Shep-O-Gram



Shep-O-Gram Editor Sue Smith smsmith50@me.com

GSDCMSP Officers President Peggy Simerson 715-248-4969 simcargsd@frontiernet.net

Vice President Sharon Todoroff todorhaus@aol.com

Secretary Sarah Falk sarahfalk4gsd@gmail.com

Treasurer Laura Meyer <u>blcmeyer920@msn.com</u>

Board Members Denise Gilbertson wndsong500@aol.com

Ann Jeddeloh <u>edde001@umn.edu</u>

Training Director Verna Kubik <u>vmk4gsds@dishup.us</u> 715-549-6365

Web Cristina McColl <u>cristinamn2006@yahoo.com</u>

Membership Chair Cindy Muehlbauer <u>cjmuehlb@gmail.com</u>

Club website: <u>http://gsdcmsp.org/</u>

On Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/ German-Shepherd-Dog-Club-of-Minneapolis-St-Paul/ 177231829018034?fref=ts

GSDCMSP Member-owned dogs Austen and Stella, summer-ready!

Springtime Cover Girls!



RO's Austen Danger Powers v Kenlyn, BN, owned by Kristine and David Lower.

Ch. Stardust of Oh-My aka "Stella", bred and owned by Myra Shear. Stella's sire is Sel. Ch. Karizma's Nicaragua ROM and her dam is US & Can. Sel. Ch. Cherry Crush of Oh-My.

A busy, active spring for our club is evidenced in this edition of the Shep-O-Gram with photos from the Fun Match on March 17 and the Spring Agility Trial on March 31-April 2. This edition also features profiles of both our club trainers, Amber Eisefeld and Kelly McDuff. Working with or even watching these two talented women guiding owners through their various classes at the club every Friday night is a treat, and now is your opportunity to get to know their backgrounds and training philosophies.

Remember to plan ahead for the Speciality Show on June 24-25 at the Dakota County Fairgrounds. This is a premier event featuring the best dogs and handlers in the midwest and beyond. You don't want to miss it!

In This Issue . . .

President's Message 2
Storms and Dogs: Keep Calm! 2
Spring Fun Match, March 17 3
Member Spotlight: Trainer Amber Eisfeld 4
Member Spotlight: Trainer Kelly McDuff5

Rhonda's Product Picks	6
Spring Agility Trial, March 31	7
Rescue Update Saving Shepherds of Minnesota	7
Rescue Update-Faerieland Rescue	8
Calendar/Upcoming Events	9



President's Message:

Spring is a time of renewal! Aren't we all just itching to get outdoors to spruce up our yards and take more walks with our dogs? Club activities are ramping up as well! The Spring Agility Trial kicked off our club's formal activities. A big thank you to Rhonda Meath and her topnotch agility crew!

Classes continue at the Animal Inn, and we have a new Desk Coordinator. Laura Herweyer is always looking for energetic people who love their GSDs and also love to interact with the students at the Animal Inn on Friday nights. Please contact Laura if you have some time to spare on a Friday night to become a member of the desk team. Training is included! Laura can be reached at <u>laurasmora101@gmail.com</u>.

We are working on the details of our upcoming Specialty Show to be held June 24th and 25th at the Dakota County Fairgrounds. We are always seeking volunteers to help with grounds and raffle table, as ring stewards, etc. If you are new to the club and our activities, this is a great way to meet people and learn about our events. Don't worry; we will mentor along the way. Please reach out to me, Peggy Simerson at <u>simcargsd@frontiernet.net</u> for volunteer opportunities at our Specialty Show and other upcoming events. Tell me what you are passionate about, and we can match you up with an activity that will both help our club and afford you a fun opportunity for involvement. Other upcoming activities include:

- Summer Conformation Match: Date tbd
- GSDCMSP at the Minnesota State Fair August 24th-September 4th, which includes benching each day at the Pet Center and our longstanding GSD Day on September 3rd.
- GSD Fun Day: In September after the Fair. Date tbd.

Happy Spring!

For the love of the breed, Peggy Simerson President, GSDCMSP

Keeping Dogs Calm and Safe through Storms

Spring is a time of rebirth and growth-- but for dogs afraid of storms, this season can be terrifying and perilous. Stop in any pet store just now and you will see "Thundershirts" and other storm phobia products featured front and center. Search the internet and you can find a wealth of information on possible reasons and remedies for storm phobias.

Dogs that become anxious during storms can display any number and variety of symptoms, including hiding, whining, pacing, drooling, scratching, and trying to escape from rooms. It is possible that dogs can sense air pressure changes and may hear low-frequency rumblings that humans cannot. Some vets also believe dogs experience shocks from the buildup of static electricity that accompanies thunderstorms.

The good news for owners of dogs who exhibit storm fear is that there are many ideas available to help interrupt these fearful reactions and even desensitize dogs to storms. The Thundershirt and other types of jackets apply pressure that calms some dogs--much as swaddling does babies. Other things that could work include providing the dog with a safe and somewhat soundproof area such as a crate draped with cloth, distracting the dog with treats or games, playing soothing music, and, most importantly, staying with the dog. Owners of fearful pets are advised not to punish the dog, not to leave the dog in an outside area, and not to coddle and fret over the dog.

For more information on strategies to help a storm-fearful dog, please see the links below. Although some of the resources are older, they provide a good mix of ideas and research-based theory.

Thunderstorm Phobia in Dogs--An update. By Dr. Dodman, professor at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University and founder and director of Tufts' Animal Behavior Clinic. <u>http://www.veterinarypracticenews.com/August-2011/Thunderstorm-Phobia-In-Dogs-An-Update/</u>

A Quality Dog-Owner Relationship No Help To Storm-phobic Canines. A study supported in part by the Penn State Behavioral and Endocrinology Laboratory. <u>https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/12/051217005852.htm</u>

Calming Your Dog During a Thunderstorm. Purina website. <u>https://www.purina.com/dogs/behavior-and-training/calming-your-dog-during-a-thunderstorm</u>



March 17, 2017



Trainer Amber Eisfeld

I am trainer Amber Eisfeld, and I have always loved dogs! I am from a very small town in Southwest Minnesota called Avoca. Currently I work for an organization that supports people with disabilities, helping them live more independent lives.

I grew up around German Shepherds and American Akitas, and throughout my teenage years I spent my nights and weekends after school informally training dogs. When I was 16 years old, I told a news reporter that I wanted to be a vet. However, once I discovered that I don't do well with blood . . . that really was not an option! After going to college at the University of Minnesota and graduating, I missed being around dogs. My brother, Dana, did some research and found an internship at St. Paul Dog Training for me. I met with Ron Halling, who at the



time was the training director. He mentored me through the program, and the rest is history.

A few years ago Ron approached me, asking if I would ever be interested in teaching at the GSDCMSP. He told me to consider it and to let him know. I think we know what my answer was! One of the biggest advantages of people training at the club is that everybody has a passion for this breed. Lifelong relationships are built with others who also own German Shepherds. It is also comforting to know that if you have a concern or situation with your dog, nobody is going to judge you. You're in a ring where most likely the person next to you has at one point gone through what you are going through at the moment.

When I started thinking about the most challenging aspects of training, I realized—and this is nothing against people--that dog training is really about teaching the owners. Most challenging is when owners don't want to take my advice or they don't take the time to work their dogs. I always tell my students that they purchased their dog and they purchased a block of classes, so it is only fair to put the time in and invest in a well-trained dog.

The key to successful dog training is passion. I absolutely love to see dog and handler teams succeed. It's so much fun to see dogs on the first night of class and then on the last night of class. The progress that they have made and the bond that owners build with their dogs really are priceless.

My core philosophy of training is that no two dogs are the same. As a trainer, I believe that I need to have a variety of resources available to me, as well as be open-minded about training philosophies and understand how they work. If I have a dog that is not responding to my normal methods, then it is my job as a trainer to try alternative methods. Being a balanced trainer allows me the flexibility to try those different methods to ensure that we have success.

Training serves to strengthen the bond between a dog and his or her owner. It builds communication, understanding, and mutual respect. It provides mental and physical stimulation, which is an important part of a dog's day. German Shepherds in particular are working dogs. They absolutely need a job, and that job is whatever your dog enjoys doing. Dog training also does not end at puppy class or basic obedience. This is just the start. This is where they learn the foundation; after that, it's about setting expectations. One common mistake I see people make in training their dogs is working an exercise too fast and risking that the dog does not understand. Another is humanizing a dog. I love all of my dogs, but at the end of the day, they are still dogs. Setting boundaries and communicating what you want with your dog is important.

Currently I have 3 dogs. Faith is an eight-year-old Pit bull mix who is extremely motivated by food. She has her CD title and really enjoys obedience training. She loves to play off leash with her crew and, of course, she likes napping! Pac is my Lindenhill's German Shepherd who is a little more than a year old. He absolutely loves to work and especially to work for me. He loves his people and is currently involved in conformation, obedience and agility. I definitely see other sporting events in his future, but for the time being, I just want him to focus on having fun and learning.

Yuuna is my youngest at eight months. She is a Japanese Akita (not to be mistaken for the American Akita). She is a bundle of joy, independent, and food/toy motivated. Yuuna participates in conformation, agility and obedience classes and, like Pac, will also participate in other sporting events in the future. She is one of about 300 Japanese Akitas in the United States, and I intend to help preserve the breed here in this country.

In my picture you will see a fourth dog. That was Biggie, who was also a Pit bull mix. We lost him in January at the age of 12. He happened to pass on Pac's birthday. The great thing, though, is that he was a great mentor to Pac and Yuuna, and I truly believe he is looking over all of us and smiling.

Trainer Kelly McDuff--

Hi, my name is Kelly McDuff, and I live in Eagan. I have a bachelor's degree in Biology/Ecology, and my day job is a laboratory supervisor for a company called Environmental Toxicity Control. We do Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Tests for wastewater treatment plants, ethanol plants, and similar facilities in MN and surrounding states using fathead minnows and water fleas. In short, we make sure that water being discharged into the rivers and lakes isn't going to cause any harm to wildlife. In my spare time, I love to be with my dogs and dabble in photography. I take the photos for our beginner and puppy class graduations!

I have had dogs my whole life and been training dogs since I was a teenager. My mom had a Yorkshire terrier named Gizmo; that was the first dog I ever took to obedience class. When I got my own two dogs, I started bringing them to class and loved it so much that I just kept going every week for over five years! Eventually I started helping out at St. Paul Dog Training Club--where I trained my dogs-with Amber, and she asked me if I'd want to help her at the GSDCMSP as well. I came and watched one Friday night, and the rest is history!

One of the most challenging aspects of training is keeping your cool. I see a lot of students get frustrated if their dogs aren't doing what they want them to do. Take a deep breath, smile, and start over. Dogs can feel when you are upset, and it bothers them too! If your dog is having a hard time focusing, stop and play with him or do some fun tricks to get her engaged with you again.



For me, the easiest things to train are fun exercises like tricks. My dogs love to do circles, sit pretty, fetch, and back up, and I think it is because it was fun for ME to teach them those things! If something we're working on isn't "fun", I try to break it up with things my dog likes in between. Titan will actually offer me a circle/spin whenever I release him from an exercise because he thinks it is that fun!

I try to get to know each and every dog that comes through our class, both by name and personality, and build the class around those students. Every dog is different, and it is important to realize that! I try to think of suggestions to help those that may be struggling in different aspects of training - usually there is more than one way to be successful when working with your dog.

My core dog training philosophies is to HAVE FUN with your dog!!! That is the most important thing. I feel like dogs are so much happier when they know the rules and have a good training background; plus, their people are happier to live with them! It is a great feeling to trust your dog and be able to bring him places with you and not worry about his behavior.

One thing people sometimes do not understand or recognize is that it takes a lot of daily practice and hard work to get to where you want your dog to be! The most common mistake is not practicing but thinking your dog will learn everything overnight.

I have two dogs: Titan, a 7-year-old miniature dachshund, and Orion, a 6-year-old mixed breed (I think he is a Golden Retriever/German Shepherd/Australian Shepherd mix). Many of you will see Orion down at the club on Friday nights helping out with demos. Both of my dogs have obedience and rally titles, and I also have started doing nosework with both of them. Orion enjoys agility a lot, and Titan does earthdog! Titan is also a therapy dog-- we visit a memory care unit at a nursing home weekly and go visit at the airport a few times a month.

I think one of the significant advantages of training with the GSDCMSP is that it is great to meet people with your breed, share advice, and understand that many other owners are going through the same behavior or training issues!

Rhonda's Product Picks

By Rhonda Meath

1 **-**TDC

I've been taking the 1-TDC soft gels for over three months. I was looking for a supplement that would benefit my body with my active agility training sessions, weekend agility trial schedule and daily workouts I put it through. 1-TDC cushions joints, improves joint function, promotes joint flexibility and mobility. It works perfectly!



1-TDC stands for its molecular name 1-Tetradecanol Complex, a highly unique proprietary blend of 1-Tetradecanol Fatty Acid Oils that provide fast, long-lasting muscle & joint comfort. The soft gels are easy to take and have the maximum absorption rate of up to 95%. I have noticed a huge change, especially in the early morning.

The 1-TDC topical cream is fantastic for soothing comfort on sore muscles and joints. I keep it handy in SMITH 's show bag for whenever I forget to stretch out before I run an agility course and happen to irritate a muscle or two. Works great!

1-TDC Periodontal and Joint, Dual Action Health

I started giving SMITH the 1-TDC Periodontal & Joint capsules about 10 months ago. He was already getting the Glycoflex Joint support daily, but I felt with his age, his large frame getting older, and his agility show schedule, I wanted him to give a boost. Maintaining his joints and muscles is a very important key element with his agility career.

The oils in 1-TDC act as a powerful cellular lubricant with unique natural properties that provide a dual action solution for periodontal and joint / muscle



health.

I began using it first for his teeth. I would break the 1-TCD capsules open and apply the liquid into his gums. Due to its superior transmucosal property, it is absorbed topically, reaching deep into the gingival tissues and acting as a cellular lubricant for superior gum health support.

After a few weeks, I just started giving him the capsules with his morning feeding. I can honestly say that I was seeing the results in just a few weeks in his performance at agility trials. He is faster, more efficient in his runs and muscular in his frame. He just performs better.

SMITH still gets the benefits of chiropractic care and K9 massage monthly. I truly believe in overall quality maintenance and preventive health care for all my dogs. 1 -TDC has really enhanced his performance in agility and everyday life.

If interested in learning more about 1-TDC, please visit their website: www.EliteScienceVet.net

There is also a video, available at<u>1-TDCvideos.com</u>

To order products, please contact Mike Teh at<u>mikethedogtrainer@hotmail.com</u>







RESCUE UPDATE: Saving Shepherds of Minnesota



March proved to be a medical month for us. Miss Maddi had FHO surgery for her hip dysplasia. We are happy with the results and that she now has a lot less pain. She is currently going to hydrotherapy and having laser therapy to help with her recovery. We also took in two females with Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency (EPI). Paisley was adopted quickly and is putting on weight. Josie just joined us, and we will continue to manage her condition and search for the perfect home for her.

We pulled our first dog from California! In a kill shelter, Mischa was severely malnourished, weighing only 35 pounds. Very soon she will make her way to Minnesota, where we will fatten her up and show her some good old fashion Midwestern love.

We had two special adoptions recently. Brix, a young Belgian Malinois who was a Minnesota stray, has been training to be a working K9 and was recently adopted by his foster/trainer. Kye, a young GSD mix from Texas, has begun his training to become a service dog for a veteran. We couldn't be happier that these amazing dogs will have jobs to keep them busy and to help people!

We had a wonderful time at the Agility Trials at On The Run in Ham Lake! We met so many wonderful people and were blessed with many generous donations.

We are always in need of GSD experienced fosters. If you would like to foster or volunteer, please email us at <u>savingshepherdsmn@gmail.com</u>.



RESCUE UPDATE: Faerieland Rescue

Hello from FaerieLand Rescue Inc. We have taken in 11 dogs during March and want to thank everyone who has stepped up to foster dogs and assist us. We are continuing to look for foster homes with experience. If you can help, please fill out the foster application at: <u>http://www.faerielandrescue.org/images/pdf/foster-questionnaire.pdf</u>

One of our dogs to spotlight is Annie, a sweet 11-month-old female German Shepherd mix who was rehomed five times in the last two months for no fault of her own. She is learning quickly from her foster mom, who states she is sweet, smart, playful, fun and learns quickly. She is up for adoption to someone who has a male buddy for her to play with, about her size. She seems to be house broken and loves to ride in the car but will need her new owner to work with her on obedience.

Another German Shepherd male that comes to rescue is Kiaser, who is five yrs old. His owner does contracting for the military but is NOT military. He is leaving soon for his third time accepting a contracting job in Afghanistan. After eight months of searching for another solution, he contacted us to take his dog and find a permanent home. While Kiaser seems very healthy, we





discovered a severe ear

infection that has been on-going for years and that might have already impacted his hearing. He also has severe allergies, which are being treated medically. He is very sweet, and once he is healthy, he will be put up for adoption. He seems to get along with most dogs, but we won't know for sure until we get to know him better.

A third dog to spotlight is one we have had in rescue for a year. Rosalie is a sweet, charming, housebroken alpha girl who came to us from a shelter where her family left her after her owner passed away. She is 11 years old and a sister to Daisy,

who Kathy DuVall adopted last September. She was recently diagnosed with a bladder stone the size of a golf ball and is being treated through a special diet for a month to see if the stone will shrink in size. Cost for this

food is \$36.50 per case of 12 cans, and Rosalie requires three cans every day and will most likely remain on this food for the rest of her life. If anyone wants to donate to her care, we would appreciate it. Please mark the donation "Rosalie. You can use Paypal via Friends / Family to info.faerieland@gmail.com or mail a check to FaerieLand Rescue Inc, PO Box 213, Anoka, MN 55303.

For anyone wishing to make a donation in "Memory of" a dog or person, we have a new section on our website for this special request. We continue to grow and have added many new volunteers, fosters and board members. We look forward to seeing everyone in June at the German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul Specialty Show where we will have our booth. We will also be at the Minnesota Pet Expo on June 10 and 11th.

Kathy DuVall, Executive Director



I" meeting date: Applicant's name added to membership list:	by check Cash: Placed in	To be completed by Membership Chair:	If you have any questions, please contact the membership chairperson (612) 219-9374 or <u>cimuchlb@gmail.com</u>	or not. Membership meeting dates are listed in the club brewsletter and published on the club website, <u>www.gsdcmsp.org</u> . Dues shall be assessed on a yearly basis from October 1 through September 30. Membership dues for applicants that become members between July of a given year and the December membership meeting date of that year will be waived for the following year.	Please Note: All applicants must attend two sponsored events or meetings within one year of their application date. At the meeting following the second meeting attended, the applicant will be announced as a member, whether they are in attendance at that meeting	Cindy Muehlbauer, GSDCMSP Membership, 18801 Watercrest Street NW, Anoka, MN 55303	This application must be accompanied by a check for one year's dues and signed by a current club member sponsor. Dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for a couple. Please make checks payable to the GSDC of Mpls & St. Paul. Return this application at a training class or club meeting or mail with check to:	MEMBER PROPOSED BY:	APPLICANT SIGNATURE: DATE:	I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE CLUB AND AGREE TO BE GOVERNED BY ITS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.	Training Center Hospitality Advertising Club Office	Specialty Shows & Trials Fun matches Programs Newsletter	HERDING: BREEDING: OTHER: Please specify:	E: RALLY OBEDIENCE:		Number of German Shenhards very own. Number of I itters had in the last two verys:	Please indicate the name(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to:	Email:	City: State: Zip:			Applicant Name (Please Print) Date:		MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	of Minneapolis and St. Paul	The German Shepherd Dog Club
	First																									
Middle Name: Email: Signature:	First Name:	α one (π) one person). Last Name:	For FAMILY Memberships, provide 2nd member information. (Family membership is defined as 2 people living in the same household (principal	Telephone: Email:	Postal Code:	Address:State:	Middle Initial: ** Date of Birth: (** REQUIRED for Juniors)	First Name:	Last Name:	this application. Checks should be made out to: German Shepherd Dog Club of America. Membership Information (please print) What other regination (please print)	Dues are NOT tax deductible. Please note that all administrative work for the GSDCA is done by volunteers and it may take up to 60 days to completely process your membership application. Enclose your dues payment for the amount shown with the membership type you have selected above with	 Inits is subpeal orier for new memoes only. Unler express 1230 122114. Review derively option prices still apply for all memberships. 	Junior Membership (no charge) (Does <u>not</u> include Review Subscription)	Renewal Single Membership (includes a GSD Review Subscription) (\$66.00) Renewal Family Membership (includes a GSD Review Subscription) (\$100.00)	NEW Single Membership (includes a GSD Review Subscription) (\$36.00) ** NEW Family Membership (includes a GSD Review Subscription) (\$66.00) **	Select Membership Type:	If you would like to apply and pay online & pay with a credit card, please go to http://gsdca.org/join-the-gsdca/apply-online	Mail form and dues to: GSDCA Membership Dania Karloff 2136 Mt Pleasant Road Chesapeake, VA 23322 Phone: 757-482-3966 Email: GSDCAmembers@aol.com	 It sponsors (and/or sequence) applications may be submitted without signatures. Per GSDCA policy, they may be signed by the current GSDCA President & Membership Charl 	 Junior: At least (nine) 9 years of age and not more than (eighteen) 18 years of age and shall subscribe to the same orient as Regular Membership with the exception of the same orient as regular Membership with the exception of the same orient as t	Applicant's name, along with their sponsors, will be published in the Review. Provided no objections have been filed within 30 days of publication in the Review, appli- can't will be notified in writing hur the Corresponding Secretary or Membership Chairman that helpha is alignible for all invidences industring that right to what	by the GSDCA by-laws and the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club. Two endorsements of current members must be provided by new applicants	 Recular Membership: Minimum age of eighteen) 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. In addition, applicant (and all renewing members) agrees to abide 	These shell be true to an of membrashing:	Application for Membership & Renewal Form	German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.

CLUB CALENDAR

<u>Please see the GSDCMSP website for detailed descriptions of classes and prerequisites.</u> Regular Classes are scheduled for the following times unless otherwise noted. Classes are sold in blocks of 10, \$90 for members and \$110 for nonmembers. Please remember that the calendar is subject to change **and the most current information can be found on our website. Classes and meetings are held at Animal Inn, Lake Elmo, MN**

- 6:00-6:45 **Puppy 1 and 2** (For puppies up to 6 months old. 10 classes)
- 6:00-7:30 Rally Obedience (Classes are ongoing)
- 7:00-8:00 Basic Obedience
- 8:00-9:00 Intermediate Obedience
- 9:00-10:00 Novice Obedience
- 7:30-9:00 Conformation- All Ages

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 12: Membership Meeting at Animal Inn
- May 20: Ron Halling's Socialization and Obedience Workshop. hallings@frontiernet.net
- June 24-25: Annual Speciality Show, Dakota County Fairgrounds

Shep-O-Gram N7925 986th Street River Falls, WI 54022

