

SHORTHAIK TALES

MARCH/APRIL

2009

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

THE LAST OF THE GLACIERS HAS MELTED AND WE HAVE HAD SOME PRETTY WARM DAYS.....HUNT TESTS HAVE STARTED AND WE ARE MAKING OUR WAY INTO ANOTHER FUN YEAR OF EVENTS.

THERE ARE MANY OF US THAT ATTENDED THE NATIONALS, MANY ARE TRAINING FOR THE FIELD. WHICHEVER VENUE YOU FIND YOURSELF IN, ENJOY AND BE SAFE.

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEW DIRECTOR SCOTT NEAL. HE HAS TAKEN US BY STORM WITH GREAT IDEAS AND WILL BE TAKING OVER AS OUR FALL HUNT TEST CHAIR! WE ARE ALREADY APPROVED AND READY TO GO...!

WE HAD OUR ANNUAL MEETING WITH GREAT FRIENDS AND FANTASTIC FOOD.....I AM MOVING INTO PAULINE'S HOUSE!! STEVE MADE HIS BEAUTIFUL PLAQUES FOR OUR RECIPIENTS OF ANNUAL AWARDS. A HUGE CONGRATS TO ALL WHO RECEIVED ONE (OR MORE)!

WE HAVE ANOTHER STORY IN THIS ISSUE THAT STARTS US WITH HOW OUR CLUB BEGAN AND CONTINUED BEING SUCCESSFUL. WE HOPE TO ADD TO THIS WITH MORE CLUB HISTORY THROUGH OUT FUTURE NEWSLETTERS. A THANK YOU TO LOU GAGNON FOR STARTING US OUT WITH THIS GREAT STORY.....

ENJOY! AND SEE YOU ALL AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!

DEB

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KATAHDIN EVENTS

Training Day
May 23, 2009
Sharp's Farm

Team Shoot
May 31, 2009
Sharp's Farm

Katahdin Specialty
NEW SITE & DATE
AUG. 2, 2009
WITH CHESHIRE CTY
KC IN KEENE, NH
CONTACT PAT AT
prussellpr@yahoo.com
if you would like to help
in an area
and Pauline for raffle
donations at
spmarcq@comcast.net

Supported Entry along
with Carroll Cty KC
Sept. 5, 2009
in North Conway, NH

Club Championship
Sept 20, 2009

Hunt Tests
Sept 26 & 27, 2009

**MARCH 2009
ANNUAL MEETING
SHOWING SOME OF THE RECIPIENTS
OF OUR ANNUAL AWARDS PLAQUES
(AND STEVE GETTING A DOG SMOOCH)**

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the Katahdin German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Greater Portland was held on Sunday March 29, 2009 at the home of Pauline and Steve Marcq. In attendance were Peg Gagnon, Lou Gagnon, Steve Marcq, Pauline Marcq, Deb Broad, Scott Neal and Pat Russell. The meeting commenced at 1:15 PM.

President's Report: The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in the last newsletter. They are also on the Internet. Deb commented on all the events we have planned for the year.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary was unable to attend. Deb read a letter from Janet McMillan Zwirko submitting \$428.00 to the GSPCA representing proceeds from the New England Sporting Group raffle held to benefit the Missouri 75. The GSPCA ballot for admission of black shorthairs was voted on.

Treasurer's Report: Steve reported on the account balance. Bill Bishop is doing our taxes. Deb reported that it doesn't look like the AKC will reimburse us for the expenses we incurred having to copy the materials for last year's judging when the AKC materials did not arrive.

New Members: George Richards and Marilyn Duncan, presented at the last meeting, were ratified as new members. Since Brian Boucher was a puppy buyer, no ratification was needed.

Show Committee: Pat reported, on behalf of Fred, that we have received approvals from the AKC for our Sweeps and Specialty with the Cheshire Kennel Club. Pauline graciously agreed to do a raffle. A brief discussion ensued about our Supported Entry at the North Conway show in September.

Hunt Test Committee: The test is scheduled for September 26th and 27th. Scott volunteered to be Chairman and Pat will be the Secretary. The Committee will consist of Pat, Scott, Deb, Steve M., and Fred. We would welcome any others who wish to join the committee.

Team Shoot: Lou will be running the Team Shoot on May 31st.

Rescue: Katahdin made a \$100 contribution to the GSPCA for the Missouri 75. Peg mentioned that foster homes are really needed in NH.

Election of Officers : The positions of Vice President and Secretary were up for election. The Nominating Committee proposed Peg Gagnon for Vice President and Lynn Milewski for Secretary. Both are current incumbents. In addition, Sandra Kretz resigned her Director position. Scott Neal was nominated for the position. Upon vote, all nominees were voted into office.

Old Business: * At the last meeting we discussed the possibility of corporate memberships at Wilderness Adventures. Lou reported on his follow-up discussion with Wilderness. A corporate membership is limited to 5 people, but we can have more than one corporate membership. With 5 people in a membership, the cost is reduced to \$470 per person. This would cover their upland game and fly fishing facilities. If interested, please contact Lou Gagnon.

* Pat provided a legislative update on the many proposed changes to the law that affect our dogs. Fred Newcomb has been part of a group which has gone to Concord to oppose the legislation. So far, the pending legislation has been defeated, due to the efforts of many concerned dog owners.

New Business: * Thanks were given to Wilma Sarna for her great article for the newsletter.

* A long discussion was held on sponsoring agility trials at shows. We would hire a professional to run it, but would have to go through the process of first having a "B" match. More information will be gathered and presented at the next meeting.

* Deb announced that she has been named as the new Yearbook Editor for the parent club – GSPCA.

Annual Awards Steve Marcq's handsome wooden plaques, and brass tags, were handed out to owners whose dogs had achieved a milestone during 2008: John Manni, Scott Neal, Lou & Peggy Gagnon and Pat Russell.

Next meeting to be held at 1:00pm, Sunday June 7, 2009 at Pat Russell and Fred Newcomb's home.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

• Pat Russell, Acting Secretary

KGSPC'S BEGINNING

BY LOU GAGNON

Back in the late 1980s the AKC Hunt Test program was just getting started here in northern New England. I think that the only club in the region that was licensed to hold tests was the Northern N.E. Brittany Club. This was long before Sharp's Farm was developed, and the tests used to be held at Bear Brook State Park in Allenstown, NH. There were a few of us GSP owners who frequented these early tests, John Sarna, Kenny King and myself among them. We used to hang out together, griping about the fact that there were so few tests available in the general area to go run our dogs, without making the run to Connecticut or Cape Cod.

One day while tailgating at a Brittany Club test, John said that wouldn't it be great if we had a local GSP club that could be licensed to run tests, and so an idea was born!

Not long after that fall's testing season, a number of us GSP fanciers in the area received a notice from John and Wilma Sarna that they were opening their home for a meeting to explore the possibility of starting a new GSP club. I don't remember exactly, but there had to be at least 12 to 18 of us who showed up. Not only Hunt Test people either. We also had some who showed their dogs in conformation and obedience too. Everyone thought it was a great idea! We elected officers, and were on our way. I know that John was elected president, I think Jack Schneider was VP, I was secretary, and Sue Gray was treasurer.

Then, the work began! I spent countless hours on the telephone with different people from the AKC, trying to get the ball rolling. Some were very helpful, and others not so much. For everything we wanted to do, there were hurdles to jump.

Our Constitution and By-Laws were sent back to us several times for revisions that we needed to vote on as a club every time. It took month and months!

We had a contest to come up with a name for the Club, and when we decided on "Katahdin" GSPC, the AKC said that we had to be more specific as to our region, so we ended up having to add the "of Greater Portland" suffix to the name.

Then came the process of getting licensed to run Hunt Tests. Initially we had to run a sanctioned test, that the participants could not earn a leg even if they qualified, but we made it through that. If I remember correctly, we even had to run a fun Hunt Test prior to the sanctioned test. It took a lot of work, and money as well, but we were determined and finally received licensed status. Then, we had to go through a similar process in order to start having supported entries and specialty shows. I personally did not get too involved in most of that, but there were the fun matches and I think at least two sanctioned matches that were required. Along the way, there were some bumps in the road too. Not everyone always agreed on the priorities that we would set. Some folks got upset and left in frustration, etc. but there always seemed to be a way to get through things, and now 20 years later, we have become a well recognized GSP Club here in the northeast. We have persevered!

(note: we will cover more on our clubs evolution in future newsletters.....)

FOR UPDATES, NEWS, UPCOMING
EVENTS AND PUPS AVAILABLE,
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.KATAHDINGSP.ORG

Don't Forget....
Start composing those stories of your his-
tory with the breed or memorable moments
for upcoming newsletters!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY PAT RUSSELL AND FRED NEWCOMB

Not much to report this month. Nationally this year HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) has introduced bills in over 30 states that would restrict the right to breed dogs. They have an well thought-out campaign and agenda.

In NH, having defeated the troublesome bills previously mentioned regarding seizing your dogs on the unsubstantiated allegation of cruelty and requiring a breeders license for a litter of puppies, things are quiet, although we know it is only temporary. The main item on the agenda is SB132 which supports the merger of the Department of Cultural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, the Department of Fish and Game, the division of Parks and Recreation, and the division of Forests and Lands into a newly established Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The law enforcement functions of those departments would be transferred to the Department of Safety. This would impact not only farmers, discourage growing a safe, local food supply, but also anyone regulated by the agricultural department, including cat, horse and dog owners. NH preserves over half a million acres which benefits NH wildlife, its sportsmen and its animal owners. If this bill passes NH would become one of only 3 states without an agriculture department.

ME has LD964 up for consideration, which would establish more restrictive regulations, fees and definitions for breeders. If this passes, the American Sporting Dog Alliance is calling for a boycott of Maine travel and the purchase of all ME products! Right now people can't post for sale more than one dog or cat each year unless they have a breeder's license.

(that is the legislation we defeated in NH)

*HELP
SUPPORT
THE FIGHT.....*

KATAHDIN WILDERNESS ADVENTURES CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Katahdin is exploring the possibility of acquiring a corporate membership at the Wilderness Adventures Hunt & Angling Club. A corporate membership is limited to only 5 members, at a cost of \$2,350.00. For 5 people, that comes out to only \$470.00 per person, which is a great deal, because a single membership costs \$1,200.00. We currently have 4 Katahdin members who definitely want to take advantage of this, and are looking for 1 more. If there is more interest from the membership, we're sure that we could by additional corporate memberships to accommodate that.

The benefit that Katahdin would gain from this is it would give us an additional venue for meetings, training days, etc. To learn more about Wilderness Adventures, go to their web site at: www.WildernessAdventuresHunt.com.

Anyone interested in becoming the 5th member to get on board can call Lou Gagnon at 603-428-7280. We'll address this at the next meeting in early June
Thanks, Lou

Excerpts from a Dog's Diary.....

8:00 am - Dog food! My favorite thing!
9:30 am - A car ride! My favorite thing!
9:40 am - A walk in the park! My favorite thing!
10:30 am - Got rubbed and petted! My favorite thing!
12:00 pm - Lunch! My favorite thing!
1:00 pm - Played in the yard! My favorite thing!
3:00 pm- Wagged my tail! My favorite thing!
5:00 pm - Milk bones! My favorite thing!
7:00 pm - Got to play ball! My favorite thing!
8:00 pm - Wow! Watched TV with the people! My favorite thing!
11:00 pm - Sleeping on the bed! My favorite thing!

Excerpts from a Cat's Daily Diary. ..

Day 983 of my captivity. My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength. The only thing that keeps me going is my dream of escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet.

Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a 'good little hunter' I am. There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. However, I could hear the noises and smell the food. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of 'allergies.' I must learn what this means and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow -- but at the top of the stairs. I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released - and seems to be more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicating with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now.....

BRAGS

Rudy (Birdland's Rudy of the Valley) took Winner's Dog at the Pioneer Valley Kennel Club on April 18th. His mom, **Delta** (HMK's Dandi Delta Surprise) finished her Junior Hunter at the Tartan Hunt Test, passing her final 2 legs on April 25 and 26. **From Pat Russell**

Deb Broad (Bear Mt) and Marilyn Ogorek (Prairiestar)

Our boy "**Louie**" Bear Mt Prairiestar Reflection, did well at his first show which was at our GSPCA National in Denver, Colorado. He went home with a third in his sweeps class, then really took a liking to the show ring the next day receiving a second place in a very large and competitive bred-by exhibitor class, at 13 months old, handled by Marilyn. (a truly special lady!) Louie is by "Boomer" Bear Mtns Blueridge Illusion, JH out of "LuLu" Ch. Bear Mtn Sierra Hi-Resolution, JH.

This was omitted from an earlier issue when lost in emails during the power outage . It was submitted by Bob Kapitan. Definitely what we all look forward to each fall!!



The grouse season is winding down here in VT. It has been the best year since 2000. The last two years of good spring nesting conditions has had good effect on the grouse populations. Many birds were taken this year. For those die hard grouse hunters like my self, Pennsylvania's season runs to the end of January and New York state offers hunting until the end of February.

SHOW SCHEDULE

5/22-5/24 Freehold, NJ Cluster
6/6 Norwalk, CT
6/12-14 Topsfield, Ma cluster

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
WWW.INFODOG.COM
FIELD EVENT SCHEDULES PENDING



**KATAHDIN GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB
OF GREATER PORTLAND**

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TO:

**NEWSLETTER
OF THE
KATAHDIN GSP CLUB OF GREATER
PORTLAND**



