Focus on Members

This quarter we are featuring our club members **Dawn & Bob Jones**, from Dryden, Ontario.

Bob and I became parents to Jethro, our first GSP in 2008. Life has never been the same since (in a good way!) We quickly learned you just can’t have one, and along came Oliver in 2011. They are great hiking companions and get you out of the house when it is 30 below. We are fortunate to have a field within walking distance for summer exercise and a frozen lake for winter. We’ve participated in confirmation, rally obedience, CGN tests and agility classes.

Jethro loves to point and track a scent …. anything from mosquitoes to woodpeckers. (They are both professional mosquito hunters). Jethro’s favourite games include chasing snowballs and finding an old glove hidden in the long grass. To see their natural hunting abilities at work is amazing.

Oliver can usually be found running….being younger his energy level is second to none and he has literally worn all the grass away in our back yard. We have nicknamed him “forest (gump).” He has his favourite ball which he carries with him everywhere and he loves to drink from the garden hose.

In typical GSP fashion they spend their quiet time sprawled out on our leather furniture, on their backs. legs in the air.

We have learned so much about the breed. They are our kids and are such a huge part of our lives we couldn’t imagine life without them.
Continued … focus on members Dawn & Bob Jones, from Dryden, Ontario.
Planning is well underway for the 2014 German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada National Specialty. The Specialty will be held on Saturday July 12th, in conjunction with the Evelyn Kenney Obedience and Kennel Club shows July 11 through 14th. Judges for the event are H. Middleditch for Sweepstakes and S. Dillin for the Specialty.

The Westwinds Sporting Dog Specialty will also be held on this weekend - along with four all breed shows, allowing six sets of points in one weekend. The GSPCC will boost obedience trials on Friday July 11th, and Rally Obedience trials on Sunday July 13th.

The GSPCC will host an informal barbeque banquet the evening of the Specialty, and we invite everyone to attend.

We are presenting our trophy donation list for your consideration, and thank you in advance for your generosity to assist in the success of the 2014 National Specialty. For more information please contact Angel Wagner at wagner01@telus.net
We welcome your contributions to the GSPCC 2014 General Trophy Fund or the donation of any one of the prizes below. All donations will be recognized in the Specialty Catalogue.

Cheques can be made payable to Janna Jackson / or the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada and mailed to Janna at Box 22 Cranford AB T0K 0R0

Please contact Angel Wagner wagner01@telus.net 403-728-3107 to check for availability of prizes

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GSPCC Regional Specialty

June 7

with the Erie Shores KC, Ontario

Judging panel has been approved.
Sweeps Judge: Lola Nichol
Specialty Judge: Linda More, NC - USA

We are also hosting a Booster on Sunday June 8th.
Show Chair: Lyndsay Ferguson - lyndsay@leasidegsp.com

We are once again holding a potluck and raffle at this show !!
German Shorthaired Pointer breeder Katie Tazza takes pride in producing dual champions that excel in both the show ring and at field trials. Her Up N'Adam Kennels in Washington Depot, Conn., is home to two German Shorthaired Pointer Hall of Fame inductees and the 1991 Westminster Best of Breed winner.

In fact, Tazza’s Shorthair, Dual CH Amateur FC Up N'Adam Piper Cherokee, CDX, MH, ROM (“Cherokee”), set a record in 1998 when she became the youngest dual champion in breed history at age 2 ½. Her dam was from Tazza’s show bloodline, and the sire was a field champion that Tazza had introduced hoping to bring his beautiful running and pointing style to her line.

Meanwhile, Tazza bred another bitch to a stud dog with outstanding field ability and style. The bitch, Dual CH Amateur FC Up N'Adam Piper Heidisieck, CDX, MH (“Bubbles”), won the most high in trials in obedience for a German Shorthaired Pointer in 1997. A male from Bubbles’ litter, Dual CH Amateur Up N'Adam Florens Louis, CD, SH (“Louie”), was bred to his aunt Cherokee in 2001, producing a promising litter of 10 puppies.

About the time the puppies were turning 6 months old, Tazza received a phone call from a new owner. “The owner said his bitch puppy had developed severe dandruff that didn’t respond to any type of treatment,” she says. “The puppy owner, at the advice of his veterinarian, took the dog to Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston, where after a skin biopsy the pup was diagnosed with lupoid dermatosis.”

When Tazza saw the puppy, she was horrified. The outside layer of skin, the epidermis, was separating from the second layer of skin, or the dermis. All of the skin, except the stomach area, was affected. As a result, the dog had lost her natural protection against infection, and secondary bacteria, fungus and yeast infections had set in. The puppy also appeared to have joint pain. After no success from treatment, the owner elected to euthanize the dog.

When Tazza received a call from another owner whose puppy named ‘Jaeger’ from the same litter was experiencing similar signs, she was disheartened. She first blamed her bloodline for the defect. A pedigree showed her bitch Up N'Adam’s Piper Cub, CD, JH, was the great-granddam on the sire’s side and the granddam on the mother’s side. Both sides of the pedigree were linebred on a German import, KS CH Zobel vom Pregelufer, but Piper was the most common ancestor.

After many inquiries, Tazza was advised to see Margret Casal, D.V.M., assistant professor of medical genetics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Casal recalls examining Jaeger, who was the first German Shorthaired Pointer puppy she saw with the condition, in 2002.

“The puppy had flaky skin and scabs, even lesions on his scrotum, that were raw and looked awful,” Casal says.

Seeking Genetic Clues

They discussed the disease, and Tazza asked Casal if she wanted her to repeat the breeding to prove it was a genetic defect. Casal indicated that a repeat breeding would help the research, so Tazza repeated the breeding of Louie and Cherokee to see if genetic clues could be determined. Nine puppies were whelped. Ultimately, one puppy developed lupoid dermatosis. Together with information from the first litter, the statistic indicates an autosomal recessive condition.

Concerned about her own bloodlines, Tazza then did a linebreeding back to her Hall of Fame sire, NSC DC AFC Up N'Adam, UDSSH, ROMX, with Cherokee. “I did this because ‘Up N'Adam’ was a son of the German import, 'Zobel,'” explains Tazza. “Zobel was introduced into my Up N'Adam bloodlines in 1988, 14 years after the first Up N'Adam litter was bred. There were two breedings with about 18 healthy pups produced.”

Louie had also been bred to a bitch linebred on Up N'Adam, CH Up N'Adam’s Eager Beaver, CD, JH. Two breedings resulted in about 20 puppies. None had the disease, which ruled out Tazza’s original bloodlines and instead pointed at the two different field bloodlines that she had bred to. Lupoid dermatosis has been recognized in German Shorthaired Pointers since the early 1990s, though Casal believes it may have existed since the

Breeders Can Contribute to Lupoid Dermatosis Research

New research funded by the AKC Canine Health Foundation and supported by the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America is targeting the gene mutation that causes lupoid dermatosis, a painful, fatal skin disease in German Shorthaired Pointers. A similar disease occurs in humans.

Dr. Margret Casal of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine is seeking blood samples from affected dogs and their relatives for the research. Owners and breeders are encouraged to submit results of a skin biopsy documenting the diagnosis and a blood sample for DNA testing.

For information, please contact Casal by e-mail at casalml@vet.upenn.edu or by calling (215) 898-0029.

Continued on page 2
Lupoid Dermatosis continued from page 1

1970s. It has been identified in Short- hairs in the United States, Europe and Australia. A bleak condition, lupoid dermatosis, compromises quality of life, and thus most dogs are euthanized. A similar condition, cutaneous lupus erythematosus, occurs in humans.

The researchers do not know why lupoid dermatosis affects only German Shorthaired Pointers; however, it is likely that a mutation occurred in a champion or popular dog.

“Typically, this dog then passes the mutation on to his offspring,” Casal explains. “Often, a popular sire gets bred many times without knowing he is carrying a defective gene. This is because the disease may not show up for several generations. It is, of course, not the dog’s fault. Neither the dog nor the breeder caused the mutation.”

Casal hopes to identify the gene mutation causing lupoid dermatosis and develop a DNA-based test so breeders can plan their breedings carefully and eliminate the disease from the breed. She recently received a grant from the AKC Canine Health Foundation and the German Short- haired Pointer Club of America to study the disease.

“It’s an awful disease,” Casal says. “We can only treat the signs, and most of the treatments we’ve tried only give momentary relief. None have been successful in the long run. Hopefully more effective treatments can be found.”

If all goes well, the research may also help investigators trying to learn more about lupus erythematosus in humans. “Potentially we can use the knowledge we gain from our research in dogs to learn more about the disease in humans,” Casal says. “Once we know which gene mutation is causative in dogs, we can look for what triggers the disease in people.”

Although signs of the disease can occur in dogs as early as 8 to 16 weeks of age, most owners do not recognize the signs at that time. The disease affects males and females regardless of coat color pattern.

“Owners often mention dry, flaky skin, but they don’t associate that in the beginning with a more serious condition,” Casal says. “Dogs also may become lame and want not to get up anymore.”

As the disease progresses, a dog’s skin becomes crusty on his face, ears and back, leading to painful, bleeding lesions. Sores may get well temporar- ily only to return. Hair loss over the affected area is common and perma- nent. Bacterial and fungal infections also are common because the skin’s barrier function is disrupted by the disease. Skin biopsy is used to diag-nosis lupoid dermatosis.

Treatment mostly deals with reliev- ing pain. Baths and mineral oil help to soothe the skin, while steroids such as prednisone provide relief. Immuno- suppressants, including cyclosporine, are commonly prescribed as well, but they are not without side effects. The condition is usually fatal as there is no effective treatment.

Breed Education Begins

The same year that Casal examined Jaeger, the male German Shorthaired Pointer puppy from Tazza’s first affect- ed litter, Tazza made a presentation and asked breeders at the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America National Field Championship in Eureka, Kan., to allow her, a former veterinary technician, to collect blood samples from their dogs to assist in the research to find the gene mutation. Forty-two blood samples collected from Shorthair enthusiasts at the Nationals began the research. Tazza also spread the word among fellow breeders and owners, and more samples from other lines were sent to Casal. Tazza also sent identified cropped tails from puppies as DNA samples.

Meanwhile, Tazza donated an affected puppy from the second Cherokee-Louie breeding, “Remington,” to Casal and her colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania in hopes they could learn more about the dis- ease and its pattern of inheritance. This puppy went to a foster home in Pennsylvania where the owner, a veterinary student, was trained to look for signs of the condition and document its progression.

Preliminary research indicates that lupoid dermatosis is an autosomal recessive condition, meaning an affect- ed dog must receive a copy of the gene mutation from both parents. Though the parents are carriers — they inherit one copy of the causative allele — they are not affected by the disease. When carriers are bred, 25 percent of the offspring are affected, 50 percent are normal, and 50 percent are carriers.

“When a disease has a recessive trait, no one knows that the dog or some of his offspring carry the mutated gene because it takes two copies for the trait or disease to be expressed,” explains Casal. “In other words, not until you breed two carriers will you be able to see affected dogs. Carriers in this case always look normal because they are carrying the normal gene and the mutated gene. The nor- mal gene ‘trumps’ the mutated gene.”

Until the gene mutation is known, breeders are encouraged to not breed affected dogs, their littersmates, or their sire or dam. Once the mutation is known, selective breeding can help to eliminate the disease.

“If you take a carrier and breed him or her to a non-carrier, the puppies will not have the disease,” Tazza says. “But, if you get rid of all the carriers, you’ll lose a lot of great dogs. The best thing to eliminate the disease is to selectively breed carriers and then retain only the normal (clear, non- carrier) offspring as future breeders, although a genetic test is needed before this can be realized.”

Since her research began, Casal has learned about a milder form of lupoid dermatosis cropping up in German Shorthaired Pointers in Iowa. In one case, an affected dog has lived to 8 years of age. “It might be a dif- ferent form, or it could be that we just see the worse cases at the veterinary school,” she says. “We will know more once we find the gene mutation.”

Casal is extremely grateful for the support she has received from Tazza and other breeders. “We can’t do these studies without dedicated breeders like Katie Tazza,” she says. “We still need help from more breeders. Blood samples from their dogs will help to boost our work.”

“The best thing people can do is not to hide this disease,” Tazza says. “If you take a carrier and breed him or her to a non-carrier, the puppies will not have the disease.”

Like Tazza, other breeders have collected and sent DNA samples from their dogs. “We still need help from more breeders. Blood samples from their dogs will help to boost our work.”

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Margaret Casal, D.V.M., ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MEDICAL GENETICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Want to Reach the Editor?

Have comments about Purina Pro Club Update? Send them to us at: Purina Pro Club Update, c/o Editor, Nestlé Purina PetCare, 2T Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, MO 63164 or via e-mail at today’sbreeder@purina.com.

Send Us Your Questions

Have questions about your Purina Points or how to redeem weight cir- cles for rewards and rebate checks? Contact Purina Pro Club at (877) PRO- CLUB, or (877) 776-2582, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. CST Monday through Friday. You also may visit www.purina proclub.com to review and redeem Purina Points.
2014 CKC FIELD EVENTS

TRIALS (2) & TEST (1) – APRIL 4 - 6, 2014 – NANOOSE BAY, BC
Vancouver Island Pointing Dog Club – Margaret Lehmann (250) 737-1236

TESTS (2) – MAY 3 - 4, 2014 – AMARANTH, ON
Vizsla Society of Ontario Inc. – Janice Wolff (519) 759-1674

TRIALS (2) – MAY 10 - 11, 2014 – COCHRANE, AB
Brittany Spaniel Club of Canada – Tom Doherty (403) 318-3678

TESTS (4) – MAY 10 - 11, 2014 – NORWOOD, ON
OAPB Field Dog Club – Doris Morrison (705) 786-3725

TESTS (4) – May 17 - 18, 2014 – GRAND VALLEY, ON
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada – Maria Foster (905) 388-0215

TRIAL (1) – MAY 17 - 18, 2014 – ROCKYFORD, AB
German Shorthaired Pointer Field Club of Alberta – Arwen Dabb (403) 948-2525

TESTS (2) – MAY 18 - 19, 2014 – IRRICANA, AB
German Shorthaired Pointer Field Club of Alberta – Arwen Dabb (403) 948-2525

TRIALS (2) – MAY 23 - 25, 2014 – BRETON, AB
National Amateur Championship
Edmonton Pointing Dog Club – Laurie Elliott (780) 847-2263

TESTS (2) – MAY 24 - 25, 2014 – AMARANTH, ON
Brittany Spaniel Club of Ontario – Vicki Whitmell

TESTS (2) – MAY 24 - 25, 2014 – ST CANUT, QC
Club Du Chien D’arret Des Laurentides – Dominic Werotte (450) 434-0884

TESTS (2) – MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 2014 – MERRIT, BC
British Columbia All Breed Pointer Club – Jayne M. Coneybeare (250) 546-2991

TRIALS (3) – JUNE 6 - 8, 2014 – BRAGG CREEK, AB
Calgary Pointing Dog Club – Manette Jones (403) 648-2577

TESTS (2) – JUNE 7 - 8, 2014 – MAXVILLE, ON
Ottawa Valley Pointing Dog Club – Linda Cooney (613) 687-2011

TESTS (2) – JUNE 14 - 15, 2014 – COCHRANE, AB
Calgary Pointing Dog Club – Manette Jones (403) 648-2577

TESTS (2) – JUNE 14 - 15, 2014 – ST-CANUT DE MIRABEL, QC
Club De L’épagneul Breton Inc. – David Campbell (450) 991-3695

TESTS (2) – JUNE 14 - 15, 2014 – AMARANTH, ON
Vizsla Canada – Julie Donnell (905) 297-8535
2014 CKC FIELD EVENTS

TRIAL (1) – JUNE 21 - 22, 2014 – PENTICTON, BC
British Columbia All Breed Pointer Club – Maxine Moinier (250) 656-7404

TRIAL (1) & TESTS (2) – JUNE 21 - 22, 2014 – ISSOUUDUN, QC
Club De Chien De Chasse De Quebec – Louise Regimbald (418) 228-0475

TESTS (2) – JUNE 21, 2014 – UPPER STEWIACKE, NS
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada – Kim Currie (902) 436-3194

TESTS (2) – JUNE 22, 2014 – STEWIACKE, NS
Vizsla Canada – Kim Currie (902) 436-3194

TESTS (2) – SEPTEMBER 13 - 14, 2014 – AMARANTH, ON
Vizsla Society of Ontario Inc. – Janice Wolff (519) 759-1674

TESTS (2) – SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 – UPPER STEWIACKE, NS
Vizsla Canada – Kim Currie (902) 436-3194

TESTS (2) – SEPTEMBER 21, 2014 – UPPER STEWIACKE, NS
German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada – Kim Currie (902) 436-3194
Notice:
2014 Membership Renewals are due January 1st
You can renew with PayPal on the club’s website or by cheque (see attached membership form for details).

Upcoming Club Events
May 17-18, 2014 - ON
Field Dog Tests

June 7, 2014 - ON
Regional Specialty - Erie Shores KC

June 21, 2014 - NS
Field Dog Tests

July 12, 2014 - AB
National Specialty - Evelyn Kenny O & KC

September 21, 2014 - NS
Field Dog Tests

Newsletter Ad Deadlines:
January-March - By January 31
April-June - By April 30
July-September - By July 31
Oct-December - By October 31

2014 Advertising Rates:
Cover: $35  Full Page: $25  Half Page $15
1/4 page brags free

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The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada Board

President    Maxine Moinier, Sidney, BC V8L 3Z4 - Tel: 250 656 7404 – hunterspridegsp@shaw.ca
Vice President Tammy Parris, Lynden, ON L0R 1T0 – Tel: 289 799 9402 – topthtagsp@yahoo.ca
Treasurer    Barbara Taws, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4W1 - Tel: 905 967 0954 – barb@sunupgsp.com
Secretary    Maria Foster, Hamilton, ON L9A 3M7  Tel: 905 388 0215 – aspenglow@sympatico.ca
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Director - BC Kathy Brennan, Brackendale, BC V0N 1H0 - Tel: 604 898 2847 - ardog@telus.net
Director - Prairies Diane Nowlan, Saskatoon, SK S7K 0S6 - Tel: 306 653 3362 – shotshell@sasktel.net
Director - Prairies Stephen Short, Airdrie, AB T4B 2A4 - Tel: 403 948 2525 - sshort@efirehose.net
Director - Prairies Angel Wagner, Red Deer County, AB T4G 0L2 - Tel: 403 728 3107 - wagner01@telus.net
Field Chair    Arwen Dabb, Airdrie, AB T4B 2A4 - Tel: 403 948 2525 adabb@telus.net
Show Chair    Janna Jackson, Cranford, AB Tel: 403 328 2440 jannajackson18@hotmail.com

Official publication of The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada - www.gspcanada.com
# 2014 Membership Application

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- **New Membership** ☐  - **Renewal Membership** ☐

**Interests:** *(Please check all that apply)*
- Show
- Field Trials
- Field Dog Tests
- Agility
- Obedience
- Tracking
- Rescue
- Other

**I agree and understand the following:**

Any person requesting membership into the **German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada** must be 18 years of age & shall submit:

1. The Club’s Application
2. The name of two sponsors (existing members of the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada) in good standing.
3. Payment of one year’s club dues being: Single $25.00 ☐ Family (Limit of 2 people): $35.00 ☐

Please make cheques payable to: The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada (GSPCC) and mail to Maria Foster, Secretary at the address shown above.

All new memberships will be reviewed and may be approved by the executive, subject to question by the membership at large, following publication of the applicant’s name in the Club’s Newsletter. New members shall not have voting rights for one full year after acceptance of membership application.

**Sponsoring me – Current GSPCC members in Good Standing (if you don’t have a sponsor, please contact the secretary)**

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**I acknowledge that in completing and signing this application form, I agree to abide by the regulations and/or guidelines set forth in the constitution, by-laws and code of ethics of the **German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Canada**.**

**Signature**

**Signature**