

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club General Membership & Board Meeting at the Annual Holiday Party

The meeting was held on December 11, 2010 at the home of Matt Alston in St. Paul, OR.

Board Members Present: Jeff Menzel, Matt Alston, Belinda Holcombe, Joanna Smith, Sylvia Lindman, Marsha King, Junior Director Hanna Menzel.

General Members Present: Priscilla Menzel, Alan Lytle, Gary & Judy Keller, Terry & Linda Gavin, Ron & Gretchen Hayhurst, Jeff Kamper, Lita Long, Jerry Holcombe, Bob & Nancy Damberg, Colleen Allen Grady, Dea Freiheit, Victor King, Kathleen Williams, Chris Jaeger,

Guests: Karen Alston, Bob & Jean Westerberg, Connie & Richard Lytle, Cheryl, Ruth Garvin, Thomas Rowland, Doug & Margaret Buyserie, Dan & Joanne Keely.

OES: none present, all at home waiting for Santa.

President Jeff Menzel called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. welcoming everyone to the December General Meeting and Board elections. He thanked Matt and Alan for hosting the Christmas party at their beautifully decorated house and for providing a wonderful meal. Jeff also wanted to thank their family members including Matt's mother Karen, and grandfather Bob, Alan's mother Connie, his dad Richard, and his aunt Cheryl for doing a great deal of work to make this party successful.

The minutes from the last general meeting, held in November at the Herding event, were approved by consensus without change.

Jeff announced that long-time member Sue Ardueser was at home recovering from an illness. He requested that everyone sign the get well card that Joanna was circulating.

Jeff explained that a general meeting such as this is a requirement for the Club to be an official AKC club. There are four general meetings each year and many, many more activities. One of the most popular is the monthly Walkabout. The next one, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 18 is at Peacock Lane. It is always one of the best events with dazzling Christmas lights and it seems the OES get about as much attention as the lights. Jeff said members should watch the website for any changes about 24 hours in advance. The website will alert member if the event is cancelled, otherwise we will meet--he added that the Walgreen's parking lot seems to be a good spot. The walk will probably last for an hour or two. Afterward, the group will try to find somewhere to get something to eat.

Board meetings are held monthly with everyone invited to attend to help plan activities and events. A new more centrally located meeting site will be announced shortly.

Activities over the last year included the herding event at Brigand's Hideout, the educational co-match in Hillsboro where the public was able to meet OES and see some of them groomed. However, the biggest event of the year is the Specialty. It has been said that a specialty is a dog show for a single breed. Last year's show, the 35th anniversary show, was very successful with entries as far away as Canada, California, and Vermont. A highlight was the presentation of a sash from our sister club, Old English Sheepdog Club, New South Wales, Australia. We reciprocated by donating a rosette to their Champs show in October. Even if Club members aren't usually involved in showing, there are many ways to volunteer and participate.

The Club keeps everyone informed in several ways. Through the website Jeff has, as webmaster, updated the site monthly with fresh, current information. Besides recapping recent events, providing details of upcoming activities, publishing meeting minutes, and announcing bobtail birthdays the site functions as the "scrapbook" and archive for the Club. Jeff asked those attending to raise their hand according to how frequently they view the site: whether they look at it monthly, weekly, daily, or never. It was concluded that people do look at the site often making it an important component of the Club. Since Jeff will no longer be able to serve as webmaster a volunteer is needed to continue his work. He will be happy to train or help a volunteer get started as webmaster.

The Pinkertongue newsletter is sent electronically to members every month. The feature article and news stories go beyond what is available on the website. The Club does need a new editor for this. Any one of the Board members can advise a volunteer on the duties of this post.

Also, the Club has a Facebook page created by member Emily Thompson.

New members to the Club are presented with a membership packet. Designed and implemented this year, it includes the "I saw a sheepdog today!" stickers and magnets for outreach, Club bylaws, officer roster, Code of Ethics, History, and other items to make new members feel welcome and informed.

Reports

Treasurer

Belinda gave a oral report focusing on the General Fund and CD rollover due this month. A full, written report is forthcoming.

Secretary

Joanna reported there was a membership application pending for Marilyn and Kristi Marshall of Acton, California. She mentioned that their OES was awarded the sash from our Australian sister club at the 2010 Specialty. New member Molly McKay was welcomed at the last Board meeting.

Handouts from the herding event are still available. There were several copies put on the table by the front door tonight.

The Rose City Classic dog show is scheduled for Jan 22-23, 2011. The Club has been asked to participate in the "meet the breed" event. Several show entrants and members did it last year so the general public could meet, pet, ask questions and learn about our OES. It was rewarding for all. It was decided that the Club would participate and Joanna serve as contact.

After counting the number of members attending the meeting, Joanna said that we had reached a quorum. Therefore, the vote for Board members and Officers could occur. As chair of the Nomination Committee, Joanna read officer and board positions listed on the ballot and the names of the nominee for each. She noted that no one was running for Pinkertongue editor and that the Board could appoint a volunteer at a later time. Lita moved to waive the secret ballot because everyone was running unopposed. Marsha seconded.

Jeff called for a voice vote to accept the slate. Unanimously passed. Congratulations to
President -Chris Jaeger
Vice President- Dianne Rowland
Secretary- Joanna Smith
Treasurer -Elise McCreary
Board member (1 year term)- Theresa Kamper
Board member (2 year term) -Jeff Menzel
(who will join Marsha King for the 2nd year of her 2 year term)
Junior Director- Hanna Menzel.

Jeff asked Chris to say a few words. First, she thanked Jeff for his service as President which she characterized as picking the Club up from the ground level and making it a thriving organization. Chris acknowledged that the membership is appreciative of this. To show that appreciation, she presented Jeff with an OES plaque which will be engraved.

Chris said that she is eager for members to take an active roll in their club--especially at Board meetings. She is looking into some venues for those including a meeting room at Meridien Park Hospital. Fundraising and general events with speakers are two areas of interest to her. She would like to hear other ideas from members.

In adjourning the meeting, Jeff explained that the gift exchange this year was limited to small items so that we could bring dog related items as donations for the charity FIDO-Clackamas. Over 160 lbs. of food were donated tonight along with countless treats, toys, leashes, and collars.

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 8:30p.m. to start the gift exchange.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary