

Mary and Frank Tropeck – Brandiwyne German Shepherds

Name(s): Mary & Frank Tropeck

Kennel Name: Brandiwyne

Location: McDonald, PA

Occupation: Systems Analyst

Years involved with GSDs: 39 years

How did you get started? I've always had dogs; but, my mother bought us our 1st German Shepherd as a pet shortly after we were married. We continued have shepherds for the remaining years. I never started showing the dogs until 12 years ago. In the last 12 years, I have 4

champions with three of these owner handled from start to finish. We also have one close to his championship and some up and coming pointed ones. We also have an obedience titled and therapy dog.

Who are some of your all-time favorite GSDs - of your own breeding or otherwise?

As a child, I loved Rin Tin Tin. Of course, I love my own and in recent years I've liked Weicho's Flash Dance, Autumn's Shaquille and Mar Haven's Color Guard to name a few off the top of my head.

What is most important to you in a GSD? All 3 of these things are most important to me and they are temperament, structure and health.

What problem(s) do you think are most prevalent in the breed? Breeders that are just breeding for the almighty dollar, or whatever, and who are not considering health, structure and temperament problems.

When you select a puppy, what are you looking for (be as specific as possible)? Since I show more in confirmation than obedience and agility, I am looking for the puppy that shows good structure, wonderful outgoing temperament, smart and one that just loves life and great movement. I am also partial towards black and red; although, I love them all.

Who was the most influential person in your breeding program? My husband, Frank, and several great trusting friends that are long-time breeders of the German Shepherds.



What is the best thing about being involved in GSDs? The DOGS! They are loving, loyal, trusting, fun, beautiful, and I could go on and on. I just love the breed. We have also got to meet some great folks.

What are your goals in the breed? To breed for the best total German Shepherd dog and to have dogs that we and others can enjoy and live with that can do any kind of work or play.

This interview was conducted by Renee Pellegrino of Pennsylvania. She can be reached at Rdpelleg@aol.com.