

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



The Sheltie Seanachie

June-July 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). **MEETING and Picnic June 16 (by invitation.) There is no meeting in July.**

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.

Puppies!!!

PVSSC member Lilian Yeh-Forsyth helped her Joy deliver a litter of seven puppies the day of our May 21 meeting. There are 4 boys and 3 girls.

Sire: Am GCH/Can CH Belmark Shakedown ROM
Dam (Lilian's girl): Blue Heavens I've Got Joy In My Heart
(GCH Kismet's Don't Mess With Texas x CH Blue Heavens I've Got A Secret)



More on the next page.....

Animal Disaster Preparedness

During my CERT disaster preparedness training I became aware of the CART program. CART is a separate training program that was previously offered to professional responders so that they could handle some animal emergencies if the need arose. Like the CERT training, there is an intent to prepare ordinary citizens with knowledge and resources to respond in certain situations when normal responders are likely to be overwhelmed.

The Virginia State Animal Response Team states their vision: *"Every community in Virginia is prepared to protect animals and their owners in the event of a disaster."*

<https://virginiasart.org/>

I received this information as part of regular upcoming CERT training offerings. This 16-hour basic CART class is open to the public. There is a \$25 fee but they are also providing lunch!

EMERGENCY PET SHELTERING COURSE – June 23rd and 24th, 8:30am – 5:30pm

Overview · Pet disaster preparedness · Emergency operation plans · The incident command system · Health and safety · Animal handling · Emergency animal shelter set up and tear down procedures · Volunteer duties

Community Animal Response Teams (CARTs) are tasked with providing professional response and sheltering for animals in an emergency. CART Volunteers are individuals who can be called on to help provide this support. This course is the first step in becoming part of your local CART team! All individuals welcome– varied skills and resources needed!

Location: Chinguapin Park Rec Center, 3210 King St, Alexandria

Registration: <https://awla.salsalabs.org/emergencypetsshelteringcourse>

Questions: jtoussaint@awla.org

Puppies!!! (continued)



"Shakem" and "Joy"

Please wish Lilian, Joy and the puppies all the best. There are more photos on her Fairbrook Shelties Facebook page.

Sire "Shakem" has a Web page also
<http://www.bemarkshelties.com/shakem.htm>

National Canine Research Council

I was excited to discover this new source of scientific study and public reference library. The National Canine Research Council fields a team of professionals who examine relevant scientific literature for inaccuracies and wrongful conclusions. For example, a recent article on "visual breed identification" highlights the need to eliminate breed assignments based on visual indicators for purposes of scientific study. For example if a behavior study arrives at the conclusion that "beagles are better trackers than poodles", is it valid if the dogs have been grouped only by appearance (beagle versus poodle)?

See the list of their recent articles here, and subscribe to the e-newsletter.

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

'The Real Dog: What We Know & What We Don't (Yet).'

The Council hosts a three-day scientific conference on animal behavior (titled above) that will be live-streamed via the internet for FREE June 1-3. Conference schedule appears here (and presumably link to the live stream.)

<http://www.sparcsinitiative.org/events/sparcs-2018/>

ASSA 2018 National April 21 – 29, 2018

Contributed by Cathie Skoog



The ASSA National is the club's annual week long specialty event. The National is held each spring in a different region of the country and includes Futurity, conformation, Junior Showmanship, obedience, rally, agility, and herding competitions in addition to educational events. It is also a celebration, as up to 1,000 Shelties with their owners, breeders and friends come together for the once-a-year event. And there are lots of vendors specializing in Sheltie products!

The 2018 National was held in Virginia. The events were kicked off with the Herding Trials on Saturday, April 21 at Keepstone Farm in Berryville, VA. From there folks drove down to Virginia Beach for the Agility Trials being held on Monday, April 23 at the Virginia Beach Field House. All other events were held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center: Futurity Judging, Parade of Veterans and Title Holders, Obedience Trials, Rally Trials, Health Clinic, Conformation Judging and a lot of other activities.

Members that competed were:

- HERDING: Maribeth Keitz with Cowboy in Advanced A Sheep AND Cathie Skoog with Mollie and Savannah in Intermediate A Ducks
- AGILITY: Mike O'Shea with Dixie Doodle and Dobby AND Cathie Skoog with Mollie
- RALLY: Ginny O'Shea and Dixie AND Cathie Skoog and Mollie
- OBEDIENCE: Ginny O'Shea and Dixie

Dixie Doodle earned double QQs in her two agility runs, adding towards her MACH2 title.



Savannah driving the ducks, ASSA National Herding Trials, April 21, 2018
Keepstone Farm, Berryville, VA



Savannah, Annie & Mollie
Play-time, Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Beach, VA



Mollie driving the ducks towards the penning area
Herding Trials, April 21, 2018
Keepstone Farm, Berryville, VA

PVSSC had several members attend the conformation events. We thank Jan Stanley for bringing our PVSSC Club banner "home" from the National.

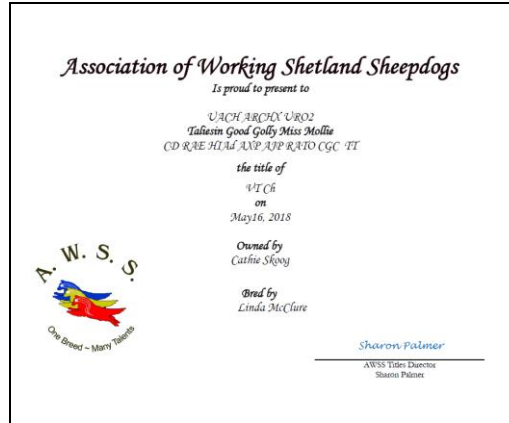
Each year the Sheltie Clubs are asked to help support the National by volunteering to perform various jobs and by contributing trophies. This year PVSSC donated three trophies in Herding.

The 2019 ASSA National Specialty will be held in Albany, Oregon from April 1-7, 2019.

Mollie Earns Versatility Champion Title (VTCh) Association of Working Shetland Sheepdogs



Mollie enjoying Agility
In Winchester, VA



Mollie in a Long Sit in Obedience at the
2017 ASSA National, Purina Farms, MO

VTCH UACHX UACH ARCH ARCHX TALIESIN GOOD GOLLY MISS MOLLIE CGC BN CD RN RA RE RAE
HT PT HIAd HSAdM NA NJP NAJ NFP OAP OJP AJP AXP RATI RATN RATO TT
URO-1 URO-2 AG-1 AG-2 RL-1 RL-2 RL-3 RLV RL1X RL2X RL3X
CW-Ob2 CW-SR CW-AR CW-ZR1 CW-ZR2

Mollie received the Association of Working Shetland Sheepdogs (AWSS) Versatility Champion Title (VTCH) on May 16, 2018. Mollie received this prestigious title for earning titles in the following performance activities: agility, herding, rally, obedience and Barn Hunt, as well as other activities such as the passing the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) and the American Temperament Society Test (TT). In addition to her titles, Mollie received invitations and participated in the AKC 2017 Rally National Champion Trials in Perry, Georgia and the AKC 2017 Obedience Classic in Orlando, FL.

Mollie's breeder is Linda McClure and she belongs to Mike & Cathie Skoog. She currently is working towards her AKC Master Rally Title and her AKC Master Agility Titles in Standard and JWW. Her favorite activity is agility.



Mollie earned her Barn Hunt Open Title
in February 2018 and was High Scoring Dog



Mollie received an invitation to compete in
the AKC 2017 National Obedience Classic



Mollie received an invitation to compete in
the AKC 2017 National Rally Championship



Mollie earned her First Rally Title at the
SSCGB Rally Trials, Beltsville, MD in July 2009



Mollie earned her Intermediate Duck
Herding Title, Berryville, VA, November 2016



Mollie earned her Excellent JWW and Open FAST
at the SSCGB 2017 Agility Specialty, Halethorpe, MD

PVSSC Joins Meetup

Meetup says "Getting together with real people in real life makes powerful things happen." It is a way to find and connect with other people in your vicinity to enjoy activities of mutual interest. PVSSC has created a Meetup group to share news on our club activities and help other Sheltie owners find us and join in. The AKC Mentions Meetup as a way to join involved in the Dog World. Their article uses German Shepherd Dogs as the example but of course you can substitute any dog breed and get the idea.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/did-you-know/get-involved-german-shepherd-world/>

The PVSSC Meetup site is

<https://www.meetup.com/Potomac-Valley-Shetland-Sheepdog-Meetup/>

There is another Sheltie Meetup group called Sheltie Investigation Squad out of Ashburn VA. They have organized some informal activities at dog-friendly venues that you may be interested in.

<https://www.meetup.com/Sheltie-Investigation-Squad/>

New AKC Obedience and Rally Rules

These went into effect May 1, 2018. Download your copy from the AKC Web site.

http://images.akc.org/pdf/rulebooks/RO2999_0318.pdf

New AKC Points Schedule

A new Points schedule went into effect May 16, 2018.

The new schedule for District 3 is found at this link:

http://images.akc.org/pdf/events/conformation/ScheduleofPoints2018_Div3.pdf



May 2018 Program - TTouch

Marnie Montgomery explained and demonstrated several examples of Tellington TTouch that she has found useful in working with her own and clients' dogs. She very kindly brought handouts and showed attendees touch such as ZigZag, Belly Lift, Ear Work and Half Wraps using Ace bandage. Marnie then fielded questions. Everyone appreciated her time and patience to help us better connect with our Shelties. Marnie can be contacted at

www.joyfuldogllc.com



Amazon Brand Dog Food?

I did not realize Amazon has its own brand of dog food called "Wag". It turns out that in 2010 Amazon took over the former Wag.com umbrella company Quidsi (which also owned diapers.com, soap.com, beauty.com and other similar web sites.) In 2017 Amazon shut down wag.com and started redirecting to its own site with a "welcome to our new home" banner. Amazon is simply using the "Wag" name recognition to launch its own brand of foods. You must have Amazon Prime membership to order Wag food products (reasons unknown). I could not find independent analysis of this food as yet. There is a review from a web site "Woofwhiskers.com", an Amazon affiliate.

Recycle Your Dog's Fur

Here are some suggestions the AKC has made to recycle your dog's fur. . .

Give It to the Birds: Birds love a cozy nest and will happily line the inside of their home with dog fur. You can wrap tufts around the tops of bushes and fence posts, or for a tidier option, put the fur in a suet cage or small paper bag and let your feathered friends pick out what they need. Although your dog might love barking at the neighborhood birds, you can feel good about providing them with some insulation.

Protect Your Garden: Dogs love to chase animals out of the yard and the smell of their fur may help deter pests, as well. Stuff burlap bags or pantyhose with your dog's fur and tie them around the yard. You can even create a border around the outer edge of your garden. Rabbits and other small animals will think the doggie odor they smell means your pup is nearby and might avoid the area as a result. You may need to freshen up the fur periodically to keep the smell at its most pungent.

You can also pack loose fur around the bottom of plants and vegetables. Not only will the smell discourage animals from nibbling on your garden treasures, the loose hair also serves as a trap for slugs, snails, and small bugs.

Fertilize the Soil: Pet fur contains a lot of nitrogen, an important nutrient for growing plants, so it makes sense that you can use it to fertilize your soil. It helps the ground retain moisture and regulate plant temperature. In time, the hair will break down and release its nitrogen to nourish your garden.

You can also add fur to your compost pile. Sprinkle it in with other green ingredients, like vegetable scraps, and make sure to turn your compost a few times a week to keep it aerated. In about one month, the hair will have broken down enough to add to your soil.

Stuff Pillows and Dog Toys: Dog fur makes excellent stuffing. If you're crafty, you can sew your own dog toys and fill them with fur rather than synthetic stuffing. For an easier project, consider creating a dog bed, or if you want to enjoy the comfort of fur yourself, try making a throw pillow for the couch.

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And more.... Yarn spun from dog fur is referred to as "chiengora". Undercoat from long-haired breeds works best, fibers need to be 1.5" or longer, or they must be blended with other fibers to spin yarn. Dog fur yarn is much warmer than regular wool yarn so items such as sweaters are not recommended.

<https://www.treehugger.com/pets/knit-your-dog-transforms-dog-hair-hand-knitted-clothing.html>

Watermelon Treats

Dogs enjoy watermelon in moderation, no seeds or rind please. It is a great hydrating and cooling snack. National watermelon day is August 3.

A recipe for frozen watermelon-and-yogurt dog treats:
<https://bakingmischief.com/2017/07/11/frozen-dog-treats/>

Washington Nationals Pups in the Park

Here are the remaining dates and info:

Saturday, June 23rd vs. Phillies

Friday, Sept 7th vs. Cubs

Tuesday, Sept 25th vs. Marlins

<https://www.mlb.com/nationals/tickets/promotions/themes/pups-park> Dog ticket proceeds benefit Humane Rescue Alliance.

Fireworks Preparation (Thunderstorms too)

If your Sheltie is noise-reactive, start your preparations NOW. Good tips from Eileenanddogs:

<https://eileenanddogs.com/6-ways-to-prepare-your-dog-for-fireworks/>

Her dogs sure love spray cheese.

There are also thunderstorm CDs for desensitization.

<https://www.cleanrun.com/index.cfm/product/2830/thunderstorms-sound-desensitization-cd.htm>

<https://www.dogwise.com/sounds-good-audio-cd-thunderstorms/>

<https://www.dogwise.com/sounds-good-audio-cd-fireworks/>

A surprise – humans can hear lower frequency sounds than dogs. Humans hear 20-20,000 Hz while dogs hear 40-60,000 Hz.

<https://hypertextbook.com/facts/2003/TimCondon.shtml>

There is actually a noise-aversion drug for dogs called Sileo, announced in 2015. It is an oral gel.

<http://news.zoetis.com/press-release/companion-animals/zoetis-announces-launch-sileo-treatment-noise-aversion-dogs>

<http://www.thedrakecenter.com/services/dogs/blog/top-signs-your-dog-suffers-noise-aversion>

However the list of contra-indications is extensive so this is probably a last-ditch solution.

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.



June-July Events

- PVSSC Meeting & Picnic June 16

Meeting Refreshments

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

2018

June 16 – 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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