

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



The Sheltie Seanachie

October 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 TBD (vacancy)

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 OCTOBER 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.

October Farm Dog Certification

Join us at our October 16 Meeting when Farm Dog Certification Tester Cathie Skoog will provide information on the test elements. Members will work with our dogs in preparation for the PVSSC Farm Dog Certification Tests being held in conjunction with our Herding Trials on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at Keepstone Farm, Berryville, VA.

In order to enter the Tests, your dog must be registered with the AKC, recorded in the FSS program, have a PAL numbers OR be enrolled in the AKC Canine Partners Program. The cost of each test at our trials is \$45.

Also being offered at the Trials will be Trick Dog testing. The four AKC Trick titles include Novice Trick Dog (TKN), Intermediate Trick Dog (TKI), Advanced Trick Dog (TKA) and Trick Dog Performer (TKP).

You are invited to costume yourself and/or your Sheltie and enjoy the fun. A prize will be given for best human and best Sheltie costume.

Saturday, October 21

3 p.m. Howl-o-ween
Dog Costume Contest
4 - 8 p.m. Fall Fest

Fairfax County Park Authority kicks off Fall Fest with a dog costume contest at 3 p.m. Spooky mini-golf and haunted wagon rides are available from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

at the [Lake Accotink Park](#) Marina. Registered participants receive a trick-or-treat goodie bag! Bring flashlights to continue the adventure after sundown. Register separately for Howl-o-ween and Fall Fest.

[Register Online for Howl-o-ween](#)

[Register Online for Fall Fest](#)



September Swap Meet

Thanks to everyone for your generosity. It was a lot of fun looking at all the “stuff” and getting a few useful items for free. A surprising amount went home with new owners and the remainder is being donated.



Sandra Green checks out leashes



A plentitude of bowls, harnesses, collars and leashes on hand.



Marilyn Manser went home with this cute holiday item.

New Dog Merchandise

I received an e-mail from Bed Bath and Beyond with some interesting new products being advertised.

Barkbath by Bissell – “bath time without the tub”. It looks like a portable carpet cleaner for your dog! Selling for \$150.

Waterpik Pet Wand – high pressure WaterComb spray is good for rinsing out soap and dirt. Selling for \$30.

Obedience and Rally Regulation Changes Effective September 1, 2017

The following is a change to Regulations and was approved by the AKC Board at the August 2017 meeting. These regulation changes become effective **September 1, 2017**.

OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

Chapter 1. General Regulations

Section 10. Identification. Club clothing, AKC event clothing, or breed clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.

AKC RALLY REGULATIONS

Chapter 1. General Regulations

Section 9. Identification. Club clothing, AKC event clothing, or breed clothing may be worn by anyone exhibiting a dog or by ring stewards. Clothing may display the person's name, the dog's call name and/or the dog's picture. Titles may not be displayed. Writing or graphics on the clothing must not be in poor taste or contain profanity. Clothing must not display any information that would be in conflict with a sponsor of the trial.

Vaccinations and Autism

This debate has been in the public eye for children for the past few years. Now people have begun to question whether vaccines can cause autism in canines. The evidence is that it does not. Autism is apparently congenital, not environmental in dogs. You may have other factors to consider when deciding on vaccines, but this should not be something to worry about.

https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/canine-corner/201709/can-vaccinations-cause-autism-in-dogs?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+CanineCornerCS+%28Canine+Corner%29

Max, September 14, 2017



I had Max for 12 of his 16 years. He was born approximately June 1, 2001 and belonged to a teenaged girl for his first four years. When she went to college, her parents took him to the Animal Welfare League of Arlington.

Although it took a while to get him settled down, he became a marvelous companion and was an excellent traveler. We all drove to Denver CO to attend our nephew's graduation ceremonies. He enjoyed the beach and visiting our relatives in Pittsburgh. He was a real pleasure to take on trips.

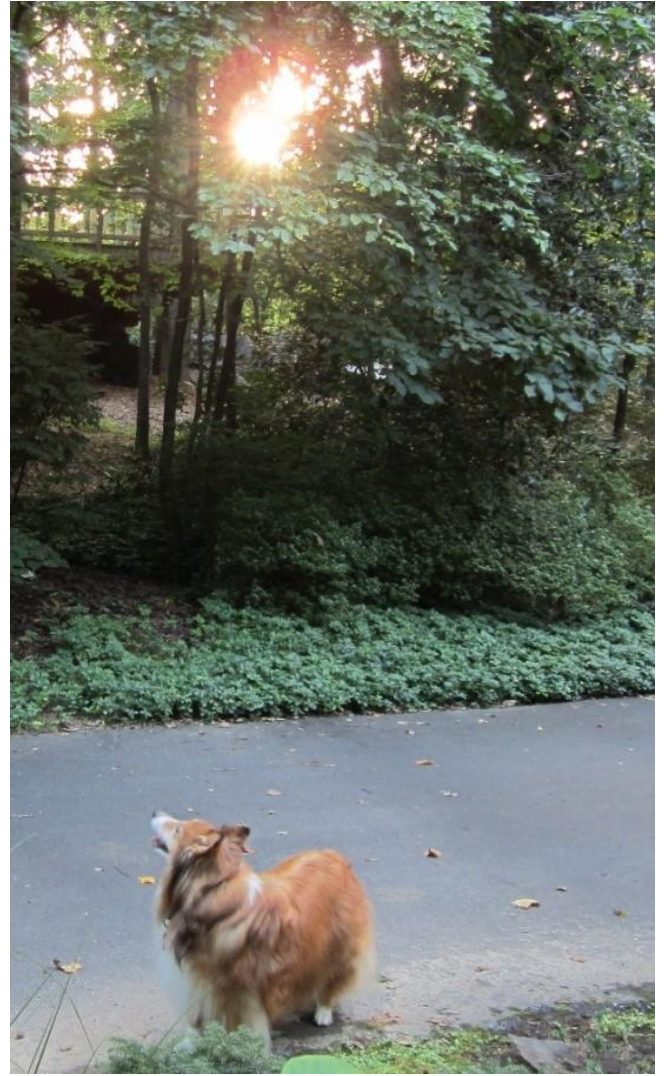


Max was well known around the neighborhood and always interested in meeting new dogs. He also accompanied me to work when circumstances allowed and knew who kept dog biscuits in their desks. As my first Sheltie, he was a great ambassador for the breed.



As Max aged, I marveled each time we passed another birthday. We continued to walk the neighborhood albeit slowly and for very limited distances. He was alert and affectionate through the morning of his last day.

When it's Time to Lead Them Home



Dog Haiku

Dusk falls, work is done.
I'll follow as you lead home,
Your sable shadow.

VA and MD Task Force Search and Rescue

Virginia Task Force 1 (Fairfax County) and Maryland Task Force 1 (Montgomery County) were deployed for hurricanes: Harvey, Irma, Maria – including the canine teams.

<http://www.fox5dc.com/news/279125925-video>

<http://www.fox5dc.com/news/local-news/maryland-task-force-1-ready-for-hurricane-irma-response>

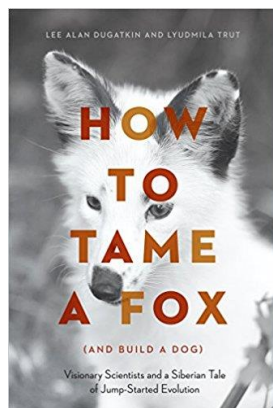
<http://wtop.com/montgomery-county/2017/09/md-first-responders-join-rescue-mix-hurricane-maria-relief/slide/1/>

Virginia Task Force 2 (Virginia Beach) was also deployed to Puerto Rico.

<http://wtkr.com/2017/09/18/virginia-task-force-2-sending-another-team-to-puerto-rico/>

How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)

By Lee Alan Dugatkin and Lyudmila Trut
Book review by Donna Richards



This fascinating book was on the bestseller's list early in 2017. A breeding experiment in Siberia was conducted for years under Stalin's regime with the rationale that breeding a calmer version of the prized Russian Silver fur fox would benefit the industry and increase production. In fact, Dmitri Belyaev and Lyudmila Trut were interested in the genetics of domestication. It was a meticulously documented experiment that continued for

decades and produced important results in the field of genetics and biology. Foxes only breed once yearly but through controlled selection, within a decade, the specially bred foxes began to exhibit dog-like characteristics such as wagging tails, attention-seeking behavior, rolling onto their backs for belly rubs, protective alarm barking and tipped ears. Their skull sizes and shapes also changed along with their attitudes towards humans. Changes such as hormonal balances and increased fertility cycles also resulted. These important achievements attracted world-wide attention and fostered exchange of scientific knowledge between the USSR/Russia, Europe and the USA. If you are at all interested in the theories of how dogs domesticated from wolves this is a great book that covers the basics and will give you great admiration for the scientific communities that pose the questions and then research the answers so we all can benefit.

PVSSC Brags

At the Greater Baltimore Shetland Sheepdog Club specialty agility trials on September 23 & 24, Mollie Skoog earned her Excellent Jumpers with Weaves title (and placed FIRST) and also earned her Open FAST Title (and placed first). These were great agility trials because it was a Sheltie Specialty. . . Shelties competing with other Shelties. And it was great seeing so many sweet dogs and Sheltie owners.



Mollie Excellent JWW Open FAST titles

Volunteers Needed

Please let the board know if you can volunteer for one of these tasks.

1. Need volunteers to work at the herding trial November 4 at Keepstone Farm near Berryville VA. Start time is approximately 7 AM and may run to 6 PM. You can volunteer for a morning, afternoon or full day. Lunch is provided.
2. Need a volunteer host for the holiday party sometime in December. The club pays the host/ess for buying for a main entrée, rolls and condiments. Other members will bring items for potluck such as appetizers, sides and desserts.
3. We need a chairperson for the obedience and rally trials the first weekend in February. Past chairpersons can coach the volunteer and provide support with organization and tasks prior to the event.
4. Need volunteers for the obedience and rally trials the first weekend in February. You can volunteer for morning, afternoon, or all day. Lunch is provided.

Some reprints from past issues of Seanachie

Ghost Dog Legends

Black ghost dogs figure prominently in British, Scottish, Welsh and Irish folklore and legends. In Wales they are known as "Dogs of the Abyss" or "Dogs of the Sky", also "Fairy Dogs". In Devon, they are called "Yesh Hounds", "Yell Hounds" or "Wish Hounds". Black dogs are sometimes said to be fierce guardians of hidden treasure. <http://myths.e2bn.org/mythsandlegends/origins534-the-ghost-hound-of-lyme-regis.html>

On Dartmoor, it is said a huntsman sold his soul to the Devil. When he died, black hounds appeared at his burial and the ghost huntsman is said to ride with these hounds. This legend inspired *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

A black dog has haunted Newgate Prison for over 400 years.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_dog_%28ghost%29

Leeds Castle in Kent, England has a large black ghost dog. When seen, it portends death.

<http://www.haunted-castles-and-hotels.com/England/leeds.htm>

In North Carolina, there is the legend of the Demon Dog of Valle Crucis.

<http://www.northcarolinaghosts.com/mountains/demon-dog-valle-crucis.php>

Here is a great short story about a helpful black ghost dog, set in Kentucky coal mining country.

<http://themoonlitroad.com/the-black-dog/>

Burr Marigolds

Those lovely yellow flowers growing along the road are Burr Marigolds. They produce the "hitchhiker" seeds that are such a problem in a Sheltie's coat. Avoid these plants as they go to seed to keep them out of your dog's coat.



Some reprints from past issues of Seanachie

Peanut Butter & Pumpkin Dog Treats

½ C peanut butter
1 C pumpkin puree
1 ¾ C whole wheat flour

Combine all, adding flour a bit at time. Roll dough ¼" thick and cut into desired shapes. Bake in 350 degree oven for about 8-10 minutes.

Holiday Guests

Maybe you are expecting guests for the holidays. Don't forget that your Sheltie's regular routine will be disrupted and take steps to minimize the stress where possible. These articles discuss how to plan ahead to keep things calm and peaceful.

<http://sitmeanssit.com/dog-training-mu/austin-dog-training/preparing-pets-for-house-guests/>

http://www.paw-rescue.org/PAW/PETTIPS/DogTip_copewithvisitors.php

On the other hand, maybe you and your Sheltie are the ones traveling. Here are some points of discussion to have ahead of time with your would-be host or hostess. Not every Sheltie gets to lounge on their host's couch like this.



<http://animals.howstuffworks.com/pets/pet-travel/10-rules-for-houseguests-with-pets.htm#page=3>

<http://gopetfriendlyblog.com/preparing-rover-to-be-a-well-behaved-holiday-visitor/>

"The journey of life is sweeter when traveled with a dog."
Unknown

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.



October Events

- ASPCA Adopt a Shelter Dog Month
- Pet Obesity Awareness Day October 12
- PVSSC Meeting October 16



Meeting Refreshments

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

2017

October meeting – the Greens
November meeting – Chris Demoncada
December – no meeting

2018

January – Nancy Hansbrough
February – Maribeth Keitz
March – no meeting
April – Need a volunteer!
May – Donna Richards
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
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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