



GUARDIAN



A monthly publication of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta, Inc. • March 2005

**GSDC of Atlanta
B-OB Match
March 20.**

**See Page 16
for details.**

Inside...

GSD Rescue2

Is Your Dog a Senior
Citizen?3

If Dogs Could Read ...5

Stud Directory7

GSDCA
Board-O-Gram10

Awards Banquet15

GSDC of Atlanta
B-OB Match16

Breeder's Directory ..16

Member Photos of
the Month20

Puppy Trax by Suzanne Kinman

Gala climbed out of the motor home for a quick workout before the short trip to her very first National. The year was 1985. The St. Louis Arches were across from the motor home court where everyone was staying for the big event. There was pavement everywhere! Entered in the puppy class, she had never really been handled by anyone but mom, Grandma Mary, and Aunt Andrea. Now she was meeting a handler for the very first time. Barry took the lead and told mom to go hide. Gala said hello to the stranger holding her lead and noticed all the folks standing in a group to watch. Wow, Gala'd played this game with mom lots of times. She promptly put her nose to the pavement and tracked mom to her hiding place across the blacktop. She didn't understand why Grandma was screaming and the others were laughing. She just did her job and found mom!! Of course, Mary didn't know that "no obedience" didn't mean no tracking!

Several members of the club are involved in tracking. In fact two members of the GSDC of Atlanta, Harry Fewox and Diane Castle, have titled six-month-old puppies. It is a relatively inexpensive sport that is great fun if you enjoy the out doors and working with your dog! Teaching tracking as an exercise is fun in adult

dogs but absolutely amazing in young pups. Puppies can begin tracking as young as 6 weeks old. Having had no "advanced" training and little time in public, little guys have no idea that they are not allowed to sniff stuff! Lets take that nose and teach puppy to track! The important concept here is not that we are teaching puppy to use his nose, but allowing puppy to do a natural behavior, reward him for it, and learn to read the dog.

Before you begin training ask yourself a few questions. Why are you training pup? Are you looking for a new, fun game to develop puppy's mind? Are you working toward a title - Tracking Dog, Tracking Dog Excellent, or Variable Surface Tracker? Interested in Schutzhund? Are you looking to have a dog that eventually can find lost kids? The answers to these questions will direct you toward different search articles and starting methods later [starting an individual track] so begin to answer those questions as you get started.

Equipment needed to begin tracking is relatively inexpensive. First, you'll need something to attach to the pup! With a puppy you don't really even need a harness. Some folks start on a

Continued on page 6



**If you cannot
RESCUE, do not
BREED.**

**Pets are for a
lifetime, not
throw-away
toys.**

— Atlanta GSD
Rescue Website

Mick is about 10 months old, medium size, crate trained and housebroken. He's good with female dogs, has had some obedience and is now getting back into it.

Mick loves kids, but can be rough if allowed. He steals whatever he can (socks, shoes, remote

control, bottle of shampoo, toilet paper, etc.) but doesn't necessarily destroy it — if you catch him in time.

Mick is learning to play ball, but would rather chase after the other dogs in the yard. Mick is being fostered by Janet Barwick. Contact her at 770-247-8396. •



Meetings of the GSDC of Atlanta are held at 8:00 p.m. the second Monday of each month (except July & December) at the Atlanta Human Society, 981 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta, GA. The December meeting will be held Monday, March 14. The GSDC of Atlanta encourages visitors to attend Club meetings.

Board Meeting Information – Board meetings are held at the home of one of the Board Members and are open to all Club members (members must notify the host Board Member before attending). Club members are not permitted to participate in discussions (unless delivering a committee report) or to vote.

The Guardian is distributed monthly by The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta, Inc. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month preceding publication. All contents of *The Guardian* are copyrighted © 2005 by the GSDC of Atlanta. Subscription rates: Members: Free; non-members, \$20 per year (checks payable to the GSDC of Atlanta).

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Please send any
articles, photos,
advertisements,
questions, suggestions,
etc. to **Ken Wallace**, at
**GSDCGuardian@
earthlink.net**

Club Phone: 770-245-0514 www.gsdcatlanta.com

Is Your Dog a Senior Citizen?

The conventional wisdom says one canine year is equivalent to seven human years. But a more accurate representation depends on both age and size to classify your dog as young, adult, senior or geriatric. The figures down the left side of the chart are the actual age of the dog. The figures across the top of the chart are the weight bracket for the dog. The figures inside the chart are the equivalent age of the dog. Equivalent ages in green are classified as "adult." Equivalent ages in yellow are "senior," and equivalent ages in red are "geriatric." Example: a ten-year old dog that weighs 40 pounds has an equivalent age of 66 years.

Age	0 - 20	21 - 50	51 - 90	Over 90
5	36	38	40	42
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123
17	84	92	104	
18	88	96	109	Adult
19	92	101	115	Senior
20	96	105	120	Geriatric

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Club meeting minutes
can be found in the
members only section
of the Club website
www.gsdcatlanta.com.

The German Shepherd
Dog Club of America
wants you (as a
member). To apply for
membership, visit:
www.gsdca.org/Noframes/membership_new.html.



February

was a great month for

Naya & D'Argo



Naya earned her Novice Agility title (and a leg toward Novice Jumpers). She also earned her Rally Novice title (and two legs toward her Rally Advanced title).

D'Argo earned his Rally Novice title (and two legs toward his Rally Advanced title).

Naya and D'Argo are owned and loved by Ken and Faith Wallace.



On the Trail with Your Canine Companion

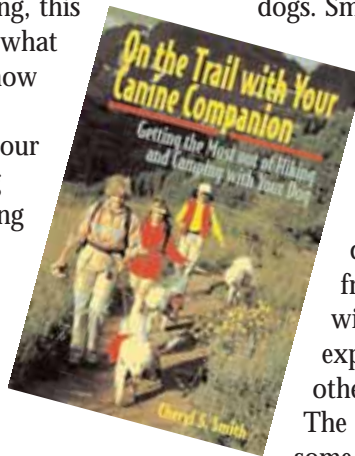
by Cheryl S. Smith

This book may be of little relative interest to those who backpack for many miles and multiple days. But that's not the audience for whom the book was written. This is meant to help those dog owners who consider it daring to sleep in a pull-behind pop-up camper and walk a couple of miles on a trail through the woods understand how to include their dogs on these trips. If you would like to share a low-tech low-risk camping experience with your dog, this book will help you do that.

From suggestions on conditioning to tips on what to bring, this book tells you what you need to know to prepare yourself, and your dog, for hiking and backpacking together. The book also includes helpful first-aid information

It is clear that Smith loves her dogs and enjoys taking them on outdoor trips, but she also makes it clear that

there are others on the trail who may not take kindly to dogs. Smith offers ways



to ensure that you and your dogs are courteous trail users who don't detract from the wilderness experience for other travelers. The author includes some of her own experiences, which makes for a better read and also shows the reader real-life situations. •

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Club Meeting Hospitality

Following is a list of club members who have volunteered to bring refreshments to club meetings.

Refreshments do not have to be elaborate—just drinks and snacks.

Email or call **Susan Morabit** at slmrn98@bellsouth.net or 770-977-1557 if you want to volunteer to bring refreshments.

March to July 2005
Open

Puppy Trax *continued from page 1*

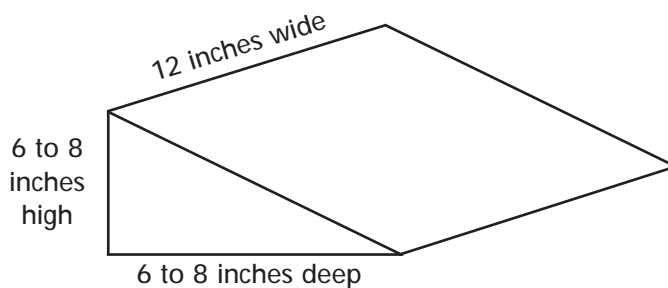
buckle collar. However, if you are serious you can use the harness to build an association with the job - the harness goes on and the pup will quickly learn to associate it with using that nose. You'll need a lead line of some type. You can begin with a six foot lead but eventually you'll want to move to a ten foot line or a twenty foot line depending on the type of tracking you're doing and the terrain. Lines come in cotton, leather, and man made materials but can also be made with a simple piece of clothesline or parachute cord and a snap. You'll need some type of indicators - a few bike or surveyor's flags can be purchased at any hardware store or general use superstore. You can also use the old wooden clothespins and tie on a piece of reflective plastic tape so they are easy to spot. Articles are high on the list. Articles can be as simple as brown cloth garden gloves used at most AKC tracks if you are only going for a TD, to a variety of "stuff" that can be picked up at any flea

market or used clothing store. Knit caps, old wallets, small leather squares, small stuffed animals, etc make great articles if you intend to work advanced tracking. Variable surface tracks can include articles like gum wrappers, candy wrappers, pop-tops from cans, head or wristbands, etc. Keep articles small enough to fit inside a belt bag. You'll eventually need a large belt bag to hold treats and articles as the pup finds them and a water bottle for use on long tracks. Last, but never least, you'll need lots of food/treats.

There is one other piece of equipment that is not used by everyone but comes in handy when tracking with

puppies. It is called a "blind." Blinds can be made of plastic or any other substance you want to use. I prefer wood. The blind looks like a piece of an Open broad jump - about twelve inches wide, 6 to 8 inches deep, and goes from ground level to about 6 inches tall. It can be made by taking a block of wood 1 inch thick, 6 by 6 (or 8 by 8) inch square and cutting it diagonally. You will end up with two triangular blocks of wood that are 6 to 8 inches long by 1 inch wide. They are 0 inches high on one end and 6 (or 8) inches high on the other. Take a piece of cheap paneling 12 inches wide by 6 (or 8) inches long and nail it to the

The Blind



STUD

Directory

The following are Club member's dogs which are offered for public stud. For more information on a stud, including terms and fees, contact the stud dog owner. Most stud owners require notifications on the first day of the bitch's season and proof of current BC/VC.

Ch. Kagen's Roll Tide, HIC OFA GS4465G24M

SIRE: Ch. Kagen's Legend of Andiron, CD, TC, CGC, HIC, OFA GS-3526F24M

DAM: Ch. Cartel's Jessica Flanders, ROM (Lothario daughter) "Bama"

This handsome red & black dog with all majors under noted specialty judges. The planned breeding of our two best producing champions is the culmination of several generations chosen for style, type and movement. His littermates include Ch. Kagen's Ringleader, HIC, OFA; Kagen's Ragtime HIC, OFA (major reserve winner) & Kagen's Rather Risque CD, HIC, OFA. He is dominant for producing wonderful sidegait (long & low in stride), fabulous pigment, beautifully masculine head, short hocks, perfect feet, dark eyes, full dentition & excellent temperament.

Breeder/Owners: Gene & Kaye Valentine, 1542 Narroway Church Circle, Dallas, GA 30132, (770) 433-8600, <http://members.aol.com/kagengsd>



Multiple BOB winning BISS CH. Adelgard's Yancy D von Marquin

SIRE: Double/Double GV Marquin's X-tra! X-tra!

DAM: Schneiderhof's Highland Treasure (Ch Highlander ROM daughter)

"Yancy" hit the ring running, completing his championship in 9 shows start to finish with multiple Best of Breed wins from the classes over Specials. He is a close coupled sable and is ALL male with a blocky head, tremendous bone and substance, and outstanding character. Yancy is turning heads all over the Southeast. Watch for him at a show near you! Proof of BC/VC required.

Owner: Suzanne Kinman, 2320 Georgia Hwy 20 SE, Conyers, GA 30094, (770) 761-5748, www.tsalishpherds.com, tsaligsds@comcast.net



Melana's Murphy's Law (Major pointed)

SIRE: Dbl Am & Dbl Can GV Sel. Ch. Marquin's Xtra! Xtra! OFA H/E

DAM: Melana's Obsession v Clihu OFA H/E (dam of 2 Champions)

"Murphy" has started his career with a 5 point major from the 12-18 class at 13 months of age. He was also the 2nd 6-9 Puppy Dog at the 2003 GSDCA National - the 3rd National placer his dam has produced. He's a large, heavy boned male with a nice masculine head, dark eyes, full dentition, and excellent feet & pasterns. He has a smooth, balanced sidegait with an exceptional forehand, strong ligamentation and is squeaky clean coming and going. Murphy is an eager, assertive stud dog with his first litter on the way. BC/VC required.

Owner: Melissa Campbell, 140 Tyson Rd, Villa Rica, GA 30180, (770) 459-4330, www.melanasherds.com, Mjc114@bellsouth.net



WarrenMiller Aspen Powderhound

"Aspen"

Aspen won Best of Altered Breed two consecutive days at the AWSA Southeast Regional Specialty show February 12 and 13, 2005, earning him points toward his Championship.

We are especially proud as this was his first conformation event.



Owners: Joe & Susan Morabit

Puppy Trax continued from page 6

two “legs.” What you will have is something that looks like a tiny bike or car ramp. When this is placed on the ground and covered with pine straw or grass you have a very effective blind behind/under which you can hide treats, articles, or entire puppy food pots and from ground level cannot be seen!

Ready? Set? TRACK!
Laying that first track can be daunting. It involves a great deal of skill, timing, and knowledge. NOT! Grab puppy’s dinner (pot and all) and either a glove or washcloth and go to your tracking area. Put the washcloth or glove inside your shirt. Your first tracking area can be as small as four feet wide by fifteen feet long but should always be grass to start out. Take your “flag” and stick it in the ground. Beside it, scuff your feet in the grass in a patch about two feet square to stir up scent. Place a handful of pup’s dinner inside that square. Scuffing your feet, walk forward and every six inches or so, place a couple of kibbles of food. Continue forward until you get to the end of your tracking area. Put down your blind, hide the food pot behind it covered by a

brown cloth glove or old washcloth, and continue to walk ahead for a few feet before making a HUGE circle back to your door.

Bring puppy out to about ten feet BEFORE the flag. Place the tracking harness or collar on pup, attach the line and give him a bite of food. Next, walk puppy up to the flag and give a cue (command) to track – lots of folks use “find it”, “go find”, “track”, etc. Just pick a word and be consistent. Let puppy sniff around until he finds the pile of kibble and eats it. Be patient and wait. Let puppy find the next kibble that should only be about 6 inches away. The next, next, next, etc. When he gets to the end puppy earns the “jackpot” of dinner behind the blind. First he’ll have to move the article – glove or washcloth then let him eat. Puppy just ran his first track.

Do this for at least one week before changing anything. Puppy is learning to use that nose to find his dinner and to follow scent. At this point he is following food scent. He is also learning to associate the article with food. Later, over a VERY short time, you can

begin to lengthen the distance between kibbles and the length of the track. Make sure to just work long straight lines at this point. As you lengthen the distance between kibbles puppy will begin to follow your scent to the next kibble. Now he’s really tracking. Before you add your first turn lengthen the time between laying the track and the time the puppy actually runs it. This is called “aging” the track. Within two weeks puppy should be able to run a 30-minute-old track with no problem.

Next month we’ll talk about adding turns, indicating articles, and the various ways to start the track. In the interim books of interest are Glen Johnson’s Tracking Dog theory and methods, and Ed Presnall’s Mastering Variable Surface Tracking.

Until next month, keep the Faith and GO FIND. •



Laying that first track can be daunting. It involves a great deal of skill, timing, and knowledge... NOT!

Every issue of GSD Review contains informative articles to help you enjoy living with your GSD. Articles on showing, training and health issues will keep you up to date on the newest ideas and trends.



Stay abreast of GSDCA events including Specialty show results and the GSDCA National Show. Get a yearly subscription with your membership to the GSDCA or visit http://gsdca.org/Merchant2/merchant.mvc?Screen=CTGY&Store_Code=G&Category_Code=GSDREVIEW_MAGAZ.

GSDCA Board-O-Gram January 2005 Board meeting

Written by Tom T. Mesdag, Edited and Approved by Ginny Altman

The first regular meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America was held on January 29 & 30 at the Holiday Inn in Dallas, Texas. It was preceded by the Budget and Finance Committee meeting on Thursday and Friday and an intensive work session on the Illustrated Standard on Friday evening. President Ginny Altman welcomed the following newly elected board members as directors, Dania Karloff, Tom Mesdag, Helen Gleason, and Nanci Nellis.

Executive Committee

The Board elected the following Board members to serve on the Executive Committee, President Ginny Altman as chairman, Ken Downing, Gary Szymczak, Leon Breault, and Lanalee Jorgensen.

Committee Chairperson

All Committees and Committee Chairperson were approved. Two new Review Committee Chairs have been recommended and were subsequently approved by the Executive Committee. The Chairman are listed as the following:

Review Marketing
Val Manning

Review Management
Laurie Pruett

Health and Genetics
Ginny Altman

Search and Rescue
Barbara Balyeat

AKC Delegate
Carmen Battaglia

ROM Dams
Cappy Pottle and Gloria Birch

Connie Beckhardt/Lloyd Brackett Awards
Leon Breault

Regional Clubs
Lew Bunch

Red Book
Ellie Carson

AABOI
Kathy Field Casteel

Health Sub-Committee
Special Projects
Tony Cherubini

Canadian Liaison
Peter Crawford

Budget and Finance/Insurance
Ken Downing

Ethics
Danny Dwier

Training Achievement Awards
Judith Ecklund

Rom Sires
Doris Estabrook

Don Cliff Memorial Good Sportsmanship Award
Kris Fasano

Breed Rescue
Linda Kury

Blance Beisswenger Memorial Hero Dog Awards
Helen Miller Fisher

Policy and Procedures Manual
Joan Fox

Legal Affairs
R. LaMar Frederick

Juniors/American GSD Charitable Foundation
Sue Godek

Membership Data Base Management
Gail Hardcastle

Show Sites/Public Relations/Roll of Honor
Debra Ann Hokkanen

Herding Field Chair
Rosemary Joralemon

Education/ABJAC
Lanalee Jorgensen

Membership
Dania Karloff

Continued on page 11

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 10

AOE Jane Kerner	PAM Lori Nickeson	Review Editorial Lee Smith
Tracking Liaison Billie Kovacs	Temperament Committee Chairperson Bob Penny	Veterinary Liaison James Spicer, DVM
WDA Liaison / SV&WUSV / COAPA David Landau	Internet Chairperson Bill Pfeiffer	Review Editor Gail Sprock
Orientation/Herding Dorothy Linn	WDA Liaison / SV-WUSV Committee Secretary Martylou Plinski	Title Pins and Certificates Pamela Stoesser
Obedience Dalene McIntire	Public Education Coordinator (PEC) Laurie Pruett	Video Tony Szczuka
Consultant for Policy and Procedures Manual Kim McNamara	Thirteen Club Carol Putnam	Dual Awards Daphne Szczuka
Annual Judges Seminar Diane Mehra	Health Sub-Committee Certificates Julie Richards	Products Gary Szymczak
Newsletter Ann Mesdag	Agility Liaison Susan Sacco	Breeders Code Jamie Walker
Board O Gram/Bylaws Thomas Mesdag	Lamar Kuhns Award Rita Sandell	Futurity Tish Walker
Herding Field Chair Sandy Moore		Health Sub-Committee Health First Barbara Lee Williams

Continued next page

Veterinary Liaison Reports
and Assistant
Catherine Morton

Chairman National Specialty
Show
Nanci Nellis

Parent Club Office
Linda Newman

Joseph L. Morabit, Jr., D.M.D.

Cosmetic & Restorative Dentistry

253 Village Parkway, S.E.
Marietta, GA 30067

Phone: 770-956-0491
Fax: 770-956-0499

According to the AKC...

The first impression of a good German Shepherd Dog is that of a strong, agile, well muscled animal, alert and full of life.

It is well balanced, with harmonious development of the forequarter and hindquarter. The dog is longer than tall, deep-bodied, and presents an outline of smooth curves rather than angles. It looks substantial and not spindly, giving the impression, both at rest and in motion, of muscular fitness and nimbleness without any look of clumsiness or soft living.

**The 2005
National
Specialty will
be held in
Concord, North
Carolina.**

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 11

AKC Delegate

Carmen Battaglia requested that his report be posted on the GSDCA website. Some points from his report are summarized here.

The "In ring Temperament Test" is being supported by the judges and the AKC judges department. The AKC Board amended the Rally Regulations, effective January 1, 2005 to make it clear that a Rally Trial held with an Obedience Trial must be open to the same breeds as that Obedience Trial, e.g. All Breed, Group or a single breed.

The AKC Board approved an outright grant to the AKC Canine Health Foundation endowment for an amount up to \$500,000 in additional funds for the Foundation endowment to be given as a dollar-for-dollar match for any new donations the Canine Health Foundation raises for the endowment from other sources through the end of 2005.

Europe Pet Microchipping

Europe and all of its trading partners have now mandated microchipping as a condition of positive identification. This rule applies to pets being shipped in and out of the EU. Switzerland's Federal Council has taken this even further. The Swiss introduced compulsory microchipping for all dogs. Their goal is to have all dogs clearly marked by 2007.

DNA Consultant

Dr. Elaine A. Ostrander, is the foremost scientist on the genome. She has agreed to serve as a consultant to AKC's DNA department. With her involvement in the sequencing of the canine genome and its completion, she is the ideal person to help AKC fashion its DNA programs going forward. See the website for detailed information.

National Specialty 2005

The 2005 National Specialty will be held in Concord, North Carolina on October 31 - November 1,

2005. An Advanced Brochure will be mailed to members in May. Be sure to bring it with you to the 2005 Nationals as it will have information that will not be in the premium list. The show committee and committee chairman were presented and approved by the January Board. Dog friendly hotels have been secured for North Carolina. Royal Canin USA and Nestle Purina Pet Care Company continue to sponsor our National. The facility for our North Carolina National show in Cabarrus County is new and outstanding.

Obedience Report

Anyone wishing to serve on the 2005 Obedience Committee should contact Dalene McIntire at 253-852-0605 or dalene.mcintire@verizon.com. Rally levels one, two, and three will be offered at the 2005 National.

The 2005 Herding Trial dates are Oct. 28, 29, and 30 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) at Fran Hoffman's

Continued on page 14

I am the wind, rustling in the trees...

I am the sunlight, sparkling on the pond...

I am the joy of a puppy and the serenity of an old dog...

I am gone from this earth, but am always in your heart.



Abraxas Play it Again Sam TC, CGC, HIC, MX, AXJ, AD, EAC, OJC, OGC

“Bogie”

August 15, 1995 to January 11, 2005

From all your GSD friends

A donation will be made to the American GSD Charitable Foundation in Bogie's memory.

Dr. Clemmons is nearly ready to demonstrate the use of the MRI as a diagnostic tool for DM.

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 12

Glenn-Haven Farms located in Durham, NC. Two days of the trials will be open to all breeds. The GSDCA would like to offer a "C" course whenever possible, but a minimum of at least 6 commitments to enter are required because of the special requirements and logistics involved in putting on this course. Courses A, B, and a limited number of tests plus the non-regular Ranch Course will be offered. Judges elected by the membership are; Ann White, Debbie Pollard, and Laura Noll. Trial Secretary is Linda Copestick. Herding Instinct Test TBA

Futurity: Cappy Pottle was approved as the alternate judge for the 2005 Mid-Atlantic Futurity. Kathaleen Strong was approved as the co-chair of the 2005 North West Futurity. There was a clarification to the Judge's Agreement that it should state: I am a member in good standing of the GSDCA and am in good standing with the AKC. It was also approved that those

persons having completed the new judge's requirements prior to January 2005 be grandfathered with documentation showing they have done the event but without the required signature of the chairman. Any matches or stewarding assignments completed after January 2005 would require the necessary signature.

Hero Dog Award

Deadline for submission of nominations is June 1, 2005. If your nomination did not win in 2004, you may resubmit the following year. No GSDCA Board member, or relative, may compete. Knowledge of, and agreement to nomination, by the owner of the dog must accompany the application.

ROM titles

Dogs may enter the Nationals of the same year once the ROM is confirmed by the chairman.

AABOI

This is the former ADOA committee is now Advocacy for Animal Breeders and Owners Issues By directly

working with the regional clubs it will be easier to disseminate notification and issues in advance. Regional Clubs may expect to be contacted regarding these issues.

Health and Genetics

Dr. Clemmons is nearly ready to demonstrate the use of the MRI as a diagnostic tool for DM. He has developed a new DNA based method for diagnosis. Owners can now send blood samples to Dr. Clemmons. The test is reported as positive or negative for DM in those dogs who are symptomatic. More information about this test and how to send a sample can be found on the website. <http://neuro.vetmed.ufl.edu/DM-Flash-test.htm> Dr. Clemmons plans to begin bone marrow stem cell research this year. The GSDCA has donated \$10,000 to Dr. Clemmons DM research and has asked the Foundation to contribute another \$5000.

Continued next page

GSDCA Board-O-Gram *continued from page 14*

Internet

Bill asks the regional clubs to keep John Ayotte at showdates@gsdca.org or at john@jmadesign.com (John Ayotte) aware of your clubs show schedule. John has worked hard to make the "Show calendar" a very user friendly, searchable facility to plan shows for your dogs and your pleasure. Also please encourage your local clubs to provide us with their marked show catalogues via email at showresults@gsdca.org. Keep club information current by sending changes to Bill. He plans to make this a focus area in 2005 and needs a few good assistant web masters in this area. Contact

Bill if you wish to volunteer.

Junior Program

The Junior Newsletter was mailed September 2004. Any junior not receiving a newsletter please contact Susan Godek. Ashley Miller of Gumby, TX was the Robert Hamilton Trophy winner for 2004. Ashley Miller also won the \$100.00 Savings bond for the highest GPA. Meghan McDonald won Best Junior at the 2004 Nationals in Albany, OR. AKC rule change: The following changes to the Junior Showmanship Regulations will be effective January 1, 2005.

Minimum age of participation will be 9.

Classes will be divided into 3 age groups: Juniors 9-11, Intermediate 12-14, and Senior 15-18 Competition will be required for the Best Junior award.

These changes will allow juniors closer in age to compete against each other, as well as for more opportunities for success. A \$200.00 Savings Bond would be given in place of the Robert Hamilton Trophy to any junior who is a repeat winner of the year long Junior Showmanship competition. Wins are based on fiscal year - July 1 to June 30. Points must be submitted to Susan Godek, GSDCA, Junior Program Chairperson.

Continued on page 17

What is temperament?

W. Handel, German Police Dog Trainer, in his article, "The Psychological Basis of Temperament Testing," defines temperament as:
"the sum total of all inborn and acquired physical and mental traits and talents which determines, forms and regulates behavior in the environment"

GSDCA Annual Award's Banquet

July 23, 2005 • Drinks 6:30 • Dinner 7:00

Are you eligible for an award?

If your dog earns/earned a title between June 2004 – May 31, 2005, you're eligible.

Start gathering your awards and get them ready to submit.

Details on the dinner and awards will come in future issues of the *Guardian* and be posted on the website.



2005 GSDO of Atlanta

B-OB Match

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Registration 10:30 am to 11:30 am (Judging begins at 12:00 pm)
Pine Log Park, Conyers, GA

Conformation Judge: Vicky Terry

3-6, 6-9, 9-12 Months, Novice, Open, Best Puppy, BOS Puppy,
Best Adult, BOS Adult (all classes are divided by sex)

Obedience Judge: Diane Pegram

Novice A, Novice B, Open A, Open B, Utility A, Utility B, Pre-Novice, Graduate Novice,
High Scoring dog in regular classes, High Scoring dog in non-regular classes, Rally

Notes: Dogs with major points may only be entered for exhibition only in conformation • Professional handlers may show only dogs either owned or co-owned by the handler • Dogs with a leg towards an obedience degree must compete at that level or higher (except dogs entered in Utility A) • Dogs entered for exhibition are not eligible for awards • All dogs must be crated or on a leash • All dogs must be in the care of an adult.

Directions: From Atlanta, take I-20 East to Exit 82, Hwy 138. Turn North. Pine Log Park is located on the left. Check www.Mapquest.com (or similar) for detailed directions.

Contact: Denise Groenewald, Match Chairperson
770-720-0125 or Rikers123@aol.com.



MELANA SHEPHERDS

We have beautiful dogs with sound minds bred with an emphasis on family temperament. Fully guaranteed puppies you can be proud of for show, pet, or performance. CH OFA stud. Melissa Campbell, 140 Tyson Rd., Villa Rica, GA, 770-459-4330, Mjc114@bellsouth.net, www.melanashepherds.com

GREENWOOD SHEPHERDS

Quality German Shepherds for show, pet, or obedience. Contemporary bloodlines. Puppies occasionally. All sales guaranteed. CH OFA stud available. Bill & Denise Groenewald, 6652 Vaughn Rd., Canton, GA 30115, 770-720-0125, Rikers123@aol.com, www.greenwoodshepherds.com

KAGEN SHEPHERDS

Owners & Breeders of numerous champions since 1970. Showable puppies available. We will sell our good ones to show homes. Champion OFA stud service. Puppies Occasionally. All sales guaranteed. Visitors always welcome. Gene & Kaye Valentine, 1542 Narrowway Church Cir., Dallas, GA 30132, 770-443-8600, Kagengsd@aol.com, <http://members.aol.com/kagengsd/>

MISSMIC/HMS

Breeder of 14 Champions. Puppies Occasionally, home raised with kids. All Sales guaranteed. Joan Turner, 6654 Vaughn Rd., Canton, GA 30115, 770-345-0763, Missmicgsd@alltel.net

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 15

Membership

Gail Hardcastle and Dania Karloff continue to work in partnership to meet the needs of the membership committee. A distribution of the membership handbook was approved by the Board. As was done last year, this booklet will contain informative articles and should serve as a primary resource of GSDCA information for all GSDCA members. This handbook is scheduled for distribution in the fall. They are planning a variety of programs this year to not only reach out and gain new members but also to increase our rate of membership retention. Among these programs will be: (1) a follow up on members who did not renew this year, (2) referral of new members to regional clubs: and (3) recognition of long term members.

Parent Club Office

Regional Clubs are asked to note that, effective immediately, the new email for Parent Club Office requests will be lazerwolffe@ekit.com. The

address for mailing premium lists to request medallions remains the same: Linda Newman, PO Box 1656, Allen, TX 75013.

Products Committee

The GSDCA would like to thank those who supported our products from the internet shopping cart and at our National Specialty. There are a few windbreaker jackets remaining in inventory, so please contact Gary Szymczak at pagairs@aol.com for colors and sizes.

Regional Club

GSDCA Regional Club Challenge Program for 2005 to be from August 1, 2004 through July 31, 2005. Deadline for all clubs to submit their forms and supporting documentation for points earned will be August 31, 2005. Send hard copy information only (Data will not be accepted via email) to:

Kelly Knight, 2071 Midlothian Road, Roseville, MN 55113, Phone: 651-633-3652 (just in case) , Email:

Hadderway@msn.com (For questions only) Complete Guidelines and Forms for the Regional Club Challenge Program are on the GSDCA Website, www.gsdca.org <<http://www.gsdca.org>> or send an email to Lew Bunch at Lewieb@aol.com or call him 816 941 8725 and one will be sent to you.

GSDCA Regional Club Website Contest

This is to be a yearly competition of the GSDCA Regional Clubs websites. The purpose of club websites should be as a communication vehicle for members including upcoming meeting and event information, fun photos and information for members, identification of officers and to promote ease of communication with the club. The website should also be user friendly to members and the general public which may be looking for information on the breed and the Regional Club and the Parent Club. The website should be educational as

What does a temperament test measure?

One test, administered by The American Temperament Test Society, Inc., focuses on and measures different aspects of temperament such as stability, shyness, aggressiveness, and friendliness as well as the dog's instinct for protectiveness towards its handler and/or self-preservation in the face of a threat.

Continued next page

Search and rescue dogs have become more visible since 9/11 and they are going to continue to be utilized.

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 17

well as informational. This contest will be judged and coordinated by Betty Johnson, Amy Safdir, and Dania Karloff.

Don't miss out on the 2003 Red Book – only a few remain! Editions from years past are no longer available! They are available on the website or contact Ellie Carson, ellie.carson@att.net

Title Pins and Certificates

Requirements for GSDCA Awards Certificates and Pins:

The dog's owner must be a member of the GSDCA or WDA.

The AKC needs to confirm the award. For a SchH title; a copy of the score book is needed.

Turn your request in within 6 months of the completion of the title. Additional Championship / Performance Pins may be purchased for GSDCA - member co-owner(s) (as of the title finish date) for \$10.00 each (check payable

to GSDCA). (Additional breeder's pins are \$20.00 each.) If you meet all the qualifications listed above, send a copy of your AKC certificate along with your name and address to:

Pamela Stoesser
S78 W23900 Cheri Ave.
Big Bend, WI 53103

or send an email (for all except SchH titles) to pkstoesser@earthlink.net that includes your name and address, your dog's name, the title he/she completed, the date of completion, and your dog's AKC number. Assuming you meet the requirements listed above, you will get your award within 60 days.

The American German Shepherd Rescue Association (AGSRA) is a 501(c)(3) organization which provides education, consultation and information regarding rescue of homeless German Shepherds. Additionally, AGSRA is a fund raising organization where funds are used to provide grants to rescue groups and for

emergency and/or unique situations that arise. In order to increase the number of rescue organizations we provide manuals and consultation on starting rescue activities, free of charge. Information about AGSRA, German Shepherd rescue and the directory of GS rescues by state can be found at <http://www.agsra.com>. PHONE REFERRAL The direct line is 630-529-7396. Officers are: Linda Kury, President; Rosemary Joralemon, Vice President; Teresa Royer, Secretary; Shirley Briggs O'Brien, Treasurer. Board members are: Patty Szymczak, Joan Fox and Helen Gleason.

Search and rescue dogs have become more visible since 9/11 and they are going to continue to be utilized. Barbie Bayleat, Chairman of this committee asks if anyone has any ideas on promoting interest in SAR, to please contact her at vdanhoffer@aol.com.

Charitable Foundation:

Continued next page

GSDCA Board-O-Gram continued from page 18

The AGSDCF has donated over \$85,000 in funds from both the AGSDCF Treasury and AKC-CHF donor designated matching fund program in 2004. The Grants funded were for the following diseases: Degenerative Myelopathy, Autoimmune Diseases, Pancreatic Insufficiency, Heart Disease, and Osteosarcoma.

The Foundation 2005 National activities of the Silent Auction, Benefit Party, and sale of cookbooks and pens raised approximately \$6,000 which will fund research grants to benefit our breed. The Benefit Party was sponsored by Ken and Patty Downing, Jr. & Frank and Ellie Carson & Lori Nickeson & Paul Miller. At the January Electronic Meeting the Foundation elected Robert Eaton and Tish Walker as Directors for 2005 — 2007 term. The Foundation website has been updated as of January 6, 2005: Grants Lists, Grant Results, Contribution, Financial Report, Recognition Sculpture, and

Health Survey Results as of particular interest.

SV/WUSV Liaison

Important dates for 2005:

SV Sieger Show in Ulm, September 2-4 followed by the WUSV General Assembly on September 5.

SV Bundessiegerprüfung in Baunatal, September 16-18.

WUSV World Championship in Haugenau, France, October 6-9 followed by the WUSV meeting on Working Dog Character on October 10.

HGH Championship in Koingsee, Germany, September 23-25

GSDCA-WDA Liaison

The 2005 National Schutzhund Championship / World Championship Qualification Trial will be held in Kansas City from April 29-May 1. Chairman of the Organizing Committee is Ken Downing, Jr.

The GSDCA-WDA is soliciting contributions for travel support for the GSDCA Team at the World

Championship in France. Checks should be sent to GSDCA-WDA Treasurer, Martylou Plinski, and marked for the World Team fund.

New Business

A motion to ask our Delegate to the American Kennel Club to consider changes to the current Bred by Class which would allow minor children residing in the home to show in BBE providing the parents are Breeder/Owner of the animal was approved by the Board.

The nominating committee members elected are: Sharon Allbright, Chairman, Debbie Hokkanen-NE, Bart Bartley-Heartland alternate is Julie Degen, Sam Colvin - Mid-America, alternate Randy Cliff, and Gail Hardcastle - West, alternate Bob Penny.

The April Board meeting will be in Ogden, Utah on April 22-24, 2005, convening at 6pm on Friday and preceded by a site visit. •

How is the ATTS temperament test designed?

The test simulates a walk through the park or neighborhood where everyday situations are encountered. During this walk, the dog experiences visual, auditory and tactile stimuli. Neutral, friendly and threatening situations, call into play the dog's ability to distinguish between non-threatening situations and those calling for watchful and protective reactions.

MEMBER PHOTOS

of the month



1-1/2 years old—all litter mates out of Ch Kagen's Ringleader & Wayman Way's Harley Davidson Lady, Ziggy and Heidi (L to R)



Cookie, owned by Suzanne Kinman



Yancy, owned by Suzanne Kinman.

To have a photo of your GSD(s) considered for a future issue, e-mail a photo to GSDGuardian@earthlink.net.

Be sure to include the name of the dog(s) and any people, the location and date of the photo, and the name of the owners.

Guardian
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