

Breed Origins and Functions:

German Shepherd Dogs originated in 1899 in Germany because of the efforts of Captain Max Von Stephanitz. The dogs' original function was to herd and work, but because of its unique versatility, the German Shepherd Dogs are mostly used as a family pet, obedience, agility or show dogs. The dogs are widely used as service dogs in search & rescue work, tracking, police, seeing eye dogs, guard & sentry, drug & bomb detection and herding sheep and cattle. The basic instincts of the breed lends itself to these multiple uses.

The German Shepherd Dog's desire to please humans is legendary.

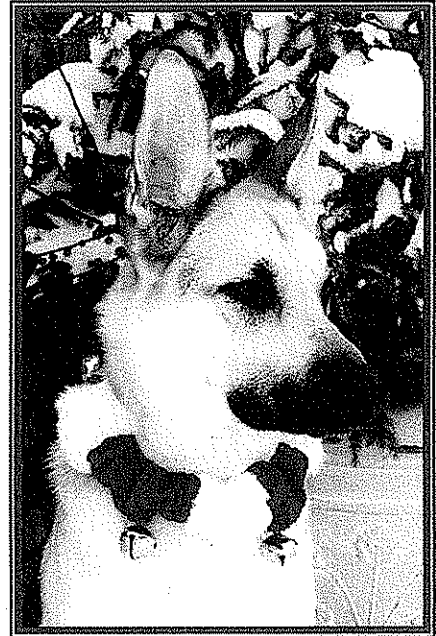
About Katja:

PAX KLEINE PRINZESSIN KATJA, a five year old (rescued) German Shepherd Dog is a certified therapy dog with Therapy Dogs International. She works with kids of all ages and visits local nursing homes. She also represents her breed at the Minnesota State Fair in the dog building. KATJA, along with her owner, Rhonda, competes in AKC Agility Trials across the upper Midwest. Her list of AKC titles in agility includes: NAP NJP OAP OJP AXP AJP MXP MXJP MXP2 MXJP2 MXP3 MXJP3 PAX. She has also earned her Canine Good Citizens certificate. KATJA has qualified to compete in the 2010 AKC Nationals in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

About Rhonda:

Rhonda has been married to her husband, Joe, for 27 years, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and 4 dogs. She got her first dog at age 13, and has been training with dogs for over 33 years. She is a member of The Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Association; Therapy Dogs International; St. Paul Police K-9 Foundation; American Kennel Club; German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Minnesota; St. Paul Dog Training Club and The German Shepherd Dog Club of America. She also volunteers her time with a local rescue group, fostering German Shepherd Dogs and German Shorthaired Pointers. Along with KATJA, Rhonda visits local schools & nursing homes.

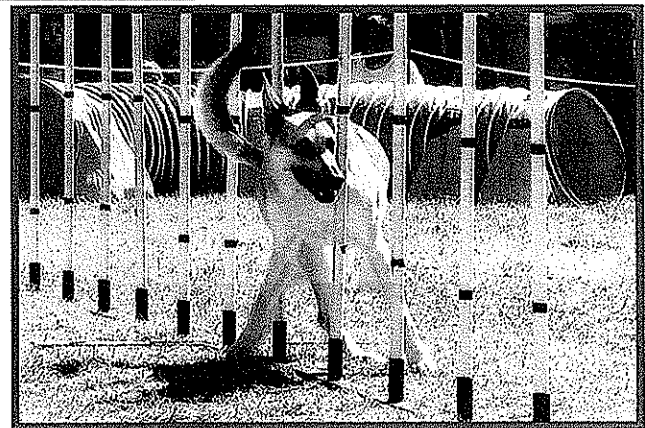
Rhonda was instrumental in the foundation of Dog Demos By Design, a group of volunteers active in school demonstrations and visits with their certified therapy dogs.



PAX KLEINE PRINZESSIN KATJA



Rhonda and Katja win PAX—a very significant Agility Title.



Katja shows her winning agility style on the weave poles