

Highland Glenn English Shepherds

PUPPY YEARBOOK

Highland Glenn's Fahey x Highland Glenn's Fawn Meadow Siobhan Pearl

Born: June 23, 2016; their litter names are Irish (in parenthesis).

FIA (Aoife)

“Life is sometimes like going on a trip. You plan to go to Paris, let’s say, and you plan to see the Eiffel Tower. Then, the pilot of your plane says there has been a change in plans and instead of Paris, you are going to Holland where you see tulips not the Eiffel Tower. Each place is beautiful, just different. This is a little like what happened to me and how I came to be the loving human to my second English Shepherd puppy. My first English Shepherd, Maya, died three years ago of cancer. She was not even six years old. After she died, I contacted Tom and Krystal about getting one of their puppies, after a suitable amount of time had passed. I was approved for a puppy and expected to get one this summer. Instead, my puppy, Fia, arrived early.

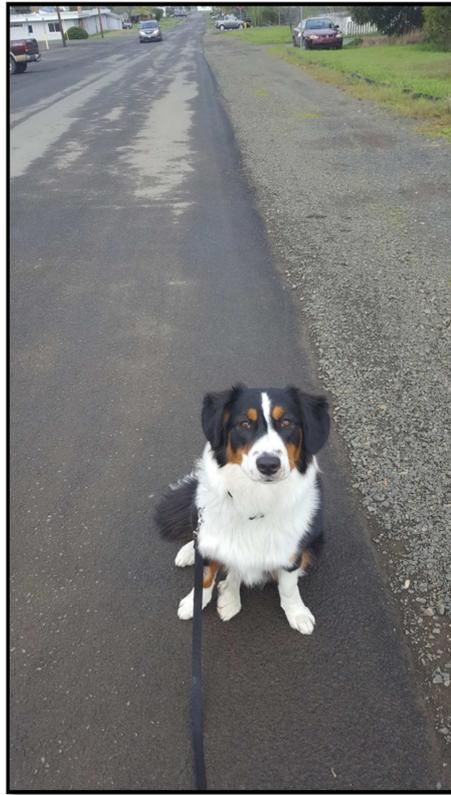


Krystal contacted me in late January about the possibility of providing a forever home to a Tri-color female, one of last year’s puppies, who needed a new home. Krystal said the puppy was seven and a half months old. After careful consideration, I decided to accept. I picked Fia up at the airport in Lewiston, ID on a cold February evening. I knew she was housebroken and crate trained, and had started work walking on leash and learning commands.

I can’t say it was love at first sight, but pretty close. She looked out at me from her crate with big, brown scared eyes, but licked my hand when I petted her and called her name. Fia has been a delight and a challenge. She has some behavior and training issues we are working at overcoming. She is loyal and protective. She is super smart and learns things very quickly. She is friendly with most people, but cautious of strangers. She is funny with a very sweet and endearing personality. She loves to lay on her back to have her freckled tummy scratched in the morning. She has filled the void in my life and then some.

One of our biggest challenges has been the cat. Fia wants to chase her. Fia is not even a year old and I know she will be an entirely different dog a year from now. Who knows? Maybe she and the cat will be friends.

I honestly could not have started this journey with Fia without the support, help, guidance and friendship of Tom and Krystal. Everyone who gets a dog should be so lucky as to have people who will, literally, “hold your hand” as you go through the rewarding and sometimes challenging adventure of being privileged enough to have one of these amazing dogs.” – *Ann Bloom, Oregon.*



PAGE (Maeve)

“Page has been an awesome, hardworking dog! Page was 6 months old when I got her. Within her first two days here she taught herself how to open doors. She's at the point where there is nothing more I need her to train in. Every night she herds the cattle into the barn, chickens into the coop and the ducks to their roost. The hardest part in her training was getting a bathroom routine that fit her schedule, but it is to be expected with any dog.



The raw meat diet I believe is the best and most natural way to feed any dog. She is very healthy and has the whitest teeth I've ever seen! By feeding her raw meat she has developed a better sense of smell and can discern on her own between raw healthy meat and spoiled meat. I now have a saying "if Page won't it then I ain't going to either." I would recommend this route to every dog owner.

She has been such a great help to me and an irreplaceable friend and employee. I am so grateful to you for my beautiful pup Page. Keep up the good work over there!” – *Jay Becker, Washington.*



SEAMUS (Eadan)

“Seamus, or Seamy as we usually call him, is one of the happiest dogs we have had the pleasure of knowing. Anytime you turn to him and say "hi" he looks at you with anticipation, the back half of him wagging. He's extremely people oriented and always ready to play.

Seamy is our second English Shepherd and the contrast between our two dogs is stark. Tavish is intense and protective, while Seamus is playful and curious (though also good at keeping an eye out). We got them both with the intention of teaching them some "light herding". Seamus is proving to be more intuitive and a little less intense than Tavish is on the animals, though Tavish is a better protector. Seamus quickly and quietly rounds up the chickens and waits for them to go back into their run (even when they don't need to be in) and then sits in the grass observing them to make sure they stay in their places.

Seamus also really enjoys playing by himself. He'll often throw a bone and then go attack it. We'll see him out in the yard pouncing on things or running full speed for no apparent reason. And of course, I must mention that Seamus is very photogenic. It's one of the reasons we got him. He likes to stare directly into the camera, which is unusual for dogs.

Seamus has done really well on raw food. He has a healthy appetite and generally prefers things with a good bit of bone.

Training has not always been easy, partly because we struggle to be consistent, but we're making strides. Seamus is very clever, having figured out how to open the front door whenever he wants to go outside.

Overall, we're very happy we brought Seamus into our lives, and so is Tavish, most of the time.” – *Luke & Allison Cirillo, Oregon.*



BABU (Failbhe)

“Krystal and Tom ... finally getting the opportunity to send you Babu’s first year puppy update. Well, he’s becoming more of a dog now!! And, now that we’ve past his first birthday, and the one-year anniversary of my first ES’s passing, I’ve discovered just how bonded we’ve become. On those days when I’m gone, but my housemate returns, she finds he stands at the stairs and looks for me.



Our journey hasn’t been an easy one, as you know! He is the BOLD (read: mind-of-his-own) dog I said I wanted. :-) And ...he LOVES people!!!! I’m not sure if his territorial tendencies will kick in and he will alert to folks arriving through barking, or if he’ll continue to “alert” through wagging his whole body when folks arrive!? I will say, since I first wrote this, he did alert to a small herd (i.e. mom and 2 young’s) of pot-bellied pigs strolling down the road!! And though he’s not sure what to do with little people, he’s developing a sensitivity around them, for which I’m grateful. There is a couple with a 2-year-old who are grazing sheep here on the farm. When they come to check on the sheep they bring Felicity. It’s great for him, and as the mom said, “he’s great with kids!”

The first youngster he met however, a 5-year-old fearful little boy, Babu wasn’t quite sure what to make of him. As we strolled around the property, he made sure the youngster stayed close to his peeps, circling and herding us all together in a huddle. It was fascinating to watch, though the 5-year-old and his concerned mom weren’t so convinced of that!

It’s difficult to articulate how we are connected and who I think he is as I’m still figuring him out. Apparently, as his photo will suggest ... he feels the same about me. :-D Isn’t he terrifically handsome, though?!?!?!?

With no other dogs to play with and my time being limited, his energy, enthusiasm and that typical ES drive to maintain order have been occasionally frustrating. I know, though, as he’s maturing, that this will be a good thing! There is a sense of interdependence about him that I really appreciate. Almost every morning, we go for a long walk around a large part of the 39 acre property. Until the past couple of weeks, while out and about he would stay within sight, always sniffing, running, and digging, digging, digging for those little ground rodents. Recently, however, he’s started to wonder a bit farther afield, though of course he does come back. It’s fun, if I stand very still, to watch him look and look for me. Eventually, he follows his nose and finds me, and we have a lot of petting and praising.

The biggest training challenge is easy to articulate: CATS! CATS! CATS! When he arrived, I had 6 total: 3 house cats, and 3 outside cats. He sniffs, then harasses them, and, frequently, barks at them, so rather than keeping them close to home and protected from predators, he keeps them skulking around. He is particularly incensed if the cats are sitting in my life, or snuggling in bed with me. Just yesterday, however, I discovered that one of my barn kitties had accidentally (or via coyote) ended up in the pen with my LGD’s ... alas, no one survives that mistake. Babu always ran to the barn to intercept her when

we go to feed the goats, and she's seemed to take it in stride and stay out of his reach. After I discovered her body, while crying, I brought her up as he was continuing to look for her. He sniffed her ...a lot, and seemed confused. During yesterday evening chores, he, again, ran out to find/harass her. Since I hadn't yet had the opportunity to bury her, I took him back to where her body was. Again, he sniffed and sniffed her, walked away from her, then turned to look back at her as though he thought that maybe she was getting up. He still seemed confused. This morning, during chores, he didn't run out to the barn. I think he knows.

Unlike my original ES, when it comes time for chores, if he doesn't get to be WITH ME during chores, he becomes quite indignant, meaning he barks incessantly and indignantly!! He just knows he needs to help me!!

I did try to introduce him to spending time around horses, though I didn't know how to do that, and at 4 months of age he was kicked. Though he didn't seem irreparably injured, it took him a couple of days to recuperate, and I suspect he still has some issues around it. He also has learned to be very respectful of electric fences. And, while running and running, according to the vet, I think he pulled his psoas muscle, though that seems to be less of an issue now that he's maturing.

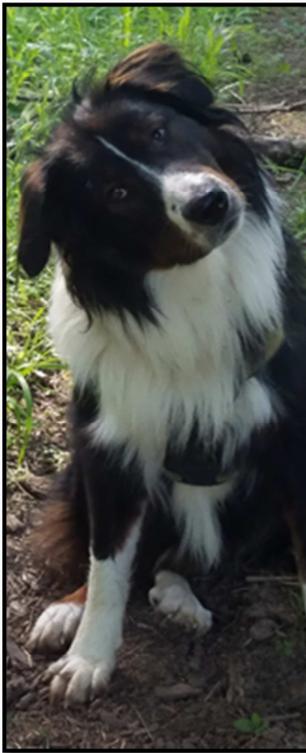
Feeding raw has been easy, though expensive. I don't actually "make" him raw food, I buy the raw Northwest bars which have not only the meat but veggies, oil and other supplements, making it "easy" for me. (Did I mention I have some time limitations?) Around Christmas season I felt like I wasn't feeding him enough and almost doubled his portions ... he got ... chunky (to use the term from my obedience trainer ... who was quite impressed with him. As an aside, we went to the trainer's annual Christmas party - which happened in February due to weather. Though still a puppy, after initial hellos, throughout the rest of the gathering, including a couple of "agility games" (which he did quite well at tunnels ... I think he'd make a great "ratter!") ... he just laid down at my feet as though he'd done this his entire, though short, life. :-) I think it was partially his "chunkiness" that may have contributed to his pulled muscle. :-(

As far as predator control ... well, that still remains to be seen. There is a coyote who is making her(?) presence known here and showed up in one of the fields closer to the house while the goats were out grazing. Babu had a funny bark when she showed up, which alerted me to take a look. Sure enough one of my goats who has some nerve issues in her neck and therefore doesn't run straight, was trying to run (circling) back with the other goats. I sent Babu after the coyote ... the coyote took off as we both ran in her direction, but Babu went after the goats ... at least he "put them back" into the barn. I'm hoping THAT will change, the chasing part, I mean. :-) I think it just will require some training and corralling that herding instinct he has. That same coyote has shown up again in another field, where the grass is 3 feet tall, and I've seen her through the grass a couple of times. While Babu was doing his Babu-in-the-field-sniffing-for-rodents thing, I called out to him and pointed toward the coyote ... he was clueless and went back to the task at hand. Eventually, though when we got in the area of where I'd seen the coyote he got the scent and ran and ran trying to find her ... he does have quite the sniffer!! :-)

The piece about him not having any playmates ... well there is the possibility of getting a slightly older BC/possibly Anatolian cross boy. They got together here yesterday and ran and ran and played and played ... Babu seemed so happy, so tired ... he didn't even see the CATS!

Back to the herding piece ...I've discovered a local gal who teaches herding and has agreed to meet with us to at least do the "herding instinct test." I think that will be a non-issue ... though I've seen him be a "dirty biter." However, having just posted his pic on FB celebrating his birthday I mentioned the instinct test and from another gal who also does herding with her ES got this very heartwarming reply: "The partnership you will build with your dog herding is priceless ... looking forward to great stories and reports from you ..." Though I could share more and more ... I will leave it at that ... thank you both for this most delightful, most complex and most heart-touching canine creature!!

Oh, but before I go ... he does LOVE the water and, conveniently, so do I!!!!" - *Beckie Haynes, Oregon.*



FINN (Conn)

“Fionn is maturing into a great addition to the family. He is a very handsome and his beautiful coat is great for Alaska. He absolutely loves playing in the snow, jumping and pouncing around in it like a fox. From the very beginning he has wanted to sleep outside. He curls into a cute little ball, covers his nose with his tail, and goes right to sleep on his mat. When I bring him in thinking it is too cold out, he just paces and pants inside until I let him back out. Unfortunately, he recently discovered he can scale the fence. So he is stuck sleeping inside until we can make changes to the fence. Now that it is summer, he acts like 60 degrees is a trial. If he finds any water he immediately lies down in it. We haven't got him to really swim yet. I plan to get some waders on and get him into deeper water soon. I will be amazed if he doesn't follow me. He is my shadow absolutely everywhere. I have been amazed at how clean his coat remains with very little effort on our part. Dirt just falls right off and thankfully snow balls in between his toes weren't much of a problem.



Fionn loves to be with us where ever we go and seems to always be up for trying something new. We didn't have him actually pull but did get him geared up for skijoring. He didn't mind the harness, ropes, poles, skis, etc. With the onset of summer we have also introduced him to biking, canoeing, hiking, and camping. We are also working on getting him familiar with some agility equipment. He flies through the tunnel and has no problem with super low jumps. He has been great off leash staying close and listening well. After one close encounter with a moose he has decided the best course of action is to pretend he doesn't see them. I think this attitude may have also extended to the black bear we encountered camping.

Our biggest concern is that regardless of how well Fionn plays with other dogs off leash, he is leash reactive/aggressive. Fionn is great on leash until we meet a dog he is unfamiliar with. He will lunge, bark, and growl until we are past the other dog and then he goes back to his nice non-pulling self. Once he knows a dog and has played with them, the leash is no longer a problem. There has been some improvement but it is an ongoing process to try and correct this behavior and make sure I am doing the proper things to help Fionn get over this issue. For his birthday he is starting obedience class that I have high hopes will help us get past this.

We have put considerable time and effort into obedience training. Exercise and consistency have seemed to be the cure all for most behavioral issues such as chewing, chasing cats, and herding the kids. These behaviors really only seem to show up if he is bored or we haven't given him enough exercise that day. A quick bike ride does miracles. We have also found that having the kids run Fionn through a quick round of commands can really help. Fionn is so smart and mellow that we often forget how young he is.” - *Cara Lewis, Alaska.*



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