

# GREATER SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF AMERICA 2020 ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM



**Celebrating accomplishments earned  
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019**

# CONFORMATION RANKINGS

## ■ Top Ten Breed

1. GCHP Trout Creek's Written Onna Star 'Nash', Dog, A Allen & B Huett, 401
2. GCHG K2's Swiss Run Surfin' USA 'Wilson', Dog, K Plowucha & V McGraw, 336
3. GCHB Sennenhund Estate Conan 'Conan', Dog, W Sienkewicz & C Sienkewicz, 290
4. GCHG Grosser Family Altair 'Clyde', Dog, K & A Kimmeth and D & B Cavanaugh, 280
5. GCHG Snowy Mountains Norman Invasion At Redrock 'Norman', Dog, J Logan & S Borst, 257
6. GCHG Calypso Flash Ranger's Conundrum 'Ranger', Dog, L Ciccone and B & T Brown, 220
7. GCHB Captain Morgan Ryder Of Happy Ranch 'Ryder', Dog, J Hounsell, J Starr & M Stack, 175
8. GCHS Remington's Pride Bad Moon Rising 'Theo', Dog, J Gauthier & S Streit, 171
9. GCHS Suma-Shadetree Feet To The Fire 'Charlie', Dog, M Usery & C Cooper, 170
10. GCHS Suma's Starting the Fire 'Buddy', Dog, S Baffa & M Usery, 158

# NASH



GCHP TROUT  
CREEK'S WRITTEN  
ONNA STAR

#1

# WILSON



GCHG K2'S SWISS  
RUN SURFIN' USA  
FDC

#2



# CONAN



GCHB  
SENNENHUND  
ESTATE CONAN

#3

# CLYDE



GCHG GROSSER  
FAMILY ALTAIR  
RN CGCA TKN

#4

# NORMAN



GCHG SNOWY  
MOUNTAINS  
NORMAN  
INVASION AT  
REDROCK RN

\*photo removed at request of owner

#5



# RANGER



GCHG CALYPSO  
FLASH RANGER'S  
CONUNDRUM  
RN CGC

#6



# RYDER



GCHB CAPTAIN  
MORGAN RYDER  
OF HAPPY  
RANCH

#7

# THEO



GCHS  
REMINGTON'S  
PRIDE BAD  
MOON RISING  
FDC CGCA TKN

#8

# CHARLIE



GCHS SUMA-  
SHADETREE FEET  
TO THE FIRE

#9



# BUDDY



GCHS SUMA'S  
STARTING THE FIRE  
FDC CGC TKN

#10



# CONFORMATION RANKINGS

## ■ Top Ten All-Breed

1. GCHG Calypso Flash Ranger's Conundrum 'Ranger', Dog, L Ciccone & B Brown & T Brown, 1954
2. GCHP Trout Creek's Written Onna Star 'Nash', Dog, A Allen & B Huett, 1538
3. GCHG Snowy Mountains Norman Invasion At Redrock 'Norman', Dog, J Logan & S Borst, 1183
4. GCHG Grosser Family Altair 'Clyde', Dog, K & A Kimmeth and D & B Cavanaugh, 740
5. GCHS Aegis Captain Chunk 'Knox', Dog, R Kitts & K Krumpe, 583
6. GCHS Suma-Shadetree Feet To The Fire 'Charlie', Dog, M Usery & C Cooper, 572
7. GCHG K2's Swiss Run Surfin' USA 'Wilson', Dog, K Plowucha & V McGraw, 514
8. GCH Swiss Run's At The End Of The Line With Palisades 'Sam', Dog, L Kenney & D Never & J Kenney & R Bongiardino, 459
9. GCHG Swiss Run Derby's Dauntless Star 'Beatrice', Bitch, D Never & S Copeland & B Never, 339
10. GCHG Double Q's Spot On At Derby! 'Fido', Dog, A Mcfadden & D Echols, 321

GCHG CALYPSO  
FLASH RANGER'S  
CONUNDRUM  
RN CGC



#1

RANGER



#2

# GCHP TROUT CREEK'S WRITTEN ONNA STAR



# NASH

GCHG SNOWY  
MOUNTAINS  
NORMAN  
INVASION AT  
REDROCK RN



#3

\*photo removed at request of owner

NORMAN



GCHG GROSSER  
FAMILY ALTAIR  
RN CGCA TKN



#4

CLYDE

# GCHS AEGIS CAPTAIN CHUNK

#5



# KNOX



# GCHS SUMA- SHADETREE FEET TO THE FIRE

#6



# CHARLIE

GCHG K2'S SWISS  
RUN SURFIN' USA  
FDC



#7

WILSON



# GCH SWISS RUN'S AT THE END OF THE LINE WITH PALISADES



#8

SAM

#9

GCHG SWISS RUN  
DERBY'S  
DAUNTLESS STAR  
CD RN FDC CGCA



BEATRICE



GCHG DOUBLE Q'S  
SPOT ON AT  
DERBY!



#10

FIDO



# CONFORMATION RANKINGS

## ■ Top Ten Owner Handled

1. Mary Beth Usery & Christy Hale, GCHB Liberty Run's Follow Me To 270 With Suma, 1035
2. Lori Price, GCHB Jotunheim Phat Panda, 595
3. Phillip & Sarah Jensen and John & Tina Bailey, GCH Wildest Dream King Of The Blues, 350
4. Melissa and Brett Jarriel, GCH Fireside's Drums Of Autumn, 260
5. Eric Showalter & Deborah White, GCHB Landhof's Carona Of Brush Creek, 165
6. Holly B Webb & Terrie Strom, GCH CedarCoves Geordi Rodeo Next Generation, 155
7. Jill Hounsell, Jenna Starr & Makena Stack, GCHB Captain Morgan Ryder Of Happy Ranch, 135
8. Christine Knorr & Barbara Martinez, CH Shamrock Practice What You Preach, 130
8. Marc Sabo, Jenna Starr & Charles Anthony Collins, CH Dahlgren's Magnificent Seven, 130
10. Robert Fralick, CH Wildest Oak I'm Your Huckleberry, 115

*Rankings are determined by the AKC NOHS points for October 11, 2018 through October 9, 2019.*

# TALLY JO & CHRISTY



GCHB LIBERTY  
RUN'S FOLLOW ME  
TO 270 WITH SUMA  
FDC BCAT TKN

#1

# PHATTI & LORI



GCHB JOTUNHEIM  
PHAT PANDA  
FDC CGCA

#2



# RILEY & SARAH



GCH WILDEST  
DREAM KING OF  
THE BLUES

#3

# RUMBLE & MELISSA



GCH FIRESIDE'S  
DRUMS OF  
AUTUMN BN

#4



# JESSIE & ERIC



GCHB LANDHOF'S  
CARONA OF  
BRUSH CREEK

#5



# GEORDI & HOLLY



GCH CEDARCOVES  
GEORDI RODEO  
NEXT GENERATION

#6

# RYDER & JENNA



GCHB CAPTAIN  
MORGAN RYDER  
OF HAPPY RANCH

#7



# BULLEIT & BARBARA



CH SHAMROCK  
PRACTICE WHAT  
YOU PREACH  
RI HSADC TKA

#8



# DJ & MARC



CH DAHLGREN'S  
MAGNIFICENT  
SEVEN

#8

# DOC & BOB



GCH WILDEST  
OAK I'M YOUR  
HUCKLEBERRY  
CGC

#10



# CONFORMATION RANKINGS

## ■ Owner-Handled New Grand Champions

*\* indicates first time award to the handler*

- Cindy Flack, CedarCove's Powder Keg at Columbine
- Kimberly Gradin\*, Liberty Run's Cayenne Pepper She's Hot!
- Tiffany Patten\*, Pine Grove's the Man You Need
- Lisa Simonsen, Painted Mtn's Golden Snitch
- Holly Webb, Rodeo's Catch Me Kiss Me Snowy Mtn
- Holly Webb, Cedar Cove's Geordi Rodeo Next Generation

## ■ Owner-Handled New Champions

*\*indicates first time award to the handler*

- Tina Bailey, Wildest Dream And They Called It Puppy Luv
- Jessie Bell, Bekovile's Kick Off Your Sunday Shoes
- Nikki Croce\*, Cedar Cove's Frosty Mug

- Lisa England, Silver Oak's One Tin Soldier
- Kimberly Gradin\*, Liberty Run's Cayenne Pepper She's Hot!
- Barbara Martinez & Christine Knorr, Shamrock Practice What You Preach
- Nichole Proctor\*, Snowy Mtn-Redrock's One Heart for Hidden Hill
- Mark Sabo\*, Dalgren's Magnificent Seven
- Eric Showalter, Show Mountain Ace High
- Lisa Simonsen, Painted Mtn's Freedom to Love
- Jaime Taylor, Ridgebridge Rosella Crimson



# POWDER



CEDARCOVE'S  
POWDER KEG AT  
COLUMBINE

# OHGCH

# CAYENNE



LIBERTY RUN'S  
CAYENNE PEPPER  
SHE'S HOT!

# OHGCH



# COLLINS



PINE GROVE'S THE  
MAN YOU NEED

# OHGCH

# SNITCH



PAINTED MTN'S  
GOLDEN SNITCH

# OHGCH



# ALTA



RODEO'S CATCH  
ME KISS ME  
SNOWY MTN

# OHGCH



# GEORDI



CEDAR COVE'S  
GEORDI RODEO  
NEXT GENERATION

# OHGCH

# LUVEE



WILDEST DREAM  
AND THEY CALLED  
IT PUPPY LUV

# OHCH



VI



BEKOVILE'S KICK  
OFF YOUR SUNDAY  
SHOES

OHCH



# ROOTY



CEDAR COVE'S  
FROSTY MUG

# OHCH

# CHUNK



## SILVER OAK'S ONE TIN SOLDIER

# OHCH

# CAYENNE



LIBERTY RUN'S  
CAYENNE PEPPER  
SHE'S HOT!

# OHCH



# BULLEIT



SHAMROCK  
PRACTICE WHAT  
YOU PREACH

# OHCH

# CORA



SNOWY MTN-  
REDROCK'S ONE  
HEART FOR  
HIDDEN HILL

# OHCH



DJ



DALGREN'S  
MAGNIFICENT  
SEVEN

OHCH



ACE



SHOW MOUNTAIN  
ACE HIGH

OHCH

# ROMEO



PAINTED MTN'S  
FREEDOM TO LOVE

# OHCH



# ELEANOR



RIDGEBRIDGE  
ROSELLA CRIMSON

# OHCH

# OBEDIENCE TOP 5

## ■ Utility A

1. Cherished It's Not Easy Being Green Of Twinpine 'Elphie' Steve and Dori Likevich, 180.0

## ■ Open A

1. Cherished Deb's Last Revelation 'Revel' Debbie Fields and Kimberly Woollard, 193.67
2. Trout Creek Ava's Finding The Clues 'Ava' Kristine & Wulf Carson, 188.50
3. Johmanda's It's About Time 'Abby' Kim Floyd, 180.83

## ■ Novice A

1. Shadetree's Ursa Minor 'Ursa' Sarah Winkelvoss, 188.50
2. Suma-Shadetree Bright And Beautiful 'AnnaBell' James Stein II & Linda Stein, 180.33

## ■ Novice B

1. Double Q's Come Fly With Me 'Scopey' Jan Collins, 193.33
2. Suma's Playboy's Martini 'Marty' Sandy Madden, 190.17
3. Cedarcoves Keeping Kind, Amanda Hoyer, 187.33
4. Trout Creek Ava's Finding The Clues 'Ava' Kristine & Wulf Carson, 186.17
5. Cherished Nobody Doesn't Like 'Sara Lee' Jan Collins, 184.5



CHERISHED IT'S  
NOT EASY  
BEING GREEN  
OF TWINPINE



#1

UTILITY A - ELPHIE

# CHERISHED DEB'S LAST REVELATION



#1

## OPEN A - REVEL



TROUT CREEK  
AVA'S FINDING  
THE CLUES



#2

OPEN A - AVA



JOHMANA'S  
IT'S ABOUT TIME



#3

OPEN A - ABBY

SHADETREE'S  
URSA MINOR



#1

NOVICE A - URSA

SUMA-SHADETREE  
BRIGHT AND  
BEAUTIFUL



#2

NOVICE A - ANNABELL



DOUBLE Q'S  
COME FLY  
WITH ME



#1

NOVICE B - SCOPEY

SUMA'S  
PLAYBOY'S  
MARTINI



#2

NOVICE B - MARTY

CEDARCOVES  
KEEPING KIND



#3

NOVICE B - KARMA



TROUT CREEK  
AVA'S FINDING  
THE CLUES



#4

NOVICE B - AVA

CHERISHED  
NOBODY  
DOESN'T LIKE



#5

NOVICE B – SARA LEE

# TOP PRODUCER AWARDS

## ■ Top Producing Sire of Champions (# Champions)

- Captain Morgan Ryder Of Happy Ranch 'Ryder', 7

## ■ Top Producing Dam of Champions (# Champions)

- Aegis Home Grown 'Doobie', 6
- Simply Swissies Bell Of The Ball 'Bella', 6

## ■ Top Producing Sire of Working Titles (# Titles)

- Dahlgren's United We Stand 'Cuba', 33

## ■ Top Producing Dam of Working Titles (# Titles)

- S'Rendi's Nothing Else Matters At Dahlgren 'Xena', 33

## ■ Top Producing Breeder of Titles (# Titles)

- S'Rendi, Suzanne Sparrow, 61

(44 weight pull, 14 CGC, 1 conformation, 2 trick earned by 17 different dogs)



# TOP PRODUCING SIRE OF CHAMPIONS



CAPTAIN  
MORGAN RYDER  
OF HAPPY  
RANCH

**RYDER**

# TOP PRODUCING DAM OF CHAMPIONS



AEGIS HOME  
GROWN

DOOBIE

# TOP PRODUCING DAM OF CHAMPIONS



SIMPLY SWISSIES  
BELL OF THE BALL

BELLA



# TOP PRODUCING SIRE OF WORKING TITLES



DAHLGREN'S  
UNITED WE  
STAND

CUBA

# TOP PRODUCING DAM OF WORKING TITLES



S'RENDI'S  
NOTHING ELSE  
MATTERS AT  
DAHLGREN

XENA



# TOP PRODUCING BREEDER OF TITLES



SUZANNE  
SPARROW

S'RENDI



# VERSATILITY GREATER SWISS

## ■ Versatility Greater Swiss Excellent (VGSX)

- Johmanda's It's About Time 'Abby ' Kim Floyd 10/25/19 (CDX,DD,OAP)

## ■ Versatility Greater Swiss (VGS)

- Rodeo's All About Murdoch A Soldier Of Fortune 'Murdoch' Andrea Hansen 05/12/19 (CD, CH, NDD, WPD, WWD)
- Quartz Mountain Easter Award Winning 'Emmie' Kelly A Stover 07/20/19 (CD, CH, DD, NWPD)
- Double Q's Come Fly With Me 'Scopey' Jan Collins 07/27/19 (CD, CH, DD, MACH2)
- Shamrock Guardian Angel 'Matteo' Karen Pyle 09/16/19 (CD, CH, WPD, NDD)
- Cherished Nobody Doesn't Like 'Sara Lee' Jan Collins 09/17/19 (CD, GCH, WWDS, PACH)
- Cherished Baby It's Cold Outside 'Shiver' Kimberly Woollard 10/27/19 (CD, GCH, WWD, NDD)
- Swiss Run Derby's Dauntless Star 'Beatrice' Deanna Never 12/13/19 (CD, GCHG, NWPD, NDD)

# JOHMANDA'S IT'S ABOUT TIME



**ABBY** CDX,DD,OAP

RODEO'S ALL  
ABOUT  
MURDOCH A  
SOLDIER OF  
FORTUNE



**MURDOCH** CD, CH, NDD, WPD, WWD



QUARTZ  
MOUNTAIN  
EASTER AWARD  
WINNING



**EMMIE** CD, CH, DD, NWPD

DOUBLE Q'S COME  
FLY WITH ME



SCOPEY CD, CH, DD, MACH2



# SHAMROCK GUARDIAN ANGEL



**MATTEO** CD, CH, WPD, NDD



CHERISHED  
NOBODY  
DOESN'T LIKE



**SARA LEE** CD, GCH, WWDS, PACH

CHERISHED  
BABY IT'S COLD  
OUTSIDE



**SHIVER** CD, GCH, WWD, NDD



# SWISS RUN DERBY'S DAUNTLESS STAR



**BEATRICE** CD, GCHG, NWPD, NDD



# LEGION OF MERIT

- Swiss Run's Cold Beer And A Fishing Pole 'Berkley' Deanna Never & Ben Never 12/15/19

(Ryder, Merlin)

## REGISTER OF MERIT DAM (ROM-B)

- Calypso V Cornerstone Jewel Of Sunshine Peak 'Jada' Ann Rita Rimler & Jenny Lind 02/15/19

(Kharma, Blitz, Gracie, Creedence, Maya)

- Aegis Home Grown 'Doobie' Lori Price & Kristin Krumpe 04/12/19

(Phatti, Nana, Siggi, Chiba, Genny)

- Derbytoo Take Me Out To The Ballgame 'Brett' Carla Fleming & Jennifer Mangiapelo & Lori Morrison 05/18/19

- Swiss Run's I Feel The Need, The Need For Speed 'Ryder' Deanna and Ben Never 06/08/19

(Tink, Wilson, Leyte, Tessa, Hollywood)

- Double Q's Derby Hits The Spot! 'FiFi' Alan Mcfadden & Debra Echols 07/26/19

(Nico, Drake, Thabo, Ringo, Laila)

- Palisades Angle On Frannie 'Fannie' Lynne F Kenney & Josephine Kenney 08/31/19  
(Sam, Tootie, Kette, Sunshine, Maui)
- Snowy Mountain's Fabulous Felicity 'Cici' Norman and Dalena Christensen & Lynda Rocamora  
08/31/19 (Judge, Padme, Merlin, Liberty, Titan, Layla)
- Simply Swissies Bell Of The Ball 'Bella' Dana Hounsell 10/19/19  
(Max, BB, Zeus, Leo, Riley)
- Seneca's Life's A Beach 'Salty' Janelle Kaiser 12/07/19  
(Dove, Teddy, Vida, Hunny, Roger)

## SIRE (ROM-D)

- Derby's All American 'Tebow' Mike Rusk & Amber Rusk and Chrissy & Brad Selleck 08/17/19  
(Hank, Bo, Elvira, Fez, Monster, Kane, Greta, Pebbles, Connor, Khaleesi)
- Breezy Ridge Razzmatazz 'Tazz' Holly Witzgall 12/04/19  
(Jona, Phatti, Chiba, Siggi, Genny, Cheech, Spirit, Frasco, Pluck)
- Swiss Run's I'll Be Your Wingman Anytime 'Merlin' Lee Smith & Deanna Never & Jenny Smith  
12/15/19 (Magic, Sam, Tootie, Medley, Nelson, Cap, Bozley, Safari, Kette, Percy)

# LEGION OF MERIT



SWISS RUN'S  
COLD BEER AND  
A FISHING POLE

**BERKLEY** ROM-B



# REGISTER OF MERIT



CALYPSO V  
CORNERSTONE  
JEWEL OF  
SUNSHINE PEAK

**JADA** ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



AEGIS HOME  
GROWN

**DOOBIE** ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



DERBYTOO TAKE  
ME OUT TO THE  
BALLGAME

**BRETT** ROM-B



# REGISTER OF MERIT



SWISS RUN'S I  
FEEL THE NEED,  
THE NEED FOR  
SPEED

**RYDER** ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



DOUBLE Q'S  
DERBY HITS THE  
SPOT!

**FIFI** ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



PALISADES ANGLE  
ON FRANNIE

**FANNIE** ROM-B



# REGISTER OF MERIT



SNOWY  
MOUNTAIN'S  
FABULOUS  
FELICITY

CICI ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



SIMPLY SWISSIES  
BELL OF THE BALL

**BELLA** ROM-B

# REGISTER OF MERIT



SENECA'S LIFE'S  
A BEACH

**SALTY** ROM-B



# REGISTER OF MERIT



DERBY'S ALL  
AMERICAN

**TEBOW** ROM-D

# REGISTER OF MERIT



BREEZY RIDGE  
RAZZMATAZZ

**TAZZ** ROM-D

# REGISTER OF MERIT



SWISS RUN'S I'LL  
BE YOUR  
WINGMAN  
ANYTIME

**MERLIN** ROM-D



# ANNUAL CLUB AWARDS

FRIEND OF THE SWISSY

■ LESLEY FISHER

EXEMPLARY JUNIOR AWARD

■ KELLY DIEHL

AMBASSADOR OF THE BREED

■ GCHS KISMET'S FIRE IN THE SKYE THDD CGC "SKYE"

AKC OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

■ LINDA KAMINSKI

MARGARET POOLE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

■ LISA SIMONSEN

FRIEND OF THE  
SWISSY



LESLEY FISHER OHIO



Lesley Fisher is long over-due for recognition from the nation club for her countless hours of service on behalf of Swissies and humans alike. Over the years she has quietly gone about doing what needs to be done with little fanfare.

She has and continues to:

- organize major events for two GSMD recognized regional clubs
- played major rolls in organizing and executing numerous National Specialties
- chaired the Versatility Committee
- currently serves as the Working Titles Coordinator
- been a member of numerous GSMDCA committees, including the Draft and Versatility committees
- judges draft trials

I am certain this is not an exhaustive list. Because she is so quiet about her participation, we don't realize all she has done. But I do know her fingers prints (and paw prints!) are everywhere. For these reasons, I think we should shout from the rooftops, "Lesley Fisher, you are truly are a Friend of the Swissy!"

--Mary Jo Rasmussen



# EXEMPLARY JUNIOR AWARD



KELLY DIEHL PENNSYLVANIA

I would like to nominate Kelly Diehl for the GSMDC's exemplary junior award.

Kelly and her family purchased Zander in 2017 and she quickly devoted herself to learning as much about conformation and handling as she could. She started taking Zander to class 1-2x a week in addition to working with him daily at home. She attended her first puppy match and won 'best junior in match' and after that...she was HOOKED!

Since then Kelly has worked hard showing Zander to his Championship (May 2019)...and then earning his Grand Championship just a few months later (August 2019). At only 2 years of age and having only finished his Championship in August...Kelly and Zander won several big breeds wins and made it into the Top 20 for 2019! Kelly also enjoyed showing Zander in juniors but found it a bit too hard to balance the juniors ring times with the breed ring times (almost always a conflict).

Kelly is such a joy to be around and her enthusiasm shows in everything she does with the dogs. She has helped to show a couple veterans at local specialties, has helped other Swissy people in the area whenever needed with their dogs, and personally helped me at the 2019 National Specialty where she handled our girl 'Duff' to a Best Puppy in Sweepstakes win at the National! She sat and watching the obedience and rally rings at the National that week as well and I think will have a new goal she'll be working on too with her big boy. She was just bubbling over with happiness all week and her good spirits were contagious to everyone around her.

Positive, always happy to help, a true joy to be around...I think Kelly is an asset to our breed and is very worth of the designation of 'Exemplary'!

Thank you for your consideration

Kim Woollard



The Mid Atlantic Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Officers and Board would like to nominate Kelly Diehl for the 2019 Exemplary Junior Award - Junior Handler # 15704310002

As of May 26th, 2019; 12 year old Kelly Diehl had earn five points towards Cherished My Heart is Set on You “Zander’s” Championship. The next day the Diehl’s went back to the same show and came home with a Best of Breed win. On August 11th, 2019 he earned his Grand Championship with another BOB win. He earned three more BOB wins on September 14th, 15th, and December 7th. At the National Specialty he earned his Canine Good Citizen award Kelly assisted breeders and other GSMD owners at the National Specialty showing her own Zander, Puppies and Veterans and had been asked by others to assist with showing their GSMD at a show With only five BOB wins Zander finished 2019 with 77 Breed points and is the number 18 Greater Swiss Mountain Dog in the country!!! It is moving to watch a brand new junior handler work with her dog and witness them accomplish so much. There is a special bond between the two of them. Zander is always eager to please his girl.

Officers Board - Janie Hecker, Carol Gehret, Sarah Winklevoss, Denise Mitterando, Tonia Adams, Joe Newman, Tara Lloyd, James Hauptly, Wayne Hecker, Stephanie Dooley



# AMBASSADOR OF THE BREED



**SKYE** NEW JERSEY

GCHS KISMET'S FIRE IN THE SKYE THDD CGC

## Nomination submitted by Allison Allen

I'm pleased to write a nomination for "Skye" GCHS CH Kismet's Fire In The Skye THDD CGC for the Ambassador of the Breed award. I have watched Skye for the last several years as both a top ranked show dog and a true working therapy dog. I know how much time and effort it takes keeping a dog out as special and finding time to carve out for other ventures can be difficult, but somehow Skye and his owners managed! I first met Skye at the 2017 National Specialty in Pennsylvania and he gained interest with me at that time. I've continued to watch his career as a show dog and therapy dog with adoration. Most recently, in December of 2019 I had the opportunity to speak with one of Skye's owners and he was able to enlighten me on some of the finer details of Skye's remarkable work. I'm impressed by his solid disposition that has allowed him to help so many with his services as a therapy dog. Recently in February 2020 Skye also helped represent the GSMD at the "Meet the Breed" as the precursor to Westminster Kennel Club and he was a hit with kids and adults alike — the photos speak volumes! He has put in countless hours and sessions and garnered top distinction as a therapy dog. I can't think of a better example to be considered for such an award being a positive presence in the conformation ring and also touching so many other realms of life.

To verse myself a bit more on AKC Therapy Dog program and the various levels I learned that in order for Skye to earn his AKC Therapy Dog Distinguished (THDD) he had to complete over 400 therapy sessions! To gain a better insight on the fine details of his work I got some additional help from his owner, Daniel Dooley, and it follows below.

As you may be aware, in 2017 Skye was ranked fourth in the breed, showing his success in confirmation. However, Skye's true accomplishments have been within the lives he has touched as a therapy dog. In 2019, Skye obtained the AKC highest title of Therapy Dog Distinguished, THDD, successfully completing over 400 visits. Skye, to date, has over 460 visits including a multitude of locations and purposes:

- 2020 Night to Shine · 2020 Meet the Breeds · The College of Staten Island · Boy Scouts of America · In-home and Hospice Visits · Children's Psychiatric Hospitals · Commercial Township Public Schools · Multiple Public Libraries · Absecon School District

Currently in the Absecon School District Skye has 25 handlers, serving over 300 students, in the capacity of multiple programs and initiatives:

- **SMILE Program**, Silent Mentors In Literacy Education, by providing a fun and exciting environment for students in Kindergarten through second grade to read to Skye without fear of making a mistake or being judged. This practice enhances fluency and instills a love for reading.
- **Counseling**: Skye is used by all three district School Counselors, Two School Psychologist, and Social Worker in counseling sessions. It has been found that children are calmer and more likely to open up and address tough issues when Skye is present.
- **Self-Contained Rooms**: Working with students with Autism, Behaviors, and Multiple Disabilities. In this setting Skye has been found to improve student interaction, keep students calm, and keep the classroom positive and engaged.
- **Positive Behavioral Incentives**: Used through the district administration as reward incentives. Students who meet all of their daily or weekly goals can select to spend time with Skye to reward their positive behavior.
- **Reset Room**: Skye is the center of our efforts within our reset room. This room is intended to provide students in crisis or meltdown a calm and spacious area for them to deescalate. Data has shown that when implementing the option of the reset room, without Skye it is taking students over 17 minutes to return to class, and with Skye students are returning in under 3 minutes. Sample size: N=83.

Some attributes that make Skye so successful:

- **Eagerness to Work:** Skye works three, nine hour days, per week. Every time we arrive to the school he enters with the same level of excitement as he did his first day.
- **Eagerness to Please:** No matter which of the 25 handlers are with Skye on any given day, he strives for excellence through his desire to please each handler, and has successfully formed his own relationship and bond with each one of the handlers.
- **Confidence:** No matter the situation, Skye enters with confidence and the willingness to assist even when a student is exhibiting significant behaviors.
- **Obedient:** Skye is dependable on and off lead, trained by hand signals.
- **Compassionate:** Skye has an innate ability to pick out the one in the room who needs him the most; exhibits a tremendous amount of concern and Empathy for the student or students he is working with.
- **Intelligence:** Can pick up on non-verbal cues. Ability to assess each situation independently and respond appropriately.
- **Size and markings:** Immediately wins over students, staff, and visitors with his majestic appearance.

Skye's Great work as a Therapy animal in conjunction with his success as a "Show Dog" has gained him local and global recognition:

Press of Atlantic City Philadelphia Inquire CBS News Philadelphia Nat Geo Wild See the following link for all coverage:  
<https://www.abseconschools.org/domain/281>

However, the community we may be having the most impact on is the educational community, as we have hosted 30 NJ Schools to our district this year to watch Skye in action. We have received inquiries from 4 other states: New York, South Carolina, Arkansas, and New Mexico. We have even had a headmaster of a school from Liverpool England, not only tell us that he was trying to replicate our program, but that he was doing it with a Swissy.

Skye has been a part of the featured Presentations on how to implement a successful Therapy Dog Program in schools entitled: ***A School's Best Friend: Maximizing Efforts in Meeting Students Needs.*** Skye and our Absecon Team have most recently presented at:

- New Jersey Federal Programs and Administrators Spring Conference on May 30, 2019.
- New Jersey School Board Association Workshop 2020, AC Convention Center, 10/21/19.
- New Jersey School Librarian's Association Conference, North Brunswick Hilton, 12/12/19.
- Featured presenters at the New Jersey Education Conference, AC Convention Center, 11/8/19.

Finally, Skye and the Absecon Team have recently partnered with Rowan University's Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program and Assistant Director Dr. Michele Pick, in our efforts to quantify the data of therapy dog interactions with students in need: Behaviorally, Socially, Emotionally, and Academically. This data collection will be the first of it's kind and is hoped to legitimize the work of Therapy Dogs in schools, as a proven program with recognized and proven advantages.



# AKC OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD



LINDA KAMINSKI ILLINOIS

I feel that the AKC sportsman for 2019 should be awarded to Linda Kaminski. Linda has been involved in the GSMDCA community for as long as I have been attending events. I can't say exactly when I met her, but it was well over 10 years ago. In all of these interactions, I have always found Linda to be a helpful and kind person. She wins and loses with grace and is an example for all of us for how to behave.

Linda serves both the GSMDCA serving as the weight pull chair and is an active member of the local AKC specialty club the Lakeshore GSMD club. Linda is a valuable resource to the community and has been helping out other GSMD owners, showing dogs for them, for a long time. Some of these include dogs that she has helped with from a young age, through that of competing as a veteran.

Linda has devoted hours of her time and her talent to create beautiful memory quilts for the Rescue Auction every year, raising hundreds, probably thousands of dollars. Her devotion to the wellbeing of our breed, to supporting and helping newbies (whether to the breed or to any particular activity) is a model for the rest of us!

Submitted by Kelly Lovley





MARGARET  
POOLE LIFETIME  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD



LISA SIMONSEN WASHINGTON



It is with great honor that I nominate Lisa Simonsen for the GSMDCA Lifetime Achievement Award. Much to Lisa's chagrin, I feel it's time to recognize her ongoing efforts, accomplishments and contributions with respect to the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog.

In 1996 Lisa became the proud owner of a swissy and since that time she hit the ground running. She had great success with her first swissy, Zuger, in the conformation ring and also with him being part of the foundation stock for her Painted Mountain kennel. She's developed a line sought after and you'll see Painted Mountain pedigrees represented across the country in wide variety of breeding programs. On a personal level, she bred the dam of my first two swissies, Gypsy Boots and Cutter, and also owned Cutter's sire. Throughout their decades plus of life she has been a supportive ear in many aspects ranging from health questions, local resources, and she's also exhibited them in veteran conformation. I make this comment to illustrate the pride she takes in the dogs coming down from hers and it also speaks to the mentorship she provides.



Lisa proudly owner handles all of her champions from the bred-by exhibitor class and has been successful having top ranked specials, group placers, specialty winners and versatility dogs. I have watched her this past decade do these things with humility never trying to draw attention to herself.

On a local front, Lisa is one of the founding members of the Cascade Greater Swiss Mountain Dog club that was founded in 1998. I think she's worn every hat imaginable! She's currently serving as our Vice President, but has been the past President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Show Chair, lead judges education seminars and so much more! Through her dedication over the years, we've been able to keep our club solvent and we're currently enjoying a great resurgence in large part due to her efforts.



As to the GSMDCA, Lisa has spent too many hours to count serving the membership of the club and their swissies. She has served on the board in many capacities, even as past President, and she continues to offer her volunteer hours. Although she has held many positions, I believe she's found her role as the past and current Health Committee Chair to be the most important and rewarding. In her leadership as head of the Health Committee, the GSMDCA has appropriated funds to worthy studies, conducted multiple CHIC DNA blood draws, carried out multiple breed health surveys, coordinated health seminars at the National Specialties, facilitated updates to the breed CHIC requirements, and continues to look for ways to serve the health of the breed.

She has finetuned her eye and has an in-depth knowledge of our breed standard. With great care going into the pairings of her breeding stock, she has increased the probability of producing sound and conformationally correct GSMDs. This knowledge has been passed on to several other breeders starting out to help them establish successful breeding programs. Additionally, Lisa has shown her command of our standard judging various specialty sweepstakes and most recently was voted by the GSMDCA membership to judge the 2020 GSMDCA National Specialty sweepstakes.

Lisa's altruism extends to so many I can't think of a more deserving member of our community to be consider. She has attained the designation of AKC Gold Breeder of Merit, a title that only a couple of other GSMDs breeders carry. I'm sure if you were to ask her puppy homes about the support they receive from her they'd have an abundance of positive comments. From my firsthand experience, she embodies what this award is all about, a lifetime commitment to the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog and providing exemplary service. Respectfully, Allison Allen

