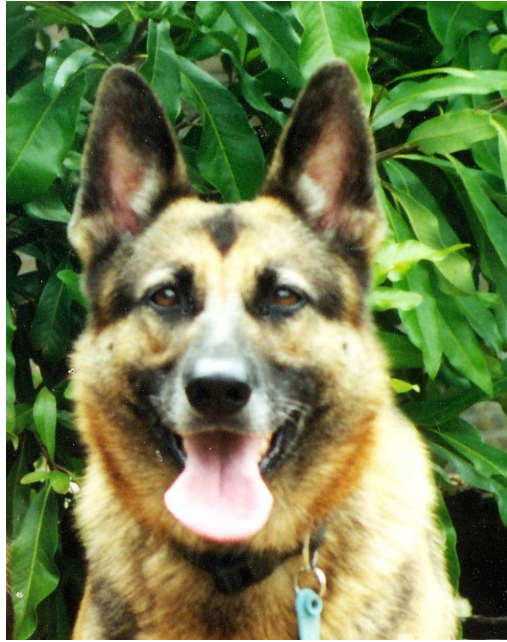


**VALE - Dubhain (T Ch Tristania Dubhain CD AD JD HT ET "A""Z" BSCI II)**

I said a sad farewell to my special German Shepherd girl, Dubhain, late last year at 13 1/2 yo. Dubhain was bred by me - her Gaelic name means "little dark one". She was extremely athletic and energetic with a passion for tracking, running and jumping and earned titles in Tracking, Obedience, Agility, Jumpers, Herding and Endurance. She found easy tracks boring - the more difficult the track the better she liked it and once flatly refused to follow a nice easy track



on short, dewy grass on a cool, still morning (considered to be perfect tracking conditions). One judge described watching her track as "watching poetry in motion" and not surprisingly she earned her Tracking Champion title.

It also took quite a bit of training to convince her that she needed to complete an agility course in the order I wanted (which was by mere coincidence the order the judge required!). She would have much preferred that she chose an interesting course and I simply followed but we eventually came to an arrangement that if she wanted to do agility she would need to do it my way.

Dubhain was great with my other dogs and cats, trustworthy with all my poultry and fun to have around. I certainly miss her. She became more and more frivolous as she grew older. She did everything with maximum enthusiasm. My male dog, Fionn, found her over the top excitement at the start of a walk to be somewhat embarrassing. Dubhain was still walking 3 km each day until the last day and her daily walk was the highlight of her day. I have a wonderful memory of her last day - trotting along a bush track, her coat gleaming and obviously completely happy. Until we meet again - run fast, jump high my "little dark one".

- Carole Bryant