



## Wag 'N' Tongue

A publication for the  
German Shepherd Dog Club of St. Louis, Inc.  
May, 2013

Club Hot Line Number (314) 772-8885

Club Web Site Address: <http://www.gsdcastl.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 **second Wednesday** 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.

### Change in Meeting Night

Several times, our meetings have included discussion on a change in the meeting night. At the April meeting, club members voted on this. Beginning in May (**May 8<sup>th</sup>**), our monthly club meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. They will still be held at the Dog Museum and begin at 8pm.

### Club Website

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

### Club Logo Change

After several months of deliberation and discussion, our club logo has been changed. The new logo is displayed on this page. Thank you, Elizabeth Stiefferman, for the design!

### May 11 and 12, 2013 Shows (3 Shows)

Conformation and Jr. Showmanship shows will be held outdoors at Purina Farms, up on the hill. Judges include: Peggy Kurz (GSDCA Regional) (Sat 10 a.m.); Lew Bunch (Sat 2 p.m.); and Karen Hynek (Sun 10 a.m.). Junior Showmanship Judges: (same judge as for breed).

**There will be NO All Breed Obedience and Rally.**

For more information contact: Gail Stiefferman HOME: 636- 274-3292 CELL: 314- 660-3305 or Steve Dobbins. Show Secretary is Judy McDowell, 421 North Stone Street, Centralia, Missouri 65240, 573-682-5774.

### 2013 Annual Club Awards

After having to delay our annual awards due to bad weather in February, it was decided that we would combine the awards presentation with the December Christmas party, which had also been cancelled, into one event on March 29, 2013 at the AKC Museum of The Dog. We had a great turnout for these events, with over 40 members, and friends in attendance. It was great to see so many there to enjoy the night. We started by having dinner, and the food was fantastic. The Stiefferman's prepared and brought the ham, and many people brought side dishes, and desserts to share. I doubt that anyone left hungry.

Dinner was followed by the Awards Presentation. We started with a tribute to two much loved members we have recently lost, Carl Foster and Ilona Horn, who will be sorely missed. I then shared some information I had gathered about Royal Hecht, who the original BBE award was named for. I discovered that Royal Herbert Hecht lived in Berkley, Missouri, was a WWI Veteran, and was married with two children. Those who remembered stated that he showed his dogs in the BBE classes. He died in December, 1961 at the age of 64 years from pancreatic cancer. Not sure when the original award was given, but if

it was in the year following his death, 2012 would be the 50<sup>th</sup> year we have done these awards.

We had several winners this year, and I am so proud of each and every one. For me, the highlight of the awards this year was giving the GSDC of St. Louis Service Dog Breeder Award to Gail Rutter. This rarely given award honors the breeder who has a dog enter active service to man in the club year. Service to man can be Police, K-9, Search and Rescue, guide dogs, medical service dogs, etc. Gail had no idea she had earned this award. Trying to keep it secret, and asking repeatedly if she were coming, had me on pins and needles. Gail is usually my much appreciated "helper" on awards night, and as usual she came up, and asked if she could help with anything. This was the first time I told her: "No, I have it covered." Gee that was hard, but I did not want her to accidentally see the list, the speech, or the awards. I sure hope she now understands why I refused her help this year... SURPRISE!! The look on her face was well worth it, as was handing her this well-deserved award for breeding a dog who makes such a difference in his disabled owner's life.

We have decided to do the club raffles again to help raise money to help pay for the club's and annual K-9 Awards like we used to do. Dr. Pat Parsons, Geralyn Bolhofner, and I brought items to raffle at the party. They included GSD figurines, ornaments, and candles, books about dogs, an American Flag wind chime, stationary, and even a pair of Foster Grant Aviator sunglasses.

I heard we made \$172.00 on the raffle, and thanks to Elizabeth and Butch for selling tickets, and to Adelle's little girl for drawing the numbers. These raffles are great fun. If you want to help out the club, please donate your items, dog-related or not, and we can possibly cover the cost of the awards while having fun doing it.

I ended the presentation by thanking everyone for coming, to support and honor our member's dogs that titled. After 26 years as the Awards Chair, I announced that I am stepping aside, so someone else can enjoy doing this wonderful committee. If you are interested in giving it a try, please call our President, Butch Stiefferman. I, of course will be happy to show the ropes to the new Chair. I was grateful and humbled by the standing ovation I received. It has truly been a labor of love for me, and I hope someone will enjoy it as much as I did.

~~ Respectfully submitted, Marcia Hadley, Awards Chair from 1986 to 2012.

### **Club Award Recipients**

#### **Canine Scent Work~ Odor Recognition Tested**

J~Mac's Rocket J Shepherd, CGC, TDI, RN, TDIA, TDIAOV, ORT(b) "Rocky"

Owner: Judy Mc Dowell

Mari~Fiori's RamjeTeko Of Prairie Home, HIC, HT, ORT(b), CGC "Teko"

Owner: Judy McDowell

#### **Herding Tested, and Canine Good Citizen**

Mari~Fiori's RamjeTeko Of Prairie Home, HIC, HT, ORT(b), CGC "Teko"

Owner: Judy McDowell

#### **GSDC of St. Louis 2012 Best Puppy Award**

Cimarron's Mayhem Like Me "Mayhem"

Owner: Steve Dobbins

#### **Royal Hecht 2012 Bred By Exhibitor Award**

Cimarron's Don't Stop Believin' "Dingleberry"

Owner: Steve Dobbins

#### **Certified Medical Alert Service Dog:**

Nemo's "The Rock" "Rockey"

Owners: Dannie Roseman and Carol Sears

#### **GSDC Of St. Louis Service Dog Breeder Award 2012**

Gail Rutter ~ NEMO Shepherds

#### **Champions**

Ch. Caralon QED Faithrock Aquilla "Quilli"

Owners; Helen Sherlock, Dr. Pat Parsons, D. Atkinson

Ch. Forest Knoll's Dark Knight v Hadori "Nick"

Owners: Gail Butch, and Elizabeth Stiefferman, and K. and F. Fasano

Ch. Cimarron's Any Way You Want It "Journey"

Owner: Steve Dobbins

Ch. Forest Knoll's When It's Right V Hadori "Jessie"

Owners: Butch, Gail, and Elizabeth Stiefferman

#### **GRAND Champions:**

GCh. Marquis' Horse With No Name "Caballo"

Owners: Dan and Liana New Liz Oster, and Judy DeRousse

GCh. Cimarron's I Won't Back Down "Butkus"

Owner: Steve Dobbins

GCh. Leibchen's Shebearazade v Winsome "Peanut"

Owners: Elizabeth Stiefferman and K. and F. Fasano

GCh. Cimarron's Learning To Fly "Flyer"

Owner: Steve Dobbins

GCh. RR Bar's Puttin' On The Ritz "Topper"

Owners: Rosalind and Jeanne North

#### **United States Select**

2012 # 7 US Select Excellent GCh. Leibchen Shebearazade v Winsome "Peanut"

Owners: Elizabeth Stiefferman, and K. and F. Fasano

2012 # 7 US Select Ch. Forest Knoll's When It's Right V Hadori "Nick"

Owners: Gail, Butch, and Elizabeth Stiefferman and K. and F. Fasano

2012 # 7 US Select Ch. Forest Knoll's When It's Right V Hadori "Nick"

Owners: Gail, Butch, and Elizabeth Stiefferman and K. and F. Fasano

2012 # 9 US Select Ch. Hadori's Secret Agent 007 v Forest Knoll

Owners: Greg Harrison and G. and P. Szymczak

#### Canadian Select

2012 # 2 Canadian Select, 3 X's Can. Sel. 2 X's US Select Excellent

Ch. High Cliff Free 'N' Easy, ROM "Fletcher"

Owners: Greg Harrison and Liana New

#### REGISTER OF MERIT

Ch. Hadori's When It's Love, ROM "Val"

Owners: Gail, Butch, and Elizabeth Stiefferman, and Greg Harrison

3 X's Can.Sel. 2 X's US Sel.Ex. Ch. High Cliff Free 'N' Easy, ROM "Fletcher"

Owners: Greg Harrison and Liana New

#### **Health Matters – Prevention Health Matters**

There is a large selection of heartworm, intestinal parasite, flea, and tick prevention products on the market. No one product is perfect for all dogs because each dog – and its companion family – has a different lifestyle and needs.

Modern heartworm preventive medications provide additional benefits to control intestinal parasites in our animal companions. The incidence of companion animal intestinal parasite infection has increased because:

1. Dogs travel with their families to warm weather during the winter months. The burden of intestinal parasites is higher in warmer climates.

2. Working or traveling families often use day care/boarding facilities to offer their dogs exercise and environmental enrichment. Although these facilities diligently disinfect their environments, no disinfectant will kill all parasite eggs. Many of these facilities require year-round prevention for their clients as a means of additional protection for your dog (and your children, who are susceptible to intestinal parasite infection.)

Increased intestinal parasite burdens in our companion dogs are a danger to young children, and to adults who are immunosuppressed (HIV, autoimmune diseases, chemotherapy patients, pregnant women.) None of us wants to risk the health of those we love when we can easily protect our dogs from intestinal parasites with year-round treatment.

A newly identified resistant strain of heartworm found in Georgia, now being used in FDA studies, has prompted the FDA to institute tougher standards for heartworm preventives on the market. We do not know the prevalence of this strain yet, but we do know that we have a higher

incidence of heartworm in our part of the country since Hurricane Katrina. Many heartworm-infected homeless dogs were brought to Chicago for adoptions, and therefore our Chicago mosquitoes (the transmitters of heartworm) became infected. Since the institution of these more stringent FDA standards, new products will need to be administered for 3 months after a pet's final seasonal exposure to mosquitoes (instead of the current one month post exposure), which means giving preventive for 9 months instead of 7. With this in mind, as well as the intestinal parasite issue, *it is prudent to stay on prevention year round.*

Below is a list of the brands of heartworm/flea/intestinal parasite preventives. Please speak with your veterinarian about which products are the best choice for your dog and your family.

**Oral heartworm/parasite products:** *Heartguard* - heartworm, roundworm, 2 types of hookworm prevention.

*Interceptor* - heartworm, roundworm, one type of hookworm, whipworm prevention. *Comfortis* - flea control only. *Trifexis* - heartworm, roundworm, one type of hookworm, whipworm, and flea control.

**Topical heartworm / parasite products:** *Revolution* - heartworm, flea, ear mites and Sarcoptic mange. *Advantage Multi* - heartworm, flea, roundworm, one type of hookworm, whipworms.

**Topical Flea / Tick Products** (no heartworm preventive):

*Frontline* – this is the safest topical flea/tick product to use if you also have cats. *K9 Advantix* - this is the product of choice for flea/tick control in dogs. *Advantage*- flea control only.

#### **A Little Bit of GSD History**

Max Emil Friedrich von Stephanitz was born in Dresden, Kingdom of Saxony, into German nobility on December 30, 1864. Although he wished to become a farmer, his family was opposed to this choice and Stephanitz ultimately became a career cavalry officer. During his cavalry travels he observed the different shepherd dogs working throughout the countryside. While in the Cavalry he spent time serving at the Veterinary College in Berlin gaining valuable knowledge about biology, anatomy, and the science of movement. In 1898 von Stephanitz was promoted to Captain. Meantime, Stephanitz purchased a large estate near Grafrath where he would spend the remainder of his life developing, writing, and training what was to become the German Shepherd Dog.

Stephanitz enjoyed attending dog shows where he was struck by the wolfish appearing dogs with prick ears who exhibited intelligence, sharp senses, willingness to work and trainability. While attending a fair in 1899, von Stephanitz saw a large, compact, wolfish grey dog that immediately stuck him as a dog exemplifying the ideals he was seeking. Von Stephanitz purchased the dog whose name was Hektor Linksrhein. Stephanitz changed the dog's name to Horand von Grafrath who would become

the first registered German Shepherd Dog of a newly formed club.

Captain Max Von Stephanitz, known as the "Father of the Breed" in Germany, is pictured here judging the Kennel Show, "Morris and Essex" which was established by Mrs. Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge. The year is 1930. Captain Von Stephanitz critiqued each dog and bitch despite the large entry. In fact, there were so many entries, Captain Von Stephanitz judged all males the day before so that two judges would not be needed.

Von Stephanitz was invited to judge by Mrs. Dodge and she saw to it that the Captain was entertained while in America. The polo fields where Morris and Essex was held was located on the grounds of Mrs. Dodge's estate in New Jersey. The Morris and Essex was not held in the years from 1941 through 1945 due to World War II. The site was used for top secret meetings during the war.

Mr. Dodge was owner and President of Remington Arms Company, which supplied the majority of the arms and ammunition used by the US during the war. General Eisenhower met there with his War Department staff and ultimately became a close friend of Mr. Dodge.

#### GSD Standard (Cont'd)

**Head:** The head is noble, cleanly chiseled, strong without coarseness, but above all not fine, and in proportion to the body. The head of the male is distinctly masculine, and that of the bitch distinctly feminine. The muzzle is long and strong with the lips firmly fitted, and its top line is parallel to the top line of the skull. Seen from the front, the forehead is only moderately arched, and the skull slopes into the long, wedge-shaped muzzle without abrupt stop. Jaws are strongly developed.

**Ears:** Ears are moderately pointed, in proportion to the skull, open toward the front, and carried erect when at attention, the ideal carriage being one in which the center line of the ears, viewed from the front, are parallel to each other and perpendicular to the ground. A dog with cropped or hanging ears must be disqualified.

**Eyes:** Of medium size, almond-shaped, set a little obliquely and not protruding. The color as dark as possible. The expression keen, intelligent and composed.

**Teeth:** - 42 in number - 20 upper and 22 lower - are strongly developed and meet in a scissors bite in which part of the inner surface of the upper incisors meet and engage part of the outer surface of the lower incisors. An over-shot jaw or a level bite is undesirable. An under-shot jaw is a disqualifying fault. Complete dentition is to be preferred. Any missing teeth other than first premolars is a serious fault.

**Neck:** The neck is strong and muscular, clean-cut and relatively long, proportionate in size to the head and without loose folds of skin. When the dog is at attention

or excited, the head is raised and the neck carried high; otherwise typical carriage of the head is forward rather than up, but a little higher than the top of the shoulders, particularly in motion.



#### Dog Show Classes

Dog shows (conformation events) are intended to evaluate breeding stock. The size of these events ranges from large shows, with hundreds of dogs entered, to small specialty club shows, with only German Shepherd Dogs. The dog's conformation (overall appearance and structure), an indication of the dog's ability to produce quality puppies, is judged. The dogs closest to the Breed Standard (written word picture of the German Shepherd Dog) on that day should be rewarded with wins and placements.

Each dog presented to a judge is exhibited ("handled") by its owner, breeder or a hired professional.

Most dogs in competition at conformation shows are competing for points toward their AKC championships. It takes fifteen points, including two majors (wins of three, four or five points) awarded by at least three different judges, to become a Champion. The number of championship points awarded at a show depends on the number of German Shepherd Dogs in competition. The larger the entry, the greater the number of points a male or a female can win. The maximum number of points awarded to a dog at any show is 5 points.

Males and females compete separately within their respective breeds, in seven regular classes. The following classes are offered, and are divided by sex:

**Puppy** - For dogs between six and twelve months of age, that are not yet champions (optional class).

**Twelve-To-Eighteen Months** - For dogs twelve to eighteen months of age, that are not yet champions (optional class).

**Novice** - For dogs six months of age and over, which have not, prior to the date of closing of entries, won three first prizes in the Novice Class, a first prize in Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, or Open Classes, nor one or more points toward their championship (optional class).

**Amateur-Owner-Handler** - For dogs that are at least six months of age that are not champions. Dogs must be

handled in the class by the registered owner of the dog and is limited to exhibitors who have not, at any point in time, been a professional dog handler, AKC approved conformation judge, or employed as an assistant to a professional handler (effective January 1, 2009) (optional class).

**Bred By Exhibitor** - For dogs that are exhibited by their owner and breeder, that are not yet champions (optional class).

**American-Bred** - For dogs born in the United States from a mating which took place in the United States, that are not yet champions (mandatory class).

**Open** - For any dog of the breed, at least 6 months of age (mandatory class).

After these classes are judged, all the dogs that won first place in a class compete again to see who is the best of the winning dogs. Males and females are judged separately. Only the best male (Winners Dog) and the best female (Winners Bitch) receive championship points. The **Winners Dog** and **Winners Bitch** then compete with the champions for the Best of Breed award. At the end of the Best of Breed Competition, three awards are usually given:

**Best of Breed** - the dog judged as the best in its breed category.

**Best of Winners** - the dog judged as the better of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch.

**Best of Opposite Sex** - the best dog that is the opposite sex to the Best of Breed winner.

**How Many Teeth Do Dogs Have**

**Puppy Teeth:** When a puppy is born, it doesn't have a tooth in its head – they won't start appearing until he's around two or three weeks old. The teeth will keep coming until he has a full set of puppy teeth, of which there are only 28. As the puppy grows, he will start to lose these teeth as the adult teeth come through and push them out, making way for the full set of 42.

**The Incisors:** The incisors are the small, sharp teeth at the very front of the dog's mouth – there are six in the upper jaw and six in the lower jaw. If you've ever seen a dog strip a bone completely clean of every scrap of meat by tearing it off, it's the incisor teeth that get the job done.

They're also the teeth a dog will use when he grooms himself – when you see him biting at his coat, he's using his incisor teeth to help get rid of burrs and fleas, etc. If you notice that your dog is regularly biting at his skin in this way, it could be an indication that he has a skin irritation, so do take a closer look for yourself, or get it checked out by your veterinarian.

**The Canines:** Also known as 'fangs', the canine teeth are

used for biting into things – these are the teeth which have the ability to pierce or break stuff. There are two canine teeth in the upper jaw and two in the lower jaw, located at either side of the incisor teeth.

**The Premolars:** Give your dog a chew toy, and it's the premolar teeth that will get to work on it first. There are 16 of these teeth, eight in the upper jaw and eight in the lower jaw, located behind the canines.

**The Molars:** Give a dog a bone and it's the molar teeth that will do all the work. These teeth are used for chewing, and breaking apart, hard items such as bones. Even in a small dog, the molars are very powerful and can make short work of bones and hard biscuits or chews. There are 10 molars in total; two are located on either side of the top jaw and three on either side of the lower jaw.

**Parent Club News**

**NATIONAL SPECIALTY SHOW –**

**October 7 - 12, 2013**

**Dream Park - Gloucester County New Jersey**

**On 10/11/13 at 7 pm in the at the Host Hotel ballroom, the Centennial will celebrate the founding of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America in 1913. <http://www.germanshepherd100years.com/> GSDCA members, guests, fanciers, state and local dignitaries, lovers of the German Shepherd Dog and the press will gather at the National Specialty in Swedesboro, NJ to honor and celebrate our great breed.**

The Conformation and Performance Events will be held at Dream Park, Gloucester County, NJ, conveniently located within 8 minutes of the host hotel. The Annex Room at Dream Park will feature a historical display entitled "The Early Years". You will be introduced to the founders of our National Club and interesting historical data surrounding our founding in 1913. Historian Tom Brown, has gathered letters, documents, and pictures which will be featured in a Historical Booklet!

**THE GSDCA NATIONAL WILL BE HELD AT  
PURINA FARMS IN GRAY SUMMIT, MO IN 2014,  
2015, AND 2016!**

**Gail Rutter, Editor**

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