

*Each of us share in the love of the German Shepherd Dog, but one person has gone the extra mile in educating people on how truly great they are.*

*The love of the breed is the welcome mat at Tash Valley Kennels. A wall-to-wall display of Terry Howler and several other handlers. A museum of many champions from room to room.*

*Four years ago, I walked into Tash Valley, sad that I was going to lose my Rogan to old age but excited about the puppy I was about to buy. It has been said when one door closes, another opens. And with Maximus, a world did open. I have Donna Zierer to thank for giving me a window of opportunity to explore the world of dogs.*

- Renee Pellegrino

## Have you met . . .? Donna and Urban Zierer

**Name(s):** Donna and Urban Zierer

**Kennel Name:** Tash Valley Kennels,

**Location:** 2717 Carson Valley Road, Duncansville, PA

**Occupation:** Boarding and Breeding Kennel operator

**Years involved with GSDs:** 38 years

**How did you get started:** Through my experience in the US Navy.



**Who are some of your all-time favorite GSDs - of your own breeding or otherwise:** CH Schwarz der wald's Smokin V Lee Ray, and CH Jailhouse Rock of Lee Ray and CH Tash Val's Sweeter than wine. All wonderful, well rounded GSDs.

**What is most important to you in a GSD?**

Healthy (through proper breeding) temperament, secondary sex characteristics and the rest will fall into place.

**What problem(s) do you think are most prevalent in the breed?** Pancreatic insufficiency, degenerative back disease, bad temperaments.

**When you select a puppy, what are you looking for (be as specific as possible):** I look for an outgoing personality, quality in the front and rear quarters, ground covering movement.



**Who was the most influential person in your breeding program:** Terry Hower of Akron, Ohio, and Tonya Haney of Akron, Ohio, along with Daniel E. Black

**What is the best thing about being involved in GSDs:** It is great to watch how well a GSD can work in so many areas of our lives. Herding, therapy, guide dogs, companion dogs and so many other areas that this breed can make a difference in many lives.

**What are your goals in the breed:** It is great to win. I would like to some day get a Best In Show or Grand Victor or Grand Victrix.