

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



The Sheltie Seanachie

April 2018

www.potomacvalleyshetlandsheepdogclub.org



2018 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 Patrick Keough

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 APRIL 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 PVSSC.shelties@gmail.com 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.

April Meeting

See page 3 for an overview of the April Program. Please join us and bring a friend.

Paws in the Park

Please join PVSSC at Prince William Forest Park for "Paws in the Park" on Saturday April 28 10 am to 3 pm. This will be a "meet and greet" event for various clubs and vendors to celebrate National Parks Week. We would like to show off our Shelties and introduce others to the breed.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Prince William Forest Park
Triangle, VA 22172



Paws in the Park Prince William Forest Park

Saturday April 28th, 2018

10:00am to 3:00pm

Pine Grove

Celebrate National Parks Week with us at this family freindly event!

Promoting Responsible Pet Ownership in the Great Outdoors!

- Exhibitors
- Demonstrations
- Local Rescues
- Jr. Bark Ranger Program
- DOGS Got Talent Dog talent show
- One Day Only Off-Leash Dog Park

For more information please contact

Kerri Syrus at 703-221-4706 x224

kerri_syrus@nps.gov

www.nps.gov/prwi



General Howe's Dog

I saw this short video on the Pedigree web site recently and found the story to be fascinating. After the American defeat at the 1777 Battle of Germantown, a fox terrier belonging to the British general William Howe appeared in Washington's camp and was sent back to Howe by Washington under a flag of truce.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BR-fDmyHEzE>

<https://barkpost.com/george-washington-dog-ceasefire/>

You can read more about Washington's fondness for dogs and the breeds he kept from these articles.

<http://www.mountvernon.org/george-washington/biography/washington-stories/solider-statesman-dog-lover-george-washingtons-pups/>

<http://americacomesalive.com/2011/08/11/mystery-solved-washington-did-have-a-poodle/>

Department of the Interior

Honors their "Dogs on the Job"

<https://www.doi.gov/blog/interiors-best-friend-dogs-job>

Virginia Task Force 1

VA-TF1 has also been busy with canine search and rescue drills and training.

<https://twitter.com/vatf1?lang=en>

Updates from Science News Daily

Dog-directed speech: This research indicates "adult dogs need to hear dog-relevant words spoken in a high-pitched emotional voice in order to find it relevant."

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/03/180306115803.htm>

Noise sensitivity: "Dogs which show fear or anxiety when faced with loud or sudden noises should be routinely assessed for pain by veterinarians, according to new research."

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/03/180320100719.htm>

Older dogs cognitive training: "In the training lab, old dogs responded positively to cognitive training using educational touchscreen games."

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180207102219.htm>

Supplements for Canine Cognitive Dysfunction

Studies of a food supplement containing a blend of antioxidants, B vitamins, fish oil and L-arginine, appear to enhance mental ability and learning efficiency in Beagles aged 9-11.5 years.

https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/canine-corner/201801/can-food-supplements-protect-the-minds-aging-dogs?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A%20CanineCornerCS%20%28Canine%20Corner%29

PVSSC: Class Is In Session



DO you feel you don't have the time or skills to train your dog,
or do you think training is expensive?

Join us at our April 16, 2018 when the program will be on TRAINING.
We will show you how training doesn't take a lot of time and can be FUN

Cathie Skoog will present an overview of several "positive" canine dog training theories in preparation to "begin" training our dogs at meetings. The goal is to demonstrate how easy it is to train our dogs and how much fun it can be for us AND our pets. At each meeting we will learn a couple of new manners/skills or tricks. The training will culminate at the end of the year with dogs earning their AKC Canine Good Citizen and AKC Novice Dog Trick Titles. The CGC and Trick Titles go at the end of your dog's name.

Following the discussion on positive training techniques, we will begin training. So bring your dog's favorite treats and join us at our next meeting, on Monday, April 16.

Cathie has been a member of PVSSC since 2004. She is an AKC Canine Good Citizen and Trick Test Evaluator, an AKC Farm Dog Certification Judge and a WCRL Rally Judge. She is a member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT). Her dogs enjoy being trained and hold titles in obedience, rally, agility, herding, Barn Hunt, Course Ability and FastCAT.

The purpose of the PVSSC training is much more than passing the AKC CGC Test and earning Trick Titles. Most Shelties enjoy being trained. Shelties are a working breed and one of the more intelligent breeds; through training our dogs are happier, more alert and a bond is created with owners by working as a team. We want to help those interested in training by dedicating time to this important topic.

CANINE GOOD CITIZEN (CGC):

Dog owners strive to have a dog that is a joy to live with. A dog that is well-mannered at home and in the community. The AKC's Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program provides a good starting point for all dogs.

The CGC test is a nationally recognized program that instills a sense of responsibility and good manners in dogs and owners alike. The test consists of the following practical exercises:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Accepting a friendly stranger | 4. Walking on a loose leash | 8. Reaction to another dog |
| 2. Sitting politely for petting | 5. Walking through a crowd | 9. Reacting (or not reacting) to a distraction |
| 3. Appearance and grooming | 6. Sit and down on command | 10. Supervised separation. |
| | 7. Come when called | |

Dog Trick Titles: On May 1, 2017 the AKC launched the Trick Dog Program, in conjunction with "Do More with Your Dog!"

Trick training encourages "people to integrate their dogs into their lives in different ways through [positive training](#)" and provides exercise, mental stimulation and hopefully is a fun and rewarding experience for the dog and handler.

There are four levels of titles. Each level builds on the previous level and as a dog advances the levels have more difficult tricks:

- AKC Novice Trick Dog (TKN) - The dog performs 10 tricks from the Novice list. If a dog has a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certificate or title on record at AKC, it can do 5 Novice tricks (CGC + 5) to earn the Novice title.
- AKC Intermediate Trick Dog (TKI) - The dog must have the Novice title, plus perform 10 Intermediate tricks.
- AKC Advanced Trick Dog (TKA) - The dog must have the Intermediate title, plus perform 5 tricks from the Advanced list.
- AKC Trick Dog Performer (TKP) - In this title, handlers perform a short routine with at least 10 tricks previously learned.

AKC OFFERS RALLY CHAMPION TITLE (RACH) AND Two New Rally Titling Classes

Contributed by Cathie Skoog

The AKC made significant changes to its Rally Program that became effective November 1, 2017. These were the first changes to the program since its launch in 2005.

Besides making changes to the signs and adding new exercises, the AKC added three new titling classes: Rally Intermediate (RI), Rally Master (RM) and RALLY CHAMPION (RACH) – pronounced ROCK.

- **RALLY INTERMEDIATE (RI):** Previously after earning a Rally Novice Title (RN) the next step is to move to the Advanced (RA) class. Often times dogs aren't quite ready to move to the Advanced level, not because they can't do the exercises, but rather in Advance the dog is off-leash. With the establishment of Intermediate, now exhibitors have the option after Novice of entering **Rally Intermediate or Advanced**. The new RI class is for dogs that have won the Rally Novice title, but have not yet earned a qualifying score in the Advanced class. The Intermediate course is the same as the Advanced course but does not have a jump and the dog is "on" leash. Dogs do NOT have to earn the RI title prior to entering the Advanced class. To earn the RI title three qualifying legs must be earned, as with Novice, Advanced and Excellent Classes.
- **RALLY MASTER (RM):** The Rally Master Class is an exciting, new class with an increased level of difficulty. Ten (10) Qualifying scores must be earned to receive the RM Title.
- **RALLY CHAMPION (RACH):** To earn the RACH title, the dog/handler team must earn 20 triple qualifying scores at the same trial in Advanced B, Excellent B and Master, in addition to accumulating 300 points. Points are calculated by a dog's score in each class/trial. At least 200 points must be earned from the Rally Master class.

PVSSC offered the new classes at our February trials. If you have any questions please contact Cathie Skoog.



Strawberry Cluster held in Lakeland, FL Greater Ft. Myers Dog Obedience Club RALLY TRIALS February 19, 2018

Annie earned her Rally Intermediate (RI) Title

Mollie earned her FIRST Rally Master leg, placing Second. Since February 19, Mollie has earned two more Rally Master legs at the Sarasota Dog Obedience Training Club Rally Trials.



Das Hund Haus Barn Hunt Trials



Strawberry Cluster held in Lakeland, FL February 17, 2018

Mollie earned her OPEN Barn Hunt Title (RATO), placing FIRST and was the HIGH SCORING DOG in the Open Class.

Savannah placed THIRD. The qualifying score was her second OPEN leg.



TEMPERAMENT TEST AKC THERAPY DOG

Contributed by Cathie Skoog

**Strawberry Cluster held in Lakeland, FL
Lakeland-Winter Haven Kennel Club hosted
ATTS Temperament Tests
February 16, 2018**



Mollie and Savannah passed the Temperament Test (TT) given by the American Temperament Test Society, Inc (ATTS).

Mollie and Savannah enjoy going to visit seniors at Assisted Living Homes and the goal is for them to become certified Therapy Dogs.

WHAT IS A TEMPERAMENT TEST? A canine temperament test evaluates a dog's temperament and behavior in a variety of situations based on a standard test and observing the dog's reaction.

The following is taken directly from the ATTS website:

The ATTS test focuses on and measures different aspects of temperament such as stability, shyness, aggressiveness, and friendliness as well as the dog's instinct for protectiveness towards its handler and/or self-preservation in the face of a threat. The test is designed for the betterment of all breeds of dogs and takes into consideration each breed's inherent tendencies.

The test simulates a casual walk through a park or neighborhood where everyday life situations are encountered. During this walk, the dog experiences visual, auditory and tactile stimuli. Neutral, friendly and threatening situations are encountered, calling into play the dog's ability to distinguish between non-threatening situations and those calling for watchful and protective reactions.

Failure on any part of the test is recognized when a dog shows unprovoked aggression, panic without recovery, or a strong avoidance

Please note: Dogs must be at least 18 months old to take the ATTS test. Shelties are shy by nature so if you decide to test your dog, please make sure your dog is able to take the test without getting stressed. Mollie is 10 and Savannah is 7. Two years ago, Savannah would NOT have passed the test if she had taken it. I did NOT sign Annie up for the test, as she would have been frightened. Before you sign up for the test, review the test criteria and assess YOUR dog. If you have any questions, contact Cathie Skoog.

For more information regarding the test and to see a video of an ATTS Temperament Test, click on the following link:

<https://atts.org/tt-test-description/>

AKC Therapy Dog Program

WHAT IS A THERAPY DOG? Therapy dogs tend to be friendly, affectionate, gentle, and confident in all situations. They enjoy human contact and being handled, petted and sometimes in clumsy manner. The primary role of a therapy dog is to make physical contact with people by providing love and comfort to people in long-term care, hospitals, retirement homes, schools, mental health institutions, or stressful situations like natural disaster areas.

The AKC has an **AKC Therapy Dog Program**. The purpose of the program is to recognize owners and dogs who have given their time by volunteering as a therapy team. The recognition is in the form of AKC titles based on a number of visits.

For more information on the AKC Therapy Dog Program and requirements for earning titles, go to:

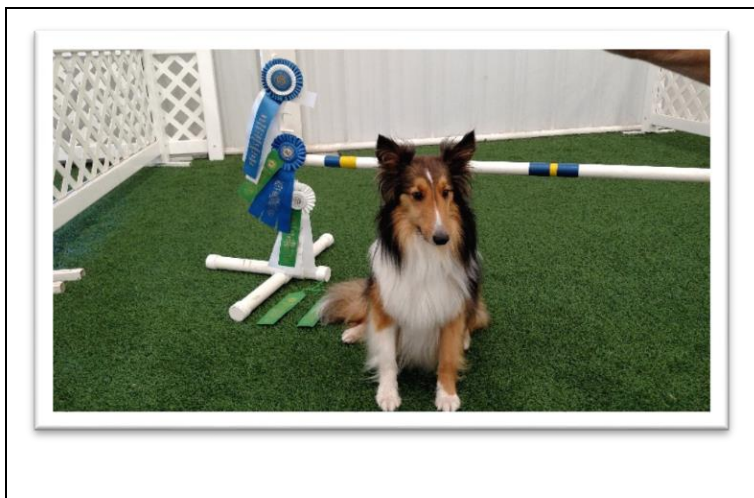
<http://www.akc.org/dog-owners/training/akc-therapy-dog-program/>

The AKC provides a list of recognized organizations with Therapy Dog Programs, at: <http://www.akc.org/events/title-recognition-program/therapy/organizations/>

PVSSC BRAGS

MACH2 Dixie Doodle RA HSAS MXS MJB2 MFS TQX T2B5 CGC earned her 2nd Master Agility Championship at the Oriole Dog Training Club trial in Timonium Maryland on the 29th of January 2018 and her Master Jumper Bronze 2 title completing her 125th Jumpers with weaves qualification.

Dobby's Shooting Star AX AXJ XF earned his Excellent FAST title on 28 January at the Oriole Dog Training Club trial in Timonium, MD.



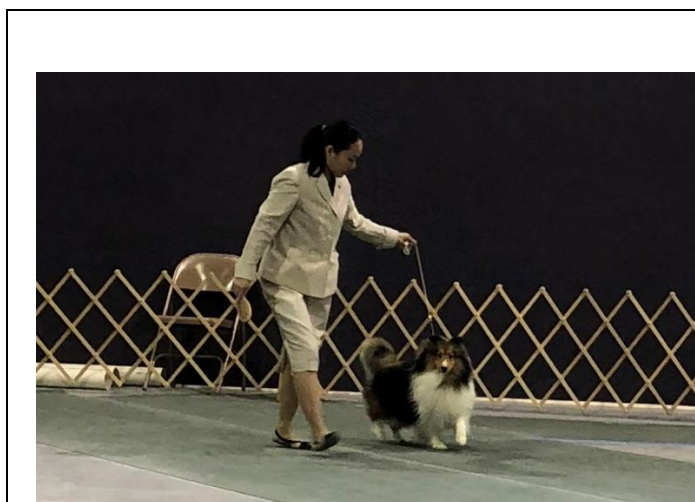
PVSSC SPECIALTY REPORT

Contributed by Debbie Lauritzen

The Specialties went off smoothly March 15 and 16. We had 5 point majors for both shows, thanks to the high number of entries.

Lillian Yeh did a fantastic job as Sweeps Steward, as well as providing much-needed assistance with getting our club banners in place and figuring out how to put up the judges parking sign. She did all this even while she had entered her dog in BOB Friday afternoon, and naturally needed to keep her mind focused on competition.

Club member Mary Stuller assisted Lynne Beard with stewarding on Friday, and also helped sell catalogs. Our Sweeps judge, Michelle Toczek, also help with the sale of raffle tickets on Friday, as she stayed over to watch the shows.



Do YOU Have a NEW Email Address?

Send email address changes to
Donna Richards, PVSSC
Corresponding Secretary at
PVSSC.Shelties@gmail.com to
assure you receive club news.



April Events

- American Red Cross Pet First Aid Awareness Month
- National Dog Bite Prevention Week April 8-14
- PVSSC Meeting April 16
- Paws in the Park April 28

Meeting Refreshments

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

2018

April – Cathie Skoog
May – Donna Richards
June – Picnic?
July – no meeting
August – Pat Keough
September – Marilyn Manser & Rich Gurney
October – Debbie Lauritzen
November – Judith Bienvenu
December – no meeting

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
SheltiesReign@gmail.com

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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