

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



The Sheltie Seanachie

September 2016

www.potomacvalleyshetlandsheepdogclub.org



2016 Officers

Mike O'Shea, President
mgoshea@potgold.com

Karen Schwartz, Vice President
Fran Beacham, Recording Secretary
Donna Richards, Corresponding Secretary
Jack Gurney, Treasurer

Members of the Board

Rich Gurney Ken Schwartz

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 September 19.**

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.

2017 Officer Slate

The PVSSC Nominating Committee for the 2016 officers nominates the following members for these offices:

- President: Cathie Skoog
- Vice President: Mike O'Shea
- Treasurer: Jack Gurney
- Recording Secretary: Fran Beacham
- Corresponding Secretary: Donna Richards
- Board Members: Rich Gurney and (TBD)

THANK YOU to those who have volunteered and to the nominating committee, made up of Ginny O'Shea (Chair), Ken Schwartz, Marilyn Manser and Doey Blount.

Additional nominations may be made at the regular meeting next prior to the Annual Meeting by any member in attendance, provided that the person so nominated accepts when his/her name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his or her proposer shall present to the Recording Secretary, a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his or her willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one position. Anyone who has accepted a nomination made by the Nomination Committee cannot accept a nomination at the regular meeting next prior to the Annual Meeting.

Absentee balloting privileges for the Annual Meeting will be extended to all members in good standing who:

- a) have been members for the entire preceding fiscal year and have attended at least four of the regular meetings during that fiscal year, or
 - b) have become members after the preceding Annual Meeting, but not after the June regular meeting, and have attended at least 50% of the scheduled regular meetings.
- Absentee balloting privileges will not be extended to members who have joined the Club after June 30th of any given year.

All requests for absentee ballots shall be written and forwarded to the Recording Secretary (Fran Beacham) no later than three weeks prior to the **Annual Meeting on November 21.**

Harry Whittier Frees

Over a century ago, Harry Whittier Frees was famous for his unique photographs of puppies and kittens posed as if performing human-types of activities. There were kittens cooking dinner at a small stove, bowling with a ball and wooden pins. There were puppies speaking on the phone or pushing a wagon full of kittens. In the 1940s and 1950s numerous children's books were published featuring his photographs. These photographs required hours of painstaking preparation and trial and error. Remember, these were not digital photographs where you could immediately see your mistakes and correct them.

Mr. Frees only worked on his photography for a few months of the year. He said that he required the rest of the year for recuperation and restoration of his nerves.

Sadly Mr. Frees never married and died poor and alone after caring for his parents much of his life.

Check out the photographs!

<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/pa-heritage/introducing-harry-whittier-frees.html>

<http://www.npr.org/sections/npr-history-dept/2016/01/06/462040450/the-sad-happy-life-of-harry-whittier-frees>

<http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2014/05/cats-and-dogs-dressed-as-people-100-years-ago/100736/>



AKC Agility Rules Change

Agility: Stickers (Armbands) No Longer Required – Effective 8/1/2016.

Also, last week, The American Kennel Club Agility department held their annual field representative meeting. During the meeting, the staff reviewed concerns raised by the Agility community involving the collapsed tunnel. This obstacle has been shown to cause issues as performances have become faster and higher level classes have become more complex.

After their review, the Agility Field Representatives agreed unanimously to suspend the use of the collapsed tunnel effective immediately. Based upon the Agility department's recommendation, Sports and Events Senior Management contacted the AKC Board of Directors to request immediate action. The Board concurred that the concern regarding the safety of the dogs was the first priority.

As of August 30, 2016, the AKC will suspend the use of the collapsed tunnel in all courses until the concerns can be resolved. Judges will be contacted by their Field Representative to review how to adopt this immediate change.

Thank you to the Agility community for working in partnership with the AKC to bring positive changes to our sport.

Carrie DeYoung
Director of Agility

Art Installation for Dogs

In London, an art installation directed to dog appreciation has opened. Exhibits are installed at dog eye-level and include interactive water fountains, a ball bit, and simulated car ride. The project was commissioned by U.K. insurance company More Than, offering pet, home, and car insurance. The artist is Dominic Wilcox.

<https://www.thedodo.com/art-exhibit-for-dogs-1985023394.html>

August Picnic

By Fran Beacham

The Club Picnic in August hosted by the O'Shea's was a great success. Despite the very hot, humid weather many members brought their dogs. Cynthia and Bob Reddersen introduced their new dog, Gage pictured at right below. Gage came with his 3 year old buddy, Dillon. Jeanna Osborne and Jeff Fredrickson introduced their new puppy, an adorable 3-month old sable, named Skipper.

Because of the hot weather the picnic was held indoors. Some members took their dogs on brief trips to play outside and use the agility and rally equipment set up for them by Mike. All the dogs were on their best behavior and got along very well. The food was great! The O'Shea's provided chicken and pork barbecue with all the fixin's and members brought other side dishes and salads.



Clockwise from top left: Fran Beacham, Jack Gurney behind Sandra Greene, Chris Demoncada, Marilyn Manser, Rich Gurney, Cliff Green joined by Sandra and Marilyn and a pack of Shelties.

Recent Club Additions

Jeanna Osborne and Jeff Fredrickson joined the club several months ago along with daughter Rebecca. Sailor (female) is 1.5 years old. She was recently joined by 3-month old Skipper (male).



Cynthia and Bob Reddersen introduced their new dog, Gage, a 2 year old Blue Merle youngster which they got from Greg Speeks recently.



Temple Grandin – the Movie

Temple Grandin is a legend in the stock handling industry. In 2010 she was named by Time Magazine as one of 100 most influential people. She significantly changed the way livestock is handled in stockyards and slaughterhouses and is a proponent for the humane treatment of our food animals. I just watched a movie about her life. It is worth a look. What many people find interesting and surprising is that she is also autistic. Ms. Grandin has been able to explain coherently how some autistic people like herself think and organize their memories and learning processes.

The DVD is available through the Fairfax County library system if you are a patron. You can also watch it on Amazon Prime.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_Grandin

About the movie: <http://www.hbo.com/movies/temple-grandin/video/a-more-humane-approach.html?autoplay=true>

Low/High Risk Human Foods for Dogs

Dogfoodselector.com has produced a handy poster of people foods that may or may not be OK for your dog. This is the second reminder I have seen that beer is NOT OK for dogs. They seem to like the taste of hops but the alcohol is definitely a problem for canines.

Some odd things appear on the “High Risk” list, such as marshmallows and pretzels. The logic seems to be that one or a few are not a problem. But if your pal decides to eat an entire bag of these, then gastric and other distress is likely to follow. Presumably your dog is less likely to eat a large quantity of “low risk” foods such as zucchini or oatmeal. <http://www.orvis.com/news/dogs/infographic-human-foods-ok-dogs-arent/>

It's Not Just What You Say

Several recent studies support the theory that dogs understand not just words but the emotional cues provided by inflection. In a 2014 study at the University of Sussex, England, the researcher tested 250 dogs. Speakers were placed on either side of the dog's head. First, normal commands were played over the speakers. Then words were replaced with gibberish spoken with the same inflection. When meaningful commands were spoken, 80% of the dogs turned their heads to the right. When gibberish was spoken, most dogs turned left. This indicated different sides of the brain processed words versus emotion. <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2014/11/28/367092004/how-dogs-understand-what-we-say>

FDA Pet Food Safety

September is National Pet Food Safety Education month. The FDA is responsible for overseeing the safety of commercial pet food. A recent article in Food Safety Magazine provides a good overview of events in the last decade affecting pet food safety.

<http://www.foodsafetymagazine.com/enewsletter/fsm-scoop-pet-food-safety/>

Another article with advice on choosing pet foods:

<http://www.cornucopia.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/DecodingPetFoodfullreport.pdf>

Individual states also have pet food regulations that apply to food and treats manufactured in the state. Virginia's presentation developed for small vendors (such as at farmer's markets) is here:

<http://www.slideshare.net/vsuce/virginia-pet-treat-regulations>

The FDA continues to warn pet owners about chicken and duck treats, and now also includes sweet potato products that are under investigation since the ingredients may be sourced from China.

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/NewsEvents/CVMUpdates/ucm500776.htm>

And a short video on the topic:

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth/ProductSafetyInformation/ucm444926.htm>

You can view food recall alerts on the American Veterinary Medical Association web site. There were 4 recalls in June. <https://www.avma.org/News/Issues/recalls-alerts/Pages/pet-food-safety-recalls-alerts.aspx>

Fanconi Syndrome

The FDA video mentions Fanconi Syndrome, a kidney disease. This is considered a possible hereditary disease in some breeds (Basenji) but has been mentioned as an “acquired” disease in association with consumption of contaminated pet jerky treats.

<http://www.vetmedaz.com/2014/05/29/chicken-jerky-treats-and-acquired-fanconi-syndrome/>

Volunteers Needed

Obedience/Rally Stewards and committees for the February 4-5 2017 trials. Cathie Skoog is the chairperson but volunteers are needed to provide support and learn duties in preparation for 2018.

Assistants to Debbie Lauritzen for the 2017 Specialty in March.

FBI Begins Tracking Animal Cruelty

On January 1, 2016 the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NBIRS) began collecting data from cooperating law enforcement agencies about animal cruelty. One thing they would like to learn is if cruelty to animals is a precursor to larger crimes such as murder. The initial data won't be available until next year, and it will take three to five years for trends to be revealed. <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/-tracking-animal-cruelty>

Of course the FBI can only track what is reported, and in some states the laws governing what constitutes cruelty versus not leave much to be desired. The Animal Legal Defense Fund ranks the states in terms of the strength of its animal protection laws. The most recent study was from 2015. West Virginia's rank was #6 (with #1 being the best), Virginia's rank was #19, Washington DC was #23, North Carolina was #30, Maryland was #46. <http://aldf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Rankings-Report-2015.pdf>

Meet Fergus

The fifth Sheltie at the Scottish Games on Saturday was Fergus, new to NVSR. He is shown with foster-mom Ginny O'Shea. Fergus is a very strong and handsome young lad of 18 months. He quickly conquered his apprehension over golf carts and generator motors and greeted many visitors during the day.



Scottish Games September 3

The PVSSC booth at the Virginia Scottish Games was very popular. We were set up close to the entrance and many folks saw us as soon as they walked in. The weather was comfortable and five Shelties were in attendance receiving a lot of attention. Several other Sheltie owners stopped by.



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.



September Events

- Responsible Dog Ownership month
- National Food Safety Education month
- PVSSC Meeting September 19
- National Deaf Dog Awareness Week Sept 18-24

Meeting Refreshments

Fran Beacham is our Refreshment Coordinator. *Thanks to everyone who volunteered refreshments for 2016*

2016

September meeting – Marilyn Manser

October meeting – the O'Sheas

November meeting – Donna Richards

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

Happy Autumn



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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