



UNITED WHITE SHEPHERD CLUB



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HEALTH & GENETICS

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Fellow White Shepherd Lovers,

Welcome to yet another issue of the UWSC Newsletter. As you can probably tell from the front cover this issue is going to follow the 'theme' of having a theme like the previous newsletter, this time focusing on some of the health and genetics in our breed. There are some great articles here, articles that I hope will be useful and informative. I enjoyed this particular topic greatly, and I hope to be able to run the same theme again next year.

This issue is perhaps less colorful than other issues have been, but I promise to make it up to all of you in the next issue, which will focus entirely on this years Premier! It should be full of pictures and articles about the goings on of the Premier, the fun stories and the camaraderie of seeing friends and lovers of the breed.

I also wanted to say a great big thanks to everyone who has contributed, is contributing, and will contribute in the future. You all help to make this newsletter better with every page!

I as always open to comment, and I would love for even more articles and letters from the membership! If anything comes to your mind, please send it and I will do my best to run it! Additionally, don't forget to send your advertisements to Scarlett for editing or publishing.

I hope you enjoy this issue!

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Catherine Helfgott

UWSC Newsletter Co-Editor

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

DIANA UPDIKE

Happy summer to all!

By the time you receive this newsletter, the UKC Premier will have past. I know everyone is anxious for election results, show and performance results, as well as a “fun” update so please note that the very next edition will be dedicated to those very items!

I do not have any club related updates to report at this time and, therefore, I thought I’d share a couple of personal notes. I am so very pleased and proud to announce the official distribution of the new “White Shepherd” book co-authored by Jean Reeves and yours truly. Jean and I are selling autographed copies of the book and donating a portion of all proceeds to the White Shepherd Genetics Project. We would be honored if you concerned ordering a copy of this book at: <http://reevesroyalacres.com/book.htm>.

Additionally, this past Memorial weekend, I entered Kyla (my 4 year old White Shepherd female) into some ASCA Sheep Herding trials. I am very excited to report that Kyla passed the first 2 trials entered and earned her ASCA Started (w/ sheep) title!

Well, that’s it for now,

Diana Updike

P.S. Just a reminder, please save your Purina dry dog food weight circles as it benefits the White Shepherd!



White Shepherd Genetics Project

"For the White Shepherd"

WSGP UPDATE

As of June 1, 2008

3rd Annual Genetics Fund-raiser

Plans are underway for this third fund raiser from which proceeds from all four shows are donated to the WSGP by both the White Shepherd Club of Canada and the American White Shepherd Association. There are plans for:

- Two AWSA shows
- Two WSCC shows
- Rock N' Roll K9s performance and run-throughs for \$5 charge
- Dock diving events both days (Good practice for UKC events) \$5
- Weight Pull practice opportunity (Good practice for UKC events)
- Raffle on Saturday only
- Food available (hot dogs/hamburgers)
- Reservations will be taken for seven or eight campers.

Database

- Melanie Fuelgraff is working on the new professional database.
- From now until the new database is launched, the health clearance and disease submission forms will be posted to a file on the White Shepherd Genetics Project discussion list. This will enable everyone to be as up-to-date as they need to be to use the info for good breeding decisions while the database is being revised. Debbie Martin is posting them on the discussion list.
- Submission form is also being revised.

Diagnostics

Mona Persson requested financial assistance for the expenses related to the diagnosis and surgery of her boy, Axel. Since he has a spinal related condition which is of great importance for research purposes for our breed, and since we had the funds to do it, the WSGP donated \$1,000. Mona will send me his report after surgery as required by the WSGP and that result will be reported to our Open Registry.

Dr. Padgett's book, "The Control of Canine Genetic Diseases" was purchased by the following people who also included donations to the WSGP :

- Kim King
- Linda Lesser
- Tommy Reed
- Diane Massey
- Betty Jo Smith

Fundraising

- Ken Makowski, WSGP Board secretary has also taken on the task of fund-raising.

Geneticist's Pedigrees

- I prepared a Geneticist's pedigree on all conditions reported to the Open Registry concerning the spine. It included diagnosed cases of Lumbosacral Stenosis, Intervertebral Disc Disease, Spondylosis, rear-end weakness/problems, and lumbar stenosis. On this GenPed, I entered all of these dogs as affected and all of their parents as carriers. I also identified those dogs that were diagnosed with LS as well as Inflammatory Bowel Disease, I did this to have



an over-all snapshot of the families of dogs with these conditions.

- There are older dogs on this pedigree that did not have a definitive diagnosis—but whose descendants did have one or more of the conditions diagnosed in most cases with either MRI, CT scan or necropsy. It seems safe to assume that there is something familial going on and include these dogs.
- Arleen Ravanelli requested a GenPed for dogs that had a necropsy and did not have a diagnosis of IVDD. I completed it and sent it to her on April 12, 2008.
- Scarlett Sanders requested a personal GenPed.
- Linda M requested a personal GenPed.
- Lynda Proulx is doing one comprehensive GenPed for dogs with PennHIP which will be available on our website along with the individual ones I prepared. All the PennHIP GenPeds will be posted on the website in the near future.

Necropsy Reports

- The check list that I created to tell me specifically what was found during a necropsy has been revised at the suggestion of our consultant, Dr. Mary Cardeccia. It includes a third column for secondary conditions such as Bladder Atony or Megacolon occurring as a result of a genetic condition such as Inflammatory Bowel Disease or Lumbosacral Stenosis. They are secondary to the primary diagnosis. In our experience, there are a number of things that are diagnosed that would be clearer to understand if they stood alone in this third column.
- The necropsy report and check list for Rhonda McMahan's, Super, was posted to the genetics list on April 13, 2008.
- Mona Persson still plans to organize the information that instructs people in how to go about planning for and arranging for a necropsy. She initially planned to have it complete by May 1, but has been dealing with Axel's spinal problem and subsequent surgery. Once this

information is approved, it will go to Ruut to add to our website.

Not-For Profit Status

- All required paperwork has been submitted. Now, we wait for approval.
- LLC has been removed from the official name. The original filing I did in 2006 was for a Not For Profit Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) and we were listed as the White Shepherd Genetics Project, LLC. Since this confused some people into thinking we were running a “for profit” organization, I made sure the initials were removed from our name so that we would not run into that kind of controversy again. This was handled in the “filing process.”
- A non-profit group is required to have a Board. Our initial Board consists of:
 - Judy Huston
 - Ken Makowski, Secretary
 - Arleen Ravanelli
 - Catherine Helfgott
 - Maurice Seeger
 - Dale Malony
 - Dr. Mary Cardeccia

Treasury Report

- First quarter Treasury Report was prepared by our Treasurer, Susan Ewart, and is in the files section on the White Shepherd Genetics discussion list. Our income for the first quarter was \$225. Our expenses were \$7,412.

Website

- Ruut Tilstra posted the latest updates to the website on April 5, 2008.
- Owner write-up, pictures, etc. were sent Ruut to be posted on the Above and Beyond section of the website for Diana Updike's Polo, and Rhonda McMahan's Super.

Warm regards,

Judy Huston



RECOVERY

Body and Mind

By Arleen Ravanelli

We all know how important the mind is to healing. Studies have proven that a positive out-look can not only help recovery after major illness or surgery, but also decrease recovery time. Now the question is how do we apply that to our dogs? It is not like we can sit them down and have a chat. Explain why they need to remain quite and tell them Yes, I do still love you, even if I don't through the ball for you any more or take you for walks.

If you are fortunate enough to have a pet that is not in a lot of pain through the recovery period that becomes even harder to accomplish. How do we keep their spirits up and at the same time make sure they stay quite and give their bodies the time to heal properly? Sure there are crates, commands, even harsh words to keep them in line – but remember the mind heals the body. I don't know about your dogs, but mine sure the heck are not going to be happy lying around doing nothing all day.

Recently we found ourselves in just such a challenge. And with the one dog I would not wish this challenge on with any one – Shira!!!

We had 6 weeks of her lying on her side, only allowed to get up to potty on a short leash and then straight back to bed. For those of you who have had the pleasure of meeting Shira you understand. For those of you who have not, let's just say the only time in her life she has laid still for more then 3 hours at a time is either to sleep or tend to her puppies.

How did we manage it all? We got creative!!!

Sure there are bones, but lets face it you can only chew on a bone for so long and not to mention we did want to have some teeth left when this was all over. We practiced down stays, but that got old real fast. Then one night when Shira was doing her incisive pawing at me for attention I had a thought – Patty Cake! It was really a no brainer. She loves to paw and lying on her side she had full use of her front legs. She all ready knew the touch command with her foot and also would shake left or right paw when you asked. So we combined all of those tricks together and in

three days had it down and were happily playing patty cake.

Now I am sure you are all thinking I am totally insane about now and YES I was. You try living 3 months in a small room with a very unhappy 70 pound shepherd!

From there we ran with it and added play fighting – I would put on a glove and she would play fight with her mouth and get out all her frustrations. She learned quickly to stay lying down or the game ended. We played catch with her favorite ball, I tossed it to her and she tossed it back. That took some practice for her not to throw it clear across the room. We played tug. We even played the old shell game with a treat under a cup and she had to knock over the right cup with her nose or paw.

I have to say I was pretty proud of myself and I knew Shira's spirits were finally lifting and she looked forward to our play sessions. Of course being woken up at 3 AM to play patty cake was not a welcomed side effect. We even discovered sitting down with her and reading my Granddaughter's picture books helped. When you pointed to the picture Shira would sniff the page and listen intently to the story, staring at the book or me like she

actually understood – heck for all I know she did. Animal Planet became our best friend, especially the shows where puppies were featured. Shira would watch for hours content and happily talking back to the TV and the puppies.

I started asking around for more ideas and although a few people thought I had totally lost my mind, many others jumped on the idea when they realized how valuable the games could be to keep a dog focused and happy during a recovery period. We all

have issues with our dogs – spay, neuter, heaven forbid a broken leg, or maybe just an illness that requires rest for a week or more.

I was encouraged to write this article for all of you to use, but actually my reasons for doing so are more selfish in nature. I want you all to start thinking out side of the box. Come up with your own ideas and games and then share them with me and others. I am sure I will need them again with a dog at some point and time and I sure would like to have a few more

things in my bag of tricks when that day comes.

Each dog is different, but the one thing that remains the same for all is the mind needs to be stimulated even when the body is not working properly. So I have started this list of games, it is now up to each of you to add to it. That way we all can treat our dogs in both mind as well as body for the best possible outcome to any situation that may arise.



White Shepherds in the OFA

By : Catherine Helfgott

One year of age is a very revealing and important age in the lives of many dogs. That is the age where breeders can begin to run tests on their dogs to determine whether or not those dogs meet their health standards for breed worthiness.

As my Ruby approached that age I began to realize I might run into trouble having her information listed in the OFA Database. The Berger Blanc Suisse is not a listed breed, and she cannot be listed as a German Shepherd as she has no paperwork stating her as thus. I spent a couple of weeks contemplating this dilemma and what I would do about it.

One day, on a lark, I was looking up information on the OFA Database and scrolled down through the list of breeds. Imagine my surprise and shock when I saw that White Shepherds were listed as a breed! What a fantastic chance and an immediate solution to my dilemma.

I soon found out that owners can have their

dogs listed under two registration numbers. This is a great opportunity for those breeders who would like to have their dogs listed as White Shepherds using their UKC registration number but also want the AKC registration number to remain on record for ease of searching.

This is a great opportunity for those of us who do not see our dogs as German Shepherds. Finally a chance to list our dogs as they are – a way for the information coming from our dogs to be recognized as our breed and not another! Currently only two dogs are listed on the OFA Database as White Shepherds (soon to be four). If we can take a hold of this opportunity, increase the database as our breed rather than as German Shepherds we might be able to attract researchers, tests, and studies that might not have otherwise been open to us in the past.

This is a resource we should most definitely capitalize on!



jury occurs for that dog that because of its body type. Yet, there are probably 90 dogs to those 10 that were injured that could experience the exact same injury with exactly the same physical force and would not get injured.

Breeds seen most often in Dr. Cardeccia's practice:

We obviously see a lot of Dachshunds. We see quite a few German Shepherds, and it seems like a lot of Cocker Spaniels. I think some of the smaller, longer dogs, like Shih Tzu and Lhasa Apso might be a little more represented, but it seems like the main ones I see are the Cockers, Dachshunds, and German Shepherds.

Diagnosis:

Some dogs can be diagnosed with just an x-ray. There are many times when you can see narrowing of the vertebral space which will tell you there has been chronic changes in that disc, , but if you cannot see a disc problem on the x-ray that does not tell you that they do not have IVDD. Other tests like an MRI or CT scan are required.

Differing Opinions from Vets and Specialists:

You have to have a standard to compare it to so that you all know what you mean when you give a certain definition of a disease for the White Shepherd. It is not so important what someone else calls it as long as we know we are talking about the same thing, even by a different name. It doesn't mean that somebody else can't look at it differently, but then they could very easily look at the information that we put out there and understand what we are trying to convey as long as we have a good definition. For example, we are using Lumbosacral Stenosis with an abbreviation of LS and that doesn't mean geneticists across the country or a neurologist in Florida has to think the same way we do, but they will be able to look at what we are doing and understand what we are saying. So, I think if we can just find a way to get really good definitions for what we are using then anybody who wants to argue with that, we can so "okay fine, this is what we are using this term to mean, but if you have another term for it, just know that when we say 'this' it means 'that' to you." According to Dr. Cardeccia, using different terminology for a condition is an on-going source of confusion.

This is a one-page summary update about IVDD in the WS. It is the spinal conditions in our dogs that inspired the Necropsy Reimbursement program and inspired the WSGP to help pay for diagnostics for dogs with spinal conditions which include Lumbosacral Stenosis, Spondylosis, and other back symptoms.

We have 17 cases of IVDD, 15 cases of LS, 22 cases of Spondylosis, and 18 cases w/o definitive diagnosis.

There are differing views about this disease and about the spinal diseases in general. I did an interview with our consultant, Dr. Mary Cardeccia. These are her major points. Complete interview will be posted on the genetics website or can be had by writing to me.

Basic Definition of IVDD:

Intervertebral Disc Disease is inflammation of the intervertebral discs, such that it puts pressure on the spinal cord—can be herniated/ruptured or slipped.

Symptoms of IVDD:

Ataxia (loss of muscle coordination), pain, trouble walking or getting up, gait changes, inflammation—any or all of these symptoms and more could occur.

Causes of IVDD:

We assume that it is a genetic predisposition. It seems to be usually dogs jumping or twisting—those types of injury, even like jumping off the couch. We seem to see the same types of dogs over and over. It doesn't always take very much (to cause the symptoms). I think that a dog that is predisposed towards it can injure itself doing something that many many dogs would not be hurt at all by doing. The in-

A Comparison of GSD Hip Evaluation Techniques OFA and Pennhip

“Lots of Opinions, Not Much Data”

By Yvette Woodward

OFA and PennHIP: Brief Overview

The PennHIP method was developed as an alternative technique to screen dogs for signs of canine hip dysplasia (CHD) and the associated degenerative joint disease (DJD). The OFA method has been in use since 1966 and has long been the “gold standard” for hip scores for dogs, and even Maine Coon cats. The goals of these two organizations are similar: evaluate dogs for early signs of DJD, judge the quality of the hips, and equip breeders with the data to make educated choices for selecting breeding stock. Thus the similarities end.

For detailed information on the OFA and PennHIP methods, the reader is encouraged to read directly from their respective web sites (1). In brief, compare the different techniques used to obtain X-rays:

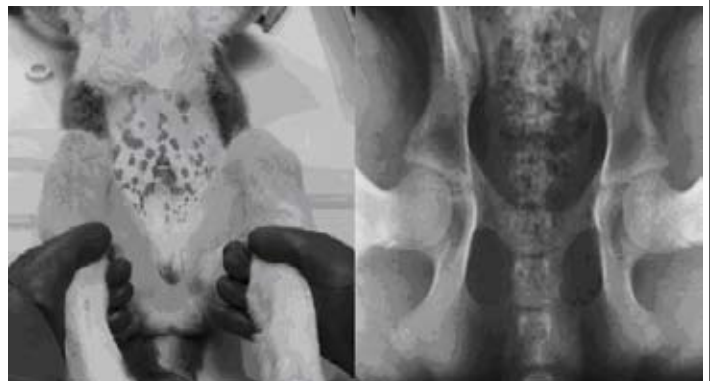
The traditional hip extended position used to take X-rays for submission to OFA:



The dog's legs are stretched taut, typically under sedation to keep the dog still and prevent guarding. The type of anesthesia used in the procedure, or the lack thereof, must be submitted with the OFA evaluation sheet, as it is likely that an unsedated dog will resist (“guarding”), and the joints would appear tighter than if sedated. Results are reviewed by a

panel of three experts and a score given on a subjective seven-point scale: Excellent, Good, Fair, Borderline, Mild Dysplasia, Moderate, and Severe.

The PennHIP technique utilizes three X-ray views: the traditional hip extended position, compression, and distraction view. In the compression view, the dog's hind legs are tucked in to press the femur as deep in the hip sockets as possible, to get a view of the maximum coverage of the ball and socket.



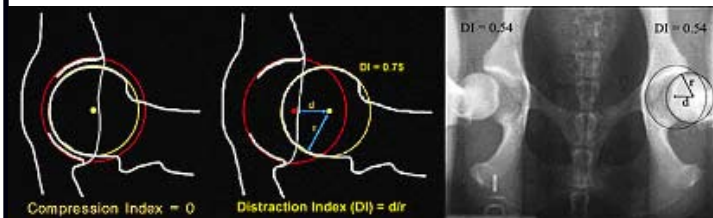
In the distraction view, the dog's thighs are pressed apart by a rubber tool designed for this purpose, to show the maximum laxity of the hip joints.



Note that in the extended hip view X-ray, the severe laxity of the hip joints is not apparent in this case.

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A mathematical calculation is used to measure the Distraction Index (DI) of each hip – the actual displacement of the head of the femur from the socket relative to max compression.



DI ranges from 0 – 1, with lower numbers indicating tighter hips.

“Myth”-conceptions and Actual Risks

The PennHIP method has come under fire since its inception, facing some serious allegations:

1. PennHIP results are not useful in predicting DJD (?)
2. PennHIP relies too much on joint laxity as a measure of CHD (?)
3. PennHIP evaluations have injured “many” dogs and the injuries secretly covered up (?!?)

Is there any truth to these spurious rumors? Let us examine the evidence.

First, a common misconception about PennHIP is that the dog’s hips are actually dislocated from the joint, which would be a terrible and painful injury. However, this is simply not true. The proper execution of the technique should be no more or less potentially harmful than the commonplace hip extended view in which the dog is stretched like a rubber band. Whereas it is possible that a dog could receive an injury by a rogue vet with sloppy technique, it is not correct to generalize such a fluke event as representative of the whole.

A more realistic concern is the effect of the anesthesia, as some dogs react poorly to sedation. The PennHIP web site contains a disclaimer that a small percentage of dogs can die while being put under, but this is standard boiler-plate – blame the lawyers for that quip. The dog is not completely put under for PennHIP but rather in a state commonly called “twilight”. Many dogs bounce back quickly from anesthesia. However, some dogs experience side effects: vomiting, lingering disorientation, loss

of coordination, loss of appetite, lethargy. Some dogs wake up fighting so to speak, as they can hallucinate while regaining full consciousness. However, these risks are not particular to the PennHIP technique itself, and dogs getting OFA X-rays are often sedated as well.

“If you torture the data, it will confess.”

The internet is a fantastic medium for the spreading of both facts and fallacy, and in the numerous, and occasionally notorious, discussion boards anyone can act the expert. For the novice seeking education, it is difficult to wade through the drivel.

Consider this example: on one popular discussion board, a poster made the assertion that line-breeding on a popular Czech stud causes bad hips. How to prove, or disprove this? An attempt at clarification yielded disappointing results: in the commonly used “German Shepherd Dog (GSD) Pedigree Database” more than 130 dogs are registered that are line-bred on this dog. Of these 130 dogs, only 16 had hip ratings listed, and only one dysplastic. These 16 dogs had their hips evaluated by four venues: OFA, PennHIP, a-stamp, and FCI. Since anyone can post hip results on any dog, one would have to search four databases to validate the results posted.

Anyone claiming that line-breeding produces bad hips using 16 results out of 130 dogs from an unmoderated database is skating on thin ice. However, when challenging such a claim, the smug response is “the bad hips don’t get sent in,” which highlights an important deficiency of the OFA system.

The Achilles Heel – Bias in the Data

A notable difference between the OFA and PennHIP systems is that PennHIP requires all films to be submitted, even if the hips look dysplastic. X-rays for PennHIP submission must be taken by a licensed and approved PennHIP vet who has been trained in the technique. Although some scoff at the notion that this “certification” is merely a paper to hang on the wall, consider that OFA will accept X-rays without any oversight at all.

For example, there are vets who have never before been asked to do X-rays for OFA, and yet will take the money and give it a go. Rigorous iden-

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tification of the dog is not always checked. Someone could show up with a black and tan GSD, present AKC papers for a different black and tan GSD, receive the films for submission to OFA, and no one would be the wiser. One would hope that this sort of subterfuge is not common.

Sadly, not submitting “bad” X-rays is a common practice. A study of Golden Retrievers and Rottweilers found a significantly higher percentage of dysplastic dogs than the stats quoted on the OFA database. Moreover, X-rays that appeared “normal” were 8.2 times as likely to be submitted as “bad” X-rays. (2)

Studies on DJD – Scientific Abstracts

In the course of writing this article, more than 30 scientific abstracts were painstakingly reviewed. Consider this excerpt from a study on the heritability of CHD to see the “pain” in “painstaking review”...

“For the DI at the observed effect size, recombination fraction of 0.05, and heterozygosity of 0.75, 35 dogs in the backcross of the F1 to the Greyhound generation would yield linkage at a power of 0.8.” (3)

Anyone who can understand such statistical babble is probably in dire need of a hobby, and a new pocket protector. Unfortunately this is exactly the kind of language used in these reports.

The next several paragraphs will attempt to summarize some key findings of these studies. The reader is encouraged to read the original papers to confirm, and is advised to pour a second cup of coffee beforehand.

CHD is a heritable trait but it is a polygenic trait, and does not act as a simple dominant-recessive gene, such as the genes for the all-black coat in the GSD.

Subluxation is a significant factor in the heritability of CHD, but certainly not the only one.

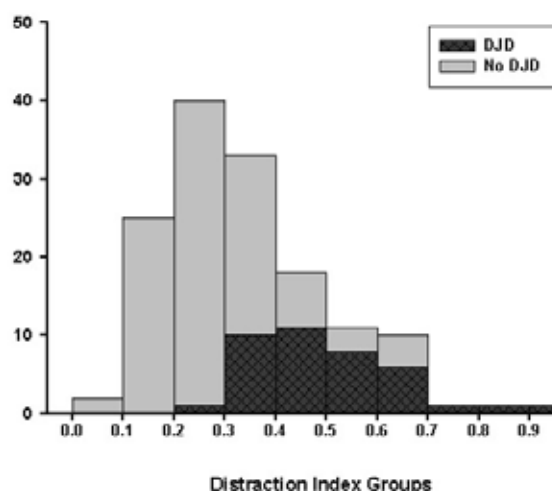
Two studies showed that Labradors allowed to “free feed” were more likely to develop DJD and other health complications as they aged. This supports the advice that obesity can harm a dog’s hips.

Notably absent, however, were any studies done on the effects of a “quality” diet. This is odd considering that some breeders go so far as to require their clients to feed a particular diet or brand of food, or else their hip guarantee is null and void. What studies have been done to back such claims?

Another notably absent study was the effect of vigorous exercise in a young dog on the later development of CHD. It is widely repeated across the Internet that a young dog’s hips and elbows will be harmed: “don’t run with your dog until one year of age,” “don’t let your dog jump off the tailgate of your truck,” “don’t exercise your dog on asphalt or concrete,” etc. This oft-quoted adage also appears to be common grounds for nullification of a breeder’s hip guarantee. What studies have been done to back such claims?

Studies have been published that seem to contradict one another. The OFA vs. PennHIP “debate” is more aptly named “war” judging from the ferocious rebuttals and counter rebuttals, with each party taking exception to the interpretation of data or experimental technique.

Even more amusing, sometimes the same set of data is used by proponents and detractors of the PennHIP system alike. For example, detractors of the PennHIP method are eager to point out that DI values of 0.4 – 0.7 are not accurate predictors of DJD. However, although this is not factually inaccurate, it’s missing the point.



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For example, this study shows that dogs with very low DI (tight hips) did not have DJD, dogs with very high DI (loose hips) did have DJD, and in the gray area in between... well, it's a gray area. For a GSD with DI of 0.5 it is impossible to predict whether or not this individual dog will or will not develop DJD in later years. However, to imply that the data is worthless is not correct.

Relationship between joint laxity and the development of DJD

First, consider that DJD is a progressive condition that worsens with age. Of all the possible predictors of DJD, the strongest correlation is simply age. A young dog with dysplastic hips may live many years without showing symptoms. The following X-rays show the progression from severe dysplasia to DJD, from 6 months of age to 6 years.



The fact that a dog has moderately loose hips does not guarantee that the dog will develop DJD in later years. Conversely, relatively tight hips are no guarantee that DJD will never develop. Even though DI may not be able to predict future occurrence of DJD for any individual dog, the fact of the matter is that every dog breed tested shows a correlation between increased laxity and DJD.

Breed-specific Correlations

Another key difference between OFA and PennHIP is breed-specific comparison. Whereas in the OFA ratings a Pug and a Mastiff can both be rated as "OFA Good" but is this a meaningful comparison? Is it possible to say that "good hips" in a 10 lb dog have the same relevance as "good hips" in a 100 lb dog?

Consider the results of the following study: more than 15,000 dogs with DJD were studied to determine risk factors associated with DJD with four breeds represented: Golden Retrievers, Labradors,

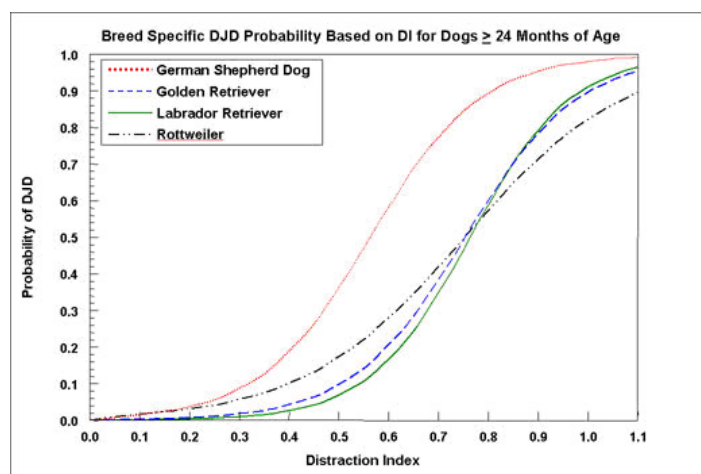
Rottweilers, and GSD's.

"Weight and DI were significant risk factors for DJD in all breeds. For German Shepherd Dogs, the risk of having DJD was 4.95 times the risk for dogs of the other three breeds combined." (4)

"Results indicated that the probability of having hip DJD increased with hip joint laxity as measured by use of DI. This association was breed-specific, indicating that breed-specific information on disease susceptibility should be incorporated when making breeding decisions and when deciding on possible surgical treatment of hip dysplasia." (4)

Sadly, our beloved breed is far more susceptible to DJD than others with the same hip laxity!

This chart illustrates the differences between the breeds tested:



| Breed | DI | Probability of DJD |
|-----------|------|--------------------|
| GSD | 0.60 | ~60% |
| Rottwiler | 0.60 | ~30% |
| Lab | 0.60 | ~20% |

In the PennHIP system, dogs are compared to other dogs of the same breed and assigned a percentile ranking. A GSD ranked in the 80th percentile means this dog's hips score better than 80% of the other GSD's tested. A Malinois ranked in the 80th percentile will have different DI values and the median DI values are different from breed to breed.

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| Breed | Number in PH Database (estimate) | Median DI |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| GSD | ~7,000 | 0.40 |
| BMAL | ~300 | 0.32 |
| LAB | ~14,000 | 0.48 |
| GOLD | ~10,000 | 0.54 |

Comparison of Results – OFA vs. PennHIP

The following table shows the OFA and PennHIP results of several dogs that have been evaluated by both techniques:

| Dog Sex Age | OFA Hip Results | PennHIP Results Distraction Index / DJD Percentile w/in Breed |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| GSD-1 Female 35 mo. | Good | L: 0.33 / None R: 0.29 / None 80th percentile |
| GSD-2 Male 43 mo. | Good | L: 0.33 / None R: 0.37 / None 60th percentile |
| GSD-3 Female 12 mo. | Prelim Good | L: 0.39 / None R: 0.39 / None 60th percentile |
| GSD-4 Female 12 mo. | Prelim Fair | Left: 0.46 / None Right: 0.38 / None 40th percentile |
| GSD-5 Male 35 mo. | Fair | L: 0.35 / None R: 0.50 / Mild DJD 30th percentile |
| BMAL-1 Male 24 mo. | Excellent | L: 0.19 / None R: 0.15 / None > 90th percentile |
| BMAL-2 Male 33 mo. | Good | L: 0.19 / None R: 0.19 / None > 90th percentile |
| BMAL-3 Male 32 mo. | Excellent | L: 0.28 / None R: 0.20 / None 80th percentile |
| BMAL-4 Female 24 mo. | Good | Left: 0.30 / None Right: No reading 60th percentile |
| LAB Female 25 mo. | Excellent | L: 0.29 / None R: 0.25 / None > 90th percentile |
| GOLD Female 12 mo. | Prelim Good | L: 0.52 / None R: 0.48 / None 60th percentile |

Some points to consider:

- GSD-5 was ranked with passing hips by OFA but identified as Mild Dysplastic by PennHIP.
- BMAL-2 was ranked as OFA Good despite having better hips, per PennHIP, than BMAL-3, which was rated Excellent.
- GSD-2 and BMAL-2 are both rated OFA Good even though BMAL-2 has both tighter hips and a higher percentile ranking in a breed with better overall DI.
- Based on these results and the obvious differences between breeds, does it really make sense to say that an OFA “Fair” GSD is as breed worthy as an OFA “Fair” Lab?

Digital X-ray images are available for those interested in visual inspection.

Benefits of the Techniques

OFA

1. the “gold standard” the US, recognized and respected by a plethora of dog breeders
2. a searchable database on their web site, free to the public and easy to access.
3. grading of elbows
4. more than 89,000 GSD’s in its database
- 5.

PennHIP

1. quantitative instead of qualitative
2. breed-specific ranking of dogs
3. more capable method to detect laxity
4. capable predictor of laxity at a young age

Limitations of the Techniques

OFA

1. results are biased, and films of “bad” hips may never be sent in

Continued on the Next Page...

PennHIP

1. newcomer to the field and results are not widely understood or acknowledged by breeders, dog lovers, or breed registries
no readily accessible database of results

Conclusions – For the Love of the Breed

Neither OFA nor PennHIP are “perfect” techniques, and no combination of numbers can guarantee the outcome of any individual dog, or the progeny of any individual breeding. In the decades that OFA has been cataloging hip ratings for GSD’s, only modest progress has been made to improve hips and reduce the incidence of CHD.

Nevertheless, breeders have the capability to improve this situation. Some breeders, for example, sell all puppies with limited registration until the owner presents proof of passing hips. Some breeders even offer cash incentives to have their dogs X-rayed by their new owners. For example, one breeder offers puppy buyers \$50 for OFA ranking, and \$100 for PennHIP results.

For the die-hard fans of OFA, they are encouraged to petition OFA to change their policies so that all X-rays must be submitted so that bad hips cannot be conveniently hidden and kept out of the public

eye.

The PennHIP method is useful for early detection of CHD for both dog sport enthusiasts and breeders alike. Although OFA Prelim results taken at one year of age are claimed to be quite accurate predictors of CHD, this is little comfort to someone who has invested two years into training and raising a dog, only receive a dysplastic rating from a dog that passed Prelims.

An additional advantage for the skeptics of PennHIP is that a copy of the hip-extended X-rays can be sent in for OFA ranking for comparison with results given by PennHIP.

Buyers should also play an active role in improving the state of CHD in the GSD. “Vote with your wallet,” as they say, and support breeders with superior breeding stock. Submit X-rays regardless if they appear “passing” or not.

All readers are encouraged to read the abstracts directly, as much of the information on the Internet is mere opinion, or at best, a blind “copy and paste” job from web site to web site. It is advisable to avoid making broad platitudes such as “dysplasia is only 30% genetic – it’s 70% environmental”. Really? Show me the data.

Acknowledgements

Vikki Ingram, Ted vande Woude, Dr. Jack Miller

for supplying OFA ratings, PennHIP results, and digital X-ray images.

Citations and End Notes

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Note: the author has the dubious distinction of a degree in chemical engineering which necessitates a daily dose of on-the-job statistical data analysis in a cramped office in the bowels of a chemical plant. She has been really cranky since losing her last good pocket protector.

SMALL POPULATION BREEDS AND ISSUES OF GENETIC DIVERSITY

JEROLD S. BELL, DVM, *Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine*

BREEDING & GENETICS

The AKC Canine Health Committee has approved this article and encourages its reproduction.

Issues of genetic diversity are a concern to dog breeders, and this can especially be so for breeds with small populations. The concern is whether there is enough genetic variation within a breed's gene pool to maintain health and vitality. Breeders should be concerned about genetic diversity, because there are examples where damage has been done to a breed due to breeding practices. Restriction of genetic diversity can also occur in large population breeds.

All genes come in pairs: one from the sire and one from the dam. Each gene in the pair is called an allele. If both alleles in a pair are of the same type, the gene pair is homozygous. If the two alleles are different, the gene pair is heterozygous. While each dog can have a maximum of two different alleles at a gene pair, many different alleles are potentially available to be part of the gene pair. The greater the number of alleles that are available at each gene pair (called genetic polymorphism), the greater the genetic diversity of the breed.

If there is no breed diversity in a gene pair, but the particular homozygous gene that is present is not detrimental, there is no negative effect on breed health. The

characteristics that make a breed reproduce true to its standard are, in fact, based on nonvariable (that is, homozygous) gene pairs.

The origins of breeds have a lot to do with genetic diversity. A breed established with a working phenotype tends to have diverse founder origins, and significant diversity. Even with substantial population bottlenecks, the breed can maintain considerable amounts of genetic diversity. This was shown in a molecular genetic study of the Chinook breed, which was reduced to 11 modern founders in 1981. Breeds established by inbreeding on a limited number of related founder individuals could have reduced diversity. Many breeds have also gone through diversity reducing bottlenecks; such as occurred during World War II. For most of these breeds, their gene pools have expanded through breeding for many generations, resulting in a stable population of healthy dogs.

There are two factors that must be considered when evaluating genetic diversity and health issues in a breed; the average level of inbreeding, and detrimental recessive genes. With a small population, there is a tendency to find higher average inbreeding coefficients due to the relatedness between dogs from common ancestors. There is, however, no specific level or percentage of inbreeding

that causes impaired health or vigor. The problems that inbreeding depression cause in purebred populations stem from the effects of deleterious recessive genes. If the founding population of a breed produces a high frequency of a deleterious recessive gene, then the breed will have issues with that disorder. This can be seen as smaller litter size, increased neonatal death, high frequency genetic disease, or impaired immunity. If these issues are present then the breed needs to seriously consider limited genetic diversity.

The issue of high average inbreeding coefficients is one that all breeds go through during their foundation. As the population increases and the average relatedness of dogs goes down (based on a fixed number of generations), the average inbreeding coefficient for the breed will go down. The effect of initially higher inbreeding coefficients in small population breeds will depend on the presence of deleterious recessive genes that will be expressed when homozygous.

Some breeders discourage linebreeding and promote outbreeding in an attempt to protect genetic diversity in their breed. It is not the type of matings utilized (linebreeding or outbreeding) that causes the loss of genes from a

(Continued on page 8)

breed gene pool. Rather, loss of genes occurs through selection: the use and non-use of offspring. If a breed starts narrowing their focus to breeding stock from a limited number of lines, then a loss of genetic diversity will occur.

The process of maintaining healthy lines, with many breeders crossing between lines and breeding back as they see fit, maintains diversity in the gene pool. If some breeders outbreed, and some linebreed to certain dogs that they favor while others linebreed to other dogs that they favor, then breedwide genetic diversity is maintained. It is the varied opinion of breeders as to what constitutes the ideal dog, and their selection of breeding stock based on their opinions, that maintains breed diversity.

The most important factor for diminished genetic diversity in

dog breeds is the popular sire syndrome. The overuse of a popular sire beyond a reasonable contribution through frequent breedings significantly skews the gene pool in his direction, and reduces the diversity of the gene pool. Any genes that he possesses — whether positive or negative — will increase in frequency. Through this founder's effect, breed-related genetic disease can occur. Another insidious effect of the popular sire syndrome is the loss of genetic contribution from quality, unrelated males who are not used for breeding. There is a finite number of quality bitches bred each year. If one male is used in an inordinate amount of matings, there will be fewer females left for these quality males that should be contributing to the gene pool. The popular sire syndrome is a significant factor in both

populous breeds and breeds with small populations.

The best methods for ensuring the health and diversity of any breed's gene pool are to: 1) Avoid the popular sire syndrome. 2) Utilize quality dogs from the breadth of your population to expand the gene pool. 3) Monitor genetic health issues through regular health surveys. 4) Do genetic testing for breed-related disorders. 5) Participate in open health registries, such as CHIC (www.caninehealthinfo.org) to manage genetic disorders. 🐾

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UKC Sports Highlight

"The Total Dog"



BY : BETH BORCHARDT

One of the sports that the United Kennel Club offers is agility. Agility is a sport that virtually all dogs can be successful at, regardless of breed. There are breeds that are more suited for agility, but that doesn't mean that others cannot do it!

UKC agility differs from some of the other major agility venues. UKC agility focuses more on control and accuracy, rather than speed. There are also some different obstacles that you will only see at an UKC trial.

UKC currently has 3 separate agility classes, called simply Agility 1, Agility 2 and Agility 3. Within each class, there are three different jump height divisions (division 1, 2 or 3). In addition, within the Agility 1 and Agility 2 classes, each jump height is further divided into A and B sections. In general, the jump heights are lower than other organizations, set at 8", 14" and 20". You must jump at the height that your dog measures into. There are several rules on who can enter the A or B class, but for the most part, the A class is for dogs who are working toward the beginning titles and the B class is for dogs who are working towards the more advanced titles.



UKC has several titles that you can earn with



your dog. The United Agility I (UAGI) title is earned by getting 3 qualifying scores of 170 or higher from the Agility 1 class. You can get these legs in either the A or B section, and can earn all 3 legs under the



same judge. The United Agility II (UAGII) title is earned by getting 3 qualifying scores of 170 or higher from the Agility 2 class. You can also earn these legs from the A or B section, and all under the same

judge. You can also work on these first two titles at the same time, though you won't get the certificate for the AGII title (if you earn it first) until you also meet the requirements for the AGI title. The next title is the United Agility Champion (UACH) title. To get this title, you must accumulate 100 points from the B sections of the AG1 and AG2 classes. You get points for every score of 196 or higher, ranging from 1 point for a 196 to 10 points for a perfect 200. You must get at least 40 points from AG1 and 40 points from AG2, the remaining 20 points can come from either or both classes. There is no judge requirement for this title. Next, you get to work on your United Agility Champion Excellent (UACHX) title! To earn this title, you must get 5 qualifying scores of 196 or higher in the Agility 3 class. You must also get legs under at least 3 different judges. The final title you can get in UKC agility is the



Grand Agility Champion (UGRACH). To earn this title, you have to "Triple Q" five times, under at least 2

different judges. A "Triple Q" is earned by getting a qualifying score in each of the Agility 1 B, Agility 2 B and Agility 3 classes in the same trial with a total combined score of 588 or higher.



To date, there are multiple White Shepherds with the AGI and AGII titles. There are three with the UACH title. There is only one with the UACHX and none with the UGRACH. However, I have it on good authority that there should be a UGRACH and another UACHX White Shepherd soon!

UKC agility has some different equipment that is used in their courses. It is a good idea to expose your dog to it prior to entering a trial. But, in the A sections of Agility 1 and Agility 2, you are allowed to walk the course with your dog on leash prior to running it, to let your dog get used to the equipment. But, you only get one attempt during this walk through, so it's not ideal to train your dog!

In Agility 1, you will have jumps, the A Frame, the dog walk, the teeter totter, tunnels, the chute, the table and the hoop tunnel. The hoop tunnel is the only UKC specific obstacle, and the dog has to run down the hoops without coming out of the side.

In Agility 2, you will have jumps, the tire, tunnels, weave poles, the crawl tunnel, the swing plank, the sway bridge, and either the platform jump or the pause box. The crawl tunnel is a straight tunnel, with canvas set at a height requiring the dogs to crawl under it.



The dog cannot come out the sides. The sway bridge is similar to what you see at children's playgrounds. The dog must touch both the up and down ramps, and touch the middle with all four feet. The swing plank is a short plank that wobbles when touched, and the dog must touch it with all four feet. The pause box is a PVC box that is placed on the ground and the dog must sit or lie down in it. The platform jump is a set of two platforms with a jump in the middle. The dog must sit on the first

platform, jump the jump, then sit on the second platform. Also in Agility 2, there will be a line drawn around the weave poles and the pause obstacle (either the pause box or the platform jump) that is two feet away from the obstacle. The handler is not allowed to cross the lines with their feet.



In Agility 3, you will see a combination of all of the available obstacles. In addition, there will be a line around the weave poles and the pause obstacle that will be 6 feet away. The handler cannot cross this line with their feet until the dog is finished with the obstacle. The judge will also designate two obstacles to be handled with the dog on the right.

There are several different rules in UKC agility, so it's a good idea to really read the rule book prior to entering a trial. Some of the most obvious ones are that you are not allowed to recall your dog over an obstacle, you are not allowed to have any part of your body cross over the plane of an obstacle, and the dog must enter and exit the contact obstacles straight. Times are usually very generous in UKC agility, so you do not have to worry about not having a dog that is a speed demon!



I have found that UKC agility is, in general, pretty laid back. Trials in my area (Florida) tend to be small, with the same dogs and handlers attending them. I started UKC agility with my mixed breed years ago (UKC lets all dogs play. Mixes are allowed provided they are altered). UKC agility is not found in as many areas as some of the other venues, but it is a good place to start out when you begin to trial.

I am happy to try to answer any further questions people have about UKC agility.

My email is bborchardt1@embarqmail.com

WHITE SHEPHERD SPOTLIGHT

AWSA/WSCC/UKC GR CH Royal Day of Providence, CGC, OFA, PennHIP, vWE, MDR1
 United Kennel Club Grand Champion
 American White Shepherd Association
 Champion – October 2005
 White Shepherd Club of Canada Cham-
 pion – November 2005
 Canine Good Citizen
 PennHIP
 OFA – Good
 MDNR1 – normal/normal
 vWF
 UKC Top Ten – 6th 2004, 1st 2005, 10th
 2006, 5th 2007
 AWSA Top Ten – 3rd 2006, currently
 forth 2008

Moonshadow, Regalwise, Vantasia, Von Tasz and Royal Acres founda-
 tion dogs to name just a few. Pups
 were large boned with very good
 pigmentation, as well as happy go
 lucky personalities from the start.



Tia's pups



Pro at the 2004 Nationals

Pro, as she is known here at Royal Acres, began her life on 3/3/03 sired by UKC GR CH, AWSA/WSCC CH Royal Damien Teen's Desire, CGC, HC, UCD, OFA H&E and out of UKC GR CH, AWSA/WSCC CH Royal Starburst Tiara, CGC, OFA. There were six puppies in the litter, five girls and one boy. We knew from the start that this was a spectacular litter of very promising puppies.

The combined bloodlines represented some of the finest dogs in the country in structure and working ability. Hoofprint, Ve-Lin,

Tia, who is Pro's dam, was the first White Shepherd in the new UKC breed back in 2000 to take a Best in Multi Breed Show. Tia's dam, Starburst also earned a Reserve Best in Show. Tia's esteemed sire, Polo, was the only White Shepherd to earn BEST IN TOP TEN with his proud owner/handler, Diana Updike.

Diana also owns Pro's litter-mate sister, Pebbles. Of course, everyone now knows of Pebbles wonderful 2008 Premier Best in Show accomplishment! Pebbles and Pro are soooooo cute together. Pebbles is the wild child, always wiggling and trying to kiss her sister Pro, whom she adores. Every time Pebbles sees Pro, she becomes so happy and tries to get Pro to play with her. However, Pro feels it is her place in life to be the alpha bitch. Which of



Pro does well at a show!

course, she is! Pro keeps order here at Royal Acres. She keeps all the dogs in line, males and females as well as any puppy that thinks it has a chance to rough house and act unruly. Pro puts an end to that immediately.

Thus, when Pebbles tries to be the wild child every time she is around Pro, acting all wiggly and wanting to kiss, Pro looks at Pebbles like she is very annoying and she is such a silly dog with no manners. They are two sisters that are alike in many ways, different in many more, and always remember each other when they are together several times a year.

Continued on the next page...



Pro with a smile!

With people, Pro is extremely affectionate. Always wanting to be petted, or just to have a hand resting on her. If she is anywhere near a person, her nose is nudging their hand for attention. She is the dog that is always closest when we go for walks, when we are out in public at events, or even just hanging around. Pro is always attached to our side. Always willing to please, always ready with a smile on her face.

Pro has accomplished so much in her show career, we were excited to have her first litter when she was three with UKC CH Moonshadows Barkley of Klotz Kountry, OFA H&E. Barkley's bloodlines are similar to Starburst's bloodlines as well as



Royal Brilliant Moment

Damien's – thus bringing together much of Pro's foundation lines. This first litter produced UKC CH Royal Brilliant Moment (Britta) as well as eight other wonderful pups.

Pro's second litter, sired by UKC CH Regalwise Unrivaled, OFA H&E through fresh chilled and shipped semen, produced five puppies, four girls and one boy. Two of which are still here at Royal Acres, UKC CH Royal Wish Upon



Royal Wish Upon a Star

a Star (Leah), and UKC CH Royal Take it to the Limit (Tater). UKC CH Royal Ready Set Go (Raider) is co-owned and lives with Susan McGrath. UKC CH Royal Prairie Wind (Mariah) is owned by Nancy DeGarmo. These four are making quiet a name for themselves in the show ring as well as in the hearts of their families.



Royal Take it to the Limit

Pro's most recent litter, sired by UKC GR CH Shewan-na's Wild Wild West, HIC, TDI, PennHIP, OFA E also has given us

some spectacular individuals. Two of these pups are enrolled in an Autism assistance program with PACCK in Canada and are showing great promise as outstanding assistance dogs. I have maintained co-ownership with one female, Royal Meandering West (Mia) who had her first Best Puppy placement at her first show.

We have been extremely privileged to be graced by this lovely lady. Pro has definitely carried forward all that we have imagined for our dogs. In the ring, in performance, and in our hearts and homes. She has accomplished so much, and will continue to be a central figure at Royal Acres for years and years to come!



Written with love by:
Jean Reeves
(Pro's Mom and Breeder)
www.reevesroyalacres.com



LETTERS FROM THE MEMBERS



Dog Show Diary

26 April 2008

As our conformation instructor advised me, I entered Faith to a local AKC B-OB match just for a sole purpose of practicing for our upcoming UKC shows.

I must confess that I am not good with directions so we got lost, but made it five minutes prior to the show start. While I was trying to fill out all the forms and letting the AKC people know that I am aware my Faith is white and can be shown "Exhibition" only, my obedient and focused puppy who is going to be soon ready for her first CD title, pulling me in all kinds of directions trying to convince me that there are better things to do here than "sit" and "wait". Juggling Faith, who is absolutely in her highly "scientific" spirit and wants to explore every inch of the ground and every dog who is passing by, I am trying to pay for the two matches we are allowed to enter, getting her show chain collar ready, and trying to find the ring we are showing. I ended up asking a kind lady with a rottweiler to help me get a choke collar in the right position.



So here we go to the ring! I felt never more awkward! Faith was sticking her nose to the ground and studying the sandy surface that probably smelled like cows, sheep, dogs and humans all mixed together; which was pretty exciting for her. Faith stood fine for a judge to look at her teeth, but moved her leg when the

judge was examining her legs and the tail. The judge sent us running two times because somehow I didn't get the pace, or the angle right, and was too fast, or too slow and too all over the place :-)) I couldn't wait



when it was over, LOL. After we were done with our first match we had a break of one hour to kill and that did the trick. Faith had finally smelled enough of the ground and instead saw all kinds of dogs that amused her.

Our second Conformation match: we are standing and waiting for our turn. One GSD lady came to me, petted Faith and said in a very secretive voice not to leave the show without seeing her (!?). Another lady was kindly advising me to show in UKC and insisting that I email her with any questions about UKC shows, but she never gave me her e-mail address. I thought it was bizarre... But here we go! The same judge and by this time she is really annoyed with me ;-)) It is good I have a heavy Russian accent so she felt a bit sorry for me when I couldn't understand which of Faith's legs she wanted me to fix. I was absolutely stunned when in the end the judge gave us the BOB ribbon, and another kind of ribbon (I lost that one on the way home) and a ticket, and told me to wait outside the ring for the next round :-)) I had no idea what to do with the ribbons and the ticket, so I asked the girl



next to me. She said the ribbons mean we go for the next round for the Herding Group competition, and the ticket is for a toy for Faith. So we went to get a toy! When that basket went down for Faith to pick a toy, she was absolutely ecstatic!!! She grabbed the BIGGEST one (they were all surprisingly tiny) and proudly flashing that bushy tail walked to the car to

drop her ribbons off.

When we returned to wait for the next round, the AKC organizer came to us and very politely said that Faith really was not suppose to get any AKC BOB ribbons, or a toy, or advance to any rounds because she is WHITE and LONG-COATED ;-)) She said the judges are just practicing in the AKC matches and might not know all the AKC rules. I said I could return the ribbons (they weren't even any great craftsmanship I would want to keep anyway, they looked more like bookmarks), and the toy. Faith heard a familiar word "TOY" and looked at me with this funny expression : "I am not giving my toy back!" I think the AKC lady had noticed Faith's expression as well and she kindly said we could keep the toy. She allowed us to keep the ribbons too, but added that we can't go and compete in the next round. I was glad it was over!

The place that the show was held was in the middle of the country with the grass fields going miles away to the horizon. It was actually beautiful land. So before we went home, I took Faith far into the field and let her run free. And oh my, did she run!!! For ten minutes she ran at full speed non stop in figure eights around me, chasing birds and butterflies, just out of sheer joy of life and boundless puppy energy! I was standing there watching her white coat get rippled with the wind just like the grass she was running on, watching her happy face, the blue Spring sky and the never ending grasses, birds that were going crazy, and I thought to myself: Yes, this is it! This is the real show, arranged by God Almighty, and I am lucky witnessing the purity of it and being in this happiness of the moment...

Submitted By : Yelena Ralston



Cathy Wasman
and
Hidden Hills White Shepherds
Would like to wish a
very Happy 5th Birthday
to
RUGER
on
June 28th 2008

Robin Davey
Would like to wish a
Happy 21st Birthday to
KAYLA
on May 4th 2008
and a
Happy 1st Birthday to
PRINCE
on May 4th 2008





The Purpose of the White Shepherd

Something I have learned in the time I have been a member of the White Shepherd Community (has it really only been a year!) is that each of us has a different idea of what is ideal when it comes to our breed. Perhaps a picture in our mind's eye, a summary of all the parts put together, or a theory that stands at the tip of our tongue, easier to imagine, but harder to express.

When I first contacted Ruby's breeder, Mrs. Harmsen, the image that sat in my head was of a stellar conformation dog of good health, a dog that I could build a line of champions on. As I threw myself head first into her pedigree and into the world of Shepherds, I began to become interested in function as well. As quickly as I fell in love with the breed, I fell in love with all the aspects of what this breed could do, the function in addition to the form. For me the importance of performance overtook the importance of conformation in what I wanted for my lines. Not that I don't think both are important, or that I even don't enjoy conformation, I just get a little bit more enjoyment from watching the slack jawed stares of previous disbelievers on the field.

But this is me, what I want for my lines – and as I said, many of us have a different ideal. For some of us, performance is key and for others conformation is the cornerstone of their programs. For yet another group breeding for sound companions is their kennel goal. All we can really do is breed towards our ideal and through our lines hope to affect the breed for the better.

However, I think that despite all our differences and views as breeders and owners, we all share a common view of the White Shepherd – and that is their versatility. As a breed the White Shepherd should fit it all – conformation, performance, sport, work, and companions. Each individual dog, excelling at what they do, just as each individual line and breeder, is a small piece of the puzzle that makes up our breed as a whole.

Because of these differences, because of this breed's ability to be what we want of it, it is key that we work together – all of us – pet owners, sportsmen,

workers, showers, herders, members of the UWSC, of the AWSA, of the WSCC, Europeans, Canadians, and Americans alike – in order to guard against the very plague that affects our parent breed, the German Shepherd. We need to work together to maintain our breed as a breed, not as a set of lines barely discernable as members under the same standard.

We may disagree, discuss, disappoint, even rail at each other in vexation, but here we have something bigger than ourselves as individuals. This route is undoubtedly harder because we will fight, we will argue, we will vent our frustrations on each other trying to convey an idea that is far more articulate in our minds than in our words. But once we have, we will be able to talk and discuss in a more tempered fashion, and begin to form a compromise that gives us each some satisfaction.

My father has always said that any good relationship involves compromise. Two individuals may argue, but in the end they reach that happy medium that gives them each some gratification. Not a capitulation, but a golden middle. We are not unlike a large family, and we must realize that this family, these relationships, are all that stand between our breed and devastation. That we should not be so concrete in our ideals that we are willing to divorce ourselves from each other!

We need to take a stand! Take action! Take a position! Be involved, motivated and work together towards a common goal - not just towards any one purpose, not just towards any one line – not just towards separation for our sister clubs, but also in making this breed everything it has the potential to be!

So what is the purpose of the White Shepherd? The answer is that the purpose is what we make of it. We can choose the path that takes us each in our own direction, which leads to different purposes for each line, separate of each other and from the breed as it could be; or we can choose the path that will give us all a purpose for THE White Shepherd; the breed, the whole, the United Front!

Submitted by : Catherine Helfgott



WHITE SHEPHERDS IN THE UKC

UPCOMING SHOWS

Conformation and Junior Showmanship

- 27 June 2008 - Farmington, UT : Canyonlands Canine Association
- 27 June 2008 - Rancho Cordova, CA : Nor Cal American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 28 June 2008 - Clearwater, FL : Florida Siberian Husky Association
- 28 June 2008 - East freehold, NJ : Northeastern Multibreed and Obedience Club
- 28 June 2008 - Montpelier, OH : Northwest Ohio Dog Obedience Club
- 04 July 2008 - Randolph, OH : Carnation City Kennel Club
- 04 July 2008 - Auburn, WA : UKC Washington Classic
- 04 July 2008 - Auburn, WA : Volcano View Rat Terrier Club
- 05 July 2008 - Schiller Park, IL : Northern Illinois Bouvier Des Flanders Club
- 05 July 2008 - Benton, LA : South Louisiana Kennel Club
- 05 July 2008 - Long Beach, MS : Great Southern Kennel Club
- 12 July 2008 - Hamden, CT : Sleeping Giant Kennel Club
- 12 July 2008 - Sparks, NV : Silver State American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 12 July 2008 - Centerton, NJ : Garden State Kennel Club
- 12 July 2008 - Centerton, NJ : United Labrador Retriever Association
- 12 July 2008 - Ixonia, WI : Wisconsin Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 18 July 2008 - Claremont, CA : Alaskan Klee Kai Association of America
- 18 July 2008 - Longmont, CO : Israel Canaan Dog Club of America
- 18 July 2008 - Longmont, CO : Twin Peaks Dog Club
- 18 July 2008 - Locke, NY : Figer Lakes American Eskimo Dog Association
- 18 July 2008 - Locke, NY : Great Lakes Boxer Club
- 19 July 2008 - Rancho Cordova, CA : Gold Country Hounds and Hunters
- 19 July 2008 - Lakeland, FL : Hurrican Alley American Hairless Terrier Association
- 19 July 2008 - Tonganoxie, KS : Heartland Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 19 July 2008 - Bowdoinham, ME : Acadia Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 19 July 2008 - Longview, WA : Cascade American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 25 July 2008 - Erin Ontario, Canada : Maple Leaf Kennel Club
- 25 July 2008 - Simpsonville, KY : Mason-Dixon Multi-Breed Dog Association
- 26 July 2008 - Westfield, MA : Apple Valley Rat Terrier Club
- 26 July 2008 - Ann Arbor, MI : Bluewater Bouvier Club of Michigan
- 26 July 2008 - Hutto, TX : Lone Star - Louisiana Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 01 August 2008 - Kalamazoo, MI : K9 Fanciers
- 09 August 2008 - Clearwater, FL : Upper suncoast Dog Training Club
- 09 August 2008 - Stevensville, MI : Lake Shore Siberian Husky Club
- 09 August 2008 - Clencoe, MN : United German Shepherd Dog Alliance
- 09 August 2008 - Flanders, NJ : Four Star Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 09 August 2008 - Racine, WI : Mid-Lakes Australian Shepherd Club
- 16 August 2008 - Laporte, IN : Trail Creek Dog Training Club

BRAGS!

Illinois 2 February 2008

Show One:

1 Entry

Judge: Lynette Backman

CH BOB

CH Hallmark Kahuna's Hana Ho
Koa

Jacqueline O'Connor

Group 4

CH Hallmark Kahuna's Hana Ho
Koa

Jacqueline O'Connor

Show One:

1 Entry

Judge: Donna L. Rommelfaenger

CH BOB

CH Hallmark Kahuna's Hana Ho
Koa

Jacqueline O'Connor

Group 4

CH Hallmark Kahuna's Hana Ho
Koa

Jacqueline O'Connor

Virginia 3 February 2008

Show One:

1 Entry

Judge: Jeanne R. Heger

Female Puppy BF BOB
Vivid Daydreams Dionna
Catherine Helfgott

Non-Licensed Classes

1 Entry

NMP BP

Paws Inn's Davinci Di Falconara
Catherine Helfgott

- 16 August 2008 - Whitmore Lake, MI : National Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 16 August 2008 - Whitmore Lake, MI : Michigan Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 22 August 2008 – Madras, OR : Volcano View Rat Terrier Club
- 23 August 2008 – Ixonia, WI : Wisconsin Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 29 August 2008 – Perry, GA : Middle Georgia Kennel Club
- 29 August 2008 - Punxsutawney, PA : A.K.-9's
- 30 August 2008 – Fontana, CA : United Alsakan Klee Kai Association
- 30 August 2008 – Beltsville, MD : K9 Konnection
- 30 August 2008 - Long Beach, MI : Great Southern Kennel Club
- 30 August 2008 – Rancho Cordova : Nor Cal APBT Club
- 01 September 2008 – Princeton, ON : United Greyhound Club
- 06 September 2008 – Taunton, MA : Apple Valley Rat Terrier Club
- 06 September 2008 – Ravenna, OH : Carnation City Kennel Club
- 06 September 2008 – Mechanicsburg, PA : Obedience Trainign Club of Harrisonburg
- 06 September 2008 – Hutto, TX : Kangal Dog Club of America
- 06 September 2008 – Hutto, TX : Lone Star-Louisiana Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 06 September 2008 – Hayward, CA : Northwestern American Eskimo Association
- 06 September 2008 – Minneapolis, MN : United German Shepherd Dog Alliance
- 07 September 2008 – Hutto, TX : Akbash Dog Association of America
- 13 September 2008 – Warrenton, VA : Shenandoah Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 13 September 2008 – Racine, WI : Mid-Lakes Australian Shepherd Club
- 19 September 2008 – Hickory, NC : American Hairless Terrier Association
- 19 September 2008 – Hickory, NC : United Poodle Breeds Association
- 20 September 2008 – Brunswick, GA : UKC Licensed Event
- 20 September 2008 – Charlotte, MI : Foundation Kai Club of America
- 20 September 2008 – Minneapolis, MN : Northern Lights American Eskimo Dog Association
- 20 September 2008 – Sparks, NV : Silver State APBT Club
- 20 September 2008 – St Helens, OR : American Eskimo Dog Association of Oregon
- 27 September 2008 – Tulare, CA : Sequoia American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 27 September 2008 – Lexington, KY : Earthworkers Unlimited
- 27 September 2008 – FT Gratiot, MI : Michigan American Eskimo Dog Association
- 27 September 2008 – Centerton, NJ : Garden State Kennel Club
- 27 September 2008 – Westfield, MA : American Eskimo Club of New England
- 27 September 2008 – Denton, TX : North Texas American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 27 September 2008 – Enumclaw, WA : American Eskimo Dog Club of Washington
- 02 October 2008 – Belvidere, IL : Chippewa United Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 03 October 2008 – Enfield, CT : American Pit Bull Terrier Club of New England
- 03 October 2008 – Peoria, IL : Illinois Toy Fox Terrier Association
- 03 October 2008 – Belvidere, IL : Rock Valley Kennel Federation
- 03 October 2008 – Belvidere, IL : United Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 04 October 2008 – Oakdale, CA : Central Valley Rat Terrier Club
- 04 October 2008 – Enfield, CT : National American Pit Bull Terrier Club of Association
- 04 October 2008 – Enfield, CT : United Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 10 October 2008 – Bloomington, CA : Silver Stike American Hairless Terrier Association
- 10 October 2008 – Centreville, MI : All American Bulldog Club
- 11 October 2008 – Modesto, CA : Central Valley Rat Terrier Club
- 11 October 2008 – Bloomington, CA : Silver Strike American Hairless Terrier Association
- 11 October 2008 – Hollywood, FL : Mid Florida Dog Club

Show Two:

1 Entry
Judge: Avril Black

Female Puppy BF BOB
Vivid Daydreams Dionna
Catherine Helfgott

Non-Licensed Classes

1 Entry
NMP BP
Paws Inn's Davinci Di Falconara
Catherine Helfgott

9 February 2008

Show One:

2 Entries
Judge: Joseph Camp Jr.

Female Puppy BF
Royal Prairie Wind
Nancy De Garmo

CH BOB

CH Hollybrook's Bodacious
Nancy De Garmo/Avis May

Show Two:

2 Entries
Judge: Tina Camp

Female Puppy BF BOB
Royal Prairie Wind
Nancy De Garmo

CH

CH Hollybrook's Bodacious
Nancy De Garmo/Avis May

Group 3

Royal Prairie Wind
Nancy De Garmo

10 February 2008

Show One:

2 Entries
Judge: Helena Engelauf

Female Puppy BF
Royal Prairie Wind
Nancy De Garmo

CH BOB

CH Hollybrook's Bodacious
Nancy De Garmo/Avis May

- 11 October 2008 – Elburn, IL : Kay-9 Petiquette
- 11 October 2008 – Warner, OK : Performance Events Trials and Shows
- 17 October 2008 – Cortland, NY : Finger Lakes American Eskimo Dog Association
- 18 October 2008 – Loomis, CA : Central Valley Rat terrier Club
- 18 October 2008 – Davis, CA : North American Dalmation Association
- 18 October 2008 – San Antonio, FL : Hurricane Alley American hairless Terrier Association
- 18 October 2008 – Cortland, NY : National American Eskimo Dog Association
- 18 October 2008 – Athens, TN : Great Smokey Mountain Dog Club
- 18 October 2008 – Shelton, WA : Volcano View Rat Terrier Club
- 24 October 2008 – Davenport, IA : Illowa Kennel Club
- 25 October 2008 – Claremont, CA : American Pit Bull Terrier Club of Southern California
- 25 October 2008 – Golden, CO : Frontier Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 25 October 2008 – Salisbury, NC : United Labrador Retriever Association
- 25 October 2008 – Denton, TX : North East Texas American Eskimo Dog Association

Obedience Events

- 21 June 2008 - Tulsa, OK : Tulsa Agility Club
- 21 June 2008 - Bothell, WA : Monroe Valley Dog Training Club
- 28 June 2008 - Montpelier, OH : Northwest Ohio Dog Obedience Club
- 04 July 2008 - Auburn, WA : UKC Washington Classic
- 12 July 2008 - Hamden, CT : Sleeping Giant Kennel Club
- 12 July 2008 - Evansville, IN : Lincoln Trail Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 12 July 2008 - Apex, NC : Carolina Canine Pet and Performance
- 18 July 2008 - Claremont, CA : Alaskan Klee Kai Association of America
- 18 July 2008 - Longmont, CO : Twin Peaks Dog Club
- 19 July 2008 - Ann Arbor, MI : Wolverine Dog Training Club
- 19 July 2008 - Quackertown, PA : Hilltown Dog Training Club
- 02 August 2008 – St. Petersburg, FL : United Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg
- 02 August 2008 – Urbana, IL : Dog Training Club of Bloomington-Normal
- 02 August 2008 – Bristol, NY : Bristol Valley Training Club
- 09 August 2008 – Flanders, NJ : Four Star Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 09 August 2008 – Fort Dodge, IA : Fort Dodge Canine Companion Club
- 16 August 2008 – Laporte, IN : Trail Creek Dog Training Club
- 16 August 2008 – Mechanicsburg, PA : Obedience Training Class of Harrisonburg
- 20 August 2008 – Cornelius, OR : Muttly Paws Dog Training Club of Oregon
- 23 August 2008 – Medicine Hat, AB : Gas City Dog Club
- 23 August 2008 – Springfield, MS : Competition Dogs of Ozarks
- 23 August 2008 – Durham, NC : Carolina Canine Pet and Performance
- 23 August 2008 – Dayton, OH : Gem City Dog Obedience Club
- 06 September 2008 – Jacksonville, AR : Pinnacle Dog Training Club of Oregon
- 13 September 2008 – Louisville, KY : Metro Louisville Training Club
- 19 September 2008 – Hickory, NC : United Poodle Breeds Association
- 19 September 2008 – Spruce Grove, AB : Rose County Canine Association
- 20 September 2008 – Minneapolis, MN : Northern Lights American Eskimo Dog Association
- 20 September 2008 – Douglas, AK : Captial Kennel Club of Juneau
- 20 September 2008 – Rockford, MI : Grand Rapids Area Canines

Show Two:

2 Entries

Judge: R. Rowdy A Yates

Female Puppy BF
Royal Prairie Wind
Nancy De Garmo

CH BOB

CH Hollybrook's Bodacious
Nancy De Garmo/Avis May

Group 4

CH Hollybrook's Bodacious
Nancy De Garmo/Avis May

Michigan

7 March 2008

Show One:

11 Entries

Judge: Jeanne Heger

Female Puppy RBF
CH Royal Take It To The Limit
Jean Reeves/Miranda Reeves

BHF BF

Royal Wish Upon A Star
Jean Reeves

CH BOB

GRCH Royal Adonis
Miranda Reeves

RCH

CH Royal Ready Set Go
Susan McGrath and Jean Reeves

GRCH

GRCH Starr Hallmark Hemi
Supercharger
Mona Persson

NON-LISCENED PUPPIES

1 Entry

NMP BP

Von Tasz Born To Win
Diana Updike

Group 3

GRCH Royal Adonis
Miranda Reeves

Show Two:

11 Entries

Judge: Gene Reynolds

- 20 September 2008 – Murray, UT : Gone to the Dogs
- 27 September 2008 – Santa Maria, CA : Santa Lucia Open Dog Obedience Group
- 27 September 2008 – York, ME : Marshland Obedience Club
- 27 September 2008 – Westfield, MA : Dog Obedience Guidance School
- 27 September 2008 – Montpelier, OH : Northwest Ohio Dog Obedience Club
- 03 October 2008 – Enfield, CN : American Pit Bull Terrier Club of New England
- 03 October 2008 – Belvidere, IL : Rock Valley Kennel Federation
- 03 October 2008 – Adel, IO : K-9 Sports Club
- 04 October 2008 – Enfield, CN : National American Pit Bull Terrier Association
- 04 October 2008 – Staten Island, NY : Staten Island Dog Training Club
- 04 October 2008 – Fountain Inn, SC : Carolina Obedience and Agility Trainers
- 05 October 2008 – Cornelius, OR : Canine Action Pack
- 11 October 2008 – Southgate, MI : Great Lakes Obedience Club of Michigan
- 11 October 2008 – Ixonia, WI : Bark River Dog Club
- 18 October 2008 – Anchorage, AK : Alyeska Canine Trainers
- 18 October 2008 – Lowell, IN : Paw Power Blues Dog Club
- 24 October 2008 – Davenport, IO : Illowa Kennel Club
- 25 October 2008 – Golden, CO : Timberline Dog Club

Female Puppy RBF
CH Royal Take It To The Limit
Jean Reeves/Miranda Reeves

BHF BF BOB
Royal Wish Upon A Star
Jean Reeves

CH
CH Kyra's Kin-king Kole Von Tasz
Judy Huston

RCH
GRCH Royal Adonis
Miranda Reeves

GRCH
GRCH Starr Hallmark Hemi
Supercharger
Mona Persson

Weight Pull Events

- 15 August 2008 – Reno, NV : Silver State American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 16 August 2008 – Longview, WA : Cascade American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 23 August 2008 – Port Clinton, PA : New England Pullers Association
- 29 August 2008 – Perry, GA : Middle GA Kennel Club
- 05 September 2008 – Chehalis, WA : Rainier Weight Pullers Association
- 09 September 2008 – Taunton, MA : New England Pullers Association
- 20 September 2008 – Leslie, MI : Mis West Weight Pullers
- 27 September 2008 – Denton, TX : North Texas American Pit Pull Terrier Club
- 03 October 2008 – Enfield, CT : American Pit Bull Terrier Club of New England
- 04 October 2008 – Enfield, CT : National American Pit Bull Terrier Club of Association
- 04 October 2008 – Oceanside, CA : Rip Curl Weight Pullers
- 10 October 2008 – Centerville, MI : All American Bulldog Club
- 10 October 2008 – Reno, NV : Silver State American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 11 October 2008 – Longview, WA : Cascade American Pit Bull Terrier Club
- 18 October 2008 – Athens, TN : Working Dog Association

NON-LISCENED PUPPIES
1 Entry

NMP BP
Von Tasz Born To Win
Diana Updike

Group 2
Royal Wish Upon A Star
Jean Reeves

8 March 2008

Show One:
6 Entries
Judge: Tina Camp

Female Puppy BF BOB
CH Royal Take It To The Limit
Jean Reeves/Miranda Reeves

Agility Events

- 28 June 2008 - Montpelier, OH : Northwest Ohio Dog Obedience Club
- 04 July 2008 - Auburn, WA : UKC Washington Classic
- 12 July 2008 - Warrenville, IL : Smack-Dabs Obedience Training
- 18 July 2008 - Longmont, CO : Twin Peaks Dog Club
- 19 July 2008 - Tampa, FL : Dog Training Club of Tampa
- 19 July 2008 - Cornell, IL : United Piece of Cake Dog Club
- 19 July 2008 - Springfield, MO : Competition Dogs of the Ozarks
- 26 July 2008 - Golden, CO : Frontier Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 26 July 2008 - Schiller Park, IL : Windy City Agility Club

CH
GRCH Royal Adonis
Miranda Reeves

RCH
CH Kyra's Kin-king Kole Von Tasz
Judy Huston

RBF
Royal Hale Koa's Makai
Jacqueline O'Connor

- 02 August 2008 – St Petersburg, FL : United Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg
- 02 August 2008 – Amana, IO : 4RK9's
- 02 August 2008 – Dayton, OH : Gem City Dog Obedience Club
- 02 August 2008 – Tulsa, OK : Tulsa Agility Club
- 09 August 2008 – Fort Dodge, IO : Fort Dodge Canine Companion Club
- 16 August 2008 – Cornell, IL : United Piece of Cake Dog Club
- 16 August 2008 – Beltsville, MD : K9 Konnection
- 16 August 2008 – Genesee, MI : Dogsports of Genesee County
- 23 August 2008 – Williamston, MI : Captial Coty Canine Club
- 30 August 2008 – Beltsville, MD : K9 Konnection
- 06 September 2008 – Cornell, IL : United Piece of Cake Dog Club
- 06 September 2008 – Laporte, IL : Trail creek Dog Training Club
- 06 September 2008 – Gloucester, VA : Belroi Agility Club
- 13 September 2008 – Longmont, CO : Twin Peaks Dog Club
- 13 September 2008 – Warrenville, IL : Smack-Dsb's Obedience Training
- 13 September 2008 – New Hill, NC : Autumn Winds Agility Club
- 20 September 2008 – Escondido, CA : San Diego Dog Fanciers
- 20 September 2008 – Garden City, KS : Dodge City Kennel Club
- 27 September 2008 – Montpelier, OH : Northwest Ohio Dog Obedience Club
- 03 October 2008 – Belvidere, IL : United Belgian Shepherd Dog Association
- 04 October 2008 – Laporte, IL : Trail Creek Dog Training Club
- 04 October 2008 – Norman, OK : OK Paws K9 Sports Club
- 18 October 2008 – Newburgh, IN : Lincoln Trail Belgian Shepherd Dog Club
- 18 October 2008 – Auburn, WA : Puget Sound K-9's
- 25 October 2008 – Spring Grove, IL : WO-IL Agility Group
- 25 October 2008 – Escanaba, MI : Bay de Noc Kennel Club

Dog Sport Events

- 10 October 2008 – Niota, TN L Athens TN SDA Association

Other Events

- 02 August 2008 – Indianapolis, IN : Indiana 4H : Trail Creek Dog Training Club
- 19 August 2008 : Cornelius, OR : UKC Obedience Judges Seminar

Current Top Ten Standings

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. GRCH Royal Adonis | 20 |
| 2. Royal Wish Upon a Star | 15 |
| 3. CH Hallmark Kahuna's Hana Ho Koa | 11 |
| 4. GRCH Surefire Sugar Magnolia v Starr | 7 |
| 4. Starr Shiver Me Timbers | 7 |
| 6. CH Royal Prairie Wind | 6 |
| 6. CH Kerstone's Twist and Shout | 6 |
| 6. CH Surefire Regalwise Rodeo Star | 6 |
| 9. CH Royal Take it to the Limit | 5 |
| 9. CH Surefire's Red Eye Flight 696 | 5 |

Show Two:

6 Entries

Judge: Jospeh Camp Jr.

Female Puppy BF

CH Royal Take It To The Limit
Jean Reeves/Miranda Reeves

RBF

Royal Hale Koa's Makai
Jacqueline O'Connor

CH

CH Kyras Kin-king Kole Von Tasz
Judy Huston

RCH

CH Royal Ready Set Go
Susan McGrath and Jean Reeves

GRCH BOB

GRCH Royal Adonis
Miranda Reeves

Washington

22 March 2008

Show One:

1 Entry

Judge: Avril Black

Male Puppy BM BOB

Starr Shiver Me Timbers
Betty Tanner

Group 1

Starr Shiver Me Timbers
Betty Tanner

Show Two:

1 Entry

Judge: Jeanne Heger

Male Puppy BM BOB

Starr Shiver Me Timbers
Betty Tanner

Group 1

Starr Shiver Me Timbers
Betty Tanner

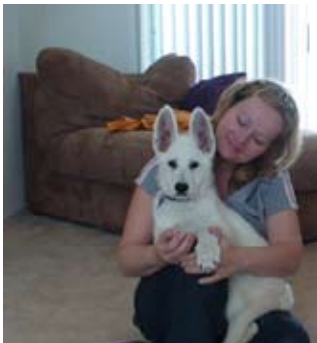
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Nicole Harmer

We live in Rio Rancho NM. I have 2 daughters, Jessi and Nissi, 14 and 15 years old. We have 2 White Shepherds,



Katja (**Royal Enchanted Katja**, born 12/08/07) and



Yaschek (**Foxhunt's Enchanted Yashek**, born 01/10/08).



We also have a miniature Dachshund named Snoopy (**Snoopy**), who is going to be 4 in August.

I discovered the White Shepherd several years ago, when a friend of mine talked about one he used to have. I looked up the information on the internet and fell in love with the beauty of this breed. I always loved German

Shepherds and their versatility, but I had never seen a white Shepherd before. I was in love then...

Now that my kids are older I have time to devote to a puppy. So I decided to make those 2 beautiful dogs part of my family. You just can't have only one White shepherd. ;o)

I am very interested in agility. Katja seems to love it, so I am pretty sure that is where we will spend our working and play time together. I also am interested in TDI and obedience. What we will end up pursuing depends on where their natural tendencies lie. I would also love to try conformance, but I have found there are no UKC clubs in or close to NM.



For now we just enjoy playing, mostly in the mud.

We are also participating in some puppy fun classes where we learn to sit, come, and stay and basic agility to build our confidence and to socialize with other puppies and people.



I have recently added a new member to my pack, a wonderful little long coat girl we call Izzy; SureFire's Enchanted Izzy.

Nicole, Katja, and Yaschek (and Izzy) :o)

The UWSC Would also like to extend a warm welcome to: *Ruth*

The Board of Directors reserves the right to change the advertising rates and conditions of sale without notice. The Board also reserves the right to change the advertising rates and conditions of sale without notice. The Board also reserves the right to change the advertising rates and conditions of sale without notice.

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Shira and I finally got to thank our hero's Becky and Luna in person at the UKC Premier.

Becky you not only saved Shira's life, but my sanity through it all. Luna is an inspiration to all of what a dog can achieve if only given a chance to beat the odds.

You both will not only be our hero's forever, but always have a special place in our hearts.

Thank You !!!!

Come join in the fun!
UKC show are friendly & family orientated



United Kennel Club
100 E Kilgore Rd
Kalamazoo MI 49002
(269) 343-9020

Registering your White Shepherd with UKC is simple...
Just go to the UKC website and fill out the individual registration application and send it in
It's that easy!!!

www.ukcdogs.org

3rd Annual White Shepherd Genetics Project Fundraiser

August 16, 17 in Romulus, Michigan

At Currey's Family Pet Care

www.curreysfamilypetcare.com

For event times, see Currey's calendar or contact Judy

\$3.00 Per car donation to the General Public (no charge exhibitors)

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE WHITE SHEPHERD GENETICS PROJECT



CONFORMATION SHOWS

- 2 American White Shepherd Association shows
- 2 White Shepherd Club of Canada shows

WHITE SHEPHERDS ONLY

DOCK DIVING

Friendly competition
with prizes, both days
All breeds \$5



ROCK N ROLL K9s PERFORMANCE Saturday

Fun agility run-throughs on Saturday
All breeds -- \$5 per run

Raffle on Saturday only
Open to the Public

Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, pop, water, cookies, available for purchase

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Call or e-mail Judy Huston 517-546-3046, hustonjudy@gmail.com with any questions.

Noblewood Kennels would like to introduce
our new UKC Champion



"Ariel"



Apple Valley Rat Terrier Club
Westfield, MA

April 26 & 27, 2008

Sire: Tumbledown's Limelight

Dam: Surefire Super Polka Dot

Breeder: Rhonda McMahan

Owners: Linda & Ralph Machorro

UKC CH Surefire's Red Eye Flight 696

www.noblewoodkennels.com

**Foxhunt's King of War Kings
attends his first Novice Puppy Show!**
in
**Westfield, MA.
April 26, 2008**



www.warkingshepherds.com

In Loving Memory of Kyra
September 20, 1995 - June 26, 2005



You will always be remembered

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue of the newsletter

Especially to the following :

Judy Huston

Arleen Ravanelli

Yvette Woodward

Jean Reeves

Beth Borchardt

Scarlett Saunders