

Potomac Valley Shetland Sheepdog Club, Inc.

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



The Sheltie Seanachie

May 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

Nancy D'Souza 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 May 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 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.

Herding June 4-5

Our next performance event will be 4 trials over Saturday-Sunday June 4-5 at Keepstone Farm. On Saturday we will have two full trials running concurrently. On Sunday we will have one duck trial and one sheep trial running concurrently.

All trials on Saturday and Sunday will offer Herding Tests and Pre-Trial Tests, as well as day-of entries for Herding Instinct Tests. All tests will be done with sheep.

For Saturday we need 2 volunteers for the entire day 7:30 - 4:30, or 4 volunteers to work half-days.

On Sunday we need 2 volunteers from 8:30 - 1:00 for the trial and clean up.

To volunteer, please contact trial Chair Cathie Skoog cathieskoog@verizon.net

Indirect Ivermectin Exposure

Sheltie owners are aware that we need to be extremely careful in the use of ivermectin products. This Australian Shepherd suffered severe ivermectin toxicity - probably though consumption of sheep manure. Farm animals are commonly treated with ivermectin and we would not necessarily be aware of this or take the necessary precautions in this environment.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/10/151020094821.htm?trendmd-shared=0>

You can read about the MDR1 test for drug sensitivity in herding breeds here:
<http://vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu/>

Gastric Motility and Bloat

Purina is studying the relationship between gastric motility and bloat in sensitive breeds. By using a SmartPill that can be monitored through the digestive system, coupled with measurements of two hormones motilin and ghrelin, they hope to identify dogs which may benefit from preventive gastric surgery (gastropexy) in which the stomach is stapled to the abdominal wall to prevent twisting.

<https://www.purinaproclub.com/resource-library/todays-breeder/issue-90/new-perspectives-on-bloat>

Pet Preparedness Day

We've had our first thunderstorm of the season. It's a good reminder to be ready for inconveniences like power outages, to more major events that require us to be away from home for days at a time.

Here is the FEMA suggested list:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/90944>

And the CDC list:

<http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/resources/disaster-prep-pet-emergency-checklist.pdf>

Sheltie Happenings

Check the Northern Virginia Sheltie Rescue for a complete list of their upcoming activities.

<http://www.nvsr.org/9658events--news.html>

The Pet Fiesta in Reston on Saturday May 7 is a great place to shop for unique pet items and support the various adoption groups.

<http://www.petfiesta.org/attend/exhibitor-list/>

You can also stop by Barrel Oak Winery on Sunday May 15 and meet up with the NVSR group there for some Sheltie socializing.

<http://www.barreloak.com/doghaus-rules>

Dog-friendly Virginia and Maryland wineries

<http://thevirginiagrape.blogspot.com/2014/05/7-dog-friendly-virginia-wineries.html>

<http://dc.eater.com/maps/10-dog-friendly-wineries-in-virginia-and-maryland>

Dog Bite Prevention Week

May includes Nation Dog Bite Prevention Week.

<https://www.avma.org/public/Pages/Dog-Bite-Prevention.aspx>

In April, Psychology Today magazine published an article by Dr. Stanley Coren that summarized the findings that dogs really don't like to be hugged. Based on photographs of dogs being hugged by humans (readily available through internet search) and using a list of canine stress signals, he found at least 81% of dogs showed stress at being trapped in a human embrace. Only 7% of the dogs look comfortable, and 10% seemed neutral or ambivalent.

The message to take home is that we should not allow people and especially strangers to hug our furry companions.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/canine-corner/201604/the-data-says-dont-hug-the-dog>

You are probably familiar with your dog enough to recognize signs of anxiety but it may require practice to pick up signals from a strange dog. Definitely worth the investment of time for dog-lovers and those who want to be around and interact with dogs regularly.

<http://servicedogcentral.org/content/signs-of-stress-checklist>

This article gives a good summary and also has a video of how NOT to interact with a dog, and ignore the warning signs being given. If you did not see the bite coming in the video example, more practice is required!

http://www.doggonesafe.com/signs_of_anxiety

Amazingly, a study at the University of Liverpool found that despite people believing they had sufficient knowledge of canine warning signs, the people would continue acting in the same manner rather than change their behavior, preventing a bite. So knowledge isn't sufficient, it must be put into practice.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/08/150811103601.htm>



Do I look happy?

Gallbladder Illness in a Sheltie

Submitted by Marilyn Manser and Rich Gurney

This article concerns how we discovered our sheltie, Tavis, had a gallbladder illness, ultimately forcing its surgical removal near Christmas 2015, when he became 10 years old.

The first indication of an issue appeared accidentally in late April, when a routine blood test was done before teeth cleaning. It showed seriously elevated liver enzymes, which can indicate a variety of problems. Although worrisome, the vet at Friendship Hospital in DC decided to wait in case the numbers were temporary. A kidney test showed no problem. Blood testing in August still showed elevated numbers. At that point Tavis was put on medicine (Denamarin) to counter a possible liver problem. Blood work in early December continued to have high values, so its use was ended.

Next they performed an ultrasound of the abdominal area. It found a lesion on the liver, in an area likely to be hard to remove, and an apparent mass in the gallbladder (termed a pre-mucocele). A needle aspiration of the liver found no cancer cells, but the latter couldn't be ruled out. There were also oddities with the kidney and spleen. We had to decide whether to do major surgery, balancing potential liver cancer issues against ultimately lethal gallbladder mucocele (GBM). We chose surgery, and both the gallbladder and spleen were removed. Tavis spent 2 days in intensive care.



His gallbladder had a serious mucocele mass suggestive of thick blueberry jam (photo); the bile duct was not blocked. Biopsies showed liver and spleen lesions were not cancerous. The stitches were removed about 2 weeks later and Tavis has recovered well. Although we had noticed no prior GBM symptoms, he definitely is more active now.

The gallbladder stores and concentrates bile from the liver, which helps with digestion in the stomach. During GBM excessive mucus-producing cells in the gallbladder lining cause a gelatinous mass to form, which eventually can enlarge the organ enough for it to burst. This is distinct from common bile sludge. Clinical signs as the illness progresses include vomiting, lethargy, loss of appetite, and stomach pain. Death rate after this specialized surgery is about 20-40%, with the higher values where there was rupture, bile inflammation due to infection, and/or bile duct blockage. Prognosis is excellent if the dog survives the first few days. GBM is relatively rare but shelties are the most likely breed (~25% of reported cases). Others are cocker spaniels (18%) and miniature schnauzers (5%). The mean age is 10 years. There has been some association with a defective ABCB4 gene and use of flea drug imidacloprid (Advantage and Advantix), but each remains quite uncertain. Further details are in two ASSA papers ([ASSA1](#), [ASSA2](#)) and others, such as [ASC Mich](#), [JSAVA Review](#), [PetMD](#), [GBM Care](#), [U of Ill](#), and [ACVS](#).



April 29, 2016

www.akc.org/government-relations/legislative-alerts/npdd-national-resolution

Yesterday, a resolution was introduced in the U.S. Senate to declare May 1 as National Purebred Dog Day.

Senate Resolution 447 “designates May 1 as National Purebred Dog Day in celebration of purebred dogs and the many service and companion benefits purebred dogs have and continue to provide to the United States.”

The resolution further “honors the dedicated and responsible breeders who work to preserve and advance their breeds and responsible dog ownership throughout the United States.”

The American Kennel Club is proud to support National Purebred Dog Day as part of its goal of preserving the future of purebred dogs and advancing the health and wellbeing of all dogs.

AKC honors purebred dog breeders whose commitment, vision and high standards have developed, sustain, and continue to advance purebred dogs as unequalled family and working companions. Purebred dogs exhibit consistency in size, appearance, temperament and instincts. This enables prospective owners to choose a puppy that fits their particular lifestyle and increases the likelihood of a long, successful lifetime in that home. AKC is proud to advocate for purebred dogs, breeding for type and function, the sport of purebred dogs, and for breeders who are committed to the health and wellbeing of dogs and preserving their unique breeds.

About National Purebred Dog Day:

The May 1 National Purebred Dog Day movement was created by Colorado resident and Puli fancier Suzi Szeremy to celebrate the diversity, heritage, and predictability of purebred dogs. Colorado became the first state to designate a National Purebred Dog Day in 2015, and the Illinois House of Representatives has recently introduced a resolution as well.

The AKC is proud to support Senate Resolution 447 and National Purebred Dog Day. We invite you to join us in celebrating the pride, predictability, purpose, and preservation of these dogs that have done so much to enhance our lives.

What You Can Do:

- **Contact your US Senators and ask them to support Senate Resolution 447.** Let them know why purebred dogs are important to you. [Visit the AKC Legislative Action Center](#) and type your address in the “Find Your Elected Officials” box to find the name and contact information for your US Senators.
- **Contact Senator Thom Tillis and thank him for introducing Senate Resolution 447 and designating May 1 as National Purebred Dog Day.** Be sure to let him know if you are a North Carolina resident.

Senator Thom Tillis

(202) 224-6342

E-mail form: www.tillis.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/email-me

- [Read more](#) about National Purebred Dog Day and how you can help us celebrate on May 1.

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.



May Events

- Animal Disaster Preparedness Day May 14
- Dog Bite Prevention Week May 15-21
- PVSSC Meeting May 16

Meeting Refreshments

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

2016

May meeting – Cathie Skoog
June meeting – Debbie Lauritzen
August meeting – the Reddersens
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.

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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