



## Wag 'N' Tongue

A publication for the  
**German Shepherd Dog Club of St. Louis, Inc.**

August 2011

**Club Hot Line Number (314) 772-8885**

**Club Web Site Address: <http://www.gsdcstl.org>**

### Mission Statement

The object of the Club shall be to encourage and promote the breeding of purebred German Shepherd Dogs and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection, to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as adopted by the German Shepherd Dog Club of America and approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which the German Shepherd Dog shall be judged. To do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, and tracking tests, to aid with every possible means in demonstrating the German Shepherd Dog's conspicuous ability as a companion, war, Red Cross, police, herding, rescue dog, and lead dog for the blind. To conduct shows, obedience trials, demonstrations, etc., under the rules of the American Kennel Club, to publish literature and periodicals in the interests of the German Shepherd Dog. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for a profit, and no part of any profits or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

To be considered for membership, turn in an application. Yearly dues (\$20 for individuals & \$30 for families) must accompany application.

### Meeting Information

Meetings begin at 8 pm on the third Friday of each month at the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog, 1721 S. Mason Road in Queeny Park, home of the Museum. It is accessible from Interstate 40/64 at the Mason Rd. exit or from I-270 by taking the Manchester exit to Mason Road.

**Our next gathering (non meeting) will held on August 13, 2011 at the Museum as our Club's Annual Picnic and Meet the Breed Day. See details below for more info!**

### Club Meetings

We are working on a few changes to make club business easier to conduct. Please answer these two questions, and then email them or phone them in to Steve Dobbins 314-974-8698.

[cimarron-gsd@ktis.net](mailto:cimarron-gsd@ktis.net):

- 1) What night of the week would you prefer to hold our meetings if not on a Friday?
- 2) What suggestions can you give that would bring you to our monthly meetings?

### Trivia Night

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will sponsor a trivia night at St. Martin's of Tours (610 W. Ripa in south county). St. Martin's will seat 300 people, and doors open at 6:30 pm - cost \$15/person Please contact Glenn Murphy 314-303-2860 cell [Murfamx4@charter.net](mailto:Murfamx4@charter.net) for more information. You can call Dani Rosemann (314-772-8885) for reservations. Items are needed to be donated for door prizes/silent auction. Our profit from this event sponsors the club's annual K-9 Awards.



### 2011 K-9 Awards

On Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, awards were presented at the *Museum* to the K9 police teams serving the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan Area who have shown outstanding service and to the Boy Scouts for their work on the K-9 Cemetery. You can go to the *Museum's* website to see videos. [http://museumofthedog.org/special\\_exhibits.html](http://museumofthedog.org/special_exhibits.html). Thanks to everyone for your great help in making this event a success! Special thanks to Rosalind and Jeanie North, Gail and Butch Stiefferman, and Glenn and Kelley Murphy for organizing and serving on the committee and making the awards a memorable event! Thanks to the *Museum* for allowing us to hold the event there and to Barb for being the awards announcer.

### Website

Please check out the club's website ([gsdcstl.org](http://gsdcstl.org)) for updates on events, shows, breeders, education, etc.

Thank you to Steve Dobbins for all your hard work on the website! Also, if you have a Facebook account, you can "like" the site.

### AKC Sanctioned Puppy Match

Marcia Hadley is chairing our puppy match to be held at Arnold Park (Pecan Pavilion) on Sunday, October 23. Last year, our puppy match was held at the same Park - *Thank you for the use of the park, City of Arnold!* Plans are to have a BBQ and potluck luncheon. Please call Marcia for more details and to volunteer your help.

### Obedience Training

Joan Senyard has resigned as Obedience Training Director, and Dani Roseman has graciously accepted the assignment. Thank you for your wonderful help with this committee, Joan! And, I'm sure Dani would appreciate volunteers for the classes. The first novice class will begin on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at the Museum. Application and details are located on the website.

### Annual Club Picnic

Our club's annual picnic will be held at the *Museum* on Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. A BBQ and pot-luck luncheon is planned. **Meet the Breed** will be held that day as well with Helen Rockman chairing this committee. The picnic is held in August instead of holding a regular club meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday.

### May, 2012 Dog Shows

On May 12 & 13, 2012, we will hold our annual dog shows at Purina Farms. Show Chairman is Gail Stiefferman. Conformation will be held outdoors. Obedience & Rally will be held indoors at Purina as we did in 2011. We received lots of compliments on the show site selection.

Final judge selection will be held at September's monthly meeting. Judge nominations can be made at that meeting.

### Educational Programs

Dr. Joan Coates will present a program on **THURSDAY, October 20<sup>th</sup>** on Degenerative Myelopathy - **Please plan to attend!**

At our September meeting, nose scenting will be presented. At our November meeting, we will have Ring Stewarding training. If you have suggestions, please contact Helen Rockman 314-966-8949 [msbriannasmom@att.net](mailto:msbriannasmom@att.net).

### Whelping Box

Litter announcements are **FREE** to all club members! Dani Rosemann, phone chairman, has been getting calls from people interested in adding a German Shepherd Dog to their family!

### Breeder's Directory

Ads for members are **\$15.00 per year**. To advertise in the *Wag*, please contact me. Ads are for puppies, stud service, Obedience Training, Handlers, Memorials, Boarding, etc.

### Club Member Reminders.....

**Saturday, August 13** - Club Picnic at the AKC Museum of the Dog

**Friday, September 16** - Regular Club Meeting, 8 pm at AKC

Museum of the Dog

**Saturday, September 17** - Trivia Night at St. Martin's of Tours (610 W. Ripa)

**THURSDAY, October 20** - Regular Club Meeting, **7 pm** at AKC Museum of the Dog

**Sunday, October 23** - AKC Sanctioned Puppy Match at Arnold Park

**Friday, November 18** - Regular Club Meeting, 8 pm at AKC Museum of the Dog

### History Lesson

**Part I:** In 1889 **Captain Max von Stephanitz** began the standardization of the breed. It all started at a dog show in Karlsruhe in western Germany. A medium-sized yellow-and-gray wolflike dog caught his attention. The dog was of the primal canine type, supple and powerful, and possessed endurance, steadiness, and intelligence. He was a working sheepherder, born with this ability, requiring no training other than direction and finish to become proficient at the task. This dog, Hektor Linksrhein, was purchased by von Stephanitz, renamed **Horand von Grafath**, and became the first registered German Shepherd Dog.

Von Stephanitz founded the Verein für Deutsche Sch-ferhunde, SV (German Shepherd Dog Club), becoming the first president, and in a short period of time achieved the standardization of form and type in the breed. A standard was developed based on mental stability and utility. The captain's motto was "Utility and intelligence". To him beauty was secondary, and a dog was worthless if it lacked the intelligence, temperament, and structural efficiency that would make it a good servant of man. A breed standard was developed as a blueprint dictating the exact function and relationship of every aspect of structure, gait, and inherent attitude.

Von Stephanitz inbred heavily on Horand and also Luchs, his brother, to consolidate the bloodline. Horand's best son, Hektor von Schwaben, the second German Sieger, was mated with his half-sister as well as through daughters of his own sons, **Beowulf**, Heinz von Starkenberg, and Pilot III.

The first German Shepherd Dog exhibited in America was in 1907. Mira von Offingen, imported by Otto Gross, was shown by H. Dalrymple, of Port Allegheny, Pennsylvania in the open class at Newcastle and Philadelphia. The first championships awarded German Shepherd Dogs was in 1913. In 1913 the German Shepherd Dog Club of America was formed by Benjamin Throop and Anne Tracy, with 26 charter members. The German Shepherd Dog Club of America's first specialty show was at Greenwich, Connecticut in 1915.

In 1922 Germany introduced a system of regular breed surveys - a criticism of each dog, with a graded description and recommendation for (or against) breeding. This type of system never caught on in America due largely to the cultural differences inherent in American society. However, good dogs were still produced, as German dogs were easily available for American dollars highly sought after in inflationary Germany. (continued...)



## HEALTH MATTERS

**Poison Control for Dogs: 888-426-4435 (24-hr Hotline).**

**If you suspect your pet may have consumed a toxic plant or other toxic substance, please contact your veterinarian and/or this hotline number.**

These are the five most common plants that are potentially dangerous to pets as they have the potential to cause serious, even fatal systemic effects when ingested. **LILLIES** rank number one. Ingestion of even small amounts can cause severe kidney damage.

**AZALEAS** are indigenous to many eastern and western states, and are commonly used in landscaping. They contain substances that can produce vomiting, drooling, diarrhea, weakness, and CNS depression. **OLEANDER** contains toxic components that can cause irritation of the GI tract, hypothermia, and potentially severe cardiac problems. **SAGO PALM** can cause vomiting, diarrhea, depression, seizures, liver failure, and even death. **CASTOR BEAN** plant seeds have the higher concentration of toxin in comparison with its leaves. Ingestion can produce abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, dehydration, tremors, seizures, and even death.

There are other plants on the list, which you can find on [thedogplace.org/articles/dogcare/](http://thedogplace.org/articles/dogcare/)

## WHAT IS A FUTURITY?

First of all, a Futurity is a Puppy Match and a Breeders show. It has come into being through the annals of horse racing. For centuries horse breeders have nominated unborn foals representing the pedigree mares and fabulous stallions from overseas.

Many, many years ago the German Shepherd Dog Futurities rules required the actual presence of the sires and dams of the individual puppies in the show. We are now only concerned with the puppies themselves. It is a breeder's show because these puppies are the result of a breeder's plan and/or breeding program. Because entire litters are nominated and generally many show, it gives a better picture of the results of the combinations of certain bloodlines (which is not always obtained in the regular show ring where generally there are only one or two of a litter shown at a time).

A Futurity is different from a regular show in many ways. Litters must be nominated for Futurities where in regular competition they need not be. Competition in Futurities is in age groups, while this is not true otherwise. There are

no championship points given. Rather than Best of Breed, the winner is designated Best in Futurity.

In order to nominate a litter you must be a member of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America Inc. or apply for membership at time of nomination. A puppy may be entered and shown in only one region even if his litter was nominated in a different region.

Puppies must be entered in their proper age class regardless of development, maturity, or personal preference of the exhibitor. The winners of each class are judged in a combined group with the best male puppy being designated Futurity Male. A Reserve Futurity Male will be designated. Then the puppies of the opposite sex are judged with like results. The Futurity Male and Futurity Female are then eligible to compete for Best in Futurity and Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity.

The Maturity Section is judged after the Futurity judging is finished. This part of the show is for those dogs that have been entered, but not necessarily shown in the previous years Futurity. The Maturity is divided into two classes only - dogs and bitches. The winners of these classes compete for the title of Best in Maturity and Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Maturity. A Reserve Maturity Male and a Reserve Maturity Female is also designated.

Futurity and Maturity winners and all Futurity and Maturity Reserve winners will be eligible to compete at the GSDC National Specialty for the titles of Futurity Victor and Victrix and Maturity Victor and Victrix.

If you nominate your litter(s) for the 2011 Futurities before they are 7 days old, the nomination is FREE, thanks to Purina! Please keep in mind that, once you have bred your bitch and confirmed that she is in whelp, you may nominate the litter even before the pups are born and ..... you guessed it ... it's FREE!

*If, Futurities do indeed, "Forecast the future," this should be an all-important show. It should be important for breeder's competition, an early look at up and coming young dogs, a look at what the breeder's in your geographical location are accomplishing in their breeding programs, and a look at and into what we are doing for and to our breed.*

## Parent Club News



**2011 National** will be held at the Kansas Expocenter in Topeka, Kansas, 9/26/2011 through 10/02/2011. <http://www.gsdca.org/index.php>

The GSDCA Board of Directors, in their latest meeting (July, 2011) held in Philadelphia, PA voted to allow the **WHITE COATED GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG** supporters to apply to the American Kennel Club to be recognized as a separate breed.



call (573) 470-3505. If you would prefer simply to look at it on the website or print a copy for yourself there, this would save the club the cost of printing and postage. Please let me know if the alternate methods of delivery would be permissible. I look forward to a having lots of fun with this.

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*Gail Rutter, Editor*



The Board of Directors met on Thursday, March 10, 2011 to discuss several items which had not been fully resolved from the January Board meeting.

Following the January Board meeting, the City of Loveland authorized a grant of \$11,500 towards the cost of the Colorado site. This came about from Bill Burggraaf's continuing efforts to explore new sources of income for our National. The grant makes the Loveland site comparable in price to what had been proposed by the Purina site. As a result of new financial information, the Board voted to retain its contract with the Loveland site in Colorado for the 2012 National Specialty Show.

Clara Dean Hope will represent the Heartland region on the Nominating Committee with Bob Braue as the alternate and Julie Degen as the alternate for the Eastern region. The Nominating Committee member representing the Eastern region is Rita Sandell, who, together with Laura Gilbert, Chairman, Western - Tom Brown, alternate - Lori Nikeson, and Mid-America - Sam Colvin, alternate DD Ardoin, were elected at the January board meeting.

The Budget and Finance Committee recommended that the Review be published bi-monthly for a cost savings of \$26,558.33 for the annual printing. Other options were: 6x9 W/COLOR for a savings of \$18,211.43; 6x9 B/W for a cost savings of \$22,764.29; or stay the same as it is now. It was decided that there was not enough information to make a decision at this time and the decision regarding any changes to the GSD Review and the approval of the budget were postponed until the April meeting.

#### **Editor News**

Hopefully, you found our club's newsletter to be informative and something to help keep our club members informed and unified.

I need ideas, cartoons, educational information, brags, anything that would make this newsletter something you would look forward to getting! If anyone has software for a publishing program (i.e. pagemaker) and/or clipart, I would appreciate being able to use it to do a more professional issue of the newsletter.

If some members prefer to have the newsletter e-mailed, please send me permission at [ruttergsd@hughes.net](mailto:ruttergsd@hughes.net) or