

Margery Golant – Candidate for GSDCA Recording Secretary

“What is Happening in our Club.”

Dear Fellow Members of the GSDCA:

You recently received an odd email from Lew Bunch, which claims that there was action taken against me by the GSDCA Board. That email is creating a great deal of controversy and confusion, and so, since I remain a candidate for re-election, I have taken the liberty of contacting you all to inform you of how it looks from here.

I have received many calls and emails from people who received Lew’s email and were puzzled at just what on earth is going on in our Club and how, since there is no provision for it in our By-laws, the Board could vote to remove me from my elected position. I am sending this to you all to ask you to disregard and to reject what Lew’s email says. It is invalid. I have done nothing wrong, am guilty of nothing - other than being a target of the clique which has been in control of the Board for the past year and a half. That group of people has had it in for me since I was first elected by you, the membership of the GSDCA, and over time has managed to take control. They have worked to attempt to discredit me, to make it appear that I was not doing my job, when in fact I have worked very hard, and at great cost to myself, to be of service to you, the members of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America, and at the same time they have worked very hard to keep you from knowing about this.

The purpose of this email is to explain to you that there have not been any charges ever filed against me as our By-laws require, no one paid \$50, no charges in duplicate were ever submitted to the Corresponding Secretary, no process ever unfolded as mandated by our By-laws, and therefore no valid action was ever taken against me. Even had there been properly constituted or filed "charges" (which there were not) and a properly set and noticed Special Board meeting (which there was not) and a properly handled process and a correct "hearing", (which there also were not), there is no authority under our By-laws to remove me from the position to which I was elected by the GSDCA membership (and so attempting to impose their will instead of that of the membership), and in addition, this is expressly forbidden by New York law. So, the bottom line is that all of what was attempted was null, void and of no effect.

I was the GSDCA Recording Secretary by virtue of the 2005 election, and I am still the GSDCA Recording Secretary by virtue of that same election. The Board does not have any ability to change that. That makes the "official" notice which was sent to you by Lew incorrect. Since the Board cannot remove me, what was attempted did not remove me. Since I am the Recording Secretary, there can be no interim appointment of a Recording Secretary. Despite that, I received a demand that I deliver the Secretary’s recording equipment to Bill Pfeiffer, the Treasurer. This demand is equally invalid, since I cannot be removed from office by the Board.

The entire foundation for Board action in this or any club is that the Board can only do what the By-laws and state law allow and provide for, and do it only in the ways permitted by those laws and By-laws. If those legitimizing foundational things are not present, the action is not valid. That is the situation here. The By-laws are the Constitution of the GSDCA. It is like if Congress passes a law that is un-Constitutional. It is void, because the Constitution trumps all other laws. In a Club setting, state law and the By-laws trump all Board action that is inconsistent with them. Period. It doesn't matter what Robert's Rules say, or what the Board vote is - if it is unconstitutional, it does not stand. It is invalid.

Continued next page

Since the July Board meeting and the events that followed, I have heard from a number of Board members who now have concluded they were tricked, who are very disturbed at what occurred and by the fact that they did not take action to stop it at the time. They now realize their mistake. Some say they were taken off guard by Lew and his claims at the July Board meeting (“ambushed” is the word they have used), were promised proof which Lew told them he had but which they never got (because there is none). Go ahead, Lew. I challenge you here and now to produce the “proof” you presented to the Board, that you told them would be “proof positive” that I jeopardized the Hunte agreement. I have repeatedly told you I waive MY claim to confidentiality. YOU have no claim to confidentiality from the MEMBERSHIP in this matter, despite what you and Kris have asserted to the contrary.

Apparently the people who are behind this maneuver don't understand that there are limits to what they are permitted to do, or maybe they think they can fool the members. Please let them know that you will not be fooled.

How sad that there are people on our Board who would do this to you and to our Club. How sad that, as a result, there are now some Board members feeling so wretched about what they were dragged or manipulated into that they are losing sleep, blaming themselves for not realizing sooner what was going on. How sad that there are people who have so totally lost sight of what the point is of the GSDCA and of our goals that they are willing to violate our rules, ethical principles, the rights of their fellow Board members and the GSDCA membership, and their duty to the GSDCA, to try to get rid of me.

Look around you. Look at the people who have worked so hard to take care of their clique, taking care of one another, giving one another awards, putting themselves on all the critical committees, giving them important wins. Don't be fooled. If you are not sure who they are, or are not sure who you think deserves your votes in the upcoming election, please feel free to contact me, by email or by phone. I will be happy to tell you what I think. My email is mgolant@bellsouth.net and my phone is 954-340-1280

Things are not always what they appear. There is no coincidence that Lew's email was sent out to you just before the election. I am an attorney, admitted to the Bars of two states and of the US Supreme Court. My practice has always been to defend people against the abuses of power. I have never done anything wrong in my life, have never been guilty of anything, nor am I guilty of anything now. I have worked hard for our Club, have taken strong stands on important issues (which has caused some people on the Board to want me gone), and will continue to do so with your support. I am still the GSDCA Recording Secretary, am still running for re-election to the same office, I am eligible for reelection, and nothing that these people have done can change that.

If you would like more details or information, please feel free to contact me. I will tell you the truth, just as I always have.

I ask that you not be fooled, that you continue to have faith in me and that you re-elect me Recording Secretary. I have confidence that the good people in the Club are smarter than to fall for this scheme, and if you don't fall for it, the scheme will fail.

Thank you for your faith in me and for your support. Please return sanity to the GSDCA and help to end the nightmare.

Margery Golant
Recording Secretary, GSDCA

