

# **INTERNATIONAL SHILOH SHEPHERD DOG CLUB**

**P.O. BOX 909**

**DUBOIS, PA 15801**

**TELEPHONE: (814) 375-6861 (Effective June 10, 1997)**

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May 27, 1997

Dear Club Members:

We are pleased to announce the creation of The International Shiloh Shepherd Dog Club. Most of you are aware that the SSDCA and its founder, Tina Barber, in her attempts to support the Club, have been struggling to make ends meet for the past while.

Several months ago we made an offer to Tina to assist with the existing club and to personally contribute funds to do so. For a number of reasons, Tina did not wish to pursue this option and instead suggested that we begin a new club to continue with the promotion and protection of the Shiloh Shepherd breed.

Attached, you will find a letter from Tina in which she indicates her intention to close down the operations of the SSDCA. Tina has agreed, that as of September 1, 1997, the International Shiloh Shepherd Registry will formally recognize the new club as the "parent" club for the Shiloh Shepherds. Tina will continue on with the Registry and as Breed Warden and will be working in close cooperation with us to help ensure the success of the new club.

We have exchanged a signed Letter of Intent with Tina reflecting these changes (please find enclosed relevant documents). Naturally, there will be a transition period moving from the old club to the new. Over the next few months we will incorporate the new club with an interim charter, and draft a proposed constitution for members review, comments and vote by October 1997. We are also preparing a membership and leadership plan and will be outlining a business plan and budget for the club to be self-sustaining and to meet the needs of its members. We will need assistance from all the members in carrying out these items and we will shortly send out a list of additional activities that we would be looking for volunteers for. For starters members have suggested the following kinds of committees; membership, shows, advertising, breeders advisory, etc., please send us your thoughts and ideas.

As of September, when the old club ceases activity, any current member will automatically become a member of the new club. Membership fees have not yet been determined and we will be consulting you about your views on an appropriate fee level once we have worked out a preliminary budget.

Wendy Fullerton will be Club Secretary, and in fact, is commencing part time work now to help us establish and organize the new club. We have had many ideas from many of you, including coop advertising, a new newsletter format and special emphasis on regional specialty shows. To

make all of this a reality, we need your help. It is great that some folks have already volunteered- Judy Vaneman, has agreed to be the Show Director; Marcia Turner, has agreed to edit the newsletter. We will put a special emphasis on Regional Directors so if you are one or always wanted to be one, please let us know. A new computer is being installed for club use, and an on-line service will be subscribed to for communications use between members and club. More on that in future correspondence.

We will be holding club elections as soon as we have gone through our initial start up period, which we hope, subject to membership approval of the new constitution, will be by December 1997. In the meantime, we will fund the club out of our own pockets as our way of contributing to its success. We will incorporate, as the initial directors, with Tina Barber as Honorary President, Gary Allison as President, Wendy Fullerton as Secretary, and Dan Spinner as Vice-President. These positions, except Tina's, are temporary, until a full constitution and voting method are established. The club will be run on democratic principles within the guidelines for non-profit organizations. Operating statements will be furnished on a regular basis to the membership.

We are sure you have many questions and suggestions. Please feel free to contact directly. We are planning the first newsletter for the new club to be distributed in August 1997 and we are planning a national specialty show for October 1997. Other plans and details will follow shortly.

There has been a great deal of struggle, controversy and uncertainty surrounding the club and the breed for the past little while. It is our intention, as we are sure it is yours, to bring some stability back to the breed through the formation of this new club. All of us are deeply committed to the dogs and to the breed. It is time for healing and to work together, to solve constructively differences of opinion for the sake of the breed.

We look forward to all of us joining together to make this new Shiloh Shepherd Club a success.

Sincerely,

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Gary Allison  
Home: (702) 566-9012

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Wendy Fullerton  
Home: (716) 237-3723

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Dan Spinner  
Home: (905) 349-2049