

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club Minutes of the October 2009 Board Meeting

The meeting was held October 19, 2009 at the home of Jeff and Priscilla Menzel in Beaverton, Oregon.
Present:

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

Club Members present: Priscilla Menzel, Theresa Kamper

President Jeff Menzel called the meeting to order at 6:35p.m. The minutes of the September 2009 Board meeting were read and approved with the following change: Theresa is learning video and editing from MetroEast. She feels that she will be able to video the Specialty and other events. Cable access channels in Portland and Tualatin will be able to air these.

Reports President

The next Walkabout is scheduled for Saturday, October 31. Member Gerry Holcombe has arranged for us to meet at Union Station, Portland. With plenty of parking, we can enter through the side door by the snack bar and hold our General Meeting inside the train station. To celebrate Halloween properly, as Jeff says, "dress 'em up and show 'em off!" OES in costume is encouraged but not mandatory. This General Meeting is important because the nominating committee will announce nominees for office (thus far) and take nominations from the floor. Also, there will be a sign-up sheet for interest in the Peacock Lane walk in December (see next item in President's report.) After the meeting, depending upon the weather, we will either find a nearby place in the Pearl or, ideally, walk up to Lucky Lab Brewery. The Lucky Lab has space for the dogs. Some may choose to drive to the Lucky Lab and park in the large lot there because it is a 15-20 minute walk from Union Station.

For the traditional December Walkabout at Peacock Lane, members will be asked for general preferences on when they would like to have this event (because the Holiday season is busy) and the best way to contact members on short notice. A sign-up sheet for interest in the walk will be available at the General Meeting in Oct. and as a survey in The Pinkertongue. However, the most important deciding factor is the weather. Lita will watch the forecast and notify members, probably within 48 hours of the walk. Sounds like an OES flash mob--ed.

The nominating committee for Club officer elections was formed at the August meeting. Voting will be held at the Holiday party on December 5. The terms of 4 officers are up. Marsha and the other members of the committee, Priscilla and Theresa, are actively soliciting nominations. Anyone who has been a member for 1 year may serve. Step up, don't be shy about letting these people know you are interested in serving on the Board.

Jeff showed the Board a prototype of the new members "Welcome Packet:" the folder sealed with a business logo sticker opened up to a series of "stepped" information sheets made a very nice presentation. Jeff said this design made each item easy to see and keep organized. One of the items in the packet is a short history of the Club which Jeff read aloud. Marsha reminded Jeff that a resource page would be very useful to new members--that is, who to call with questions about your OES. Discussion followed about having official Club mentors vs. Board and members sharing experience and expertise. It is anticipated that some questions will involve health issues, so anyone giving advice needs to be extra cautious with a disclaimer, "I'm not a vet, but in my experience..." It was agreed that sharing knowledge about the breed was important and that something like this list of contacts ought to be included. Marsha suggested a list of acronyms and/or a glossary would be helpful. Discussion followed about whether this was something for a "Welcome Packet" or part of a page on the website. Since there are several good websites with extensive explanations of items of interest everyone, both current and new members, it was suggested that links to those should be on the website. Board members will suggest sites and perhaps list-servs for inclusion. Also, books or other "current reading" should not be forgotten when sharing knowledge about the breed. Other suggestions for the "Welcome Packet" included suggestions for volunteer opportunities and a current membership list.

Vice President

Matt said that he has learned about a recall of Wysong food because of a mold problem.

The Holiday party will be held at Matt's house. He will provide Cornish game hens and baked ham. The Board will provide side dishes and dessert. To get things started, Marsha volunteered to bring 2 desserts and Joanna will bring a roasted root vegetable side dish. Members are asked to bring whatever they would like to drink and a gift for the exchange. Members can begin arriving at 5:00p.m. and dinner will be about 6:30p.m. This is the only event during the year we invite members to attend where the OES have to stay home. Directions and full details will appear on the website.

Treasurer

Absent. No report.

Secretary

Joanna read the new membership application for Barry and Marilyn Raatz, and OES Sunny, from Vancouver, WA. Their application was approved, Welcome! She will send them an email congratulating them on joining the Club and a link to the next event.

An email was sent to Jeremy Shepherd and Lisa Tran to acknowledge the loss of their rescue OES, Rudy. Discussion followed about finding appropriate sympathy cards. There are other occasions that sending cards from the Club would be a thoughtful thing to do. Rather than sending a commercial greeting card, it was suggested that a Club group picture be put on a card for a more personal, meaningful card to send. Joanna mentioned that Avery had card stock and envelopes that purpose. All liked the idea. Jeff will investigate.

Rescue

Absent. No report.

Pinkertongue Editor

Sylvia reported on several possible topics for the next issue. Member Gerry Holcombe is attending the Nationals for the first time and his observations and experiences would be of interest.

Jeff said the archives, or back issues, of the electronic Pinkertongue will be available soon. Also, a technical problem with underlining imbedded links has been identified and will be cleared up on future archived issues.

Webmaster

Jeff is always open to new content for the Club website. Matt suggested that the history of the breed is important and underrepresented. He said Dianne McKee-Rowland is a great resource for this. Perhaps she could write something. The format, whether it is a long piece or as short as a "Factoid of the Month feature," can be discussed with her.

Specialty 2010

Sylvia said that we still need a Sweepstakes judge. She will send a letter to Joan Savage, an English Setter breeder.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary