

The Telegram June 2012

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The SUMMER Sheltie Pacesetter magazine is presently being printed.
It should be in the mail within two weeks!

Shelties On Vacation

by Alice Dusenberry

Every year families across the country are faced with the same age-old question—what are we going to do with the dog when we go on vacation? Sheltie owners are faced with serious decisions about their pet's care while they are away from home on a trip:

- Should we leave the Sheltie home alone, and ask the neighbor's teenage son or daughter to come in twice a day to feed and walk the dog?
- Should we hire a professional house- and dog-sitter to stay at our home?
- Should we board our Sheltie in a kennel?
- Should we ask family or friends to take our Sheltie to their home?

All these options are difficult to consider. Shelties, like all dogs, are basically pack animals, and they are most comfortable being with their own pack, their owners and families. No matter which decision is made, your Sheltie will be unhappy because he is separated from you. If your pet could talk, would he say, "Please don't leave me behind"?

Fortunately, there is another option. Take your Sheltie on vacation with you and the family. While there are several factors to consider, most dogs travel well and will not suffer from separation anxiety because he is home alone or spending time in a kennel with strange people and other dogs. My husband and I have taken our two Shelties on vacation many times to upstate New York, Cape May in New Jersey, and historic Charleston in South Carolina. We even drove them across the country from the East Coast to the Pacific Northwest when we relocated in 2010—without any problems during the road trip. They are truly road warriors after that 3,100-mile trip.

Advanced Planning

- **Vaccinations:** Make sure your Sheltie is up-to-date on all vaccinations, and you have records from the veterinarian to verify the inoculation and expiration dates. Airlines require health certificates for all dogs traveling by plane.
- **Identification tags:** Make sure your Sheltie has his local license and identification tags securely attached to the collar that he will be wearing at all times while on the trip.

This timely newsletter is being sent out for FREE to Sheltie fanciers who requested more up-to-date information about Shelties and their activities. Past newsletters are posted on our secure website (www.sheltie.com) under "The Telegram."

If you know of someone else who would like to begin receiving this e-mail newsletter, please send us his or her e-mail address. If you ever wish to stop receiving these free Sheltie notices and articles, let us know by sending an e-mail to s.pacesetter@sheltie.com.

E-mail us timely articles which you think should be shared among other Sheltie folks. We accept Specialty show dates and contact information, along with timely announcements...such as symposiums and teaching events.

• **Permanent identification:** If your Sheltie has not been micro-chipped already, consider having the veterinarian do this procedure. It is not a difficult procedure. However, you must register the chip, dog, and owner's information with the manufacturer's recovery service. Usually there is a small fee for registering a dog. If your Sheltie gets lost, you will be able to telephone the recovery service and report the missing pet. The registration service will notify local animal shelters and veterinarian offices that a certain dog is missing in the area. Depending on the plan, some pet recovery services provide air transportation for your Sheltie if he is found more than 500 miles from your home.

• **Travel routes:** Plan a detailed travel route if you are going by car, and provide stops where everyone can get out of the car to stretch his legs. If you are going by plane, call the airline for information about flying your Sheltie to the vacation destination. Air travel requires an approved dog crate that meets specific requirements. If you are thinking of traveling by train or bus, call to verify that dogs are allowed to travel with you. In many instances, only service dogs are allowed on trains and buses.

• **Accommodations:** Identify the hotels/motels that accept dogs. When you make reservations, ask about the dog policies. Many motels/hotels accept dogs, but there may be some restrictions on the number or size of dogs, and there may be a fee per pet. Find out before you book the reservation so you will not be surprised, or even turned away at arrival, when you check in.

• **Grooming:** If you are going to a warm-weather destination, have your Sheltie thoroughly groomed before the trip to remove excess coat. When we traveled to South Carolina in early spring, we encountered an unexpected heat wave. One of our Shelties



(cont. "Shelties On Vacation")

reacted poorly to the excessive heat, and my husband had to stay with our Sheltie in the air-conditioned car while our group toured the grounds of a historic plantation.

On the Trip

- Safety:** If you are traveling by car, stop frequently (every three to four hours) to walk the Sheltie. Always use a leash when outside the car. In a strange place, it is easy for your Sheltie to become frightened and run off. Also, be considerate of other people and clean up after your dog.

- Dog food:** Bring along your Sheltie's regular food, bottled water, medications, and a favorite toy or blanket. Anxiety in a new environment is natural. Familiar food and other items from home will help your pet relax while on vacation.

- Restaurants:** Dogs are prohibited in restaurants by local health authorities, but they may be welcome on an outdoor patio. Check with the management at the front door. Some restaurants will even provide a bowl of water for the dog. If your Sheltie is welcome, tie him to the chair while you eat. Do not tie him to the table as it might cause spilling of beverages. If the weather is not hot, you can leave your Sheltie in the car, providing you park in a cool, shady spot and leave the windows open for ventilation. If your Sheltie is a barker (and most are), don't leave him alone in your hotel room.

Upcoming Specialties

Printed for free...just e-mail us your information

— FOUR DAYS OF SPECIALTIES — July 13 to July 16, 2012

Albany, OR

<http://www.pnwssc.com>, <http://www.eessc.net>
Show Secretary: Carolyn Ritacco
(503) 579-1676, jwrcir@aol.com

Pacific NW SSC — July 13, 2012

Conformation: Chris Lynch
Sweepstakes: Cindy Wilson

Pacific NW SSC — July 14, 2012

Conformation and Junior Showmanship: Barbara Kenealy
Sweepstakes: Joe Larson
Obedience and Rally: Larry Tanner

Emerald Empire SSC — July 15, 2012

Conformation and Junior Showmanship: Glenda Henson
Sweepstakes: Sondra Mauzy
Obedience and Rally: Larry Tanner

Emerald Empire SSC — July 16, 2012

Conformation and Junior Showmanship: Yvonne Samuelson
Sweepstakes: Alana Mauzy

PROTECT RESPONSIBLE SMALL BREEDERS

Please sign AKC's petition by July 15th. The American Kennel Club has created the "Join With the AKC to Protect Responsible Small Breeders" petition in response to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) new proposed regulations which would create harsh and unintended consequences for responsible small and hobby breeders in this country.

Visit www.akc.org/petition and click "Sign Here Now!"

In this situation, it may be more practical to order meals from room service, or you can bring in takeout meals from a nearby restaurant.

- Entertainment:** Vacation activities require additional planning so the family can enjoy the entertainment without putting your pet at risk. If you are camping and hiking, you can usually take your Sheltie along without any problems. If you are going to a beach, make sure there are no restrictions on dogs. But if you are staying in a hotel and plan on visiting an amusement park, your Sheltie may not be allowed in the park. Some of the larger hotel chains offer dog sitting or kennel services, thus allowing pets to stay safely at the hotel while the family enjoys the amusement park. However, if you are camping in a recreational vehicle, you may be able to keep your Sheltie in the vehicle while you are in the park as long as the weather is not too hot and the RV is well ventilated.

Resources for Vacation Planning—

Travel Tips

- American Kennel Club—A wide range of information about purebred dogs, including an article about traveling with your dog: http://www.akc.org/public_education/travel_tips.cfm
- Cesar's Way—Travel tips from the dog whisperer, Cesar Millan: <http://www.cesarsway.com/>

Microchip Identification

- Wikipedia—Information on the microchip process: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microchip_implant_\(animal\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microchip_implant_(animal))
- American Veterinary Medical Association—Microchip FAQ: http://www.avma.org/issues/microchipping/microchipping_faq.asp
- Home Again—Manufacturer of microchips for pets and the recovery service: <http://public.homeagain.com/>
- Microchip ID Systems—Provider of microchip kits and scanners: <http://www.microchipidsystems.com/>

Pet-Friendly Lodging Directories

- Pets Welcome—Extensive on-line database of hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts that accept pets in all states: <http://www.petswelcome.com/>
- Dog Friendly—On-line database of lodgings and an on-line store that offers printed guides of cities that are friendly to dogs: <http://www.dogfriendly.com/>
- American Automobile Association—Offers tour books with information on hotels that accept pets: <http://www.aaa.com>

— Photos were included in the SUMMER *Sheltie Pacesetter* magazine. □

Warning—

Brown Recluse Spiders Are Dangerous



Be careful where you put your hands and where your pets are investigating. These dangerous spiders like dark spaces and woodpiles. They also like cool areas in the attic or storage sheds. If you have a need to be in your attic, go up there and turn on a light and leave it on for about 30 minutes before you go in to do your work.

The Brown Recluse Spider is the most dangerous spider that we have here in the USA. Spider bites are dangerous and can have permanent and highly negative consequences. After a bite, the affected skin actually dies. A person can die from its bite.

CAPTION CONTEST!

In each issue we'll print a photo and you can send in what you think are appropriate captions. Enter as many times as you wish (they don't have to be mailed or e-mailed separately). We'll print the caption we judge to be the best, along with those worthy of honorable mention.

The winner receives a free business card ad in the next *3 issues of the magazine!* Honorable mention winners receive a free business card ad in *2 issues of the magazine.*



First place—Nan McClure:

"Which do I eat first—the chicken or the egg?"

Honorable Mention—Jesse Hatfield (Hatfield's Shelties):

"I've heard of chicken a la carte, but what's this chicken under foot?"

Honorable Mention—Vicki Betker (Shimoda Shetland Sheepdogs):

"Here Kitty, Kitty, Kitty. Glasses...what glasses?"

Honorable Mention—Mary Jean Simpson (Fifesong):

"Where is Colonel Sanders when you need him?"

Honorable Mention—Billie Adams (Lakewood Shelties):

"Looks like the Colonel is going to have a little competition with the cooking tonight."

Honorable Mention—Karen Coombs (Arenray Shelties):

"Original or Krispy? I'll take original please!"



The photo *above* needs a caption. Send all captions and any color photos you'd like to submit to: s.pacesetter@sheltie.com.

Hot Weather Tips

"Even the healthiest pets can suffer from dehydration, heat stroke and sunburn if overexposed to the heat," says Dr. Lila Miller, ASPCA Vice President of Veterinary Outreach, "and heat stroke can be fatal if not treated promptly." If you suspect your pet is suffering from heat stroke, get help from your veterinarian immediately.

"Symptoms of overheating in pets include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. They can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomiting along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees." Animals with flat faces, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with the elderly, the overweight, and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, a parked car can become a furnace in no time—even with the windows open—which could lead to fatal heat stroke. Leaving pets unattended in cars in extreme weather is illegal in several states.

Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool as not all dogs are good swimmers. Introduce your pets to water gradually and make sure they wear flotation devices when on boats. Rinse your dog off after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from his fur, and try to keep your dog from drinking pool water, which contains chlorine and other chemicals that could cause stomach upset.

When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog linger on hot asphalt. Being so close to the ground, your Sheltie's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.

Commonly used flea and tick products, rodenticides (mouse and rat baits) and lawn and garden insecticides can be harmful to cats and dogs if ingested, so keep them out of reach. When walking your dog, steer clear of areas that you suspect have been sprayed with insecticides or other chemicals. Keep citronella candles, oil products and insect coils out of pets' reach as well. Call ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 if you suspect your animal has ingested a poisonous substance.

Please leave pets at home when you head out to Fourth of July celebrations, and never use fireworks around pets. Exposure to lit fireworks can potentially result in severe burns or trauma to curious pets and even unused fireworks can be hazardous. Many types of fireworks contain potentially toxic substances such as potassium nitrate, copper, chlorates, arsenic and other heavy metals.

Pet-Friendly Accommodations When Traveling

DogFriendly.com and BringFido.com are two websites that provide free listings of pooch-pleasers worldwide—hotels, restaurants, resorts, attractions and even airlines. PetsWelcome.com also includes spots for cats and other critters. All have forums where other pet-owning travelers share information and experiences.