

Review of 'The Definitive German Shepherd Dog'

Author Louis C Donald

In 1901, Captain Max von Stephanitz first published his book '*The German Shepherd Dog in Word and Picture*'. This was updated in 1923, and in 1987, thanks to the initiative of Herman Martin and Clemens Lux, a reprint was produced by the SV. It was not until after the Second World War that another book of the highest standard of technical detail and great breed importance was written and published by Dr Walter Gorrieri. His book, '*Il Cane Si Muove*', is still relevant today and should be read by every German Shepherd Dog lover. The monograph „*GSD - a genetic history of the breed*"" by Malcolm B. Willis from the Anglo-American sphere dating back to the year 1992 is also more than 30 years old and well worth reading.

During the last 100 years, canine terms and language, factual content, sociological framework conditions, and cynological science have changed considerably. Our German Shepherd Dog friends, particularly breeders, breed judges and breed lecturers, must adapt to these changes in terms and language, technical understanding of the canine anatomy and locomotive biomechanics.

Louis Donald's book '*The Definitive German Shepherd Dog*' has filled this lengthy bibliographic vacuum and need.

In this professionally produced book of 1,135 pages, you will find a complete, timely, and clear presentation of the German Shepherd Dog covering its entire breadth. There is nothing about the breed that has not been covered.

This book will appeal to the newcomer and the most advanced, experienced German Shepherd Dog enthusiast. It conveys important and indispensable information about our German Shepherd Dog, from introductory knowledge to the smallest detail in words and images.

A very extensive reference chapter allows the serious student of the breed to locate and further the author's source material, and further deepen their knowledge on that subject matter.

I am extremely happy that Louis Donald has closed the 90-year gap with his masterpiece, and I recommend the book to every seriously committed friend of the German Shepherd Dog. It is my wish that the book is translated at least into Spanish and German to reach further around the world of German Shepherd Dog enthusiasts.

In a nutshell: A must-have book for every German Shepherd Dog addict!

With kind wishes,



Professor Dr Heinrich Meßler

SV/ WUSV President