

# Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

November 2019

**Shep-O-Gram Editor** Julie Swinland 651- 457-5459 Blackforestgsd@msn.com

**GSDC MSP Officers President** Mike Metz 651-489-7467 lindenhillgsd@comcast.net

Vice President Julie Swinland 651-457-5459 Blackforestgsd@msn.com

**Secretary** Kim Morris 651-270-2351 kmorris4369@hotmail.com

**Treasurer** Laura Meyer 651-451-4013 Blcmeyer920@msn.com

**Board members** Ann Jeddeloh Jen Johnston Laura Herweyer-Newland

Training Director Position Open



We lost a long time Honorary Member last month, Pat Peterson. She was approaching her 100th birthday. I found a few pictures that are on page 2 of this issue. Pat and her husband Chell were active in the club and handled rescue long ago. Chell passed in January 2008. If anyone has any pictures or stories they would like to share please let me know.

The US and Canadian National shows are over and I am sure there will be more brags sent in. I grabbed what I could find. Our breeders/ owners did very well once again.

There was a GSD walk in Dawn Ebbenga's Pumpkin Patch this month and we have more events coming up such as the obedience/rally trials Oct 26-27 and The dog and cat first aid and CPR certification/ presentation is on November 8. Please contact me (Julie Swinland) to sign up. We need one more person to get the reduced rate of \$70.

In December we have a Workshop Wonderland with pictures with Santa and a pot luck. More information will be coming on this in the next issue, Fun, Prizes, Raffles, Games, etc. At the November meeting we will have the vote on whether or not to separate Obedience and Rally from the annual specialty.

Of course the planning for the Annual Banquet has started and we have the Awards Form on page 13 for dogs who received an AKC title in 2019. When your dog earns his or her first AKC title he or she is eligible for a plaque. In the following years, if they earn more titles they can add bars to the plaque with the new titles listed. These are free to members. If you decide you would rather upgrade to a new

plaque each year, you must pay \$30 for each new plaque. Please complete the form printing clearly, and submit to Mada Skare. You need a separate form for each dog receiving a plaque or bar. The form is due by December 10. In addition you should include a write up about the dog receiving the plaque. This will be included in the program printed for the banquet. Remember to bring a framed 8x10 photo of your dog to the banquet.

Julie Swinland Blackforestgsd@msn.com

#### Index

Page 1 Editorial Page 2 Pat Peterson Page 3 -6 Nationals Brags Page 7 Other End of the Leash **Book Review** Page 8-9 Pumpkin Walk and Workshop Wonderland Page 10 Training and **Communication with Amber Elsfeld** Page 11 Membership Applications Page 12 Brags Page 13 Annual Awards Form Page 14-15 Is a Grain or Gluten Free Diet Right For My Dog? Page 16 Event Calendar &Training Schedule

October 25 Membership Meeting Animal Inn 8:00 PM

## **Pat Peterson**

December 24 1010- October 5 2019





1977 Awards banquet

Pat and Chell Peterson At the 1986 Awards Banquet

Patricia L. 'Pat' Peterson

Patricia L. 'Pat' Peterson

Peterson, Patricia L. "Pat" age 99 of Webster, MN passed away peacefully at her home on October 5, 2019. Pat was born on December 24, 1919 in Page, ND to Ralph and Anna Hemmesch. She retired from Cargill Corporation after 40+ years. Pat and Chell raised and rescued many German Shepherds throughout the years. Pat is preceded in death by her loving husband, Chell; parents, and brother, Donald Hemmesch. She is survived by her nephew, Daniel Hemmesch and her special friend and caregiver Debra and Rob Horejsi and their family. Funeral Service will be held 11 AM Thursday, October 10, 2019 at the White Funeral Home, 201 5th Ave NW., Lonsdale (952-269-2723) with a visitation starting at 10 AM. Interment, Sunset Cemetery, Mpls, MN Condolences: whitefuneralhomes.com



Published on October 8, 2019



Amber Eisfeld and Sheila D Williams-Metz and I are proud to add AOE\* Select Excellent to Pac's name. He is now

AOE\* SEL EX FV CH Lindenhill's Cold Pac V Gracelyne TC/CGCA/ CGCU/CD/RE/BN/TKP/OFA-H/E

Pac is out of SEL EX GCH CH Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne TC/ROM OFA H/E x Lindenhill's Gracelyne Tin Cup ROM

Award of Excellence (AOE)- Pending\*



Ch. Lindenhill's Iron Throne v Gracelyne TC OFA H/E was fourth in the Maturity finals. Deacon is owned by Stephanie Steigerwald, Rick Seki and Mike. He was bred by Rick & Liann Seki, Sheila and Mike Metz. Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH. Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne x Dam: Lindenhill-Gracelyne's Tin Cup ROM



Kubistraum's Power Pack(aka Packer) was awarded Second in the Futurity Finals. Packer is owned and bred by Verna Kubik and Virginia Baily Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH. Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne TC ROM\* Dam: GCH CH Kubistraums Vista Of Aramist Peters Elite Packer was handled to perfection by team Diane and Tim Brown





Bella and I earned 1st Place in the Excellent Interior search, 1st Place in the Excellent Exterior search and 3rd Place in the Excellent Container search at the inaugural GSDCA National Specialty Scent Work Trial on Oct. 8, 2019. We found 10/12 hides in all (missed two Buried hides). Bella and Sarah Falk

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 BEST BRED-BY EXHIBITOR MARQUIS' CRIMSON DN50052602. 5/4/2017 Breeder: Maria Oster/Liz Oster/Liana New. GCHP CH Marquis' Hermes V Kenlyn - Marquis' I Love A Rainy Night. Owner: Maria Oster.

GRAND VICTOR GCHP CH MARQUIS' HERMES V KENLYN Dog DN43835101. 8/11/2015 Owner: Kent Boyles|Liz Oster.

BEST OPPOSITE PUPPY KENLYN MARQUIS' SULTAN OF SWING SEVEN HILLS Owner: Liz Oster|Kent Boyles.



Lindenhill's Spellbound v Steffca was second in the American Bred Class. Many considered this the strongest class of the national. Charm is owned by Stephanie Steigerwald, Rick Seki and Sheila. She was bred by Rick Seki, Naomi Swanson, Ingrid Smith and Mike Metz. Sire: Sel.Exc.GCH.CH. Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne x



Top 20 agility dogs and handlers with judge Oksana Rhonda Meath and Dawn Ebbenga are in the middle.



At the 2019 GSDCA Nationals held in Loveland CO, club member Rhonda Meath & her 3 year old German Shepherd Dog Lila competed in the scent work trial and agility.

Lila earned her AKC scent titles in Novice Containers, Interiors & Exteriors as well as High In Trial at the All Breed Trial .This was Lila's first AKC scent trial.

MajestatiscHaus Sie Hat Das Aussehen Lila Madchen RN OAP OJP OFP CGC TKI

FUTURITY VICTOR / BEST OPPOSITE FUTURITY TODORHAUS TRIO KING KONG Breeder: Sharon Todoroff/Kelly Foehl OWNER: Sharon Todoroff|Kelly Foehl And Tifani King earned Reserve Jr Handler.



Continued on page 6



Marty will again be included in the GSDCA redbook as a top 10 futurity / maturity sire for 2019. GO MARTY!!!!

Marty was bred by Rick and Liann Seki, and is owned and loved by Sheila, Rick, Liann and I.

Pending GSDCA confirmation, Marty has completed the requirements for his Register of Merit.

Title and Pedigree updates. Sel.Exc.GCH.CH.Lindenhill's Martello v Gracelyne ROM / TC / OFA H/E Sire: AOE.GV.Ch.Mar Haven's Color Guard HT PT TC ROM/ROMC OFA H/E Dam: Gracelyne's Miki Moto ROM OFA H

#### Top 20 Futurity/Maturity Sires Owned by Club Members

GCH Ch Bloomsberrys Amadeus

GCH CH Lindenhill"s Martello V Gracelyne

GCHP Ch Rosewood's Galileo CGC

GCH Ch Marquis' Hermes V Kenlyn



Paul Schumack and Belle, 3rd in Novice B Obedience and 4th in Rally Novice earning a Rally Novice title.

#### SOGGY by Julie Swinland



#### The Other End of the Leash, Patricia B. McConnell,

Ph.D.,Ballantine Book, 2002. Book Review by Cynthia Curran

Even though this book was first published 17 years ago, Patricia McConnell's insights and observations on dog behavior and training are still valuable today. One of the characteristics which sets this dog training book apart from the thousands available today is McConnell's doctorate in zoology with a specialty in the study of animal behavior. This scientific background brings a weight to her book and she has a lovely (and hefty) reference section at the back of the book, arranged by the subjects covered in each chapter. If the reader wishes to understand a topic in more depth, McConnell has made it easy. But please don't think this author writes in complex scientific jargon. Her prose is crisp and she wisely chooses to illustrate her points with anecdotes from her own pack of dogs or from the many clients she has worked with.

One of McConnell's main themes is that it is crucial to understand the differences in communication between primates (humans) and Canis lupus familiaris (dogs.) She argues that many dog behavior issues



stem from this disparity. One of her examples is the urge to hug. Primates hug babies out of affection and each other in reconciliation or tenderness. Dogs, however, are discomfited by an arm thrown over the back which can mean a display of dominance or aggression. McConnell notes that many dogs come to tolerate hugging from their owners but others will growl or lunge. The same effect can be noted in direct, face-to-face contact. With primates, this is seen as an open and trusting way to greet but dogs are very uncomfortable with someone who approaches them head on, especially with a hand poised over their heads.

As interesting as McConnell's dissection of physical movements is, my favorite part of her book is when she pairs sound with movement when interacting with dogs. Many people put great store on the words they use to train dogs but McConnell uses her primary research and that of many others, to demonstrate that dogs respond far more to body language and to the tone and pitch of our voices. Low, guttural sounds will slow down an animal's movement while higher pitched rapid sounds will speed him up. Think of horses and the joyous 'Giddyup' or slower, deeper 'Whoa there.' McConnell has a fascinating chapter where she illustrates using these sounds instead of words to get an immediate, accurate response from dogs. She pairs the sounds with hand movements or shoulder positions for a fascinating glimpse into the trainer's behavior which influences the dog more than a vocabulary of commands. Just before I started to write this review, I told my dog Angus to get in his crate. I usually sweep my hand in front of the open door but for some reason, tonight I made a large upward sweep with my whole arm. To my astonishment, Angus made a giant leap from a standing position and landed on top of the crate! McConnell would say he was doing what I told him to do with my arm, rather than listening to the words 'Go to bed' that I say every day.

McConnell has many more fascinating insights and stories than I can sketch here. Her discussion of dominance and the misunderstanding and misapplication of this term to dog behavior is alone worth the time to read this book. She isn't a person who is blinded by idealism. She discusses the bleak situations where the only safe option is to destroy a dog in his prime. She also notes several tragic instances where dogs were needlessly put down because of a human's inability to read simple behavioral differences. Even if you read Patricia McConnell's book when it was first published, I urge you to do so again. I understand things now that I glossed over as unimportant the first time I encountered her views. For the examples alone and for McConnell's gentle and tolerant outlook, this volume is will deepen your understanding of yourself and your relationship to your dog.

# Group walk at the Pumpkin Patch



#### Group Walk Confinued

We had a beautiful day for the group walk at Dawn Ebbenga's Pumpkin Patch in Shafer MN. There was nice walk through the fields and lots of photo opportunities with various Halloween themes. One of the highlights of the event was the giant slide That was mostly for people but some dogs also went down the slide

There was also a shoe drive. For Skylar's Scholarships, a 501 C3 organization which is dedicated to fund raising for German Shepherd Dogs in need, along with supporting K9 departments with funding for equipment for their working dogs.

## SAVE THE DATE ! Workshop Wonderland December 8



#### Training and Communication by Amber Eisfeld



TRUE COMMUNICATION GOES BEYOND SAYING COMMANDS. IT IS THE FOUNDATION OF MAKING A TEAM STRONG.



#### Training & Communication

The fundamental form of communication is your attention. This is true whether you are teaching some new skill, practicing an old one, or refining an advanced behavior. When you give your attention to something your dog does - through touch, voice, eye contact, smiling, or laughter you draw attention to the behavior. This tells your dog that you find the behavior worthy of interest. Dogs, being sociable creatures, find most interaction and attention reinforcing. They value it and will work to get it. - Julie Cantrell

I could not agree with this more. Here are a couple of tips on promoting this communication:

- 1. Bring yourself into a training session committed to focusing on your dog to the same extent that you are asking him to focus on you
  - a. Avoid training when you are distracted or preoccupied. This is basic respect and consideration.
- 2. Invite learning with your facial expressions and demeanor
  - a. Training should be a positive, pleasant experience for you and your dog. Soften your eyes. Take a deep breath. Relax your body. Smile. When you are relaxed and happy, your dog will likely be more willing to work.
- 3. Communicate Confidence & Composure
  - Keep an upright but relaxed posture and be still. Too much gestures and body movement can create confusion.
- 4. Be consistent & promote cooperation
  - a. Keep your words consistent along with your tone. Using different words and cues is confusing to your dog. You are a teacher, coach and a mentor. You do not need to assume a tough sounding voice in order to get your dog to listen.
- 5. Appreciation is sincere
  - a. Praise doesn't need to have a certain tone quality, pitch or gesture nearly as much as it needs to convey that you are sincerely pleased and happy at that moment.

Date:					Signature:	Applicant/ Member Signature:	Applicant's name added to membership list.
						Endorser 2 Printed Name & Signature:	To be completed by Membership Chair: Date Dues Paid Check: □ Cash: □ Club cash box: □ Online: □ Mailed with Application: □
Herding	Conformation og Other	Agility d t Tracking	por	your GSD? (Circle all that apply)	your -	What activities do you enjoy with House Pet Obedience Ra Endorser 1 Printed Name & Signature	Please Note: At the next Membership Meeting following the date applied, the applicant will be announced in the Minutes, whereas any Chub members that may object to membership have 30 days to raise their concern. If no concerns are raised, the applicant receives Membership status as stated in the Bylaws which are on the websile at <u>www.sedcmp.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 direct any questions to
				Email:		Telephone	
	Middle Initial:			First Name:		Last Name	1 nis application must be accompanied by a check for one-year's dues and signed by a current cluo memoer 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:
2 people living in the	p is defined as	′ membershi	<b>mation.</b> (Family	l <b>member infor</b> n ∍rson).	For FAMILY Memberships, provide 2nd member information. (Family membership is defined as 2 people living in the same household principal & one other person).	For FAMILY Membe same household pr	MEMBER PROPOSED BY:
			Email:	ne:	Telephone:	Country:	APPLICANT SIGNATURE: DATE:
			ZIP/ Postal Code _	ZIP/	State:	City:	I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE CLUB AND AGREE TO BE COVERNED BY ITS BY-
				Only)	(Juniors Only)	Date of Birth: Address:	Breeder:       Club Member:       Facebook:       Training:       Rescue:       State Fair:       Friend:         Show/Trial:       Fun Day:       Socialization/Obedience Workshop:       Vet:
<u>a</u> 	Middle Initial:			First Name:	ation (please print)	Membership Information (please Last Name:	Specialty Shows & Trials:  Fun Matches:  Programs:  Shep-O-Gram:  Training:  Hospitality:  Fundrasing:  Fun Day:  State Fair:  DIFEASE NUMERATE LIQUE VOTI LEADED A DOITH THE OFFICE.
	\$24.00	Outside United States: \$24.00	Outside Un				I would be interested in helping with the following activities:
	5.00	Delivery in poly wrap: \$5.00 1st Class delivery: \$36.00	Delivery in I				Obedience:      Rally:      Conformation:      Agility:      Herding:      Breeding:      Other (please specify):
	\$040 Charries	I delivery ch	Additiona	CI I¢		ramily	PLEASE INDICATE (X) THE AREAS IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:
	\$335	Ş	\$200	\$70	Online only		
	\$355	\$	\$215	\$75	Print & online		Number of German Shepherds you own: Number of Litters bred in the last two years:
	Five year	_	Three year \$130	One year	a membership i ype: eview Delivery Online only	Circle Your Desired Membership Membership Review Category Delivery Single Online only	Please indicate the name(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to:
<u>apply-online.</u> 23322	<u>sapeake</u> , VA	<mark>ysdca.org/jo</mark> ıg Lane, Che	, please go to <u>⊊</u> ∍rt, 557 Dunnin	th a credit card, n to Laura Gilbe	To apply and pay ONLINE with a credit card, please go to <u>gsdca.org/join-the-gsdca/apply-online.</u> You can MAIL this form to Laura Gilbert, 557 Dunning Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322	To apply a You	City: State: Zip: Email:
scribe to the same <sup>3</sup> , hold office, or serve	ge and shall sub: bers cannot vote	18 years of aţ s. Junior mem	nd not more than ement to pay due	10 years of age ar ption of the requir	the right to vote. Junior Members: Must be 10 years of age and not more than 18 years of age and shall subscribe to the same criteria as Regular Membership with the exception of the requirement to pay dues. Junior members cannot vote, hold office, or serve on committees other than junior committees.	the right to vote. Jun criteria as Regular M on committees other	Applicant Name (Please Print)        Date:         Address:        Phone:
German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. Application for Membership There are two types of membership, Regular Members: Minimum age of 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. Applicant (and renewing members) agrees to abide by the GSDCA by-laws and the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club. Two endorsements by current members must be provided by new applicants. Applicant's name will be published in the <i>German Shepherd Dog Review</i> . Provided no objections have been filed within 30 days of publication in the <i>Review</i> , applicant will be notified that he/she is eligible for	Americ of 18 years. Mus SDCA by-laws ar the members must 'Dog Review. Pro will be notified th	Minimum age bide by the G hents by currer man Shepherd 'ew, applicant	d Dog C nbership gular Members: nbers) agrees to a tb. Two endorsem lished in the Gerr lished in the Gerr sation in the Revu	Shephert n for Men of membership. Re, and renewing men nerican Kennel Clu s name will be pub n 30 days of public		Self individual to the self of	The German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

11

BRAGS



David Mielke and Gaetho took first place in Herding Started Sheep D Course at the North Star Rottweiler Herding Trial.





Tasha's latest title,5 third places in a row, followed by 2 second place finishes in open, all barn hunt with David Mielke Owner/Handler Rhonda Meath & Bones had a fabulous weekend at the GSDCMSP Sept 2019 Agility Trial held at On The Run Canine Center in Ham Lake. He earned ; QQQQ on Friday QQQ on Saturday QQ on Sunday

~ High In Trial German Shepherd Dog 2019 ~





Bobbi Smith and Zeus placed 3rd and 4th in Barn Hunt at St Croix Rat Pack Barn Hunt

#### 2019 GSDCMSP Awards Form Presented at the Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting on Saturday January 18, 2020 Form Due Tuesday Dec 10, 2019

Did you and your dogs earn AKC titles during the 2019 year? If yes, please fill out the attached form to be recognized at the GSDCMSP Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting on Saturday, Jan.18, 2020 GSDCMSP is honored to recognize its members for their efforts in training, exhibiting, and ultimately earning uses with their dogs.

Eligible Titles/Awards: The Club shall present an award for all performance and conformation titles issued by the American Kennel Club and the Canadian Kennel Club. Awards are also given by the Club for titles earned at the American National Specialty Show, and titles earned from the GSDCA, including conformation, obedience, herding and agility: Grand Victor and Victrix, Select or Select Excellent, Futurity/Maturity Victor/Victrix, Winner's Dog / Bitch, Best Junior Handler, Best Puppy, Top Ten Stud Dog/Brood Bitch, ROM, Highest Scoring German Shepherd Dog in Regular Obedience Classes, Highest Scoring Champion in Obedience, High in Herding Trial, High in Agility Trial, Performance Award of Merit, Award of Excellence (AOE) and High in Tracking Trial, etc. Awards are also given for appearances in the annual Redbook Top 10 Futurity Sires and Dams, and the Top 10 AKC Major Pointed Sires and Dams.

In 2017, the membership voted to also include awards at our Awards Banquet to members earning performance titles with other reputable canine performance organizations (non-AKC) in Agility, Barn Hunt, Canine Freestyle, Dock Diving, Herding, Lure Coursing, Nosework, Obedience, Schutzhund/IPO, Rally, Weight Pull (see full list on page 2).

For certificates honored at the AKC and GSDCA level, the Club acknowledges the certificate in the Awards Program booklet in the "Honorable Mention" section. Examples include: Temperament Certification, Top 20 recognition, Herding Instinct Test, the Achiever Dog award that AKC is currently piloting, and other such certifications and awards.

Eligible Members: These awards will be presented to members of the GSDCMSP in good standing. This requirement may be met by being a Member in good standing at either the time the award is earned or at the date of the Annual Banguet at which the award is to be given or by becoming a Member Applicant by the date of the Annual Banguet at which the award is presented.

Plagues and Bars: The Club will present one plague per members' dog for their first award. Any additional awards presented by the Club to that same dog, for the life of the dog, will be in the form of a bar, which is hung from the bottom of the plaque; however, a member may purchase a plaque instead of a bar each year for the difference in cost to the Club. Members and co-owners may purchase duplicates. Members may create an award for those titles not recognized by the GSDCMSP at the cost equal to the amount billed to the Club.

Please submit the required information for titles earned in the 2019 calendar year to have your plaque (or bar) ordered and ready to be presented at the Awards Banquet on January 18, 2020 (each dog's first award is paid for by the Club).

AWARDS FOR	M: Please Co	mplete for each dog, DUE DEC. 10	
Owner(s): Dog's Registered Name (with title abbrevia Dog's Call Name: Titles earned in _201೪ (list all titles, printed)	/		
You are encouraged to include write-up info Awards Program booklet. Please bring a fra			booklet) for the
Award Type: Please CIRCLE BAR	-	PLAQUE	
Upgrade from bar to plac Purchase additional bar	is <b>\$15</b>	Please print clearly	
	k out to GSDC	CMSP, check must be enclosed to plaque/ordering duplicate plaque) and	THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS & ST. PAUL
Ema	106 Tw Circle Pi	da Skare inkle Terrace nes, MN 55014 p: <u>wildfanz@comcast.net</u>	

### Is a Grain or Gluten Free Diet Right For my Dog?

How to Know if Your Pet Needs Gluten or Grain Free Dog Food

By Lorie Huston, DVM



Choosing a diet for your dog is a task that should not be taken lightly. Grain free and gluten free pet diets have become extremely popular. This popularity has mirrored the appearance of similar products for people. These diets are particularly helpful for people that have celiac disease, intolerance to glutens in general, or allergies to wheat.

Many pet owners choose to mimic their own food choices when choosing a food for their pet. With the increase in the number of people choosing to consume a grain free or gluten free diet, pet food manufacturers have recognized that similar pet diets are attractive to pet owners. The popularity of these diets has led to an increase in the number of grain free and gluten free diets available for pets.

Are these diets the best choice for your dog? How do you know if your pet needs a grain free or gluten free dog food?

#### **Grain Free Versus Gluten Free**

Let's start by discussing the difference between a grain free and a gluten free diet. Grain free dog foods are, as the name implies, diets that do not contain grain. Gluten free dog food, on the other hand, may or may not contain grain as an ingredient. Gluten is the protein that is found in specific types of grain, namely wheat, barley, and rye. Gluten free dog food is, of course, free of these proteins. However, not all grains contain gluten. Therefore, gluten free dog food may or may not be grain free, while grain free dog food will always be gluten free.

#### Does My Dog Need a Grain Free Diet?

Most dogs do not actually require a grain free or a gluten free diet. But how do you know if your dog does require one of these diets? To answer that question, let's take a look at some of the common reasons pet owners choose to feed their dog a grain free or a gluten free diet.

Proponents of grain free diets claim that grains are an unnatural source of nutrition for our dogs. They argue that ancestors of our current-day dogs did not eat grains. While their ancestors may not have eaten grains, dogs have evolved to be able to digest grains and glutens pretty easily. Dogs possess several genes that have been modified

#### **Continued on Page 15**

#### Is a Grain or Gluten Free Diet..... Continued

through the course of their evolution to allow them to easily digest carbohydrates.<sup>1</sup> That includes grains. So, while most dogs do very well eating a grain free diet, these diets are not required in terms of metabolization.

Another reason that many dog owners choose to feed grain free or gluten free dog foods is a mistaken belief that these diets are the best choice for dogs that have food allergies. While food allergies do occur in pets, corn and other grains are not among the most common allergens found in foods. In fact, according to some of the available research, corn is actually one of the least likely sources of food allergy. In one literature review, 278 dogs with food allergy were evaluated and the problem ingredient was clearly identified for each dog. Beef was the most common allergen, being responsible for 95 of the cases reported. Dairy was responsible for 55 cases, making it the second most frequent cause. Corn was identified as the offender in only 7 cases.<sup>2</sup>

For dogs that truly do have allergies to grains, a grain free diet would be an appropriate choice. The following are symptoms that would be expected in dogs that have food allergies (or other types of allergies):

- Itchiness
- Excessive hair loss
- Bald patches
- Inflamed skin
- Sore and scabs
- "Hot spots"

A food trial with a grain free food would be necessary to determine whether the food is beneficial for your dog.

#### Does My Dog Need a Gluten Free Diet?

Unlike in people, celiac disease is uncommon in dogs. As a result, most dogs do not require a gluten free diet. The exception to this is the Irish Setter. A small number of Irish Setters have been documented to suffer from a congenital disease that results in an intolerance to gluten. This has only been reported in certain Irish Setters and only in the Irish Setter in the U.K. These dogs, however, will benefit from a gluten free diet.

Shared from PetMD

#### **Club Events**

Nov 8 First Aid and CPR Course Tentative Nov 15 Membership Meeting Nov 17 Socialization and Obedience Workshop

December 8 Socialization and Obedience Workshop followed by with Pictures with Santa and Pot Luck 2:00-5:00

January 18 Annual Banquet Lake Elmo

#### **GSDC MSP Class Schedule**

#### Ring 1 and 2

No Obedience and Puppy class until Further notice. Puppy 1 & 2 .....,6:00-6:45 Beginning Obedience .....,7:00-8:00 Intermediate/Novice.....,8:00-9:00

#### Ring 3

Rally Julie Swinland ......6:00-7:30 Conformation Ginny Altman...7:30-

Rally and Conformation continue and we will have some guest lecturers and a First Aid and CPR course coming soon.

The AKC has developed a temperament test which is a little different from our familiar GSDCA test. Purpose: The AKC Temperament Test (ATT) is a general temperament test for all breeds and mixed breed dogs that will assess the dog's reaction to a variety of stimuli. These stimuli will be in the following six categories: Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile (touch), Proprioceptive (motion) and Unexpected Stimuli. The purpose of the ATT is to test for fear, shyness, inability to recover, and lack of cooperation. I have been approved as an evaluator and hope to offer this test at upcoming events, possibly on a Friday night, and also at the Fun Day and the Herding trials. To receive the certificate from the AKC you must pass twice under two different evaluators. I will include more information on the test in the next issue