



Wag 'N' Tongue



MARCH
1987



HONORABLE MENTION
1984
SECOND RUNNER-UP
1985

WAG 'N' TONGUE IS THE OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION OF THE GERMAN SHEPHERD
DOG CLUB OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

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The purpose 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, Red Cross, police, hearing, rescue dog and guide 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 or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

=====

THE OPINIONS OF WRITERS OR ADVERTISERS
IN THIS PUBLICATION DO NOT NECESSARILY
CONSTITUTE THE VIEWS OF THE GERMAN
SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

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Regular Club meetings are held every month on the third Friday, except in August (annual Barbeque) and December (Annual Christmas Party) at 8:00 P.M. The meeting place is the Brentwood Recreation Center, 2505 S. Brentwood, unless otherwise noted.



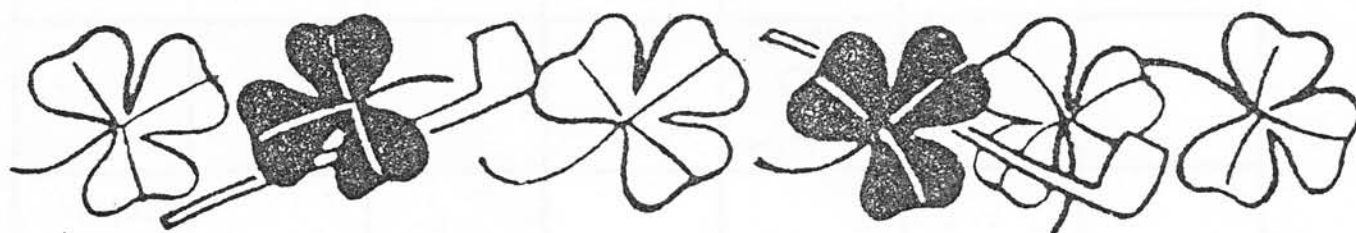
Well, here we are, one month closer to some decent weather. I don't know about you, but it is awfully hard to train a dog to jump or to get in some reasonable roadworking when there is snow on the ground. Congratulations to all the Royal Hecht award winners! Sorry their names aren't in this edition, but I hope to have them for next month.

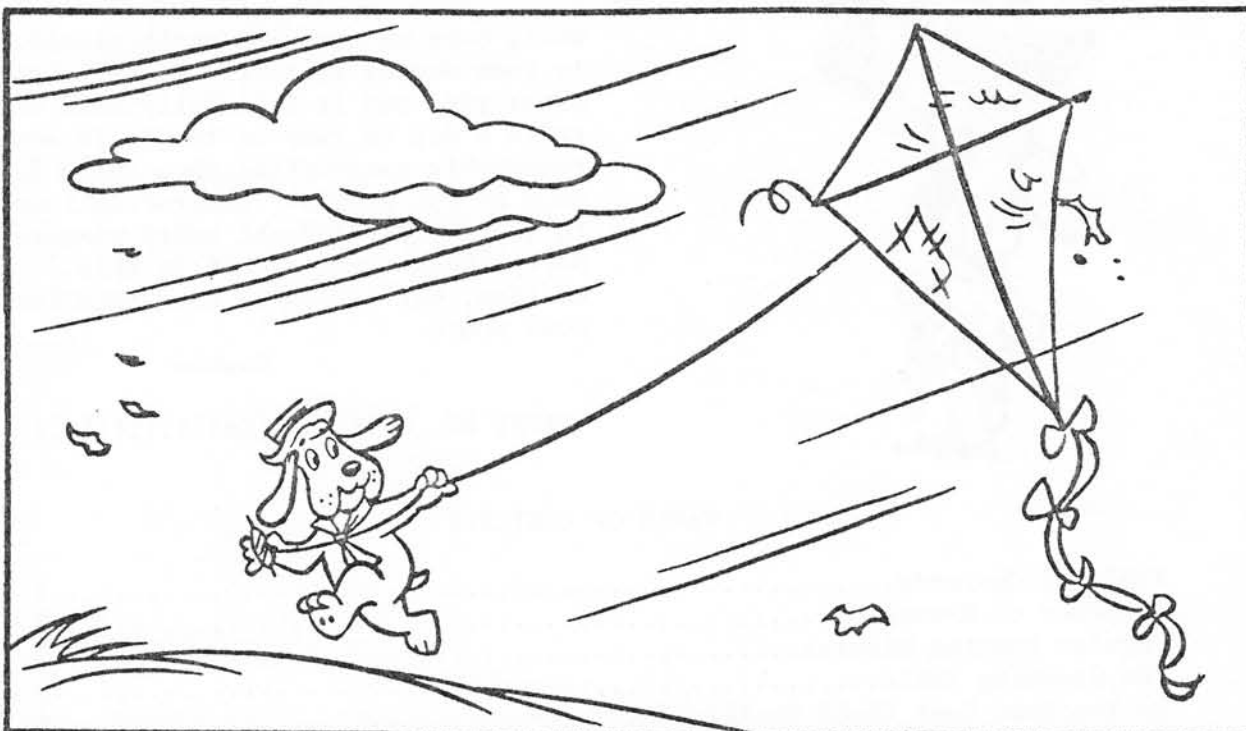
Daphne

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				BOARD MEETING		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18	19	CLUB MEETING 20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	WALTER MARTIN SEMINAR 28
& BREED SURVEY 29	30	31	31			

*Approved
as read*

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 16, 1987

The regular monthly meeting of the G.S.D.C. of St. Louis, Inc. was called to order at 8:25 p.m. by President Duerbeck at the Brentwood Recreation Center.

The minutes of the November 21, 1986 meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was approved as read.

Committee Reports

Training: It was announced that Don Krueger had been elected Training Director. Don noted that the fall classes had netted \$1002.18. A new apprentice trainer has joined the staff.

Wag N Tongue: The deadline for the submission of material for the February issue is January 24, 1987.

Spring Show: Harold Beckham, Show Chairman, said he had not received written confirmation of the requested show date from AKC. However, there has been some verbal indication that the date would be granted for this year.

Ways and Means: Helene Bridges is interested in knowing what items the members want.

Royal Hecht: Marcia Hadley reviewed the awards to be given out next month. There will be a total of 26.

Education: John Hoffmann is trying to set up a program on emergency first aid for the March meeting.

New Business

Alice Krueger announced that the all-breed conformation class will begin on Wednesday, January 21, 1987 at the South County training site.

The insurance premium is due in February. Fran Ruoff discussed the specific events to be covered for the year.

John Hoffmann moved that there be a ten minute break to be followed by the voting for officers for 1987. Lydia Neun seconded the motion. The motion passed.

It was announced that Janet Wood had withdrawn as a candidate for Treasurer and that Fran Ruoff had consented to fill the vacancy. Ballots were passed out for the voting of officers. The results were as follows:

Larry Duerbeck	President
Daphne Szczuka	Vice-President
Fran Ruoff	Treasurer
Alice Becker	Recording Secretary
Marilee Wilkinson	Corresponding Secretary

Ballots were then passed out for voting for the Board of Governors. There being a tie, Joyce Gray moved that Ken Cunningham be allowed to withdraw from the Board of Governors. The motion was seconded by Harold Beckham and passed. Elected to the Board of Governors were:

Harold Beckham
Judy Deane
Elaine Harbison
Alice Krueger
Don Krueger
Lydia Neun
Linda Newman

Marilyn Balsman moved that the ballots be destroyed and the tally kept. The motion was seconded by Harold Beckham and passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



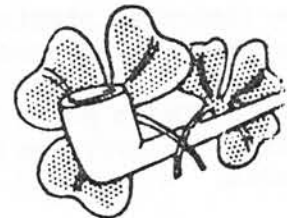
Alice Becker
Recording Secretary

THE WEARIN' OF THE GREEN



To wear green is an accepted part of today's St. Patrick's Day celebration. But, it wasn't always so. Green officially came to be a symbol of the Irish during the reign of Queen Victoria of England. Under English rule, Victoria decreed it was forbidden for her Irish regiments to wear a green sprig of native shamrock on St. Patrick's Day.

In a defiant display of Irish unity and spirit, the regiments turned out not only with sprigs of shamrock, but clothed in Irish green from head to toe. And, since that time it has been a custom to wear green and show your Irish spirit on St. Patrick's Day.



THE GROOMING TABLE

THE SHEDDING DOG SYNDROME

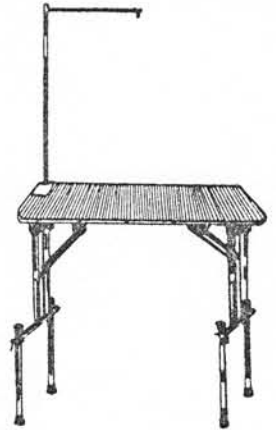
Well folks, here it is--show season. There are a lot of dog shows coming up and you have decided to show ol' Rover this year. But Rover seems to have other ideas. Why is it that every time you fill out an entry form he starts losing his coat? Not just a brush full of hair when you groom him, but GIANT hairballs rolling around on the floor!

Whether your dog seems to lose his hair on purpose (like Rover), or just when the weather changes, here are a few helpful hints to help you deal with the "Shedding Dog Syndrome".

There are many ways to add bulk and fluff up a nearly non-existent coat if you are showing your dog. You can use a hair-styling mousse or setting foam for dogs such as Cherry Knoll or one of the Bio-Groom coat dressings. Bio-Groom also makes a coat texturizer for dogs with thin coats or ones without much body. A homemade remedy you might try is a mixture of fabric softener and water. To use any of these products, just spray onto the coat and backbrush (brush against the direction the hair grows) until dry and then groom the dog as usual. WARNING: Do Not Use The Fabric Softener Mixture More Than Three Days In A Row Without Bathing The Dog In Between Applications Because The Fabric Softener Will Dry Out The Coat.

Of course, if you are not going to show Rover and simply want to get rid of the shedding coat quickly, just bathe the dog. Cold baths will remove all of the dead hair and are believed by many to speed up the growing process of the new coat.

Good luck and Good Grooming to all you hopeful show candidates this year. See you at the shows!



Violet



DO YOU NEED YOUR CLUB?

by

Alice Krueger

I have heard people say "I don't need this club--it needs me!" By that they mean the club needs their labor. That much is true. But let's examine the statement "I don't need this club." Just what purpose does the club serve? Certainly, knowledge. Not just the educational programs at meetings, but the hard-gained knowledge of years of breeding, showing, training, and observing our breed by dozens of people in this club, the majority of who willingly share that knowledge. Where else do you find out the good points and the bad points of the Super-Stud that you are thinking of using? Where else do you find out all the fine points of breeding? So many times it is far more complicated than putting a male and a female together and hoping nature will take its course. When you whelped your first litter, wasn't it fellow members that gave you invaluable information, help, and emotional support? Who do you call late at night with a breeding, whelping, or illness problem? Bet it's a fellow club member.

Some are saying at this point that there are books and vets to help with these problems. There are, and many good ones in each category. But books are written mostly for generalities and they sure can't talk back. Our many fine veterinarians usually don't have the time for in-depth discussions of breeding and whelping and in many cases, simply don't have the knowledge of a long-time breeder since their primary concern is with medical matters. It is usually club functions and club members that aid in socializing the puppies or with temperament testing. If you have a puppy that needs to get out you sure aren't going to take it to Great-Aunt Hittabelle's house, the one with all of the Persian rugs! You don't take your dogs to her house when they are blowing coat either. Again, it is your doggie friends from the club that come to your rescue! You know where to go if you need the loan of an exercise pen or an extra crate.

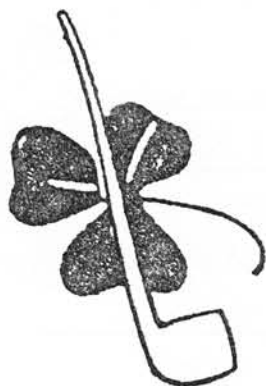
You say none of these apply to you. You only have one or two dogs that you show and you do not want or intend to breed. Fine. Who puts on those dog shows? It is the club members that find the show sites, bring in the judges, make arrangements with motels, haul the equipment and set it up and tear it down. It is the club that tends to the hundreds of details that go into putting on a show and making it run smoothly. What if all the dog clubs went out of existence because everyone thought they weren't needed. You might say private, for profit, businesses could take their place and put on the shows. Can you possibly imagine what your entry fee would

Last, but for from least, what about the many fine and lasting friendships made over the years, not only with people in your own club, but people in other clubs and in other breeds. All having a basis in a common interest and love of our dogs.

I give a lot of hours to the club. So do a great many other people. I only hope that this may serve as a reminder that while it needs us-----WE ALSO NEED IT!

MARCH 28 GAITWAY CORGI CLUB LOCATED AT GRANT'S PAVILION
CORGI CONFORMATION AND ALL-BREED OBEDIENCE

APRIL 11 ST. LOUIS NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB LOCATED AT NORTH COUNTY RECREATION
COMPLEX
ALL-BREED CONFORMATION AND OBEDIENCE



JUNIOR NEWS

by

Julie Harbison

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

KIDS:

Age 10-17

If you are interested in dogs and want to learn how to show, groom, and take care of a dog, now is the time to learn even if you do not own a dog right now.

AND

ADULTS:

If you would like to help the junior club get off the ground, be an advisor.

PLEASE CONTACT:

(by mail or by phone)

Julie Harbison

#6 Becky Thatcher

St. Charles, MO 63303

(314) 723 - 4637

FILL OUT AND SEND:

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

Adult volunteers:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

G.S.D.C. of St. Louis, Inc. and the W.D.A.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

March 28-29, 1987

WHO?

Herr Walter Martin of Wienerau Kennels — he is the world's foremost breeder/judge of the German Shepherd Dog.

WHAT?

Seminar on Saturday, including a question and answer period. Breed Evaluation on Sunday. Herr Martin will evaluate any Breed Representative at least 6 months of age.

WHERE?

Holiday Inn — St. Louis Airport — Dogs welcome on courtesy vans (in crates) and in rooms (with refundable damage deposit). Flat rate of \$58 per room. All activities on motel site.

COST?

\$25 for WDA members \$30 for non-members
(includes seminar, lunch and coffee breaks)

Dog Entry Fee for Breed Evaluation \$10 per dog.
(includes written evaluation by Herr Martin, to be mailed within two weeks)

MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: **GSDC of St. Louis, Inc.**
Mrs. Janet Wood, 1010 Lakeview, St. Louis, Missouri 63138

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TICKET AND ENTRY FOR HERR MARTIN

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Number of tickets _____ WDA members _____ Non-members _____
Number of Dog Entries _____ Ticket holders _____ Others _____
Total _____

Confirmation and directions will be sent to you upon receipt of payment.
For Motel Reservations — Call 314-731-2100

THIS IS A COPY OF A LETTER I RECEIVED FROM MS. KOLMAN



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA WORKING DOG ASSOCIATION, INC.

Mid Central Regional Director

Marilee Wilkinson
Laison, GSDC St. Louis, Inc.
12 Springer Woods
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Dear Ms. Wilkinson,

George forwarded your letter to me and I am very pleased at the interest you have expressed in the GSDCA WDA. Inclosed is a membership application which includes our monthly newsletter. All trials, AD's, VB's are held under VDH rules. In order to start a WDA club, you must have five members that are members of the parent club. You must have a constitution and by-laws and \$500,000 insurance policy. Your club must be approved by your regional director. You should be willing to put on seminars to gain knowledge.

Inclosed is a copy of the WDA Constitution and By Laws. I can obtain a copy of the VDH rule book for a fee of \$12.00. Hope to hear from you soon.

I'm sorry I couldn't come with George, but I send all of you the best of luck and best wishes. We all have the same goal for the Total German Shepherd. A sound body and a sound mind. If you need me for a seminar or anything you might need, feel free to contact me.

Yours truly,

Mary Ann Kolman

Following is some information Mary Ann sent to me. Let me hear some comments on what you would like to do if you are interested in the WDA.

Marilee

THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA WORKING DOG ASSOCIATION, INC.

The GSDCA-WDA is the only Schutzhund organization in the United States formed exclusively for the purpose of promoting the working ability of the German Shepherd Dog. It is closely allied with the German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. administratively and philosophically, and assists it in developing an American working dog program. As an example, it has provided Schutzhund dog handler teams to GSDCA for competition in the European Championships. Many of the members of our organization are officers, directors and members of GSDCA.

While there are several Schutzhund organizations in this country, the founders of GSDCA-WDA hoped to provide something which is missing in other organizations, an American Schutzhund movement dedicated solely to the German Shepherd Dog.

What can we offer you?

- *An association which has some of this country's finest breeders and trainers.
- *A national organization of clubs dedicated to the training and trialing of German Shepherd Dogs.
- *Highly qualified American and German

trial judges (furnished through the SV, the German Shepherd Dog Club of West Germany), training seminars and trials held under international Schutzhund rules.

*Local, regional and national trials. Starting in 1984, a Schutzhund Victor will be established as the American German Shepherd Dog champion in Schutzhund I, II and III in an annual championship trial.

*The opportunity to compete in foreign championship trials as the representative of The German Shepherd Dog Club of America.

In addition to joining as an individual member, we encourage our members to join or form local training clubs, for Schutzhund training is ideal for the club or group atmosphere where equipment is available and experienced trainers can share their understanding of the sport.

More than anything, we offer you an opportunity to become involved in this very challenging and rewarding sport of Schutzhund where any number of personal goals can be fulfilled, such as recreation, competition, a better understanding of dog training or just the development of a dog into the sound, well rounded companion who can demonstrate all of those characteristics that many generations of good breeding have given us.

SCHUTZHUND

The concept of Schutzhund was originally designed to test the temperament of the working dog for purposes of breeding and more advanced working skills. Over the years, the thrill and challenge of this fundamental test has attracted more dog trainers and breeders who see it as a new dimension in competition or an important part of the working dog breeding program. Today, thousands of people all over the world are competing in Schutzhund.

Schutzhund is a formalized sport operating under international rules with three levels of achievement. Schutzhund I is the beginning title, Schutzhund II an intermediate title and Schutzhund III, the highest and most demanding test. Each title presents new challenges and only those dogs which are of sound temperament and well trained will pass. Additionally, there is a Tracking Dog title given which is very similar to the American Kennel Club. The tests which are given to earn each title are the following:

Tracking

Tracking is designed to test the dog's instinctive searching ability by requiring it to follow a person's trail of varying distances over changing terrain. The dog must find and indicate objects dropped by the person laying the track. This phase of Schutzhund requires a significant amount of ongoing training for the dog is expected to track accurately all through the test.

Obedience

The test of obedience has the flavor of the Open title in AKC obedience with heeling, sits, downs, recalls and retrieval, however, there are some differences. Many of the

exercises are done over a larger area and require the dog to be moving when the exercise is performed, thereby requiring the dog to work more independently. The greatest difference is that temperament is tested to determine the dog's sociability while working around people and noise sensitivity to gunfire. In more advanced Schutzhund, the dog is required to perform more demanding exercises and demonstrate greater physical ability, such as climbing a six foot wall, and clearing a 1 meter jump.

Protection

While appearing to be training for attack work or aggression, the protection phase is actually something quite apart from personal protection or service dog work. Fundamentally, it tests the courage of the dog and the trainer's ability to direct that courage into a well behaved responsible dog. In the protection test, a dog is ordered to locate a suspect, alert the handler to his presence and to cause no harm to the suspect unless the dog or handler is attacked. When there is an attack, the dog must respond without hesitation or fear while, at the same time, continuing to be totally responsive to the handler's commands. While many dogs can be aggressive, only the well trained Schutzhund dog can pass this test by showing sound temperament, a courageous heart, and undeviating response to the handler.

The major consideration of whether Schutzhund is for you is whether your dog can measure up to these demands, for those without sound temperament can not pass. The test is demanding for it was designed to pass only those dogs who can contribute worthy attributes to future generations.

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA-WORKING DOG ASSOCIATION, INC.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MAIL TO VICE PRESIDENT, ROBERT WYATT, 4810 Sunnyside Road, Woodstock, IL 60093

Do not use this form to apply for membership in the German Shepherd Dog Club of America

For application to form a "WDA" Club please contact the Treasurer.

\$25.00

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP PER PERSON ANNUAL DUES \$15.00 PLUS \$5.00 INITIATION FEE.
CLUB MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL DUES \$50.00. DUES MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION.

NAME _____ PLEASE PRINT
MR MRS MISS
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ TELEPHONE () _____
OCCUPATION _____ AGE _____
KENNEL NAME _____
CLUB NAME _____

ENDORSED BY _____

ENDORSED BY _____

I hereby request formal admission to GSDCA-WDA and, if accepted to membership, agree to be bound by its Articles, By-Laws, regulations and conditions as they now exist or may be subsequently adopted.

Signature _____

* You must be 18 years or older to join. Any person between 18 and 21 years must be sponsored by a current GSDCA or individual club member.

IT'S FUTURITY TIME

by

Daphne Szczuka

This year our club is playing host to the 1987 Midwestern Futurity. Since many of you may not know much about the Futurity, here is a short explanation.

Futurities were originated and are still sponsored by the G.S.D.C. of America as a breeder's show. In other words, a Futurity is a giant AKC sanctioned puppy match held for members only, i.e. you must be a member of the G.S.D.C. of America to nominate a litter or to enter a dog. No points are awarded toward a championship, but it is still considered a great honor to even place in a Futurity class.

A breeder must nominate a litter within 90 days after the puppies are born for them to be eligible to compete in the Futurity. The litter must be nominated in the geographical region in which the breeder resides. The Futurity system is currently divided into nine regions: Northeastern, Mid-Atlantic, Southeastern, Great Lakes, Midwestern, Mid-Pacific, Southern Pacific, and Northwestern. We are in the Midwestern region which includes Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and of course Missouri. A puppy may be shown in any of these regions, but cannot be entered in more than one region.

Futurity entries are divided into four classes by age: Senior, Intermediate, Teenage, and Junior. Each sex is judged separately and four placings are awarded in each class. The class winners then compete against the other winners of their sex, and the best male and female puppies are chosen. These two compete for Best in Futurity and Best Opposite Sex in Futurity and are eligible for the Futurity Finals at that year's National Specialty.

The Maturity section is judged after the completion of the Futurity judging. This is for animals who were entered (but not necessarily shown) in the previous year's Futurity. There is one class for dogs and one for bitches. Best in Maturity and Best of Opposite Sex in Maturity are chosen from the Maturity class winners and are also eligible for the Maturity Finals at the National.

There are two judges chosen for each Futurity. The first judge (Dr. Charles Kruger, DVM for our Futurity this year) presides over all dog classes and also does all intersex competition. The second judge (Mr. Alan Stone) does all of the bitch classes, both Futurity and Maturity, and selects the best of the bitch class winners.

JUDEEN KENNELS

HOME OF

CH. CARALON'S NICHOLAS OF JUDEEN, CD

CH. CARALAN'S TREFFERHUND JUDEEN

CH. JUDEEN'S SPICE OF ROCK CREEK

CH. CARALON'S CLASSY OF JUDEEN

ALL OFA GOOD

PUPPIES AVAILABLE, PET AND SHOW

ALL PUPPIES GUARANTEED HEALTH AND HIPS

CH. TUSCON DAUGHTER/BRED TO NICK

OTHER NICK PUPPIES AVAILABLE

NEW PUPPY

CH. SCHEZAR'S DECISION DAUGHTER

5 MONTHS OLD

WATCH FOR HER

SHE'S A BEAUTY



GOOD LUCK TO ALL OBEDIENCE AND CONFORMATION DOGS AT UPCOMING SHOWS!!!!

JUDY DEANE

464-1084

FACTS FROM THE TOOTH FAIRY

by

Dr. Pat Parsons, DDS

The exhibitor of German Shepherd Dogs shares a unique spot with horse and slave traders - their ongoing interest in the appearance of teeth. As breeders, handlers, and owners of German Shepherd dogs we are constantly made aware of variations in the dental development, mature dentitions, and the ever elusive "premolar". Yet many avid Shepherdists understand very little about this very important part of the complete German Shepherd Dog. Structure and gait mechanics seem all - important, and the analysis and evaluation of the mouth is left to the judge.

The purpose of this article is threefold:

- A. To outline the development of the ideal dentition in the German Shepherd Dog
- B. To present an overview of deviations and malalignment of teeth
- C. To make recommendations for prevention and management of minor dental conditions.

A. DEVELOPMENT OF THE IDEAL DENTITION

All teeth are highly specialized structures that serve for offense and defense, manipulation of food, and transport of objects. The individual teeth, both deciduous and permanent, vary in size and shape according to their location and function. It is most convenient to divide the arch on each side into four major areas:

INCISORS (I) CANINE (C) PREMOLAR (PM) MOLAR (M)

I. Deciduous Teeth

The first set of teeth begins to erupt shortly after birth and are known as deciduous or baby teeth (also may be referred to as primary teeth). Observant breeders should be able to feel the primary incisor teeth erupting at three weeks. By the end of the first month one can expect to see the newly erupted central and intermediate incisors (2nd in line) plus all four deciduous canines. The corner incisors (3rd in line) erupt during the 5th and 6th weeks. The entire deciduous set of teeth is usually completed by the end of the eighth week with the eruption of the deciduous premolars. (Figure 1)

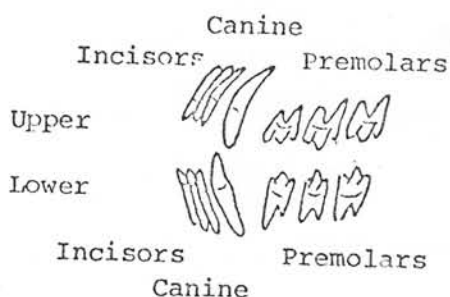


Figure 1

Complete Deciduous
Dentition

The very rapid growth of the German Shepherd puppy is graphically demonstrated by the expanding jaw structure. Soon after their eruption the deciduous premolars begin to look very small and spaced apart. At about the same time as the deciduous premolars are erupting (2 to 4 months) the permanent incisors are beginning to resorb (dissolve) the roots of the deciduous incisors as they move into the mouth (2 to 5 months).

The fully erupted permanent dentition is normally completed by 7-8 months of age.

II. Permanent Teeth

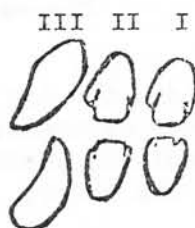
a. Incisor Area

Each upper incisor is slightly larger and forward of its lower opponent. There are three incisors on each side of both the upper and lower jaws (total 12 incisors).

1. The incisors nearest the middle of the mouth (midline) are called central incisors or incisor I.
2. The second incisors are called the intermediate incisors or incisor II.
3. The third incisors are called the corner incisors or incisor III.

The second incisors are slightly larger than the central incisors. The corner incisors are much larger and longer than either incisor II or I. The corner incisors resemble the canines as they are more pointed and curve backward and parallel to the canines. (Figure 2)

UPPER



LOWER

Figure 2

The combined function of these 12 incisors in a correct scissor bite is to grip, tear, and shear. All who have seen working German

Shepherd Dogs herd sheep have seen the value of these teeth and their functional use. Puppies nipping at your heels, and older dogs aiming for higher targets certainly demonstrate the usefulness of the incisor teeth and the scissor bite. The last and perhaps most valuable use of these twelve teeth is watching as efficient whelping bitch bite through the umbilical cord of her newborn pup. Pity then the bulldog owner.

b. Canine Area

There are two canine teeth in both the upper and lower jaws (total 4 teeth). The canine teeth are without exception the longest and strongest teeth in the mouth of the German Shepherd Dog. Their structural proportion may be compared to that of an iceberg; with approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of their length imbedded in dense supporting bone, their strength and stability is further enhanced by their backward curvature. As the mouth closes, the upper canines slide into position behind the lower canines. (Figure 3)



Figure 3

This closing pattern provides the dog with the ability to bite deeply into any object and prevents escape or loss of the object. The biting force and depth of the resulting wound is certainly evident when observing a dogfight or cleaning up the loser.

c. Premolar Area

There are four premolar teeth on each side of both the upper and lower jaws in the ideal German Shepherd Dog Dentition (total 16 premolars). (Figure 4)

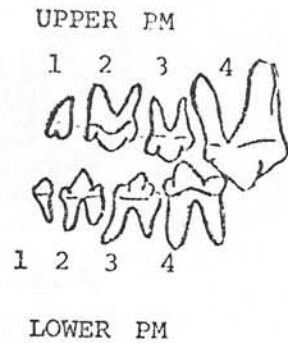


Figure 4

1. The 1st premolars are the smallest, peg-like in form, and often referred to as the "buttons". They erupt into a previously unoccupied space - in other words, they do not enter the mouth following the loss of a deciduous premolar. They often erupt before the 1st deciduous premolars are lost.
2. The 2nd and 3rd premolars, upper and lower, are very similar in size and form. They are all pyramid shaped and slope diagonally backward. They usually have two strong roots.
3. The 4th premolars in the upper jaw are the largest cutting teeth in the upper jaw. They are often referred to as the carnassial teeth or shearing teeth. Each has three bulky roots that are cone-shaped and widely spaced.
4. The 4th premolar in the lower jaw resembles the lower 2nd and 3rd premolars. Although they are larger than the other 3 premolars, they are not considered as the carnassial teeth of the lower jaw. They usually possess two roots.

When one looks at the relationship of the upper and lower premolars to one another one might question their function. The function of these non-occluding or imperfectly occluding teeth is to grasp, puncture or shear. This space has been called the "carrying space". When the canines are locked together they will prevent the escape of anything in the carrying space. We have all played tug-of-war with puppies only to discover they were able to hold onto a towel or bone better than we could.

d. Molar Area

The teeth in the molar area have no deciduous predecessors. There are three molars on each side of the lower jaw and two on each side of the upper jaw. The chewing surfaces of these teeth are very irregular, multi-lobed and variable in height. The front parts are at a higher level than the back part. (Figure 5 & 6) All these variable surfaces do not contact their opposing counterparts as the upper molars overlap the lower molars on the cheek-side. (Figure 7)



Upper Molars

Fig. 5



Lower Molars

Fig. 6



Molar Function

Fig. 7

The lower 1st molar is the largest tooth in the lower jaw, usually twice as large as the other two molars. It is the carnassial tooth of the lower jaw. The front half of this strong tooth is sharp and pointed and especially able to shear food. The back half of this tooth is irregularly flattened and useful in grinding and crushing. (Figure 6)

All the permanent teeth are developing at birth and their presence (or absence) can be demonstrated by several x-ray technics. Your veterinarian should be consulted if you would like an early determination of mature dental development (ie when selling an eight week old puppy guaranteed to be a "show puppy"). The same x-ray technics can be valuable in determining late eruption chances on a 6 month old puppy with unerupted permanent premolars and retained primary molars.

Average eruption times of the permanent teeth are as follows:

<u>Tooth</u>		<u>Eruption Time</u>	<u>Number Present</u>
INCISORS	central	2-5 months	4
	intermediate	2-5 months	4
	corner	4-5 months	4
	canine	5-6 months	4
PREMOLARS	#1	4-5 months	4
	2	6 months	4
	3	6 months	4
	4	4-5 months	4
MOLARS	1	5-6 months	4
	2	6-7 months	4
	3 (lower)	6-7 months	4
			<u>2</u>
			42 Total

Of particular interest is the tendency for the 4th premolars to erupt at the same time as the 1st premolars, and several weeks before the 2nd and 3rd premolars erupt. If a puppy has well erupted 2nd and 3rd premolars but does not show 1st and 4th premolars there is cause for concern.

III. Normal Occlusion

The normal occlusal pattern refers to the ideal functional relationship of the upper and lower jaws to one another. The standard

of the German Shepherd Dog (as well as the majority of all breeds in the herding/working groups) specifies a scissor bite with the inner surface of the upper incisor touching the outer surface of the lower incisors. The majority of all observed defects involve either the incisor teeth or the comparative length of the upper and lower jaws. (Figure 8)

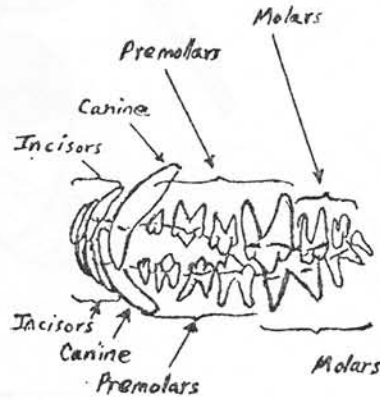


Figure 8

Complete Functional
Permanent Dentition

Stay tuned for further editions of FACTS FROM THE TOOTH FAIRY:

April: Deviations in Dental Development

May: Prevention and Management of Minor Dental Problems



LOUISE:
YOU MUST PROMISE ALL
WHO LOVE YOU



Please

NO

More

Gum

Juicy Fruit Gum

GET WELL SOON

LOVE,

DON AND ALICE



HARBISON'S CARRIE BABY

Owner: Elaine Harbison
Sire: Beowolf v Beethoven
Dam: Bella v Beethoven
Fuzzy Friends Obedience Match Jan. 10
Judge: Cynthia Harrell
Novice A Score: 174½ 3rd Place

Judge: Martin Schnitker
Pre-Novice Score: 153

WITTHAUS FIRST LADY, TC

Owners: Marcia Hadley & Gina Black
Sire: Am/Can Select Ch. Bel-Vista's Joey Baby ROM
Dam: Von Purdum's Song of Sybil
Fuzzy Friends Obedience Match Jan. 10
Judge: Martin Schnitker
Pre-Novice Score: 148

Fuzzy Friends Herding/Working Group Match
Judge: Carol McCarthy
American Bred Bitch--3rd Place

Judge: Gail Miller
Novice Junior Handler--1st Place with Gina Black

BLACK OAK'S DEMONFIRE SANTANA, TC

Owner: Marcia Hadley
Sire: Am/Can Ch. Parkerhaus Arby
Dam: Witthaus First Lady, TC
Fuzzy Friends Herding/Working Group Match Jan. 11
Judge: Carol McCarthy
Bred By Exhibitor Bitch--1st Place

BLACK OAK'S SHADOWS OF JUDEEN

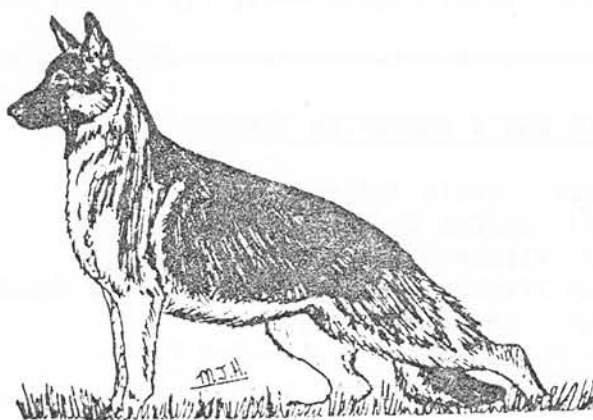
Owners: Marcia Hadley and Julie Harbison
Sire: Ch. Caralon's Nicholas of Judeen, CD
Dam: Witthaus First Lady, TC
Fuzzy Friends Herding/Working Group Match Jan. 11
Judge: Carol McCarthy
Open Bitch--1st Place and Best of Breed

Judge: Linda Robey
Herding Group -- 2nd Place

Judge: Gail Miller
Junior Showmanship
Open Senior Handler--1st Place
Best Junior Handler
With JULIE HARBISON

BLACK OAK'S CLASSICAL JUDEEN

Owners: Marcia Hadley and Gina Black
Sire: Ch. Caralon's Nicholas of Judeen, CD
Dam: Witthaus First Lady, TC
Fuzzy Friends Herding/Working Group Match Jan. 11
American Bred Bitch--1st Place



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DOG'S NAME _____

SIRE _____ DAM _____

SHOW _____ JUDGE _____

DATE _____ CLASS ENTERED _____ PLACING _____

OBEDIENCE SCORE _____ TITLE COMPLETED _____

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