

## **Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club General Membership & Board Meeting with Walkabout**

The meeting was held on October 31, 2009 at the Union (train) Station, Portland, OR. This meeting encompasses both the Board and Fall General meetings.

Board Members Present: Jeff Menzel, Dianne KcKee-Rowland, Joanna Smith, Sylvia Lindman, Junior Director Hanna Menzel.

General Members Present: Priscilla Menzel, Gary & Judy Keller, Gretchen & Ron Hayhurst, Lita Long, Jerry & Belinda Holcombe, Elise McCreary, Kate Schaefer, Angie Ong, Barry & Marilynn Raatz.

Guests: Lorenzo & Alex, Doug Smith, Emily Satterfield.

OES: Harrison & Sophia, Bracken, Marley & Molly, Angel, Willie, Fiona, Nelson, Sunny, Parker, and Judah.

### **Presidents Report**

Jeff Menzel called the Meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. The minutes of the previous General meeting were read and approved.

Jeff welcomed everyone to the Fall General Membership and Board Meeting. He was glad to see that most Board members were present except Matt Alston who was at work and Marsha King who was in the hospital. He commented that this meeting is one of the requirements for being an AKC club and is one of the activity benefits of membership along with receiving The Pinkertongue, the monthly electronic newsletter. Combining the meeting with the Walkabout and the OES in Halloween costume made it a special event. He thanked Jerry Holcombe for arranging for the meeting to be held in the Union Station. As usual, the OES received a lot of attention, had their pictures taken, and seemed to have a good time in a building where dogs are ordinarily not allowed.

Jeff talked about the Club calendar of events--the Club tries to have an event every month in addition to seasonal events with general membership meetings (like this event). The next event is the Holiday party which will be held at Vice President Matt Alston's home in St. Paul. Everyone is invited to attend and details are posted on the Club website. Also, an invitation will be mailed to members along with the slate of officer and board member named to be voted on at the December General meeting. OES will not attend because they are all staying home to wait for Santa. A General Meeting will be held to elect Club officers and board members. There are several board positions open.

People are looking forward to the Peacock Lane Walkabout in December. It's always a treat to walk the dogs down the street famous for holiday lights. While it is only a 2 block walk it takes much longer as OES attracts almost as much attention as the brightly lighted houses! Because of stormy December weather, the date for the walk is never set ahead of time and will be planned for a Friday or Saturday evening prior to Christmas--an e-mail with the information will be sent about 48 hours in advance of the walk.

Jeff reminded everyone that Board meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30p.m. The location and detailed directions are on the website and members are encouraged to attend.

If anyone has any ideas for events, places for the monthly Walkabouts, or any other suggestions for activities, let the Board know! Already on next years calendar is the Specialty dog show in July and there is interest in having a herding event in the Spring.

Jeff said that he still had a supply of Club contact cards and stickers. He encouraged us to hand out the contact or referral card to anyone interested in the Club. That way, they can pass it on to someone they know with an OES or use it themselves. The stickers with a drawing of an OES and "I Met an Old English Sheepdog Today!" are great to give to children.

Jeff called the Board meeting to order and began with the approval of the minutes of the October 19, 2009 meeting. The minutes were read and approved with the following change: Treasurer Dianne Mckee-Rowland and Rescue chair Lita Long's absence from the meeting was an excused absence as they were traveling to the OESCA National Specialty in Dixon, California.

#### **Vice President**

Excused absence

#### **Treasurer**

Dianne distributed to Board members a report of income, expenses, and assets which she then read aloud for the benefit of members and visitors. The assets are:

General Fund \$ 375.14

Rescue Fund \$2233.36

Specialty \$ 965.23

Cds \$3247.31

She noted that Cds will mature soon.

#### **Secretary**

Joanna read a new member application for Emily Satterfield of Camas, WA with OES Parker. The membership was approved unanimously by the Board. Since Emily was in attendance, the Board and members welcomed her.

#### **Rescue**

Lita gave a brief introduction about the importance of breed rescue and the obligation of clubs like GPOESC to participate. Currently, because of many breed rescues including New England and Colorado are at capacity and can't take in any more dogs, we are taking 2 rescues from El Paso, Texas next weekend. The owner has cancer and cannot take care of Harvey and Cassie, 3 and 3-1/2 yrs. old respectively. Lita would like to place these OES in a forever home right away rather than fostering them at her place. This way, the transfer will be much easier on the dogs. Both dogs have a skin problem that can easily be cleared up. The Club will help with that and other things needed to settle the dogs into their new homes. While it will be expensive to bring the dogs from Texas and get vet care here, the Rescue Fund has a good balance just for cases like this. The Club actively solicits contributions with membership renewals and will hold a yard sale in the spring to replenish the fund. Jeff reiterated that this is an important volunteer and donation-driven function of the Club and help with any part of it is truly appreciated.

#### **Nominations and Officer Elections**

Marsha King, Board and Nomination Committee member scheduled to report is in the hospital. Jeff reported that there are board positions open. Some nominations have been received but there is always room for more nominees. Jeff called for nominations from the floor. None were received so the nominations were declared closed. Voting will take place at the Holiday party.

Thanking Jerry again for arranging for our group to meet in Union Station, Jeff adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m. to go on the Walkabout through the Pearl district and on to the Lucky Labrador Brew Pub.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Smith  
Secretary