



**Wag 'N' Tongue**

A publication for the  
German Shepherd Dog Club of St. Louis, Inc.  
December 2014

Club Hot Line Number

**(314)-319-8485**

Club Web Site Address: <http://www.gsdcsstl.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.



**Club Meeting Notice**

**Next meeting will be held at the AKC Museum of the Dog beginning at 8 pm on Friday, January 16, 2015.**

**January 16, 2015 Election Ballot**

**Officers:** (VOTE FOR 1 FOR EACH OFFICE)

**President:**..... Larry Duerbeck

**Vice President:**..... Rosalind North

.....Herman Stiefferman

**Treasurer:** ..... Karen Schmaltz

**Recording Secretary:** .....Gail Rutter

**Corresponding Secretary:** ... Gail Stiefferman

**Board:** (VOTE FOR 7)

Elaine Bisbing

Marcia Hadley

Greg Harrison

Glenn Murphy

Kelly Murphy

Terry Rock

Danny Rosemann

Marilee Wilkinson

Diane Zeppo

*This will serve as notice of election as well as the list of volunteers running for election, listed alphabetically.*

*Note: Positions are held for one (1) year and our past president continues to serve as a board member as per policy.*

**Meeting Minutes**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, October 17, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President North at 8:15 pm at the AKC Museum of the Dog. Roll was called with Glenn Murphy, Kelly Murphy, Dannie Rosemann, Bette Sill, Butch Stiefferman, and Gail Stiefferman absent. Members and guests were welcomed. President North thanked volunteers for all their work at the recently held national and at the temperament testing.

The regular meeting minutes of September 19, 2014 were then read. Larry Duerbeck moved and Steve Dobbins seconded the motion to approve the minutes. **Yeas: All**

Marilee Wilkinson read the September Treasurer's Report. Steve Dobbins moved and GERALYN BOLHOFNER seconded the motion to approve the report. **Yeas: All**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Obedience Training:** GERALYN BOLHOFNER reported the last two classes will be held this week, and the next class will begin in March, 2015.

**Nominating Committee:** Chairmen GERALYN BOLHOFNER and Karen Schmaltz reported the following preliminary slate for 2015: President: Rosalind North and Larry Duerbeck; Vice-President: Butch Stiefferman; Recording Secretary: Gail Rutter; Corresponding Secretary: Gail Stiefferman; Treasurer: Karen Schmaltz; Board: Marcia Hadley, Terry Rock, Elaine Bisbing, Marilee Wilkinson, Kelly and Glenn Murphy, Greg Harrison, Diane Zeppo and Dannie Rosemann.

**Puppy Match:** Marcia Hadley, Chairman, reported this will be held at 11 am on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> in Arnold Park. Pre-entry will be \$10. There will be a chili contest and puppy costume contest. Match flyer is on the club's website. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Christmas Party:** Larry Duerbeck, Chairman, recommended PJ's PJ's Grill on Jefferson Street in Kirkwood the first Weekend in December.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was a brief discussion on history of UMC College of Veterinary Medicine endowment Fund. A special board meeting is planned to discuss this.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

Braggs netted \$8.00. Marilee Wilkinson moved and Terry Rock seconded the motion to adjourn at 9:20 pm. **Yeas: All**

**Club Website**

<http://www.gsdcsstl.org/> We are in need of GSD pictures for the website. Please send to Steve Dobbins [Cimarrongsd@ktis.net](mailto:Cimarrongsd@ktis.net).

**Obedience Training**

Classes will begin again in March, 2015 at Affton White-Rodgers Community Center, 9801 Mackenzie Rd, St Louis, MO 63123. Please contact Dannie Rosemann or Geralyn Bolhofner for more information.



**Keeping your Dog Warm in the Winter Weather**

1 Where you place your dog house can make the difference in how cold it gets inside. You want to make sure that the opening or doorway to your dog house is facing the south or west (preferably the south), as the coldest air and wind typically comes in from the north and northeast during the winter.

2 Also consider attaching a thick rubber flap to the top of the doorway on your doghouse and that hangs close to the bottom so your dog can go in and out easily and to help protect them from the cold winter winds or conditions like snow or sleet that could blow into the structure.

3 Check every few days to make sure the bedding in your doghouse is clean and dry. You want to use wood shavings, straw and hay for bedding.

4 You should avoid using old blankets, rugs, or newspapers for bedding in your doghouse as these items pack down easily, becoming less comfortable for your dog and therefore providing less warmth.

5 If you have a wooden garage or outdoor shed, you might consider having a doggie door installed so that your dog can go into the garage at night to keep warm and sleep. You could close off a small area so that when if your dog went inside they would be contained to a specific area and be unable to wander all over the place.

6 Make sure your dog house is as airtight as you can make it on the outside to keep cold air and wind drafts from getting inside where your dog will be sleeping. You can purchase liquid sealants to paint on the outside of your dog house with a paintbrush or roller.

7 You can even purchase standard roof tiles, which come in a variety of colors, and nail them onto the outside of your dog house and on the roof, or measure your dog house for siding. Both roof tiles and siding will help insulate your dog house as well as helping keep out cold air and inclement weather.

8 Make sure that the interior space in your dog house is the right size, since the size of your dog house should allow your dog to sit completely up and to stretch out when lying down. .

**Heartworm Prevention in the Winter**

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition in dogs and cats and is transmitted by mosquitoes. Because we tend to notice mosquitoes during warmer months, we associate heartworm disease as a summertime threat. Heartworm disease can affect our pets at any time, even during winter months, which is why it is important to continue preventive treatment year-round.

Heartworms are caused by bites from infected mosquitoes that carry microscopic baby heartworms into the bloodstream. After your pet is bitten by an infected mosquito, it takes up to six months for worms to grow to adulthood inside your pet's lungs. Adult worms are about the size of a piece of spaghetti and by living in the blood vessels in the lungs and heart, cause difficulty with blood flow and damage to both organs. The disease manifests somewhat differently in cats and dogs, but the key is that prevention works for both.

Limiting your dog or cat's exposure to mosquitoes, even if your pet is on preventive treatment, will help reduce the chance of infection. Mosquitoes are particularly drawn to water, although this is not the only way your pet could be exposed. Swampy water, ponds, pools and water collected in bird baths or other containers can attract mosquitoes. If mosquitoes are especially bad in your area, bring your pets inside at dusk when mosquitoes tend to be out and consider using a topical, vet recommended spot on product on dogs (not available for cats) that will help repel mosquitoes along with fleas and other pests.

The most common clinical sign of heartworm disease usually is no sign at all until the disease is well advanced. Progressive signs may include chronic coughing, unwillingness to exercise, tiring easily and lethargy, difficulty breathing and an enlarged abdomen in dogs, and coughing and asthma-like symptoms in cats. By the time your dog or cat shows signs of heartworm disease, damage to the lungs has already occurred. There is a treatment available for dogs, although the treatment itself poses some risks.

Veterinarians recommend an annual test that detects the presence of heartworms so that your pet can be treated before showing clinical signs of the disease. The antigen test will detect the presence of protein molecules from adult heartworms in the bloodstream. A second test looks at a small amount of blood under a microscope to check for the presence of immature heartworms. There is a third blood test that checks for the body's immune response to the heartworm and this test is sometimes used in cats. If your dog tests positive for heartworms, aggressive treatment will be required prior to taking a monthly preventive. Fortunately, a monthly pill or topical solution, prescribed by your veterinarian, can be given to dogs and cats to prevent heartworm disease.

Mosquitoes can live in your house for an extended period of time, and you can never be sure exactly when mosquitoes die off in the cold and come back in the spring. If your dog or cat is bitten by a mosquito during spring or summer months, the heartworms will continue to grow well into winter months, hence the need to continue preventive treatment.

Stay one step ahead of this potential threat: Protect your pets from heartworm disease by limiting exposure and providing preventive treatment year-round, even during those chilly winter months

**GSDC of St. Louis, Inc.**  
Gail Rutter, Editor  
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### **GSDCA Renewal**

Just a reminder that your membership to the GSDCA, Inc. is due 12/31/14. Just go to the website ([gsdca.org](http://gsdca.org)) to find more information on how to pay your dues.



**Wishing each of you the best in the  
upcoming holidays and a successful New  
Year!**