

# THE MAGS AZINE



Mid-Atlantic Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club Newsletter

March 2018

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## Welcome New Members

### HANSON FAMILY

Michael, Darci, Sienna (6),  
Aubrey (5), Delaney (3), &  
Michael (1) live in  
Philadelphia, PA.  
They just got their first  
Swissy!

### SIMPLY SWISSIES

Breeder Dana Hounsell  
lives in Hockessin, DE with  
her Swissys Bella & Justice

### TUBMAN FAMILY

Martha lives in Rockbridge  
Baths, VA with her  
Swissys Todd & Poppy

### GAFFNEY FAMILY

Sharon, Edmund, Mac (11),  
& Cece (7) live in  
Haverford, PA with their  
Swissy Zoey

### ROSANDER FAMILY

Kevin, Katie, Kylie (11),  
& Conor (9) live in  
Bridgewater, NJ with their  
Swissys Snickers & Twix

## A Letter to Tobler



Dear Tobler,

Where do I begin? You have given me the best four years of my life. I remember the first day we got you it was so magical I thought no day could top it, but then I realized I could live everyday with you. Through all the laughs and cries I knew I could always go to you. Every time I looked at your soft brown eyes I could always tell you knew what I was feeling, and through your eyes you spoke thousands of words to me without a sound coming out of your mouth. You are and will always be the cutest thing I have ever seen. I remember when we started dog showing together I could never understand why you didn't win every single time because I always thought you were the cutest. And though I will meet and have many dogs through the rest of my life, you will always be special to me. I Love You with ALL of my heart, and I'm sorry you couldn't have been with us longer, but you brought some serious joy to this world! I'm so sorry you suffered, especially more toward the end of your life; no dog should ever have to experience epilepsy. I realize now that when you left this world a few days before Christmas I gave the best present I have ever received to Jesus for his birthday. I know I could write pages-on-pages of the love I have for you My Angel, but it's time for you, my love, to be past onto God. I love you Tobler.

Sincerely, Your Best Friend



Gone for now ... But never forgotten

**Tobler**

**CH S'rendi's Hero of the Day**

March 14, 2014 - December 22, 2017

Until we meet again My Angel ...

## When I wrote my letter to Tobler I was on my way to put him down.

It was the best decision of my life because even if I had all the money in the world, medicine can only do so much. I knew when he started having seizures about a year before he wouldn't live as long as I hoped he would, but with that I loved him harder. I didn't want him to live an unhealthy life with meds when I knew he could live much happier, in a pain free life with God. I know he is gone now, but I see him in everything I do. And I choose to accept he is joyfully looking down at me.

## If I could go back and relive one day it wouldn't be the first day we got him,

it wouldn't be a day when he did well in a dog show, or a day full of adventures with him. It wouldn't even be a day when he did therapy work even though he was the best therapy dog ever. I would choose to go back to just an average day; the one where I come home from the bus after school to an empty house and I walk in and find him patiently waiting for me. As soon as I do he bursts out with relief and excitement, and we both walk outside together so he can go to the bathroom and maybe get me to play with him.

## Those are really the best moments in life ...

the little things we see and do that make all the difference in the world. I want to tell you to enjoy the little things while you can. I guess you could live out your life remembering all the bad things or the sad things, but live in the moment. You are in control of the day so make it what you want. Dogs are only here for exactly the perfect amount of time that God has placed them here for us so just love them.

Of course I miss Tobler and think about him everyday, but I want to remember the happy moments, live in the present, and enjoy the little things we have.

*Micah Sheppard*





## President's Message

A big "Thank You" to all the MAGS members who took the time to fill out and mail the surveys back to me. An average survey yields about a 30% participation rate. Ours was 41%. The information gives the Board a clear direction in which to proceed.

I have included a summary of the results of the survey in this newsletter, but I want to highlight some of the findings in my message. Above all else, our members like social activities. Favorites include Swissy Fun Day, Member/Swissy picnic, A Day at the Beach, and Community Parade. Of those top four activities, the only one we have yet to offer is the Day at the Beach. Of the working dog activities, pack hiking is the favorite and a back to back hike is being planned for May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in High Bridge, New Jersey. We ran into a glitch in our planning for drafting clinics this spring, but planning is in progress. A Weight Pull is planned for April 28<sup>th</sup> at the K9JYM in Colmar, PA. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, MAGS will offer an introduction to Therapy Dog Work with Canine Good Citizen (CGC) testing being offered as part of that program. We welcome your help with planning and participation in these events.

We will also continue to be supporters of other dog activities that meet the interests of our members and fulfill the mission of our club. We were a very visible part of Lehigh Valley Kennel Club's Canine Learning Experience on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, and we will also be visible at the Berks County Kennel Club's All About Dogs which will be held in Sinking Spring, outside of Reading, PA in June, 2018. These are great opportunities for owners to share our fantastic breed with people who have never seen a GSMD. It is also where breeders can share their accumulated knowledge of the breed and connect potential Swissie owners to breeders who have or will have puppies available.

We have a good number of members interested in showing their Swissies at the Chesapeake and Potomac GSMD Club's Regional Specialty in Timonium, MD on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Even more members are interested in showing at our MAGS Specialty on December 15<sup>th</sup>, usually a dog's last show of the year.

I am compelled to express my sincere appreciation to a number of survey responders who shared information or offered their expertise in a specific area. That information will be extremely valuable as we continue to plan activities in some of the topics that I have not touched upon.

We have many activities coming up for you and your Swissie. We are slowly incorporating more and more club members into planning and attending MAGS functions. As we continue to add new members, we hope to get as many members (and Swissies) connected to each other as possible. That's what makes our club fun and that's what fuels our club's future!

Smitten by Swissies,

*Janie Hecker*

# President's Report on 2018 Member Survey



In January, 2018, a member survey was mailed to 58 households. Only one household was not mailed a survey for lack of a correct address—the household is in Virginia. A stamped self-addressed envelope was included with each survey. The cost of the survey will not be reimbursed by the club. There were 24 surveys returned—41% of the number of surveys mailed.

## Social Activities

- Concerning how far members would travel to a social event most said 1 to 2 hours, but enough answered either 2 -3 or 3- 4 hours to allow planners to be flexible.
- Members interests in social activities according to preference: Swissy Fun day, Picnic with Swissies and members, A Day at the Beach, Community Parade, Bring your Swissy to the Ballpark, Swissies at the Winery, Member Dinner, Award Banquet.
- Members prefer to spend \$50 per person on a social activity and \$25 per Swissie. Their attendance at a social activity would be determined by date of the activity, type of activity and distance from home, in that order.

## Conformation

Surveys indicated 11 households are showing dogs in the ring and 1 household requested an introduction to dog shows. 16 households are interested in the MAGS Specialty in December 2018, and 9 households are interested in the C & P Specialty in April, 2018.

## Working Dog Activities

- Drafting - 10 households are interested in learning about drafting. Members would like to travel no more than 2 hours to a drafting event. 10 are interested in drafting in Spring/Fall 2018; 9 are interested in drafting in Spring/Fall 2019
- Pack Hiking - 12 households are interested in pack hiking for a title, 5 are interested in hiking without a title. Members would like to keep travel to a hike to about 2 hours. There was no preference in the type of hike offered: Back-to-Back or 10 mile. Numbers interested in hiking in Spring 2018 -12, Fall 2018 - 13, Spring 2019 - 11, Fall 2019 - 12
- Weight Pull - 9 households are interested in doing weight pull for a title. Members would like travel to a weight pull event to be between 1-4 hours. Numbers interested in weight pull in Spring 2018 - 7, Fall 2018 - 7, Spring 2019 - 7, Fall 2019 - 7
- Other Working Dog Activities - In order of member preference: Canine Good Citizen -11, Therapy Dog- 9, Farm Dog - 8, Herding - 7, Nose Work - 7, Barn Hunt - 6. Two members suggested adding Trick dog.

## Educational Events

Households interested in Lehigh Valley KC's Canine Learning Experience 2019-5 Interested in Berks County 'All About Dogs' 2018 - 4, 2019 - 4. Preferred distance to an educational event: 1- 2 hours

## Member Educational Workshops

Suggested workshops in order of preference:

- The Holistic Way to Keep Your Dog Healthy (Holistic Veterinarian, dietician)
- Non-Traditional Methods of Healing (Chiropractic, Massage, Acupuncture, Homeopathy)
- Swissie Breeding and Whelping
- Swissie Boot Camp (All things Swissie – especially the first time Swissie owner)
- Member preferred distance to an educational workshop - 20 minutes - 2 hours

## Additional Educational Workshop Suggestions (may be incorporated in topics above or offered separately)

- Vaccination protocols / titers
- Bloat
- General Health Issues / Canine Health
- Behavior Issues
- Health and fitness
- Breeding / Whelping Roundtable Discussion
- Canine CPR

# Meet The Bonners



## My husband Jeff and I have always been animal lovers.

When we decided to marry back in December 2008, we each came to the marriage with a dog of our own. Jeff brought Mia, a stubborn, loving, endlessly chewing, Springer Spaniel-Rottweiler mix. Sadie came as a package deal with me, a never completely housebroken Bichon Frise.

## It was a match made in heaven.

These two females became great friends after shall we say — some negotiating. Sadie quickly realized that Mia was much larger and stronger, so if this was going to work between them she was going to have to outsmart Mia. She mastered the “bait and switch” move. Each dog had a bed of their own, however, the bed under the sofa table was considered the prime spot by both dogs. So Sadie, in an effort to secure the best spot in the house, would jump up from her resting spot, sound the alarm and start to run towards the back door. Mia, always ready to protect and defend, would immediately run after to join in and defend the home front. Sadie would then race back to the bed under the sofa table and proceed to curl up into a ball looking very pleased with herself. After 3-5 minutes of barking (UGH!) Mia would return to the spot under the table that she vacated to find Sadie sleeping soundly. This ritual went on for years until Sadie left us at 14 years old.

## We decided to be a one dog household, we had plenty on our plate (insert chuckle here!).

When we married we blended six children between us. I have three wonderful daughters. At this time my youngest was in college, my middle daughter was also taking classes, and my oldest had just started her first full time job in her field. Jeff's three were also busy with school. His son was in high school, a daughter in nursing school, and the oldest son in the process of becoming a police officer. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful group of kids (always be kids no matter how old they get) in our lives. Each one is supportive and loving to the other as if they had been best friends all along. I can honestly say there has never been any difficulty becoming a family.

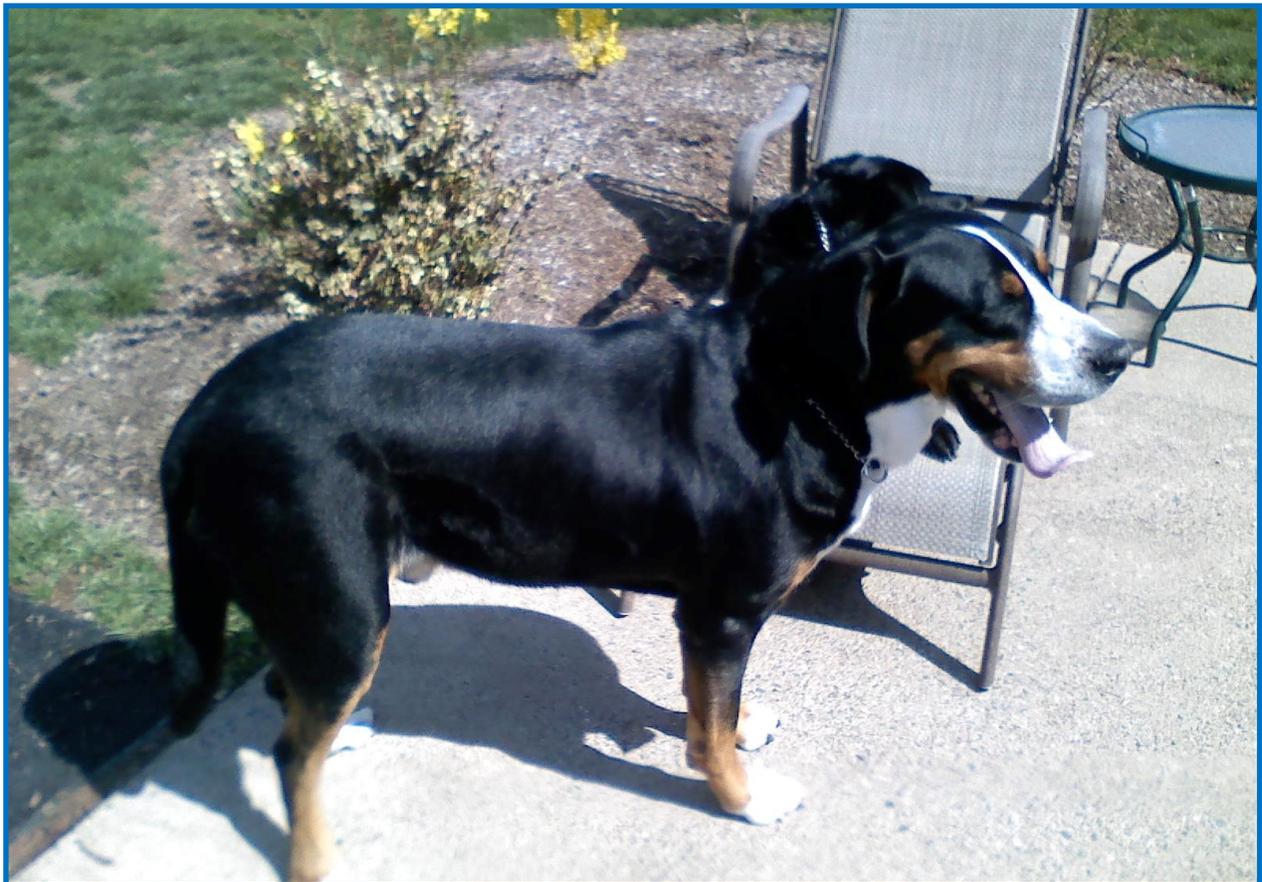
## Back to that “one dog household”.

The phone rings about 9 pm. “MOM I HAVE A DYING DOG IN MY CAR” my oldest is crying into the phone. She goes on to explain that a co-worker asked her to come cheer up his dog. Kate dog sat for this dog while the family had been on vacation and such, but hadn't seen the dog in about year. So, of course, my daughter agrees to meet this person midway between homes at a grocery store parking lot. Wilson, a 4 year old Swissy, fell out of his owner's car too weak to stand. The owner reported that because of an impending divorce, the dog was depressed. Kate agreed to take the dog to cheer him up and carried him to her car.

# Meet The Bonners

## That was my introduction to the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog.

The Vet reported that he had about 48 hours to live, due to dehydration and malnutrition. IV fluids, antibiotics, bloodwork and x-rays showed that he was anemic, full of worms, and had ticks, but miraculously his lungs were clear and his heart was strong. The Vet wanted to admit him, but was concerned about separating him from me. It seemed that in the short amount of time we spent together on the Vet's floor—we bonded. I'm starting to cry as I write this; that dam dog is just ... he looked at me with those brown eyes that were sunk into his head and I told him the truth. "Wilson, you're dying, but if you fight to live I promise to care for you and keep you with me always." The Vet thought with tender care he could survive. It was then that I called Jeff and said, "Honey, would you mind if I bring home a small pony?" Jeff, a physical therapist, was all about the re-hab! It made sense that Wilson came home with me as my daughter worked full time so it would have been impossible for her to devote the time needed for his care. After a week of syringe feeding he was able to walk around the yard on his own.



Wilson .... 25 Pounds Later ... Happy & Healthy!

## Wilson was with our family for four years. Everyone loved him!

He became such an important member of the family; came everywhere with us. These dogs are so special and Wilson was one of the best. Sadly, we lost Wilson to pancreatic cancer. I thank my daughter Kate for introducing me to this amazing breed of dog!

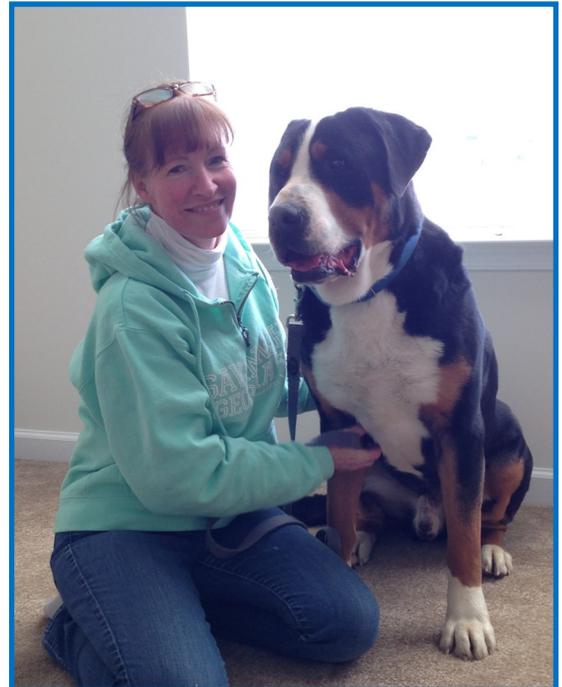
# Meet The Bonners

## A dear friend of mine, saddened by Wilson's passing ...

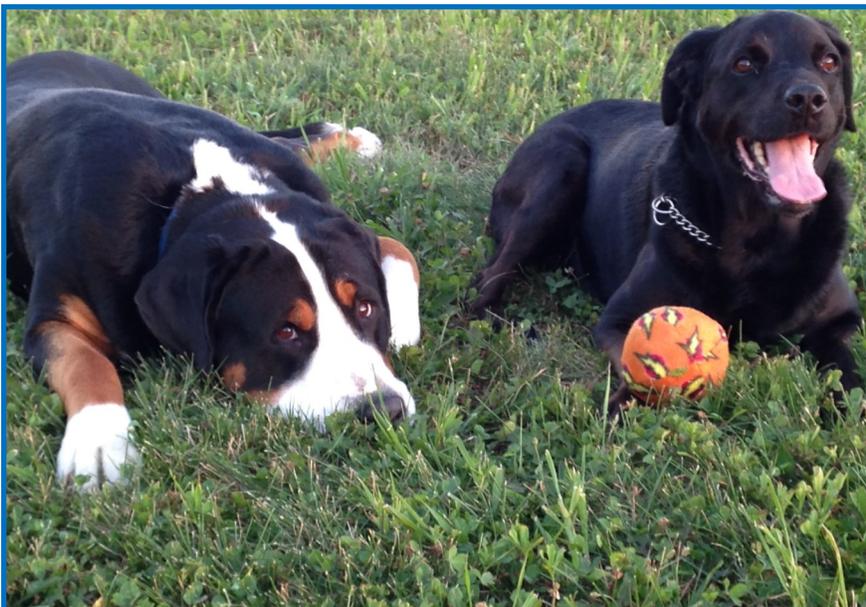
contacted a breeder near me to ask if she knew of any Swissys that were in need of a new home. This is how I came to know Carol Gehret (Cabro Swissies) and Max, her retired finished champion. It was a leap of faith to take on a very large dog like Max, but we quickly realized we truly needed each other. Max was looking for a new career and I was looking for support. I have Multiple Sclerosis, thirty one years now, and periodically have difficulty walking. I haven't had much luck using a cane, it tends to fall over with me if I lose my balance and can't tell up from down.

## A large, strong, willing partner like Max was just what I needed.

So this is how my second Swissy came to be. Max seemed to have an instinct about what I needed him to be. Without much training, I was learning as went along, he seemed to know how to support my legs and balance me by bracing himself against my weak side. I can't tell you how many times that sweet, wonderful, huge bear of a dog, saved me from hitting the pavement. We were well on our way to becoming a team when that terrible disease that we all dread came up out of the blue. Max began having seizures. Both Carol, Jeff and I were devastated. When it became too difficult for Max to support me due to the drugs needed to keep the seizures under control, we all made a difficult decision. I was not physically able to support Max at the same I was trying to hold myself up. Carol took Max back. I cried for two weeks. I felt like I abandoned him when he got sick. I believe our dogs are family and you don't abandon family. Carol assured me that her beloved Max would always have a loving home. He spent his days going for long walks, and snoozing on the couch.



Marianne and Max



Max and Mia

Well that was that.  
Maybe it wasn't in the  
stars for me to have a  
Swissy after all.

I gave away the large  
bowls, collars, leashes  
and once again Mia  
was an only dog.

# Meet The Bonners

Life goes on, a new house, weddings, new job, but something was missing.

We would periodically talk about how crazy an idea it was to get another dog. After all, Mia was a senior and maybe best to let her live out her days in peace. The smart thing would be to maintain the status quo, but a cane!?! Not really my style.

The phone rings again.

This time it's Carol asking if I could come help with temperament testing her puppies. I jumped at the chance of playing with puppies. I had a ton of fun helping corral energetic puppies for the day. When I got home my husband said, "okay, where is it?".

Never in my wildest dreams did I think Jeff would consider a puppy.

Over the next few days, the subject came up again and again. We would need a fence; do we have the energy for housebreaking; teething; the expense; the joy! After deciding we probably need our heads examined I called Carol to ask if all the puppies were spoken for. Of course they were! Okay, it's a sign. I asked her to keep us in mind when she had her next litter. Two days later, the phone rings. Carol told me she was keeping a male and female from the litter, and asked if I would consider co-owning the female. She and I have a great relationship; of course, I would! Jeff and I went back to see the female, discussed a contract, and after preparations were made—home she came!—Swissy #3!



Our kids had no idea, honestly we are old enough to not have to ask permission! HAHAHA!

We sent out a group text with her picture asking for ideas for a name. Everyone was thrilled and honestly not THAT surprised! She's a pure joy and we couldn't imagine life without her. It's been wonderful for both Jeff and I. We joined MAGS, get more exercise than before, have a bunch of new friends, are trying out weight pulling, and Ellie and I are about to interview with a service dog trainer. This year has flown by. She's beautiful, willing, strong, smart and funny. She's going to be a wonderful partner and companion. This breed is truly amazing!

*Marianne Bonner*

# Members on the Move



It all started with a phone call from Susan Spaeth, “Frank, I found you a pup”.

This was the first time I found how generous and friendly Swissy people are. Many of you know Herbie is from Chris Gisewhite of Seavaridge. What many of you don't know is that I got Herbie through the generosity of Susan Spaeth of Foxglove Swissies who was my original Swissy contact. That is when the rabbit hole started, we showed up at “the pink house” and met Herbie. Chris turned to us and said, “He's gonna be big, beautiful, and have a great temperament”. As we were gawking over him, she said something to us that started us on a huge adventure. “If you wouldn't mind; he should be shown.”



GCH Seavaridge's Herbie The Love Bug, CGC

Over the last two years we have met some of the greatest people through this show

world, and more importantly through the MAGS club. We have shared so many experiences. We have shared birthdays, both humans and dogs. We have shared the birth of puppies. We have celebrated accomplishments of dogs and humans alike. We have supported each other in times of pain and sorrow when the Rainbow Bridge was crossed. In all, you have become part of our family.

The reason I am saying all this is that, as you may heard, the Caputos are starting a new adventure; we are moving to Cleveland.

I have accepted a position at the Cleveland Clinic, and we are looking forward to what lies ahead. One thing I know is that we are sure to see you guys at the shows and events, and now you have a place to stay in Ohio for those that want to venture out our way. I do have to give a shout out to Caboo and Denise (Mitterando), our ever present cheerleaders and Jackie's sister from another mister. Sharon (Gardner), my partner in crime; Leslie (Gillette), the consummate host; Jim (Hauptly), my quick witted friend; Carol (Gehret), my daughter's greatest fan; Laurie (Carmody) for the encouragement; Doreen (Holly), always up for a quick drink and good company; Diane (Schmidt) for just being so nice and sharing a beer; Jana (Furst) for the best advice ever; the Rosanders for the good times; Tim (Vanderhey) and Anthony (Buttari) for the good laughs; and, Janie and Santa (Hecker) for making MAGS great, and being there for us since the beginning of Herbie's career. My final shout out goes to Chris Gisewhite and Susan Spaeth. Chris, you have provided us with mentorship, friendship, and more importantly introduced us to a world that has become a large part of our family. Susan, I will never forget your act of generosity and selflessness.



The Caputo Family  
Jackie, Isabella, Frank and Gabriella

With love and Baroos, *Frank, Jackie, Isabella, Gabriella, Herbie and Reggie too*



Reggie



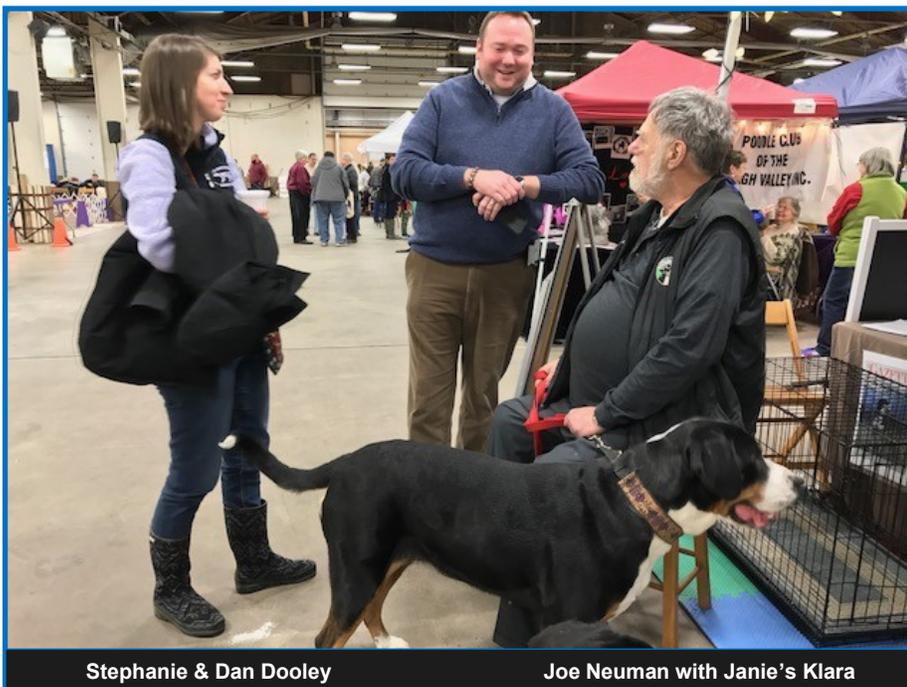
## On February 3rd and 4th, the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club hosted their 41st Annual Canine Learning Experience

at the Agri-Plex Complex in Allentown, PA. As in past years, the Mid-Atlantic Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club had a booth representing the Swissie breed, breeders, and owners. Carol Gehret, our education chairman, did a fabulous job presenting this year's theme 'Dogs in Action'.

Along with basic breed history and characteristics information, the booth offered pictures and information about the many activities that Swissies participate in. We also offered short presentations on therapy dog work by Dan and Stephanie Dooley and nose work by Danyelle Sweeney which included a video. Denise Mitterando demonstrated a weight pull harness on her girl, Caboo, and gave an introduction to weight pulling. Also manning the booth were Wayne and Janie Hecker with Toby and Klara; Jim Hauptly with Trooper Thorn; Denise Mitterando with Caboo; breeder Carol Gehret with Cherokee, and breeder Joe Neuman.



On Saturday, we participated in the Parade of Breeds with Wayne leading Toby pulling a cart, Janie with Klara outfitted with a hiking pack followed by Trooper, Cherokee, and Caboo walking proudly with their owners.



Stephanie & Dan Dooley

Joe Neuman with Janie's Klara



Danyelle Sweeney with Carol's Cherokee



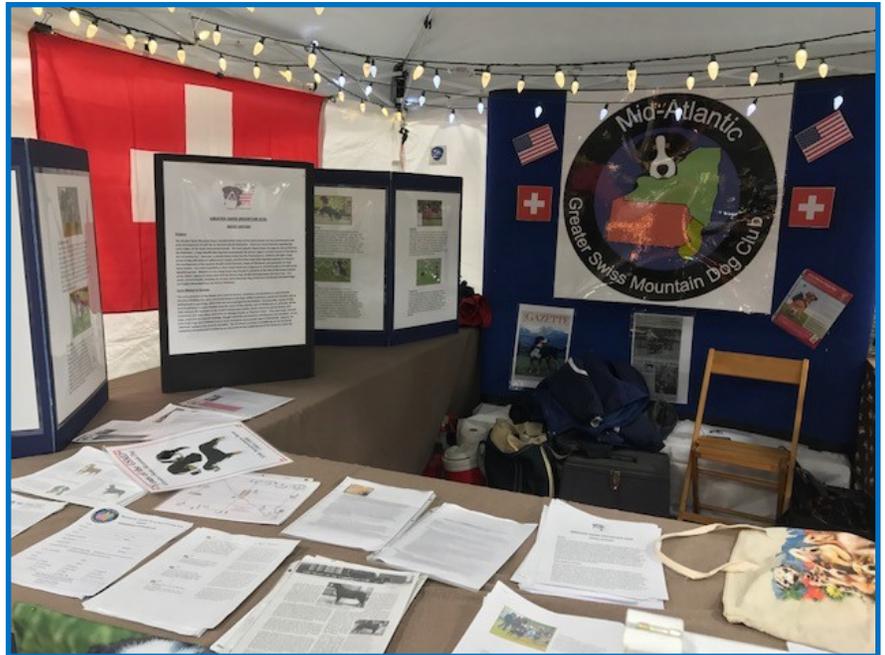
## Many people do not realize that the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club's

Canine Learning Experience was the model for the AKC's 'Meet the Breeds' event that is held every year in conjunction with the Westminster Kennel Club show in New York City.

The Canine Learning Experience not only offers an opportunity for the breed clubs to educate the public on their breed, but also an opportunity to gain knowledge that is helpful in the care of any dog. This year the program offered three demonstrations of dog agility throughout the day. The American Bloodhound Club provided a demonstration of bloodhound man trailing. And Karyn Colman who has been involved with the Iditarod sled dog event told about her experiences with the sled dogs.

Activities designed to help owners learn how to train and care for dogs included 'Let's Play Dog Show' where Dominic DiBalsi guided owners as they learned the skills needed to handle dogs in the show ring. Kim Van Hermert offered 'Behavior Modeling with your Dog', where she taught owners how to guide dogs to learn through trial and error using positive

reinforcement. Michelle Rhodes, an obedience trainer with Passion for Paws offered an obedience training demonstration. And Ronnie Yaskin, Certified Canine Massage Therapist, offered a demonstration of canine massage.



**Denise Mitterando & Caboo demonstrating a weight pull harness**

**In addition to the Parade of Breeds, the winners of the Story Telling contest shared their winning stories and received prizes.**

**AKC obedience and rally trials were held in rings in a separate area as the Breed booths, Vendor booths and Center Stage activities took place in the larger space.**



**Jim Hauptly & Trooper Thorn**



## Several activities were offered over the course of the weekend

including Health Clinics which offered OFA eye exams and cardiac testing. Canine Good Citizen testing was also offered where each successful dog could earn an AKC CGC title.



## On Sunday, both the breed and vendor booths were open for business.

Dominic DeBalsi offered a free show handling class which was well attended. An all-breed match show was held and also puppy sweepstakes. Both Trooper and Cherokee were entered in the match show and the sweepstakes. Unfortunately, Sunday's attendance from the public was very low—maybe because many people were more focused on the birds than the dogs being it was Super Bowl Sunday!

*Janie Hecker and Carol Gehret*



# THE WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB

## 2018 AKC Meet the Breeds

From Akitas to Xoloitzcuintlis and everything in between, the 8th annual AKC Meet the Breeds gave dog lovers the unique opportunity to meet and play with more than 100 different breeds in booths individually decorated to depict each breed's country of origin, historical purpose / function, and attributes as a family pet, all while learning about responsible dog ownership and which breeds may be right for them.

Several Swissy Club of New England (SCONE) and MAGS members—Leslie Gillette with Grey, Denise Mitterando with Caboo, Mike Warburton with Jack, and Laurie Carmody with Flare and Leroy—participated in the event which was held on February 10th.



Laurie Carmody with Swissy Ambassadors Flare & Leroy

# Green Dog Winter Weight Pulls



There were two Green Dog (i.e. mock competitions) held at the K9Jym in Colmar, PA in January and February in preparation for MAGS' first official weight pull event which will be held in April.

The January 28th weight pull was attended by Caboo Mitterando, Bodie Grace, Oliver Adams, Oz Davis, and Trooper Hauptly. Caboo, Bodie and Oliver also attended on February 18th, and were joined by Ellie Bonner. And Finn Grace attended to cheer on his big brother Bodie!

Rich Gross handled the judging while Karen Gross assisted with loading the blocks on the cart, hooking up the dogs to the cart, as well as, providing some wonderful coaching tips. A great learning experience was had by all!



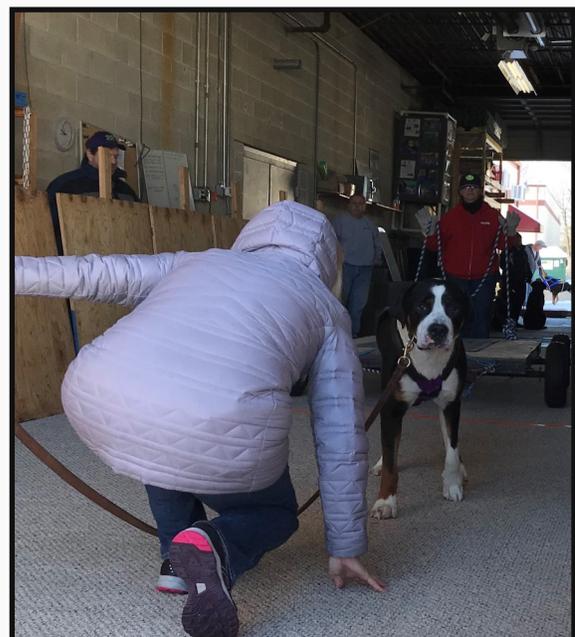
Rich Gross Explaining the Rules before the Pull



Denise Mitterando Gene Grace w/ Finn & Bodie

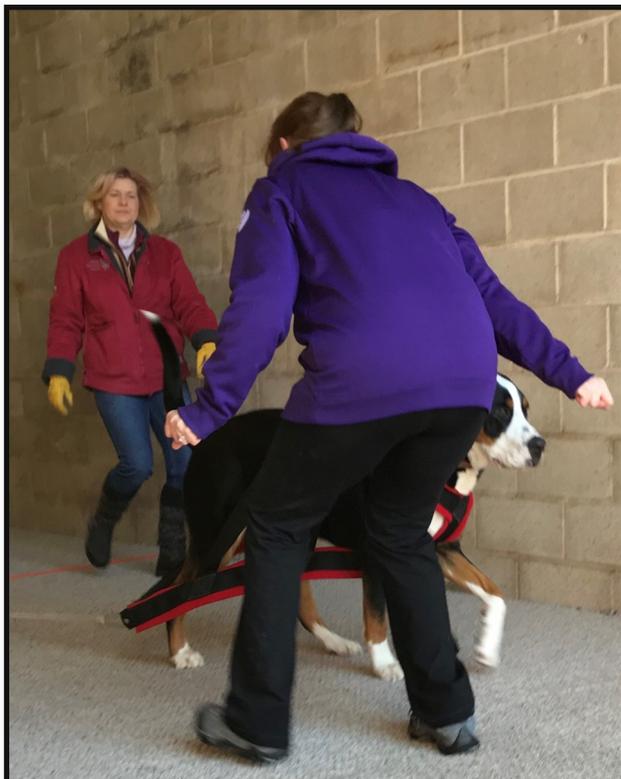


Gene Grace Trying to get Bodie to Pull ... Not Hop!



Tonia Adams Encouraging Oliver to Pull

**Weight Pulling** demonstrates the physical brawn of the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog and the strength of heart this breed exhibits to please its master. Working away from the handler with no physical contact allowed, the dog must start a cart from a standing position and pull the cart a total of 15 feet. Swissies show off sheer physical strength and earn titles as proof of their willingness to work. Swissies have demonstrated extreme abilities and the current wheeled record pull stands at over 4,800 pounds.



**Marianne Bonner Working with Ellie**



**Karen Gross  
Assisting the Pull**

**Caboo Making it look Easy as Usual!**

Weight Pulling is akin to a tractor pull. Dogs compete to see who can pull the most weight 15 feet. The handler has no contact with the dog during the pull, so it is up to the dog's willingness to pull. To earn a GSMDCA weight pulling title, the Swissy must successfully pull the following:

Working Weight Dog (WWD) – 10 times their body weight at 4 separate qualified events

Working Weight Dog Excellent (WWDX) – 15 times their body weight at 4 separate qualified events

Working Weight Dog Superior (WWDS) – 20 times their body weight at 3 separate qualified events



**Ellie**

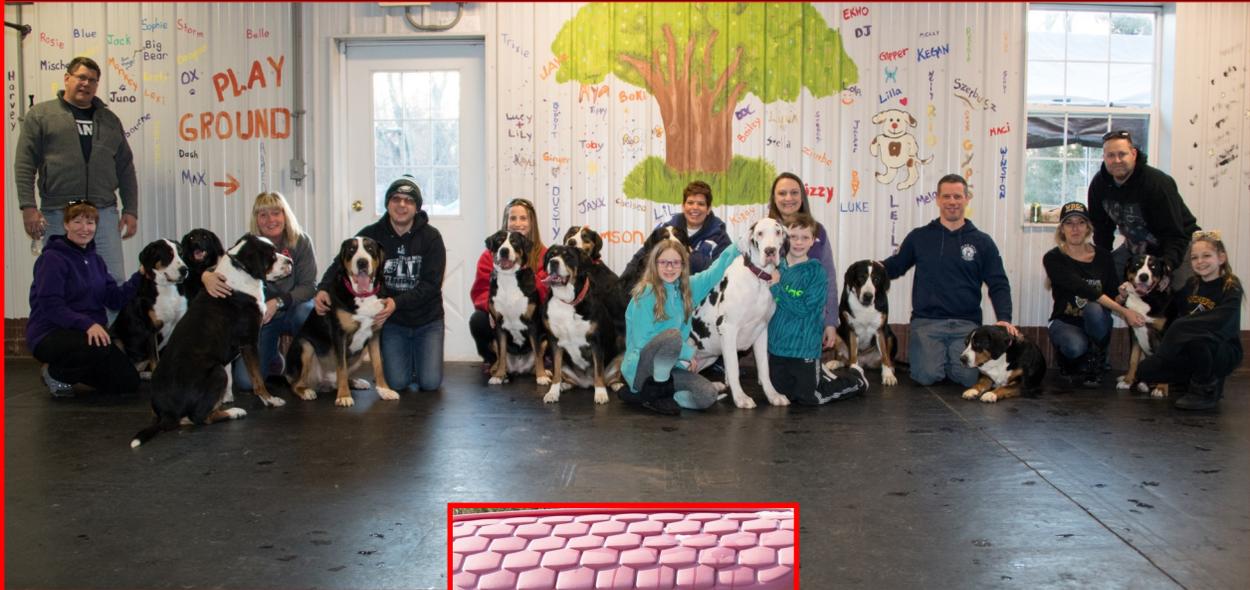
**Caboo**

**Oliver**

# Impromptu Swissy Playdate

Following the February 19th weight pull 12 Swissys, a Great Dane and a Hovawart got together for some fun time! They spent the afternoon chasing one another, eating snow, and getting loving from everyone!

Tim, Marianne, Ellie, Maggie (Hovawart), Oliver, Tonia, Dante, Anthony, Loretta, Kona, Fiona, Caboo, Zeke (hidden), Denise, Kate, Snickers, Kevin, Twix, Lara, Greg, Zuri, Mackenzie.  
Front & Center: Kylie, Keena (Great Dane), Conor



Trooper having fun with Keena



Princess Caboo in her Castle



And the Chase is On!



Fiona Taking Time Out for a Glamour Shot



Oliver and Achilles Playing 'Tag You're It'

UPCOMING

Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



## GSMD Weight Pull

K9JYM

252 Bethlehem Pike (309)  
Colmar, PA 18915

Contact: Denise Mitterando at [fotodoc@optonline.net](mailto:fotodoc@optonline.net)

Saturday, April 28

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Registration Opens and Weigh-in  
9:15 AM - Handler's Meeting  
9:30 AM - Weight Pull  
Cost: \$30 per dog

### Handler's Meeting for Novice

15 minutes later - Novice Pull

\*Novice Pull will be five pulls or 500 lbs / Weigh-in not required

Cost: \$15 per dog

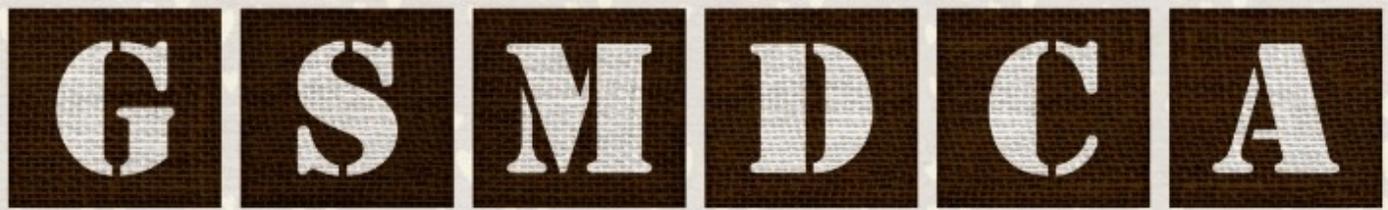


*What is a Novice Pull?* Teams in the novice dogs class are limited to 5 pulls and max weight of 500 lbs, the handler is allowed to use a leash to coax the dog to pull, but is not allowed to pull the load with the leash by pulling on the dog. The handler is also allowed to approach his/her dog to give the dog encouragement, as well as touch the dog if needed. A Judge may stop a Novice dog from pulling at any time for the safety of the dog mentally or physically.

Novice Pulls do not count towards titles, but are perfect for trying out the sport. Harnesses will be available.



Sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic  
Greater Swiss Mountain  
Dog Club





Mark Your Calendars

# EVENTS



## Spring is Here 2 Day Back-to-Back Pack Hike

Contact: Denise Mitterando at [fotodoc@optonline.net](mailto:fotodoc@optonline.net)

Saturday, May 12 and Sunday, May 13, 2018

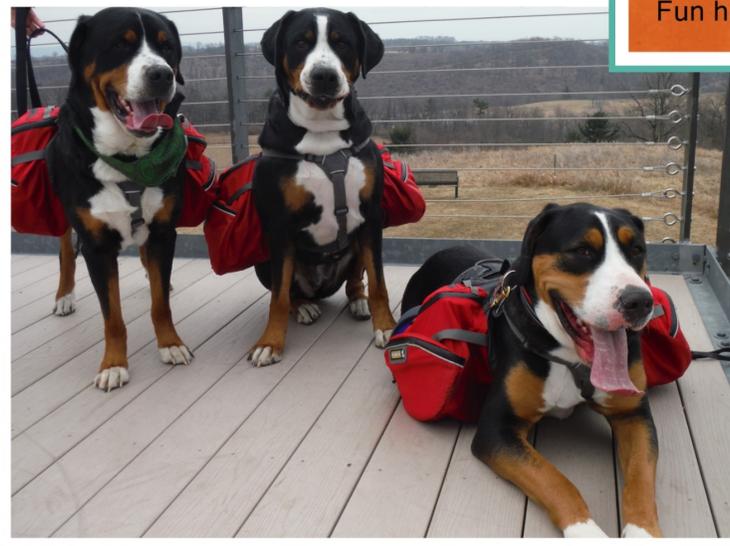
*Weigh-In* will be at 8:00 AM or weight must be provided by vet clinic documentation within 7 days of hike.

*Hike start time:* 8:30 AM

As the time gets closer, paper work will be provided for those hiking for a title.

*Cost:* \$20 per dog per day (Single Hike) / \$30 for two day back to back hike

Fun hikers are always welcomed!



**Where:** Columbia Trial: Townships of Clinton, Lebanon, Tewksbury and Boros of Califon and High Bridge, NJ

### Saturday, May 12

\*P1 - Commons Park, 79 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829

To reach the west, or High Bridge, end of the trail from I-78, take the exit for State Route 31 North. Turn right on West Main Street. After crossing under the railroad tracks, turn left. Trailhead parking is on the left just past the borough hall.

### Sunday May 13

\*P2 - 362 West Valley Brook Road, Califon, NJ 07830

Parking is available at the east end of the trail at Bartley Road in Washington Township. Or, to reach the trail in Long Valley: from I-287, take the exit for US 206/202 North. Bear left to remain on US 206. Turn left onto SR 24. Follow SR 24 by turning right onto Schooleys Mountain Road. The trailhead parking lot is on your left.

\*Please note the hike will have one entry point on Saturday and a second entry point on Sunday!

Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING **EVENTS**



*"Pet Therapy and the AKC's  
Canine Good Citizen Program"*  
presented by Karen Clark

*When:* Sunday, May 20th

*Where:* Sharon and Buddy Gardner's  
44 Gallmeier Road, Frenchtown, NJ 08825

*Time:* 1:00 PM

*Cost:* \$10 per family for education plus an  
additional \$5 per dog tested for their CGC.

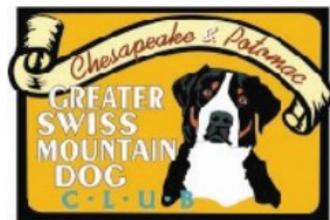
*Contact:* Sharon Gardner at  
sharongardner@mac.com / 516.428.4938

*Pre-registration is requested!*



Karen Clark is the Evaluations Coordinator and Team Manager for Creature Comfort Pet Therapy, located in Morris Plains, NJ. She is responsible for the onboarding processes of the organization and oversees the certification of all incoming therapy teams, a position she has held for three years. Along with evaluating for pet therapy, Karen is also an AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) evaluator. Over the course of four years she has done many therapy visits with her Greater Swiss Mountain Dog, Great Dane and rabbit. Karen's favorite visits are to the children's hospital in Morristown, NJ but she also enjoys going to nursing homes, schools, special needs programs, libraries and behavioral health institutions. Karen has a wealth of knowledge, not only of the inner workings of a pet therapy organization but also as a therapy team.





# C & P Club Specialty

April 20-22, 2018  
Timonium, MD

# C & P Club 10th Birthday Party

May 5, 2018  
Louisa, VA

## We're Moving!!



The C & P Regional Specialty that is!!



In conjunction with Cherry Blossom Cluster

Who: C & P GSMD Club  
What: \*Specialty and Supported Entries  
When: April 20-22, 2018  
Where: Timonium, MD

\*Friday, April 20 = Specialty  
\*Saturday, April 21 = Supported Entry, picnic, club meeting, raffle, educational seminar, fun  
\*Sunday, April 22 = Supported Entry



**C & P 10th Birthday Party!**  
**May 5—11 AM 'til sun down**  
**Draft Trial—8 AM**

***Earn 5 Titles in one day!!***

Earn titles in:

- **Farm Dog**  
Judges:  
Martha Tubman  
Megan Westenmeyer
- **Canine Good Citizen**
- **Trick Dog (2 titles)**  
Judges:  
Claire Apple  
Martha Tubman
- **Draft Trial**  
Judges:  
Bethany Karger  
Mary Jo Rasmussen

Play around with:

- Pack Hike—Hildy Ferraiolo & Danielle Manson
- Weight Pull—Kathy Fisher
- Carting—Jim Rasmussen
- Swimming—at the pond
- Agility—Jan Collins
- Therapy Dog—Michelle Charters
- Conformation—Cathy Cooper

And oh yes—**FOOD!!**

Let them eat cake, ice cream, hot dogs, burgers—the works!

**Louisa, VA 434-249-2808 734-845-1197**  
[nek8n@virginia.edu](mailto:nek8n@virginia.edu) [mjrasmus@gmail.com](mailto:mjrasmus@gmail.com)

# I DON'T WANT TO BRAG BUT...

## Kismet's Lady Guenevere at SwissKiss

### The Sparrow Graduates!

Katie & Randy Markley's little Sparrow completed an 8-week class at Kaye Ames People School for Dogs in January to earn a Puppy Manners certificate. The Sparrow was a stellar student!

Sparrow is now attending Conformation classes at Kaye Ames School and will begin Advanced Manners/Beginning Rally classes in March.

She'll get her paws wet in the show ring at the York shows in March.



# I DON'T WANT TO BRAG BUT...

## GCHB Shadetree's Furst Lil Deuce Coupe

### Best of Breed

Jana Furst's Cooper, handled by Lou Ann Isenberg, went Best of Breed at the Valley Forge Kennel Club's Winter Blast Cluster in Valley Forge, PA on December 10th.



## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU 2017 KISMET SHOW GROUP



*Pictured left to right:*

### **Kismet's Esperanza In The Eastern Sky**

A young Female who entered the ring in late 2017. She has won multiple Best of Winners. She will be in the ring in 2018. We look forward to her finishing her Championship early in the show season. Co-owned and shown by Stephanie Dooley.

### **Silver Level Grand Champion CH Kismet's Fire In The Skye**

Finished his Grand Championship, Bronze and Silver Level Grand Championship in 2017. He has 37 Best of Breed wins in 2017. Top 5 GSMD in the country 2017. Top GSMD in Eastern U.S. Co-owned by Dan Dooley and Joe and Carol Neuman. Skye works as a Therapy Dog four days a week in the New Jersey School system where Dan is Superintendent with 11 different handlers and over 70 children. Skye will be shown on a limited basis in 2018. He has begun his new career as a Stud Dog. He has two litters on the ground now. He is available for breeding to a few good females. Contact Joe Neuman at [www.Kismetswissies.com](http://www.Kismetswissies.com) if anyone is interested. Pedigree and pictures sent upon request.

### **Grand Champion CH Kismet's Blazing Fire On The Mountain Lady Klara**

Multiple Best in Breed Winner Finished her Bronze Level Champion in 2017. Finished her championship out of the puppy class and went on to finish her Grand Championship in 2016. Shown by Janie Hecker and Jaime Scott. Co-owned by Janie Hecker and Joe and Carol Neuman. 2016 Placed in Top Ten Owner Handled in U.S. handled by Janie Hecker. She will do limited showing until she retires from the ring to become a mother in 2018.

# “CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU”

## 2017 KISMET SHOW GROUP

### Grand Champion CH Kismet's Fire Dancer

Multiple Best in Breed Winner. Finished her championship with 5 majors in 2 ½ weeks out of the puppy class over adult dogs, including Reserve Winners at the GSMD Nationals. She finished her Grand Championship over the next 4 weeks. Shown by Daniel Rosa and Billie Anderson. Owner Joe and Carol Neuman. She will be back in the ring in 2018.

### Silver Level Grand Champion CH Kismet's Captain Avery's Toby

He finished his Silver Level Grand Championship in 2017 with limited showing. Owned by Wayne and Janie Hecker. Shown by Brian Ullom. Toby finished his Bronze Championship in 2016. He ranked in the Top Twenty GSMD in the country in 2016. He started his Stud carrier in 2017 and has produced several very nice pups, some of whom have started their ring career in late 2017 and have done well. He may do some limited showing in 2018. He is available for breeding to a few good females. Contact Joe Neuman at [www.Kismetswissies.com](http://www.Kismetswissies.com) or contact Wayne directly, if anyone is interested. Pedigree and pictures sent upon request.

We would also like to thank the owners of several Kismet pups shown on a limited basis around the country predominantly by owner handlers. This includes **Kismet's Monteverdi At Aine** owned by Jacob and Rachel Johnson. He is being shown locally by Daniel Rosa and Billie Anderson.

Our show group for 2018 will include:

- \* **Kismet's Our Buoy At Prestigio** co-owned by Billie Anderson and Joe and Carol Neuman
- \* **Kismet's Lady Guenevere at SwissKiss** owned by Katie Markley, a granddaughter of their  
**Platinum Level Grand Champion CH Oliver Twist Of Fate** and **Grand Champion CH Kismet Cabro Aria**  
Father: **Silver Level Grand Champion CH Kismet's Fire In The Skye**  
Mother: **Grand Champion CH Kismet's Winner Takes It All**
- \* **Au Reult SD Kismet Skywalker** co-owned with Dan Campeau

As well as a couple of pups from upcoming litters:

- \* **Grand Champion CH Kismet's Blazing Fire On The Mountain Lady Klara** and  
**Silver Level Grand Champion CH Kismet's Captain Avery's Toby**
- \* **Grand Champion CH Kismet's Once Upon A Time** and  
**Bronze Level Grand Champion CH Shadetree's Furst Lil Deuce Coupe**  
due in April 2018 to enter the ring in late 2018.

Good luck to all in 2018!

*Joe and Carol Neuman*



# Family REUNION

McWilliams

Rosander

Coyle



'Daddy'  
Gideon  
McWilliams

'Momma'  
Twix  
Rosander

'Baby'  
Zuri Coyle