

SHELTIE TALES

March 2008

Newsletter of the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Southeast Florida, Inc.

www.sscsefl.com

2008 Officers and Board Members:

President: Dione Houchins
Vice-President: Meredith Hector
Secretary: Karen Salvage
Treasurer: Lorna Staab
Board of Directors: Hector Hector
Bonnie Thatcher
Maryann Lannon

Committees:

Breeder Referral: Maryann Lannon
Newsletter Editor: Holly Potts
Show Chairman: Lorna Staab
Website: Holly Potts
Membership: Hector Hector
Bonnie Thatcher
Maryann Lannon

Upcoming Club Events -----

Next Board Meeting:

Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

Next General Membership Meeting:

Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.

Location:

Home of: Dione Houchins
17941 SW 50th Court
Southwest Ranches, FL 33331
954-434-7947

Directions:

From I-75 take the Griffin Road West exit. Proceed west 1 1/2 miles to the entrance of Rolling Oaks, Southwest 178th Avenue (this is where the road narrows from two lanes to one). Turn left onto Southwest 178th Avenue. Turn right onto Southwest 50th Court (second street on the right) at the sign for *Orchids by Allison*. The Houchin house (counting the modern house on the corner) is the third house on the right, 17941 Southwest 50th Court.

Club Information-----

Annual Meeting and Elections: The annual meeting and elections took place at the March general membership meeting. The new officers and directors are as follows:

✓	President	Dione Houchins
✓	Vice President	Meredith Hector
✓	Secretary	Karen Salvage
✓	Treasurer	Lorna Staab
✓	Board of Directors	Hector Hector, Maryann Lannon, and Bonnie Thatcher

Membership List: An updated membership list is attached hereto for this year.

Successful Back-to-Back Specialties March 7, 2008: The sweeps and conformation results from our 2008 Back-to-Back Specialties can be found on MBF's website at <http://www.infodog.com/RESULTS/2008112901/2008112901692.HTM> and <http://www.infodog.com/RESULTS/2008112902/2008112902692.HTM>.

With Sorrow -----

It is with sorrow to announce the passing of club member Beth Sirvinskas. Beth passed away on February 20, 2008, with her son by her side. Beth had been struggling with health-related problems for many years. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family and close friends.

Those club members that would like to make a personal donation towards Beth's headstone, Lorna Staab has graciously volunteered to match any donations up to \$500.00. Her brother, David Crosby, is having her ashes buried in their family plot in Georgia. He has contracted to have a granite headstone erected with her name and dates of birth and death, July 27, 1950, to February 20, 2008, along with the names of her beloved shelties, Ashleigh and Danny, and her beloved miniature schnauzers, Pepper and Cocoa, engraved on the headstone. Beth was never as happy as she was the last few years with her shelties. Lorna feels that this would be a fitting "good bye" to her, and Lorna personally asks for your help in paying for this headstone.

Send checks payable to: David Crosby, c/o Lorna Staab, 410 Southeast Second Avenue, Pompano Beach, Florida 33060.

Interesting Information -----

Some updated information for breeders and performance enthusiast . . .

As you may remember, an article entitled **“Early Spay-Neuter Considerations for the Canine Athlete – One Veterinarian's Opinion”** was published in the January newsletter. Interestingly, in the December 2007 *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*, 2003; 231: 1688-1691, there is an article entitled **“Risk Factors for Excessive Tibial Plateau Angle in Large-Breed Dogs With Cranial**

Cruciate Ligament Disease.” This article discusses the results of a recent study conducted on large-breed dogs by the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University.

The objective of the study was to identify risk factors for the development of excessive tibial plateau angle (TPA) in large-breed dogs with cranial cruciate ligament disease (CCLD). It is worth noting that the study results indicate that **“early neutering was a significant risk factor”** for the development of excessive TPA in large-breed dogs with CCLD.

The study reported that dogs with excessive TPAs were three times more likely to have been neutered before six months of age than the dogs with normal TPAs. Case study dogs with TPA $\geq 35^\circ$ in both limbs were 13.6 times as likely to have been neutered before six months of age as were control dogs with TPA $\leq 30^\circ$ in both limbs. It was also noted that the case study dogs were significantly younger at the onset of hind-limb lameness than were control dogs.

One quote from the discussion portion of the report that I thought noteworthy is: **“Early-age gonadectomy results in delayed physal closure and subsequent increased longitudinal bone growth^{15, 17} and, thus, could account for increased growth of the cranial aspect of the proximal tibial physis.”**

Obviously, the researchers suggest further research into the effects of early neutering on TPA and that the pathophysiology of CCLD is warranted.

So after reading these articles the last few months, you have probably figured out that “early neutering” is not in the best interest of our dogs or the dogs we place as companions or performance prospects. Since that fact is pretty evident, then the next logical question would be what constitutes “early neutering”? Early neutering would be before the dog’s growth plates close or, more accurately, the physal closure. So, at what age does that occur? To find out that answer, stay tuned for next month’s “Interesting Information” section where I answer that question based upon the 1991 research article from the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* entitled **“Gonadectomy in Immature Dogs: Effects on Skeletal, Physical, and Behavioral Development”** which was referenced in footnote 15 above. That research article contains what I think is some important and very interesting information and deserves due consideration by all.

References from article:

15. Salmeri KR, Bloomberg MS, Scruggs SL, Shille V. Gonadectomy in immature dogs: effects on skeletal, physical, and behavioral development. *J Am Vet Med Assoc* 1991;198:1193-1203.
17. Stenstrom A, Hansson LI, Thorngren KG. Effects of ovariectomy on longitudinal bone growth in the rat. *Anat Embryol (Berl)* 1982;164:9-18.

Member Brags -----

Dee and Walter Silverstein are pleased that "Kiki," a/k/a Silver Trails Full Circle, took Winner's Bitch, Best of Winners, and Best of Opposite Sex on February 23, 2008, at the Boca Raton Kennel Club. Then on February 24, 2008, "Kiki" took Reserve Winner's Bitch. "Kiki's" sire and dam are: Silver Trails WYSIWYG ex Heart Lake's Circle of Life.

Dee and Walter Silverstein report that "Rudy," a/k/a Silver Trails Valentino, took Reserve Winner's Dog on February 23, 2008, at the Boca Raton Kennel Club, Inc. "Rudy's" sire and dam are: Silver Trails WYSIWYG ex Tapestry's Centre of Attention.

Lorna Staab is pleased that "Wyatt," a/k/a Cameo Gray Market, took Winner's Dog on February 23, 2008, at the Boca Raton Kennel Club, Inc. "Wyatt's" sire and dam are: CH Carloway Black Market ex Cameo Song Sung Blue.

Dione Houchins reports that "Skylar," a/k/a Raymar Skyrocket, took Reserve Winner's Bitch on February 23, 2008, at the Boca Raton Kennel Club, Inc. "Skylar's" sire and dam are: CH Lorain's Street Performance ex Primo Raymar Red Rocket.

Karen Salvage is pleased that "Teddy Bear," a/k/a CH Warmwinds Bourbon D'Bear was Best of Breed on February 23, 2008, at the Boca Raton Kennel Club, Inc. "Teddy Bear's" sire and dam are: CH Foxglove Ashburton Bottoms Up ex Warmwinds Mischief Maker.

Lorna Staab is pleased that "Wyatt," a/k/a Cameo Gray Market, took Winner's Dog on March 1, 2008, at the South Dade Kennel Club. Then on March 2, 2008, "Wyatt" took Winner's Dog, Best of Winners, Best of Breed, and a Group IV. "Wyatt's" sire and dam are: CH Carloway Black Market ex Cameo Song Sung Blue.

Bonnie Thatcher reports that "Shadow," Simcos Majestic Crown Royal, was Reserve Winner's Dog at the South Dade Kennel Club on March 1, 2008, and on March 2, 2008. "Shadow's" sire and dam are: Highfields Wayward Wind ex Simcos Queen of the Night. "Shadow" was bred by club member Colleen Kessler.

Bill and Irene Munsey are pleased that "Donnie," a/k/a Summerloves Showtime at Donlyn, took Winners Dog and Best of Winners on March 1, 2008, at the Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association, Inc. "Donnie's" sire and dam are: CH Summerloves Look My Way, NAJ, PT, ex CH Summerloves Country Charm, NA, OAJ, HT.

Board and Membership Meeting Minutes -----

SSCSEF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. Attendees were Frank Lannon, Dione Houchins, Holly Potts, Lorna Staab, Hector Hector, Debbie Canderelli, Colleen Kessler, Bonny Thatcher, Karen Salvage and Meredith Hector. In addition to the listed members, guests Dee and Bill Selby and Lisa Malanowski were also in attendance.

No business items were raised. A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Hector

SSCSEF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. Attendees were Frank Lannon, Dione Houchins, Holly Potts, Lorna Staab, Hector Hector, Debbie Canderelli, Colleen Kessler, Bonny Thatcher, Karen Salvage and Meredith Hector. In addition to the listed members, guests Dee and Bill Selby and Lisa Malanowski were also in attendance.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Officer and Board Reports

President: Hector welcomed our guests and prospective members and extended a special thanks to everyone for attending this meeting. He reflected on his two years as President, stating how grateful he was that the club had pulled together and focused their talents to help make the club a success. He highlighted our string of back-to-back specialty shows and noted the courage, energy and contributions of our newest members Bonny and Debbie as examples of the type of people who make our club great.

Vice President: Dione thanked Hector for his leadership and echoed his sentiments. She added how grateful and proud she was to see the cooperation and commitment of the membership. She also indicated how pleased she was with the quality and variety of our educational and social programming and expressed her hope that we would continue on a similar path.

Treasurer: Meredith provided the account balance and announced the extremely generous \$480 donation to the club from Bonny Thatcher that was derived from the proceeds of her canine wedding in January for Misty and Shadow. Meredith asked that the use of those funds be discussed under new business.

Secretary: Meredith presented the following correspondence:

- AKC - regarding donation request to breed legislation PAC [See attached.]
- AKC – regarding need to provide them with an updated list of officers after our elections
- Rend Resort - soliciting show business (in Illinois)
- MB-F – regarding catalog ads/payments

Board: Guests Dee and Bill Selby and Lisa Malonowski introduced themselves to the group. Lisa submitted an application for full membership.

Committee Reports

Breeder Referral: No report

Sunshine: No report

Newsletter: No report

Website: No report.

Show: Lorna addressed a number of items and checked in with subcommittee chairs to be sure everything was in order for our shows this coming Friday.

- Hospitality - Holly indicated that judges were all set in terms of transportation, lodging and gifts
- Steward – Holly stated that everything was under control
- Trophies – Frank announced that through the generosity of KV Vet supply we would have additional “prizes” to supplement our raffle and second show. He also stated that he would be on hand to help Holly with ensuring that the proper items were distributed to winning exhibitors at each show. After discussion by the group Frank noted that he would work with the Palm beach DFA to secure 4 tables for trophy and raffle items.

- Raffle – Bonny brought a number of beautifully wrapped baskets to help divvy up the transportation load. She stated that she was all set in terms of supplies, and cash.
- Lorna asked for a subcommittee chairs and other volunteers to be at the show site at 7:30 a.m. for set up.

Old business

None.

New business:

Lorna asked members to consider a donation for the memorial for former member and officer Beth Sirvinskas.

Ideas for the best use of Bonny's \$480 contribution to the club were discussed. No consensus was reached beyond ensuring that it benefited the club. The possibility of donating it to the AKC's health foundation (which would be matched) was positively received but members present decided to continue thinking of options and to bring their ideas to the next meeting.

The election of officers was held next. Because the February meeting was cancelled, nominations from the floor were opened first. None were received.

As Secretary Meredith cast a vote for the following slate of officers for 2008-2009:

- President - Dione Houchins
- Vice President – Meredith Hector
- Secretary- Karen Salvage
- Treasurer – Lorna Staab
- Board – Hector Hector (Membership), Maryann Lannon and Bonny Thatcher

Dione then announced that she would determine committee chairs for the coming year as soon as possible. She also stated that the next meeting would be held at her home (board and general meeting) on Tuesday, April 8.

She then presented a plaque to Hector on behalf of the club, expressing our appreciation for his many efforts and accomplishments.

With no further business, a motion was made seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith Hector

5580 Centerview Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606
Tel: 919-816-3720
Fax: 919-816-4275
Email: doglaw@akc.org



Board Members
Hon. David C. Merriam – Chairman
James Stevens – Treasurer
Walter Bebout – Secretary
Dr. William Newman
Patti Strand
Louis Auslander
Dr. Anthony D. DiNardo
Alan Kalter
Gail LaBerge

February 12, 2008

MEREDITH HECTOR
SECRETARY
SHETLAND SHEEPDOG CLUB OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA
1100 SW 128TH DR
DAVIE, FL 33325-5569

Dear MEREDITH HECTOR:

The American Kennel Club (AKC) has been protecting the interests of purebred dog owners since our founding 123 years ago. The right to own and breed dogs responsibly is seriously threatened by the introduction of repressive canine legislation at all levels of government. The introduction of statewide mandatory spay and neuter legislation in California in 2007, Assembly Bill 1634, is a most visible gauge of the legislative initiatives that menace responsible dog ownership.

The California spay and neuter bill is emblematic of the negative canine legislation being introduced across the United States. A similar statewide mandatory spay/neuter bill was introduced in New Mexico in 2007, a mandatory spay/neuter bill was introduced in Virginia at the onset of the 2008 legislative session and CA AB 1634 remains a viable issue in the 2008 California legislative session. Breed specific legislation, banning or restricting the ownership and/or breeding of certain breeds, plagues dog owners in scores of jurisdictions. A Minnesota legislator has announced his intention to introduce a bill when the legislature convenes in February 2008 that would ban ownership of American Staffordshire Terriers, Staffordshire Bull Terriers, Akitas, Chow Chows and Rottweilers in the state of Minnesota. Breed specific legislation banning the ownership of multiple AKC breeds has already been introduced in Tennessee in 2008 and a prefiled bill in Florida would reverse the state statute prohibiting local jurisdictions from passing breed specific ordinances.

Bills requiring the licensure and inspection of dog breeders have been introduced in New Jersey, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Virginia, and Oklahoma and will soon be introduced in Tennessee. Ear cropping and/or tail docking ban bills were introduced in California in 2005 and New York and Vermont in 2006. The need for a resolute dog fancy committed to protecting the right to own and breed dogs responsibly has never been greater.

The AKC Board of Directors established the American Kennel Club, Inc. Political Action Committee (AKC PAC) in October, 2007 to specifically focus on addressing discriminatory legislation and to protect your rights as breeders, exhibitors and owners of dogs. The formation of the AKC PAC is a strategic move for the American Kennel Club. The formation of a PAC is one of the most appropriate and effective ways to help ensure that legislators who have been approached by AKC and are supportive of AKC positions are elected or remain in office.

AKC cannot make contributions to individual candidate campaigns, so our PAC was formed to facilitate contributions to candidates and elected officials supportive of AKC issue positions. The Federal Election Commission (FEC) approved the formation of the AKC PAC in October 2007 with the provision that only members of AKC member and licensed clubs, along with AKC employees, may be solicited for contributions to the AKC PAC.

The FEC advisory opinion does not allow AKC affiliated clubs to contribute funds from their club treasuries to the AKC PAC but AKC clubs may make donations to the AKC Canine Legislation Support Fund. The AKC PAC is limited to soliciting donations to be disbursed to candidates for political office who share our public policy views. Political action committees cannot lobby officeholders. The AKC Canine Legislation Support Fund is a separate mechanism by which dog clubs can contribute to support AKC canine legislation operations and lobbying activities. AKC affiliated clubs are encouraged to support the Canine Legislation Fund. While AKC clubs may not contribute funds to the AKC PAC, AKC clubs may solicit their individual members to contribute to the AKC PAC.

We are asking that you forward this letter and the attached contribution information to your membership. You can rest assured that 100% of contributed funds will be utilized to directly support canine legislation efforts, none of the contributions will be used for administrative or fund raising costs. The common bond between all dog fanciers is our love of the purebred dog. Dog fanciers have shared interests and we also have a shared responsibility to protect the right to own and breed dogs. If you have any questions related to the AKC PAC or the AKC Canine Legislation Support Fund, please contact Walt Bebout, AKC PAC Secretary and Canine Legislation Department Director, at wrb@akc.org or phone 919-816-3721.

Sincerely,



David C. Merriam
AKC PAC Board Chairman



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB

AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB



Support the AKC PAC!

The **American Kennel Club** has taken the lead in supporting legislation across the country that protects the rights of responsible dog owners. Our new **AKC Political Action Committee** gives us an additional tool with which to influence legislators. Through the PAC, we can demonstrate a unity of purpose that helps us advance a positive legislative agenda.

The **AKC PAC** collects voluntary contributions from individuals and uses these donations to support candidates who defend dog owners' rights and can effectively influence legislation impacting animal owners. Your donation will be bundled with contributions from **AKC club members** across the country to strengthen our support for reasonable, enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of purebred dogs and do not restrict the rights of breeders and owners who take their responsibilities seriously.

Contributions to this committee are not deductible on federal tax returns. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. The maximum annual contribution is \$5,000 to AKC PAC. All contributions are voluntary.

Personal Check enclosed for full amount (Make checks payable to AKC PAC)

Credit Card payment enclosed \$ _____

Charge to my personal Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Account# _____ Exp. Date _____

Information required for Federal Election Commission

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Employer _____ Occupation _____

I am a United States Citizen or permanent legal resident of the United States.

Club Affiliation _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Contributor's Signature _____ Date _____

Please forward the completed form, along with your contribution to:

AKC PAC

Attn: Canine Legislation Department
5580 Centerview Drive
Raleigh, NC 27606