

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

Serving the Greater Washington Metropolitan Region (DC-MD-VA) since 1972



The Sheltie Seanachie

January 2017

www.potomacvalleyshetlandsheepdogclub.org



2017 Officers

Cathie Skoog, President
cathieskoog@verizon.net

Mike O'Shea, Vice President
Fran Beacham, Recording Secretary
Donna Richards, Corresponding Secretary
Jack Gurney, Treasurer

Members of the Board

Rich Gurney Debbie Lauritzen

PVSSC MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Monday at 7:30 pm at the Dunn Loring Fire House (2148 Gallows Rd, Dunn Loring, VA) except for March and July (no meetings) and December (Holiday Party). **NEXT MEETING is January 16.**

Meetings are open to the public. The Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club welcomes Sheltie breeders and fanciers, including those interested in conformation and performance events, and pet and Sheltie Rescue owners.

THE SHELTYE SEANACHIE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Donna Richards, Editor

The Sheltie Seanachie is the Club's Monthly Newsletter. It provides a forum for sharing information, discussing issues concerning the breed, and club activities.

Send brags and other items for the newsletter to the editor at dlrcpa@verizon.net or mail to Donna Richards, 1591 N Village Rd, Reston, VA 20194. The Newsletter is sent to members and friends preceding the meeting. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, please email the above address. Back issues of The Seanachie are available on the PVSSC website.

PVSSC Member Dan Snyder

On Monday December 19th, 2016 devoted husband and father, Dan, passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack. The only child to Frances and Louis Snyder, Dan is survived by his beloved wife, Janet Shatz Snyder, and three children Glenn, Elizabeth, and Sarah. An incredible musician, pool player, and father, Danny lifted everyone's spirit with his humor and profound love. He suffered from Parkinson's disease for five years and was dedicated to supporting the Parkinson's community.

Funeral services were held on Thursday December 22nd.

Memorial contributions may be made in Dan's name to Parkinson Foundation of the National Capital Area 8830 Cameron St. #201 Silver Spring, MD.



The Snyders and Sheltie "Harley" pose with Santa 2013

PVSSC Program Suggestions

The board has been researching ideas for programs to benefit the members. One possibility is a 4-hour pet first aid course taught locally in the Herndon area. The presenters are willing to schedule a special group class. The regular cost of \$79 per student for the session could be partly subsidized from the club treasury for club members, significantly lowering the member's cost to take the class.

The itinerary for the class includes:

Restraining and muzzling; Assessment for injury, wellness, vitals; Rescue breathing; CPR; Choking; Bleeding & shock; Insect stings and snake bites; Heat and cold injuries; Seizures

Suggestions for other programs and speakers would be welcomed by the board.

Santa Pictures

Enjoy these pictures from the November 2016 meeting.



Cataway's Pocontas

April 24, 2012 - November 29, 2016

Contributed by Debbie Lauritzen

My beautiful Tess is gone. She was four years, seven months and 5 days. My beautiful, way too smart, pain in the ass, I'll come in my own good time, thank you Tess, who had a bark like a Rottweiler, but that same bark meant "cuddle me" as much as it did "I'm gonna take you apart." She was a 35-pound lap dog who loved to cuddle. She was a guard dog who was ever diligent in getting behind me to tell me there was noise downstairs that I should investigate. A bird dog, a scent hound, a lure courser: when we moved to the country she showed attributes and potential of all these qualities. She was my pet; an easily trained bitch who had enormous potential had I the time and ability to work with her. Yet she was my constant companion with Jake, her half-uncle and "older brother," who wanted me to send her back the first week, then bonded so tightly that each was always near the other, and neither would come inside unless the other was there too.

Tess had a herding instinct that was evident when she was very young: once I took her in the ring for an actual test she had matured to the point where, taking one look at those big sheep and one look at me, she decided to stay beside her human. I had hoped to get her some lessons once things calmed down at the farm; now we will never know.

The vet said she had either a cardiac or a neurological event: we were in the yard, she had her leash on and I was getting ready to put my dogs in the car, when she jumped up with a cry, then was rolling on her back on the wet grass. Since she had had a bath a few days ago, I thought, oh no, dirty dog... When I saw her next she was lying a few feet away from the old red maple tree. I walked up to her—she was not moving and I thought she was "playing possum," why that phrase came to me I don't know—she was alive but unable to move, so I backed the car to where she was and barely managed to get her into the back seat. She was alive when we left for town but 8 minutes later when we pulled up at the vet's she was gone. Jake was in the back seat with her. He came into the vet's with me, and when I picked him up to say goodbye he looked away—he knew she was gone. That beautiful face, those amazingly expressive eyes—her spirit was gone—it was hard to say a prayer for her because it was clear she was already with God.

This is hard. I loved her so much and I thought the two of us would be together after Jake went to the Rainbow Bridge. I know I will see her in every corner; look up and wait for her to enter any room I am in. She was a gift from God, and I am struggling to accept that it was finite. Sleep well, Baby Girl, I love you.



PVSSC Brags

Gigi Lauritzen joined Debbie in December 2016. Please be sure to meet Gigi at the next meeting.



PVSSC Obedience-Rally Trials February 4 & 5, 2017 Catoctin Training Facility Point of Rocks, MD

PVSSC will host its 50th Obedience Trial on Saturday, February 4. We hope present and past members are able to join us for our celebration.

We have two great judges lined up who judge both obedience and rally: Ms. Linda Ferrullo of Newburgh, NY and Mr. Robert (Bob) Burgin of Cedar Rapids, IA.

This will be a two ring trial with one obedience and one rally trial held each day and run concurrently.

Obedience trial classes being offered are: Beginner Obedience, Novice, Open and Utility, and offering UDX.

Rally trial classes being offered are: Novice, Advanced and Excellent, as well as RAE.

The entry period has opened. A copy of the premium which includes an entry form are now available on the PVSSC website, or email the Trial Secretary Jack Gurney for a copy.

For questions on the trial or to volunteer to steward contact Cathie Skoog, the trial chair.

Canine Property Laws

This recent story in the Washington Post highlights that in most states and Canada, dogs are considered personal property. As such, custody agreements and similar arrangements do not apply nor would they be enforceable.

Alaska currently makes allowances to decide custody matters with the best interest of the pet in mind. The Georgia Supreme Court will soon hear a case to determine whether to change the personal property status or not.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/animalia/wp/2016/12/21/a-divorcing-couple-asked-a-judge-to-treat-their-dogs-like-children-here-was-his-reply/?tid=a_inl&utm_term=.e4a21c55a41b

More on Crime-Fighting Canines

This article first appeared in the November 2014 Seanachie but I visited the web site recently and discovered that a series of episodes is available to follow one of the classes through their training session. Click either the Virginia or Maryland teams to see the web series with Victoria Stilwell narrating.

Meet the Virginia and Maryland Arson dog teams. These canines are trained to detect the arsonist's tools of accelerants, and assist their handlers in investigating fire and bomb scenes. The Arson Dog Program was sponsored by State Farm Insurance in 1999, and over 325 dog teams have been placed in the United States and Canada. State Farm continues to sponsor teams that are likely to respond to at least 50 structure fires per year through an application process at the web site. The teams complete a four-week training program in Maine, and must re-certify each year. Only ten new teams are trained each year, so the waiting list is long. The dogs also assist with publication education seminars on fire safety.

<http://arsondog.org/about/active-teams/active-teams-virginia/>
<http://arsondog.org/about/active-teams/active-teams-maryland/>

Train Your Dog Month

January is National Train Your Dog Month. Here are some ideas from one of my new favorite blogs. Meet "The Super Collies".

<https://www.youtube.com/user/heroicmoments>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqmW9mwwxel>

Contribute to AKC Humane Fund By Completing Surveys

This notice from the AKC Newsletter January 6, 2017. I just completed a survey by answering a total of 2 questions, and \$.50 was contributed to the AKC fund. It's that easy!

AVAILABLE NOW

Participating in online surveys is a popular and easy way to support a favorite charity. Since 2011, the SurveyMonkey.com Contribute panel has contributed over \$9 million to a select group of organizations. We are delighted to report that the AKC Humane Fund has been invited to join SurveyMonkey.com Contributors' roster of not-for-profit organizations that are eligible for donations.

Click here to sign up for SurveyMonkey's survey panel, and for every survey you complete, SurveyMonkey will contribute \$0.50 to the AKC Humane Fund.

[Sign Up Here](#)

Canine Health Webinars

AKC offers live and archived health-related Webinars. You should definitely take advantage of this resource. Topics include "The Itchy Dog", "Joint Health in Dogs" and other relevant topics.

<http://www.akcchf.org/educational-resources/chf-and-vetvine-webinars.html>

Several state universities have also made available recorded webinars and articles on canine nutrition and related health topics that are available for viewing & listening here.

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/66407/canine-nutrition-webinars>

<http://articles.extension.org/category/dog>

U.S. Army Remount Station Front Royal VA

In the last few months, I read two fascinating horse books by author Elizabeth Letts. (I'll related this to dogs at the end, so just hang on.)

Her book "The Eighty-Dollar Champion" is the story of Snowman, a horse purchased for eighty dollars from the back of a truck destined for a meat packing plant. Snowman became legendary in the equestrian world of the 1950's and 1960's.

The most recent book "The Perfect Horse" is the edge-of-your seat history of how the Austrian Lipizzaner stallions, mares, and foals from Austria during World War II as well as a great number of Arabian and other prime horse breeding stock were saved by the U.S. Army ground forces in Germany under General George S. Patton.

Patton and others of the U.S. Army Cavalry officers have historically competed in the U.S. Equestrian Olympic teams events. Following the Civil War, the U. S. Army realized the need to keep a supply of good horse stock in readiness should the need arise. The Army started the "Remount" program under which stallions with desirable breeding characteristics owned by the Army would be cheaply rented out for stud to suitable mares owned by farmers and ranchers. You can read more of the history of the program here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army_Remount_Service

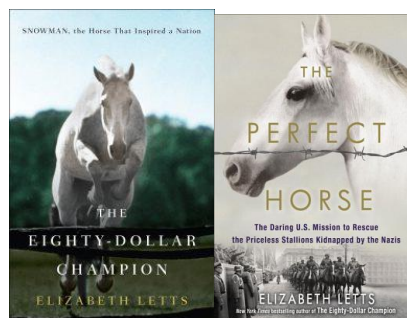
The Austrian Lipizzaners were returned to Austria, but the German Arabian and other horses were brought to the United States as "spoils of war" through the naval port at Newport News, VA and initially stabled at the Army Remount Station in Front Royal, VA.

The Army later reassigned the Remount program to the Department of Agriculture in 1948 and many of the horses were moved West.

Eventually the equine at Front Royal became the DHS Canine Training facility of today.

<https://www.tsa.gov/news/testimony/2016/03/03/hearing-dogs-dhs-how-canine-programs-contribute-homeland-security>

<https://www.cbp.gov/border-security/along-us-borders/canine-program/history-3>



Do YOU Have a NEW Email Address?

Send email address changes to
Donna Richards, PVSSC
Corresponding Secretary at
dlrcpa@verizon.net to
assure you receive club news.



January Events

- PVSSC Meeting January 16

Meeting Refreshments

Fran Beacham is our Refreshment Coordinator. *Thanks to everyone who volunteered refreshments for 2017*

2017

January meeting – Karen & Ken Schwartz
February meeting – Maribeth Keitz
March – no meeting
April meeting – Nancy Murray
May meeting – Cathie Skoog
June meeting – “potluck picnic”
July – no meeting
August meeting – Patrick Keough
September meeting – Marilyn Manser & Rich Gurney
October meeting – the Greens
November meeting – Chris Demoncada
December – no meeting
THANK YOU!

Reminder, beverages are not provided; water is available and there is a water/soda machine.

PVSSC Breed Referral Services

For information on
puppy and adult Shelties,
contact PVSSC members



Jan Stanley

703-281-2828

janstanley@verizon.net

or

Doey Blount

301-567-3933

jimjandoey@aol.com

Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue (NVSR)



NVSR rescues, rehabilitates, and places lost, abused, and abandoned Shelties where they will be loved, protected, and well cared for.

Visit the NVSR Website <http://www.nvsr.org/> to find out about activities, dogs for adoption, to support their activities, or even to see how you can volunteer!

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