

SHORTHAIK TALES

JAN/FEB

2010

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

OUR LAST MEETING WAS FILLED WITH GREAT IDEAS. A LOT OF INPUT AND PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.

JULIE SMITH HAS GIVEN US SOME INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER ABOUT RALLY TRAINING AND EVENTS SO THAT WE MAY EXPAND THE FUN WITH OUR WONDERFUL GSP'S. ANYONE INTERESTED IN CLASSES SHOULD CONTACT US SO THAT WE CAN PLAN A TIME AND PLACE.

ALSO CHECK OUT THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT WERE MADE WITH WILDERNESS ADVENTURES FOR HUNTING AND FISHING. THERE IS SURE TO BE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! WE WILL ALSO BE USING THE SITE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS OR TRAINING. SO KEEP TUNED IN.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE MARCH 27TH. NOON, AT THE HOME OF PAULINE & STEVE MARCQ. GOOD FOOD, GOOD FRIENDS AND STEVE'S FAMOUS PLAQUES FOR TITLES EARNED IN 2009. EMAIL THEM FOR DIRECTIONS.

IN THE MEAN TIME, HUG THE FURKIDS AND TELL THEM TO GET READY FOR ANOTHER FUN FILLED YEAR.....

DEB



HUNTING AND FISHING MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

We have an arrangement with Wilderness Adventures in Hillsborough for corporate memberships that includes not only Upland Bird hunting, but Fly Fishing and "Big Game" as well for \$500 a year. If you are interested in learning more, you can contact either Lou Gagnon or me, or contact Allan at <http://www.wildernessadventureshunt.com>.

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COVER PHOTO

JACK SCHNEIDER
WAS BUSY OVER THE WINTER WITH
HIS DOG

 MINUTES OF THE MEETING

A meeting of the Katahdin German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Greater Portland was held on Saturday January 29, 2010 at the home of Kate Van Francis and Scott Neal. In attendance were Peg Gagnon, Lou Gagnon, Jeremy Thompson, Scott Neal, Kate Van Francis, Deb Broad, Steve Marcq, Pauline Marcq, Fred Newcomb and Pat Russell. After a wonderful breakfast, the meeting commenced at 9:35 AM.

President's Report: The minutes were accepted as printed in the last newsletter. The President led a brief discussion of the membership renewal process and proposed changes to the form. She also reported that Board members had been polled and it was agreed to place a Katahdin ad in the GSPCA Yearbook.

Secretary's Report: Since the Secretary was not in attendance, there wasn't a Secretary's report. Pat mentioned that she had received a request from the AKC for members to financially support their legislative efforts.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported on current finances. All expenses are paid, including insurance. The only thing coming up will be a deposit on the birds we need for our events. We have adequate gift certificates for judges for hunt tests and the club championship.

Election of New Members: Scott and Tracy Daniell – puppy buyers from Sherry Thrall's line – were ratified as members. An application was also received from Jim Orino, which will be ratified at the next meeting.

Show Committee: We are all set with the New England Sporting Group Association show in March, and next week Pat will soon be sending our trophy list in for the Cheshire County Kennel Club show in August. It was decided to go ahead with a supported entry for the Carroll County show in September. Many, many thanks to Linda Mscisz for her generous contribution to the trophy fund.

Hunt Test Committee: Scott reported on the new on-line process for setting up Hunt Tests. A discussion ensued of our options regarding the 2010 hunt tests.

Training Committee: Training will continue in 2010 and will be planned later in the year. We are considering a water work training day as well as the field.

Club Championship Committee: Consideration was given to possible venues, and a visit to Wilderness Adventures is planned.

Rescue Committee: Peggy led a brief discussion of Rescue.

Legislative Report: Pat updated the members on current legislation – in particular:

- **HB 1639** (Dog Tethering Requirements & Unlawful Taking)

On February 11th, the House Criminal Justice Committee voted to recommend the bill Inexpedient to Legislative in a 13-2 vote.

- **HB 1624:** (placing undue restrictions on dog breeders and owners under the guise of eliminating "puppy mills").

Killed in the House on February 10th.

- Recently, breeders in a NH town were surprised to find out that a new restriction on the number of dogs a resident could own was passed at Town Meeting. The new restriction basically banned any new dog breeder from the town and those currently in residence were grandfathered but only if they maintained their current address. This time of year, keeping an eye on your town's website and local papers will give you time to prepare opposition to burdensome, unnecessary and inappropriate restrictions before they become local law. Email DOGS at DOGS@NHdogs.org

Nominating Committee: The positions of President and Treasurer are open. The Nominating Committee (Peggy Gagnon, Lou Gagnon, Scott Neal, and Fred Newcomb) will be propping a slate of officers for the open positions. Members are encouraged to contact committee members if they have suggestions.

Old Business:

- Further discussion was held regarding a possible Rally training day. Julie Smith has volunteered to help with the event.

New Business:

- Steve Marcq reminded people to get their dogs' achievements to him so that he can make the plaques for the Annual Meeting.
- Our website has been a tremendous resource for us and prospective members. A brief discussion was held regarding what else we might want to see on it and possible changes to layout.

The next meeting, which will be the Annual Meeting, will be held at 12 Noon on March 27, 2010 at Pauline and Steve Marcq's home. All members are encouraged to attend. The meeting was adjourned at 12 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Pat Russell, Acting Secretary

Subsequent Action:

Following the meeting, the Board received Lynn Milewski's resignation as secretary and Board Member. The Board members voted that Pat Russell will take over the position. Many thanks to Lynn for her service to the club.

QUICK OVERVIEW OF RALLY

Need something to do with your GSP's over the winter months to keep them busy. How about trying RALLY Obedience. It is a great way to have fun with your dog and maybe even earn a few titles to add to their name. You can practice inside as it doesn't take any room at all and the dogs love it.

You and your dog will enjoy this type of obedience as it is quite different than the traditional silent, strict and robot type walking. As you go along the course you can talk, clap your hands, tap your leg, whistle or point through the entire course without getting a points taken off. You just can give any leash corrections or touch your dog during the course.

The Novice level is all on leash and use the basic commands like sit, down, stay, come, finish and heel position. The judge sets up a course with approx. 15 stations or signs. You are given a map to review the course. Then about 5 minutes or so before the competition starts all the handlers go into the ring without their dogs and walk through the course to practice.

Each team starts out with 100 points as you make mistakes...of course we know it will be you and not your GSP as they never do anything wrong... the judge will deduct points accordingly. The team must score at least 75 points to qualify. It take 3 qualifying scores to get your first Rally Novice Title. First through fourth placements are giving out by the highest score and in the event of a tie the team with the fastest time wins the tie breaker. Oh yeah, I forgot to mention it is a timed event...but you will do fine, they give you ample time to get through it all.

The hardest part of Rally O is learning the signs. As you walk up to each station you have to read the sign and perform the action...hence the map and practice walk through before competition starts.

Maybe, some of us could get together and learn the basics of Rally some weekend. It really is not very hard to learn the signs and once you do the dogs will follow along with ease. You can find more information about Rally at the following web sites.

<http://www.canismajor.com/dog/rallyo.html> General info and links to other sites.

<http://rally.canissapiens.com/here> you can print out pocket cards for practicing each station individually in the house.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Julie Smith



IT'S KATAHDIN 2009 PLAQUE TIME

It's time to get a plaque, or additional tags if you already have one, for your GSP's titles earned during 2009. Was Fido a JH, an SH or MH? How about a NAVHDA Prize? Agility titles? Obedience Titles? Therapy Dog? Certified Couch Potato?

Heck, we don't care what it was - whatever the title is, get some recognition for it! If you have a plaque already, specify the title earned, and date, and the Katahdin Club will provide the brass tag at no cost to you. If it is Buster's first title, you will get the tag attached to a spiffy new hardwood plaque (made by yours truly) with his/her AKC name handsomely engraved on a KGSPC headplate, also at no charge to you. If you didn't get any titles in 2009, send \$5 and we'll make one up for you that your dog won in an alternate reality. Just kidding on that last part.

I need your name, the dog's registered name (duh), the specific title earned with date, and whether you need just the add-on tag because you already have a plaque, or you need the whole wooden plaque thingie too.

Email spmarcq@comcast.net, or (if you are actually the last person on earth without email) snail mail to Steve Marcq, 44 Birchwood Drive, Allenstown NH 03275, and we'll get you fixed up right away. If you have a wood choice, let me know and I will accommodate - I have cherry, maple, walnut, bird's eye maple, curly maple, oak, wenge, and mahogany laying around.

Oh, and be right quick about it - there is a cut off date of March 15th, 2010 to place the engraving order, OK?

Steve

Just a reminder that your Katahdin dues are due. A single membership is \$20 for a year and \$50 for three years. A family membership is \$30 for one year and \$75 for three years. Please send your dues to:

**Pat Russell
2 Mill Road
Hancock, NH 03449**

And please include one of the forms found on our site for Renewal or New Membership so that we may update all of your information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**4/9-4/11 Springfield Cluster shows
4/17-4/18 Providence and RI KC shows, Lincoln RI
4/23-4/25 Springfield Cluster shows
4/24 - Merrimack NAVHDA
5/1 -TarTan Gorden Setter Club Hunt Test
5/1-5/2 South County KC shows, Richmond RI
5/14-5/15 N Stonington Ct cluster shows
5/16 -Windham Cty KC show, Woodstock CT
5/20-5/23 York Cty and Vacationland DC show cluster, Scarborough, ME
5/23 - Katahdin Club Championship
5/29 -Merrimack NAVHDA
6/5 -Ladies DC show, Wrentham, MA
6/18-6/20 -North Shore KC shows, Topsfield, MA
6/26-6/27 -Penobscot KC shows, Cumberland, ME
7/2-7/4 Springfield cluster shows
7/17- Merrimack NAVHDA training day
8/7- Merrimack NAVHDA water clinic
8/28 -Merrimack NAVHDA training day
9/10 -Merrimack NAVHDA test day
9/18-9/19 Katahdin hunt tests
9/25-9/26 Northern NE Brit Club hunt tests
11/6-11/7 TarTan Gorden Setter hunt tests**

Don't Forget....

**Start composing those stories of your history with
the breed or memorable moments
for upcoming newsletters!**

**FOR UPDATES, NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS
AND PUPS AVAILABLE, PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT WWW.KATAHDINGSP.ORG**



**KATAHDIN GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB
OF GREATER PORTLAND**

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**NEWSLETTER
OF THE
KATAHDIN GSP CLUB OF GREATER
PORTLAND**

