



## The Howl

March-April 2017

*Striving For The Betterment of the German Shepherd Dog*

[www.GSDClubSD.org](http://www.GSDClubSD.org)



Scotty with her CH Paladin Dream Boat NCP, HT, PT, HSA<sub>sd</sub>, TD, RAE, TC, CGC (aka Rusty).

### Hazel P. "Scotty" Maloney

The German Shepherd Dog Club of San Diego County mourns the passing of its longtime member and officer Hazel P. (Scotty) Maloney of San Diego who died March 17, 2017 at the age of 73. Scotty was tireless in her devotion to her dogs, the breed, and the club. She enjoyed, and was successful in, a variety of performance events, exemplified by being awarded the prestigious Performance Award of Merit (PAM) for her GCH CH Nike Clayfield Paladin Be My Darlin's (aka Beamer) titles in 2015. These include TD<sub>X</sub>, BN, RN, HSA<sub>d</sub>, HT, PT and the recently added RA. Beamer is co-owned with Sharlonna McGaha and Dr. Gloria Rice.



### Artemis Takes Pacific Coast Victrix Title

The club's three annual Specialty Shows March 23 and 24 drew a strong field with entries from five western states as well as Iowa. The specialties were followed March 25 by the South Pacific Futurity. Best of Breed Saturday afternoon for the Pacific Coast Victor title was GCHS Rosewood Galileo, TC, under Judge Karen Hynek. He is owned by David and Ann Blackie and William Peterson of Penngrove, CA, and was handled by Art Sinclair. CH Paladin Artemis Nike Clayfield, HT, (shown) owned by club members Dr. Gloria Rice and Sharlonna McGaha of Aguanga, won the Pacific Coast Victrix. She was handled by William Tischler. Complete show and futurity results can be found on the parent club website [www.gsdca.org](http://www.gsdca.org).

The club's Pizza Party Saturday night was well-received with 30 attending. Channing Sheets moderated a discussion that provided an excellent forum to strengthen ties and unite with fanciers in other states.

(continued on page 2)





Photos clockwise from top: (1) GCH Rosewoods Galileo, TC, with Art Sinclair won the Pacific Coast Victor title. (2) Pizza Party enjoyed by all. (3) Hiding behind the beautiful raffle baskets is Barbara Resnick and Kodiak. (4) Gale Taylor (left), show steward, and show goer Connie Cabanella contributing to the raffle. (5) Dave Coleman, steward and announcer, kept things moving along. Pacific Coast photos by Tammy Romatko.



The club received numerous compliments and would like to share one from Louise Martini: "What a fabulous weekend. Great hospitality, judges, raffle and overall a super experience." Two vendors contributed to the success of the weekend, both of whom provided beautiful baskets for the raffle. Tangled Threads booth

featured beautiful embroidered clothing and bags as well as jewelry. Royal Canin also provided sensational prizes. Thanks also go to American Nutrition for donating Vita Bones which went to first place class winners. The venue at Motel 6, Claremont, worked well and the club is appreciative of the staff's assistance.

## Why We Don't Like To Trim Dogs' Nails But Why We Must

By Denise Flaim, Whole Dog Journal

Let's get this out of the way first: Nobody, it seems, likes to "do" dog nails. Not you, not the dog, nor anyone else who may be called upon to take on nail-clipping for you (such as a technician at your local veterinary hospital or even a professional groomer). But for the health of your dog, it must be done, and should be done frequently enough to keep your dog's nails short...

This article is what you'll need to know before you have appropriately and positively introduced your dog to the nail-cutting experience. I hope to convince you to commit to a regular nail-maintenance program for your dog.

When dogs spend a good deal of time outdoors, running on hard surfaces, including concrete and blacktop, their nails are gradually worn down, and they have less of a need for formal nail-grooming sessions. But today, with many suburban and urban dogs increasingly confined indoors when their owners are at work, and running mostly on soft surfaces such as lawns when they are outdoors, this welcome friction is often absent in their daily lives.

Long, unkempt nails not only look unattractive, but over time they can do serious damage to your dog. When nails are so long that they constantly touch the ground, they exert force back into the nail bed, creating pain for the dog (imagine wearing a too-tight shoe) and pressure on the toe joint. Long term, this can actually realign the joints of the foreleg and make the foot looked flattened and splayed.

## Mark Your Calendar!

The next Socialization/Obedience Workshop with trainer Dale Proctor will be held Saturday, April 22, at San Dieguito County Park in Del Mar. The workshop starts at 1:30 pm and the group meets on the lower level. Please let Barbara Resnick know if you plan to attend: [barbara\\_resnick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:barbara_resnick@sbcglobal.net).

And the next General Meeting is scheduled for 7 pm Wednesday, May 24, at Coco's Restaurant in Escondido. Please check Upcoming Events on the website for performance events and other information.

Again, this isn't just an aesthetic problem, it's a functional one: Compromising your dog's weight distribution and natural alignment can leave her more susceptible to injuries, and make walking and running difficult and painful. This is especially important in older dogs, whose posture can be dramatically improved by cutting back neglected nails

And in the end, unattended nails create a vicious cycle: Because the extra-long nails make any contact with his paws painful for the dog, he avoids having them touched, which leads to unpleasant nail-cutting sessions, which makes both human and dog avoid them, which leads to longer intervals between trims, which leads to more pain

### Nail Clipping Basics

So what's the goal? What's the "right" length? While some breeds (most notably the Doberman Pinscher) are often shown with nails so short they can barely be seen, the most commonly accepted rule of thumb is that when a dog is standing, the nails should not make contact with the ground. If you can hear your dog

coming, her nails are too long.

The nails of mammals are made of a tough protein called keratin...Dog's nails differ from ours in that they consist of two layers. Like us, they have the unguis, a hard, outer covering in which the keratin fibers run perpendicular to the direction in which the nail grows. But unlike us, under their unguis, dogs have the subunguis, which is softer and flaky, with a grain that is parallel to the direction of growth. The faster growth of the unguis is what gives the dog's nail its characteristic curl.

#### The Canine Toenail Quick

There's a reason why the phrase "cut to the quick" means to deeply wound or distress: Running through the nail is a nerve and vein called the "quick." Nicking or cutting this sensitive band of tissue is very painful for the dog...(Keeping a styptic-powder product, such as Kwik-Stop, on hand can help promote clotting.)

If you trim the nail with a clipper or scissors, trim a bit off the end of the nail, and notice the color at the end of the nail (in cross section). As soon as the center of the nail starts to appear pink, stop. black or dark-colored nail. With these nails, you have to be even more conservative about how much nail you trim off. After making each cut, look at the cross-section of the nail. If you see a black spot in the center – sort of like the center of a marrow bone – stop cutting. It's likely your next slice will hit the quick.

The longer a dog's nails are allowed to grow, the longer the quick will become, to the point that taking even a very small bit of nail off the end "quicks" the dog. Then the goal becomes a matter of snipping or

the goal becomes a matter of snipping or grinding the nails to get as close as possible to the quick, without actually cutting it. This is perhaps easiest to accomplish with a grinding tool (such as a Dremel), though it can be done with clippers, too, with practice. By grinding away the nail all around the quick – above it, below it, and on both sides – the quick has no support or protection, and within days it will begin to visibly recede, drawing back toward the toe.

If a dog's feet have been neglected for months at a time, it might take months to shorten those nails to a healthy, pain-free length. But if you keep at this regularly, it should get easier for the dog to exercise. And the more he moves, the more his nails will come into contact with the ground in a way that will help wear the nails down and help the quicks to recede.

#### AKC Launches Scent Work

The American Kennel Club has announced its newest sport—AKC Scent Work. This mimics the task of working detection dogs—such as narcotics or explosives dogs—to find a specific scent and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found. In Scent Work the dog searches a pre-defined area for the hidden odor, which is either an essential oil or handler scent, and searches take place in a variety of environments such as an area with containers, interior, exterior and buried. There are four difficulty levels for each element—Novice, Advanced, Excellent and Master. The most accomplished dogs also will be eligible for The Detective Class which contains many hides in a variety of environments.

The club is looking into this and if you are interested in Scent Work, please let Joanne know—[jofishman18@gmail.com](mailto:jofishman18@gmail.com).