

TOP Lines

JULY 2004

TRACKING ~ OBEDIENCE ~ PROTECTION

DVG SINCE 1985

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE TULSA SCHUTZHUND CLUB

ON AND OFF THE CUFF

BY MIKE RICKMAN

On Sunday July 4 there will be a club get-together at the Rickman compound from 4 PM till close. All club members and families are invited to attend. The pool will be open, horseshoes are available, and if we have real industrious guests there is a volleyball net that can be set up, fireworks are planned unless it gets real dry. RSVP by June 30 so we will know how many goats to kill. Meat will be provided, see previous sentence, we ask that everyone bring a food item and lawn chair if you have one. Contact Martha at 288-6565 to verify food choices so we don't have 40 bowls of baked beans. Hope to see all of you there.

Congratulations to Jerol and Renea Skinner on the birth of their daughter Aubrey Lynn April 9, 2004. All are now at home with big sister Elinor.

Beau Robinson and Csado passed an AD at the OWDA Trial on May 8. Shannon Elkins and Ice passed a ZTP, and her female pup passed a TT at the Doberman Specialty on May 11 in St. Louis. *(Editor's Note: The Doberman ZTP is a very difficult test of temperament and fighting drive, and includes a tough courage test, among many other trials and tribulations!)*

Summer training hours will go into affect July 10. Due to the anticipated heat we will plan to start protection no later than 9:00 AM. So it will be necessary to get up and around to have the opportunity to do your tracking and obedience.

At the July 7 meeting we will be voting on new member Dale Pitts.

Welcome new probationary members Vicki Lanig, and Craig and Shawna Carter.

Our deepest sympathies go out to Susan Gandy on the passing of her father on May 1. Susan, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

TSC's Spring Trial was held April 17 & 18 at Chandler Park. Except for the wind the conditions were exceptional. Weren't they Pam. We had 16 teams entered over the 2 days and had 13 of those achieve passing scores. The competitors represented 5 states, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Mis-



souri, and Louisiana. They came from three different DVG clubs, Tulsa, OK Metro, and Arkansas with three entries being USA members. BH participants went a perfect 7 for 7 as TSC members Susan Gandy and GSD Ayden, Beau Robinson and GSD Csado, David Mathis and GSD Strider, Nathan Frazier and Dobe Fax, Arkansas member Garrett Carlisle and Rott Thor, and USA members Joe Sochor and GSD Una, and Stephanie Thorn and Border Collie Joe all received titles.

Don Thayer and GSD Raider showed for a T2 and despite a valiant effort on this windy Sunday morning they came up empty handed. Better luck next time.

There were 2 VPG1 entries. Gordon Kirk and Dutch Shepherd Kazan of OK Metro repeated their VPG1 title with a 70-71-81 and USA member Clay Turner and GSD Reagan took High VPG1 with a 90-70-84 244. Congratulations to both these teams.

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WED
JULY 7TH
7:30 PM
BROOKSIDE LIBRARY

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

There were also 2 VPG2 entries both from TSC. Henry Sowders and GSD Quinnie got their VPG2 with scores of 92-71-75 238. Their 92 tied them for High Tracking honors. Mike Rickman and GSD Hocko received their VPG2 title and took High VPG2 with a 91-84-80 255.

The four VPG3 entries were split between the 2 days. Bob Brown and Malinois Stormy of TSC and Dennis Higgins and GSD Champ of OK Metro had their hopes for a VPG3 dashed on the tracking field. Stormy was later dismissed for illness at the start of obedience and Dennis and Champ finished their day with scores of 75 in obedience and 79 in protection. We wish both of you better luck next time out. It turned out that Arkansas Schutzhund Club members Darrell Pounders with Malinois Buddy and Andrea Turkia with GSD Iery battled on Sunday for the trophies. Andrea and scored 92-90-90 272 for a new VPG3 title and High Tracking honors.

This team's higher score in Protection broke the tie with Henry and Quinnie. Darrell and Buddy scored 88-94-95 277 in repeating their VPG3 and taking High Obedience, High Protection, High VPG3, and High in Trial. Thanks go out to



Jim Kostelnick for his continued excellence in handling the Trial Chairman job for the club, to Nick Reinhard and James Akin-Otiko for both their track laying and excellent helper work. The talent of these gentleman in these areas is one of the reasons that we always seem to draw a good number of outside entries to our trials. A big thank you to the rest of our club and the others present for their help in the less glamorous roles of set up and tear down, bike rider, jogger, group, and most importantly as supporters and cheerleaders for the participants. It is nice to know that there are others among us who celebrate our joy and share our pain. A special thanks to Ray Reid for his fair and personable evaluations of our performances. Though we were not always overjoyed with his findings we know that we can only improve through the knowledge that he shared. Hope all of you have your dogs ready to show in the fall.

Kathy Watson lost her 12 1/2 year old German Shepherd bitch Savanna the first of May. TSC

shares in your grief and hopes for you only fond memories. I just learned today that former member Dan Kippenberger lost his 12 year + mixed breed SCH1 dog Buddy. Buddy was Dan's first dog and will be greatly missed. On Saturday June 19 David Mathis lost his new German Shepherd Strider in a freak accident. This young dog showed great potential and we grieve with the Mathis' on this unfortunate occurrence.

On Sunday May 30 Bob and Gail Brown lost the last of their 5 pup 1988 Veterans Day litter. Belgian Sheepdog, Duquewoods Forward March BH, SCH3, UD, TD, "Marcy" was 5 1/2 months shy of 16 years old. She is the last of the four SCH3 dogs from this litter to leave us. I cut my teeth as a helper on this group of dogs and their mother and I'm grateful to the Brown's for their support and patience as I learned from my mistakes. TSC shares in the loss of this fine

animal and will always remember her achievements and those of her litter mates.

On Thursday afternoon May 13 Kodiak Farms Terminator BH, SCH2, CDX drew his last breath. His 12 year 10 month and 1 day old body had fought

as long as it could to stay with us. In fact Martha had told him before she left the house that morning it was okay to go. Nate was born 19 days after Chelsea and their bond in life was constant from the start. Ask Kathy about Nate watching Chelsea's dance routine at a club party. By no means an impressive Schutzhund dog, his desire to please me is evident by the titles he was able to achieve. With my greatest show memory coming when Chelsea showed him for a BH when both were 8. The thing that made Nate special however was his love of people and unending patience to allow them to pet him and pet him and pet him. Though we hurt today we have so many good memories to recall and we know that if there is a place good dogs go that he is there today and that he is not alone. Good bye Natie.

Club tracking days will be, 7/3, 8/7, and 9/4. The club has voted in the past to request the presence of all training members to at least one tracking session per month. The reason for

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

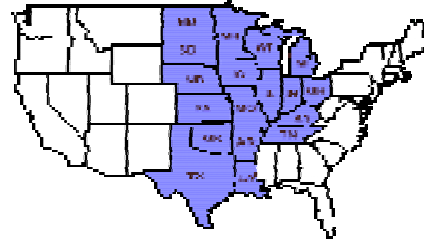
this is twofold. First to insure that all members are participating in all three phases of the sport and secondly to have enough people in attendance to try and simulate trial conditions for dog and handler teams that are planning to show. Very often dogs who have never had the opportunity to track with a group in the vicinity or have someone follow will struggle if these things happen at trial. In other words this activity is intended to help better prepare you to title your dogs. See you there.

Due to the frequency we are asked by members where they can purchase the small obedience training tugs that some of the membership uses we have purchased a dozen 8x2 training tugs. Mike and Nick both have some with them and they are \$15 each.

The Tulsa Schutzhund Club will be well represented at this year's Nationals as Fred Marashi will be Judging the Obedience Phase and James Akin-Otiko will be doing the front half helper work on the VPG3's. We congratulate both these club members on being selected to fill these important positions at this event.

Our Fall trial will be November 20 & 21; Carole Patterson to Judge.

Midwest KG



FOR INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING SCHUTZHUND EVENTS:

DVG: <http://www.dvgamerica.com/events.html>

USA: <http://www.germanshepherddog.com/eventcalendar.htm>

Tulsa Schutzhund Club

www.TulsaSchutzhund.com



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