

Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

February 2011

Shep-O-Gram

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?

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We have a great year coming up with many events and activities for human and canine.

Let's start with good news, Kathy DuVall and Sharon Todoroff have a new web site for Faerieland rescue www.faerielandrescue.org. So check it out. You can look at some of their statistics on page 9 of this issue. They need foster home for the dogs, so think about what you can do. They are doing a great service to our breed. Think of ways you can help out.

Our membership meeting is Friday February 11 at 8:30. We will be voting on the judges for next year's specialty. Please come with names of judges you would like to recommend. Also bring information on them, like where are they from, so we can estimate what it will cost to get them here.

It is time to think of what the club wants to do this year. Do we want a temperament test? Who wants to take the lead on that? Do we want a Spring match? We need a match chair or it is not going to happen. And a big one, who would like to take over coordinating the front desk? Every Friday when we have training we need to have someone at the front desk who can greet the people coming in, tell them basic information about the club if needed, to collect money, and check them off if they have blocks already purchased. For every night a person handles the desk they earn a free lesson. Some of the couple who come down might want to consider having one of you take care of the desk while the other trains and you can earn free lessons. There will always be someone around if you have questions.

I have gathered a lot of information into this issue. There is an announcement from the AKC on page 2 regarding an increase in entries. in the last year. They attribute a lot of that to the huge increase in agility entries. Rhonda Meath will be talking to us at the February meeting about the possibility of holding an agility match and trials. This could bring us a lot of income.

Verna Kubik sent me some articles from the Dogs In Canada magazine and I received permission to reprint one on what to do with the retired performance dog. Some of this could be for the retired conformation dog too.

I hope to see you at the meeting on Friday.

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

SOG Due Date
Mar issue - Feb 21

February 11 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

Address **City** **State** **Zip**

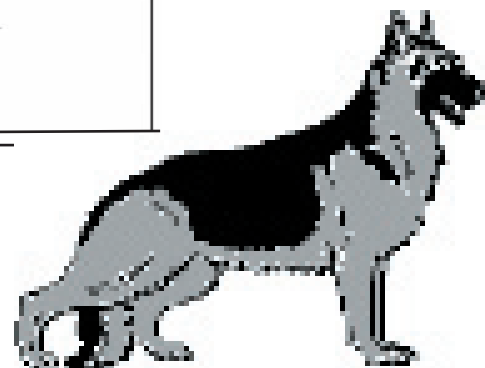
Phone (s) **Fax** **Email**

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

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



THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB'S OVERALL ENTRIES INCREASE IN 2010

-- Records More Than 3 Million Entries --

New York, NY - The American Kennel Club® (AKC®) leapt over the 3 million entry mark in 2010, recording a total of more than 3,014,000 dog entries across all conformation, companion and performance events. The growth over the number of entries received in 2009 was sparked by the ever-growing interest in the sport of Agility, where entries increased by 9%. The new "Grand Champion" title assisted shows by providing an increase of over 40,000 additional entries in Best of Breed. This equates to more than \$1.2 million in additional entry fees to Conformation clubs.

"We were very proud to see the uptick in entries," said Dennis B. Sprung, AKC's President and CEO. "The increase is a promising step forward for our clubs in the face of a persistently challenging economy. We will continue to research ways to enhance the fun and value of competing in each of our sports."

In addition, Sprung said, "We salute the finest Agility competitors in the nation who continue to set records; the entire AKC community appreciates their skills."

The 2010 entry total includes entries from all-breed and specialty conformation shows, obedience, field trials, hunt tests, coonhound events, herding tests and trials, lure coursing, agility, earthdog, tracking and rally.

The alpha factor

Who's the boss around here, anyway?

Introduction

Regardless of your reason for acquiring a puppy, you'll have to win it over. You, not your dog, will have to be the leader of the pack if your pup is to develop into a well-mannered family member instead of a burden.

Dominance and **alpha behavior** are important concepts that every dog owner should comprehend.

Dogs are animals, not human beings. They are pack animals by nature. Every pack has a leader, known as the alpha animal, who dominates and leads the other members of the pack. The alpha is the boss who makes decisions for the entire pack. Usually the pack will have an alpha male and an alpha female. All the other members of the pack form a hierarchy of dominance and submission where everyone has a place.

In your home, you and your family become your dog's pack, as do any other dogs you may have. It is your responsibility to establish yourself in the alpha position. If you fail to do this, your dog will do it as a natural behavior. Many people assume that they are automatically in charge just because humans are superior to animals. But are you really the pack leader? Does your dog know it?

Being the pack leader does not mean you have to be big and aggressive. Nor does it mean that there has to be a battle of wills after which you are the victor. Anyone can be the pack leader. It is an attitude an air of authority. It is the basis for mutual respect, and provides the building blocks of communication between the two of you.

A pack animal becomes a full fledged member of the group by a process called subordination. With dogs, subordination begins shortly after the third week of life and continues throughout early development. Most normal, healthy puppies are basically pushy animals, and will try to advance as far as possible within the social order of the pack. The key to successfully rearing a puppy is to establish yourself as the pack leader and then maintain that position for the life of your dog.

So how do you become the alpha leader? In the wild, the adults of the pack begin early to teach the cubs the rules. The adults grab pups around the head or neck and gently, but firmly, pin them to the ground. The cubs learn to greet the adults with respect by approaching them using a slightly crouching posture, with ears back, tail down and wagging, and they lick the adults' muzzles. The cubs do this as a sign of respect and affection, not out of fear. It is called the subordination display, and its function is to keep peace and harmony within the pack.

Alpha exercises

Leadership exercises can confirm humans as the heads of the family pack. Once you establish this relationship, your dog will seek you out. He will want to be with you and will treat you with respect and affection. After he learns to submit to handling, all other tasks such as grooming, nail clipping, cleaning ears, and medicating will be easier to accomplish. But first he must learn that you have the power to handle him, and that handling will not lead to any harm. He must come to trust you entirely.

These exercises will help establish leadership but should not be used with an older pup who has learned to use his teeth to get his way. Exercises one and two are recommended only for small puppies up to three months of age. Exercises three and four are suitable for pups up to six months of age as long as there's no problem with aggression. Be gentle but firm with all exercises, as you would with a baby human.

1. Sit on the floor, then pick your pup up off the floor with both hands supporting him just behind his front legs, facing you. Hold him away from you at arms length. Look directly into his eyes. Growl at him if he struggles, using a low guttural sound. Hold him till he relaxes. Vary the time you hold

him in this position from 15 to 45 seconds. Vary the location.

2. Sit on the floor and cradle your pup, placing one hand under his head and the other supporting his back so that he is upside down on his back, and up in the air. Hold a larger puppy across your lap. Hold the pup for 15 to 45 seconds, using the same growl as in exercise 1 if he struggles. Hold him until he relaxes.
3. If your puppy is large, substitute this exercise for the first two. Straddle your pup, with one of your legs on each side of him. You should be facing the same direction as your dog. Lock your fingers together under his chest, just behind the front legs. Lift his front legs off the ground for 15 to 45 seconds. If he struggles, growl at him till he is quiet.
4. Place your dog on the floor with all four legs pointing away from you. Hold him firmly by the neck with one hand, and press down on his midsection with the other hand. Talk to him softly after he is quiet. It might take two or three minutes to get him to relax. If he exposes his belly to be rubbed, you are on the right track. Do not allow him to struggle, get up, or nip. Always praise him lavishly in a quiet tone when he relaxes. Now is also a good time to handle all four paws and look briefly into his mouth so he can get used to tolerating your handling him gently. Be sure to do this exercise four or five times a day at first. Taper off as the pup gets more used to you and accepts your leadership.

The stare

Eye contact is also one of the ways order is kept in a wolf pack. Only an alpha animal may use the stare to remind everyone who is in charge. When you initiate eye contact, you express your alpha position. Encourage your pup to maintain eye contact for several seconds, making it a pleasant experience. Do not force him to do so. Use the term “watch me” and always praise him the instant you have eye contact. However, you do not want to try to do this with a dog who thinks he is already in charge of things. The dog must know you are the leader first. Otherwise you will begin a stare-down contest. An alpha dog will not be willing to be first to avert his eyes. If you are the first to avert or even blink your eyes, it will help confirm the dog’s alpha status.

Alpha discipline: Pack leader activities

There are many pack leader activities you can use as part of a daily training routine. Probably the single most important command your dog can learn is “sit.” You can incorporate “sit” into everyday situations as a reminder that you are in charge of things. Tell your dog to “sit” before you feed him, before you play, before he goes out the door. This shows the dog that he must respond to you before indulging in his own pleasures. If he is obedience trained, put him in a down-stay while you prepare his dinner.

Your dog will accept you as pack leader as long as you are consistent and fair in your demands. You must never permit him to growl or snap. If he does, a severe scruff shake is necessary, followed by no attention from you for 10 to 15 minutes. The scruff is the loose skin around the dog’s neck. If your pet growls or snaps and you are not afraid to handle him, grab him firmly by the scruff with both hands, stare him in the eyes, and shake him. Then put him in his crate for 15-20 minutes and ignore him.

If your dog growls or snaps and you are afraid to discipline him, seek professional help. Don’t ignore the incident; a dog allowed to threaten his family can easily become a biter.

Never overlook any challenge to your authority. Most dogs will test their owners, usually in adolescence. When the issue is settled immediately, it usually ends the matter.

There are several books that will help owners establish leadership to assure a long, healthy relationship with a pet. There are also several training clubs and businesses in the area for those who prefer an instructor’s assistance and for those who need help with problem dogs.

Books:

1. *Positively Obedient*, by Barbara Handler. Alpine Publications, 1987. ISBN 0-931866286.
2. *SuperPuppy* , by Peter J. Vollmer. SuperPuppy Press, 1992. ISBN 1-886056-01-3.
3. *SuperDog*, by Michael W. Fox. Howell Book House, 866 3rd Ave., New York NY 10022. 1990. ISBN 0876057415.
4. *The Chosen Puppy*, by Carol Lea Benjamin. Howell Book House, 866 3rd Ave., New York NY 10022. 1990. ISBN 087064173.
5. *Second Hand Dog*, by Carol Lea Benjamin. Howell Book House, 866 3rd Ave., New York NY 10022. 1988. ISBN 0876057350.
6. *What All Good Dogs Should Know*, by Jack Volhard & Melissa Bartlett. Howell Book House, 866 3rd Ave., New York NY 10022. 1991. ISBN 0876058322.
7. *How To Raise A Puppy You Can Live With*, by C. Rutherford & D. Neil. Alpine Books, Loveland CO 80537. 1992. ISBN 093186657X.
8. *The Art of Raising a Puppy*, by The Monks of New Skete. Little, Brown & Co, Canada. 1991. ISBN 0316578398.

Barbara Jansen

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Brag

GCH Ch, Can Ch. Mythical Zeus of Black Forest, OFA Ex H&E Connie Karner
Land O'Lakes KC
Jan 7 Best of Breed
Jan 8 Best of Breed Group 2
Jan 9 Best of Breed

Oshkosh
Jan 15 Best of Breed Group 3
Jan 16 Best of Breed

Central Iowa KC
Jan 22 Best of Breed
Jan 24 Best of Breed

Am Can Int'l Ch Oak Haven Xena of BLK Forest
CD RAE NJP NAP TT TC CGC OFA H&E
Julie Swinland
Jan 22, GTCGRG Agility Trial
2nd Open Std Agility 95 - 1st Open leg
Jan 23
2nd Open Std Agility 95 - 2nd Open leg

Jan 16 th at the American Belgian Malinois Club
AKC agility trial held at the Simon Arena in
Cannon Falls MN , KATJA earned her AKC PAX
2.
Here is pic of us with the judge Alan Arthur , he
is from Keller TX

GREAT DAY. !!!!!



The Smith Story

This is a true story that will make you laugh especially if you know SMITH !!

I do a lot of therapy dog volunteer work with my GSD,s at schools, assisted senior living care and a corrections facility. I give about 10 hours per week of my time doing this and I love it.

The following true story is just one reason why ...

Before the thanksgiving break I did a meet n greet with my GSD's at Linwood Elementary School. I had 4 classrooms of wide eyed 2 nd graders I brought KATJA & SMITH for a demo. We talked about dog safety history of the German Shepherds and why we come to the school.

SMITH entertained the kids with all his tricks and of course his outgoing personality and love for kids. All The kids LOVED him. They couldn't get enough of the big guy !!! Every 2 nd grader got to pet both dogs and SMITH even gave out his signature kisses. xoxoxo

On Thursday I was back at school with the kids. I just had KATJA that day.

As I was leaving , walking down the hallway , a little girl stopped and said to me (and I quote)

“ bye Mrs. Smith. “

Now I didn't have SMITH with me it's been over two weeks since I was there with him and she was not talking to KATJA , she was addressing me !!!

This filled my heart with delight and is the reason why I do this !

That's the gift a dog can bring a child.

I told my husband I was changing my name !!!!!!!

True story

Have a great day :)



SMITH , Rhonda , NADJA , and KATJA

Rhonda

Mrs . SMITH

The 135th Annual Westminster Kennel Club All Breed Dog Show

February 14-15, 2011

Televised Live from Madison Square Garden, New York, NY

Broadcast Schedule:

Monday, Feb. 14, 2011, 8-9 p.m. ET– USA Network (Live)

Monday, Feb. 14, 2011, 9-11 p.m. ET– CNBC (Live)

Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011, 8-11 p.m. ET – USA Network (Live)

For details, please see www.westminsterkennelclub.org

Litter Announcement



Born 1/12.2011

Rosewood's Peeping Fawn OFA X Rosewood's Prototype OFA (sire of Grand Victriss in his 1st litter)

7 girls, 2 boys

Breeder: Bo Vujovich 651-450-0176

www.rosewoodshepherds.com



The Gold Watch

When a performance dog retires

January 24, 2011, By Gillian Ridgeway,

Retirement used to mean the end. I remember people of my dad's generation getting the gold watch and a handshake after years of service. The same could be said for retiring performance dogs – or, it can be the beginning of a new chapter.

Retiring a performance dog can be difficult for a number of reasons. They may have spent their lives in the sports arena or at the top of their game and are simply slowing down. Your dog could also be forced into retirement through an injury or illness. I have lived through both situations and think it is harder on the person than the dog.

STAY ACTIVE

As I surveyed my colleagues, the general consensus seemed to be to keep performance dogs working and active while watching for signs of stress or fatigue. In many sports, there are veteran divisions with easier-to-manage equipment and modified rules. It's important to monitor dogs very closely and, upon seeing changes in them, seek out all options. These days we are fortunate to have available such specialties as canine massage, chiropractic medicine and aqua therapy. Many dogs have had their performance life extended, or have rebounded from injuries, in ways that would not have been possible years ago. Do some research and find the option that seems best for your dog. Ask your veterinarian for information and referrals.



MENTAL WELL-BEING

Keep in mind, it is not only your dog's physical body that you have to care for. As we age, our minds can slow down. Our decision-making can falter and the speed with which we comprehend, absorb and store information can change – hence the term “senior moment.” Our dogs are no different. Their reaction time slows due to a change in cognitive ability, eyesight or hearing. Keep a watchful eye on your dog, and adjust the way you interact.

So, now what? The best idea is to keep including your dog in activities, even though they may differ from those of his performance past.

LOWER IMPACT OPTIONS

Rally Obedience is one way to keep your dog active with minimal stress on his body. One of our trainers introduced his top agility competitor to **Rally**. As his dog's hearing loss became more pronounced, Rally looked like a great option since she could work on a leash beside him.

Tracking is a good sport for dogs of all ages, but many people look to tracking as a retirement activity for their dogs. Performance dogs enjoy working, so why put them out to pasture? Tracking can be a wonderful bonding experience for both of you.

The Gold Watch Continued

If playing Frisbee was her thing, it can now be fetching a low-flying ball instead. Toss it close to you, and not too high. This can be as rewarding to her as the great catches of her youth. And spending time with you will always be high on her list of favourite activities.

I bet if we did a survey among dogs, they would rank a great romp in the woods high up on the list of preferred activities. A short hike along an interesting trail can be rejuvenating for many dogs. By interesting, I mean a trail with lots of things to stop and sniff at. You can still use your dog's skills; have her do a go-out around a tree, or practise some obedience on a nearby path.

TAKE THEM ALONG

Last but not least, how about those dogs that cannot compete, or have limited abilities to join sports? Take them along anyway. If you have other competitive dogs, take your retired buddy in the car for the ride. Bring him to the event for a walk around and even do some non-competitive obedience near the ring, just for the fun of it. It doesn't need to be every time, just a special outing once in a while.

A few months ago I took my 16-year-old terrier, 'Levi,' with me to a **SuperDogs** show. In her heyday she was a working dog, doing TV commercials, agility, **flyball** and obedience. I took her out to the arena in-between shows and did a few tricks, and tossed her a few treats. Her joy brought tears to my eyes. She didn't know there was no audience; she was just delighted to be there.

Realize your dog's abilities and potential. Switch gears and try a new sport. You may end up finding your passion, and a way to enjoy your dogs when it is your senior time.

The director of *Who's Walking Who* (Toronto and Ajax), and co-author of the book *Citizen Canine*, Gillian Ridgeway has been working with family dogs for over 35 years.



Photos by Kathryn Hollinrake

dogsincanada.com/seniors

Care for senior dogs

This article originally appeared in the January/February 2011 edition of *Dogs in Canada*.



Herding Events coming up

March 12 -13 Cappy Pruett Clinic Annette Fredrickson St Peter, MN gemspins@hickorytech.net

April 23-24 BDOCN AKC Herding Trial Gerrienne Darnell Council Bluffs, IA belgterv@hotmail.com

May 19-22 Larry Painter Clinic JoAnna Yund Chisago City, MN joannay@aol.com
20-21 Wally Butler Clinic Kim Schneider Pine City, MN hzlbt@aol.com

June 10 - 11 Outback ASCA Trial Marie Murphy Diamond Bluff, WI diamaire@redwing.net
10 - 11 Marc Christopher Clinic Susane Hoffman Jordan, MN shoffman@sheepycorner.com

17-19 UMASC ASCA Trial Kim Schneider Pine City, MN hzlbt@aol.com
25-26 GRSC AKC Trial JoAnna Yund Chisago City, MN joannay@aol.com
24-26 TBASCO ASCA Trial Tanya Wheeler Thunder Bay, Ont tucker@tbaytel.net

German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
January Board Minutes
January 07, 2011

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

This month's meeting was held at the Lake Elmo
Training Center.

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

1 President's Report –

- Discussion regarding the Annual Banquet took place.
- Lisa Marie Fortier moved that up to \$100 be approved by the board for allocation to the annual banquet cake; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- The board decided banquet give aways to members should be provided by donations from vets, pet stores etc rather than club funds.
- Discussion took place regarding the recognition of the accomplishments of our Junior handlers. It was agreed that recognition be comparable with adult handlers. Ginny Altman moved that a plaque be awarded to Maria Oster for her achievement with a Select at the Canadian Nationals; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2 Vice President's Report –

- Julie Swinland brought up the possibility of the club hosting an Agility Trial and is preparing an estimated P & L statement for February's membership meeting.
- Discussion followed regarding the scarcity of volunteer resources but Julie is proposing these would come from the entrants and members already involved in agility.

3 Secretary's Report –

- None

4 Treasurer's Report –

- None

5 Membership Report –

- None

6 Shep O Gram and Website –

- None

7 Training Director –

- None

8 2011 Futurity & Specialty Show -

- None

9 Herding Trial -

- None

10 Banquet –

- The Banquet is scheduled for Saturday January 29th at Joseph's Grill at 1:00pm. Be sure to send in your reservations.

11 Old Business –

- None

12 New Business –

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Next Board meeting:

Tentatively Saturday February 5th.

Jill Myers, Secretary



**Faerieland Rescue
has a new web site!**

www.faerielandrescue.org

**Update on FaerieLand Rescue German
Shepherds**

We need foster homes for German Shepherds.

We have adopted 2 German Shepherds in the last week-
Amigo(m) and Dixie(f).

We have a contract in the works for a 3rd German
Shepherd-Trixie(f).

We have 2 other German Shepherds in foster care -Jerry
Lee(m) and Missy(f)

Things are moving quickly and there is a lot of interest.

We have rec'd about 25 or 30 inquiries on Amigo and
Dixie in the span of 3 to 4 days!!!

We have a new web site!

www.faerielandrescue.org

HONORARY MEMBER –

The recipients of this award become Lifetime Members of the Club with full voting rights and no further membership dues required. This award is about many things. But it is NOT a Miss America a competition to see who is best. It is not the Amazing Race to see who is first. It is not the Last Survivor test to see who is the last one standing.

This award IS about recognition - recognizing people for their contributions to the Club and to the Breed. It is about recognizing people who make the club a welcome place for all GSD owners – regardless of where they bought their dog, regardless of what their dog looks like. It is about recognizing people who keep a positive attitude; project that positive attitude; and make the club a fun place to be, It is about people who help educate all GSD owners and the public about our breed. This award is intended to thank members for those contributions.

The committee this year started with a very objective, very long chart listing all areas of involvement a person could have and giving 1 point for each. When we finished tallying results, we had 4 members with the exact same number of points - albeit from different areas. We then added points for “soft” contributions - attitude - welcoming, etc. And so we came to a consensus. :

This person has been a member for decades and has continuously worked tirelessly to better the club. She pitches in to help WHEREVER and WHENEVER it is needed. She has organized many events, including many new events for our members. She organized Herding Fun Days and Trials, has been on the Club’s Board for many years, instructs obedience classes. She brought our Club recognition at the parent club level when she formed a 4 member obedience team from our Club to compete at the Nationals. She is one of a few people in our Club who has a great deal of involvement and mentorship of new German Shepherd owners. She competes with her own shepherds in obedience, agility, rally, and herding. She has helped raise this club to be not one of just breed dogs, but one of recognizing and celebrating the vast and varied talents of our beloved breed. And all of this she does quietly behind the scenes without fanfare - EILEEN VARHALLA.

We had another member we wanted to recognize. – Members for many decades, breeders, competitors, mentors. This member was a personal mentor to me when I started with the club some 30 plus years ago and even talked me into becoming an officer. Over the years I have watched these people lead the club as president more than once, instructing classes for many years, judging many matches, mentored many others in various roles of responsibility in the Club. They have pitched in for many shows, competed in many shows, organized many events including the State Fair Demos. But what stands out the most is not only a constant positive attitude but helping this club evolve over the last few years to one that is truly a fun place to be, welcoming to ALL German Shepherd owners, being supportive of each other’s challenges and mistakes and happy for others accomplishments. They have created some truly new approaches to regular club events helping expand our membership and our welcome mat and include those GSD owners who are happy with “just” a pet. And leading by example they have raised the bar for this club in positive attitudes towards other people. - MIKE and SHEILA METZ.

SOGGY by Julie Swinland



**German Shepherd Dog Club of
Minneapolis/St Paul
January 29, 2011 Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet
Minutes**

Board Members:

Mada Skare, President

Julie Swinland, Vice President

Jill Myers, Secretary

Roger Salava, Treasurer

Lisa Marie Fortier, Board (2 years remaining)

Linda Salava, Board (3 year term)

Absent:

Ginny Altman, Board (1 year remaining)

This year's Banquet was held at Joseph's Grill in St Paul. Jan Anderson had put together gift bags for everyone upon arrival. Bobby Moore's slide show highlighted the past year's events and awards and photos were proudly displayed by their owners. The lunch buffet was excellent and included the traditional cake for desert. Jan raffled off some nice prizes before the meeting. It was a delightful event.

President called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

1. GSD Awards Presentation:

- Roger Salava was the MC for the dog awards.
- Kelly Salava and Mada Skare presented Maria Oster with a plaque for her outstanding achievement with a Select at the Canadian Nationals this year.
- There were many awards to celebrate and a few sad memories for the dogs we've lost.

2. Honorary Members:

- Carol Ouhl, chair of this committee presented the Honorary Membership award to Eileen Varhalla and Mike & Sheila Metz for not just their years as members but their many positive contributions to the club. All three always have a kind word and are welcoming regardless of where others' dogs came from creating an atmosphere for an overall better club. Congratulations to all three.

3. Don Cliff Sportsmanship Award:

- Mada presented this award that represents outstanding "sportsmanship" to Linda Fischer whom we were all thrilled to see in attendance and looking fantastic. An award well deserved.

4. President's Awards:

- Mada awarded Julie Swinland with this honor for all the support she gave reminding Mada of what needed to be done and when, keeping her on track throughout her term. Congratulations Julie.

5. 2011 Election Results:

- President – Julie Swinland
- Vice President – Eileen Varhalla
- Treasurer – Roger Salava
- Secretary – Krys Duffy
- Board Member – Ginny Altman
- Jan Anderson moved that the ballots be destroyed; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Next membership meeting is scheduled for February 11th.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:50pm

Jill Myers, Secretary

Websites with dog information , health, training etc

<http://www.canismajor.com/dog/index.html>

<http://www.petplace.com/>

<http://www.peteducation.com/>

http://www.justanswer.petmd.com/vet/?r=dd|petmd|vetsem&gclid=CPzM_6up9KYCFQS7KgodC3cADw

http://www.purinaone.com/Health/SignsOfHealth.aspx?species=Dog?DCMP=KNC-ONE-Goog-2010-PO&HBX_PK=dog+health&HBX_OU=50



Club Events

Feb 11 Membership meeting. We will be voting for the specialty judges for next year.

Feb 19 Obedience Workshop at St. Paul Dog Training - the flyer is on the club web site

April 3 and April 30 Herding Fun Days
- More information in next issue

Do you want a Spring match? Volunteer to be the match chair! If we don't have a match chair soon, we will not have a match.

Would you like to see the club have another temperament test?
Volunteer to be the Temperament Test Chair. We have over 170 members. We need to have participation. The front desk needs to be covered by a greeter every Friday day when we have classes.

Frnige benfits:

1 free class for every night you volunteer
you get to meet a lot of great people
It's fun! Pick a month you would like to volunteer

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 July 1. 2010

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 8:00--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