

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club General Membership Meeting, Herding at Brigand's Hideout

The meeting was held on November 6, 2010 at Brigand's Hideout, Battle Ground, WA.

Board Members Present: Jeff Menzel, Sylvia Lindman, Belinda Holcombe, Joanna Smith.

General Members Present: Priscilla Menzel, Gretchen & Ron Hayhurst, Lita Long, Ashley Hart, Jerry Holcombe, Scott Dougherty & Kate Schaefer, Ted Murray, Emily Satterfield Thompson, Terry & Linda Gavin, Angie Ong, Chris Jaeger, Elise McCreary, Molly McKay.

OES including, but not limited to: Harrison & Sophia, Bobby, Beemer, Nelson-Healy & Maureene, Willie, Sammy, Parker, Scooter, Kato, Harvey, Angel & Danny, Hank, Fiona, Williston & Sadie, Fiona, Mojo, Daisy

Several guests and dogs joined members at the event and meeting.

President Jeff Menzel called the General Meeting to order at 12:30p.m.

Minutes from the Summer General Meeting were approved by consensus.

Jeff welcomed everyone to the meeting and event saying that it was good to see such a big turnout for what should prove to be a great experience for humans and dogs. The Club has not had a herding event in recent memory.

Jeff suggested each person introduce themselves and their OES and say something about their association with OES. Afterward, Board members present were identified.

Jeff reminded everyone that Board meetings are held once a month with the location, time, and detailed directions available on the website. He encouraged members to attend.

Reports President

Jeff talked about the Club calendar of events--the Club tries to have an event every month including quarterly events with general membership meetings like this one. General membership meetings are necessary for AKC accreditation and are an opportunity for members to get together with their dogs for an activity. The last general meetings, the Spring Fling and Summer Dog Romp with potlucks were held at the Holcombe's home.

The next Club event will be the annual Christmas Party, gift exchange, charity dog food drive, and General Meeting with Club board and officer elections on Dec. 11. It will be held at Vice President Matt Alston's home and he, a trained chef, will be preparing the meal. Board member Sylvia Lindman had suggested a change from the traditional gift exchange to limit the gift to a small (\$5 value or less) hand-crafted item and then ask attendees to bring a dog food or other dog related item to donate to a charity (fido-clacamas.org). The Board felt these were appropriate changes to the festivities. All of the information is posted on the website and members will be mailed an invitation with their annual membership renewal form.

The monthly Walkabouts were held in various neighborhoods this year including: Nob Hill, the Sellwood antique area, the Pearl, and Washington Park, the Rose Garden and more. We like to walk anywhere there are lots of people to see the OES and provides an opportunity for prospective members to easily join in a club activity. The Board plans the Walkabouts and since members present are from the all parts of the metro area, Jeff asked if there were any suggestions for future Walkabouts. Molly McKay suggested N.E. Broadway because it always seems to be busy. Other suggestions included the annual Pumpkin Patch--while this doesn't involve a walk, there are lots and lots of people to meet OES and a great possibility for next year. It is similar to the next Walkabout scheduled for December at the Peacock Lane. Last year, participants found it easier to just stay in one place because so many people admiring the Christmas lights and decorations were admiring the OES at the same time. This year our visit to Peacock Lane is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 18 at 5:45p.m. Members are asked to check the club website 48 hours before to confirm or announce a change because of weather. The Club website will have up-to-date information along with parking and other details.

Of course, the biggest event of the year is the Specialty. Jeff explained that the GPOESC Specialty is an

OES-only show. Our Club puts on two specialties in one day in July with OES entered from all over the Western United States and Canada. He urged members who might be new to this type of event to come to next year's shows to see what they have missed. Better yet, he said, is to volunteer to help put on the show--no experience necessary.

The next issue of our electronic newsletter, the Pinkertongue will be available soon. It features an article about our sister club, Old English Sheepdog Club of New South Wales, Australia. To show support for our club, they donated a sash for the winner of our afternoon Specialty and so in return, we donated a 36" rosette to their Champs show in October. Besides the feature article about the Australian club, pictures of the winner of the rosette, it will have other information so we can get to know them better. The newsletter will have the usual mix of our activity announcements, event recaps, and news, too.

The website is updated at least once a month. The content changes as activities are planned and event pictures are available so everyone is up-to-date. Jeff clarified that the "Bobtail Birthdays" section is not only for birthdays. He urged owners to let him know the adoption date of their OES so that all the bob-tails could be listed. In general, the website could be thought of as the Club "scrapbook" so any suggestions for additional features or content to the website are welcome.

Treasurer

Belinda Holcombe announced a new member: Molly McKay with OES Hank.

Rescue

Lita reported that rescue was quiet here these days. In some areas of the United States, this is not the case. New England Rescue (NEOESR) and Colorado are busy. Some previous rescues were in attendance today including Ted Murray with rescue "Sammy" and Chris Jaeger with "Harvey." At prompting from Jeff, Chris related the story of how Harvey and his sister Cassie came last year from Texas to Oregon. Both dogs were not healthy. Harvey's skin was bad, he was bald, he looked like "the elephant man." Chris has managed over the long year to teach Harvey to walk on a leash and to socialize, train, and heal him. While he still isn't perfectly socialized and his hair is growing in, the change for the better is remarkable. Cassie's problems weren't as severe as Harvey's and was adopted by a family in Washington.

Nomination Committee

Joanna, as leader of the committee, read a current list of nominees.

President	Chris Jaeger
Vice President	Dianne Rowland
Secretary	Joanna Smith
Treasurer	
Pinkertongue Editor	
Board Member 1-year	Theresa Kamper
Board Member-2year	Marsha King
	Jeff Menzel
Junior Director	Hanna Menzel

Before opening nominations from the floor, Joanna pointed out that there are additional board member positions available as well as key officer positions. Serving on the board is not time-consuming, is a great way to help plan activities and events for OES, and work with others who love OES. Sometimes people don't volunteer for board positions because they feel they are not qualified. Joanna said interest in the breed is the primary qualification and that she or any board member would love to talk with potential candidates about being on the board or about a specific office.

Nominations were called for:

Lita nominated Elise McCreary for Treasurer. Elise indicated that she will serve if elected. Joanna will add her name to the ballot which will be voted on at the General Meeting Dec. 11 during the Christmas party. Nominations were closed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10p.m. for a presentation on herding by Nancy Ward and then on to the instinct testing.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary