



WAG 'N' TONGUE

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

October 2011

Club Hot Line Number (314) 772-8885

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.

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 meeting will held on Thursday, October 20th to accommodate a special educational program!

NOTE DATE CHANGE!

Club Member Reminders.....

Thursday, October 20 - Regular Club Meeting, 8 pm at AKC Museum of the Dog

Sunday, October 30 - AKC Sanctioned Puppy Match at Arnold Park

Friday, November 18 - Regular Club Meeting, **7:30 pm** at AKC Museum of the Dog.

Friday, December 11 - Christmas Party (in lieu of monthly club meeting). Details TBA.

Educational Programs

Dr. Laura Pletz will present a program on **THURSDAY, October 20th** on Degenerative Myelopathy - **Please plan to attend!** Dr. Pletz, also, holds a radio talk-show on 550 KTRS, Saturday's from 9-10 am.

At our November meeting, we will start at 7:30 pm. The program will be given by Betty Sill on K9 Nose Work, which is the sport created by K9 Nose Works and sanctioned by the National Association of Canine Scent Work (NACSW). This sport was inspired by detection style training for working K9s and has elements that are founded in that type of training and work. The terms nose work, fun nose work, scent work, and, search work are all commonly used references to describe any activity where the dog is using its nose to locate a target scent or odor. K9 Nose Work is the term that defines this detection-inspired sport.

If you have suggestions, please contact Helen Rockman 314-966-8949 msbriannasmom@att.net.

AKC Sanctioned Puppy Match

Marcia Hadley is chairing our puppy match to be held at Arnold Park (Pecan Pavilion) on Sunday, October 30 (**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!**). Match judge will be Terra Fairburn. Judging starts at 11 am. Last year, our puppy match was held at the same Park - *Thank you for the use of the park, City of Arnold!* (# 1 Bradley Beach Rd) After Match Chili Lunch and Potluck - Bring a covered dish to share and your own drink. Please call Marcia Hadley, (314) 401-0721 for more details and to volunteer your help.

<http://gsdcstl.org/Match10302011.pdf>

Obedience Training

The Fall Obedience Class for All Breeds began September 7, 2011 and will be held every Wednesday at American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog. Classes will last for 10 weeks and are Available to the Public. For more information contact Dani Rosemann at Germanshepherdtrainer@yahoo.com (314) 772-8885. Application and details are located on the website.

2012 Board & Officers

If you're interested in serving as an officer or on the board next year, please contact Dani Rosemann (314) 772-8885. Election will be held at the regular January club meeting.

2012 Futurity/Maturity Shows

1. **South Pacific**, GSDC San Diego County, Sunday, March 25
2. **Mid-Pacific**, GSDC Reno, Friday, March 30
3. **Great Lakes**, GSDC Central Indiana, Friday, April 06
4. **Southwest**, GSDC San Antonio, Sunday, April 22
5. **Southeast**, GSDC of Memphis, TN, Sunday, May 6
6. **Northeast**, GSDC of S. New Hampshire, Thursday, May 10
7. **Mid Atlantic**, GSDC East Virginia, Monday, May 28
8. **Midwest**, GSDC- Wisconsin, Sunday, June 03
9. **Northwest**, GSDC Pacific Northwest, Sunday, June 17

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.

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.

Braggs ~ Win*Place*Show ~

Cimarron's Lovin' Touchin' Squeezin' (aka Charmin) won her Bred By class and went on for Winners Bitch, Best of Winners and Best of Opposite under judge Robert Caswell at the Three Rivers Kennel Club of Missouri. Again, this win was only a single point, but Charmin now has 9 points including a major. As the judge was handing me the BOW and BOS ribbons, I said to him "You thought about it, didn't you?" He said, "Yes, I almost gave her Best of Breed." Her brother, Cimarron's Any Way You Want It (Journey), took Winners Dog from the Am Bred class for his first point with Julia Foster-Hess showing him. /Steve d.
Sun, 18 Sep 2011 <http://www.cimarron-gsd.com/>

At this year's 2011 National Specialty in Topeka, KS
Sel EX #2 CH. HICLIFF'S FREE & EASY, Owners: Greg Harrison and Liana New.
3rd Place American Bred Dog: FOREST KNOLL WHEN IT'S RIGHT HADORI, Breeder/Owners. Gail & Herman Stiefferman & Elizabeth Stiefferman.

PLEASE SEND BRAGGS TO RUTTERGSD@HUGHES.NET

Thanks!~

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 Starckenberg, and Pilot III.

The first German Shepherd Dog exhibited in America was in 1907. 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.

The paths of German and American shepherds diverged after World War II. The Americans continued largely with the Pfeffer and Odin lines while in Germany the breed was in poor shape. Many dogs had been killed or destroyed due to lack of food. The best that was left was bred, frequently outcross breedings, since there was no great selection of line-bred stock. Soon the breeders had individual dogs dominant in the desired virtues. They then began to line-breed or inbreed so that by about 1949 quality specimens began to appear at German shows. The pedigrees of these "new" dogs were largely of the result of "type" breeding without the influence of Pfeffer but having the great dogs behind him. Prepotent sires emerged, Axel von der Deininghauserheide, Rolf vom Osnabruecker-land and Hein v. Richterback, representing preserved pre-war genetics.

Through Pfeffer, American breeders established a beautiful type. This was concentrated by inbreeding, and in combinations with descendants of his half-brother Odin vom Busecker-Schloss. Many

well-known kennels of the day, utilizing these lines were **Long-Worth**, founded by Lloyd Brackett, **Liebstraum**, owned by Grant Mann, and **Hessian**, owned by Art and Helen Hess.

In 1950's America, some breeders recognized the need for some infusion of outcross blood and this was done through Klodo Boxberg and Odin Stolzenfels lines which blended well with American taste for topline, croup length and rear angulation. The Axel/Rolf/Hein combinations were also brought in notably by Troll von Richterback. Troll, 1957 Grand Victor, had tremendous appeal. He was dominant in producing rear drive, hindquarter strength, muscle, bone, and head. He was also dominant in producing straight upper arm, weak ears, blues, and fading pigment.

During the 1960's there was an emergence of strong families of stud dogs. In Germany the SV was in control while in America breeders were open to follow their own preferences. Troll wielded a large amount of clout in America by producing the famous "F" litter Arbywood, including Fels, Field Marshall, Fortune and Fashion, bred by Lucy Woodard. This pedigree combined Odin Stolzenfels/Klodo Boxberg/Pfeffer/Utz as well as the Axel/Rolf/Hein combination. The Arbywood males contrasted with their pure American counterparts, being stallion males with the desired type.

Fortune was bred to Fran and Joan Ford's Frohlich's Elsa v Grunestal producing Lance of Fran-Jo, American and Canadian Grand Victor. Lance represented a new era in American shepherds - angulation, topline and sidegait. Lance's popularity in the sixties was also due to the American tendency to turn away from imports, perhaps due to cost and poor quality. Lance was geographically convenient to all parts of the U.S.A. and was widely used.

Lance produced many offspring which in turn became pillars of the breed in America, including Lakeside's Harrigan, Cobert's Reno of Lakeside, Eko-Lan's Morgan, Cobert's Golly Gee of Lakeside and Mannix of Fran-Jo. Important offspring of these dogs included Doppelt-Tay's Hammer and Hawkeye who figured prominently in the late seventies.

Also important during Lance's time was Yoncalla's Mike, a Bernd v Kallengarten grandson consolidating the Pfeffer/Odin blood. Mike was a potent sire transmitting balanced structure, rich color, strong bone and good feet. Mike's best known son was Grand Victor Hollamor's Judd whose daughters were also widely used. (*continued...*)

HEALTH MATTERS

American Heartworm Society Urges Pet Protection

If you think that fall signals the end of heartworm season, think again. [The American Heartworm Society \(AHS\)](#) cautions the pet-owning public that heartworm disease is not solely a summer threat.

Heart Worms is a deadly disease and is easy to prevent—but knowledge is needed to help all pet owners understand the importance of year-round protection and the importance of prevention.

Heartworm is everywhere. According to a

nationwide survey of more than 5,000 veterinary hospitals conducted by AHS in 2010, heartworm was confirmed in all 50 states.

Treatment is not a “fallback.” While heartworm disease in dogs can usually be treated, veterinarians have limited (*note: almost non-existent*) medication supplies, the treatment carries risks (careful monitoring and cage confinement are required for a month or more) and treatment can cost as much as \$1,000.

If owners fall back on heartworm prevention simply because of a season or date on the calendar, they may inadvertently put their pets at greater risk for developing the disease. For more information, owners should talk to their veterinarian or visit www.heartwormsociety.org.

GSD Standard

General Appearance - The first impression of a good German Shepherd Dog is that of a strong, agile, well muscled animal, alert and full of life. It is well balanced, with harmonious development of the forequarter and hindquarter. The dog is longer than tall, deep-bodied, and presents an outline of smooth curves rather than angles. It looks substantial and not spindly, giving the impression, both at rest and in motion, of muscular fitness and nimbleness without any look of clumsiness or soft living. The ideal dog is stamped with a look of quality and nobility—difficult to define, but unmistakable when present. Secondary sex characteristics are strongly marked, and every animal gives a definite impression of masculinity or femininity, according to its sex.

Temperament - The breed has a distinct personality marked by direct and fearless, but not hostile, expression, self-confidence and a certain aloofness that does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendships. The dog must be approachable, quietly standing its ground and showing confidence and willingness to meet overtures without itself making them. It is poised, but when the occasion demands, eager and alert; both fit and willing to serve in its capacity as companion, watchdog, blind leader, herding dog, or guardian, whichever the circumstances may demand. The dog must not be timid, shrinking behind its master or handler; it should not be nervous, looking about or upward with anxious expression or showing nervous reactions, such as tucking of tail, to strange sounds or sights. Lack of confidence under any surroundings is not typical of good character. Any of the above deficiencies in character which indicate shyness must be penalized as very *serious faults* and any dog exhibiting pronounced indications of these must be excused from the ring. It must be possible for the judge to observe the teeth and to determine that both testicles are descended. Any dog that attempts to bite the judge must be *disqualified*. The ideal dog is a working animal with an incorruptible character combined with body and gait suitable for the arduous work that constitutes its primary purpose.

Size, Proportion, Substance - The desired height for males at the top of the highest point of the shoulder blade is 24 to 26 inches; and for bitches, 22 to 24 inches. The German Shepherd Dog is longer than tall,

with the most desirable proportion as 10 to 8½. The length is measured from the point of the prosternum or breastbone to the rear edge of the pelvis, the ischial tuberosity. The desirable long proportion is not derived from a long back, but from overall length with relation to height, which is achieved by length of forequarter and length of withers and hindquarter, viewed from the side. (continued...)

Editor News

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

Please make note of the changes in October and November club meetings! Hope to see you at the Puppy Match - you don't have to have a puppy to attend - it's just FUN!

If some members prefer to have the newsletter e-mailed, please send me permission at ruttergsd@hughes.net or 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.

Gail Rutter, Editor