

# SchipSnips

December 2019





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# Publication Schedule 2019

Submission Deadline	Publication Deadline
April 15th	April 30th
August 15th	August 31st
December 10th	December 22nd

## SchipSnips Advertising Rates

Member	Per Issue	Per Year	Plus Web
Kennel Kards	\$5.00	\$15.00	No Charge
Whole Page Ad Including 2 Pictures	\$15.00	\$40.00	\$5.00 per issue / \$10.00 per year
1/2 Page Ad Including 1 picture	\$ 10.00	\$20.00	\$2.00 per issue / \$5.00 per year
1/4 Page Ad (no pictures)	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$5.00 available per year only





# ECSC President's Message

Larry Wolfe

## Hello ECSC Members:

Another year is almost behind us and a new one full of promise just ahead. My family, Mel, Dillon and I, wish you and your families the very best of the holidays and the best of everything in the New Year!

We will see you at the Syracuse Shows for our ECSC General Meeting in March.

*Larry*



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# About My Girl

by *Jean Schroeder*

This is a little update about GCH CH Deloran's Song of Ice and Fire (NP 35604803), otherwise known as "Arya". She was bred by Ursula Hutton and came to live with me as an adult. Arya has done very well and the following is a list of events and titles she already has acquired.

## **AKC:**

Acheiver Dog :Title in Tricks novice or intermediate ( I can't remember as I am In South Carolina for the winter and my records are in N.Y.), and a Rally intermediate as well as her Grand Champion.

At Camp Gone to the Dogs in Stowe Vermont she has participated in:

- Barn Hunt on leash
- Intermediate tracking
- Clicker training
- Parkour (agility in a city environment) (assorted obstacles)

Arya is still the friendly and loving girl that she has always been. And we are looking forward to working together next year.





# Walking On Ice

by *Al Pietzold*



Has this ever happened to you? You dress for the cold weather, get your dog ready for a walk, and soon after you get out the door you find the sidewalk is covered with ice. After trying your best you decide it isn't safe to continue and you head back inside. It doesn't have to be that way, there is a simple low cost solution!

I often take our dogs hiking on hilly wooded trails in the winter as long as the temperature is above +13°F. Sometimes after a brief warmup followed by cold weather the trails become covered in ice. I have arrived at a park and found people heading back to their cars because the trails were too icy, and yet my dogs and I have hiked with no trouble at all. The key to success is to put on a pair of Yaktrax before starting the walk. During the winter I keep a pair in my car so I'm always ready for icy conditions.

Yaktrax are stretchy rubber webs wrapped in steel coils, shaped like shoes. To put them on you insert the toe of your boot and pull back, run your fingers along the sides while pulling the web onto your boot, and when you get to the end you pull it up over the heel. It is easier to do this while sitting down but with a little practice it can be done while kneeling or even standing up. Taking them off is even easier, just grab the heel tab and pull down and forward, slipping them off the front of your boots.

These things do not look like they would work. I was very skeptical despite recommendations from co-workers but I decided to buy a pair and test them. One morning our steep downhill driveway was coated in ice. I put on my boots and tried walking to the mailbox; I only took a few steps before falling down. I crawled back to the garage and put on the Yaktrax. If I had seen this on an infomercial I would not have believed it - I walked right down the center of the driveway to the mailbox, turned around, then walked back uphill to the garage. No slips, no scary moments, I walked as if the driveway was clear!

You can buy Yaktrax at most sporting goods stores and places like Walmart, and of course online. The regular Yaktrax Walk model is fine for most uses and costs \$20 or less. There is also a Yaktrax Pro model which has a velcro strap that goes across the top of your boot; those cost about \$30. If your walks take you through a mix of ice and heavy snow the top strap is a good idea, but you could just tie on your Yaktrax Walk with an old shoelace and save the money.

It is important to note that Yaktrax can be slippery on smooth hard surfaces like some garage floors, store floors etc. Do not wear them indoors. Do not drive a car while wearing them. If you encounter an icy parking lot at work or while shopping put them on before you exit your car, walk to your destination, then take them off in the entryway of the building. You can put them in a ziplock bag and stuff them in a pocket until you need them again. Note that Yaktrax will not fit well on shoes or boots with high heels; they are intended for typical winter boots, hiking boots, shoes, and so on.

In summary Yaktrax do not look like they would work but they do and they are inexpensive. In my opinion they provide invaluable assistance in icy conditions. The next time ice forms instead of staying indoors give Yaktrax a try!

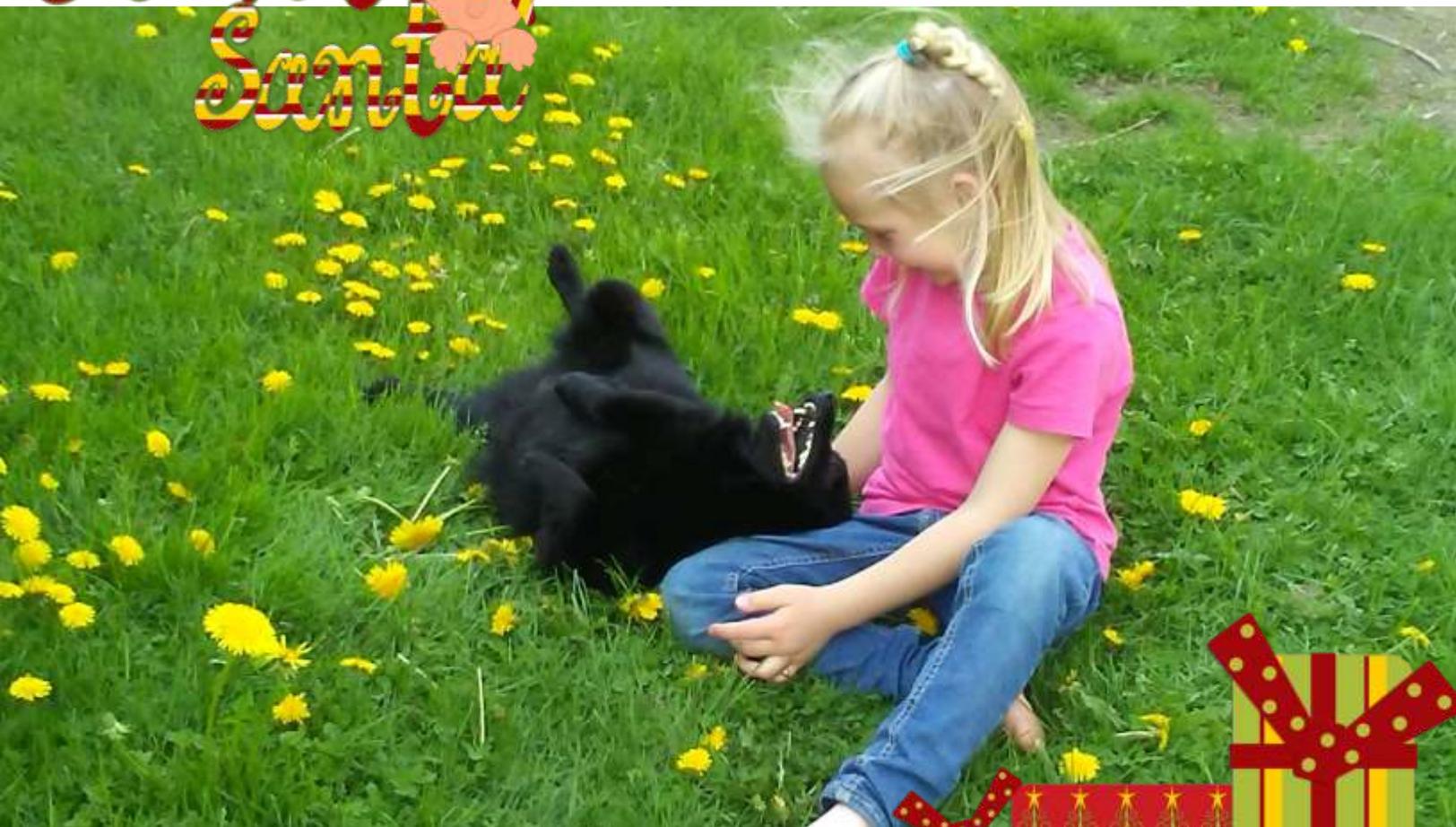


# The Best Thing About Girls

by Jen Green

The best thing that I love about a schipperke bitch is the wonderful connection they have as a friend to children. I know that my kids are ALWAYS safe from strangers when my girls are near. That is a good feeling.

The picture below is of my daughter Brooke with CH. Sailor's Sassy Schilling "Penny"



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[breedingbetterdogs.com/article/gathering-storm-pt-1](https://breedingbetterdogs.com/article/gathering-storm-pt-1)

## Big things often come from small beginnings

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Over the years one can find many examples of an event which at the time seemed small and unimportant only to be later learned that it had grown large with unintended consequences. It was the repeated occurrence of these scenarios that eventually led to the expression, **big things often-times come from small beginnings**.

In this regard, there is now within the dog world a chain of events that has been defined as more than just an annoyance. These are a series of small events that can be described as a gathering storm but, unlike those of the past, this storm is being driven by forces that are connected in unusual ways. At its center is the repeated and effective use of several undefined labels. They have become the primary tool that fuels these turbulent winds. The storm is being driven by the fundamental idea that breeders should do the right thing. The motivating argument for this comes from the Animal Rights Movement which identifies the expectation that a responsible breeder would analyze his/her pedigrees for problems using DNA technology and the other certifications, tests and protocols that are available (OFA, CERF, PENN HIP etc). The idea, of course, is popular, but for those who study these events and how they are used to influence the future, it seems clear that the conditions are now right for a disaster. Unfortunately, there is no authority in the dog world who can say with any certainty how much damage this storm will cause. What is certain is that it has now reached a level that makes it a clear and present danger.

Storms in a sport, like those in society, are always risky because they usually bring with them unwanted damage. What has gone unnoticed about this storm is how the animal rights movement has used a series of undefined labels to drive the winds that have already altered and changed the dog world. Until now, most of these changes have gathered little national interest. Now however, through the use of well crafted-labels they are able to describe a person, thing or event in either a positive or negative light. Over the years they have learned how to use the power of the undefined label to capture the interests and attention of the public, the clubs and the breeders.

The use of labels to drive ideas is not new in an industrialized society. Advertising agencies and political campaigns use them to influence policy, regulations and elections. The hotter the issue, the more dramatic the pitch and the more clever the strategy. When the issue is ideological, labels are used to energize supporters. They are also used on websites to announce the issues and promote the problems. When combined, they become the important vehicles for influencing opinions and changing perceptions. Sociologists call this the "labeling process". Their studies focus on the groups and organizations that use the labels to exploit a situation, target a group or identify a victim. In this regard, the "labeling process" is best known as an applied method. Studying how they are used to achieve certain goals involves a search for the motive and the desired objective. Many times the goal

# A Gathering Storm Pt 1

is subtle and not easily noticeable. Understanding how the change agents use the "labeling process" is key to understanding how they are able to drive their programs. This is important in today's climate because the breeders seem to enjoy using the undefined labels without ever knowing their meaning or purpose and more importantly who will become their next victim.

One of the newest labels gaining in popularity has been designed to make the breeder its victim and their pups the target. It's called the "responsible breeder". What makes this label so dangerous is the attention it calls to the quality of the pups produced. What makes it politically correct is the fact that it has many meanings and interpretations and most importantly, it offers everyone who "does the right thing" the opportunity to label themselves a breeder. Underneath its exterior however, is the special emphasis it brings to the quality of the pups being produced and sold. It assumes that if a pup is of poor quality, unhealthy or has something wrong, it should not be bred. Most breeders agree with this notion and respond by selling their pups without AKC registration papers, or with a limited registration or perhaps a spay/neuter contract. The underlying assumption is that they are being "responsible breeders" and would not want to continue to produce low quality pups given the technology and protocols that are available. The latter point is key to the strategy. The notion that the unsound and unhealthy should not be sold for breeding is fundamental to this label and with that logic the best indicator of whether a breeder is being responsible or not can be tested by what they produce and how they register it. This method identifies some breeders as better than other breeders. This scenario salutes those who breed to produce better quality. In the background however, there are some important and very fundamental questions. For example, why do so many breeders endorse the use of DNA but have little or no understanding of its uses or benefits and why have only a small fraction of the breeders actually used it? Why are so many breeders not trained in the use of DNA testing or the techniques available for managing the normals, carriers or affected when they occur in their pedigrees? The animal rights strategy sees this as opportunity. Their logic suggests that because there is widespread support for a technology they do not understand or use, the quality of their litters is not likely to improve. Thus, over time, a determination can be made as to whether a breed and its breeders are making progress and thus, being "responsible breeders". Said another way, if quality pups are the goal, a responsible breeder can be measured by how they sell their pups. In retrospect, there is a lesson to be learned from this simple logic and how, through the use of undefined labels, the animal rights movement has been able to create havoc in the world of pure-bred dogs.

In the past, the most popular use of the undefined label was to describe the commercial or high volume breeders as "puppy mills". Other labels were then linked to it. They were called "overpopulation", "vicious dogs", "dangerous dogs", "responsible dog owner", etc. While each of these labels enjoyed wide-spread acceptance, none were ever defined. In each case, the fancy and the public accepted them without any understanding of what they meant or what they were intended to do. Now, after more than ten years of use, they are still undefined. For these reasons, it is important to appreciate who creates the labels (change agents), why they are using them and what affect they are having on the AKC, veterinary schools, dog clubs, registrations (stud book), and ultimately the breeders.

# A Gathering Storm Pt 1

By design, most of these labels are left vague or never defined. This reduces the chances for resistance. When catchy words and phrases are linked to them, many ideas can be pushed to support their agenda. It is not just the general description given them that gathers attention, it the success they have had convincing breeders, their clubs and the writers to use undefined labels. Whether this new label will follow in the footsteps of the others is yet to be determined. But based on the past, it is safe to say that we should take this opportunity to understand its potential.

History shows that one of the earliest undefined labels targeted breeders by calling them "puppy mills". Catchy phrases were added to describe them as irresponsible individuals who owned dirty kennels and carried out careless breedings. This label was then linked to a negative form of animal husbandry as a way to grow the idea into something bigger. Some of the first uses of this label focused on the breeders in certain states and cities. It resulted in changes in policies, zoning, regulations and even legislation. The strategy being used today closely parallels this scenario. It focuses on issues the Animal Rights Movement believes need to be changed. Their current strategy begins with the fancy (breeders/writers) they push for acceptance in conversation, at meetings and on websites. Follow-up efforts are then used to identify the problem that fits their strategy. This step usually involves their critic groups who are developing court cases that will follow. Their use of the law and the courts has already resulted in a negative and financial impact on hundreds of breeders and their dog clubs. Their efforts have been effective only because they are able to create labels the community will accept.

In the past, it was only the like-minded groups within the animal rights movement that were able to function as change agents. In the beginning they were forced to use negative incentives and the courts to push their agendas. But over the past 20 years they have effectively learned how to use legislation and the courts and the breeders to introduce new changes in zoning, ownership, breeding rights, care and conditions etc. Typically they use the argument of "raising the bar". Sometimes they call it "raising the standard". Today, when the term "puppy mill" is used, it quickly arouses a negative and emotional response. More importantly it demonstrates how one undefined label in the hands of a determined group can manipulate the masses.

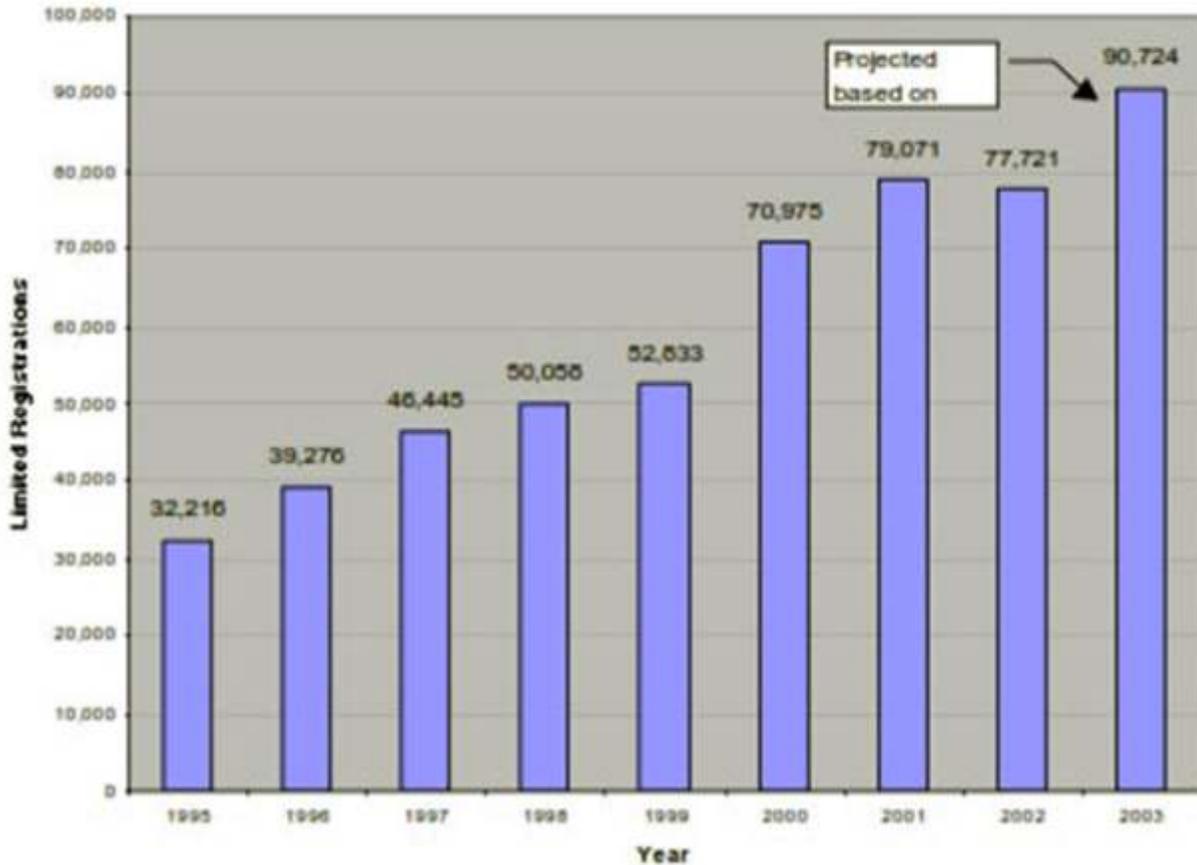
From the beginning, their goal was to control, limit and reduce the ownership and breeding rights of the breeders and those who exhibit purebred dogs. Thus far, they have successfully done both. What is best known about their efforts is the ripple effect they are having on the gene pools of many breeds. This is one of the most dangerous aspects of this new label. The cumulative effects they are having on registrations can not be ignored. Related to this problem is the impact they are having on the gene pools of the 35 breeds listed in Table 1. The unintended and cumulative consequence of their efforts continues to gather momentum only because there is acceptance without understanding. What must be learned from these experiences is that most of the undefined labels are used to suggest something good. Later they are used to fit an agenda that will produce a negative effect. The most dangerous part of the process is how well they are able to reach beyond the obvious. In the early stages of acceptance the critic groups remain in the background preparing to use the courts as opportunities present themselves. With this infrastructure in place, the animal rights groups are able

to extend their reach. Their success can now be measured through declining registrations and the numbers of pups being sold on limited registrations or on spay/neuter contracts. The "responsible breeder" label is the vehicle being used to establish a new kind of husbandry, one that will eventually be guided by new and tougher quantitative standards. During the initial stages of implementation their strategy only whispers about a better way. They do this by painting a picture of something that is good for everyone. At the center of their storm is the attention they are giving to DNA technology and health certifications which most breeders and their clubs endorse. In their words, a "responsible breeder" is expected to screen and test all of their stock before breeding. This idea sounds great on the surface but this is only the first step. As the breeders and their clubs continue to embrace this label the animal rights activist slowly begins to lobby for the required use of both DNA and health screening. This follow-up step is called "raising the bar". It is unfolding one step at a time. We already have heard their voices asking that more testing must be used on breeding stock. Next they will push for testing as a condition of breeding and then as a condition to register breeding stock and their pups. In some quarters they already are asking that it become a condition for entry in some AKC venues. As the popularity of the "responsible breeder" spreads they will attempt to further extend their reach into the AKC stud book and the registration system. To this end, the change agents and their critic groups have already taken the first step by raising the level of awareness. Some believe they are ahead of schedule. What is so interesting is how well the breeders have accepted their ideas.

Figure 1. Limited Registrations



# A Gathering Storm Pt 1



Notice in Figure 1 how quickly the breeders responded when they were told that in order to be a "responsible breeder" they should sell their pups on limited registrations or on spay/neuter contracts as a way to control "over-population" a problem that does not exist. Figure 1, also shows that after only nine years well over 00,000 dogs each year continue to be removed from the gene pools of all breeds. Not only have the animal rights movement been able to encourage breeders to reduce the size of the AKC stud book they have identified the "responsible breeder" as their next victim. Unfortunately, the dog world has not noticed the negative effect limited registrations and spay neuter contracts are having on registrations and the stud book. The strategy thus far has linked two ideas together. The first was to convince the breeders that they could reduce over-population. The second was to separate the breeders and the buyers from the AKC. More than half of all pups sold on limited registrations and spay/neuter contracts were not being registered. Both efforts shrink the number of breeders and litters. Unfortunately, the impact they continue to have on the stud book and particularly the 35 breeds listed in Table 1 should not be ignored. These breeds are now registering fewer than 100 litters per year. The greatest dilemma now comes if this trend continues because it currently is on schedule to collapse the diversity of several gene pools and their ability to maintain breed health (Ostrander).

# A Gathering Storm Pt 1

<b>2001 Rank</b>	<b>Breeds</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>
112	Salukis				84	79	80	63	67
113	Belgian Tervuren				84	84	78	89	106
114	Belgian Sheepdogs				83	80	80	85	101
115	Retrievers (Flat-Coated)				82	100	75	98	44
116	Petits Bassets Griffons Vendéens				75	83	72	100	92
117	Bedlington Terriers				66	54	57	56	57
118	Spaniels (Welsh Springer)				61	63	58	57	60
119	Wirehaired pointing Griffons				55	66	44	47	41
120	Briards				51	61	57	60	58
121	Spaniels (American Water)				49	45	57	62	68
122	Lowchen				49	44	37	24	35
123	Spaniels (Clumber)				47	60	43	51	46
124	Black and Tan Coonhounds				47	47	48	55	57
125	Anatolian Shepherds				42	48	49	41	45
126	Pulik				40	36	48	36	46
127	Polish Lowland Sheepdogs				40	38	28	0	0
128	Miniature Bull Terriers				40	42	49	42	44
129	Kuvaszok				35	48	49	59	84
130	Spinone Italiano				33	6			
131	Finnish Spitz				30	27	30	27	39
132	Scottish Deerhounds				28	28	27	27	33

# A Gathering Storm Pt 1

<b>2001 Rank</b>	<b>Breeds</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>
133	Retrievers (Curly-Coated)				27	25	35	31	28
134	Komondorok				26	23	32	31	40
135	Canaan Dogs				26	25	20	18	11
136	Spaniels (Field)				25	28	28	36	29
137	Spaniels ( Irish Water)				25	23	33	22	21
138	Greyhounds				25	30	24	32	29
139	Sealyham Terriers				24	18	21	17	28
140	Skye Terriers				24	23	25	38	31
141	Pharaoh Hounds				23	19	16	20	19
142	German Pinschers				23				
143	Spaniels (Sussex)				20	16	21	22	16
144	Dandie Dinmont Terriers				20	33	38	30	33
145	Ibizan Hounds				18	12	13	17	19
146	Plotts				18	35	30	8	0
147	Foxhounds (American)				18	14	14	15	13
148	Harriers				11	6	6	10	11
149	Otterhounds				8	7	2	4	9
150	Foxhounds (English)				7	8	5	7	6
					<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1987</b>
	<b>Total for all 150 breeds</b>				<b>461,863</b>	<b>506,727</b>	<b>527,023</b>	<b>555,964</b>	<b>564,165</b>

Table 1. AKC Litter Registrations (1997-2001)

## Conclusion

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The strength of the winds that are pushing this storm has been marked and identified. It is heading toward the fancy with an unusual force. They have already unleashed a new kind of husbandry which is likely to have a qualitative and quantitative form of measurement. The plan and the mechanism that is driving this storm is intended to continue on its path of reshaping the dog world piece by piece. While these trends seem to be clear, hardly anyone seems to be noticing. In retrospect, we can now see the true meaning of the phrase, "big things often-times come from small beginnings". More will be said about the plan and the labeling process in the next article (Part II). If you would care to express your ideas on this subject, forward them to me in care of the editor at K9CHRON@aol.com

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# SCA National Specialty

April 19 2020 - April 24, 2020

Robert's Centre  
123 Gano Road  
Wilmington, OH

**Holiday Inn Wilmington**

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Reservations:

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Reservation Deadline:

March 28, 2020 to receive the SCA rate- \$124

(1 – 4 persons in a room)

**For More Details Visit:**

<http://www.scanational.com/2020/2020hotel.html>



SCA National Specialty -  
2020 Futurity/Maturity -  
2020 Sweepstakes -  
2020 Obed/Rally -  
2020 Agility -

Judge: **Betty Jo Patrick**  
Judge: **Mr. Jeffery M. Bazell**  
Judge: **Mrs. Charlene Rutar**  
Judge: **-Mrs. Kathleen Cook**  
Judge: **-Mr. David Hirsch**

April 19th - Regional #1  
Southern Michigan Schipperke Club

April 20th - Regional #2  
Southern Michigan Schipperke Club

Conformation & Juniors -  
Judge: **Mary Ellen Mayer**  
Sweepstakes -  
Judge: **Neil McDevitt**

Conformation -  
Judge: **Diane Anderson**  
Sweepstakes & Juniors -  
Judge: **John F. Martin**  
Obedience & Rally -  
Judge: **Mrs. Kathleen Cook**

**Special Event:** April 19th The Southern Michigan Schipperke Club will offer All Breed FastCat run by K9 Splash Zone. There will be morning and afternoon runs offered. The premium list will be available at [www.K9Splashzone.net](http://www.K9Splashzone.net) in January 2020.

SCA National trophy donations are now being accepted. Please visit the SCA National website page for lists of trophies still available to select those awards you wish to donate. Then follow the instructions for notifying the chairs and paying for the awards you wish to sponsor.

Show Chair: Sara Name  
[sara@joename.com](mailto:sara@joename.com)

317-522-6212

Let's get all dolled up  
to celebrate the  
**2020 SCA Top Twenty**  
with a



**Roarin' 20's party!**

It'll be the bees knees



# The Schipperke Earns Another Name

by *Bernard Fears*

**Editor's Note:** The first part of this article was repeated from the last issue to make it easier to follow for those who may not have previously read it

**Author's Note:** *(This story is an extract from an essay about a voyage of discovery undertaken quite some years ago. Vivienne and I had lived in England from birth but emigrated to New Zealand in 1966 where we were both employed at the same textile company.)*

It was in 1974 that we decided we needed to learn more about Schipperkes, having acquired our first one some four years earlier from Robert Thompson, whom we all believed had introduced the breed to New Zealand. This fact later proved to be incorrect but that is another story. Our employer in those days was very accommodating and agreed that we could take six weeks leave to travel overseas during the approaching winter (June/July in the southern hemisphere). Both Vivienne and I had relatives living in UK so what could be more satisfying and pleasurable than to visit them in their summer and at the same time attend as many dog shows and Schipperke breeders kennels as we could fit in.

I had a question prominent in my mind that needed an answer –why are Schipperke tails docked? I posed this question to every breeder but at the end of the trip I still did not have a clear categorical answer. I had however developed a theory that it was the only way to retain the typical silhouette with a 'guinea-pig' rump when I found quite a variation in those specimens with intact tails but there were still some that were born tail-less.

At this time our Schipperke family had grown to six so they were all fostered out to stay with friends while we headed away to England via Australia and South Africa. In mid-June we flew from Christchurch and on our first weekend time was spent at a dog show in Melbourne where we first met up with Penelope Brown (Gunyah), who had sent a couple of Schipperkes to Robert Thompson, one of which, Gunyah Needles, would later come to live with us when Robert's health was in decline. We also renewed our acquaintance with May and Barbara Metherall (Bateau Chien) who had paid us a surprise visit the previous year. No-one could really answer the question about the tails but everyone agreed docking was a tradition to ensure they all looked the same!

Our next flight took us across the vast continent of Australia to Perth where we boarded a South African Airways Boeing 707 destined for Johannesburg via Mauritius, a gruelling 13 hour overnight flight across the incredibly wide Indian Ocean with the crew using the stars for navigation as there was no satellite GPS in those days!

Months before, when planning for the trip I had written to Basil and Rita Moore (Moorehaven), who were breeding Schipperkes in South Africa with great success. In fact a couple of years after our visit they bred a dog named Pudi of Moorehaven who was sent to England where he gained his title with the expert handling of Len Hammond and entered the history books as the first Schipperke in that country to win Best in Show at a championship show.

Basil was president of the Schipperke Club of South Africa and Rita was club secretary; they lived at Halfway House, a delightful township midway between Johannesburg and Pretoria in the province of Transvaal (later renamed Gauteng). We stayed for a week and spent long hours in discussion with them examining and analysing how the ideal Schipperke should appear. We visited several other Schipperke breeders in the vicinity and took many photographs of the Schipperkes we saw along the way. As well as dog kennels we took in the sights and visited tourist attractions including a diamond mine, a snake park and a gold mine.

# The Schipperke Earns Another Name

We were surprised to learn that the Schipperke breed there had risen in popularity to the extent that it was second numerically to the Bulldog in the Non-Sporting group. Our beloved breed had found favour among certain parts of the community as an excellent watch-dog because law and order was somewhat stretched and property burglary was rife. It was necessary to have high fences to protect one's home especially during the hours of darkness. Almost all home owners had a guard dog – large breeds like German Shepherd, Rottweiler, Doberman or Rhodesian Ridgeback, which usually slept on the veranda. However it had become apparent that some places without a Schipperke were still being burgled because the big dogs slept so heavily. Those homes with a Schipperke were more fortunate because, sleeping with its ears pricked, it barked at the first sound of perimeter wire being cut and immediately alerted its slumbering mate that danger threatened.

Their prowess and efficiency at raising the alarm very soon earned the Schipperke the catch name as 'THE BIG DOG's KEEPER'.

## Part 2

Our sojourn with the Moore family had been most enjoyable, incredibly informative and truly memorable but it was over too soon. However we had a plane to catch which flew us overnight directly from Johannesburg to London Heathrow. Dawn was breaking as we flew north over France and an early breakfast was served to the passengers. The plane was descending as it crossed the south coast of England but then the pilot announced that we had arrived a little early and as Heathrow had a morning curfew we could not land immediately. Instead we spent 45 minutes circling over southern England making stepped descents as numerous other aircraft from other distant nations arrived and were 'stacked' above us all waiting for their turn to land.

When we had cleared passport control and customs we took a train for London en route to Sussex where we had family excitedly waiting to see us again. A day or two relaxing and recovering from the long journey followed and once the effects of 'jet-lag' had dissipated we set off to the west for our first dog show which was being held in Devon not very far from where Vivienne's parents and greater family were domiciled.

The large 'all breeds' show was held at Paignton and we were in for a great many surprises as relative new comers in the world of international dog shows. As we drove nearer to the show grounds, the traffic became thicker and slower until we were eventually reduced to a crawl. The roads were well signposted to the show venue in Clennon Valley which looked a real picture with acres of lush manicured verdant grass. We were directed to the field for car parking and walked across to the show area; it was massive and the rings (there were 47 of them!) seemed to stretch as far as the eye could see.

Surrounding the clustered rings were huge tents and marquees which accommodated the benches for the dogs. Lined up between the benching tents and the show rings were trade stalls selling all manner of products and services. The largest stalls were occupied by major dog food manufacturers promoting their brands of biscuit, kibble, meal and most offered free samples to try. There were incentives and special deals to attract new customers in what was obviously a very competitive market.

We bought a show catalogue for 50p (about NZ\$1) and were surprised as it was really a book! It weighed 322gm (nearly 3/4lb) and contained 455 pages which recorded the show officials, judges, show

## The Schipperke Earns Another Name

regulations and listed details for every one of the 4174 dogs entered for display that day.

Judging started in most rings soon after the advertised time of 10.30am but we could not find the Schipperkes! We were in for a rude shock and such disappointment when we discovered there were no Schipperkes being exhibited. A friendly show official explained that the Kennel Club only allocated a limited number of challenge certificates to each breed annually and the quantity depended on the numbers of dogs registered for that breed. Only ten sets of challenge certificates were on offer in UK for Schipperkes that year and Paignton & District Fanciers Association was not one of the recipient shows. He explained that if we went to Windsor show the following week we would be sure to see Schipperkes being exhibited as challenge certificates had been allocated to that club.

As it was a most pleasant day and there many attractions to see we spent all morning going from ring to ring and visiting the trade stalls at the same time. There was so much 'stuff' on display - antiques, artworks, figurines, models, badges, dog leads, clothing - mostly dog oriented. The temptation was great and we probably bought more than we should but the phrase "e might never see this again" justified the buying frenzy!

Hunger drove us to purchase dressed baked potatoes from a stall at some quite ridiculous price and we sat down at a ringside to consume them. There was a breed being shown that we had never seen before but a check of the catalogue identified them as Norwegian Buhunds being judged by Mr George Down. He was meticulous in his examination of each specimen and took time to consider his decision before awarding the placements in each class. He saw me taking photographs from my ringside seat and came over to speak to me. I thought I was going to be admonished but instead he enquired about my interest in the breed. When he discovered we were from New Zealand and had never seen the breed before he invited me to duck under the ring rope to photograph the place winners of every class while he recorded his critique to be published in the dog press the next week.

By mid-afternoon many of the rings had finished judging and those exhibits all returned to the benches where they were supposed to stay until 4pm by when there was a mass exodus. We had come to see a dog show so we moved to the centre ring where the group judging was underway. We watched Mrs Gwen Broadley judge the Hound Group, then Mrs Judy de Casembroot with the Gundogs, followed by Joe Cartledge adjudicating the Terrier group. We were so impressed by the quality of the dogs in that group ring and while we waited for Harry Glover to judge Best in Show we chatted to an adjacent spectator among the now sparse crowd. He asked us what breed we had and was surprised when we told him Schipperkes.

"I know that breed well" he said, "I used to live next door to a man who bred them." He continued, "they barked at my dogs through the fence and at every door-to-door salesman and even at the rag and bone man's horse. Eventually, after I had moved away due to my work, I really missed those busy little characters. They were affectionately known by the people who frequented our street as "THE LITTLE BLACK BASTARDS at number 49".

I was quite shocked at first with the unfortunate label but then after a while I smiled to myself; the Schipperkes had earned another name, this time a strange term of endearment!

# The Schipperke Earns Another Name

## Part 3

The following week we booked in for four nights at a guest house in Windsor, so that we could attend all three days of the Windsor Dog Show. It was held on the extensive grounds of Windsor Home Park and it needed a venue of this size as we were told it was the largest outdoor show in the country. The setting was so impressive with the upper reaches of the river Thames along one boundary and the looming tower and walls of Windsor Castle in the background in the other direction.

The familiar layout of rings in the centre surrounded by trade stalls and benching tents was once more evident before us but this time there was more of everything. Even though we bought many items from the trade stalls at Paignton the previous week, now there were new opportunities to explore additional exciting displays of memorabilia. The show management was impressive and so professional; bowler hatted officials were everywhere to direct traffic to the appropriate parking areas for exhibitors and people like ourselves –there to observe and soak up the atmosphere. The first day we circumnavigated the venue and came across the “overseas Visitors” tent, where we were welcomed by most hospitable ladies who supplied tea and biscuits while we had a chance to sit and relax. We were invited to sign the visitor’ book and to see the names of other overseas folk. On each subsequent day we went back to that tent for rest and refreshment and even spotted familiar names in the book of other people from New Zealand.

Each day two groups were judged and we chose which breeds to watch. Some breed entries were so large that there was one judge for dogs and another judge for the bitches. The Utility group, which included Schipperkes, was on the third day so we were at the show early to secure ringside seats to watch our beloved breed. There was a great entry and we watched each and every one of them as they were judged and placed. It was a very impressive entry to see so many Schipperkes at one time and the quality was outstanding but at a show like Windsor all the best specimens were there to compete. When the breed judging was completed we went back to the benching area, there we talked with the exhibitors and made new acquaintances. We were reminded that the Schipperke Club would be holding their specialty championship show in two weeks and promised to meet many of our newly made friends again at that event. However before the club show I had an important side trip planned which involved a visit to France.

I had corresponded during the previous months with Monsieur Georges Arin who was the Secrétaire Général of Schipperkes-Club de France. We had agreed to meet in Angers and he told me to be at the railway station at midday of the following Thursday. I asked him how I would recognise him as at that stage I did not have his photograph. His reply was very brief –“you will recognise me!”, so I had faith in his confidence. I did not need to worry as at precisely noon a commuter train pulled into the station. I watched the people dismount and make their way to the exit. Towards the rear of the surge was an elderly silver-haired gentleman with a Schipperke on a lead. I knew immediately it was him and we smiled and shook hands. Over the next hour or so we chatted at a nearby café and we had so much to talk about (especially about tail docking) but he had an appointment at his business in Angers. He ran a laboratory which manufactured health salts and he had a customer to meet. He instructed me to proceed to his home in Beaulieu-sur-Layon where he would return later in the afternoon. “You will find the door unlocked, go in and make yourself at home” he said. This was the beginning of a wonderful friendship that lasted to the end of his life.

I followed his instructions and found his house with the door unlocked. He had lost his wife some years

## The Schipperke Earns Another Name

before and he lived on his own. I spent my time waiting for him to arrive looking at his wonderful collection of books and Schipperkes ornaments but the object that impressed me greatly was a large mural covering one wall of his living room. The background was the colours of the Belgian flag with several stylised silhouettes of Schipperkes in different poses (images I later found he had drawn and painted). Across the bottom of the mural were the words –‘E SCHIPPERKE, LE MEILLEUR CHIEN DE MAISON’ which I read as ‘THE SCHIPPERKE, THE BEST HOUSE DOG’. Many decades have passed since I met Georges Arin, but I have never forgotten that phrase which I consider so appropriate as perhaps the best name the Schipperke has earned!

**Bernard Fears** is a respected All Breed Judge who has enjoyed judging in many countries around the world

He and his wife Vivienne have bred Schipperkes in New Zealand under the EXMOOR prefix for many years.



# Kennel Kards

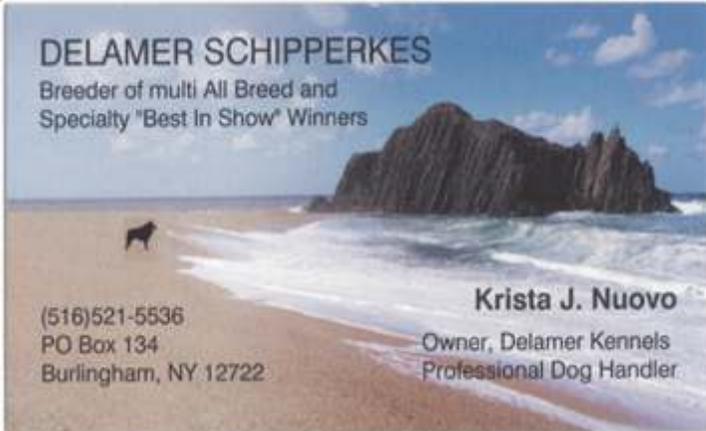
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What Naughty list?





**TIME TRAVELS FAST....  
PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN 2020!  
REMEMBER IT IS UP TO EACH MEMBER TO  
MAKE SCHIPSNIPS ALL THAT IT SHOULD BE!**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!**



# Schipperke Breed Standard (AKC)

## General Appearance

The Schipperke is an agile, active watchdog and hunter of vermin. In appearance he is a small, thickset, cobby, black, tailless dog, with a fox-like face. The dog is square in profile and possesses a distinctive coat, which includes a stand-out ruff, cape and culottes. All of these create a unique silhouette, appearing to slope from shoulders to croup. Males are decidedly masculine without coarseness. Bitches are decidedly feminine without over refinement. Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. Faults common to all breeds are as undesirable in the Schipperke as in any other breed, even though such faults may not be specifically mentioned in the standard.

## Size, Proportion, Substance

**Size**—The suggested height at the highest point of the withers is 11-13 inches for males and 10-12 inches for bitches. Quality should always take precedence over size. **Proportion**—Square in profile. **Substance**—Thickset.

## Head

**Expression**—The expression is questioning, mischievous, impudent and alert, but never mean or wild. The well proportioned head, accompanied by the correct eyes and ears, will give the dog proper Schipperke expression.

**Skull**—The skull is of medium width, narrowing toward the muzzle. Seen in profile with the ears laid back, the skull is slightly rounded. The upper jaw is moderately filled in under the eyes, so that, when viewed from above, the head forms a wedge tapering smoothly from the back of the skull to the tip of the nose. The stop is definite but not prominent. The length of the muzzle is slightly less than the length of the skull.

**Eyes**—The ideal eyes are small, oval rather than round, dark brown, and placed forward on the head.

**Ears**—The ears are small, triangular, placed high on the head, and, when at attention, very erect. A drop ear or ears is a disqualification.

**Nose**—The nose is small and black.

**Bite**—The bite must be scissors or level. Any deviation is to be severely penalized.

## Neck, Topline, Body

**Neck**—The neck is of moderate length, slightly arched and in balance with the rest of the dog to give the correct silhouette. **Topline**—The topline is level or sloping slightly from the withers to the croup. The stand-out ruff adds to the slope, making the dog seem slightly higher at the shoulders than at the rump. **Body**—The chest is broad and deep, and reaches to the elbows. The well sprung ribs (modified oval) are wide behind the shoulders and taper to the sternum. The forechest extends in front of the shoulders between the front legs. The loin is short, muscular and moderately drawn up. The croup is broad and well-rounded with the tail docked. No tail is visually discernible.

## Forequarters

The shoulders are well laid back, with the legs extending straight down from the body when viewed from the front. From the side, legs are placed well under the body. Pasterns are short, thick and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Dewclaws are generally removed. Feet are small, round and tight. Nails are short, strong and black.

## Hindquarters

The hindquarters appear slightly lighter than the forequarters, but are well muscled, and in balance with the front. The hocks are well let down and the stifles are well bent. Extreme angulation is to be penalized. From the rear, the legs extend straight down from the hip through the hock to the feet. Dewclaws must be removed.

## Coat

**Pattern**—The adult coat is highly characteristic and must include several distinct lengths growing naturally in a specific pattern. The coat is short on the face, ears, front of the forelegs and on the hocks; it is medium length on the body, and longer in the ruff, cape, jabot and culottes. The ruff begins in back of the ears and extends completely around the neck; the cape forms an additional distinct layer extending beyond the ruff; the jabot extends across the chest and down between the front legs. The hair down the middle of the back, starting just behind the cape and continuing over the rump, lies flat. It is slightly shorter than the cape but longer than the hair on the sides of the body and sides of the legs. The coat on the rear of the thighs forms culottes, which should be as long as the ruff. Lack of differentiation in coat lengths should be heavily penalized, as it is an essential breed characteristic.

# Schipperke Breed Standard (AKC) (con't)

**Texture**—The coat is abundant, straight and slightly harsh to the touch. The softer undercoat is dense and short on the body and is very dense around the neck, making the ruff stand out. Silky coats, body coats over three inches in length or very short harsh coats are equally incorrect.

**Trimming**—As the Schipperke is a natural breed, only trimming of the whiskers and the hair between the pads of the feet is optional. Any other trimming must not be done.

## **Color**

The outer coat must be black. Any color other than a natural black is a disqualification. The undercoat, however, may be slightly lighter. During the shedding period, the coat might take on a transitory reddish cast, which is to be penalized to the degree that it detracts from the overall black appearance of the dog. Graying due to age (seven years or older) or occasional white hairs should not be penalized.

## **Gait**

Proper Schipperke movement is a smooth, well coordinated and graceful trot (basically double tracking at a moderate speed), with a tendency to gradually converge toward the center of balance beneath the dog as speed increases. Front and rear must be in perfect balance with good reach in front and drive in the rear. The topline remains level or slightly sloping downward from the shoulders to the rump. Viewed from the front, the elbows remain close to the body. The legs form a straight line from the shoulders through the elbows to the toes, with the feet pointing straight ahead. From the rear, the legs form a straight line from the hip through the hocks to the pads, with the feet pointing straight ahead.

## **Temperament**

The Schipperke is curious, interested in everything around him, and is an excellent and faithful little watchdog. He is reserved with strangers and ready to protect his family and property if necessary. He displays a confident and independent personality, reflecting the breed's original purpose as watchdog and hunter of vermin.

## **Disqualifications**

A drop ear or ears.

Any color other than a natural black.

*Approved November 13, 1990*

*Effective January 1, 1991*

Have a very  
**Happy 2020**

