

The  
German Shepherd Dog  
Club of Atlanta



# The Guardian

Your Monthly Newsletter from  
The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta

## March 2016 Issue

### From the President

Spring is just around the corner and with that welcome change we are offered an amazing array of activities for owners and dogs alike.

HERDING: There are Herding opportunities which teach us how to achieve Herding titles for our German Shepherd Dogs. Contact Morgan Lewis for more information.

K-9 RACE: - Saturday, March 12: The Alpharetta K-Canine Unit is sponsoring a 5K foot race for humans and their dogs! The race takes place on Saturday, March 12 at 8AM. You will find details for this special event in the GSDC of Atlanta FaceBook Group, AND the GSDC of Atlanta Website. Members and friends of The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta plan to be present with their banner and green shirts – although all of us cannot compete in the actual race, we will be there to support the Alpharetta Canine Unit and Officers. Please let me know if you plan to be there – we need you and your support .

GSDC of Atlanta Fun Match - Sun, March 13: The Annual German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta Fun Match will be held at Parker Park in Conyers GA on Sunday, March 13.

Bring your puppies and adult dogs for socialization and participation in the Match. All Breed Obedience and Rally will also be offered. As usual, a lunch will be available. Entry forms can be found on the Website and on FaceBook. Thanks to Barbara Stamper and Jessica Ball for chairing this Event.

Futurity/Maturity Show SE - April 17: The South East Futurity/Maturity is being held in Charlotte on April 17. There will also be two Specialty Shows in conjunction with the Futurity. A Futurity presents a great opportunity to observe some of the best German Shepherd Dogs from the East Coast and Southern States. We urge everyone interested in the Breed to go to Charlotte whether you are showing or not. It is a great opportunity to observe the best of the best, talk to well-known breeders and exhibitors and to observe the dogs in the ring.

Our next General Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10, as usual the Humane Society in Atlanta. Directions are in this issue of the Guardian. Meeting begins at 8 PM –we look forward to seeing you there. Bring your dogs and enjoy the camaraderie. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Nancy Harper-Mulvaney,  
President*

## Member Brags

**NEW CHAMPION!**



### **Champion Van Cleve's MOJO v Cedar Knoll**

“Mo” is sired by **Ch. Jerrwen's King Edmund** out of **Ch. Van Cleve's Dee Dee V Heinerburg**. Bred by Dr. Carmen Battaglia and Renee West, Mo is owned and loved by Carmen & Nancy Battaglia. Congratulations Mo!

\*\*\*\*\*

Joan Turner's MissMic Sanric Tallulah of Heartwood went to Brooksville, FL in January and came home with three majors and a major reserve. She is owned by Linda Clark and Joan Turner and Sandy Steinkopf. She is 18 months old and has 13 points! AND in Ocala, Jan 29th, Sanric's Desiree V Wonderland (bred by John Conley and Ed Farrell) went Winner's Bitch for a 3 point major and she just turned 9 months old!! Sandy and Joan co-own her ... they are doing the happy dance for sure!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ch. Caretti's Blues Man**, aka Zeke, recently received his [OFA](#) certification. Zeke certified hips good and elbows normal. Zeke is owned by our new member John Conely, Ed Farrell and Cyndi Flaut.



\*\*\*\*\*

At the Cherokee Rose Cluster in Atlanta, GA, under Judge Col. Joe B. Purkhiser, **Kaleefs Proud Mary V Zahnarz't** (Tina) co-owned by Lillie Crowe, Phoenix Crowe, and Peggy Kurtz won 1st American Bred Bitch and Reserve Winners Bitch. Also, Phoenix and **Ch. Van Cleve's Katherina V Heinerburg** won 4th place in Open Intermediate class in Juniors with eight in the class under Judge Dr. Andrea Bradford.



\*\*\*\*\*

Miracle's Cash Up Front CGC RN, aka “Johnny Cash”, earned his Rally Novice Title on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the [Atlanta Obedience Club](#) Rally Trial with a high qualifying score of 97! Cash now has his CGC (Canine Good Citizen) title and his RN title. Cash is bred, owned and handled by Stacey Pollio.



## “Let’s Talk Shoulders”

By: Nancy Harper-Mulvaney

Every dog regardless of breed or mixed breed has two bones in the front assembly. The two bones of the fore-assembly are the “shoulder blade (scapula) and the upper arm (humerus). The “front assembly” is also known as “the fore assembly”. The size, shape, and angle of the fore assembly will determine how the dog looks in profile as well as how the dog moves. For the most part, the angle of the shoulder of working, herding and sporting breeds call for a well laid back or “well angulated shoulder” depending on the original purpose of the breed and its function.



How do we examine the fore-assembly on our German Shepherd Dog? Place your thumb and index finger of your right hand at the point of the shoulder blades (at the top of the point of the shoulder) place the same fingers of the left hand at the end of the shoulder (where the shoulder blade joins the upper arm). Try this on different dogs to see if you can detect a difference in the length and angle of the shoulder blade. Place your index finger on the upper arm where it attaches to the shoulder blade, follow the blade to where it is attached to the fore-leg. Can you determine the length and angle of the upper arm?

The fore-assembly affects other parts of the dog. For example; a short, upright shoulder blade makes for a shorter neck AND A LONGER BACK which affects the dog’s balance. It is common to see a short upper arm (humerus) associated with a short upright shoulder blade. This incorrect fore-assembly pushes the entire “fore-assembly” forward resulting in lack of fore-chest and now you have limited lung and heart space in the fore-chest which inhibits a working/herding breed.

In conclusion, for a dog to exhibit a fluid, ground covering gait the dog must be blessed with a fore-assembly consisting of a well-laid back shoulder blade (NOT UPRIGHT) of good length, which is attached to an upper arm which is also of good length AND attached at an angle. A shoulder which is well laid back, of correct length and attached to short upper arm will result in an up and down motion of the foreleg or a very short step in front. Throughout the history of our breed, wise and successful breeders have recognized how difficult it is to recover those rare and extraordinary front assemblies once they are lost. Certain pre-potent stud dogs and brood bitches have been known for producing correct front assemblies – do you know who they were/are? Next month’s feature article:

LET’S TALK REAR ASSEMBLIES

## Salmon Balls

Your dog will do anything for you if you make this recipe...

### Ingredients:

1 can of salmon, drained  
1 pound of ground turkey

Mix together and form small balls about the size of a marble. Bake in 350 degree oven for approximately 20 minutes.

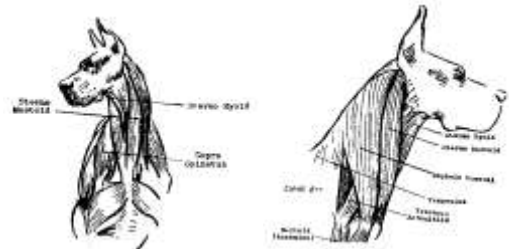
## AKC Grand Championship levels become Titles

Effective April 1, 2016, the AKC Grand Championship levels will become titles. The change will be retroactive to the beginning of the program. Dogs that earned an achievement level (Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum) in the past will have it officially added on their record. Going forward, title certificates will be issued when a dog achieves the required points needed. Additionally, dogs can earn multiple levels of the Grand Champion Platinum title for every 800 GCH points earned. This will be displayed by a multiplier such as GCHP2. Below is a simple table of the new title abbreviations and the number of points needed for the title.

Title	Abbreviation	GCH Points Needed
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB	100
Grand Champion Silver	GCHS	200
Grand Champion Gold	GCHG	400
Grand Champion Platinum	GCHP	800

## Training Collars 101

Did you know that a dog's neck is totally different than a human's neck. A dog's neck is layered with thick muscle and fur, and the esophagus and the trachea are located beneath the neck muscle. It is very similar to your thigh or a strong man's bicep! This is why a dog can drag you down the block and not be too affected. We train using neck pressure and the "zipping" sound of the collar. When a mother dog trains her puppy she uses neck pressure to communicate. For example, when a puppy strays from the birthing box, the mother will grab the puppy by the neck and use neck pressure to bring it back. By using training collars we are following the mother's way of discipline and communication.



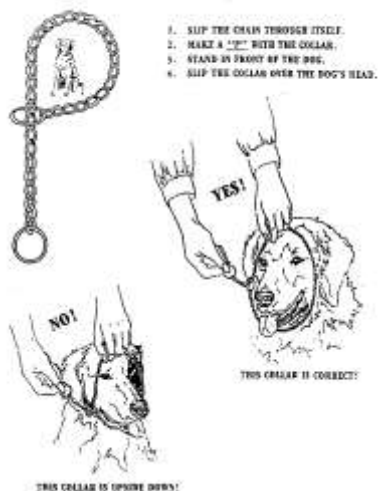
### Chain Collars

The universal training collar is the chain "choke" collar or otherwise known as the chain slip collar. We use metal slip collars because the SOUND of the metal can be very effective in training. A chain collar used properly should never "choke" your dog.

For a proper fit the choke collar should only have two to three inches of running chain. For fast growing puppies, allow four inches. In order to work properly, this collar has to slip easily. One way to fit the slip collar correctly on your dog is to hold the collar in front of you and make the letter "P" with the chain. Stand in front of your dog's nose and slip the "P" over the dog's head.



MAKE SURE THE COLLAR IS ON CORRECTLY!



Try placing the chain collar on your arm and snapping the chain. You'll see that the chain releases easily if you have it on the right way. If it's on backwards, you'll see it doesn't release easily, it will only tighten on your arm. Always make sure you have the collar on correctly when training your dog and never leave a training collar on your dog when she is not being trained.

## New Agility Program - ACT

The AKC Agility Department announced the launch of a new, beginning level, agility program called ACT (Agility Course Test). The ACT program officially launches on March 1, 2016. This new program is designed to introduce beginning dogs and handlers to the sport of agility. For more information on this new program follow this link to the AKC website:

<http://www.akc.org/events/agility/act-program/>

## Club Meetings

Our monthly club meetings are at the Atlanta Humane Society, 981 Howell Mill Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30318.

**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 and well behaved dogs on leash are welcome as well.**



For directions to Club Meetings see our website, or click here -> [DIRECTIONS](#) to the 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 Dog related activities. Refreshments are offered during break time. We are fortunate to have many knowledgeable breeders, exhibitors, and performance members. Educational programs are offered throughout the year.

## Puppies!

Kimberlite German Shepherds announces two litters, born in late January, 2016. Litter One: BIM Ch. Signature's Abby Scuito TC OFA H&E x Am/Can. Sel. Ch. Karizma's Malawi Kaleef VonLoar. Three boys, five girls, black and tan. Litter Two, co-bred with Tindrock German Shepherds: Jerrwen's Sunrise in Cheyenne OFA H&E (Nicaragua daughter) x Sel. Ch. Regency's Ya Gotta Know When to Hold 'Em TC OFA H&E. One boy, one girl. Companions available around the end of March. Contact Kim McNamara, AKC Breeder of Merit, at [klite3gsd@gmail.com](mailto:klite3gsd@gmail.com)



\*\*\*\*\*



Barbara Guzzo has a litter of AKC white German Shepherd puppies. Sired by Champion Cottonwood Ghost Cowboy CD, RA, HI, CHIC, OFA Hips and Elbows, DM normal and MDR1 Tested. Dam is Phenom's R J Jessie of Cottonwood UR01, OFA Hips and Elbows, DM normal and MDR1 normal. Long coat puppies and stock coat. Puppies are AKC. Reunite chipped. AKC white German Shepherd Puppies also registered as and shown as White Shepherds in United Kennel Club and other associations. Contact Barbara Guzzo at (770) 480-0505. Email: [blueflintcamping@yahoo.com](mailto:blueflintcamping@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.cottonwoodgermandshepherds.com](http://www.cottonwoodgermandshepherds.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Joan Turner has litter of puppies born 1/27/16 - Cedar Knoll's Malcolm bred to Missmic Sanric Leia, 3 boys 4 girls... Contact Joan Turner at (404) 285-4152 [missmicgsd@windstream.net](mailto:missmicgsd@windstream.net)

## Upcoming Events

### MARCH:

Our next regular club meeting will be on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at the Atlanta Humane Society.

Thursday, March 10, Membership Meeting – 8 PM  
Atlanta Humane Society – Education Program & Refreshment – bring your dogs!!

Saturday, March 12, 2016 - Alpharetta K-9 Unit 5K Race at the Alpharetta Community Center – 8AM.

Sunday, March 13, 2016 - GSDC of Atlanta Annual Spring Match - Watch for the upcoming Flyers – thanks Barbara Stamper and Jessica Ball for helping

Wednesday, March 30, 2016 – Entries close for the GSDC of Charlotte Specialty being held on April 16, 2016.

## Get Your Microchips Now

MICROCHIPS - Contact: Connie Irvine (770) 507-7408. She has just a few chips left for \$10 each.

Dogs who are lost or stolen have a better than ninety percent chance of being returned to their owners when they are microchipped. Microchips can also be ordered through the German Shepherd Dog Club of America (aka, the Parent Club), at the low cost of \$19.95. This includes permanently enrolling your dog/puppy in the AKC/Reunite database and you receive a free microchip!

Click the link below to orders yours today:  
<http://store.gsdca.org/product-p/akc-r-001.htm>



## AKC Breeders of Merit



Breeders of Merit are listed on the websites of the American Kennel Club, The German Shepherd Dog Club of America, and the German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta. The requirements to be an AKC (American Kennel Club) Breeder of Merit are as follows:

1. Must have a history of at least five years involvement with AKC events.
2. Must have earned AKC Conformation, Performance or Companion\* event titles on a minimum of four dogs from AKC litters they bred/co-bred..
3. Must be a member of an AKC club.
4. Must certify that applicable health screens are performed on breeding stock as recommended by the Parent Club (OFA Hips/Elbows, GSDCA Temperament Test).
5. Must demonstrate a commitment to ensure 100% of puppies produced are AKC registered.

GSDCA ATLANTA MEMBERS  
AKC BREEDERS OF MERIT:

Dr. Carmen Battaglia, Roswell  
Nancy Hart Battaglia, Roswell  
Kim McNamara, Newnan  
Joyce Quick, Palmetto  
Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Roswell

## About the Club

Records are vague, but it seems that The German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta was founded in 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. The purpose of the club was the improvement of the breed. Today, the club's 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, October, 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 Specialty 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.

## **CLUB OFFICERS**

### **President:**

**Nancy Harper-Mulvaney** (770) 640-0149  
[nancy@heinerburgshepherds.com](mailto:nancy@heinerburgshepherds.com)

### **Secretary:**

**Erika Tracy** (678) 642-9303  
[gramma510@hotmail.com](mailto:gramma510@hotmail.com)

### **Treasurer:**

**Joan Turner** (404) 285-4152  
[missmicgsd@windstream.net](mailto:missmicgsd@windstream.net)

### **Training Director**

**Barbara Guzzo** (770) 480-0505  
[blueflintcamping@yahoo.com](mailto:blueflintcamping@yahoo.com)

### **Newsletter Editor Guardian:**

**Stacey Pollio** (404) 353-0588  
[stacey@miracleshepherds.com](mailto:stacey@miracleshepherds.com)

### **Past President:**

**Joan Turner** (404) 285-4152  
[missmicgsd@windstream.net](mailto:missmicgsd@windstream.net)

### **Breeder Referral:**

**Connie Irvine** (770) 507-7408  
[francon1@bellsouth.net](mailto:francon1@bellsouth.net)

### **Members-At-Large:**

**Barbara Stamper** (770) 922-0969  
[barickshep@bellsouth.net](mailto:barickshep@bellsouth.net)  
**Connie Irvine** (770) 507-7408  
[francon1@bellsouth.net](mailto:francon1@bellsouth.net)

## **Classified Advertising**

Our website offers free Classified Listings for litters and dog advertisements for 90 days. Your dogs' picture is free for one year. Paid advertisements for stud dogs, kennels and breeders are \$12/year. Deadline for submissions is on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to issue. Members and Breeders of Merit are listed free on our website.

To place an ad, contact the editor:

**Stacey Pollio, email:**  
[stacey@miracleshepherds.com](mailto:stacey@miracleshepherds.com)

## **Reminders**

If you would like to join the conversation on Facebook, you can find the club's FB Group here:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/177807582290973/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/177807582290973/)

Information about The German Shepherd Dog Club of America Inc. (aka 'The Parent Club') can be



found on the parent club website, see the web link here: [www.GSDCA.org](http://www.GSDCA.org)

German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta  
[www.gsdcatlanta.org](http://www.gsdcatlanta.org)

American Kennel Club  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

German Shepherd Dog Breed Standard  
[www.akc.org/dog-breeds/german-shepherd-dog/](http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/german-shepherd-dog/)

**PUPPIES AND LITTERS:** Give Connie Irvine information on puppies and litters. Connie handles the Club phone; she will direct callers to members who have puppies, studs, or older German Shepherd Dogs available.

## **COMMITTEES**

**Club Phone:**  
Connie Irvine (770) 507-7408

**Hearts & Flowers:**  
Jan Eason (678) 549-2113

**Herding/Library:**  
Erika Tracy (678) 642-9303

**Internet/website:**  
Stacey Pollio (404) 353-0588

**Audit:**  
**To be announced**

**Equipment:**  
Barbara Stamper (770) 922-0969

**Obedience:**  
Barbara Guzzo

**Versatility:**  
Joye Evans (770) 438-2285

**Awards & Banquet:**  
Nancy Harper-Mulvaney (770) 640-0149

**Working Dog Association:**  
Betty Ann Fredrick (770) 639-0747

**Trophy Chair:**  
Connie Irvine (770) 507-7408

## **Complimentary Guardian**

To send a complimentary copy of The Guardian to puppy buyers, friends, or prospective members, Contact the editor, Stacey Pollio, at [stacey@miracleshepherds.com](mailto:stacey@miracleshepherds.com)

*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: Stacey H. Pollio*

