It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Karl Edinger on Dec. 18th. Karl was an active and passionate Penn-Dutchie, serving on the Board since 2002.

For several years Karl has organized the Penn-Dutch booth at the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club’s Canine Learning Experience, held each year at the end of January. It is typical of Karl that, on behalf of Penn-Dutch, he was the first person to reserve a booth for the 2007 event!

Karl loved his Pyrs and participated in canine therapy work and agility workshops, in addition to showing in conformation. He attended virtually every Penn-Dutch event since joining in 1994.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family, who have requested memorial contributions be made to our sister organization, East Penn Pyr Rescue, Inc. c/o Greta Osterman, 2056 Quarry Rd., Quakertown, PA 18951.

Canine Learning Experience
by David Kintsfather

Mark your calendars. Saturday, January 27th, from 9 to 4 in the Ag Hall at the Allentown Fairgrounds, Penn-Dutch will once again present our Pyrs to the dog-loving world.

Come and help staff our booth, learn more about our canine friends, shop, have fun, and meet lots and lots of doggy people and peoply dogs. Note that there is a modest $6 admission fee for humans over 12.

By all means bring your Pyrs! We will have limited space, so please leave chairs, crates, coolers, etc. in your car, but the more white, fuzzy ambassadors we have, the better.

Fred Unger has jumped in at short notice to replace Karl Edinger as event organizer, which is most appreciated! Please contact him at fshairydog@aol.com or at 610-767-7457 for more information, or to offer your help.

We miss you, Karl!
Board of Directors:

President (2006, 2008)- Barbara Bowes, greatpyr@enter.net. 570-386-3017
Vice President (2001, 2007)- Annette Manwiller, pyrjam@zdial.com. 610-987-3896
Secretary (2003, 2007)- Roz Wenrich, reedialer1@aol.com. 610-670-0716
Treasurer (2006, 2008)- Charlotte Powell, pyrmagic@comcast.net. 215-464-2309
Director (2006, 2008)- Fred Unger, fshairydog@aol.com. 610-767-7457
Director (2006, 2007)- John Wenrich, reedialer1@aol.com. 610-670-0716

Committee Chairs:

Educational Events Committee- vacant
Fun Events Committee- vacant
Fund Raising & Auctions Committee- Fred Unger, fshairydog@aol.com. 610-767-7457
Match & Show Committee- Dianne Migas, bluepyrs@comcast.net. 732-477-8097
Nominating & Audit Committee- Dianne Migas, bluepyrs@comcast.net. 732-477-8097
Regional Specialty Committee- Jay Manwiller, pyrjam@zdial.com. 610-987-3896

Contact Persons:

GPCA Regional Representative- Dave Simon, msimon@ptd.net. 717-545-4477
Membership Database Manager- David Kintsfather, kintsfat@kutztown.edu. 610-682-2419
Newsletter Editorial Staff- David Kintsfather, kintsfat@kutztown.edu. 610-682-2419
Nancy Kintsfather, nancy@pyrbred.org. 610-682-2419

Penn-Dutch Needs You

Nominations Wanted

The positions of Vice President, Secretary and two Directors must be voted on at the Annual Meeting in March. Self-nominations are welcome from Full Members in good standing. If nominating someone other than yourself, make sure the nominee agrees to run.

All nominees must either attend the Annual Meeting in person, or send a written statement of willingness to run for a specific position. The Nomination Committee consists of Dianne Migas, Nancy Coombs and Carol Ward. Nominations should be sent to Dianne Migas, Committee Chair, at bluepyrs@comcast.net or by mail at 268 Cheryl Ln., Brick, NJ 08723.

Committee Chairs Needed

The Fun Events Committee and the Educational Events Committee are currently lacking Chairs. Anyone with a phone and some organizational ability can qualify for these positions, so consider your interests and how you might best help Penn-Dutch.

This is YOUR Club and we need you to help it function. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Barbara Bowes at greatpyr@enter.net or 570-386-3017.

Abigail Kintsfather (R) shows off Christmas corsage presented by her New Jersey beau, Benny Migas (L).

Penn-Dutchies, fuzzy and not so fuzzy, enjoy the Holiday Party in the Lodge at Lancaster Central Park.
Chat With the Dog

by Sheila Moss

Before I begin, I would like to say that you are, for the most part, a good pet. However, there are a few matters that need to be discussed regarding the holiday this year. I hope you will pay attention so that we will not have any similar disasters next year.

First, I would like to call your attention to the little farce involving the Christmas tree. Because we have a tree indoors does not mean that you can treat it as though it is outdoors. In other words, from now on find a fireplug. Enough said.

While we are on the topic, I would also like to warn you about chasing the cat in the living room. Cats are accustomed to climbing trees to escape from dogs, and the mess made when the Christmas tree tipped over will not soon be forgotten. I cannot emphasize enough how lucky we all are that it fell away from the fireplace instead of towards it.

Then there is the matter of the lights. Whether you enjoy flashing lights or not, humans consider them a part of the celebration of Christmas. Chewing the extension cord to the tree in half was not one of your smarter endeavors. I’m sure you are aware of this, however, since the shock knocked you halfway across the room and nearly turned you into a Roman candle.

Ornaments are intended to be admired, not eaten. I’m only thankful that we caught you before you swallowed it. Otherwise you would have spent the holiday in the veterinary hospital getting glass removed from your stomach. Christmas ornaments are people toys, not dog toys.

The chocolate chip cookies and the milk that we left out were for Santa and the reindeer, not a snack for you. Chocolate is not good for dogs. Please keep this in mind and maybe next year you will not vomit on the carpet.

Gifts are to be unwrapped by the person whose name is on the tag. They are not intended to be chewed open on Christmas Eve, regardless of how excited you are. And quit pointing at the cat. I have already spoken to the cat about the ribbons, and she denies any further involvement.

I know you were trying to protect our home, but Santa is not a burglar. Burglars wear masks and come to take things, not to bring gifts. I believe we can also infer that they seldom dress in red velvet suits. Please make a note of this for future reference. If there is ever any more confusion, bark and wake us up instead of biting Santa’s leg.

You are very lucky that there were no injuries when you chased the reindeer. Have you not learned anything at all in obedience school? It may be your instinct to chase other animals, but please, not Santa’s reindeer. You frightened them so badly that Prancer nearly fell off the roof.

And while we are on the subject of chasing, this rule also applies to the postman and the delivery people bringing packages. I don’t know why, but I have a feeling that a burglar could rob us blind and you would follow him around wagging your tail, but let a delivery person come around and you turn into a fire-breathing guard dog.

Finally, do not beg for food while we are eating Christmas dinner. You have a full dish of dog food. If you can remember not to jump on people and breathe dog breath on them while they are eating, you will not have to spend Christmas day outside in the doghouse next year.

I’m really glad we had this little chat. I have my doubts that you intend to change, though, since your snoring was so loud you sounded like a canine sawmill. I suppose it is hopeless.

Somehow I have a feeling that what humans consider “naughty,” dogs consider “nice.”

(copyright, 2006)
Membership List Additions & Updates

Key to abbreviations:  A=Associate Member,  F=Full Member,  H=Honorary Member,  J=Junior Associate Member.
G=GPCA Member.  B=Breeder.  (After Pyr’s call name:  D=Dog and B=Bitch)

POLICHETTI, Jeanne-Anne  (F)  821 Horsham Rd., Horsham, PA 19044  215-672-5928
E-Mail:  jaypollyhome@yahoo.com
Pyrs:  Blitz-D

Please welcome our new member whose name appears in red.

Upcoming Events

*Jan. 27, 2007– Penn-Dutch booth at the Lehigh Valley Kennel Club’s Canine Learning Experience, 9 am-4 pm in the Ag Hall, Allentown (PA) Fairgrounds. FMI contact Fred Unger at fshairydog@aol.com or 610-767-7457.

*March 16-18, 2007– EPPR booth at Pet Expo, Reading (PA) Expo Center. FMI contact Dorene Choffel at dmchoff@ptd.net or 570-648-1863.

*March 24, 2007– Penn-Dutch GPC Annual Meeting at the home of Bill and Marci Port, 31 Vernasa Dr., Langhorne, PA. Snow Date: March 31st. FMI contact Barb Bowes at greatpyr@enter.net or 570-386-3017.

*April 4-7, 2007– GPCA National Specialty, Phoenix, AZ. FMI visit www.2007gpcanational.org or e-mail Info@2007gpcanational.org.

*Red denotes Penn-Dutch events.
*Blue denotes other Pyr-related events.

It’s That Time Again

The Grand Canyon State Great Pyrenees Club will be hosting the 2007 GPCA National Specialty in beautiful Phoenix, Arizona. We are looking forward to your participation and have many fun events planned. Because of the LARGE INCREASE in costs we are asking for your help in several areas. If you can help us even in a small way, with everyone donating, we will be able to provide an experience for all to enjoy.

We NEED you to dig down and donate to our trophy fund. We are offering unique, once-in-a-lifetime type trophies that are beautiful and will add to your Great Pyrenees collections. Please send any amount to Laura Gusky at 31020 N. Rancho Tierra Dr., Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

Auction donations will also be accepted. If you have any extra Great Pyrenees items, we would love to have them for our auction. Remember it is YOU, the members and friends of the GPCA, that make this event special. Sue Schafer will be more than happy to accept your items (see address below).

Club or local Baskets full of goodies from your area are needed. Let us show off your area and Club by donating that special basket! Contact Sue Schafer at 11370 N. 194th Place, Scottsdale, AZ 85331.

Our club would also like to make a special recipe cook book. If you have any favorite recipes e-mail them to Sue at susans259@aol.com or send to the address above.

We are working hard to make this a very special time. We appreciate all your contributions and help! Check our website for information on the show at:

See you in Arizona!
Show Committee,
Grand Canyon State Great Pyrenees Club, Inc.

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April 4-7, 2007, Phoenix, AZ
Visit our website for complete information:
www.2007gpcanational.org

Pre-Ordering National Logo Tees and Sweatshirts
Save mailing costs! Pre-order your National Logo Tee Shirts and Sweatshirts to be picked up at the show.
Tees are $15, and Sweatshirts are $25. Send order and check to:
Laura Gusky • 31020 N. Rancho Tierra Drive • Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Make checks payable to: 2007 GCSGPC National Specialty, Trophy Donation

2007 National Specialty Schedule of Events - Tentative

Tuesday, April 3rd
Noon to 7:00 p.m. Hospitality Room Opens - Pick Up Hospitality Packet
7:00 p.m. Welcome to Arizona!

Wednesday, April 4th
8:00 a.m. Draft Dog Testing
10:30 a.m. Obedience followed by Rally
1:00 p.m. Futurity (Judge: Kim Lasley)
Veteran Sweepstakes (Judge: Karen Justin)
5:00 p.m. Rescue Meeting
7:00 p.m. Great Pyrenees Livestock Guardian Slide Show and Presentation (Catherine De La Cruz)

Thursday, April 5th
9:00 a.m. Puppy Sweepstakes (Judge: Karen Justin)
11:30 a.m. Regular Dog Classes followed by Veteran Dog (Judge: Nancy Coombs)
4:00 p.m. Health Committee Meeting
5:00 p.m. Regional Representative Meeting
7:00 p.m. HOF video presentation

Friday, April 6th
9:00 a.m. Regular Bitch Classes followed by Veteran Bitch (Judge: Nancy Coombs)
One hour after completion of Veteran Classes - GPCA Annual Meeting
4:00 p.m. Breeders Forum (Ruth Marcy)
7:00 p.m. 2008 HOGPC Kick off Party

Saturday, April 7th
8:00 a.m. Judges Study Group
9:00 a.m. Jr. Showmanship (Judge: Nancy Coombs)
10:00 a.m. Best of Breed followed by all non-regular classes (Judge: Nancy Coombs)
3:00 p.m. CGC and TDI Testing (Evaluator: Charlotte Bascom)
5:00 p.m. Cash Bar
6:00 p.m. Awards Banquet and Auction

MaryAnn Kenniger, Show Chairman • 4120 E. Pinnacle Vista • Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Phone: 480-585-7073, E-mail: sunbrstgp@aol.com
For those interested in vacationing in Arizona go to: www.arizonaguide.com or www.visitphoenix.com

Come Join Us for a Flavor of the West in the Valley of the Sun!
72nd Annual GPCA National Specialty
April 4-7, 2007, Phoenix, AZ
Visit our website for complete information:
www.2007gpcanational.org

Hotel Information • Embassy Suites - North
Online reservations: www.embassysuites.com
• Special Accounts: Enter the Group/Convention Code: PYR
OR
Call to make a reservation:
Individual reservations can be made by:
• Calling the Hotel directly at: 602-375-1777, or 800-527-7715
• Calling National Embassy Reservations 1-800-EMBASSY
In order to obtain the discounted rate, mention GPCA National Specialty or the code: PYR.
Reservations must be made at least 30 days prior to check-in to obtain the discounted rate.
There is a $25.00 Non-refundable Deposit for dogs in rooms. There is no set limit on the number of dogs in each room, however, they must be able to be crated for cleaning service.

Transportation
SuperShuttle can transport guests traveling without dogs to the hotel. A discount coupon is available online at: www.supershuttle.com/Coupons/THX/GCSGPC.pdf. Reservations are not required, unless you need a wheel chair van. For a wheel chair van please call 1-800-258-3826 at least 24 hours in advance. To book online: www.supershuttle.com - ONLINE CODE: 9ADZS. 24 hour advance reservations are required for return from the hotel to the airport. Call 602-244-9000.
Enterprise Rent-a-Car at Sky Harbor has Cargo Vans available for rent for guests traveling with dogs.
Cargo Vans have 2 seats in front, are all open in back, and can accommodate cratered dogs.
Rates are approximately $70/day plus tax.
If you have any problems with transportation please Call: Gregg Kenniger at 480-585-7073.

Trophies
GCSGPC would like to offer beautiful unique crystals. Because of the ever increasing costs of hosting a National, we NEED your help with trophy donations. If each of you could donate just $5.00, and you all contributed, we could achieve our goal. Please send donations to:
Laura Gusky • 31020 N. Rancho Tierra Drive • Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Make checks payable to: 2007 GCSGPC National Specialty, Trophy Donation

Auction Donations
Please consider donating a special item for our silent and live auctions. You can either bring it with you or mail it, but either way, please contact Sue Schafer so she has an idea of what items we will be offering for our auctions:
Sue Schafer • 11370 N. 194th Place • Scottsdale, AZ 85259
Phone: 480-451-5999; E-Mail: susans259@aol.com

Catalog Advertising
All catalog ads must be received no later than March 2, 2007. They may be e-mailed or snail-mailed to:
Lisa Puskas • P.O. Box 55145 • Phoenix, AZ 85078; or E-mail: pusksamail@cox.net
Rates are $45 for full page, $25 for half page and $15 for quarter page.
Holiday Party Fun

[Images of holiday party with dogs, gifts, and decorations]