



Conformation · Field · Obedience

Golden Tales

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January 2012

Bonefeathers Flags A'Flyin Am/Can CD, RA Named 2011 Heart of Gold Winner

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Photo courtesy of Judi Questel

Lexi

The Golden Retriever Club of Central New York annually recognizes one Golden, owned or co-owned by a Club member, with the Heart of Gold award. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge the close bond between Golden Retrievers and humans, for distinguished but unspecified contributions to the individual or family with which it resides.

The 2011 recipient of the Heart of Gold award is Bonefeathers Flags A'Flyin Am/Can CD, RA ("Lexi"). Flyer is owned and loved by Tom and Judi Questel.

To read Lexi's nomination submission, along with submissions for the other two nominees, please turn to page 8.

Congratulations to Lexi!

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Happy New Year!

President's Message

The Board met in early January to plan for the year and to establish a calendar for 2012. The full calendar is printed in this newsletter and is also available on the website. There are just a few highlights that I'd like to mention. First, we are hosting our third CCA assessment on April 7th. This is a chance to have your dog assessed by the breed standard without actually competing against other dogs. More information about the CCA is available at <http://www.grca.org/events/cca/index.html>. The premium will be available on our website in early February. The closing date will be March 31st.



meetings. Be sure to get to our meetings on time so you don't miss out on each topic. Lastly, we are planning some additional social events for the club. Many people join the club not only to learn and share about the world of golden retrievers but also to get to know other people who share the love of goldens. We don't always get that opportunity at meetings and events so, we're planning some events and activities that will provide opportunities for us to chat and have fun. We'll discuss this at our first meeting on March 22nd. Don't miss it!

Kathy

Where to Send It ... For
Golden Tales* - Web Site - *Golden Retriever News

Photos - Brags - Memorials - Letters - Stories

All members are encouraged to contribute. To save time and avoid confusion, all submissions are to be directed to Lynn Mickinkle. Material will be published, as appropriate, to *Golden Tales*, the Web Site, and/or *Golden Retriever News*. Send via U.S. Mail or Email. Photos returned on request.

Lynn Mickinkle, 200 Cobb Drive, Laconia, NY 13083
lmickin@esf.edu

Membership Information

GRCCNY invites as new members, anyone with an interest in Golden Retrievers! Applications are available from the Club secretary, or at www.grccny.org/memb_app.pdf.

Membership Options:
 Individual- \$25, Household - \$30, Associate (non-voting) - \$25.

We encourage membership in the Golden Retriever Club of America. Applications and further information may be obtained from Deborah Ascher, P.O. Box 69, Berthoud, CO 80513-0069, (970) 532-3124 or from the GRCA website at www.grca.org/grca-app.htm.

Golden Tales is the official quarterly member newsletter of **The Golden Retriever Club of Central New York, Inc.** a Member club of **The Golden Retriever Club of America** and Licensed by **The American Kennel Club**.



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Inquiries, submissions and correspondence should be directed to: Judi Questel, Editor, 426 Lee Road, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or e-mail bonefeathers@yahoo.com

***Dues are due -
is your GRCCNY membership current?***

***Back Issues of Golden Tales are on the Web at
www.grccny.org***

WELCOME
New Members

Jim and Pat Hermann, Syracuse
Rescue Honorary

Bill and Pat Irish, Fairport
Rescue Honorary

Brian and April Kennedy, Parish
Rescue Honorary

Steve and Leanne Morphet, Camillus
Rescue Honorary

Robert and Wendy Richardson, North Syracuse
Household

Bob and Joanne Thornton, Syracuse
Rescue Honorary

Stephanie Podejko, Central Square
Individual

** Election Required for Individual or Household Applicants*

Activity & Event Leaders

Puppy Referral
 Sallie Lennox & Carol Allen
 315-469-7926 — carosal@twcny.rr.com

Licensed Specialty Show-Trial
 Beth Greenfield
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 Carol Allen, Trophy Chair
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Passing of a Club Member

We were sorry to learn recently of the passing earlier in 2011 of Associate Member Kathy McMahan. Condolences are offered to her sister, Debbie Ameele.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

A letter was sent to all members in December as a reminder of Club dues. If you have not yet submitted those dues for 2012, please do so to: GRCCNY, PO Box 388, Jamesville, NY 13078. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Carol Allen, 315 469-7926 or carosal@twcny.rr.com

GRCCNY Specialty
 NYS Fairgrounds - March 31, 2012
 Come watch our breed
 strut their stuff!



Golden Tales is available
DIGITALLY
Delivered right to you via e-mail
Contact Judi Questel at bonefeathers@yahoo.com
and sign up today!

Club News & Events

Meeting Highlights

- The Following Is An Unofficial Summary -

GRCCNY meeting 10/20/11

Submitted by Beth Shelmidine, Secretary

Location – Gander Mountain. Meeting called to order by Kathy McCloskey, President.

Minutes from the September meeting were read and approved as read, no additions or corrections.

President's Report: 1) Requests that the membership evaluate what they hope the focus of the club for the future might be. 2) Asked for a report from Janis Tyler regarding the dock diving facility being undertaken at her store. Janis reports it is still in the works with a proposed opening in Spring 2012.

Secretary's Report: 1) Brag sheet circulated for members to report wins and awards. 2) No correspondence to note.

Treasurer's Report: 1) Balances given for three accounts. 2) Insurance payment and expenses from Hunt Test have been settled. 3) No further action regarding obtaining a club credit card.

Election of Officers: There being no changes to the slate of officers as presented in September by the Nominating Committee, motion made, seconded and carried that the Secretary cast one ballot for the following slate of officers for 2012 – President, Kathy McCloskey; Vice President, Beth Shelmidine; Secretary, Lynn Mickinkle; Treasurer, Carol Allen. Board of Directors: Judi Questel, Beth Greenfield, Ray Blaskiewicz, Sallie Lennox, Suzanne McDonald.

Committee Reports:

Specialty and CCA: 1) Beth G reports rebate check for 2011 Specialty is still not resolved, she is waiting for a return phone call from a FLKC officer. 2) Judges are already in place for 2012 Specialty, and all but one for CCA. 3) Specialty trophy pledge list lacks six donors, will appear in next Golden Tales. 4) We will rent two rings at SOTC for the CCA.

Golden Tales: Judi Q reports she has e-mailed current issue and the snail mail copies will go out next week. Field: All field events were profitable for 2011.

Eye Clinic: Lower attendance than ever before, club realized a modest profit. Dr. Kern is agreeable to doing 40 rather than 50 dogs if we choose to have a clinic in 2012. Discussion followed regarding possibly shortening clinic to four hours, perhaps holding event on a different weekend, possibly offering heart clearances or

microchipping.

Rescue/Referral: 1) Carol shared a profile of a recent rescue taken in that has had serious health issues as a result of a neutering complication, the expenses for him thus far have been in excess of \$2,000. 2) Carol has been reappointed National Rescue Chairperson.

Awards Dinner: Reservation and award submission forms to come out in next Golden Tales.

New Members: Application from Peter Vassallo voted upon favorably.

Unfinished Business:

Super Singles: Should this be discontinued or expanded to twice a year, perhaps spring and fall, maybe adding “Super Doubles” into the mix. It was agreed to continue this event, but are open to the possibility of changing it with the fine-tuned details as yet undetermined.

Equipment Purchase: Suggestion made by Maxine that the club purchase a Tangelo tosser. Beth Shelmidine opposed purchase, discussion ensued regarding her concerns. Motion made by Carol Allen and seconded by Pam Cox to purchase the tosser, motion passed. Beth Shelmidine opposed.

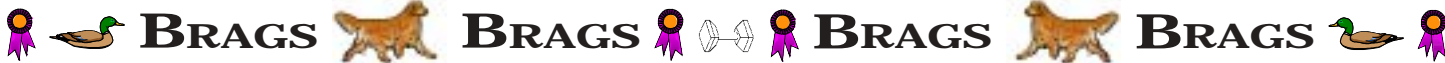
New Business:

GR News: The correspondent for the GR News will be the secretary of record from now on.

Agility: Discussion of holding an agility match. Pam Cox reports that an “A” match must be undertaken successfully prior to being able to hold an actual agility trial. Maxine Clark made a motion to establish a committee to investigate hosting an “A” match, seconded by Carol Allen. Motion passed. Committee will be Pam Cox, Judi Questel, Kathy McCloskey, Lynn Mickinkle and Maxine Clark.

“A Good Breeder Defined”: Project undertaken by Carol Allen. The draft will be mailed to all members using the same media as Golden Tales so that membership may review for further discussion at a subsequent meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM. Next meeting December 11 at Borio's Restaurant.



Bruce and Audrey Coleman report that in November, Vinny (Blue Ribbon's Vinny the Enforcer ***, MH, CGC placed third in the Open Stake at the Palmetto Retriever Club Field Trial in South Carolina, thus earning his first field trial point.

Beth Shelmidine is proud to say Cutter (Shor'Line Cuttin' Thru Ruff Seas) made the first cut in conformation from the Open Dog class at the GRCA National Specialty. Beth and Kylee (Laramie's N-Kylee Makes Three) also participated in the National Rescue Parade at the Specialty.

Cameo (Topflight Cameo Rose) and owner Kathy McCloskey completed their Excellent Fast (XF) agility title at the SOTC trial in October.

Also at the SOTC trial, Lynn Mickinkle and Tugger (Adirondac Tugs At Your Heart) successfully completed the tenth leg needed to earn a Master Agility Jumpers (MXJ) title.

At the SLVDC agility trial in September, Lynn Mickinkle and Comet (Topflight Shooting Star) earned their Excellent Agility Jumpers (AXJ) title.

Tom Questel is extremely pleased to report Diva (Bonefeathers Its All About Me) ran fast enough at the Wine Country trials to earn the last leg needed toward her Open Agility (OA) title.

Judi Questel and Sidra (Bonefeathers Sidra Caliente) also saw success at the Wine Country trials, completing their Novice Agility title.

Beth Greenfield and Ada (Birch Run Heart of Westbrook) made a road trip to the GRCA National Specialty and returned home with a new Rally Excellent (RE) title to their credit.

Janis and Dave Tyler report that Sonny (Storybrook Tessahoc Son of Larkspur) went Winners Dog in Springfield, MA this past August, earning one conformation point.

Pam Cox reports Sasha (Rivermate's Ice Dancer) has collected Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) and Graduate Novice (GN) obedience titles as well as an XF agility title. In addition, Sasha completed her Rally Advanced (RA) in October and is well on her way to completing her Rally Excellent title, picking up two legs at the SOTC trial earlier this month with first and third place finishes. She also took second place in the Wildcard Utility class at the SOTC trial.

Janet Gray reports Ace (Gold-Rush Spinnaker Wildcard) has enough documented therapy dog visits under his belt to earn the new AKC Therapy Dog (THD) title.

Judi Questel and Sidra (Bonefeathers Sidra Caliente) took a trip north of the border at the end of October, earning a Canadian CD obedience title in one weekend.

Bruce and Audrey Coleman report Fanny (Blue Ribbon's Funny Girl) finished her CDX earlier this month, earning the three required legs plus a bumper leg over two consecutive weekends.



Field Training Days

Sunday - April 15
Sunday - May 6
Saturday - June 30
Saturday - July 28
Sunday - August 19

Contact Maxine Clark for more information.

GRCCNY 2011

For the second year in a row, Borio's Restaurant in Cicero was the setting for the annual dinner and awards presentation. Club members once again had Dave Tyler very busy in his woodworking shop. This



Left, top to bottom: Joe Martin accepts awards for Maxine Clark; Beth Greenfield; Todd Clickner; Lynn Mickinkle. Above, Pam Cox; Kathy McCloskey presents Judi Questel with Heart of Gold Award. Awards presenters for all photos – Marcia Martin and Dave Tyler.

Title Awards

year there were 12 owners and 15 dogs earning a total of 30 new titles. Kudos to all who worked so hard with their dogs over the past year! A full list of titles awarded may be found on page 9.



Above, top to bottom: Judi Questel presents Tom O'Connell with Golden Member Award; Maxine Clark presents Lynn Mickinkle with Versatility Award. Right, top to bottom: Judi Questel; Kathy McCloskey; Tom Questel; Ann Wood. Photos courtesy of Tom Questel.

GRCCNY Heart of Gold Nominations

Each year the Golden Retriever Club of Central New York presents the Heart of Gold Award to a Golden, owned or co-owned by a Club member. The purpose of the award is to acknowledge the close bond between Golden and humans, honoring one dog annually for distinguished but unspecified contributions to the individual or family with which it resides. Below are the 2011 submissions for Bonefeathers Flags A'Flyin, Gold-Rush Spinnaker Wildcard and Adirondac Tugs At Your Heart.

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Bonefeathers Flags A'Flyin CD RA CCA Can-CD "Lexi"

2011 Heart of Gold Winner

Submitted by Judi Questel

The ears perk up, the tail starts to wag, lips curl into a smile, the eyes begin to sparkle. A child has been spotted. Lexi insists this child is hers to visit. While Lexi is more than happy to visit with anyone and everyone, she has a special affinity for children.



Dominick Questel and Lexi

Photo courtesy of Judi Questel

Lexi entered our lives the same way many dogs join families – as a puppy. At the time our three kids were teenagers. Shortly after Lexi's first birthday, our oldest left home for Army basic training. It was months before Sean was able to return home and he was afraid Lexi would have forgotten him. How wrong he was! At his return home in the middle of the night she

trumpeted her ecstatic welcome through a hollow bone. A couple years later, after both boys had left home for the military, we were all together again for Christmas. Once the kids were back home Lexi did a roll call, checking to make sure all three of "her kids" were accounted for. Her contentment was unmistakable.

When I was growing up our family was never allowed to have a dog as my mother was afraid of them. One summer my parents needed to visit three times in as many months. On the first visit my mother refused to stay at my house because of my dogs, insisting on a

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Ch. Gold-Rush Spinnaker Wildcard "Ace"

2011 Heart of Gold Nominee

Submitted by Janet Gray

I would like to nominate Ch. Gold-Rush Spinnaker Wildcard, a.k.a. "Ace" for the 2011 Heart of Gold Award.

Ace came to live with my husband Tom and I in July 2008 after a long and successful career in the show ring. In addition to being a beautiful dog on the outside, Ace possesses a pure golden spirit. His kindness and willingness to please successfully transitioned him from the show ring to therapy dog par excellence. Ace regularly visits a hospice facility and a nursing home as part of Cornell Companions. In the past he visited at a secure center for boys, where many times this was their first up close introduction to a dog. He was gentle and patient.

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Adirondac Tugs At Your Heart CDX RE AX MXJ OF JH VCX WCX CCA "Tugger"

2011 Heart of Gold Nominee

Submitted by Ray Blaskiewicz

With this letter I would like to nominate our Tugger (Adirondac Tugs At Your Heart CDX RE AX MXJ, OF, JH, VCX, WCX, CCA) for the 2011 Golden Retriever Club of Central New York Heart of Gold Award.

At my ever-advancing age I have had my share of life changing events, but none like those that occurred when that confident little puppy we named Tugger first entered our home. She immediately took control of all aspects of our life.

As first time golden owners to say that we were overmatched would be a gross understatement. But I was the one who wanted a puppy that "could do it

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2011 Title Awards

The following dogs were recognized at the Annual Awards for new titles earned. Congratulations to all!

Adirondac Dandelion Whine UD, RA, SH, WCX
(Clark)
VER
MHR Scout's Ada Mae MH WCX (Clickner)
GMHR
Birch Run Heart of Westbrook RA, CCA (Greenfield)
RE
Rivermate's Ice Dancer CD, RN, MX, MXJ, OF, CCA
(Cox)
GN, XF, CDX, RA
Adirondac Tugs At Your Heart RE, AX, AXJ, OF, VC,
CCA (Blaskiewicz)
MXJ, VCX, CDX
Topflite Shooting Star CD, RE, NA, OAJ, OF, SH,
WCX, VC, CCA (Mickinkle)
AXJ, VCX, CDX, OA
Topflite Cameo Rose CDX, RE, OA, OAJ, OF, WC,
VC, CCA (McCloskey)
AXJ, WCX, UD, XF, VCX

Topflite Skye's Still On Fire RN, JH, WC (Mickinkle)
CD
Quinleigh Blu Rivermate's Diver WC, CCA (Baritell)
JH
Bonefeathers Its All About Me RE, CDX, NA, NAJ,
Can CD, CCA (Questel)
OA
Bonefeathers Sidra Caliente RE, NAJ, CCA
(Questel)
CD, NA, Can CD
Tessahoc Bear Mountain Touch of Gold CD, RN,
CCA (Wood)
CDX
Lyn-D's Keep on Truck-N (Byrnes)
CD
Lyn-D's He's A Keeper (Berry)
CD
Topflite Bye Bye Birdie (Clark)
BN, JH

2011 Golden Member Award

The Golden Member Award is presented to a club member. The purpose is to recognize one member annually who consistently and ably contributes to the success of club activities and events.

Oftentimes, the Golden Member Award goes to someone in a leadership role for the club or club events. This year's award is going to someone who is not so obvious – someone who has given a multitude of hours to the club as well as to many of you as individuals. This person's talents have been given freely to the club. Many members may not know that the logo sign used at many club events was crafted by this person.

However, Tom O'Connell is quite well known for his photographic talents. He has been to many of our field training days, hunt tests, WC/WCX tests and local agility trials as well as being the official photographer at our CCA events. He is generous in giving us CDs that include our dogs' photos. Many of the photos have been in the GR News as well as our own Golden Tales.

Tom, we want you to know how much we appreciate what you do for us and want to recognize you by selecting you as the GRCCNY Golden Member for 2011.

2011 Versatility Award



Photo courtesy of Tom O'Connell

Comet

The GRCCNY Versatility Award is presented annually to a Golden, owned or co-owned by a club member. This award is to acknowledge the versatility of Golden Retrievers by recognizing one dog annually with a distinguished record of title achievement in multiple areas of endeavor, through either the American or Canadian Kennel Clubs, or the Golden Retriever Club of America.

The 2011 Versatility Award was presented to Lynn Mickinkle and Topflite Shooting Star CDX RE OA AXJ OF SH VCX ("Comet"). Congratulations to Lynn and Comet.

Shine a Little Light

The benefits of low-level laser therapy for dogs.

by Shawn Messonnier, DVM

Many natural therapies, including herbal therapies, homeopathics, acupuncture, chiropractic, massage and magnetic therapy, help dogs that suffer from musculoskeletal problems. Laser therapy is a new method of treatment that can also be extremely helpful for dogs suffering from aches and pains.

Holistic veterinarians are rapidly assimilating laser therapy, more correctly referred to as low-level laser light therapy, to help dogs with a variety of problems. Although LLLT can help dogs heal from almost any medical condition, it's most commonly employed for dogs with diseases of the musculoskeletal system (sprains and strains, hip dysplasia, shoulder dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, and cruciate ligament injuries) and of the nervous system (disc disease, lumbosacral disease and even epilepsy).

How LLLT Works

How exactly does laser therapy assist healing? Several proposed therapeutic mechanisms are involved. The most commonly accepted mechanism of action involves individual cells and light emission. Cells in the body emit and absorb light (biophotons); these emissions and absorptions help regulate various cellular activities, including cell division, cell-to-cell communication, cell activation (turning cells on) and migration (cell movement), all of which are essential processes in wound healing.

Optimal results occur when the laser light is low intensity (so that tissue is not heated, unlike with lasers used for surgery), only lasts for a short time, and pulses on and off rather than remaining static. The laser beam is aimed to effect healing.

The result of the biological interactions between the laser and the cells is healing. The exact nature of the healing depends on the condition being treated. For example, with musculoskeletal problems, healing results because inflammation and pain are reduced.

One Aspect of Treatment

As is true with all natural therapies, it's important to understand that LLLT is usually not the sole form of therapy. The ultimate goal is true healing, and anything that helps reach that goal should be used. In my practice, laser therapy is combined with other therapies (such as herbs, homeopathics and nutritional supplements) to offer the best chance of healing.

My general protocol is to use a number of therapies to allow healing, including LLLT several times a week for three to four weeks initially. Then, the laser treatments are used as needed to maintain healing while the dog continues its supplement regimen.

Because laser therapy is considered an alternative treatment, I recommend having it performed

only by a holistic veterinarian who has experience in a number of alternative therapies.

Princess' Pain

Recently, I used LLLT on Princess, a 4-year-old female Dachshund who experienced an episode of intervertebral disc disease in her lower back. The dog's conventional veterinarian had prescribed steroids and muscle relaxants to immediately relieve pain and inflammation. Her owner sought my care to decrease and ultimately stop these medications, yet allow Princess to return to a normal lifestyle.

In addition to prescribing supplements for a maintenance protocol, I also treated Princess twice-weekly for three weeks with LLLT. Using laser therapy rather than needles to stimulate the acupuncture points was successful in quickly healing Princess (and it was easier to administer because Princess did not like to sit still during her visits!). Each treatment lasted approximately two minutes, didn't cause pain and was performed while Princess was comforted in her owner's arms.

Natasha's Knee

I also used laser therapy on a middle-aged Rottweiler named Natasha, who suffered lameness associated with a mild tear in her right cranial cruciate ligament. Various conventional anti-

Continued on Pg. 12 ⇨

A Potential Giant Step Forward in Lymphoma Treatment

by Jennifer Coates, DVM

Lymphoma is one of the most common forms of cancer in dogs. Every time I diagnose one of my patients with lymphoma I have what boils down to a “bad news, a little bit of good news” discussion with my client.

First the bad news: Lymphoma in dogs is almost always a fatal disease. But the good news is that unlike some other types of canine cancer, we can sometimes manage it quite successfully for an extended period of time.

For the minimalists among us, prednisone alone can make a dog feel almost back to normal for several weeks to months. More aggressive chemotherapy protocols can help many dogs live happily for an additional year or even longer. While this might not sound like much, when you put it into the perspective of a dog’s short life, it is significant.

A new, experimental vaccine might make the “good news” associated with canine lymphoma even better.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania recently tested a vaccine that is made by growing B-cells (a type of lymphocyte, the cells that become cancerous in lymphoma) from the patient’s own blood. These cells were then loaded with RNA that had been isolated from the dog’s tumor and injected back into the patient. Dogs in the study received three vaccinations after standard chemotherapy protocols achieved remission, and the progression of their disease was compared to a group of dogs that received chemotherapy only.

Dogs that were vaccinated and those in the control group both had similar rates of relapse. However, when treated with a second round of chemotherapy called a rescue protocol, dogs that were vaccinated had much better survival rates than those in the control group. Some vaccinated dogs were still disease-free after three years.

According to Nicola Mason, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and one of the authors of the study: “Though vaccinated and unvaccinated dogs relapsed with clinical disease at the same time, 40

percent of vaccinated dogs that relapsed experienced long-term survival after a second round of chemotherapy; only 7 percent of unvaccinated dogs that relapsed and were treated with the same rescue chemotherapy protocol survived long term. Furthermore, when the vaccinated long-term survivors did eventually die, they showed no evidence of lymphoma on full necropsy.”

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The Truth About Garlic

Busting myths and misconceptions about this beneficial bulb.

by Deva Khalsa, VMD

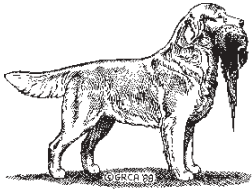
Garlic has been valued for thousands of years for medicinal purposes. Five-thousand-year-old Sanskrit and Chinese medical manuscripts describe the benefits of garlic, and it was also a valued staple for the Egyptians, Babylonians, Greek and Romans. Today, garlic is grown all over the world. Although it’s primarily used in food for its flavor, garlic is making a strong comeback as a potent natural remedy.

Is garlic safe?

For as long as people have used garlic, they’ve fed it to their animal companions. Recently, the safety of garlic for dogs has come into question, but astute owners should gather all the data before shunning this bulb.

Garlic is approved as a flavoring, spice or seasoning for use in pet food, yet the U.S. Food and Drug Administration lists garlic in its poisonous plant database for dogs. Studies suggest that garlic fed in excessive quantities (5 grams of whole garlic per kilogram of the dog’s body weight) might cause damage to the red blood cells of dogs (Lee, K.W., et al; “Hematologic changes associated with the appearance of eccentrocytes after intragastric administration of garlic extract to dogs.” *Am J Vet Res.* 2000; 61[11], 1446-1450).

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Our Club's Column in *Golden Retriever News*

Submissions to Golden Retriever Club of America for publication in Golden Retriever News appear here for the benefit of members who have not yet joined GRCA.

For the Love of the Field

by Maxine Clark, Guest Columnist

Fall is in the air here in Central New York and with it comes the end of our field season. Our monthly training days are over, our Super Singles competition is next weekend followed by our licensed AKC hunt test the following weekend. Add the fact that we do a yearly WC/WCX and you can see that "field fever" has hit our club and we are loving it.

Field was the last of the performance venues that I entered into with my dogs. I wasn't quite sure handling dead birds was something I wanted to do. My dogs with their love of the retrieve and birds soon made the choice for me, we were in this game to stay. The intensity of going to the mark and the look of pure joy when returning with the bird is a beautiful sight. A dog friend of mine told me many years ago that a dog that is allowed to do what it was bred to do is a happier dog. And every retrieve shows that pure joy in the dog. Loving the outdoors, any form of training and spending time with my dogs, field was added to the top of our training agenda. So when the silver van pulls out of my driveway headed to the fields and ponds, all four Golden Retrievers are inside. They are never too

young or old to enjoy the day out in the field.

Today I ran a hunt test in Little Falls, New York, in pelting rain and high winds from Hurricane Irene and on the way home I thought – it isn't about the orange ribbon that sat next to me in the passenger seat or the title after the next leg, but the love of the game, the enjoyment of the dogs, the friendships made and all the memories adding up that put the smile on my face while driving home cold, soaked to the skin and in need of a nap. It was a wonderful day spent with good friends and good dogs. How lucky can you get? Hope to see you in the field.

Thanks, Maxine, you've inspired many in our club to experience their dogs doing what comes naturally.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Carol Lantiegne, as we bid adieu to her as our club columnist. We are grateful for all of Carol's wisdom and devotion to the breed. From this point forward, our club secretary of record will be the contact person regarding our GRNews club column.



⇒ Laser (Cont from Pg. 10)

inflammatory medications did not improve her limping, and her veterinarian strongly recommended surgery. Because Natasha's owner wanted to avoid surgery, she sought my care.

Surgery is necessary for some dogs with cruciate ligament injuries, but I have found success with many of these patients by using a variety of natural remedies, thus avoiding expensive surgery and the significant postoperative rehabilitation and physical therapy that goes with it.

I prescribed anti-inflammatory herbs, homeopathics, and joint supplements containing glucosamine and hyaluronic acid. In addition, Natasha received laser

therapy applied to her knee weekly. Currently, she's healing well. Her lameness is decreasing and it appears that she will not require surgery. My plan is to continue her supplement regimen indefinitely, and use LLLT as needed to maintain healing.

Laser therapy is not a cure-all for every dog. It's another natural therapy that has been successful in both people and pets afflicted with various medical problems. LLLT is inexpensive (approximately \$35 per session), painless and induces healing, rather than simply hiding symptoms.

This article first appeared in the July 2010 issue of Dog World magazine and is reprinted with permission.



Rescue Reporter - By Carol Allen

Your Club endorses and promotes the work of Golden Retriever Rescue of Central NY and encourages your individual support through membership, donations and volunteered assistance. For more information contact Carol Allen at 315-469-7926.

It's Like A Box of Chocolates – You Never Know What You'll Get

With respect to Forest Gump, answering the phone for a rescue program is like a box of chocolates. Some very sweet, some kind of nutty....you get the picture.

Phone rings. A man says he's looking for a Golden puppy. I tell him that Rescue rarely has puppies but invite him to talk. I ask him if he's has or had a Golden. "Yes, but something unfortunate happened". I was curious but decided to wait to pursue that and instead asked him if he had already applied to either of the two Golden Retriever rescue programs in the area. "Yes, but they are too strict and wouldn't consider my application because I have 'invisible fencing' " I explained that many rescue programs wouldn't not consider a home with an "electronic containment system". "Well, I don't know why not" he says. So I ask about what unfortunate thing happened to his Golden. "She ran through the fence and was hit by a car". I try to talk about "fencing" of this sort being a false security and probably in most cases worse than no fence at all and that this breed may have particular difficulty in being trained for electronic systems because of their drive and desires to be social. I ask him to research the breed carefully using the GRCA website and invite him to call again.

Phone rings. Woman said, "you may not remember me but 2 years ago I gave two puppies to your rescue program". Yes, I did remember that the two puppies, a male and a female, were born without tails and her customers weren't interested. She continued "I told you I was going to breed a young female next week that a guy had given me a few weeks ago and you asked what I knew about the female. When I said 'not much' you said that I was an unethical breeder." Thinking I was about to get a piece of her mind, I braced myself, needlessly as it turns out. She says, "I want to thank you. I was a 'backyard breeder' but no more. I've lost a lot of money and had to have several females spayed that couldn't get the clearances. My male has the clearances now. And I volunteer one day a week at the shelter. Any dog I breed again will have the clearances". Perfect? No. Progress? Yes.

Phone rings: "How much does it cost to adopt a Golden?" I explain that each rescue programs sets its own fees and ours is currently \$250 with sliding scale for seniors. "That's awful. How can you dare to charge so much? I can get one free from the newspaper". I explain that veterinary care for each dog far exceeds the adoption fee as each on is spayed or neutered, all

vaccinations and tests are current, all treatments carried out and they are evaluated in a foster home". Still he argued. Treading less carefully, I suggest that he wait until his finances are in better order before considering a dog at all for likely he'd find the costs of even routine care beyond his means. I said there is no such thing as "free dog to good home". Silence. Then dial tone.

Phone rings. An older voice (older = older than I am!!) tells me they have had dogs all of their lives and now want a Golden, one year or younger. I ask when they last had a puppy and what breed it was. Answer: 15 years ago and Beagle mix. Fenced yard? No. Thoughts about exercise? We walk a dog on leash on the sidewalk. I tell him my age and ask his and then say, "very few of us can walk far or fast enough to adequately exercise a young Golden Retriever" and "would you consider an older Golden?" "No, we don't want to lose a dog." I ask if this means he wants a dog to outlive him. "Yes, someone else will have to take her - its too hard on us to lose another dog."

Phone rings: Its 4 PM on December 24th and I'm about to get into the Christmas spirits.

"I want a puppy or young Golden and it has to be today - it's all my kids are asking for".

I bite my tongue wanting to say "and shall I put a bow on it and deliver it to the top of your chimney?" I try to explain what a poor time for any dog to enter a new home and family and suggest alternative timing. "No, I need to find one tonight".

Phone rings: "My female is in heat - do you have a male I can adopt right now?" I explain that breeding is a tremendous responsibility and a financial one, too and that any breeder to whom I might refer him would have no interest in talking with him. Further, any dog adopted from this and most rescue programs is altered. Although polite, he wasn't pleased.

Phone rings: Our answering machine took the call at 10AM. "I'm going to get a Golden Retriever puppy today. Can you help me find one?" I return home at 2PM and immediately return the call. "Thanks for calling back but I just returned from P__L___with a puppy". I wished her well and said good-bye. So much for planning.

But like the box of chocolates, there is lots of variety in the calls and most are from nice people seeking a family companion and willing to listen and learn.

The following letters were received by GRCA from the Broad Institute

Dear Golden Retriever Community,

We are writing to say thank you for all the help you have given us over the years in collecting samples! We have recently updated our website (www.broadinstitute.org/doghealthupdate) with a new on-line health update form. We would like to ask your help in taking a few minutes to provide us with a health update on your Golden.

If you have any questions please feel free to email dog-info@broadinstitute.org.

Thank you again for all your continued support, we couldn't have gotten this far without your help!

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lappin, DVM

Dear Dog Owner,

We are writing to say thank you for all the help you have given us in collecting samples and responding to our health updates! We would like to share with you an update on some of our recent successes and where we are heading in the future.

We are currently working on more than twenty different diseases and cancers that affect different breeds (see our new and improved webpage www.dogDNA.org for descriptions on all the projects). With your help we have now collected over 12,000 samples from over 150 different breeds to support these studies!

A recent episode of a PBS's NOVA series "Dogs Decoded" featured our work. The show offers a scientific view of how dogs evolved from wolves, how their species is uniquely connected to ours, and what researchers are learning about human disease by studying dog genomes (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/nature/dogs-decoded.html>).

Below we highlight a few studies that recently have been published in high impact scientific journals:

A connection between wrinkled and periodic fever: Familial Shar-Pei Fever (FSF) is a condition that causes recurrent episodes of unexplained fevers, which can be accompanied by swollen hocks and muzzles. Sometimes FSF can result in renal and liver failure. Shar-Pei dogs have two unique features: a breed defining "wrinkled" skin phenotype and a genetic disorder called Familial Shar-Pei Fever (FSF). The wrinkled phenotype is strongly selected for and is the result of excessive hyaluronan (HA) deposited in the skin. HA is a molecule that may behave in a pro-inflammatory manner and create a "danger signal" by being analogous to molecules on the surface of pathogens. FSF is characterized by unprovoked episodes of fever and/or inflammation and resembles several human autoinflammatory syndromes. We show that the two features are connected and have the same genetic origin, a regulatory mutation located close to a HA synthesizing gene (HAS2). The mutation is a 16.1 Kb duplication, the copy number of which correlates with HAS2 expression and disease. We suggest that the large amount of HA responsible for the skin condition predisposes to sterile fever and inflammation. With this strong risk factor identified we are currently working on a validation of a potential genetic test. (Olsson et al. A Novel Unstable Duplication Upstream of HAS2 Predisposes to a Breed-defining Skin Phenotype and a Periodic Fever Syndrome in Chinese Shar-Pei Dogs. *PLoS Genetics* 2011.)

Similarity between human breast cancer and canine mammary tumors. Mammary tumors affect the mammary gland and are the most common tumors found in unspayed female dogs. Several subtypes exist but may segregate in the same families. By comparing the DNA of 212 female English Springer Spaniels (ESS) with mammary tumors and 143 healthy dogs we evaluated 10 human breast cancer genes for association with canine mammary tumors. Two genes, BRCA1 and BRCA2, were significantly associated with the disease, indicating that BRCA1 and BRCA2 contribute to the risk of mammary tumor development in ESS. This study shows that canine mammary tumors and human breast cancer are similar at the genetic level and that information learnt about mammary tumors could help us understand human breast cancer also. (Rivera et al. Mammary tumor

Continued on Pg. 18 ⇨

⇒ Lexi (Cont from Pg. 8)

motel instead. She would come to the house and talk to the dogs, but everything she said had a qualifier. "You're a pretty dog, but you're a big dog." My dad had suffered a stroke and his mobility was compromised. He was sitting on the couch when Lexi decided he needed company. She gently got on the couch next to him and laid her head across the front of his shoulder. My mother watched this with amazement – to think this "big dog" could and would do this, something Dad's own Poodle would not! On their second visit a month later, they did stay at our house though Mom was still cautious around the dogs. By the third visit my mother surprised me by bringing gifts for the dogs. I give Lexi all the credit in winning my mother over.

Lexi started her therapy dog career when she was two, visiting a local nursing home as well as an A.R.C. day-hab center. While she enjoyed this work, her true niche was discovered with the Children Reading to Dogs program. Lexi loves to visit the library and heads directly to the stairs leading down to the children's room. Lying on the floor, children with her, time flying by. It's her picture of heaven. Even surgery didn't deter her, just days after having a mastectomy and lumpectomy she was again lying contentedly on the library floor while the kids loved on "their" Lexi.

Lexi has always had the attitude that she needs to take care of things. She earned the nickname "Nurse Lexi" because if someone was not feeling well, she would snuggle with them until they were back on their feet again. She was an awesome mother, having three litters, and was my foundation bitch. Even after she was done having puppies, whenever a litter was born Lexi would sit outside the whelping room and fret. She would shift her weight from one front leg to the other, all the while talking to us. She reminded me of a Jewish grandmother and I could just about hear her say, "Babies! I know there are babies! Where's the chicken soup? I have to take care of the them!" I have always said a dog needs to feel they have a job, Lexi's was always to care for babies – two-legged or four. She is also the family referee and tattletale, and is the first to offer apologies for any perceived transgressions. The latter is with a toothy grin, vocalizations, and even a sneeze or two. I never even knew a dog could sneeze at will until Lexi came along.

Life with Lexi can be frustrating as well. She made it clear that while it was fun to practice obedience

routines at home, she was not a fan of the show ring. Even so, she did earn both her AKC and CKC novice obedience titles as well as novice and advanced AKC rally. She discovered the Open ring could be fun – on her terms. Having earned two legs toward her CDX title, the third was never to be. It wasn't that she couldn't do it, it was that she wouldn't do it – each time we did manage to succeed she earned a placement ribbon. Lexi managed to earn an NQ in just about every way possible, and every time with a smile on her face. She stubbornly refused to earn that last leg. After more attempts than I can remember I finally relented and told her she was done in the ring, focusing on the therapy work she much preferred. She has certainly done her part in teaching me patience when working with dogs.

At 12½, Lexi is starting to slow down now. She savors every new day and takes enjoyment from the little things in life. No matter what nickname we call her by – Lexi-Boo, Pooh Bear, Mumzie, Ma-Ma or Grand-Ma-Ma – they all mean the same... love. Therefore I would like to nominate Bonefeathers Flags A'Flyin Am/Can CD, RA, CCA for the 2011 GRCCNY Heart of Gold Award.



⇒ Ace (Cont from Pg. 8)

Ace regularly accompanies me on rescue home visits and most always is a part of a rescue presentation, parade or function. Recently, Ace was awarded the AKC Therapy Dog title for his many hours of therapy work. Ace is the neutral dog for therapy dog testing. He also volunteers for the Salvation Army during the Christmas season with their Red Kettle Program.

At home, as the senior member of a four golden retriever pack, Ace endures the taunting and antics of a puppy with calmness and the wisdom that he knows this is just a stage. There is not much that can "ruffle his feathers."

Many times I hear, "We love our dog, but we LOVE Ace... can we take him home?"

Ace has been a blessing to our family and to everyone he meets along the way. It has been said that we should aspire to be like our dogs. I know I aspire to be like Ace – giving, forgiving and loving life.

⇒ Tugger (Cont from Pg. 8)

all,” even though at the time I didn’t even have a clue as to what “all” was. And I certainly wasn’t prepared for a dog that, while more than talented enough to do “all,” was equally determined to do it “all” in her own fashion.

Talk about a perfect storm, clueless trainers versus stubborn dog. The storm left behind a monumental trail of failures in all areas of performance – field, obedience and agility. In some instances the handler was clearly to blame, but more often than not the lack of success was due to Tugger doing what Tugger wanted to do. You could enter a four day obedience trial and she would select a different exercise to not perform on each day. Agility trial? If the urge to poop comes at the top of the A-frame well let the good times roll. Hunt tests? To this day her concept of “honoring” remains steadfast in that it is her honor to get every bird thrown. To heck with the other dogs.

I could lie to you and say that we were not frustrated by the constant failures. Tugger on the other hand has never had a bad day at a test or a trial. She simply returns home to the roost she so capably rules, perfectly content in her days’ work, knowing full well that pass or fail she still commanded all of our love.

So how, you might ask, did such a naughty little girl attain so many titles after her name? Take a look around the room at the awards banquet. It will be filled with so many of our friends, all of whom we never would have met if it weren’t for Tugger. Friends who took us under their wing, taught us proper training methods, encouraged us when things weren’t going well, and applauded our ever increasing successes. Talk about life changing, and all due to one now not so little dog.

⇒ Lymphoma (Cont from Pg. 11)

It appears that chemotherapy and the vaccine work together to improve survivability. The details of how this might work are still unclear, but continued research could lead to even more exciting results. As Dr. Mason said: “These dogs just received three doses of vaccine, three weeks apart. If we kept boosting the immune system in this way by vaccination, perhaps the dogs would not relapse in the first place.”

A lot has changed in our home since Tugger first entered our lives. We now play second fiddle to not one, but three golden retrievers. As she approaches eight years of age Tugger is pretty much retired from performance events, but she remains the indisputable leader of our pack.

If all goes well I hope to be joining Tugger in retirement soon. It’s kind of a promise between me and her. Tugger is, above and beyond all else, Daddy’s girl, and we still have countless bumpers and birdies that need to be fetched in the fields surrounding our house. And who knows, if she is feeling benevolent Tugger may even grant Comet and Blaze the privilege of retrieving one once in a while.

Although she is Daddy’s girl, Tugger is reluctant to demonstrate her love for me. Follow me around the house? Not a problem. Attached to me at the hip on the couch? You bet. But how about a kiss, Tugger? No kisses for Daddy. Mommy want a kiss? Tugger goes lick, lick. Kari want a kiss? Tugger goes slobber, slobber. Kiss for Daddy? Tugger turns her head away. She will not, under any circumstance, give me a kiss. There was a point in time when her unwillingness to lather my face in dog spittle actually hurt my feelings.

Do you think maybe she really doesn’t love her Daddy? Think again. At the end of every busy day, when it is time for the lights to go out, there she is, snuggled up against me, head on my shoulder, sighing contentedly, soon to be dreaming of the bumpers and birdies, jumps, tunnels and weaves, that with a new dawn her Daddy will surely provide her.

Life changing? Not my Tugger. She defines my life and I am blessed for having her.



The dogs in this study had what is called non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma in the human medical world. Fingers crossed that this research will lead to great advances in treatment for both people and pets with this all-too-common disease.

This article first appeared as the November 16, 2011 Fully Vetted blog entry on www.petMD.com and is reprinted with permission.

⇒ Garlic (Cont from Pg. 11)

Considering the data presented in this study, the average 75-pound Golden Retriever would need to eat about 75 cloves of garlic in a meal before its red blood cells experience any adverse effects. Similarly, a 12-pound dog would need to eat 30 grams of garlic (about eight to 10 garlic cloves) to experience adverse effects.

To compare, drinking too much water can kill you (a condition known as water intoxication), but we all drink water and we know that it's a healthy thing to do. So where do you draw the line on how much garlic to feed your dog?

The National Animal Supplement Council records both adverse events and serious adverse events resulting from the use of natural products. A serious adverse event is described in a NASC report as "a transient incapacitating effect [i.e., rendering the animal unable to function normally for a short period of time, such as with a seizure] or non-transient [i.e., permanent] health effect."

Nine hundred million doses of garlic over a 22-year time span resulted in only two serious adverse events, as recorded in a NASC report. It's possible that these episodes could have been due, not to garlic, but to another ingredient in the mix. These results suggest that the risk of garlic is low. So what's the moral of the story? Perhaps, moderation is the key to good health.

Bulb benefits

Garlic should not substitute veterinary care and the correct choice of antibiotics, but its antifungal, antiviral and

antibacterial effects can contribute to the healing process. Garlic increases general immune activity along with the activity of cells that seek out and kill invading bacteria and cancer cells. Uncooked garlic helps to lower blood triglycerides and cholesterol, making it useful for certain breeds, such as Schnauzers and Beagles, which are predisposed to high levels of triglycerides and cholesterol.

There's a secret to releasing the healing powers of garlic. Allicin is the most powerful medicinal compound derived from garlic, but garlic does not contain allicin. Rather, garlic must undergo a chemical process to the allicin can form and be released. When garlic is crushed, an amino acid contained within it reacts with an enzyme, creating allicin. You must finely chop or crush a garlic clove, then wait between 10 and 20 minutes to allow the chemical reaction to occur. Allicin is unstable when exposed to air and heat, so don't wait more than 20 minutes before you top your dog's meal with some healthy raw garlic.

Cooking garlic destroys allicin, but other components in cooked or powdered garlic provide beneficial health effects. Compounds in cooked, powdered and raw garlic act as antioxidants and help flush toxins out. If you cook meals for your dog, it's safe to add garlic as a flavoring and for improved health.

Tasty and terrific

Cancer is the No. 1 cause of death in dogs in the United States. A host of studies in humans suggest that the allicin in garlic works to inhibit cancer formation, and the

Dr. Khalsa's Recommended Daily Garlic Dosages

Toy Dog

(5 – 10 lb)

1 small or ½ large clove

Small Dog

(10 – 25 lb)

1 to 2 cloves

Medium Dog

(25 – 40 lb)

2 cloves

Large Dog

(40 – 70 lb)

3 to 4 cloves

Giant Dog

(70 to 110 lb)

4 cloves

same benefits might apply to dogs, too.

To take advantage of the big health benefits of this small bulb, buy a garlic press or simply chop some garlic very finely and let it sit for 10 to 20 minutes. Then mix it in with a tablespoon of cooked, cooled chopped beef or chicken and place it on top of your dog's meal. Voila! You've made a meal fit for a king – or a pharaoh!

The information in this column is intended for educational purposes. It is not a substitute for medical advice. Consult your veterinarian with questions about your dog's individual condition(s) and/or circumstances.

This article first appeared as the Advice from the Natural Vet column in the October 2011 issue of Dog World magazine and is reprinted with permission.

⇒ Broad Institute (Cont from Pg. 14)

development in dogs is associated with BRCA1 and BRCA2. Cancer Research 2010.)

Genes for immunological disease in Nova Scotia duck tolling retrievers could have helped dogs overcome a viral outbreak many years ago. A canine systematic lupus erythematosus (SLE)-related disease complex that includes both antinuclear antibody (ANA)-positive immune-mediated rheumatic disease (IMRD) and steroidresponsive meningitis-arteritis (SRMA) is found in the Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever breed. Dogs with the ANA-positive disease display stiffness, fever, joint and muscle pain and in rare cases, the liver and kidneys may be affected. The cause of the disease is unknown and typically starts when animals are between 2 – 6 years of age. By comparing 81 affected dogs and 57 healthy dogs we identified five regions of the genome associated with these diseases. Several of these regions contain genes involved in activating the T-cells in the immune response. Since T-cells are important for fighting off viral disease one might speculate that the dogs that survived the canine distemper outbreak that happened ~100 years ago, were those with a strong immune system. While active T-cells were good to overcome the disease it

might now potentially lead to autoimmune disease. (Wilbe et al. Genome-wide association mapping identified multiple loci for a canine SLE-related disease complex (SLE). Nature Genetics 2010.)

In addition, we have recently found genes and published papers of canine compulsive disorder, progressive retinal atrophy and epilepsy. For additional reading see <https://www.broadinstitute.org/node/2945>. Please stop by and take a look at www.dogDNA.org, where you can now make health updates online, or download our new health update form. If you care to make a donation to further help our research please visit the following website and select Dog Disease Research: <https://friends.broadinstitute.org/contributeonline>

If you have specific questions, please contact us at dog-info@broad.mit.edu. Thank you again for all your continued help and support!

Sincerely,

The Dog Genome Group

Green Defined

From “organic” to “eco-friendly” and “holistic” to “natural,” many hot buzzwords are used to promote a wide array of dog products, including food, treats, toys, beds and accessories. If you’re confused about the official definitions of all these words, you’re not alone. Refer to the following to find out what each term actually means.

Eco-Friendly

Simply put, to be eco-friendly is to be friendly to the Earth. Before buying an eco-friendly product, determine if the product: consists of durable recycled ingredients and materials; was manufactured in an environmentally friendly fashion (Does the manufacturer use wind or solar power? Does it utilize electric power instead of gas?); is cruelty free (Is the company mindful of human rights and animal welfare?); is local or regional (the farther a product travels, the higher the levels of carbon emitted). This term is not regulated.

Green

To “go green” means to reduce your carbon footprint and lessen environmental carbon emissions. Green

pet products include organic foods; beds, leashes, and toys made from sustainable or recycled materials (such as hemp, bamboo and reclaimed cotton). This term is not regulated.

Holistic

Derived from the word whole, holistic health care doesn’t simply look at a symptom or disease, but instead considers every aspect of an individual or animal’s life and employs a combination of conventional and alternative methods of treatment. Holistic therapies include supplements, physical therapies and nutritional therapies. This term is regulated by American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association (www.ahvma.org) and the National Animal Supplement Council (<http://nasc.cc>).

Continued on Pg. 19 ⇒



Views from the Doghouse

By Judi Questel, Editor

*Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of "management."
This column is the price y'all have to pay for stickin' me with this job.*

A Boy and His Dog

As a breeder, I always appreciate feedback on the pups I have placed over the years. Occasionally the news is sad – a dog has been ill or passed away – but most of the time the reports are positive. Some can be quite entertaining, too.

This past summer I sent a litter of pups off to new homes. One little female went to a family with four children, preschool through upper grade school ages. The puppy was named Orlaith (a Celtic name, pronounced Or-lah). A couple months after Orlaith went to her new home, I received an email from the mom with a scanned copy of a homework assignment done by her 8-year-old son, Killian. It was certainly interesting to see his view of things in this essay assignment:

Have you got a golden retriever? Well I've had three now. I went to Ogensburg to get her from a family that needed some owners for all the pups. There were seven or eight of them. I wanted to get them all. They were all just soo cute! The mom, the one who gave birth to them, was very playful. When we saw Orlith we agreed to get her. I got to name her. Also her dad was a famous tv dog! On the way to get her, I was so excited. I couldn't stop busting with excitement! As we were taking her home, she was crying and whining. I felt very sad for her. She had to stay in a puppy crate all the way home. As soon as we let her out of the crate she

ran all around our yard. She was so happy but we had another dog and his brother died so we got Orlith to play with Shames. At first Shames didn't get along with her too good because he still missed our dog that died and his name was Beau. After he got used to her he didn't growl at her or not be nice to her. After the months went by they have been best buddies. They never get mad at each other. Orlith got trained and now since Orlith has a new brother they play a lot even inside, even when they get in trouble. When we let them outside they start to play. I will never forget the day I went to get my new dog Orlith.

While there was certainly some creative license here – Orlaith's sire is not a "famous tv dog" but he is an Am/Can breed champion – and sometimes the spelling was a bit off (notably their other dog is named Shamus, not Shames), I think it was a nice effort by this young man. Apparently his teacher liked it too, as "Very nice work!" was written on the top of the paper.

While hearing reports of various accomplishments regarding our puppies is always wonderful, knowing these dogs are much loved family members is always the most rewarding part of being a breeder. May Killian and Orlaith have many years of "a boy and his dog" memories to be made ahead of them.

⇒ **Green (Cont from Pg. 18)**

Natural

Natural pet food refers to a feed or ingredient derived from plant; animal or mined sources, either unprocessed or subject to physical processing, heat processing, rendering, purification extraction, hydrolysis, enzymolysis or fermentation. The feed or ingredient can't undergo a chemically synthetic process, nor can it contain any additives or processing aids that are chemically synthetic except in amounts that might occur unavoidably in good manufacturing practices, according to the American Association of Feed Control Officials. This term is regulated by American Association of Feed Control Officials

(www.aafco.org).

Organic

Organic foods are produced without the use of artificial fertilizers, chemical pesticides or sewage, and cannot be genetically modified, irradiated or processed with antibiotics. Following the same regulations as human foods, pet-food products labeled organic must contain at least 95 percent organic ingredients. This term is regulated by United States Department of Agriculture (www.usda.org) and Organic Trade Association (www.ota.com).



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Meetings

All meetings at Gander Mountain's Community Room, 5864 Carmenica Drive, Cicero unless otherwise indicated. Exit #30 from I-81 (next to Cracker Barrel Restaurant).

March 22 (Thursday)
7:00^{PM} General Meeting

June 7 (Thursday)
7:00^{PM} General Meeting

August 1 (Wednesday)
7:00^{PM} General Meeting

Sept 12 (Wednesday)
7:00^{PM} General Meeting

Activities

GRCCNY Specialty - Mar 31
NYS Fairgrounds, Syracuse

CCA - April 7
SOTC Training Facility, Syracuse

Club BBQ - June 2
TBA

WC/WCX - August 11
Echoewood, Mexico

Eye Clinic - October 14
Date Tentative
Village Veterinary Clinic, Canastota

In case of inclement weather, information regarding meeting or event cancellations may be obtained by calling Kathy McCloskey- 315-233-9571