



The Bulletin

Fall 2020

Schips on the Run!

Blitzen



Missy



Jett



Jet



Created by
MCD



The Bulletin

Of the Schipperke Club of America, Inc.

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The Bulletin is a free service for SCA members only. Non-members must purchase a subscription.



Be sure to read from cover to cover.

Don't miss a thing!



On The Cover

Blitzen

**BISS GCH CH Can CH AGCH PACH4 Willow's Who'll Stop the Rain? RA MXP13
MXPB2 PDSP MJP14 MJPB2 PJSP PAX4 MFPC TQXP T2BP7 BCAT RATO
and, in NADAC: NATCH and V-NATCH
Owned, loved and trained by Deb Bruner**

Missy

**AL CH Olympic Crest Ain'T Misbehavin' CATCH 4 TACH 4 NATCH 3 V-NATCH 3 AA-
NATCH 2 UACH RN NAP NJP NFP RATN CGCA TKP
Owned, loved and trained by Kathy Swan**

Jett

**MACH 3 Delamer Jetty by the Sea MXG MJG XF T2B
Owned, loved and trained by Joe Sangenito**

Jet

**MACH4 Tudox Midnight Mayhem CDX BN RA MXB2 MJB2 OF OFP
Owned, loved and trained by Megan Lake**

Message from the SCA President

Kathy Navarrete - knavarrete.sca@gmail.com



I hope all of you have been able to stay safe and healthy during these unprecedented times.

I want to take this opportunity to announce that the board voted to approve having Mardeck Graphic Design continue to publish the SCA Bulletin for another year. Please consider advertising in the Bulletin and help to ensure it is a success.

As I stated in my May 2020 Newsletter Report the 2021 National is scheduled to be held in Topeka, Kansas at the Capitol Plaza Hotel from April 12th through April 15th. Please contact a member of the Board if you would be interested in volunteering to be the 2021

National Specialty show chair or chair a National Specialty committee. Our judge for the 2021 National will be Peggy Lloyd.

The logo for the 2021 National Specialty has been approved by the board and is now up on the SCA website and will soon be up on the SCA 2021 National Specialty website as well as host hotel information, the trophy sponsorship list and the committee chair list. Still to be determined is what logo merchandise items will be available for sale.

I would like to thank our new Ways and Means Chairman Jaime Stanchina for organizing the SCA Virtual Parades, it was so nice to be able to celebrate our breed and the ribbons were fantastic!

If you are interested on serving on the board in 2021, please send your volunteer sheet to Vice President Brian Carbone. The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon.

As always, please feel free to utilize the "Contact your Board" feature on the SCA website if you have any questions, ideas or concerns.



THE BULLETIN ADVERTISING PROCESS

Advertising in the Bulletin is easy and a great way for you to support the SCA. Planning for the next Bulletin issue begins the moment the current issue has been published, so the earlier you notify the Advertising Manager that you are going to advertise the better.

1. Notify the Advertising Manager Jaime Stanchina embraceskips@gmail.com that you wish to place an ad, so that we can allot your ad placement. The earlier you notify us the better. Alternatively, you can go to the SCA Website Bulletin page and pay for your ad up front per the instructions. That will automatically create a notification to the Bulletin to allot your ad space. And then you can contact the Advertising Manager with the ad details.
2. Next, determine what you want the readers to see and learn from this ad (i.e., pictures & verbiage), whether you have a specific theme in mind (i.e., base theme on your dog's name, your kennel name, etc.), or a favourite color, or a color you definitely don't want used in your ad.
3. Select the size ad you want. Remember to make sure the size is appropriate to the amount of content you want to display. Avoid making your ad too busy as that becomes harder to read.
4. Once you have finished steps 2 & 3, scan and send the contents and identified details to the Advertising Manager. Scan pictures at 300 dpi or good quality and make sure all pictures are properly identified. It is easier to downsize the quality of your pictures for the web than it is to improve them. If you don't have a scanner yourself, you can take the content to a photocopy service to have them scanned and either emailed to you to forward, or placed on a memory stick that you can retrieve your files from to attach to the email you send to the Advertising Manager.
5. The Advertising Manager will save your ad contents & email on her computer as a back-up copy for the Bulletin and will also forward it to the Editor (Marnie Layng) to have your ad created.
6. The Editor will be in touch with you by email either to clarify what you want if there is a question, or to send you the drafts of the ad for your review and finally for your approval. Drafts will be marked as drafts until final approval is gained. Draft ads are not to be published in any other medium, i.e., FaceBook, other publication, or personal website, etc.
7. After you have approved the final version of your ad for publication in the Bulletin, the Editor will notify the Advertising Manager to send you an invoice if the ad has not been paid for already.
8. Once the ad invoice has been paid the Advertising Manager will send the advertiser a receipt and the Editor will remove the word/s "draft" from the ad and place it in the Bulletin. ***No advertising will be published until payment has been received by the SCA!***
9. Following the publication of the Bulletin, the Editor will send each advertiser a final copy of their ad to be used as they wish.
10. If you plan on creating your own ad, please follow all the same steps as above, but instead of sending the content and details, just send your final ad copy. Be sure to adhere to the proper dimensions for the ad size you wish to use. For best results please send your ad in jpeg format, or as a Word document. Check with the Advertising Manager if you have questions in that regard.

****Please Note****

We may need time to ensure that your ad meets the Bulletin specifications and will easily insert into the final document as you expect it to, so please submit as early as you can.

Bulletin Themes:

The following Themes have been assigned to upcoming issues.

- **March 2020** issue will feature Stud Dogs, Brood Bitches and Rising Stars (3 mths to 23 mths)
- **June 2020** issue will feature 2019 Top Winners and 2020 SCA National Winners
- **September 2020** issue will feature Schips in Performance and Service
- **December 2020** issue will feature Veterans (7 years plus)

Bulletin Submission and Publication Dates:

Submission Dates	Publication Dates
February 15th	March 1st
May 15th	June 1st
August 15th	September 1st
November 15th	December 1st

Advertising Rates

Size & Frequency	Member Business Cards	One Full Page Ad	Multiple Full Page Ads	One Half Page Ad	One Quarter Page Ad
Per Issue	\$10.00 (size 3 1/2" x 2")	\$60.00 (up to 4 pictures)	\$45.00 (up to 4 pictures)	\$30.00 (up to 2 pictures)	\$20.00 (1 picture only)
Same Ad per year	\$30.00 (size 3 1/2" x 2")	\$45.00 (up to 4 pictures)	\$35.00 per page (up to 4 pictures)	\$20.00 (up to 2 pictures)	\$15.00 (1 picture only)
Front Cover (per issue only)	N/A	\$100.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Back Cover (per issue only)	N/A	\$90.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Center Pages (per issue only)	N/A	\$80.00 (per page)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Preferred placement (per issue only)	N/A	\$70.00 (per page)	N/A	N/A	N/A

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To Insure or Not To Insure?

by *Deb Bruner*

Thinking about pet insurance? Many people see no need. Others are curious about it. Some people insist on it. I have pet insurance, as do a number of my agility pals. Am I glad I have it? Yes. I'm super happy when it kicks in and I never have to ever ask myself whether I can afford something (like a long-term expensive medication). However, when I pay premiums for years and it's clear that I've paid well more in premiums than I've used, well, it can feel a little like a waste of money. Pet insurance, unlike home insurance or auto insurance, isn't mandatory, and sometimes it's a roll of the dice whether it's a smart decision or not. That said, here's my experience along with a few suggestions for picking the company (and coverage) for you. Please note: The information in this article is based on my personal experience and what I have gleaned from other people who also have pet insurance. I am not speaking on behalf of Schipperke Club of America.

Consideration #1: Ask friends and Facebook acquaintances what they like or don't like about the pet insurance policy they have. Start a list of the pros and cons you've heard, and try to get specific information from your friends about what's been covered (such as, surgery? meds? office visits? hydro therapy? dentals? etc.) Don't forget to ask what they would do differently, if they would, with their next pet.

Consideration #2: You'll discover that various organizations, companies, and television personalities recommend a pet insurance plan. Be aware of possible commercial (vested) interests behind such endorsements. As with what you hear from friends, simply gather information about these plans. Years ago when I started looking into pet insurance, I noticed that my veterinary hospital had pamphlets of a particular pet insurance plan in their office, and when I queried the staff about the plan they all spoke highly of it. Further conversations with the staff revealed that this particular company gave premium discounts to employees of veterinary hospitals, so I had to ask myself whether the staff liked this company for the discounts or whether the coverage was better than what I could find with another company. When looking at plans, you need to be a bit of a sleuth. As the list of pet insurance providers continues to grow, remember that endorsements (such as from AKC, for example) may help a company stand out from the pack but that doesn't mean the plans these companies offer are right for you. Try consulting pet insurance reviews such as those conducted by *Whole Dog Journal* or other reliable publications; such reviews typically compare a number of plans and can you a lot of analysis.

Consideration #3: Consider your breed of dog. Do you have a breed where cancer is typical? Skin conditions are typical? Heart issues? Hip dysplasia? Schips are pretty healthy compared to a lot of other breeds though I do see not infrequent cases of cancer and seizures. I would look at policies with this in mind: What kind of coverage do the plans offer? Are there caps (either per incident, annual or lifetime) on coverage? If you are treating cancer (chemo, radiation, surgery), needing an MRI, or are looking at expensive heart meds, you do not want a cap in coverage. The whole point of insurance is to help cover the veterinary care of your choice (otherwise you should/would be setting money aside in your bank account to do this). If you tend to adopt rescues like I have in the past, much can be unknown about these companions so pet insurance can be a good option to protect your pocketbook. I had a rescue Schip years ago (before I knew about pet insurance), who had pulmonary hypertension, congestive heart failure, and seizures all at the age of five when I acquired him. No insurance company would have covered these particular issues since they fell under the "pre-existing conditions" category but having experienced the VERY high cost of keeping my most favorite buddy alive and well for an additional five years has made me well aware of just how helpful pet insurance can be. Heart medications can be truly pricey and my little fellow needed Viagra (yes, it's used to treat certain conditions other than what is advertised on t.v.!) which initially was pricing

To Insure or Not To Insure?

out at \$400 - \$800 a month. Generic drugs aren't always available and the counterfeit market must be avoided (you'd be surprised at the number of veterinary practices around the United States, Canada, and abroad who offer deeply discounted counterfeit drugs). The moral of this little story: Lots of Schipperkes develop heart problems and heart meds aren't cheap and pet insurance can certainly keep your pocketbook more shapely.

Consideration #4: Do you compete in sports such as agility, flyball, or dock diving? If so, you may want to look at not only the surgical but also the rehab coverage in policies. Is chiropractic coverage offered? Physical therapy? What about massage? What about swim therapy? Case in point about swim therapy: One of my Schips had swim therapy twice a week to help her with joint and arthritis issues. The pool was owned and run by a certified warm-water therapist. Healthy Paws, the insurance company I use, covered the cost of the swims (based on the level of coverage and deductible I had chosen for this particular Schip). The pool owner was elated to hear about Healthy Paws covering the swims because many of her clients were frustrated that their pet insurance, who advertised their coverage of hydrotherapy, wouldn't cover their swims because a veterinarian wasn't on site or in the pool. Even though in many cases a veterinary surgeon had recommended hydrotherapy to help dogs recover from injury or surgery, some insurance companies were arguing that a certified swim therapist wasn't the equivalent of a veterinarian in the pool. In my opinion, this is ridiculous; as an analogy, a person working with a physical therapist doesn't expect this person to also be a physician. Switching insurance companies can be challenging because of the clauses about pre-existing conditions. When analyzing insurance policies, even if you see items like hydrotherapy being covered, it pays to revisit your list of what friends like or don't like about policies because you may discover details that you might otherwise gloss over when looking at coverage.

Consideration #5: Do you like using a holistic vet? Examine the pet insurance policy to see if acupuncture and non-Western medicines are covered. Healthy Paws, for example, covers acupuncture but not herb formulas, regardless of their efficacy.

Consideration #6: Cost (yes, I'm finally getting around to THAT). Rule of thumb with any policy: Take out insurance when you acquire your puppy! Don't wait until it's 8 years old to start thinking about insurance! I see people make this mistake all the time and the policies tend to be costly with older dogs (same as health-care policies for humans). Remember, avoid policies that have caps on coverage. Consider what level of coverage you want (usually varies from 70% to 100%) and deductibles. A word on deductibles: Healthy Paws (and other companies) have annual deductibles (just like policies for humans). I know of another company (perhaps there are others) that is a little different in that its deductibles are per incident or illness, and once you pay the deductible for that particular illness, you don't face paying the deductible again. Check out whether office visits are covered (as mentioned above, I have Healthy Paws and the cost of the visit itself, typically \$45, isn't covered, which I find annoying BUT I do like their swim therapy coverage so it was a trade-off for me (I come out way ahead with the swim therapy coverage).

Consideration #6: Read the policy exclusions carefully!

Consideration #7: A review in *Whole Dog Journal* made an excellent point: When it comes to medically necessary treatment, look for the phrase "as recommended by your vet" as opposed to "in our reasonable judgement" which could mean the insurer might not agree with your vet's treatment plan and therefore you have to appeal to get something covered. Arguing with an insurance company isn't my idea of fun.

To Insure or Not To Insure?

Consideration #8: What kinds of discounts does a pet insurance company offer? Ask! You might get a discount on plans if you insure more than one animal, or are an AAA member, and so on.

Consideration #9: Call the company you're interested in and talk to their staff. Do they seem well trained? Knowledgeable? Be sure and ask questions about anything you don't understand in their policies.

Consideration #10: If you choose pet insurance, make sure you examine reimbursements carefully. Sometimes you'll encounter mistakes (especially if you're submitting an invoice that has charges for more than one dog on it; sometimes they'll incorrectly apply deductibles, and this has happened to me). Also, make sure you're notified of premium increases per the time frame the policy states. Earlier this year I got a whopping \$3500 refund from Healthy Paws because the Washington State Insurance Commissioner discovered that 18,000 Washington state policyholders had been overcharged for nearly five years. Two pet insurers were forced to pay \$4.7 million to consumers! Yeah ... a big oopsie!

As I said earlier, I'm happy with my pet insurance. My special needs rescue taught me a lot about the high cost of many medications. I deliberately didn't take out pet insurance on two other older Schip rescues I adopted because the premiums were too high due to their age when I adopted them. I have taken out insurance with the pups I've acquired. Insurance gives me peace of mind and since I compete in agility and Barn Hunt and hike with my Schips, I feel good knowing that if an accident were to happen, I won't go into financial shock over it. Still, pet insurance is a personal decision and as the old saying goes, "the devil is in the details" so do your homework.

Celebrating the Accomplishments of

GCH CH Delamer Whale Of A Tale CD BN RA
CA DCAT SCN SIN SEN FM RATM CZ8B CGCA
TKP "Moby Dick"

CH Delamer Sea No Evil CD PCD BN RAE AXP
OJP NFP CA DCAT SWN SHDN RATO CGCA
TKP "Lucifer"

As Covid-19 moves across our country,
we are looking forward to attending
Scent Work trials in Albany, NY and
Cleveland, OH.

If required to quarantine for two weeks
afterwards, it will be well worth it, just to
get out doing what we love to do - the
challenge of earning Qs.

Loved and trained by:
Anne Colgan
acolgan10@gmail.com

Created by
MGD



AKC Rally® Novice Virtual Pilot Program (Update on Glory's scores)

by *Kathy Swan*

Last month, I ended the AKC Rally article with the following information about our test run:

Glory and I tried out this new titling opportunity... I was very happy with Glory's execution of "halt down walk around." I submitted it and waiting to hear if we earned a qualifying score...I plan to record additional runs to complete her Rally Novice title.

Results

All three recorded runs were submitted to AKC in mid-May. Results were back the first week of June. Glory received the following scores: 88, 93 and 88 from different judges. We retried stations in two runs (3-point deduction) and a "good choice" comment from a judge. Glory moved out of position several times (our most common fault) and had two tight leashes. These were the total of our minor infractions.

I was so happy with her results; I did not look too closely at her (our) faults. Not only were the scores the same for run one and run three, so were the faults. Within minutes, I received an email explaining that we actually had a non-qualifying score on the first run. "Recording Error - entered under the wrong judge." As I watched the video again, I could see the errors and reasons for point deductions. Remember Glory's "halt down walk around" that I mentioned? Glory was awesome. Unfortunately, I failed my part. "The dog must then down and stay while the handler walks around behind the dog, returns to heel position and **pauses.**" I was so happy with her stationary position; I took off heeling without a pause. That was not our only fault, but it caused us to fail.

Teams are only allowed to resubmit a course if they have received an NQ. It was time to rerun course number one. I submitted it late-June and received our 93 point score three weeks later. We earned a few "out of position" faults and one slow response (she was looking out of the rollup door for squirrels in the tree when I moved forward). Happily, I performed my part correctly. AKC online records now show Glory's RN title, completing her Versatile Schipperke Excellent award requirements. I'm very proud of my little 3-year-old.

AKC Expands Rally Virtual Pilot Program

On July 20, 2020, AKC renamed the program when it was expanded to include **Intermediate**. It still ends on December 31. The FAQ pages address many topics including eligibility, registration and titling information, participation and performance criteria, how to set up the course and more details about camera position and videoing. <https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-virtual-entry-pilot/>



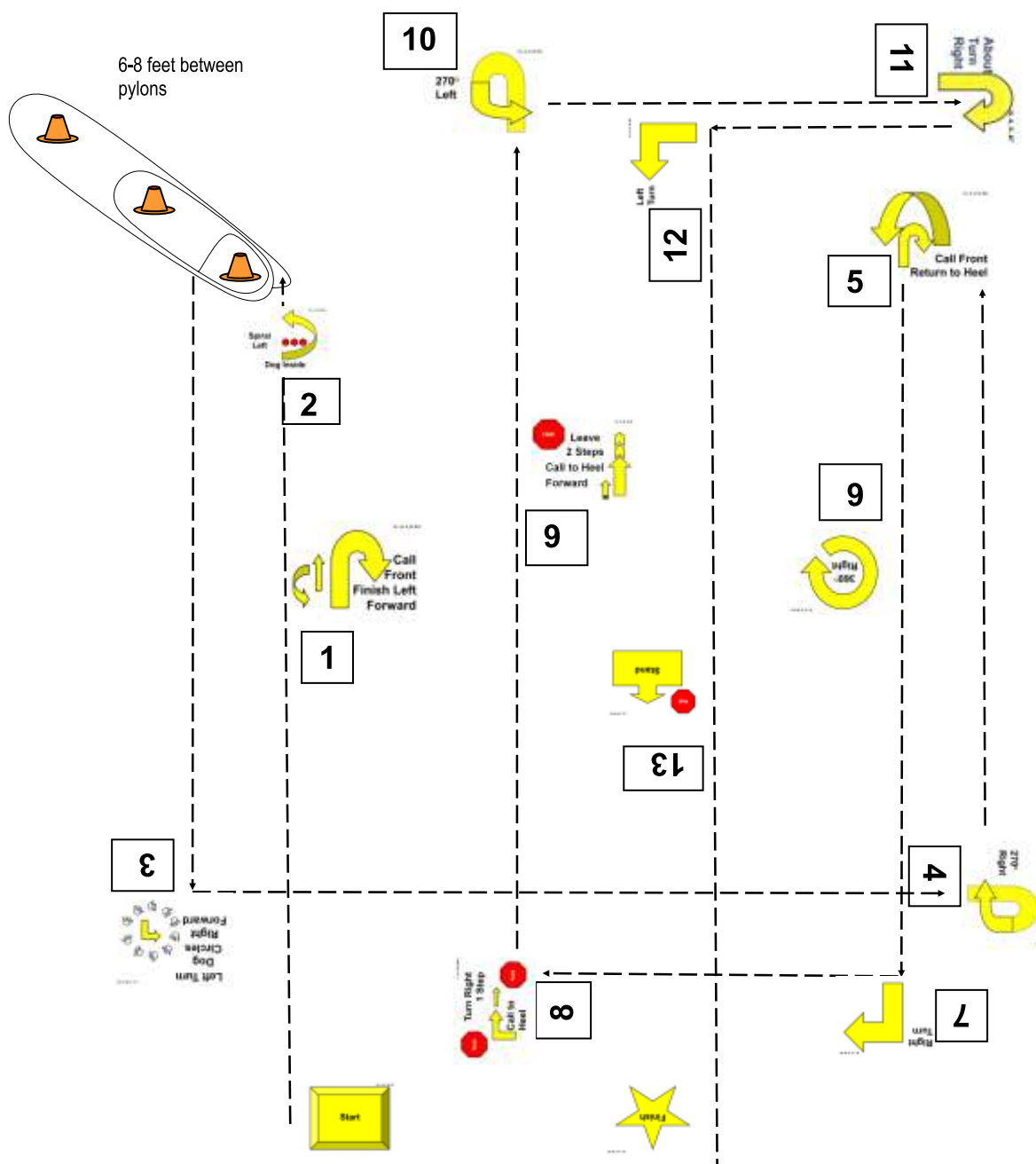
Glory - Figure 8

I started teaching the girls a few new signs for Intermediate. Missy learned #120 (Left Turn – Dog Circles Right – Forward) during her first practice session in the garage. Staying in position during sidestepping is a challenge. Missy and Glory will work on honing these new skills.

Happy heeling...

AKC Rally® Novice Virtual Pilot Program

CAMERA: Set to landscape/normal mode. Place camera here  at about eye level. Make sure the audio is on. Review the FAQ page for additional camera and video requirements to avoid handler error penalties.



AKC RIV-1 INTERMEDIATE

START

1. Call Front Finish Left Forward (14)
2. Spiral Left - Dog Inside (22)
3. Left Turn Dog Circles Right Forward (120)
4. 270° Right Turn (9)
5. Call Front Return to Heel (35)
6. 360° Right Turn (11)
7. Right Turn (5)
8. HALT Turn Right One Step Call to Heel HALT (104)

July 2020

9. HALT Leave 2 Steps Call to Heel Forward (118)
10. 270° Left Turn (10)
11. About Turn Right (7)
12. Left Turn (6)
13. HALT Stand (115)

FINISH

To avoid cutting the video short, it is recommended that you video 5 sec. before the start & 10 sec. after crossing the finish. Handlers may NOT carry food, or toys, or any training aid during the videotaping. The dog must wear a collar with nothing hanging from the collar or leash. The leash must be clipped to the collar.

Treibball: Another Game for Schipperkes to Play

By *Kathy Swan*

What is Treibball?

Treibball (pronounced Tribe-ball) originated in Germany a little over 10 years ago, and means “push ball” or propelling. Treibball started as a substitute sport for herding dogs who did not have access to sheep, but who require mental as well as physical stimulation. Also referred to as Urban Herding, Treibball is a low-cost, low-impact sport, any dog and handler can play. Dogs use their nose or shoulder to push the balls.

The goal is for the person and the dog to work as a team. The dog must gather and drive large [exercise balls](#) into a confined space the size of a [soccer](#) goal. The handler directs the dog from a distance to push them into a goal one by one within a set time. The dog works in close cooperation with the handler, who may not move outside of an area several feet beyond the goal. Distance, time, and the number of balls are some of the variables in the game.

Learning the Game

In March, I stopped in to watch a friend in treibball class. The instructor gave me a few pointers for teaching beginner skills. Lisa explained that there are three separate skills needed. They are positioning behind the balls to start play, pushing the ball and lateral movements. It is best to teach these skills separately.

I worked my two youngest (Missy 8 years old and Glory 3 years old) on those basic skills. From agility and Parkour, they had solid “around” for any object (cones, laundry baskets,



In Position



Practicing the Send

etc.). I needed to teach them to stop behind the object rather than continuing around.

Glory learned a firm nose touch as a STAR puppy. She quickly progressed to moving an exercise ball. Missy learned to push with her nose by unrolling a re-purposed bamboo blind. Initially, both dogs wanted to use their feet on the ball (learned behavior from Parkour). Adding “push” to the correct behavior helped them understand.

Treibball class started in July. I decided that Missy would start the class and I could add Glory to the following sessions. We are in class with my friend and her Sheltie (the most experienced dog having already completed two 6-weeks sessions). There are two new students, a Mastiff and a pointer-type mixed breed. Practicing the suggestions Lisa gave me in March prepared Missy for the new game.

Treibball: Another Game for Schipperkes to Play

During the first class, the instructor had each dog push various objects (rolled yoga mat, water bottles, foam roller etc). Missy was pushing everything placed in front of her. Lisa set a small cooler on the ground (6-pack size) with the intention that Missy would push the handle over. Instead, she hopped onto the cooler and perched with all four feet. Some Parkour lessons are still ingrained.



Release

On the second week, after sending to a marker on the ground, a small plastic milk carton was added. The idea was to send the dog far enough behind it to see the handler over the top. Missy trotted over to the carton. Instead of going behind it when I sent her, she carefully calculated the size of the carton and nimbly hopped into it. Once again, Missy earned laughs from the class while showing her Parkour skills.

Sending Missy to her “spot” with many variations was easy on the third session. Reducing the size of the object aids in its eventual removal. When adding more distance or making other changes, the target spot can come back for reinforcement.

Missy was pushing with more vigor by arching her neck and thrusting her nose towards the bottom of the ball by the fourth week. We used gates for sending her away into position. More practice with lateral movement. This is to replicate shifting focus and alignment to correct ball in sequence.

We still have much more to learn in this new (to us) sport. Perhaps we will be ready to trial in 2021. Looking at Missy's dusty face, I think she is enjoying our latest adventure.

More Treibball Information

In the US, there are two Treibball associations the American Treibball Association (ATA) and National Association of Treibball Enthusiasts (NATE). Each association has its rules and registration. Exhibitors and their dogs must be registered to participate. Both provide titling opportunities at sanctioned trials and offer video titling options when live competition is not accessible. Please read more about these organizations at their websites listed below:

ATA in Germantown, MD <https://www.americantreibballassociation.org/>

NATE in Aptos, CA <https://www.nationaltreibball.com/>

More Pics

Treibball: Another Game for Schipperkes to Play



Ready to Push



PUSHING



Dusty Head



On a Cooler



Schip in a Box



Glory

Skydance's Olympic Crest Glory

RN CA FCAT RATO CZ8B CGCA TKP CA UFA
USA RUNN RUNA SPOT IAC IJC ICC WV-I NJC
TN-N TG-N BR-N HP-N CL1 CL2-S CL2-H

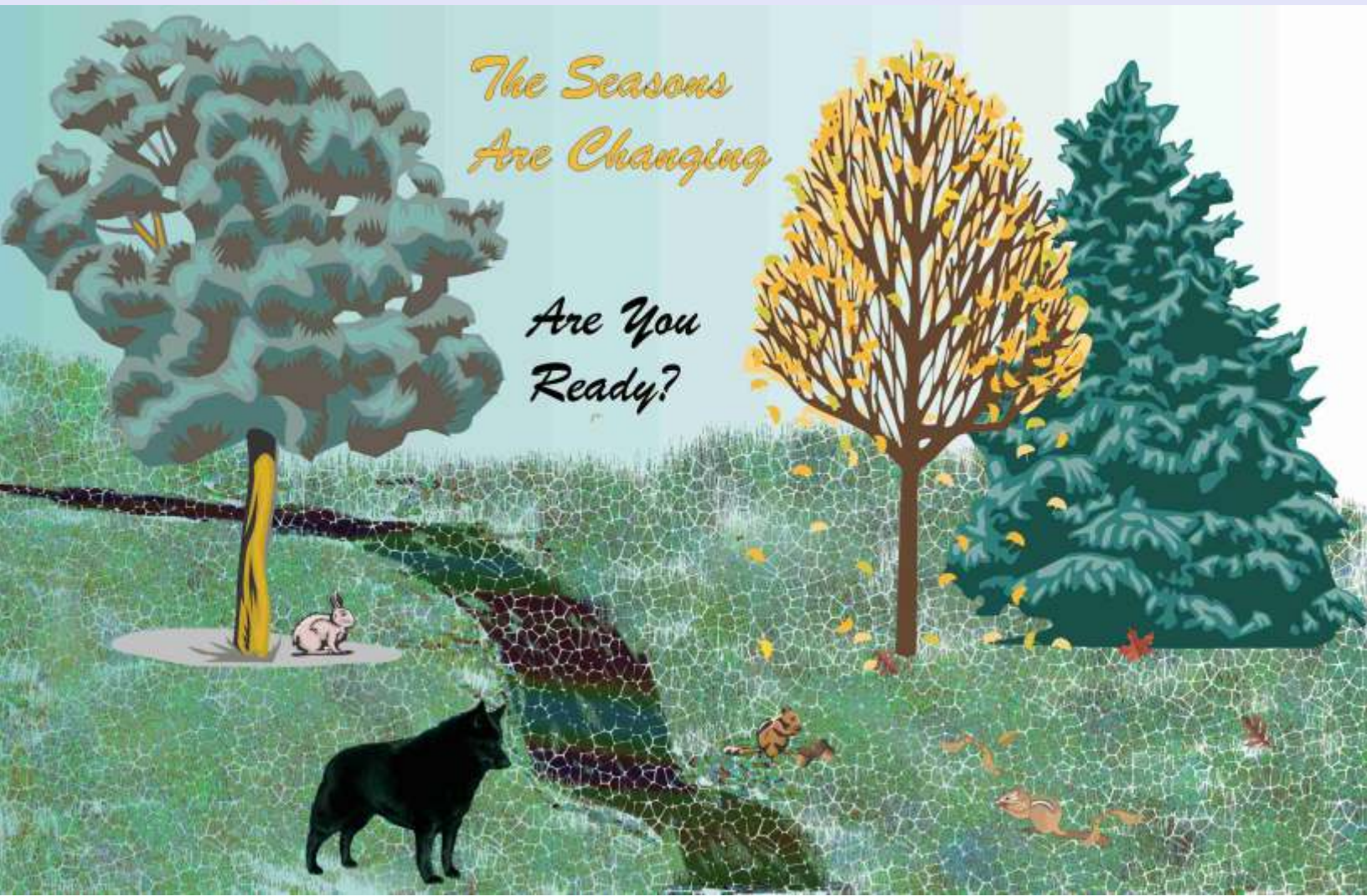
Glory is my busy little girl. She recently earned her AKC Virtual Rally Novice title. This completed the requirements for her Versatile Schipperke Excellent award.

Glory is possibly the youngest dog to earn this award at three years and seven months old. A girl can do so many activities... Glory even helped her Border Collie friend move goats.

Who knows what is in her future?

Loved & Owned by
Kathy Swan

Created by
MCD



Movin' On by *Gay Hisatake*

It has been a 9-month journey. Our mom is a gypsy! She has moved 13 times since graduating from college years ago. Fortunately, we only met up with her during the past 10 years, so our story begins in August of 2019.

My best friend and I (should I mention that we are both Schipperkes?); have spent all of our lives on a 2.5 acre property. This gave us lots of room to run, play, and explore. There were birds, squirrels, deer, flowers, and so many good smells which made every day exciting. And of course, you all know that Schipperkes see day to day activities, that humans find ordinary, as a grand adventure. There were other dogs with us too, big dogs; Alaskan Malamutes, who we never really played with. We did spend considerable time angrily barking at them and running circles around their houses. We knew that life must be dull for them as they were too calm and quiet; so, we added some excitement to their lives! Or at least that is what we thought we were doing.

During the spring of 2019 mom told us she was getting too old to care for this property, and although it was a beautiful place, and since Joe had moved back to Hawaii; the time had come to move. The house sold quickly to a weekender from NYC who did not have a dog. What a shame it was to leave all this property empty. There would be no dog to pick up our scents, and continue our memories. No dog to enjoy lying on the soft green grass, or to dig deep cool holes in the best part of the lawn, and no dog to continue watering the trees and mom's favorite bushes. There were also graves, but they were outside of the fenced area, and protected.

On moving day there was a lot of commotion. We sensed something was happening, but not really sure what it was. We were put in our crates in mom's car. We wondered where we were going. The trip took about 3 hours until we arrived at our brother's house (mom's human son, Klynn). There were two big dogs in the yard, mom's Malamutes who had already moved from upstate. We were a bit nervous, and my partner Schipperke, who is a bit more, high strung than I am, was not happy. She is vocal; perhaps I should say a big barker, and she let everyone within earshot know her displeasure. When she finally settled down; she decided that she owned this new house and the room she was living in, and protected it with all of her little might. Although living here was not what we were used to; we managed. We had walks in the local park, which, actually was not bad. Everything was new, and there were kids playing basketball, and baseball. I was so surprised at how many of them admired us, and asked questions, and said we were beautiful. We did miss the freedom of our large yard. Now we were in ex pens in my brother's back yard, if we weren't being walked, and crated at night, which is ok. It kept us out of trouble which we definitely would have gotten into since we both like to explore, take things out of closets, and chew! It is really hard when you can't talk. We had so many questions about what was coming next. Were we going to stay here and continue walks in the park? Were we going someplace else? We both had a sense that this was not the end of our journey.

I began to hear mom talk about an apartment. I was not sure what that was since I had always lived in a house. But maybe another move would be a good thing since my partner had become increasingly bossy. Her vocal abilities seemed to be enhanced, and if you dared to walk past her crate, she let you know that you were in her space, possibly a burglar, and did not belong there. I, on the other hand, am a very peaceful guy. My big enjoyment, aside from walks in the park, is to sit in front of my mom with my front legs crossed, just staring at her.

One month after moving in with my brother (my mom's son), the final move, or so I thought, began. We had been waiting, until my mom got a new mattress delivered. We had things scattered everywhere, in my brother's basement, in my brother's garage, in my brother's house, and in a self-storage unit. We

Movin' On

stayed home until the essential items were moved.

The apartment was very large, and mom loved all of the closets and the large rec room downstairs where we could run around. There was also a balcony off the living room which was a joy for us. It faced the front of the complex. There was so much going on, people coming and going, maintenance men doing various jobs, dogs being walked, and of course the usual squirrels and birds. It was all very exciting, but also a big problem for mom. I guess you can figure out why. Yes, lots of noise! We could not contain ourselves. Well let me correct that; me, being a peaceful guy was able to sit and watch most of the time. But my partner was beside herself with excitement and concern. Her bossy side took over, and she did not let anything or anyone get past her without a huge chorus of Schipperke barks. Of course I could not just sit and watch because I felt that she needed my support, so I quickly joined in and added to the ruckus. At this point mom had to quickly pull us back into the house because there are some people who do not appreciate the fact that we are just doing our job.

There was a very nice park-like area around the apartment where we went for walks. We saw deer, rabbits, and an occasional cat. Some days we would go to Washington's Crossing State Park. This is a great spot, along the Delaware River with long walking and biking trails. I particularly enjoyed watching the ducks and geese. My partner enjoyed watching everything. Mom said if we were hounds, that I would be the sight hound since I walked at the end of my leash, somewhat dignified, with my head up, just taking in the sights. She said my partner would be the scent hound because she pulled at the end of her leash, nose to the ground, snorting, going side to side, determined to find whatever miraculous discovery she was searching for, which did include an occasional dead mouse!

Sometimes mom would take us for drives in the car. She seemed to be looking at houses. I heard her talking about how she liked the apartment and that living there gave her peace of mind because she did not have to worry about maintenance or taking care of a yard. But there seemed to be something missing. During the spring mom got sick for 2 weeks. She seemed very tired and was not herself, but she still had to walk us several times a day, which, I could see, was not easy for her. I heard her talking to someone about a house, which made me very excited. I thought maybe we were returning to our 2.5 acres.

Well; we did not go back there, but mom did decide to make a 3rd and final move. I guess during one of her drives she found a small house with a nice backyard, around the corner from our brother. I heard her talking about wanting a place where we could run around off leash and try to catch a squirrel. It was at the end of May that we moved for the 3rd time! Remember that this all started in August of 2019 and here we were in May of 2020 doing this again. We are now waiting to get our new yard fenced so we can have our freedom, and I love it. We have a cute tiled kitchen where we hang out. Mom has it gated to keep us out of trouble. My partner likes to pee on rugs, so tiles are good! The yard is nice, green grass, lots of trees, and several dogs for neighbors. And hey; one of them even barks as much as we do! Not sure what breed he is, but darn if he doesn't look like a white schipperke with a black spot. He has a short thick body, a beautiful topline, correct ear set, and a wedge-shaped head. And he does his job just as good as a Schipperke!

I am proud to say that we have handled all of these changes in stride. It is important that we have never felt left out despite all of the chaos involved with moving. With every change; we had a comfortable and safe place to stay, and our daily walks were a fun time that we always looked forward to. We got to meet lots of nice people too. But I am happy to say that we are finally settled in our new place, and it is good!

Introducing...

Captain Jack Meek Imp NA NAJ DCAT TKN

#1 Schipperke AKC Fast CAT 2019

Breeder: Victoria Zelyk, Meek Imp Kennel



Loved, owned & trained by:
Megan Lake
meganlake.catc@gmail.com

Indigo Smile Dasti To Meek Imp
Supreme Grand CH Ukraine
Junior GCH Ukraine
BOB x 17, BOS x 3
x
Almina Crimean Khan
Supreme Grand CH2 Ukraine
CH of Moldova
Junior GCH
BOB x 42, BOS x 9

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The Perfect Antidote

by *Marion Johnson*

We continue to reel as a country as the epidemic continues to unleash itself on us. It has totally changed life as we knew it. There is the constant fear of becoming infected, and everything we took for granted is either off the table or compromised. For me personally the new era started with the loss of my beloved Bella, **CH MACH PACH 6 DeLamer Foot Loose N' Fancy Free**. It was mid March, right after AKC shut down dog shows, right before we could not go into veterinary hospitals, that we held Bella at Cornell U. Veterinary Specialists in CT, and said good bye. She was 10 and had been fighting cancer for almost 5 years.

Within that time she received numerous accolades, and was competing happily at the top level until the last week of her life. She began her career with a bang, and at 6 months took BOB at a 4 point major in ME, and she went on to finish her breed championship at a specialty in Syracuse. She was terrific in obedience and earned her CDX title with first place in MA. She was working on Utility but when diagnosed with cancer, and her life expectancy now in the balance, she retired from obedience and we focused on agility.

In the same month, a snowy January, she earned her obedience CDX title and her MACH in agility. Having proudly proved herself, I moved Bella to Preferred in agility where she was able to jump a lower height and receive slightly more course time on the same



BELLA

courses as regular. She followed her MACH with 6 PACH (Preferred Agility Championship) titles. She was invited the past three years to compete in the AKC Agility Invitational Championship held in Orlando every December as the # 1 Preferred Agility Schipperke. Only one Preferred dog from every breed is invited along with the top 5 regulars of every breed so it is a big honor. The hours I spent training and working with Bella are the best memories. We started working on obedience with Esther Zimmerman when Bella was a baby (I continue to work with Esther with my present dogs). One of my agility instructors used to say "Give me my Bella fix" when we showed up for class. Bella never had a dull or boring moment in her life, always on the go and loving training and showing. She had a special status in our house - Queen. None of the other dogs ever messed with her, but they loved her, and she really did love them.

Catcher and Bouncer were older, and had been my first performance dogs. Bouncer was competing in obedience at the Utility level in 2016 before he succumbed to liver cancer at age 12. He had achieved his RAE title before switching to regular obedience entirely. He started training for rally and obedience around age 5 or 6, thanks to a tennis friend of mine who was also an avid obedience competitor. We met at a tennis game and started talking "dogs." She told me about a nice training center, and the ball started rolling. Next time I saw her she had given up tennis totally for dogs. We were both at a very competitive level. I had competed all over the country in tournaments and her husband was a tennis pro. Lo and behold, I ended up leaving tennis for dogs as well. At that training facility, many things

The Perfect Antidote

happened. Puppies took puppy socialization classes. They gravitated to obedience and rally, then agility. Everyone needed to be doing something and things fell into place.

Catcher, **CH MACH PACH2 Didebs Dream Catcher**, was my first agility dog, paving the way for Bella. He was a good fit for agility and at age 6 needed a job after receiving his breed championship. We began competing in CPE, where he earned a place in a CPE National Championship in 2012. We switched entirely to AKC agility where he has qualified for the AKC National Agility Championship held in March at rotating sites. Twice he was in the top 5 AKC agility Schipperkes and participated in the AKC Agility Invitational in Orlando. In 2017 we participated in the Westminster Agility Trial where Catcher qualified in both of his runs - a double Q. With congestive heart failure Catcher retired two years ago. Lots of meds are keeping him with us in amazing shape. But no more agility. Always independent we struggled through many an off course, but I began to learn how to handle. We were a humorous team.



CATCHER

I had really begun agility around 2008 with Bones, **Didebs The Real McCoy**. It had been recommended for him to build his confidence for the obedience ring. At about age 2 1/2 Bones was diagnosed with immune mediated polyarthritis. His bouts of immobility were treated briefly with prednisone. Bones had learned all the agility obstacles, but I withdrew him from that venue and concentrated on rally and obedience. He earned his RE title and Novice title in obedience. At about age 4 my vet recommended stopping vaccinations to hopefully reduce the immune mediated attacks. Bones seemed to be freed of the condition, so I decided when he was 6 to try agility again hoping to enter him in our National in MI in 2014.

I was handling Bella and Catcher, who at the time of our National had a shoulder injury and unable to compete. My husband showed interest in trying out the sport so I offered that he run Bones. They competed together at several trials before our National and I was amazed at how fast Bones was. I did not know when Bones began agility that he suffered an immunological condition, so I was totally caught off guard when, feeling really good, he took off and ran with more drive than any of them. He actually won HIT at our National, but that's another long story. Because he was a total natural, fast and in love with the sport, my husband, not willing to work on handling skills, let me have Bones back. He became an item at trials, a favorite to watch. He achieved his agility Masters titles in all classes and was working toward his MACH, but was nipped in the bud by prostate cancer at age 10. It was a very hard loss for me. Bones had the sweetest most intriguing personality. For comfort he suckled on a toy duck. He also smiled. He knew when we needed a smile: after surgery, when sad, when not feeling well, he knew and smiled, and everything was good. And above all is the memory of his amazing drive in agility. All those lost years and so much potential. We must cherish what we have at the moment.

In 2016 we drove to Michigan and picked up Bocci, **Kurakuma's Dark Island Castle**, from Dawn Bannister. He was 9 weeks old and travelled across Canada in a little wire crate between Bella and Bouncer's crates with Catcher and Bones in crates behind. Before returning to CT he detoured with us to agility trials in VT and NH, and since then to many, many more. From his earliest weeks we drove the 150 miles each way twice a month to train obedience with Esther Zimmerman. We also took agility classes and seminars and at 15 months started to compete in agility. Last year, 2019, Bocci was one of the top 5 AKC regular agility Schipperkes and joined Bella competing in the 2019 AKC Agility

The Perfect Antidote

Invitational in Orlando. While there Bocci earned his first obedience Novice leg in the mammoth Orange County Convention Center. Both he and Bella qualified for the AKC National Agility Championship to be held this year in March in GA, but it was cancelled. Both made SCA Top 20 this year as performance dogs. Bella has earned that award several years as has Catcher in the past. Bocci ended the Invitational qualifying year for 2020 as #1 AKC regular agility Schipperke and Bella as #1 Preferred. Just before everything shut down Bocci was one double Q short of getting his MACH. We have returned to trialing so maybe one of these weekends soon.



BOCCI

My youngest Schipperke is Zipper, **CH DeLamer Windswept Island Escort**. At 2 1/2 he has followed in the footsteps of Bocci, training obedience with Esther and attending agility classes and seminars. Like Bocci, Zipper began agility trials at 15 months. He competes at the Masters level in all his classes and loves the sport. He went off to a 3 day breed show in Harrisburg, PA with Debbie Studwell when he was 9 months old, and won BOB two out of the three days. Just before turning one year he won his breed championship title at the Wine Country Cluster in Romulus, NY, a very big show, and a breed specialty. He is a showman and loves the ring, and he loves to work, is very diligent and honest, and a happy camper who, like the others, is always ready for something to happen.

I am a “mature” adult, but I keep working on handling skills and have big dreams for my young dogs. I take regular private lessons in agility and obedience as well as a regular class in each. During our shutdown in March, April and May I was fortunate to have a friend / instructor willing to take on a few of us privately at an outdoor ring where she teaches. The anxiety and stress of that time was mitigated by my regular trips to that ring, the wonderful interaction with my instructor and dogs, the lovely opportunity to stop the shows and fix things. I also took some online courses and kept in touch with Esther for obedience advice.



ZIPPER

I can't say enough for performance sports with dogs. They are so willing, so forgiving, so happy to work with us. They provide **the perfect antidote** to the upheaval in our lives. They fill my head with wonderful goals and memories. They take me to mental places a doctorate could never reach. **They make life big!**

More Pics ➡

The Perfect Antidote

From the left
BONES
BOUNCER
CATCHER
BELLA



From the left
BONES,
CATCHER,
BELLA.



BONES
with
Ducky



Morgan

AM CAN CH MARDECK'S WHERE THE MAGIC IS



Sire: AM CAN CH OASIS FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS

Dam: AM CAN GCH MARDECKS IRIDESSA

Morgan is shown finishing his American championship on July 23, 2020 handled by Larry Wolfe. He was held up for a while from attending shows due to Covid-19, but finished as soon as a major could be found. Morgan will be off to England to live with his owners, and our friends, Lesley & Terry Thorne of Schipdale Schipperkes.

Thank you to the judges in Canada and the USA who recognized the merit of this young Schip. We look forward to his continued successes across the ocean.

BRED BY:

MARNIE LAYNG, MARDECK

LARRY WOLFE, MELANIE PACANOWSKI, OASIS

OWNED BY:

LESLEY & TERRY THORNE, SCHIPDALE

lesley.thorne81@googlemail.com

Schipperkes and a New Look at Socialization

By *Mariah Jeon*

“ Mariah Jeon is a Schipperke, owner, lover and trainer from Jacksonville, Florida. For the past half-decade Mariah has dedicated her time to helping people train their dogs. She has trained service dogs for veterans through Dog Obedience Group of Jax where she currently is an instructor. When she is not working with dogs Mariah is pursuing her career as an Elementary teacher. Mariah currently is active in AKC rally, obedience, herding, and conformation with her Schipperkes and German Shepherds. Mariah hopes to dedicate her future to persevering the Schipperke breed for future generations.”

According to the AKC standard the temperament of the Schipperke is curious yet reserved with strangers but still confident about his surroundings. So, when we are covering the topic of effective socialization, we must take into consideration the genetic predisposition of the Schipperke's temperament. According to the standard the Schipperke is, “...reserved with strangers and ready to protect his family and property if necessary. He displays a confident and independent personality, reflecting the breed's original purpose as watchdog and hunter of vermin.” (AKC Schipperke Standard) Being reserved or 'aloof' does not mean aggressive or fearful of strangers.

These types of behaviors should not be confused. Aloof dogs, such as the Schipperke, would scoff at the idea of cuddling up next to a stranger but is still tolerant of interactions with said stranger. While a fearful or aggressive dog would cower, flee, or bark at the sight of an unfamiliar person. The difference between a Schipperke that reflects the standard and a Schipperke that is fearful is reduced to two things: proper socialization and genetics.



Crosswind's Journey to Serendipity TKI CGC

It is well established within the purebred dog community that temperament and soundness are passed down through genetics. This article is not focused on the genetic aspect of a dog's temperament, but is focused on the influence of environmental stimuli that is commonly referred to as Socialization. A puppy that is exposed to proper socialization will be able to reach their full genetic potential. But proper socialization might be different from what you might be thinking. When you think of the word socialization you might think of dog parks, puppy play dates, and having every stranger pet your new puppy; envisioning these activities as being all you need to do to socialize your



Puppy Focusing in new environment
(10 weeks)

Schipperke puppy. Unfortunately, these types of activities have shown to cause damage such as dog reactivity and hand shyness. This is far from proper socialization. If, during the time from 3 weeks to 16 weeks of age, a puppy has a negative experience with another dog or person, they could be left with lasting negative impressions of dogs and people throughout the rest of their life. Or your puppy has such a positive experience with other dogs and/or people that you struggle to gain your puppies attention because your puppy finds these interactions more rewarding than engaging with you.

Schipperkes and a New Look at Socialization

As a dog trainer, I see the following four problems on a daily basis. Poor recall, pulling on the leash, reactivity towards people or dogs, and selective hearing. All of these are more often than not caused by improper socialization at a young age. So, what does proper socialization **look like?** It is a puppy that is calm and engaged with their owner not fazed by people, dogs, smells, sights, and sounds around them. They do not shut down, bark, growl or cower when exposed to new places and are able to grow from stressful situations to become a more confident dog. This all starts young in the hands of our breeders, as soon as Schipperke's eyes and ears are open, they are ready to explore their environment. So, from birth till when they reach 8-12 weeks it is up to the breeder to properly introduce their puppies to new sights, smells, sounds, and simulation.



Teaching a puppy focus to around people and other dogs (14 weeks)



Schipperke Barn Hunt Credit: Magen Bouchard & Nick Deloran's Nick of Time RATN CGC TKA RATI PKD-N

Puppy raising programs such as Puppy Culture or AviDog are great resources for breeders to follow for proper early age stimulation and environmental socialization. Exposing puppies to sounds such as the vacuum, clanking of metal, storm noises, sirens, and other loud noises can greatly help puppies be unfazed by similar noises later in life. Many breeders play soundtracks of storms, sirens, and other loud noises for their puppies as soon as they can hear so that the puppies become desensitized to the unfamiliar environmental sounds. Also, while in the breeder's care puppies should be exposed to new sights and kinetic stimuli such walking on new surfaces like grass, reflective materials, crunchy

material, and unstable objects such as wobble boards and bosu balls. Puppy play pens and tunnels are also important to help puppies become more confident with the objects around them. Another step breeders can take to ensure their puppies are happy, stable, and ready to learn is to create a positive relationship between people and treats. Clicker training can be started as soon as a puppy is on solid food and will provide a jump start to their training. Rewarding eye contact and a calm focus at a young age will greatly increase their focus on their handler and calmness later on in the puppy's life. Once a Schipperke puppy is in their new home, what can the puppy owner do to continue the hard work their breeder has put into helping their puppies reach their full genetic potential? Continue building the foundation that the breeder has already started.



Schipperke in Rally

Socialization should not be pushing your puppy into a stranger's hands or making them be sniffed by large unfamiliar dogs. Continue socialization training by introducing puppies to new environments, sights, flooring, sounds, and smells. When out in public work with your puppy's focus and reward eye contact instead of teaching your dog to seek out strangers which often leads to pulling and future

Schipperkes and a New Look at Socialization

training issues. Socialization is not only about creating positive interactions with the environment around them, but also teaching your puppy to focus around other dogs, people, and other animals.

Take your puppy out as much as possible and expose them to as much environmental stimuli as possible. For example, go to your local Home Depot and work on your puppy's focus, sits, and watching you while you walk. Taking these types of trips and continuing proper socialization as soon as your puppy is settled in to his or her new home will help your Schipperke not only be a good companion, but to also excel in the obedience ring and the show ring. Schipperkes are highly trainable when they are socialized and able to focus on their owner in new environments. These early steps can help Schipperkes in AKC Rally, Obedience, Agility and other sports. When a dog is unsure of their surroundings or so focused on everything around them it can be challenging for owners to work their dogs to their true potential. A Schipperke who is desensitized to the outside world and is focused on their handler is a happy schipperke who has reached its full genetic potential.



Schipperke Herding

In Memory of **Brenda Atkinson**

ATKINSON-Brenda A. (Brockman), of Eden, NY died suddenly June 3, 2020.

Devoted daughter of late the Gilbert "Butch" and Sharon (Romano) Brockman. Survived by several aunt, uncles and cousins.

Brenda became a canine enthusiast at a young age and nothing pleased her more than handling her dogs, or her friends' dogs in the show ring. She loved her Schipperkes, Anna and Rosie and commented many times on how she was looking forward to showing her young Sky to her championship.

Brenda will be sorely missed by all who knew her and especially by her extended family of friends. Rest in Peace.



1964 - 2020



ECSC

Vicki MAHER

Forever Remembered



Vicki was a dear friend to all that loved the Schipperke breed. She will be remembered for her smile, sportsmanship and as a true lover of the breed.

She was always there to welcome someone new to the breed and offer encouragement and friendship.

Her most notable Schipperke was her beloved AWOL. Through the years she also had Luna, Ben, Dover and a couple of Greyhounds that she rescued.

There is a never ending list of how much we will miss her and equally as many stories to tell. Her humor had no bounds, nor did her love of dogs.

We will miss Vicki, but take comfort that she is now with her husband Robert, surrounded by her dogs and family that passed before her.

Tribute by Kathy Gaul-Montgomery



*It is with sadness that we
acknowledge the loss of so
many of our SCA members
in the year 2020.*

Remembering...

- **Brenda Atkinson**
- **Bill Newman**
- **Peg Gross**
- **Betty Wynn**
- **Vicki Maher**
- **Carol Schnur Young**
- **Carolyn Lilly**

I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,
Remember me.

Remember me in your heart:
Your thoughts, and your memories,
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.

For if you always think of me, I will never have gone.

Author Unknown



2020 SCA BREEDER'S DIRECTORY

The Schipperke Club of America Breeder's Directory is a service to those members of the SCA who may have puppies or older Schipperkes for sale or who may offer other Breeder services to the public. Inclusion in this directory constitutes no endorsement of the dogs or breeding practices of any member listed, but it can be inferred that any person listed is a member of the Schipperke Club of America in good standing and is therefore bound by the SCA Code of Ethics.

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Please contact the SCA Corresponding Secretary for any changes to your Directory listing.

Schipperke Club of America Regional Clubs

EASTERN REGION

(AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV)
Should host National in even years.

(As of 8/1/2020)

COLONIAL SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Website: www.schipperkes.org
Area Served: DC, DE, MD, VA, Southeastern PA
President: Cathy Thistle
Secretary: Karen Martino, secretary@schipperkes.org
Treasurer: Carol Burnett
Publications: Schip Scoop (Stephanie Woodrow, Editor)

ERIE CANAL SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Website: www.eriecanalschipperkeclub.com/home
Area Served: NY
President: Larry Wolfe, larry33westave@yahoo.com
Secretary: Richard Shalk, rschalk@rochester.rr.com
Treasurer: David Hutton
Publications: SchipSnips

ILLIANA SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Area Served: IL, IN, IA, WI
President: Brian Carbone
Secretary: Barbara Moore, bmoore582@gmail.com
Treasurer: Sandy King

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

Area Served: IL, MO
President: Michele Kasten
Secretary: Lynn Hartke, hartkelk@gmail.com
Treasurer: Sandy King

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN SCHIPPERKE CLUB

President: Amy Halterman
Secretary: Jaime Adams-Stanchina, embraceskips@gmail.com
Treasurer: Gary Hester

WESTERN REGION

(AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, KS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY)
Should host National in odd years.

CASCADE SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Website: www.cascadeschipperkeclub.org
Area Served: AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY
President: Eva Kopf
Secretary: Linda Bates, lindab1@comcast.net
Treasurer: Grant Fredricks

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF CENTRAL ARIZONA

President: Vicki Marks
Secretary: Pauline Weiland, onebusyuman@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Ken Marks

CENTRAL ROCKIES SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Website: www.schipperke.com
Area Served: CO, NM, WY
President: Donna Keihl
Secretary: Barbara Murray & Donna Keihl, crssecretary@schipperke.com
Treasurer: Barbara Murray

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Website: www.schipperkeclubofsoutherncalifornia.com
President: Kathy Navarrete
Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Ward, karen@klward.net

LONE STAR SCHIPPERKE CLUB

Website: www.lonestarschip.com
Area Served: Dallas/Fort Worth, TX Metroplex
President: Beth Lilly
Secretary: Beverly Henry, chestara@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Lezlie Hall

Please send updates to Regional
Clubs Chair, Vicki Marks,
vmarks.sca@gmail.com

Regional Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

(As of: 8/1/2020)

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF AMERICA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

April 11-24, 2021—Capitol Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66612

ERIE CANAL SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Eastern Region)

ILLIANA SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Eastern Region)

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Eastern Region)

Our January 2021 Southern Michigan Specialty is scheduled to be held on January 16, 2021, in conjunction with the Oakland County Kennel Club. This is a 4-day weekend of All breed dog shows.

COLONIAL SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Eastern Region)

Fall SchipNic will be held on Saturday, September 12 at the Olney Dog Park in Olney, Maryland. CSC's Fall Specialty is on October 10th at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Maryland.

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF GREATER ST. LOUIS (Eastern Region)

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF CENTRAL ARIZONA (Western Region)

November 21st and 22nd, 2020. Concurrent Specialties at Rawhide Event Center, Wild Horse Pass, Chandler, Arizona, with the Fiesta Dog Show, all breed show, which runs from Friday through Monday. We will be having conformation both days and sweeps and Junior Handler on Saturday. There will be an opportunity to show in six separate conformation classes. This is **not** Thanksgiving weekend this year. Judges will be Don Hanson and Marjorie Underwood.

For information contact show chair, Ken Marks, kmarks50@cox.net. Show superintendent is Onofrio Dog Shows.

SCHIPPERKE CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Western Region)

January 22, 2021 Back-to-Back Regionals followed by Winterfest: San Fernando KC and Ventura DFA, Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura, CA. For information contact show chair, Diane Johnson, willowskip@aol.com

CASCADE SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Western Region)

Regional Specialty, Saturday August 29, 2020 at Priest Point Park, Olympia, Washington. Back to back shows with sweeps, junior handler and veterans at both shows. Premium at <https://barayevents.com/>. For information contact Show Chair, Eva Kopf, evakopf@gmail.com.

CENTRAL ROCKIES SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Western Region)

LONE STAR SCHIPPERKE CLUB (Western Region)

Regional Specialties: September 26, 2020 - Back-to-back specialties, sweepstakes and breed morning and afternoon shows plus 4-6 Month Beginner Puppy in the morning. No Junior Showmanship classes. Hound House Kennels, Carrollton, TX

Show super is Caper; Show chair is Beth Lilly, bethalilly@gmail.com.

Send Updates to
Vicki Marks, Regional Club Chairperson ymarks.sca@gmail.com

What's in YOUR “Q”?

by *Deb Bruner*

Why yes, for the title of this article I did lean on a certain credit card slogan uttered by a famous actress on t.v. commercials! Doing so gave me a nice segue into the focus of this article: THE QUALIFYING RUN, better known simply as the “Q.” The Q is what most (if not all) competitors strive for. The Q is what moves us up the agility ladder of competition level and success, moves us toward competing in agility championships, etc. Q's are a common topic at agility trials; let's start with some examples that are commonly overheard at AKC* trials:

“Did you Q?”

“Did you QQ?”

“How many QQs til you get your MACH?”

“I'm so sorry you didn't Q!”

“Beautiful run! Pity you didn't Q.”

“If I spent all my time on money and training, I would get all those QQs too.”

Ah, the pressure of the Q! Head games!

While I know there are competitors who don't care that much about Q'ing, or truly don't worry about it, I know there are far more who walk into a ring thinking about Q'ing before they even take their dog's leash off. The unfortunate thing about such a mindset is that the focus is on the outcome, not the journey. And if the outcome is not what was desired (no Q), then that can over-ride what was actually a positive journey. How? By missing all the things the dog did RIGHT on course, or what the team did WELL on course, and what could be LEARNED from the journey.

Seems so obvious. But

In my early years of competing, I would often feel really bad, or mentally beat myself up, if I didn't Q. Having pals come up to me and do the “aww, too bad” routine didn't help. When running several courses a day over a three-day trial, having to rev up my enthusiasm from the depths of an earlier disappointment was challenging to say the least. Not a great mindset. And trust me, a lot of canine partners pick up on our moods. As one of my agility instructors has said, “beware the toilet bowl” of thinking. It's easy to spiral down, down, down when putting pressure on oneself to “succeed” in terms of getting a Q (more so with a QQ at AKC agility trials).

THANK GOODNESS I had the good fortune to attend a workshop called “Mind to Win” by Kathrine McAleese, noted sociologist, high performance mindset coach and mentor. One of my trainers brought her from Northern Ireland to Washington state to help us students with our mental preparation for trialing. This workshop was my first introduction to dealing with MY state of mind as part of my dog training, and my fellow workshop attendees were equally intrigued – and challenged - by this concept of taking care of self. Agility classes can frequently overlook the need for mental preparation and focus in agility. The sport is not just about handling and a dog's obstacle focus. It's not just about connection with one's dog. Many people say “I run for the fun of it” but that can be questionable when one is plunking down something in the range of \$18-\$22 per run ... there can be the financial pressure of having to show something (a Q) for the months and months of training that is suddenly on display in front of a judge and fellow competitors.

Dr. Kat (as we called her) spent a lot of time on the need for failure. It's through experiencing failure that we learn the basics of crawling, walking, riding a bike, etc. As kids, we fail (learn) all the time. But over

What's in YOUR “Q”?

time, as we turn into adults, we strive to fail less, which deprives us of opportunities to learn; failure can become “icky” and we avoid it at all costs. However, to increase success rates, we have to fail more. Ask the question: “What is the boundary of my potential? How far can I go?” and you'll need to fail along the way to get where you want. Pushing ourselves in practice and focusing on progress, not perfection (the Q!), is really key.

The focus on Qs at a trial can mean we play it safe to get that Q, and I've certainly done that myself, but I've grown comfortable over time throwing away a Q or QQ to improve my handling and partnership with my Blitzzen in the trial environment (which is far different from the practice environment). There are always things that a team can do perfectly in practice but somehow don't work so perfectly in a trial environment and so sometimes to get those things right in a trial means biting the bullet of no Q. This wasn't easy at first for me ... not easy at all! The thought of “money down the drain!” can be a powerful motivator to play it safe. But, over time, I've learned to relish progress over safety and I've learned that partnership is not defined by certificates of titles. That said, travelling to a National Competition is still a bit of a mental fight for me, because one has to consider time off work, the cost and effort to travel, blah blah blah PRESSURE TO Q! I'm still working on those brain pathways. Anyway, I think of Dr. Kat's reminders to recruit our successes and not fears (about what has gone wrong in the past, for example). Good training involves taking chances, being afraid to try something and doing it anyway, being persistent, being joyful.

Which circles me back to comments at an agility trial about Q'ing: How about we not focus on the outcome of someone's run and instead point out all the good things that happened in it? I know I sure appreciate someone coming up to me saying how well Blitzzen and I handled such-and-such as opposed to asking whether we Q'd. Spreading some positivity and focusing on the journey is not just great for the human but also for the dog. Happy handlers = happy canines. Words have power. For novice agility handlers, being told what went well on their run can really help develop their joy and minimize frustration. I wish I had had that support in my early years of training and competing. Yeah, sure, the ribbons are cool, but what's even cooler is joy for the game, keeping that “Q” gremlin at bay.

Note: Especially in times of this pandemic, in-person workshops by Dr. Kat aren't available but she does have a website and a “Mental Mastery” group (paid access) that I find helpful to tap into. She has blogs and live Facebook topics all of which serve up nuggets of mental support and mental training. I am aware there is a plethora of competitor mindset books available to folks, but for me, Kat's support is unique and since she is from an agility family herself, she has an innate understanding of what happens in the agility world.

*For the purposes of this article I'm focusing on AKC Agility trials, but of course the Q pressure can occur in any sport.

Schipperke Breed Standard (AKC)

General Appearance

The Schipperke is an agile, active watchdog and hunter of vermin. In appearance he is a small, thickset, cobby, black, tailless dog, with a fox-like face. The dog is square in profile and possesses a distinctive coat, which includes a stand-out ruff, cape and culottes. All of these create a unique silhouette, appearing to slope from shoulders to croup. Males are decidedly masculine without coarseness. Bitches are decidedly feminine without over refinement. Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. Faults common to all breeds are as undesirable in the Schipperke as in any other breed, even though such faults may not be specifically mentioned in the standard.

Size, Proportion, Substance

Size—The suggested height at the highest point of the withers is 11-13 inches for males and 10-12 inches for bitches. Quality should always take precedence over size. **Proportion**—Square in profile. **Substance**—Thickset.

Head

Expression—The expression is questioning, mischievous, impudent and alert, but never mean or wild. The well proportioned head, accompanied by the correct eyes and ears, will give the dog proper Schipperke expression.

Skull—The skull is of medium width, narrowing toward the muzzle. Seen in profile with the ears laid back, the skull is slightly rounded. The upper jaw is moderately filled in under the eyes, so that, when viewed from above, the head forms a wedge tapering smoothly from the back of the skull to the tip of the nose. The stop is definite but not prominent. The length of the muzzle is slightly less than the length of the skull.

Eyes—The ideal eyes are small, oval rather than round, dark brown, and placed forward on the head.

Ears—The ears are small, triangular, placed high on the head, and, when at attention, very erect. A drop ear or ears is a disqualification.

Nose—The nose is small and black.

Bite—The bite must be scissors or level. Any deviation is to be severely penalized.

Neck, Topline, Body

Neck—The neck is of moderate length, slightly arched and in balance with the rest of the dog to give the correct silhouette. **Topline**—The topline is level or sloping slightly from the withers to the croup. The stand-out ruff adds to the slope, making the dog seem slightly higher at the shoulders than at the rump. **Body**—The chest is broad and deep, and reaches to the elbows. The well sprung ribs (modified oval) are wide behind the shoulders and taper to the sternum. The forechest extends in front of the shoulders between the front legs. The loin is short, muscular and moderately drawn up. The croup is broad and well-rounded with the tail docked. No tail is visually discernible.

Forequarters

The shoulders are well laid back, with the legs extending straight down from the body when viewed from the front. From the side, legs are placed well under the body. Pasterns are short, thick and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Dewclaws are generally removed. Feet are small, round and tight. Nails are short, strong and black.

Hindquarters

The hindquarters appear slightly lighter than the forequarters, but are well muscled, and in balance with the front. The hocks are well let down and the stifles are well bent. Extreme angulation is to be penalized. From the rear, the legs extend straight down from the hip through the hock to the feet. Dewclaws must be removed.

Coat

Pattern—The adult coat is highly characteristic and must include several distinct lengths growing naturally in a specific pattern. The coat is short on the face, ears, front of the forelegs and on the hocks; it is medium length on the body, and longer in the ruff, cape, jabot and culottes. The ruff begins in back of the ears and extends completely around the neck; the cape forms an additional distinct layer extending beyond the ruff; the jabot extends across the chest and down between the front legs. The hair down the middle of the back, starting just behind the cape and continuing over the rump, lies flat. It is slightly shorter than the cape but longer than the hair on the sides of the body and sides of the legs. The coat on the rear of the thighs forms culottes, which should be as long as the ruff. Lack of differentiation in coat lengths should be heavily penalized, as it is an essential breed characteristic.

Schipperke Breed Standard (AKC) (con't)

Texture—The coat is abundant, straight and slightly harsh to the touch. The softer undercoat is dense and short on the body and is very dense around the neck, making the ruff stand out. Silky coats, body coats over three inches in length or very short harsh coats are equally incorrect.

Trimming—As the Schipperke is a natural breed, only trimming of the whiskers and the hair between the pads of the feet is optional. Any other trimming must not be done.

Color

The outer coat must be black. Any color other than a natural black is a disqualification. The undercoat, however, may be slightly lighter. During the shedding period, the coat might take on a transitory reddish cast, which is to be penalized to the degree that it detracts from the overall black appearance of the dog. Graying due to age (seven years or older) or occasional white hairs should not be penalized.

Gait

Proper Schipperke movement is a smooth, well coordinated and graceful trot (basically double tracking at a moderate speed), with a tendency to gradually converge toward the center of balance beneath the dog as speed increases. Front and rear must be in perfect balance with good reach in front and drive in the rear. The topline remains level or slightly sloping downward from the shoulders to the rump. Viewed from the front, the elbows remain close to the body. The legs form a straight line from the shoulders through the elbows to the toes, with the feet pointing straight ahead. From the rear, the legs form a straight line from the hip through the hocks to the pads, with the feet pointing straight ahead.

Temperament

The Schipperke is curious, interested in everything around him, and is an excellent and faithful little watchdog. He is reserved with strangers and ready to protect his family and property if necessary. He displays a confident and independent personality, reflecting the breed's original purpose as watchdog and hunter of vermin.

Disqualifications

A drop ear or ears.

Any color other than a natural black.

Approved November 13, 1990

Effective January 1, 1991

The Winter Issue Is Next



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