



# *AMERICAN HERDING BREED ASSOCIATION*

*Events Bulletin January-February 2014*



## Meet A Member

*This month's featured member is **Don Gold** and his Puli L.E. of Memphis, Tennessee*

I am proud to say I have owned several of these weird breed animals for over 20 years. Yes the ones with the long hair(cords) hanging to the ground .When my wife and I became empty nesters (kids at college) I told her we needed a DOG! I saw a picture of a PULI riding a sheep and began my trip into the PULI WORLD. We heard of a litter here in Memphis,Tn and went to look. The mother had short black hair and the pups were curly like poodles. The lady said she had one left and we decided to think about it over night. The next day we went to get the pup, but all were sold. We were very disappointed.

Several days later we had a call from Foy Cothren, a long time Puli breeder and she told us of a litter in Benton, Ark from a good breeder and we headed that day to get our first Puli. The farm was hot and the nice man called for both parents and 1 more to come out and meet us. Culture shock #1.We had no idea of the PULI SHOW COAT to the ground. We picked the first pup to walk toward us not even knowing it was a girl: TASHA. She was smart and sweet and our breeder mentor bred her to one of her many Champions. Of the 7 pups she told us to keep the little blue Barney (call name) who championed before 1 year and 18 more titles in obedience, agility, and herding.

HERDING--When Barney was 9 we were invited to see a sheep trial. We stood in a cold mist and watched the B.C. do their thing and I told my friend," You must be crazy to do this!" His reply was,"Try It!" We arranged an IT with our current judge friend and mentor, Nancy Obermark at OUTFARM. It wasn't bad but too much obedience training didn't help.



Barney – CH Talisman's Barnabus Betyar

Then my son came back to live with us and brought his little Puli L.E. age 7 and she is from Veje, Sweden. I began to take her to watch Barney train. We would let her have just a few minutes on sheep after Barney. OH MY GOSH! 22 pounds of stockdog from the get go with lots of European prey drive.

We have been training ever since with Ms. Nancy and even if L.E. is now 12, she is like a 5 year old and reads stock far better than I. In cold or rain, we train in the barn. Now coast to coast judges watch her work and she is the only Puli who can trial ducks in the morning and sheep in the afternoon at the Advanced levels.

I must mention that Judge Rachel Vest and Ms. Nancy have given me the drive and I am addicted to the sport. L.E. is now called by some Judges, "THE PULI PRINCESS!" We have enjoyed multiple High In Trials. She has been pictured in the AHBA news even herding lobsters I only wish I had discovered this MOST DIFFICULT, MOST FUN canine sport earlier. We send PULI LOVE to all of our many AHBA friends,

DON GOLD and L.E., #1 most titled PULI STOCKDOG IN THE WORLD.

VASTJO L.E. of TALISMAN, STDsd, HRDIs, OTDIsd, HTDIId, HTADIs, HTDIId, OFTDIsd, HSAId, RLFIs, HTDIId, HSADds, 2AKC legs and 1 ASCA leg to finish in the spring ,CGC, Therapy Dog.



L.E. – The Puli Stockdog Princess