

German Pinscher Club of Victoria

Member Update No.2 - July 2002

Well, it has been 6 months since the last update. A great deal has happened since then. So here is our second newsletter!!!!.

Feedback is gratefully accepted, as are contributions. If web addresses are incorrect, please contact us to have them fixed asap. (Send to editors Kate Graham and Marie Burrell) Please be aware that everything contained in this newsletter is club news and peoples' opinions only. Not everyone will agree with them, nor do we expect them to – it is information only.

We will have a newsletter out every six months at this point. As we grow and develop this will become more frequent and more of a magazine style. For the present, it will take the form of a double-sided sheet with updates and other information. (Although, this newsletter is muuuuuch longer than 2 pages!)

Update

- Since the last update there have been 2 meetings and our AGM and we now have an ABN. We have successfully negotiated all of the legal requirements surrounding the AGM, Public Officers statement and changing our model rules.
- We currently have 13 financial members, 10 in Victoria and 3 interstate, which does not include the 3 members who still need to renew their membership. This is 1 more financial member than we had 6 months ago – we are GROWING !!!!!

NOTE: Under Victorian Law, if membership is not renewed by July 30 2002, these people are no longer members and will need to re-apply to rejoin the club after that date.

- We have had several breeders' request membership forms to give to new Victorian/ Tasmanian/ South Australian owners. If any other people would like a copy please contact us.
- In case people have forgotten (or not received minutes of the AGM – in which case please let us know) the office bearers are:

President - Cameron Davidson
(phone no: 03 9705 8880)

Vice President – Paul Burrell
(phone no: 03 5787 2083)

Secretary - Rachel Davidson
(phone no: 03 9705 8880)

Treasurer - Kate Graham
(phone no: 03 9307 0344)

Puppy Officer for south/East side of Victoria -
Cameron & Rachel Davidson

Puppy Officer for North/West side of Victoria -
Kate & Chris Graham

Public Officer and historian - Chris Graham
(phone no: 03 9307 0344)

Fund Raising/Publicity - Marie Burrell
(phone no: 03 5787 2083)

- As voted on at the AGM, we have decided not to apply for affiliation with the VCA for at least two years due to our size, but they, and the Utility Dog Club of Victoria are aware that we are in existence – as shown by the number of phone calls from people interested in GP's which have been passed on to us through these associations.

Our aim is to continue as a social club (for all owners – showing, and pet alike) with the aim of growing the club to a point where we can successfully hold our own shows and we will then affiliate. In the mean time, the VCA and Utility Dog Club continue to acknowledge our existence and support us when we ask for assistance.

Still to be done

We are still considering what the club colours and logo will be. A final choice will be decided on by office bearers and then send to all members for comments and approval.

If people are interested in attending any of the club meetings, please telephone Kate Graham about the dates and locations. These tend to vary according to people's work and family demands. However, all interested parties are most welcome.

Correspondence.

To date we have been sending all correspondence via e-mail. To facilitate this in the future, please ensure we have your correct e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail address, let us know and we will ensure that you receive hard copies of minutes etc.. in the future.

Events

We have the Victorian Utility Dog Club show in a few weeks and are planning to have at least 3 dogs showing. Results will be in the next club update.

We also look forward to seeing some of our interstate members at the Royal Melbourne Show in September.

Members have attended a variety of shows across Victoria with great success. At these shows handlers are asked many questions about the breed. The GP's at these shows are wonderful ambassadors for the breed.

Congratulations

To Indi on achieving Grand Champion Status – it took a lot of hard work from Indi and Michelle. Well done. They have set a milestone for GP's.

To Kira on achieving Champion Status. Again, well done. She is the second bitch in Victoria to achieve this and the third GP. We look forward to many others joining the ranks.

SPIKES. SPOT.

Hi all, my name is Spike. I live with my pets and their Dalmatian pets. Of course I am better than those spotted things, as I can get mum to write a column for me ha ha!

The purpose of my column will be to help any other Pinscher out there with any health or feeding problems and to share what other views there are on feeding and care so that our pets have a choice. For starters I told mum to write what she feeds me at the moment with the aim that more will be

forthcoming from interested readers. Well here goes and I hope you enjoy this for starters. Once mum has done some more research I am sure she can get some really good stuff together for the readers but she has to start somewhere.

SPIKES MEALS.

I am 7 months old.

Morning feed. 2 cups of Pal Meatibite chicken, rice and kelp dry biscuits and 1 cup of raw semi lean beef mince.

Evening feed. 2 cups of Pal Meatibite chicken, rice and kelp dry biscuits and 1 to 1 ½ cups of mums special mix of cooked mince, rice, pasta, garlic, mixed herbs and any vegetables that she can find.

I am on monthly heartworm chewables, which I find quite tasty. I think it is beneficial as it also does for worming so mum only has to try to shove tablets down my throat every 6 months or so for Tapeworms. I think I get calcium powder every 2 days or so but it is hard to tell as she hides it in the evening meal.

My treats are cooked liver and I really love that. Mum also has charcoal Friskies biscuits and they are good for a crunchy treat. Every now and then I get a huge marrowbone when mum can find them and boy do I really love those. I tease all the other dogs with it and it is just great.

I don't get bathed very often, as I absolutely totally hate it with a vengeance. Getting wet Yukk! But when she makes me have a bath, much to my disgust, she uses baby shampoo, as it doesn't seem to give me dandruff as bad as soap or the shampoo she has for the spotty dogs.

(Eds note: Spike is owned and loved by Marie and Paul Burrell who live in Heathcote Junction, Victoria)

PINSCHER NEWS.

This column is for news of the German Pinscher throughout Australia.

If anyone has any interesting news concerning their pinscher please write in by email or snail mail to be included in the newsletters.

Newsflash. Pinscher gets pet to write column in the newsletter.

This is Spikes idea of a good joke ha ha! but yes he has conned me into finding out about the breed and ways to help new owners, or pets as he calls them, care for their pinschers and any health information I can find so stay tuned and I will do what I can. Any help will be really appreciated.

GP PLACES OF INTEREST.

This column is for those on the Internet and will feature sites of interest for Pinscher owners to visit or become members of. Also for those not on the internet this column will regularly feature snippets of interesting information that could be useful found on these sites by those who have current internet access.

<http://gpcv.warpspeed.com.au> The Victorian club site (some of it still under construction)

<http://www.geocities.com/pinschermania> - The NSW German Pinscher Club site

<http://www.germanpinschers.com> - GP's from Australia and around the world.

<http://www.geocities.com/australiangermanpinschers/>
- GP Breeder in NSW, Narelle Gordon

<http://www.geocities.com/kaitler2000/homepage.html>
- GP breeder in Culcairn NSW.

<http://www.warpspeed.com.au/GP/index.htm> - A Victorian owners site (soon to be upgraded to Firedragon Kennels site)

<http://www.geocities.com/germanpinschervic/> - Another Victorian owner.

<http://www.geocities.com/dor2285/> - A NSW GP owner

Bits & Pieces

The following is from an e-mail a friend sent. It makes us realise that our animal companions are finally starting to be recognised as important by other people:

Thank you Judge.... thank you Lord. Justice for SOME at last.

Tennessee Judge Slam-Dunks Puppy Mill Owners

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (USA) - Last week, The Commercial Appeal reported on a recent Tennessee Court ruling that was "worthy of a standing ovation."

Judge Alan Glenn, rebuked an appeal of a couple from Humboldt who had bred and kept as many as 350 dogs sick and starving in filthy kennels. Not only did Judge Glenn deal very sternly with the offenders, he delivered an excellent oratory that ought to be framed above the door of every court that handles animal abuse cases. He said: "The Court finds that Judy Fay Johnson and Stanley Paul Johnson have been found guilty of 11 counts of cruelty to animals. Bonds are set at \$1,000 in each of the 11 counts, which was done by a jury of good and lawful citizens of Gibson County. "Over 350 puppies and dogs were victims of this gross violation of the law. The victims of this crime were animals that could not speak up to the unbelievable conduct of Judy Fay Johnson and Stanley Paul Johnson that they suffered. Several of the dogs have died and most had physical problems such as intestinal worms, mange, eye problems, dental problems and emotional problems and socialization problems.

"Since dogs have entered domestic service of human beings, they have given solace and companionship when needed. They have helped hunt, guard flocks, and in ice and snow have pulled sleds. "They have rescued people when lost in snowdrifts. They act as police in sniffing out crimes, and they become eyes for those who cannot see. They guard homes and possessions. All this, these creatures do for kind, humane treatment. "Watching this video of the conditions that these dogs were subjected to was one of the most deplorable things this Court has observed in the 22 years in the course of being on the bench. "And though, Judy Fay Johnson, you urge this Court to take into consideration the mitigating factors that you've been sick up to two years

prior to them being rescued from your care. You say you've been sick. You talked about reducing the population, but the only thing you did was sell puppies.

"The Court finds that you have a previous history of criminal convictions or criminal behaviour, that the offence involved more than one victim, that the victims were particularly vulnerable, that you have a previous history of unwillingness to comply with conditions of a sentence involving release into the community, and that you abused the position of public or private trust. "The Court further finds that you were charged with this exact same charge in 1993, and after a period of probation, the matter was dismissed. "Judy Fay Johnson, you're sentenced to 11 months and 29 days in each of the 11 counts of cruelty to animals. These will be run concurrent. Further, this Court finds that probation would not serve the ends of justice, nor be in the best interest of the public, nor would this have a deterrent effect for such gross behaviour.

"Therefore, you, Judy Fay Johnson, shall serve six months of your sentence on condition that you make restitution to the

Dyersburg Humane Society for \$3,242 for the expenses involved in freeing those dogs from their purgatory and your payment of the fine and costs in full. You are further prohibited from ever running or owning any animal kennel or owning any animal as a pet.

"Stanley Johnson, the Court finds that your offences involve more than one victim.

"You are sentenced to 11 months and 29 days in each of the 11 counts. . . . You shall serve 90 days of your sentence on condition that \$3,242 be paid to the Dyersburg Humane Society

"There are those who would argue that you should be confined in a house trailer with no ventilation or in a cell three-by-seven with eight or ten other inmates with no plumbing, no exercise and no opportunity to feel the sun or smell fresh air. However, the courts of this land have held that such treatment is cruel and inhuman, and it is. "You will not be treated in the same way that you treated these helpless animals that you abused to make a dollar."