



The Guardian

A Monthly Publication - German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta, Inc.

May 2015 ISSUE

German Shepherd Dogs doing many and varied things. Be proud America. There are many ways and places to find German Shepherd Dogs in use.

AKC Data For All Breeds – German Shepherd Dogs again in Top 10

2014 Most Popular Dogs in the U.S.	2013 Most Popular Dogs in the U.S.
1. Labrador Retriever	1. Labrador Retriever
2. German Shepherd Dog	2. German Shepherd Dog
3. Golden Retriever	3. Golden Retriever
4. Bulldog	4. Beagle
5. Beagle	5. Bulldog
6. Yorkshire Terrier	6. Yorkshire Terrier
7. Poodle	7. Boxer
8. Boxer	8. Poodle
9. French Bulldog	9. Rottweiler
10. Rottweiler	10. Dachshund

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We look forward to seeing all of you at the important GENERAL MEETING. Time, location and directions are below. This month is the important meeting for election of JUDGES.

Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, President

Items of interest and reminders:

1. [Our website](#) free listings of litters and dog advertisements for 90 days.
2. **Members and [Breeders of Merit](#)** are listed free on our website
3. **Free listings of litters**, website, stud dog etc. Contact me.
4. **Shows and Matches** see below

Spay/Neuter – German Shepherd Dog - another warning released

Dr. Benjamin L. Hart, DVM, PhD, University of California, Davis, studied the impact of early spay and neuter and the disease risk in dogs. His report focused on “Adverse Long-term Health Effects of Neutering in Different Breeds of Dogs”.

His research included the German Shepherd Dog, which today is “the most important military and police canine dog”. His findings show that for German Shepherd Dogs, 7% of the intact males and 5% of the intact females were diagnosed with one or more joint disorders. But the neutering of either sex at less than 6 months, or between 6 months and 11 months, increased the incidence of one or more joint disorders by 3-fold over that of the intact dogs, resulting in as high as 22% of dogs having a joint disorder. Hart also found that the occurrence of cancers was especially low in the intact males and females – 3% or less and that urinary incontinence, a very inconvenient problem was not found in the intact females, but increased to 7% in females neutered in the first year.

His study was consistent with several other studies. Delaying neutering and spaying German Shepherd Dogs until they are at least 1 year old markedly reduces the likelihood of one or more disabling joint disorders. Delaying spaying of females beyond 1 year also reduces the chance of urinary incontinence, while not increasing the chance of mammary cancer.

Virus H3N2 Strikes

The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s School of Veterinary Medicine reported at least 1,000 dogs in Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio and Indiana affected with the virus (H3N2). It is believed to have come from Asia. An older strain (H3N8) has also been detected. Both viruses cause persistent cough, runny nose and fever in dogs. The H3N2 infection has been associated with some deaths.

COMPLIMENTARY ISSUES OF GUARDIAN: [Send a copy to puppy buyers, friends/prospective members. Contact Joan Turner \(404\) 285 - 4152.](#)

Information about the German Shepherd Dog Club of America Inc.: **Contact: www.GSDCA.org**

MINUTES OF CLUB MEETINGS: [Posted on the website.](#)

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS:

NEW MEMBERS:

MONTHLY MEETING DATE: The second Thursday of each month.

TIME: 8 PM

LOCATION: Atlanta Humane Society – 981 Howell Mill Road NW, Atlanta GA 30318

Guests and Friends are always welcome. Bring your dogs; a great opportunity to socialize your young dogs or puppies. All dogs must be kept on leashes, make sure your dog is up to date on vaccinations. Come and learn about the Club and its German Shepherd related activities. Refreshments are offered during break time. We are fortunate to have many knowledgeable breeders, exhibitors, and performance members. Education programs are offered throughout the year.

PROGRAM FOR MAY:

Election of judges. We hope to have a large turn out.

PUPPIES AND LITTERS: Give Connie Irving information on puppies and litters. Connie is handling our Club phone, she will direct callers to members who have puppies, studs, or older German Shepherds available. Contact Sara Wolfe to have updated information announced on the Club Web Site – Sara can also provide a current Club Roster.

MICROCHIPS - Contact: Connie Irving - 770)507 7408. She has chips for \$10/chip

PICTURES - Fall Show at www.gsdcatlanta.org Members can list litters/dogs FREE. Contact CarmenBattaglia513@gmail.com

CLUB MEETINGS – Held on - 2nd Thursday of each month at 8PM except for July, October and December. Visitors welcome, no need to call, just come.

**Directions to Club Meetings – Atlanta Humane Society, 981 Howell Mill Road, NW, Atlanta GA, 30318.
More directions – See: www.GSDCAatlanta.org**

Education Chair, Betty Ann Frederick, has arranged to a special program. Don't miss this program.

Do Not Forget To Visit The Club's [Website](#) for regular updates and special announcements.

German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta

Newsletter ranked # 3 in 2011 and 2012 and # 2 in 2013 & 2014. In the Regional Club Challenge we were 1st in 2011, honorable mention in 2012 and #1 in 2013.



THE CLUB. Records are vague, but it seems that The German Shepherd Club of Atlanta was founded in the 1955 when a small group of breeders and owners interested in the German Shepherd Dog met in Atlanta Georgia.

The first president was Mrs. Michelle Leathers Billings who passed away in October 2013. Their purpose was the improvement of the breed.

Today the Clubs goal is the same. Through programs and activities members learn about all aspects of the German Shepherd Dog, including mental and physical development; the breed standard, working ability, breeding, care and rearing of puppies, etc.

Programs are presented at monthly meetings held on the second Thursday of month, except for July, September, and December. Meetings are at 8:00 PM. Both prospective members and non-members are welcome. The club holds numerous special events including two breed Specialties shows each year and also Obedience and Rally competitions. Puppy matches, Temperament Testing and AKC Good Citizen tests are scheduled through the year.

In July, at the Annual Awards Banquet, trophies are presented to members whose dogs have earned titles over the year. A Holiday party is held in December. If there is an interest, show handling classes are offered to members.



Two GSDC Speciality shows & GSDCA Futurity and Temperament Test : June 6 & 7th 2015. The German Shepherd Dog Club of North GA will host the Southeast Futurity/Maturity and two Specialty Shows in June at Wills Park, Alpharetta GA.

June 6th GSDCA Temperament Test – Hosted by GSDC of N. GA., which will follow AM show. Cost \$30.00 per dog. Temperament Test - Evaluator: Laura Gilbert, Limited to German Shepherds Only. Place: Wills Equestrian Park in Alpharetta, GA. Limited spots, first come basis. RSVP to email Hollybryan1@aol.com

June 6th Specialty Show #1- GSDC of North GA. 8:30AM Specialty Show - Puppies 4-6 Month, Jn. Show and Breed - Judge: Paul Root

June 6th, Specialty Show #2 **Mid Afternoon** - Puppies 4-6 Month, Jn. Show and Breed - Judge: John Bemont

June 7th, Sunday. GSDCA Futurity/Maturity. Judge: Terry Hower who is a longtime successful handler and breeder of German Shepherd Dogs.

June 20 and June 21, GSDC of WEST KENTUCKY, Two speciality shows. Show Secretary: Kim Broster, 4380 Airport Rd, Murray, KY 42071, 270-978-5599 email: gscdwkytrials@gmail.com; Show Chairman: Darren Broster, 4380 Airport Rd, Murray, KY 42071, 270-978-5599 email: gscdwkytrials@gmail.com. Entries close June 3.

TRAINING CLASSES – Began Wednesday January 14th, Six weeks of training

Location: 3301 Windy Ridge Parkway Atlanta, GA 30339.

Format: Classes meet once a week for 6 weeks.

Non Club Member Cost: \$50.00; Club Member Cost: \$25

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All dogs must have proof of current vaccines, including Bordetella. To Register or for questions: E-mail: TRAINING DIRECTOR, STEVE RAPER: stever6757@aol.com, 770 365 4035

Directions for training: Began Wednesday January 14th, Six weeks of training. Bring a dog and come have some fun.

I-75 South Bound Go south on I-75 to Exit 260 - Windy Hill Rd./Smyrna - Turn Left on Windy Hill Road for 0.7 miles. Turn right on Powers Ferry Road for 0.5 miles. Turn left onto Windy Ridge Pkwy, and then turn right into the first driveway. The parking garage is straight ahead.

Directions: From other points in Atlanta.

Take I-285 to Northbound I-75 and/or follow I-75 north. Continue northbound on I-75 to Exit 260 - Windy Hill Rd/Smyrna. Turn right on Windy Hill Road for 0.7 miles. Turn right on Powers Ferry Road for 0.5 miles. Turn left onto Windy Ridge Pkwy, and then turn right into the first driveway. The parking garage is straight ahead.

Bring "pooper-scooper" and your dog's drinking water, bowl, and favorite treats. Bring a six-foot cloth or leather leash. To learn more about the Canine Good Citizen test, go to akc.org .

For more information about training contact: Training Director- Steve Raper, (770 365 4035) stever6757@aol.com; or assistant Training Director – Erika Tracy at: gramma510@hotmail.com, 678-642-9303.

Requirements for the AKC Breeder of Merit

1. Has a history of at least 5 years involvement with AKC events.
2. Earned AKC Conformation, Performance or Companion* event titles on a minimum of 4 dogs from AKC litters they bred/co-bred.
3. Member of an AKC club.
4. Certifies that applicable health screens are performed on your breeding stock as recommended by the Parent Club. (OFA Hips and elbows, + GSDCA Temperament test)
5. Demonstrates a commitment to ensuring 100% of the puppies produced are AKC registered.

GSDC ATLANTA MEMBERS – AKC BREEDERS OF MERIT			 <u>BRAGS</u>
Dr. Carmen Battaglia	Roswell	GA	
Nancy Hart Battaglia	Roswell	GA	
Kim McNamara	Newnan	GA	
Ms. Joyce Quick	Palmetto	GA	



CLUB OFFICERS

President - Nancy Harper-Mulvaney - (770) 640 0149, nancy@heinerburgshepherds.com

Secretary: Genie Jones, (404) 229 5643 - grjones404@bellsouth.net

Treasurer: Sara Wolfe, (404)-543-2548; treasatlgdclub@att.net , wolfebau@bellsouth.net

Vice - President/Training Director - Steve Raper, (770) 365 4075, stever6757@aol.com

Assistant Erika Tracy, (678) 642-9303 or gramma510@hotmail.com

Members-At-Large - Connie Irvine- (770)507 7408; Betty Ann Frederick - (770) 639-0747; bettyann11.16@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor Guardian - Carmen Battaglia_ (770) 998 3679; carmenbattaglia513@gmail.com

Past President: Joan Turner, (404) 285 – 4152, Missmicgsd@windstream.net

Breeder Referral: - Connie Irvine- (770)507 7408

Regional Challenge -Stacey Pollio - stacey@miracleshepherds.com

Regional Club Challenge – Members of the GSD Atlanta can help. Go to www.gsdatlanta.org and see how you and your dog can help. Contact Stacey Pollio (404) 353 – 0588

COMMITTEES

Club Phone - ----- Connie Irvine (770 245-0514

Hearts & Flowers ----- Jan Eason, (678 -549-2113

Herding ----- Erika Tracy: gramma510@hotmail.com, (678) 642-9303

Library ----- Erika Tracy: gramma510@hotmail.com, (678) 642-9303
Internet/website ----- Dr. Carmen Battaglia, (770) 998 – 3679
Audit ----- **To be announced**
Equipment ----- Barbara Stamper, (770) 922- 0969
Obedience----- Steve Raper (770) 365 4035 stever6757@aol.com
Regional Challenge ----- Stacey Pollio, (404) 353 - 0588
Versatility ----- Joye Evans, (770) 438-2285
Awards & Banquet ----- Barbara Stamper, (770) 922- 0969
Working Dog Assoc. ----- Betty Ann Fredrick, (770) 639-0747
Trophy Chair -----

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND OTHER LISTINGS

Available to all members of the Atlanta and North Georgia German Shepherd Clubs.

Free litter and dog advertisement for 90 days. Your dog’s picture is free for one year.

Paid advertisements for stud dogs, kennels and breeders are \$12/year

Erika Tracy has a couple of short essays and a puppy - training book

Breeders of Merit are listed on the websites of: American Kennel Club, German Shepherd Dog Club of America and German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta

For more information contact me: cbattaglia@mindspring.com.

COMPLIMENTARY GUARDIAN - Complimentary issues will be sent to puppy buyers, friends and prospective members upon request contact Joan Turner (404) 285 - 4152.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS is on the 15th of the month prior to issue.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH - The AKC has always opposed breed bans on the basis that there are no bad dogs, just bad owners.

Any claims or statements by writers or advertisers in The Guardian are not verified and are not necessarily those of the Editor of the Guardian or the officers or directors of The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta, Inc. Editor Carmen Battaglia