



THE GUARDIAN

www.gsdcatlanta.org

Remember to join our Facebook

Group: GSDC of Atlanta

Message from the President

THANK YOU to all the club members and guests who helped with our very successful September shows. Many of the exhibitors complimented the clubs on the shows – great entries, great weather and nice to see everyone working together. It has been a long time since a cluster weekend had 5 points/4 points each show. One of our judges said wow if he hadn't been judging he would have entered – what a great judge line up. Now on to our shows in 2019. We have some challenges with our dates and we are considering several options – stay tuned.

One of the goal of the club's board is to have informative, interesting programs at all club meetings. We have a lot of club members with a lot of knowledge, we have access to lots of medical information and lots of new and exciting venues to learn more about. Please let the board know if there is a subject you would like more information on and we will see when we can schedule a program. Or better yet if there is a subject you would like to present to the club as a program, please contact Joan Turner.

Hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving. Take a minute to think about all the special people and animals in your life, now and past. Be thankful for all the good things in your life and learn from the not so good things.

Joye Evans

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Christmas Party date will be Sunday, December 9th. We will have a combined party with the North Georgia Club. It will be held at Ippolito's at 5277 Peachtree Parkway, Norcross (phone 770-663-0050). We need to start promptly at 1:30 and have the room until 4:30pm. Please save the date!!! We hope everyone can join us!! More details coming soon.....

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NEW EDITOR MESSAGE

I am honored and excited to be your new Guardian Editor. My goal is to publish a quality newsletter that is informative, and useful to our club members. As with any organization, timely communication is a key element to the success or failure of a club. We must do a better job to ensure our success.

The Guardian must provide educational information, legislative updates, upcoming events, whelping box news and member brags. Oh yea, we know how to brag!!

This is your club newsletter so let me hear from you!! I welcome your suggestions, comments, articles, etc. My plan is to go back to a monthly newsletter. December is always a busy month so it will probably be a condensed version. I ask that you submit items for the Guardian to me by the 20th of each month. I check emails daily and will respond promptly unless I'm at a dog show!

Ren Lewis

Please note a "NEW" Guardian email account is in the works, stay tuned..... Please use renlewis1@gmail.com in the meantime



We were pleased to have offered NOHS for the first time at our specialty shows in September. The AKC reports that 80% of show dogs are handled by their owners; however not the case in GSDs. Our breed is large, strong and athletic. Many aging members are unable to run the large rings and handle their dogs, so they hire a pro to get the job done. However, there are quite a few brave souls (or maybe just stubborn) that want to have fun with their dogs so they lace up their tennis shoes and give it a try. I can tell you from personal experience that there's nothing quite like successfully handling your own dog in a ring dominated by pro handlers.

Social media is full of posts about low entries, and trying to find ways to attract newcomers to the sport. Yet we continue to hear, "you have to hire a pro if you want to finish that dog". This is not the attitude we should display when we are desperate to attract new folks. Instead we need to mentor and encourage those people brave enough to step into the ring for the first time. We should encourage them to first do their homework, including handling classes, going to shows to watch, learn to dress for the shows, find a mentor, and then practice, practice and practice some more. The worst that happens is that the person decides that they aren't great at handling but love the sport, so they hire a pro. So you've lost an owner-handler but gained a new person in the sport.

Many other breeds have offered NOHS at their specialty shows for years, and some are offering it at their national as well. Most report increasing entries and participation. The times they are a changing, and we need to be open to new ideas and concepts. We don't expect an immediate large increase in entries, but instead view this as a long-term step in the right direction for our sport.

Ren Lewis

PEDIGREES

I must admit -I have a “thing” for pedigrees. Pedigrees are like a good detective novel, a “who done it” murder mystery. As you delve into your dog’s ancestry you may find yourself asking, “Which 4 -legged bum was responsible for putting THAT fault/problem into my dog’s family” or “Which GREAT one put that fantastic looking head on my dog”

Would you like to explore your dog’s family background? Perhaps, with our Editor’s OK, we can journey together into the fascinating and challenging world of our dog’s heritage. After all it’s **THE THING** these days, it is downright fashionable, people are PAYING to find out where they came from ---- oops--- we all know WHERE we came from, ---- well, you know what I mean.

- So, you have a GS puppy or older dog - if your dog is registerable with AKC it also has a pedigree. You don’t have a pedigree? Well, let’s develop one for **YOUR** dog!
(NO CHARGE)
- Wouldn’t you like to know about your dog’s background?
- If you decide to show or breed your GS Dog, you REALLY SHOULD know what cards you have been dealt
- Breeding is a fun and serious business. We are responsible for what we “put out there”. Breeders are responsible to their puppy buyers, the public, and the reputation of the breed.
- So perhaps being a responsible owner, exhibitor, and or breeder means we should learn all we can about our dogs because
“If we don’t know where they came from how can we know where they are going”.

Thanks to dear friend Dorothy Linn I came into possession of a wonderful old chart which traces the male line of GS Dogs from their arrival on our shores!!. What fun we could have with that tool! Just what IS meant by; Dominant, recessive, line breeding, outcross, value sire, popular sire, Lloyd Brackett theory, 2nd to 4th, to 6th generation to maintain strong dam line and on and on.

Perhaps each issue of the **Guardian** would allow a small space for **PEDIGREES** ; an education program at a monthly meeting might be helpful in pulling terms together as we round out the topic of **PEDIGREES**. **Please give us your thoughts on this we DO appreciate your input.**

Nancy Harper-Mulvaney



Ever wonder if your dog would herd sheep?

AKC HERDING INSTINCT TEST

North Georgia All Breed Herding Dog Association is offering an AKC Herding Instinct Test on Saturday, November 24th. They will offer two tests in one day. This is a great opportunity to get your dog's Instinct Test Certificate.

The judges are Rick Hardin and Claire Hamilton. There will be experienced herding folks available to help with your dog should you require assistance.

The AKC requires two qualifying tests with two different judges so your dog can earn the certificate in one day!!

Contact Ren Lewis at 678-646-7555 or Morgan Lewis at 678-710-1066 with any questions.

For more information visit their website and to obtain the premium list:

<http://ngabhda.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note there are other events in November but have already closed.

NOVEMBER 2018

MONTGOMERY, AL 11/23–11/24 (AB/JSHW)

Montgomery Kennel Club

Judge James Frederiksen 11/23/18

Judge Jerry Watson 11/24/18

Closes 11/7/18

PERRY, GA 11/28–12/2 (AB/JSHW)

Columbus Kennel Club (Judge Robert Shreve)

Oconee River Kennel Club (Judge Cindy Meyer)

Oconee River Kennel Club (Judge Brian Meyer)

Kennesaw Kennel Club (Judge June Penta)

Kennesaw Kennel Club (Judge Joseph Gregory)

Closes 11/14/18

GULFPORT, MS 12/6–12/9 (All Breed & Specialty)

Riverside West Kennel Club of Greater New Orleans

Judge Robert Robinson (AB/JSHW) 12/6/18

Riverside West Kennel Club of Greater New Orleans

Judge Sharon Newcomb (AB/JSHW) 12/7/18

German Shepherd Dog Club of South Alabama

Judge Dr. Stephen Bloom, MD (Specialty) 12/7/18

Mississippi Gulf Coast Kennel Club

Judge Paula Hartinger (AB/JSHW) 12/8/18

German Shepherd Dog Club of South Alabama

Judge Dr. Firouz Shahrokhi (Specialty) 12/8/18

Mississippi Gulf Coast Kennel Club

Judge Charles Olvis (AB/JSHW) 12/9/18

Closes 11/21/18

WATKINSVILLE, GA 11/24/18

North Georgia All Breed Herding Dog Association

AM Judge—Rick Hardin

PM Judge—Claire Hamilton

Herding Instinct Test

DECEMBER 2018

ORLANDO, FL 12/11–12/15

Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay

Judge Carmen Battaglia (AB/JSHW) 12/11/18

Brevard Kennel Club

Judge Dick Jones (AB/JSHW) 12/12/18

Central Florida Kennel Club, Inc.

Judge Brian Meyer (AB/JSHW) 12/13/18

Sunshine State Herding Group Association

Judge Sharon Redmer (LB) 12/14/18

American Kennel Club, Inc.

Judge Danelle Brown (AB/JSHW) 12/15/18

North Georgia All Breed Herding Association

December 29 & 30th

AKC Herding Trials

www.ngaabhda.org





Charbar's Elke, aka Lucy, Lulu, Lucyifer (Chewie x Edie) - has had a great summer/fall. She went with Lenny to the Houston Shows in July and came home with her first 4 points. Since then she has picked up points in Greenville, Jonesboro MAJOR points, and a very successful trip to Ocala last weekend winners bitch and Best Opposite Sex all 3 days - for a grand total of 12. So close to being my first homebred Champion out of my first ever champion. And then we can get down to the real fun work of performance with her.

Joye Evans

Cottonwoods's Improper Opinion

**Beginner Novice leg 1st Place, Novice Leg 1st Place.
Also 1 HT leg at national and Trick Dog Novice visiting
GSDCWKY.**

Erika Tracy

(unofficial photo)





Campaigner's-Eunomia Matchmaker's Time of our Lives CA (aka Slater) was awarded Major Reserve Winners Dog under Judge Dick Jones in Atlanta. Slater is trained and expertly shown by Matt McMillan.

Ren & Morgan Lewis

Our next club meeting will be Thursday, November 8th at 8pm. We will meet at our normal location at BluePearl Veterinary Partners at 455 Abernathy Road in Sandy Springs.

Nancy Harper-Mulvaney will be presenting "Introduction to Understanding Pedigrees". We hope this is the first in a series in the coming months.

Please bring a friend!!