

GARDEN STATE SIBERIAN HUSKY CLUB NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2	President's Message; 2008 Activities Calendar
2	Achievements, Howls, & Brags
3	GSSHC @ SHCA
4	World's First Dog

- Deadline for submission of articles, howls, etc. for the next issue is February 15, 2009.
- Next issue of the **GSSHC Newsletter** will be at your local newsstand or mailbox on or about February 20, 2009.
- Club web site: <http://www.gsshc.com>
- Club central email: gsshc@gsshc.com

Subscription included with Club membership. Non-member subscriptions are \$10.00 per year.

It is the policy of this Newsletter to publish the contributions of Club members. The views expressed, however, are not necessarily those of the editor and staff or of the GSSHC. Contributions are encouraged. Please do not submit copyrighted information without the permission of the copyright owner. Other Siberian Husky Newsletters to which we directly mail may use articles submitted here as long as the same privilege is extended to our Club.



OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

<p><u>President</u> Lynne Kerstetter 609-601-2265 kunusibes@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>Vice-President</u> Mike Marion 908-735-6015 marionhills@comcast.net</p>
<p><u>Treasurer</u> Rose Bucci 609-965-0402 rocklandsib@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Corr./Rec. Secretary</u> Michele Szczepanski 609-965-2862 RocklandMS@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Board of Directors (2)</u> Carol Wicki 908-637-4943 madchen2@comcast.net (Class of 2009)</p>	<p>Maggie Marion 908-735-6015 marionhill@patmedia.net (Class of 2010)</p>
<p><u>President Emeritus</u> Irwin Linker 908-213-6957 link@siberlink.net</p>	<p> 9-11-2001</p>

President's Message

No President's Message.

2008 Activities Calendar

The currently scheduled events on the 2009 - 2009 GSSHC calendar.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
January	General Meeting (8:00pm)	TBD
February	General Meeting (8:00pm)	TBD
TBD	Annual Eye Clinic (4-8PM)	Somerset 4-H Center North Branch, NJ
April 17	General Meeting (8:00pm) Nominations from the Floor	TBD
May 15	Annual Meeting (8:00pm) Elections, Annual Awards	TBD

Achievements, Howls, & Brags



Mike & Mary Spatz:

Siberlink's Silver Shadow: *earned his Rally Novice (RN) title* at Lackawanna. KC on July 25; **BOB** at Delaware Gap KC on Dec. 14. **Congratulations!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Siberlink's Crystal Glow: *1st in Open Bitch* at Greater Philadelphia DFA on Nov. 21.

Mike & Maggie Marion:

Marionhill's Rock N Rollin: **RWD** at Delaware Gap KC on Dec. 12.

Laura Anderson:

RedRiver's Stryke Force CD, RN: **RWD** at Delaware Valley Siberian Husky Club Specialty on Nov. 22.

Bralin's Walkin On Sunshine: **RWB** at Delaware Valley Siberian Husky Club Specialty on Nov. 22.

Michele Szczepanski & Rose Bucci:

Rockland's Just A Doll: **WB, BOS for 1 pt.** at Salisbury MD KC on Nov. 7; **WB, BOS for 1 pt.** at Mispillion KC on Nov. 9.

Rockland's Everybody Loves Him: **RW** at Chambersburg Area KC on Dec. 6.

Irwin & Lois Linker:

Am. Can. CH. Marionhill Chairman Of the Bd UD, RAE, MX, MXJ, NF, AXP, MJP, NFP, CGC, TDI, Can. CD: *1st place in Pref. Excellent B Standard and Pref. Excellent B Jumpers* at GSNEC agility trial on Nov. 8.

CH. RedRiver;s Travellin' Man CD, RN, NA, OAJ: *1st place in Open Standard for his OA title* at GSNEC agility trial on Nov. 8. **Congratulations!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Siberlink's Dot Comet O'Marionhill: **WB, BOS for 1 pt.** at Chambersburg Area KC on Dec. 6; **RWB** at Delaware Water Gap KC on Dec. 12; *1st in BBE* at Delaware Water Gap KC on Dec. 14..

Eddie Weinstein & Lynne Kerstetter:

Mochamco's Blue White Diamond: *1st in 6-9 Month Bitches* at Greater Philadelphia DFA on Nov. 21, at Delaware Valley Siberian Husky Club Specialty on Nov. 22 & at KC of Philadelphia on Nov. 23.

Jeanette & Dominic DiBalsi:

CH. North Node's Open For Business: **BVSW & AOM** at Delaware Valley Siberian Husky Club Specialty on Nov. 22.

Carol Wicki:

Madchen's Little Honey Bee: **WB, BBBE, BBE Group 4 for 1 pt.** at Delaware Water Gap KC on Dec. 12.

Ed. Note: Our apologies if we missed your brags. We can only print results from the information available at press time. If the AKC or superintendents have not published it or if you have not sent me an email, then I don't know what your brag is. If you would like to add your brag to the next Newsletter, please email Link.

GSSHC MEMBERS AT THE 2008 SHCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

COMPLETE RESULTS CAN BE FOUND AT
[HTTP://PAWTOWN.COM/SHCA2008NEWSLETTERS/](http://PAWTOWN.COM/SHCA2008NEWSLETTERS/)

Monday Oct. 27

Laura Anderson:

- 1st in 4 dog Rig Race

Tuesday Oct. 28

Elaine Barone & Ruth Henningsen: Siberlink's Hunter At Two Rivers CD, RA

- 4th in Rally Excellent B
- 4th in Rally Relay

Wednesday Oct. 29

Elaine Barone & Ruth Henningsen: Siberlink's Hunter At Two Rivers CD, RA

- 1st in Open A with a 194.0
- 1st in Wild Card Open with a 197.5

Ruth Henningsen & Elaine Barone: Two Rivers Gold Strike UD, RE

- 3rd in Open B with a 188.5
- 4th in Wild Card Open with a 188.5

Irwin Linker: Am. Can. CH. Marionhill Chairman Of the Bd UD RAE MX MXJ NF AXP MJP NFP CGC TDI Can. CD

- 1st place in Utility B
- Competed in the Top 20 Competition

Thursday Oct. 30

Irwin Linker: Am. Can. CH. Marionhill Chairman Of the Bd UD RAE MX MXJ NF AXP MJP NFP CGC TDI Can. CD

- 1st place in Preferred Excellent B Jumpers With Weaves

Saturday Nov. 1

Irwin Linker: Am. Can. CH. Marionhill Chairman Of the Bd UD RAE MX MXJ NF AXP MJP NFP CGC TDI Can. CD

- Best of Opposite Sex
- 2nd in 9-11 Year Old Veteran Dogs Sweepstakes
- Participated in the SHCA's Top20 Competition
- Received SHCA awards for being 2007's #1 Siberian Husky in Excellent Jumpers With Weaves Preferred, Excellent Standard Preferred and Master Jumpers With Weaves Preferred

Cindy Geertesema: CH. Rockland's The Iceman Cometh

- 4th in 9-11 Year Old Veteran Dogs Sweepstakes

World's First Dog Lived 31,700 Years Ago, Ate Big

By Jennifer Vargas

Discovery could push back the date for the earliest dog by 17,700 years



In shape, the Paleolithic dogs most resembled the Siberian husky (as the one shown here), researchers say, but in size, they were somewhat larger, probably comparable to large shepherd dogs.

Getty Images

An international team of scientists has just identified what they believe is the world's first known dog, which was a large and toothy canine that lived 31,700 years ago and subsisted on a diet of horse, musk ox and reindeer, according to a new study.

The discovery could push back the date for the earliest dog by 17,700 years, since the second oldest known dog, found in Russia, dates to 14,000 years ago.

Remains for the older prehistoric dog, which were excavated at Goyet Cave in Belgium, suggest to the researchers that the Aurignacian people of Europe from the Upper Paleolithic period first domesticated dogs. Fine jewelry and tools, often decorated with depictions of big game animals, characterize this culture.

If Paleolithic dogs still existed as a breed today, they would surely win best in show for strength and biting ability.

"In shape, the Paleolithic dogs most resemble the Siberian husky, but in size, however, they were somewhat larger, probably comparable to large shepherd dogs," added Germonpré, a paleontologist at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences.

For the study, which has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Archaeological Science*, the scientists analyzed 117 skulls of recent and fossil large members of the Canidae family, which includes dogs, wolves and foxes.

Skeletal analysis revealed, "the Paleolithic dogs had wider and shorter snouts and relatively wider brain cases than fossil and recent wolves," said Germonpré, who added that their skulls were also somewhat smaller than those of wolves.

DNA studies determined all of the canids carried "a substantial amount of genetic diversity," suggesting that past wolf populations were much larger than they are today.

Isotopic analysis of the animals' bones found that the earliest dogs consumed horse, musk ox and reindeer, but not fish or seafood. Since the Aurignacians are believed to have hunted big game and fished at different times of the year, the researchers think the dogs might have enjoyed meaty handouts during certain seasons.

Germonpré believes dog domestication might have begun when the prehistoric hunters killed a female wolf and then brought home her pups. Recent studies on silver foxes suggest that when the most docile pups are kept and cared for, it takes just 10 generations of breeding for morphological changes to take effect.

The earliest dogs likely earned their meals too.

"I think it is possible that the dogs were used for tracking, hunting, and transport of game," she said. "Transport could have been organized using the dogs as pack animals. Furthermore, the dogs could have been kept for their fur or meat, as pets, or as an animal with ritual connotation."

The skull of what may be the earliest known dog, which dates to 31,700 years ago. The prehistoric skull was excavated at Goyet Cave in Belgium.

Mietje Germonpre



Ancient, 26,000-year-old footprints made by a child and a dog at Chauvet Cave, France, support the pet notion. Torch wicks accompanying the prints indicate the child held a torch while navigating the dark corridors accompanied by a dog.

Susan Crockford, a University of Victoria anthropologist and an evolutionary biologist at Pacific Identifications, Inc. in Canada, told Discovery News that "this is an important paper."

Crockford, however, is not convinced the Aurignacians domesticated dogs. She instead suspects dogs may have undergone "self-domestication" from wolves more than once over history, which could explain why the animals appear and then seemingly disappear from the archaeological record.

Crockford details the possible process in her book, Rhythms of Life: Thyroid Hormone and the Origin of Species. She theorizes that the genes that control thyroid rhythms, allowing individuals to adapt to changing environmental conditions, can, over time, lead to the evolution of new species.

SAY THANKS TO YOUR BEST FRIEND

From DogAge.com, 9/18/08

Did you know that just being in your pup's presence makes you healthier? Here's what the latest research suggests:

- Petting your pup boosts production of pleasure hormones in the brain, helping to keep your stress and blood pressure at healthy levels.
- Canine company aids the recovery of heart attack patients and has a calming effect on people with Alzheimer's.
- Regular walks with your dog lift your mood and improve your fitness.
- Kids who grow up with dogs seem to have stronger immune systems and may be less likely to develop asthma, eczema, and pet allergies later in life.

Group Realignment Committee Report

From The AKC, November 2008

The Board reviewed a copy of the report submitted by the Group Realignment Committee. It was VOTED (unanimously) to accept the report with the gratitude and appreciation of the Board; to direct staff to publish the report; and to encourage input.

General input should be sent to the Executive Secretary: James Crowley, Executive Secretary, American Kennel Club, 260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, Email: grouprealign@akc.org, Fax: 212-696-8252

Breed-specific comments should be submitted through the breed Parent Club. A copy of the report, including the proposed realignment is attached (Attachment A). This will be considered by the AKC Board at its January 2009 meeting.

Any input should be received before January 2009.

ATTACHMENT A - Report of the AKC Group Realignment Committee

October 13, 2008

On October 8, 2007, the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, appointed an exploratory committee, chaired by Dr. Thomas Davies, to evaluate the current alignment of breeds within the seven variety groups, to determine if a different alignment would better serve the Sport now and in the future, as new breeds become registrable. The Committee included: Karen Burgess, Dr. Thomas Davies, Robert Fisher, Marieann Gladstone, Tim James, Dr. Alvin Krause, Dr. William Newman, John P. Nielsen, Dr. Robert Smith, Robin Stansell, and R. William Taylor. The committee met together three times, and has discussed its recommendations via email, as well. The initial basis for the discussions centered on the increasing number of new breeds being brought into the AKC Stud Book, as well as the number of breeds awaiting acceptance currently in the Foundation Stock Service (FSS) listing. In its deliberations, the committee considered several sources of information. The historical data suggested that the makeup of the groups for conformation judging was by no means a static listing. There were many changes in the distribution of breeds for show purposes (and for listing in AKC's Stud Book), and, in fact, no official, recorded group judging appears to have occurred prior to 1924. Group awards became official in 1925 with competition in five groups (Sporting, Working, Terrier, Toy and Non-Sporting). In 1930 the Sporting Group was split into the Sporting and Sporting (Hound) Groups. In 1983, the Working Group was split into the Working Group and the Herding Group.

The committee also considered two (non-official, non-scientific) polls, neither of which, in and of themselves, demanded a particular realignment. The general sense, however, was that it was time to do something about the burgeoning sizes of several of the groups, as well as the actual makeup of breeds within groups. The Delegate's Dog Show Rules Committee had conducted a short survey which indicated that about 75% of the respondents favored change. A much larger survey (1341 responders) appeared on the Infodog.com web site where only 17% of the respondents suggested that things were fine as they stood.

The first few months of the committee's existence was taken up by a thorough study of the Group system and a more detailed understanding of the history, form and function of the various breeds within the current group structure. Additionally, the makeup of groups around the world was reviewed.

After careful examination of the groups and the breeds that make them up, the committee decided that two of the current groups, which in a short time span could approach 40 breeds, can easily and logically be divided into two similar components. The Sporting Group can be divided into Sporting — Pointers and Setters, and Sporting — Retrievers and Spaniels. Functionally, this split made sense to the committee. Secondly, a logical division of the Hound Group would be Scent Hounds and Sight Hounds.

The third major change would be the creation of a new group, consisting of the Northern or Spitz type breeds. To populate this new group, we took the Norwegian Elkhound (from the Hound Group); the Akita, Alaskan Malamute, the Siberian Husky and the Samoyed (from the Working Group); the American Eskimo, Chinese Shar-Pei, Chow Chow, Finnish Spitz, Keeshond, Schipperke and Shiba Inu (from the Non-Sporting Group); and the Swedish Vallhund (from the Herding Group). The Parent clubs of these breeds were contacted and asked for their input.

We also chose to rename the Non-Sporting Group, since in fact it is (in addition to non-sporting) a non-hound, non-working, non-terrier, non-toy and non-herding group. After struggling with an appropriate name, we selected the Companion Group as the "new" name for this group. In addition to moving the above mentioned Northern/Spitz breeds into a new group, we considered the group placement of several other breeds, which we considered as possible candidates for relocation. Each of these was based on careful study of the history, form and function of the particular breed. In each case, the Parent breed club was contacted and asked to weigh in on their thoughts. Each of those contacted chose to remain in their current group alignment except two. The Italian Greyhound wished to move to the Sight Hound Group and the Dalmatian requested a move to the Working Group.

The committee did discuss the issue of varieties; however, it was felt that this was somewhat beyond the scope of our charge at this time. Our recommendation would necessitate the addition of three groups to the listing currently in place (7 groups). This would require Delegate approval to make changes to Chapter 3, Sections 1, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 20, and Chapter 6, Section 3 of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows. It may be useful to remove the reference to the number of groups from all of the above sections, except Chapter 3, Section 1. In addition, Chapter 2 of the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline refers to the number of groups, and would require Delegate approval to change.

The committee, by submission of this report, would request that the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club, in accordance with Article XX of the Bylaws of the American Kennel Club, propose and submit the necessary amendments to the Delegate body, to be read at the December meeting of the Delegate Body, published in two issues of AKC Gazette, and voted upon at the March, 2009 meeting of the Delegate Body. Attached is a listing of breeds and groups as proposed by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

The AKC Group Realignment Committee

Karen Burgess Dr. Thomas M. Davies, Chair Robert Fisher Marieann Gladstone Tim James Dr. Alvin W. Krause
Dr. William R. Newman John P. Nielsen Dr. Robert D. Smith Robin L. Stansell R. William Taylor

AKC Group Realignment Committee — Proposed Breeds & Groups (7/31/08)

From a presentation to the Delegates on September 8, 2008 by the AKC Group Realignment Committee

Group 1: Sporting — Pointers and Setters (11) (12)

Brittany, Pointer, Pointer (German Shorthaired), Pointer (German Wirehaired), Setter (English), Setter (Gordon), Setter (Irish Setter (Irish Red & White) Misc. 6/27/07; Full Recognition 1/1/09, Spinone Italiano, Vizsla, Weimaraner, Wirehaired Pointing Griffon

Group 2: Sporting - Retrievers and Spaniels (17) (18)

Retriever (Chesapeake Bay), Retriever (Curly-Coated), Retriever (Flat-Coated), Retriever (Golden), Retriever (Labrador), Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling), Spaniel (American Water), Spaniel (Boykin) — *Miscellaneous 1/1/08*, Spaniel (Clumber), Spaniel (Cocker) ASCOB, Spaniel (Cocker) Black, Spaniel (Cocker) Parti-color, Spaniel (English Cocker), Spaniel (English Springer), Spaniel (Field), Spaniel (Irish Water), Spaniel (Sussex), Spaniel (Welsh Springer)

Group 3: Scent Hounds (14) (17)

Basset Hound, Beagle (13"), Beagle (15"), Black and Tan Coonhound, Bloodhound, *Bluetick Coonhound - Miscellaneous 7/1/08*, Dachshund (Longhaired), Dachshund (Smooth), Dachshund (Wirehaired), English Foxhound Foxhound (American), Harrier, Otterhound, Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen, Plott, *Redbone Coonhound — Miscellaneous 9/1/08*, *Treeing Walker Coonhound — Miscellaneous 1/1/09*

Group 4: Sight Hounds (11)

Afghan Hound, Basenji, Borzoi, Greyhound, Ibizan Hound, Irish Wolfhound, Italian Greyhound, Pharaoh Hound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Saluki, Scottish Deerhound, Whippet

Group 5: Working (23) (25)

Anatolian Shepherd, Bernese Mountain Dog, Black Russian Terrier, Boxer, Bullmastiff, *Cane Corso — Miscellaneous 7/1/08*, Dalmatian, Doberman Pinscher, Dogue de Bordeaux, German Pinscher, Giant Schnauzer, Great Dane, Great Pyrenees, Greater Swiss Mountain Dog, Komondor, Kuvasz *Leonberger — Miscellaneous 7/1/08*, Mastiff, Neapolitan Mastiff, Newfoundland, Portuguese Water Dog, Rottweiler, Saint Bernard, Standard Schnauzer, Tibetan Mastiff

Group 6: Terriers (28) (29)

Airedale Terrier, Australian Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Bedlington Terrier, Border Terrier, Bull Terrier (Colored), Bull Terrier (White), Cairn Terrier, *Cesky Terrier — Miscellaneous 7/1/08*, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Fox Terrier (Smooth), Fox Terrier (Wire), Glen of Imaal Terrier, Irish Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Lakeland Terrier, Manchester Terrier (Standard), Miniature Bull Terrier, Miniature Schnauzer, Norfolk Terrier, Norwich Terrier, Parson Russell Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Sealyham Terrier, Skye Terrier, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Welsh Terrier, West Highland White Terrier

Group 7: Toys (21)

Affenpinscher, Brussels Griffon, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Chihuahua (Long Coat), Chihuahua (Smooth Coat), English Toy Spaniel (Blenheim & Prince Charles), English Toy Spaniel (King Charles & Ruby), Havanese, Japanese Chin, Maltese, Manchester Terrier (Toy), Miniature Pinscher, Papillon, Pekingese, Pomeranian, Poodle (Toy), Pug, Shih Tzu, Silky Terrier, Toy Fox Terrier, Yorkshire Terrier

Group 8: Companion (11) (12)

Bichon Frise, Boston Terrier, Bulldog, Chinese Crested, French Bulldog, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Poodle (Miniature), Poodle (Standard), Tibetan Spaniel, Tibetan Terrier, *Xoloitzcuintli — Miscellaneous 1/10/09*

Group 9: Herding (20) (21)

Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Shepherd, Bearded Collie, Beauceron, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Tervuren, Belgian Sheepdog, Border Collie, Bouvier des Flandres, Briard, Canaan Dog, Cardigan Welsh Corgi, Collie (Rough), Collie (Smooth), German Shepherd, Old English Sheepdog, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Puli, *Pyrenean Shepherd — Misc. 1/1/07; Full Recognition 1/1/09*, Shetland Sheepdog

Group 10: Northern (13) (16)

Akita
Alaskan Malamute
American Eskimo Dog
Chinese Shar-Pei
Chow Chow
Finnish Spitz
Icelandic Sheepdog — Miscellaneous 7/1/08
Keeshond
Norwegian Buhund — Miscellaneous 1/1/07; Full Recognition 1/1/09
Norwegian Lundehund — Miscellaneous 7/1/08
Norwegian Elkhound
Samoyed
Siberian Husky
Schipperke
Shiba Inu
Swedish Vallhund

Newsletter and Howl Submissions

See Submission Information below for where to send your Howls, or any other information for the **GSSHC Newsletter**. You may leave a message on my answering machine, 908-213-6957, but leave **only** your name, phone number and a brief message; I'll call you back for the details. To insure accuracy, also send the information to me one of the ways provided below. **Email is the preferred method for submission of material.**

Mailing address:

Irwin Linker
GSSHC Newsletter
74 Stewartville Road
Stewartville, New Jersey 08886

Email (preferred method): siberlink@comcast.net

Send only .doc or .jpg files.

Address or Email Changes????

We know some of you have had changes in your email or US Mail addresses. Since future Newsletters will be available online only, we need your current email address to notify you when a new issue of the Newsletter is available. Additionally, email has become the primary communication vehicle for the Club and a current address enables you to receive all pertinent GSSHC-related information. Please send these changes to the Club Secretary.

More Newsletter Changes

The Newsletter will continue to be available on the GSSHC website. It will also be sent to all GSSHC Club members with a valid email address as a PDF attachment. Soon back issues of the GSSHC Newsletter will be available on the Club website.

Note: Per Club rules, information about litters must be accompanied by OFA/SHOR/CERF information on the parents.