

# Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



## The Sheltie Seanachie

February-March 2018

[www.potomacvalleyshetlandsheepdogclub.org](http://www.potomacvalleyshetlandsheepdogclub.org)



### 2018 Officers

Cathie Skoog, President  
[cathieskoog@verizon.net](mailto: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 FEBRUARY 19. THERE IS NO REGULAR MEETING IN MARCH DUE TO THE SPECIALTY.**

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](mailto: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.

### February Meeting

February's program is still in development but we'll let you know what to expect when the meeting reminder is sent out.

### Snow and Salt Caution

Please remember to wash your Sheltie's paws after venturing outside near roadways or sidewalks where snow melter or de-icing chemicals were spread. Also important to not allow animals to lick their paws if there is possibility that chemicals were encountered.



### AVMA Recall Watch @AVMARecallWatch Jan 24

RECALL: JustFoodForDogs recalls three dog food meals due to possible *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination from green beans used in these meals. See more info: <http://bit.ly/2nauhxM>

## Certified Canine Fitness Trainer

Looking for a hobby or career change? There is a new program developed by the University of Tennessee and FitPaws that grants certification in canine fitness. Check out their web site because they have a lot of cool gear and ideas.

<https://fitpawsusa.com/education/certified-canine-fitness-trainer-ccft/>

<https://fitpawsusa.com/>

There is also a canine fitness tracker available.

<https://www.fitbark.com/>

<https://www.abc15.com/news/state/abc15-checks-out-fitness-tracking-device-for-dogs>

## Animal Planet: Puppy Bowl XIV

Puppy Bowl XIV will be playing on Animal Planet from 3pm-midnight Sunday February 4. There's also a version for older adoptable dogs this year on February 3: "Dog Bowl".

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/life/tv/2018/01/04/exclusive-animal-planets-dog-bowl-new-breed-football-game/995805001/>

Get your Puppy Bowl party recipes here:

<https://barkpost.com/puppy-bowl-tailgate-pawty-healthy/>

<https://mommypoppins.com/perfect-puppy-bowl-tailgate-party-snack-activity-ideas>

I would probably skip the toilet water (lemonade) idea though.

## Westminster Coverage Feb 11-13

Details can be found here:

<http://www.westminsterkennelclub.org/plan-your-visit/tv-schedule/>

## Volunteers Needed

**Need volunteers** for the obedience and rally trials the weekend of February 3-4 at Point of Rocks. You can volunteer for morning, afternoon, or all day. Lunch is provided. Prepared to be impressed by these dogs and handlers.

**Need volunteers** to work with Debbie Lauritzen at the PVSSC Specialty on Friday March 16 2018 at Havre de Grace.

## PVSSC Brags

At the dog Obedience Club of Lee County obedience and rally trials held on January 27, 2018 in Punta Gorda, FL, Annie Skoog placed FIRST in Beginner Novice Obedience, earning her BN Title and later earned her Rally Novice (RN) Title.



# BEST WISHES, DR. DAYNA DREGER

By Cathie Skoog

PVSSC member Dayna Dreger came to the Washington, DC area from Canada, where she worked at the National Institute of Health (NIH) for the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI). Primarily her research was the Dog Genome Project.

Recently Dayna accepted an associate researcher position at the Purdue University Veterinary College in Indiana. She now lives in cute yellow house with a fenced yard in West Lafayette, Indiana with her three Shelties: Romeo, Bennett and Sawyer.

We know Dayna as a PVSSC club member who taught rally, is a WCRL rally judge, a Barn Hunt judge and who worked tirelessly at PVSSC's rally and herding trials.

I first met Dayna at WCRL rally trials in Frederick, MD. She had Gio, a large male Sheltie who got along well with my Sebastian. It is rare to see the large Shelties so we struck up a conversation. Gio and Sebastian were barking buddies; Gio passed a year after Sebastian.

Additionally, Dayna and Romeo would be in line to enter the ring, either in front or behind me – I'd be with Mollie or Savannah. While waiting in line to go into the ring, Dayna and I would talk and of course, our Shelties got along.

At Barn Hunt Trials, Annie and Sawyer would be in the "blind" together and they wanted to play!!! Puppy energy!!

When I applied to be a WCRL Rally Judge, Dayna was a reference for me.

Dayna will be missed in this area for all she contributed in performance events. In addition to rally and Barn Hunt, she would pop up at CAT, Fast CAT, herding and a lot of other events with her dogs.

Besides missing Dayna, I'll miss her three Shelties. It was always fun driving to a trial, wondering if I'd see someone I might know - Dayna and her pups would be there! She always greeted folks with a friendly smile and ready to lend a helping hand. And our dogs got along. And it was such fun watching Bennett find the rats in Barn Hunt - a real treat!!! (BTW, Bennett is the first Sheltie to receive a Barn Hunt Champion Title.)

Romeo, Bennett and Sawyer are enjoying their new, fenced yard. And they are very happy puppies because Dayna can take her dogs to work with her in her new job. WOW!

Dayna and her Shelties have already started trialing in their new location and I'm sure Dayna will make friends quickly. We wish Dayna, Romeo, Bennett and Sawyer much happiness in their new home and many Qs.

I treasure Dayna's friendship and appreciate her love for Sheltie. I also enjoy her competitive spirit and "good sportsmanship". I also value her as a scientist and researcher. **Dr. Dayna Dreger** has made significant scientific contributions through her research, which is reflected in her numerous publications, presentations and seminars. Her research is quite interesting.

Dayna is on Facebook, where you can continue to follow Romeo, Bennett and Sawyer.

Good luck and happiness, Dayna! I will miss you and your pups! PVSSC will miss all that you did to help us be successful at our trials.



Dayna & Romeo  
PVSSC Rally Trial, 2-7-16



Romeo, Bennett & Gio



Dayna & Bennett  
Earned Master Barn Hunt Title



Sawyer, Romeo and Bennett



Sawyer, helping Mom



# AKC Lure Coursing Titles

By Cathie Skoog



UACH VTCh Taliesin Midnight Train to Georgia "Savannah" URO1, CD, BN, RE, RA, RN, HIA-d, HAS-dm, HAS-d, NA, NAJ, NJP, CAA, BCAT, CGC, RLX3, ARCH, RLX2, RLX1

**January 2018, Brooksville, FL:** Savannah earned her BCAT Title for Fast CAT. The following day Annie earned her BCAT Title for Fast CAT and CA Title for Course Ability.

Fast CAT and Course Ability fall under the Lure Coursing Category for all dogs registered with the AKC.

## COURSING ABILITY TEST

Coursing Ability Tests are based on the sport of lure coursing. Dogs run singularly around a course without interruption and with enthusiasm. There is a time limit. The length of the course is dependent on the dog's height at the withers and whether the dog is a flat-faced dog. The Coursing Ability Test is a pass-fail event.



Merlyn Hullston The Stratovarius Black Diamond "Annie" CAA, BCAT, FDC, CGC, RL1

The dog chases a lure, which is referred to as a bunny and is no more than white plastic trash bags, around a course. The lure is controlled by a motor.

**Veteran dogs** (older than age 7) may run two-thirds of the normal distance at the owner's discretion.

**300 Yard Course.** For dogs shorter than 12 inches at the withers and/or brachycephalic ("flat-faced") dogs. A veteran dog may run 200 yards. A dog must complete this course in less than 1½ minutes.

**600 Yard Course.** For all dogs that do not run the 300-yard course. A veteran dog may run 400 yards. A dog must complete this course in less than 2 minutes.

**Titles.** There are three titles for the Coursing Ability Tests.

- Coursing Ability (CA) –dog that passes the Coursing Ability Test three times under at least two different judges.
- Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA) – Dog has the CA Title + 7 additional Qs.
- Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX) – Dog passes the Coursing Ability Test 25 times. CAX2 – Dog passes the CAT 50 times. A higher numbered title will be awarded for every additional twenty five Qs.

**WHAT IS Fast CAT??** In March 2016 the AKC announced a new event: Fast CAT. It is a variation on the Coursing Ability Test. Dogs chase a lure in a straight line (100-yard dash) for time. The dogs run or walk at their own speed. The only way to NQ is to leave the area (jump over or crawl under the fencing) or potty in the fenced area.

Dogs run one at a time and their times are recorded and converted to points. Once a dog earns a certain number of points, they earn a title.

**Titles.** There are three titles:

- BCAT = 150 points
- DCAT = 500 points
- FCAT = 1,000 points. For each additional 500 points they receive a number after the FCAT designator.

**Fastest Dogs by Breed.** The AKC has a National Ranking showing the fastest dogs by breed on their website. Current PVSSC member rankings are:

AKC National Ranking	PVSSC Dog	MPH
1	Dayna Dreger's Canyonview The Lady is a Tramp RE HSAd FDC CA BCAT RATCH CGC TKA "Miss Bennett"	24.73
2	Dayna Dreger's Canyonview Forever Romantic CD RAE FDC THD CGC TKA "Romeo"	24.15
23	Cathie & Mike Skoog's Merlyn Hullston The Stratovarius Black Diamond FDC CGC BCAT CAA	19.59
24	Cathie & Mike Skoog's Taliesin Midnight Train To Georgia CD BN RE HIA-d HSAdM NA NAJ NJP CAA BCAT CGC	19.57

**On the personal side.** When I first tried herding with Savannah she wanted to chase the sheep. So I began entering her in CAT Tests. She loved chasing the lure and she quickly earned her CA in 2013. In January 2014 she earned her Advanced Title. Savannah had completed 50% of her Excellent Title when she no longer passed the tests. She would chase the lure to the center of the field and then sit there and wait for it to come back and then chase it back to me. She did this at six trials so I hoped her chasing days were over so we moved to herding!!

It was a cold, rainy weekend in November 2017 when I took Annie to her first CAT tests in Hershey, PA. She NQed. . .she didn't want to leave me, was afraid of the motors driving the lure and didn't know she was supposed to chase the bunny. Oh well! But I did notice that Savannah had an interest in the luring. But I wasn't going to have her go and sit in the middle of a field!!

I decided to try Fast CAT with Savannah and Annie. The Potomac Valley Samoyed Club was hosting five trials the last weekend in November so I entered Savannah and Annie. Savannah definitely enjoyed the chase. Little Annie didn't know she was to chase the bunny but was simply running to me! Then in her fourth run, "it clicked" that she is to chase the bunny! Once she realized she was to chase the bunny her speed improved and in January she had enough points to earn her Fast CAT Title (BCAT). She LOVED chasing the bunny so I moved her from Fast CAT to CAT – she enjoyed the chase and was very successful, earning her CA Title.

If you are wondering about Mollie, "no" she doesn't like chasing the bunny!

Below are some photos of Fast CAT runs and an AKC photo that depicts how the Fast CAT course is set up for the 100 yard dash. There is a fenced area to release your dog and a longer area to catch you pup.



Bennett going for the grab!



Savannah chasing the bunny



Savannah at the end of her run



Annie chasing the bunny



An AKC photo of a Fast CAT set up in N.C.  
A dog chases the bunny down this 100 yard run

Fast CAT and Course Ability are fun activities for dogs. No training lessons are required and an owner in poor physical shape can enter and participate with his/her dog. And most dogs LOVE it.

**Upcoming Fast CAT Tests.** The Potomac Valley Samoyed Club is hosting 6-Fast CAT tests March 23-25, 2018 – two tests each day at their *First Annual Bunny HOP!* The tests will be held in White Post, VA (off of Route 50 towards Winchester). If you would like a copy of the premium email Cathie Skoog, [cathieskoog@verzion.net](mailto:cathieskoog@verzion.net) or email any questions you may have. Any AKC registered dog is eligible regardless of age.

Bitches CANNOT run if in season; all bitches are wiped during roll call, even if spayed. No dog can run if lame or injured; again at roll call they watch your dog run a few feet.

**Dogs love** the running and they can bark! It is a fun day for humans to be out with other dog owners enjoying their dogs!

# TRICK TRAINING AND TITLES

By Cathie Skoog

On May 1, 2017 the AKC launched the Trick Dog Program, in conjunction with “Do More with Your Dog!”

There are four levels of titles. Each level has a list of acceptable tricks and to qualify for a title, a dog must complete the number of tricks required for each level. 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.

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.

AKC Trick Dog titles are official AKC titles listed on the dog’s title record.

The processing fee for each title is \$20.

Dogs must have an AKC, PAL, or AKC Canine Partners number to earn a title.

PVSSC is working on a plan to have a program on training and then at meetings, in addition to our programs, teach our dogs a trick or two. The ultimate goal is to have fun with our dogs and stimulate their minds. And an extra bonus will be to complete the requirements for a Trick Title.



***Happy Valentine’s Day February 14***

<http://www.akc.org/content/entertainment/articles/19-valentines-day-gifts-for-dogs-and-the-people-who-love-them/>

*All you need is love.....and a dog.*

**AKC Notice January 30, 2018:** Please be aware that the Motel 6 discount program now requires the use of the following codes: **CPM64DOG** for Motel 6; **CPS64DOG** for Studio 6

Any previous codes will no longer be accepted this year.

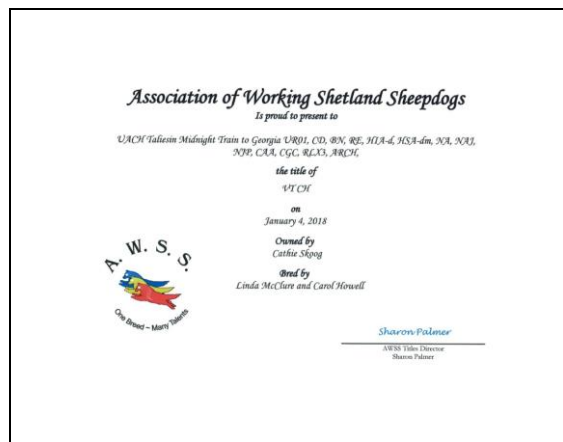
Book online at [www.akc.org/motel6](http://www.akc.org/motel6) or call 855-M6-4DOGS.

# Savannah Earns Versatility Champion Title (VTCh)

By Cathie Skoog



UACH VTCh Taliesin Midnight Train to Georgia URO1, CD, BN, RE, RA, RN, HIA-d, HAS-dm, HAS-d, NA, NAJ, NJP, CAA, CGC, RLX3, ARCH, RLX2, RLX1



Savannah received the Association of Working Shetland Sheepdogs (AWSS) Versatility Champion Title (VTCh) on January 4, 2018. Savannah received this prestigious title for earning titles in the following performance activities: agility, herding, rally, coursing, obedience, Barn Hunt and CGC.

Savannah's breeders are Linda McClure and Carol Howell.

Savannah only needed 23 points to qualify; she had 27. There are only 25 other Shelties who have earned the AWSS Champion level. Besides Savannah, PVSSC member Dayna Dreger's Romeo, earned the VTCh. ARCHMX2 CRMCh VTCh CanyonView Forever Romantic Am/Can CD, CD-C, Am/Can RE, CRNMCL, CRACL, CRXMCL, CRVMCL, CRNT, CRAT, RL1X5, RL2X6, RL3X4, RLVX5, FDX, AKC ThD, SJATD, CGC, RATN, HIC.

"The Association of Working Shetland Sheepdogs (AWSS) was founded by a group of Sheltie owners, breeders, trainers and other enthusiasts to recognize and preserve those virtues necessary for the Shetland Sheepdog to be capable of performing at a high level in a variety of fields, in accordance with its heritage as a working dog."

"The AWSS was founded by a group of Sheltie owners, breeders, trainers, and other enthusiasts to recognize and preserve those virtues necessary for the Shetland Sheepdog to be capable of performing at a high level in a variety of fields, in accordance with its heritage as a working dog." The AWSS goals are to:

- Promote excellence, responsibility and good sportsmanship in training, showing, and ownership of the working Shetland Sheepdog
- Promote the breeding of temperamentally and physically sound Shetland Sheepdogs,
- Encourage versatility of the Shetland Sheepdog through public education, breeder and exhibitor recognition programs, and equal recognition of successes in working, show, therapy, and service areas
- Educate, inform and support new and current Shetland Sheepdog owners in all areas in which they choose to responsibly participate.

The AWSS has three levels of Versatility Titles: Versatility Title (VT), Versatility Title Excellent (VTX) and the Versatility Champion (VTCh). The focus of the AWSS is working titles; Conformation titles receive recognition in qualifying for the Versatility Titles, but the highest title required must be a working title.

## Versatility Title (VT)

- 12 points from 14 categories
- Titles from at least 3 different venues above the 1 point level

## Versatility Title Excellent (VTX)

- 18 points from 14 categories
- Titles from at least 3 different venues above the 2 point level

## Versatility Champion (VTCh)

- 23 points from 14 categories
- Titles from at least 4 different venues above the 2 point level

Copies of titles and verification from the parent organization, such as UKC and AKC are sent with the application to the AWSS.



## 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.



## February-March Events

- PVSSC Obedience & Agility Trials February 3-4
- Westminster KC February 11-13
- PVSSC Meeting February 19
- PVSSC Specialty March 16

## Meeting Refreshments

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

### 2018

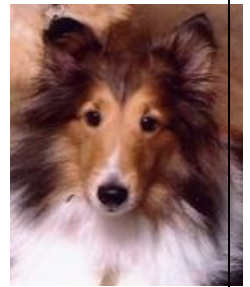
February – Maribeth Keitz  
March – no meeting  
April – Cathie Skoog  
May – Donna Richards  
June – Picnic?  
July – no meeting  
August – Pat Keough  
September – Marilyn Manser & Rich Gurney  
October – Debbie Lauritzen  
November – Judith Bienvenu  
December – no meeting

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](mailto:SheltiesReign@gmail.com)

or

Doey Blount

301-567-3933

[jimjandoey@aol.com](mailto: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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