



The ShepHeard

Newsletter of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Austin

August, 2005
Page 1

Editor: Cindy Gialluca

Volume

1 Issue 2

Fun at the Annual Summer Picnic

San Gabriel Park in Georgetown was the site for much fun and frolic on July 10th as the Austin German Shepherd Club held its annual summer picnic under the huge oaks next to the San Gabriel River. The weather cooperated with a nice and breezy 80 degree morning.

Fun and games for dogs and owners were played, and prizes handed out by the former first vice president and program director, Eleanor Blalack,. Eleanor will be moving to be with her husband in Germany, and will be greatly missed by the membership.

A great time was had by all, and a wonderful send off for Eleanor.



Future

Meetings

PAWS Threatens Hobby Breeders

The most serious threat to hobby breeders to date comes from the federal government with the proposed bill called the Pet Animal Welfare Statute, or PAWS. Proposed by Senator Rick Santorum, and supported by the American Kennel Club.

The AKC position is that; "As currently drafted, PAWS amends the Animal Welfare Act. The legislation offers a reasonable balance between addressing a changing marketplace where dogs are *sold en masse* over the Internet and imported from foreign countries, and protecting breeders from excessive regulation. After a detailed analysis of the legislative language, we have reached the conclusion that PAWS will adequately protect the autonomy of breeders, while enforcing reasonable industry standards for breeding and selling dogs." (www.akc.org)

PAWS, as written, is confusing, arbitrary and NO ONE knows for sure exactly what all of its provisions will mean for animal owners in the US. PAWS spells the end of co-ownerships

From the Presidents I

I hear the summer picnic was a great success, although I cannot attend. I am truly glad the weather temperature cooled down for those who were able to go. I do hope someone wrote something for the newsletter to tell others what you did on.

Sherry has been very successful in getting the obedience/working split from the conformation in a timely manner. It looks like we are well on our way to success in shows in several venues. We all look forward to working at all of the events. With this success, we are on sound footing and ready to grow in the future.

It is good to hear that some members have new puppies to work with and we look forward to seeing them at our events. Of you know, Eleanor will be leaving. It looks like she will be in the area through the first of September. Her house is ready and she is ready to get to Ger

Meetings

Tuesday August 23, 2005 will be a club meeting with a guest speaker from the Royal Canin company.

Tuesday September 27, 2005 we will have a program to be announced followed by a business meeting and appointment of the Nominating Committee.

Tuesday October 25, 2005 will be a board meeting - no program.

and co-breeding a litter because you would automatically become a dealer, even if you only bred one litter or sold one puppy not whelped and reared on your premises. Currently many animal organizations have gone public in their opposition to the PAWS bill, including the GSDCA.

The bill is now in the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Here is how to voice your opposition to this bill: Committee phone number: 202-224-2035 Mailing address: Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry Room SR-328A Russell Senate Office Building

with her husband and family. I am sure we all wish them the best. I personally hope to get over to see Eleanor for the Sieger Show when they are there.

Everyone have a good time and we will see you in August.

Mary Tripp

President of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Austin



The ShepHeard

Newsletter of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Austin

"The Tide Is Turning"

By Ron Hevener
(edited for length)

Lots of us contributed to groups claiming to have great compassion for animals over the years. We all wanted to do the right thing and it felt good being told how nice we were for donating to their "cause." We were doing

something for animals and we all slept well because of it. The trouble is, it's about twenty years later now. Those little groups on the lunatic fringe became organizations, the organizations became publicity mongers and the whole bunch of them became full-scale corporations with payrolls, lawyers and presidents. It all morphed into something totally different from what we wanted and all of a sudden, their idea of compassion is turning out to be quite different from ours.

In recent days, the Associated Press has been reporting some interesting - and significant - developments affecting all of us with animals.

At a standing-room-only hearing in the U.S. Senate, the Center for Consumer Freedom gave testimony blasting "the most visible animal rights groups" for hypocrisy and support of national terrorism. Yes, that's correct: terrorism. And, for the first time, these familiar organizations are being forced to defend *themselves* instead of attacking others.

The tide is turning. Besides this Senate hearing, the state of Florida took action against what we all know as HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) just a few days ago. What could the Humane Society do wrong, you ask? How about *stealing an identity* for starters? Lots of us are too busy taking care of our dogs to figure it out.

But, "HSUS" isn't the local "humane shelter" in town. It isn't a humane shelter at all. It's a business name. Did you know you can register the name of a legitimate *business* in another state and nobody can stop you? How many of us gave money to "HSUS" thinking we were giving money to the humane society in our local county?

Florida lawmakers are just like the rest of us. They were busy making laws and confused about who this "HSUS" organization really is. Trying to do a good thing, they allowed this company to benefit from a lucrative state program. But, when they realized their mistake - *to the tune of millions* - Florida surprised everybody and fixed it.

I walk along the lake and imagine it's an ocean. Tossing a stone into the dark water, I pretend the ripples are waves rushing over the sands, then



Book Price \$12.95 • Shipping



They were dog lovers
souls who believed in rig
in a world of twisted
society gone mad. They
holdouts of American s
Dreamers and winners.

As long as they had
they had a cha
As long as they had
they weren't al

"Skillfully written.... A
writer covering parim
for more than 45 years
heartily recommend th
passion for the Greyho
-- *Saul Durst*
Publisher, *The Northern S*

Pennywood Press
1338 Mountain Rd Manheim, PA 17545
p: 717.664.5089 pennywood@dejazzd.com

[www.ronhevener](http://www.ronhevener.com)

pulling back and leaving behind new things for us to think about,
new
things to discover. That's how it is at the shore, in your bare feet, as
the
waves roll a little further out each time. That's how it is when *the
tide is
turning.*

Printed with permission of the author



Page 2

