

## **Makes Us Special**

### **Reputable Toy and Miniature Australian Shepherds Breeders**

#### **What makes Shining Star Aussies Special?**

At Shining Star Aussies, we take great pride in our dogs and puppies. They are given the best care and socialization possible in order for them to develop into outstanding and productive members of the Toy and Miniature Australian Shepherds canine community.

At Shining Star Aussies, we only feed our dogs A+ rated dog food kibbles. We recommend Dick Van Patton's Natural Balance dog food products. Please refer to the icon of "dog food rating" to see how the different brands stack up. Our Miniature and Toy Australian Shepherds have fresh water available to them at all times. Their diet is also supplemented with additional supplements and vitamins depending on what stage in their life they are in. It is in our best interest as well as our new "Wiggle-butt family" for their new dog or puppy to have the best diet available. The balance of a strong nutritional diet builds the strong bone, muscles, teeth, a good mentality, and a lustrous shiny coat that every dog should have.

At Shining Star Aussies, our dogs are on a dedicated vaccination program along with a heartworm and regular deworming. Our local veterinarian is working very closely with our program to help us stay up to date on vaccines and new disease threats that may arise in order for us to insure that our canines have the utmost protection.

At Shining Star Aussies, we take all of our puppies and dogs to a certified veterinarian ophthalmologist and have their eye certified to be free of any genetic defects. All of our dogs are also certified with OFA good hip integrity. Since Australian Shepherds have a genetic background with some hip dysplasia, it is imperative that they are examined and x-rayed for this condition. An early estimate of a dog's hip soundness is invaluable, whether the dog's intended purpose is for breeding, for working, for agility, or as the family pet. At Shining Star Aussies we make sure all necessary testing is done to provide the new owner with the security and peace of mind that their purchase is sound investment.

At Shining Star Aussies, we diligently search to find the correct breeding for our males to our females for them to produce outstanding puppies with quality characteristics that enhance and improve the breed. Each dog must pass uncompromising criteria for confirmation, structure, temperament, and have the mindset to be intelligent, willing, and responsive companions. We strive to find the best crosses available to produce the quality dogs and puppies our customers are looking for. The pedigree of each canine is studied extensively before it is mated, so that there are no "skeletons in the closet" that appear later in the breeding program. The temperament of our canines is that of willingness to work hard, play hard, and love their master unconditionally.

At Shining Star Aussies, each puppy is lovingly socialized. We do not play favoritism. A "pet" quality puppy is just as important as a "Shining Star show" puppy. Our kennel is comfortable, stress-free, safe environment where the puppies play and roam about freely in their puppy pen. The adult dogs have their "own" homes and have plenty of room to exercise in their "outdoor" playpens. Our dogs flourish in, and enjoy their surroundings. We clean and sanitize our kennel on a daily basis. We work with the youngsters to begin litter box training and then work with graduating them to "potty" outside. This way when the puppies move to their "wiggle-butt" family homes they already have a sense of what housebreaking is.

At Shining Star Aussies, each puppy is unconditionally evaluated on a strict set of guidelines at 8- 9 weeks of age. In this evaluation, each puppy is graded on a scale for their temperament, structural soundness, breed characteristics, bite, and overall flaws in their character. Each score for the puppy is then totaled and at that time determination will be made as to whether the baby will be placed as a "pet" or "show" quality puppy. A copy of the evaluation is kept on file and is available to the new puppy owner.

At Shining Star Aussies, we offer a mentoring program for you and your “show quality” puppy to become one of our “Shining Stars”. As a “Shining Star member” we will work with you to show you the “ropes” of showing and breeding your show/breeding prospect puppy. We will keep in touch with you and answer any questions that you may have. We will try to give all the guidance needed in order for you and your puppy to be successful in the show ring and as a breeding canine. This will include book selections, e-mail correspondence, and an open invitation for you and your “Shining Star ” to spend quality time at our kennel and farm in beautiful east central Oklahoma. All Shining Star Miniature Australian Shepherds and Toy Australian Shepherds are considered ambassadors of our breed and we want the very best in representation being displayed for the public to see.

At Shining Star Aussies, we are a member of the North America Miniature Australian Shepherd Club of the USA (NAMASCUSA) and the Toy Australian Shepherd Association of America (TASAA). We also show our dogs on a regular basis throughout the country in the International All Breed Canine Association (IABCA) and the America’s Pet Registry (APRI) sanctioned shows.

Lastly, we at Shining Star Aussies consider each and every owner of a “Shining Star” canine a part of our extended family. These family members are lovingly called “Wiggle-butts”. We cannot stress enough to you as a potential buyer of one of our “STARS” how important you are to us. We always have a welcome mat extended to you and we are only a mouse “click” or phone call away if you have any questions or problems with your Shining Star “wiggle-butt”.

***“Whoever said you can’t buy happiness forgot little puppies.” ©***

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