will be listed as a sponsor in the issue(s) you sponsor. We also will accept advertising.

Business card - 1 time \$10

1/4 page \$35

1/2 half page \$50

Full page \$75

This is based on a page size of 8 1/2 X 11. All rates are for black and white print, but may appear in color in the PDF version.

Upcoming Shows

There are many shows in MN, IA, WI and the Dakotas. See Events at www.akc.org for a complete listing or look at the calendar on the www.gsdcmsp.org web site.

Trophy Fund-Raiser Kick-off

Donation fund-raiser begins the night of our Spring Match, March 19th

Our 2010 Trophy Fund Raiser will kick off beginning the night of our Spring Match at the Animal Inn on March 19th. This is our annual fund raiser to purchase trophies, refurbish old trophies, prizes, ribbons and anything else needed to support our Specialty show, club matches and sponsored shows outside of our club.

We depend on this fund raising event to help offset expenses so we can continue to have our outstanding events throughout the year. Thanks to the membership's continued generosity we have not had to dip into the treasury to pay for our summer specialty shows.

I am asking each of you to reach deep into your penny jars and again give graciously to the club when asked for your donation this year. We count on every penny and we make sure every penny is put to good use!!!

The donation categories are as follows:

Platinum	- \$50.00 and up
Gold	- \$25.00 to \$49.00
Silver	- \$10.00 to \$24.00

If you would prefer to email me your donation rather than waiting to be asked at the club or called on the phone, you can email me at Hollybryan1@aol.com or call me personally at 612-239-5293 cell. Your donation/pledge will be added to your yearly membership statement, and can be paid in November when you pay your yearly dues.

I also want to thank the club members who have already donated some awesome, vintage trophies to the cause, including the Johnson's, the Oster's, Jack and Kathy Kasper, Helen Miller Fisher, and the Cliff's. We are still looking for more vintage items.

Make sure you have penciled in the dates to our June Specialty show in your calendar. We are planning an exciting show and look forward to seeing everyone there!!!

Holly Bryan
Show Secretary
Hollybryan1@aol.com
612-239-5293 Cell

News from the AKC

For the 19th consecutive year, the Labrador Retriever is the most popular purebred dog in America, but could this be the last year for the Lab's reign?

According to American Kennel Club® (AKC) 2009 registration statistics released today during a press conference at Grand Central Terminal in New York City, the German Shepherd Dog overtook the Yorkshire Terrier last year and is now ranked second most popular in the nation for the first time in more than three decades.

An American favorite since the time of Rin Tin Tin, the German Shepherd Dog became the number one breed of the 1920s, but then slipped in popularity until after World War II.

"Labs have been America's top dog for nearly two decades due to their loyal and gentle nature," said AKC Spokesperson Lisa Peterson. "But the German Shepherd Dog has gained ground recently, quite possibly due to the increased attention they receive for their security efforts at home and abroad. Hailed as the world's leading police, guard and military dog, this energetic and fun-loving breed is a loyal family pet, ideal companion and dependable K-9 partner when duty calls."

To pinch or not to pinch

Is the prong collar an instrument of torture or a universal training device?

By Norma Bennett Woolf

In the old days, dogs were trained on chain slip-collars known commonly as chokers. Today, the chain collar has been joined by a nylon version, a snap-on slip collar, a humane choker, a Halti head collar, and a no-pull halter. Each training device has its followers, as does the plain buckle collar.

Turmoil surrounds another training device that is gaining in popularity and is described as both cruel and humane. Known as the prong or pinch collar, this interlocking steel link collar looks like a medieval torture device, but it is actually a gentle tool for training many dogs with little or no tugging, jerking, or pulling.

However, it is not suitable for all dogs, and herein lies the problem.

Slip collars should fit just below the dog's ears for good results. They work by tightening and loosening a noose around the dog's neck. A harsh jerk with a slip collar can damage a dog's trachea. Furthermore slip collars may not be effective on dogs with thick necks or thick coats, particularly if they slide out of position.

The humane choker looks like a prong collar made of chain instead of interlocking links. It has two loops, one of which fits around the dog's neck. The second loop is attached to the first and is used to tighten the chain when necessary to guide the dog or correct his behavior. This collar is becoming more popular among trainers who prefer to teach the dog through motivation rather than correction.

The head collar and the no-pull halter work by pressuring the dog's head in the former case and his underarms in the latter case. Although they are hailed by some as the only humane training devices effective on every dog, they do not live up to this advance billing. The head collar can injure a thin-necked dog and is not suitable for nervous, fearful, or jumpy dogs, and the no-pull halter may be counterproductive on thick-skinned, hard-headed dogs.

Of all these training devices, the prong collar is the most misunderstood. Those trainers who put one on every dog are as misguided as those who refuse to use them. The prong is not suitable for aggressive dogs and is too harsh for extremely shy or fearful dogs. The prong is not for young puppies, although it can be used under the guidance of an experienced trainer for older puppies.

The prong collar is made of interlocking links, each with two blunt prongs that pinch the dog's skin when the collar is tightened. It should fit snugly just below the dog's ears. Unlike the chain slip collar, it puts even pressure around the neck by pinching the skin in a band about a half inch wide. No pressure is put directly on the trachea with the pinch collar.



Slip collars



Humane choker



Head collar



Prong Collar

Training the average dog

Puppies can learn their basic manners without resorting to a training collar of any type. Sit, down, stay, and stand can be taught without a leash, so a buckle collar (or no collar) is sufficient for this type of training. To teach a puppy to walk on a leash, attach a cord to the buckle collar and coax him to walk along with you. If he pulls, encourage him by turning in another direction, calling "Rover, let's go!" in a cheerful tone, and clapping hands to encourage him to follow. A small puppy should never be yanked around.

You can teach a mild-mannered older puppy to walk nicely on a leash by using a rope or long leash and following the same routine.

Problems arise when the older puppy has been allowed to have his own way, is thoroughly distracted by his surroundings, or is handled in class by someone who is not physically strong enough to work a large, boisterous dog. A pinch collar may be preferred in these situations, although some trainers have great success with the humane choker or the nylon snap-on slip collar. The prong collar can be used to get these dogs under control, to remind them to walk nicely, to pay attention to the handler, and to quit pulling. Many dogs benefit from a week or two of training on the prong and then do fine on another collar. Some dogs are bullheaded and need a prong for a longer amount of time.

Some trainers use the prong collar for a couple of practice sessions, then leave it on the dog's neck along with the buckle or slip collar so they can switch the leash back and forth if necessary. Some experienced trainers do use the prong on puppies or shy dogs, but they pad the neck under the collar by slipping a child's tank top around the pup's neck. Some turn the collar "inside out" so the smooth side of the links lie against the dog's neck and the collar constricts but does not pinch when tightened.

Although some trainers routinely use the prong collar on large or dominant breeds, the choice of collars should be based on the individual dog and owner, not the breed. The worst reason for choosing a prong collar is for its formidable appearance; it is a tool for training, not a symbol of owner or dog machismo.

When choosing an obedience school or club, pet owners should look for those that offer instruction geared to the individual dog and owner and pass by the ones that insist that one collar and one technique fits all.

Norma Bennett Woolf

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Fancy Prong Collar

Photos of collars added to original article



Call Name : NATALIE

**UKC 2x BIMBS/2x RBIMBS AOM GRCH Mari's
Miracle On 186th Street TC, CGC, OFA - CHIC,
NSHGC-HCTs, registered therapy dog-TDI**

**2007 - #1 TOP TEN GSD (UKC)
2008 - Award Of Merit at Premier (UKC)
2008 - #6 TOP TEN GSD (UKC)
Breeder/Owner/Handler : Kathy DuVall**



How Do I Know If My Pet Needs Chiropractic?

By Dr. Mark “Bones” LaVallie, DC, CVSMT

This is by far the most frequently asked question that I get from pet owners. They go on to say, “They cannot tell you. Can they?” The fact is that your pets do tell you when they need help! You just need to know what to look for. Following are three signs that your pet may benefit from a visit to the animal chiropractor.

Incomplete Stretches and Shakes

We have all observed how cats stand and stretch. It’s the first thing they do in the morning. Absence of this full, high-arching stretch is one of the first indications of a spinal or joint problem. The “shake” that dogs and some cats exhibit is frequently observed but not consciously appreciated by owners. The shake that starts at the head and progresses without interruption through the lumbar and the tail is a healthy shake. Dogs that stop a shake somewhere along the spine may be self-splinting a spinal or joint problem. The body’s protective reaction is to splint the area through muscle spasm, so as to prevent further injury.

Swelling, Heat and Muscle Spasm

Through observation, touch, and massage, we can sometimes detect early signs of a treatable problem. When joints are damaged or injured, inflammation and swelling ensues. Significant swelling can often be seen and felt in the extremities, less often in the spine. A more common sign of inflammation in the spinal region is felt as heat or warmth in the tissues overlying the area. The easiest way to feel the heat is to take the back of your fingers and run them slowing down your pet’s spine, noting any significant differences in temperature. To heighten your sense of touch, close your eyes as you run your hand down the spine. Injured joints in the extremities also exhibit warmth when inflamed. Through touch and massage, you can also feel muscle spasms, or “hypertonic muscles.” Muscle spasms are a sign of the splinting action mentioned previously.

Altered Joint Position Sense

With dogs there is a simple and very useful test that provides early clues to nervous system dysfunction. With your dog standing, flip over one paw so it is “knuckled over.” Repeat with the other paws. A normal reaction in a dog with a healthy nervous system is to immediately “flip” the foot back over to its normal position. If your animal takes longer than two seconds to flip its paw back, its “proprioception” or joint position sense, is compromised. Joint position sense is the brain’s ability to know where the limbs are at all times. When a dog has spinal problems, this sensation is the first to go. Your doctor will typically refer to this sensation as “C.P.” Ideally, you should test your pet’s C.P. at least once per month after the age of two.

It’s extremely important to understand that all of the above signs typically go unnoticed by most owners. But these signs precede more severe signs and symptoms of pain and weakness. By the time I first see many animals, their condition has already progressed to weakness, paralysis of a limb or multiple limbs, gait abnormalities, severe pain, and often loss of bowel and bladder control. While a vast majority of these animals respond effectively to chiropractic and veterinary intervention, the earlier the treatment begins, the better the prognosis.

In a perfect world, our goal is to prevent these problems from occurring in the first place. Prevention is a primary goal of many pet owners that have working or performance dogs, show dogs, or have breeds with a hereditary predilection to various maladies. Dachshunds, for instance, have a very high predisposition to thoraco-lumbar disc herniations. German shepherds are prone to hip dysplasia and “degenerative myelopathy.” Small breeds are often susceptible to “luxating patellas.” Labrador

retrievers, due to the way they grasp a fetched object, are prone to upper cervical and jaw problems. With any breed, prevention and early detection is the key.

According to the [American Veterinary Chiropractic Association](#), chiropractic may be appropriate for:



- neck, back, leg, and tail pain
- muscle problems, nerve problems
- disc problems, joint problems
- limping and gait abnormalities
- injuries from slips, falls, and accidents
- jaw problems, difficult chewing

- bowel, bladder and digestive problems
- post-surgical care and rehab
- event or sports injuries
- seizures
- maintenance of joint and spinal health



Chiropractic care does not attempt to replace traditional veterinary care. Animal chiropractors work with your veterinarian to ensure your pet has the most complete care. As a final note, we all realize that animals age at a much faster rate than we do. Therefore, prevention and early recognition of problems is imperative. Chiropractic is a very useful adjunct to traditional veterinary care to maximize your pets “golden years.”

The next issue of *The Talebone* will answer frequently asked questions regarding animal chiropractic. In future editions, we will discuss specific conditions, prevention, treatment, stretching, and exercise programs, and other topics. Until next time, wishing you and your four-legged friend the best of health.

Dr. Mark “Bones” LaVallie, DC, CVSMT (651) 332-1633

Braggs

Am & Can Ch Mythical Zeus of Black Forest

Connie Karner

Best of Breed & Group 1

Argus KC 2/13/10

Can CH. Zytut’s Something To Talk About

NEW CANADIAN CHAMPION

Argus KC

2/14/10



Kubistraums Carmine

Pam Magadance and Verna Kubik

New CGC and TDI .



Am, Can, Int’l Ch Oak Haven Xena of BLK Forest

CD RAE TT TC CGC OFA H & E

Julie Swinland

Feb 27 Minneapolis KC

Rally Excelent 91

Rally Advanced 95

Feb 28 Minneapolis KC

Qualified Rally Excellent and Advanced Leg #10

NEW RAE title!



German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
January Board Minutes
February 06, 2010

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

This month's meeting was held at Mada Parnell's
home, lunch was contributed by Holly & Mada.

President called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.

1 President's Report -

- Mada is going to need lots of help this year not only because of her role as president but also because she is getting married and she's pregnant. Wow, congratulations Mada!

2 Vice President's Report – none

3 Secretary's Report –

- MN Federation of Field Trial Clubs is requesting \$500 to support grass roots education of Minnesotans and legislators about the benefits of purebred dogs and cats and stop the "legislation to hyper-regulate dog and cat ownership and breeding".
- Updates of club officers for 2010 have been submitted to SOS, GSDCA & AKC.

4 Treasurer's Report –

- \$4,779.52 is in the checking account; \$5,705.91 is in the money market account for a total of \$10,485.43.

5 Auditing Committee –

- Roger Salava summarized a program from his work that can be applied to the club.

6 Membership Report –

- Linda Salava estimated 150 current members

7 Shep O Gram –

- Only about 30 copies are being sent through snail mail, all others are distributed through the internet saving substantial time and mailing costs.

8 Training Director –

- Sheila Metz has been sending out emails communicating her thoughts and what she will be

doing this year.

9 2010 Specialty Show –

- Holly Byran gave an extensive overview of the various subcommittees she's established and the status of each. Contact Holly for details or if you can help.

10 Budget & Finance –

- Kelly Knight reported that she, Mada Parnell & Roger Salava met and reviewed 2009 expenses and income. The results tallied very close to the 2008 budget results.

11 All Breed Liaison -

- Linn Klingel has requested that we vote for more than 8 judges for All-Breed list at next week's membership meeting.

12 Old Business - none

13 New Business –

- Verna Kubik presented a 2010 Herding Trial Proposal that the herding committee completed. The proposal which was very well thought out and thorough includes dates, judges, location, expenses and income that will be presented and voted on at next weeks membership meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:12pm

Next Board meeting:

Tentatively Saturday March 6th.

Jill Myers, Secretary

German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
February 12, 2010

Board Members:

Julie Swinland, Vice President

Jill Myers, Secretary

Roger Salava, Treasurer

Linda Salava, Board (3 year term)

Board Members Absent:

Mada Parnell, President

Ginny Altman, Board (1 year remaining)

Lisa Marie Fortier, Board (2 years remaining)

Vice President filling in for the President called the meeting to order at 8:37pm

Virginia Bailey moved that we dispense with the

reading of the minutes; it was seconded and carried unanimously.

1. President's Report:

- None

2. Vice President's Report:

- None

3. Secretary's Report:

- All contracts for the Specialty Show have received and confirmed with the AKC

4. Treasure's Report:

- Checking account \$4,779.52, Money Market account \$5,705.91 for a total current balance of \$10,485.43
- Virginia Bailey moved that the treasure's report be approved and filed; motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Auditing Committee:

- Roger Salava summarized the committee's finding for 2009 that tallied very closely with 2008. If you'd like specific details contact Roger.
- Virginia Bailey moved that the membership accept the audit as reported; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6. Membership Committee:

- Linda Salava reported that we received a membership application for Sandy Heinz
- There are approximately 150 current members.

7. Shep-O-Gram & Website:

- Julie Swinland reported both going well.
- Verna suggested including in an upcoming issue a description of the new performance titles the AKC has recently added.

8. Training Director:

- Sheila Metz is looking for people to handle the front desk and help with other duties as well.
- Ron Halling is a possibility to bring in occasionally to address special needs and teach an advanced class.
- Sheila reminded us all to watch our dogs as there are always new dogs coming in with unknown temperaments.
- A lengthy discussion followed regarding use of the conformation ring; socializing, kids, training, etc.

9. Match Chair:

- Mike Metz moved that \$200 be approved for allocation to Sheila Metz for the spring match; the motion was approved and passed unanimously.

10. 2010 Specialty:

- Holly Bryan reported bringing in Devine Swine for a 5pm Saturday dinner at the show site.
- Committees have been formed and people assigned but see Holly if you'd like to be included or reassigned. See Holly for specific show details.
- Mike Metz moved that \$7,400 be approved for the Specialty Show budget which is the same amount allocated last year; the motion was approved and passed unanimously.

11. Old Business:

- None

12. New Business:

- Futurity & All-breed Judges voting.
- Mike Metz moved that we suspend voting for Specialty Judges until July after the approval of the Futurity Judge by the parent club: the motion was seconded and pass unanimously.
- Mike Metz reviewed the new rules for Futurity Judges.
- Nominations were opened for Futurity Judges.
- Paul Johnson moved that the voting proceed for the Futurity Judges; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Nominations were opened for All-Breed Judges.

13. 2010 Herding Trial:

- Verna Kubik presented a thorough detailed proposal with estimated expenses and income for a trial to be held at Kim Schneider's farm in Pine City this fall.
- Mike Metz moved that the club have a Herding Trial in 2010: motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- After discussion of the dates Sheila Metz moved that the herding trial be held September 11th & 12th, the preferred date the committee presented; the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Mike Metz moved the herding judge selection be accepted as determined by the committee: the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next membership meeting is scheduled for March 12th.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:52pm

Jill Myers, Secretary



Herding Fun Days

April 24, May 16, and July 10

cost \$20 per dog Checks due at least one month prior to the date.



non-refundable deposit

each dog will get 2 runs

No experience necessary

Space limited to 10 dogs per day

Pot Luck

Location: Pine City

For information contact Eileen Varhalla

evarhalla@aol.com

(651) 462-1220

Bring chairs, food, etc

Herding Fun Day Sign Up Form

Name_____

Address_____

Ph #_____ **E-Mail**_____

Dog_____

April 24_____ **May 16**_____ **July 10**_____

Send this form and payment to:

Eileen Varhalla 9789 253rd Ave NE, Stacy, MN 55079

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



**German Shepherd Dog Club
of Minneapolis and St Paul
Sanctioned B Match**

Animal Inn, Lake Elmo

March 19, 2010

Registration opens at 6:00 p.m. Match starts at 7:00 p.m. - \$5.00 for first entry and \$4.00 for 2nd entry of same dog. No pointed dogs. Handlers may not charge fees.

Breed Judge: Steve Bloom

Breed Classes

3-6 & 6-9 mos.

12-18 months

Novice

Bred by Exhib.

Am Bred

Open

Best puppy in match

Best opposite puppy in match

Best adult in match

Best opposite adult in match

BEST IN MATCH

non-regular classes (exhibition only)

stud dog

brood bitch

misc -whites, long coats etc

Obedience Judge: Mary Barker

Pre-novice

Grad Novice

Novice A & B

Open A & B

Utility A & B

Veterans

High in Trial

High Combined

Rally Judge: Mary Barker

Novice A & B

Advanced A & B

Excellent A & B



Snacks



Pop

"We encourage you to participate in our 50'50 raffle on Match Night. Fifty percent of the proceeds will go to one lucky winner present at the match. The other 50 percent will go toward our second annual herding trial held in September. Please support your club!" Sheila

**.Contact: match chair and training director, sheila williams-metz, lindenhill GSD
at 651-489-7467 or sheilawm@comcast.net**

Club Events

Match set for March 19. Flyer page 11

Board meeting March 6

Membership meeting Mar 12 at 8:30.

Herding Fun days will be April 24, May 16
and July 10.. Sign up sheet page 10

See new class schedule.

There will be no training April 9.

Additional training information

(At trainers discretion, one on one training is
available by appt. only for problem dogs at \$40 a
dog—must work in muzzle)

Ask your instructor about the proper equipment
for your dog; Let others know if your dog has any
issues with other dogs or people.

Please check in with front desk before class or
after. Thanks and Have Fun

GSDC MSP Class Schedule

Obedience Classes revised March 1. 2010

Ring 1

Eileen Varhalla	
Run throughs	6:00-6:45
Intermediate Novice	7:00-7:45
Beginning Obedience	8:00-8:45

Ring 2

Lisa Marie Fortier	
S.T.A.R. Puppy Class	6:45-7:30
Jinny Bailey and Ron Halling	
Beginning Open Class	7:30-8:30
Rally 8:30-close	

Ring 3

Paul Johnson (Bo Vujovich in March)	
Puppy Conformation	7:00-7:30
Adult Conformation	7:30-8:00
Paul Johnson and Liz Oster	
Junior Handlers	8:00-8:30
Puppy Socialization -designed for breeders and owners to chat	8:30-9:00

Training Director: Sheila Metz

Sheilawm@comcast.net
651-489-7467

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



German Shepherd Dog Club
of Minneapolis & St Paul