



Conformation · Field · Obedience

# Golden Tales

© 2010 - The Golden Retriever Club of Central NY, Inc. - Published Quarterly

July 2010

## GRCCNY To Hold Inaugural Hunt Test

by Judi Questel

### 2010 Officers & Board

**Kathy McCloskey, President**

315-233-9571

kmcclosk@twcny.rr.com

**Maxine Clark, VP**

315-963-8682

MaxDoglady@aol.com

**Beth Shelmidine, Secretary**

315-232-4108

golden28@twcny.rr.com

**Carol Allen, Treasurer**

315-469-7926

carosal@twcny.rr.com

**Board Members**

**Ray Blaskiewicz**

315-470-6654

rwblaski@esf.edu

**Judi Questel**

315-393-5379

bonefeathers@yahoo.com

**Beth Greenfield**

315-363-0012

BGreenfield@oneidahealthcare.org

**Sallie Lennox**

315-469-7926

goldengalsal@twcny.rr.com

**Suzanne McDonald**

315-699-1573

suzimac@twcny.rr.com

**On the Internet  
www.grccny.org**

September 12<sup>th</sup> will mark a milestone for GRCCNY as the Club holds its first-ever AKC Hunt Test at Three Rivers WMA in Baldwinsville, NY. This event will be held in conjunction with the Finger Lakes Retriever Club, which will hold its hunt test on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Much discussion went into the decision of whether to add a new venue to what GRCCNY already offers and sponsors. The GRCA WC/WCX tests have been offered for quite some time, which are also field tests; were these events enough or should we go a step further and offer an AKC title event as well?

Details were researched as to requirements, which included holding an AKC sanctioned Hunt Match event prior to AKC giving approval for an actual Hunt Test. This Hunt Match had to be run exactly as a Hunt Test would be, to prove that we were able to handle such an event. Many Club members with experience running the WC/WCX tests stepped up to the plate to organize the Hunt Match; several other Club members, both experienced and complete newbies alike, volunteered to help. The Hunt Match, held on May 9, 2009, was a huge success. Approval from AKC to hold licensed Hunt Tests soon followed.

Judges for our inaugural Hunt Test will be Dan Lewis and Carol Lewis for the Junior level, Jay Best Jr. and Justine Lorentzson for Senior level.

Volunteers will once again be needed to make this event run smoothly. Take it from someone who threw birds all day for the Hunt Match, you can't get a better front row seat than as a volunteer. Contact Maxine Clark to sign up – no prior experience necessary.

For those who may be interested in running their dog, premiums are available on line at <http://entryexpress.net/>. Entries close September 1st with random draw on September 2nd.

### Inside

President's Message .....	2
Goldens Remembered .....	3
Welcome New Members .....	3
Meeting Minutes .....	4
2011 Specialty Trophies .....	5
Member Brags .....	6
Stop Scratching! .....	7
Dig It! .....	8
Rescue Reporter .....	9
All That He Can Be .....	9
GRCA News .....	10
GRNewsColumn .....	11
Views from the Doghouse ...	15
Events Calendar .....	Back Cover



**President's Message**

I hope everyone is having a good summer and coping with the heat. It certainly has made some adjustments to my dog training!

If you weren't at our last meeting, we had 8 new members voted into the club. That is very exciting to me and just adds to the rich tapestry of our membership. Welcome to you all.

As a club, we have a very busy few months ahead of us. In addition to our general membership meetings on August 19<sup>th</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>, we also have two training days at Three Rivers on July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>. The July 25<sup>th</sup> day will be devoted to learning about and training for the WC and WCX. Our WC and WCX tests are on August 1<sup>st</sup> at Echoewood in Mexico, NY. I emailed the premium to people who have entered in the past as well as anyone else Maxine or I could think of who we thought might be interested. If you want a premium, you can email me or obtain it from our website. Even if you don't enter, I encourage you to come out and learn by watching and, even better, by helping us to run the event. If you'd like to help, please contact Maxine. Her contact information is on the front of the newsletter.



Next we have our first AKC hunt test on September 12<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Finger Lakes Retriever Club the day before. The premium for this event can be obtained from the website <http://www.entryexpress.net/>. We will need lots of help to make this event run smoothly. Again, if you would be willing to help you can contact Maxine. We will also be recruiting volunteers at our August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. The event will be followed by our Super Singles to be held at Echoewood on September 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a fun social event and intended for all levels of dogs and handlers. We'll talk more about this event at our August meeting.

Lastly, we have our annual eye clinic at Village Veterinary Hospital on October 17<sup>th</sup>. More information is included in this newsletter.

These events are part of the reason for which most of us belong to this club. I encourage you to volunteer for at least one, or more, of the events. Our dogs would all say "Sure, I'll do it. Pick me!"

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 Beth Shelmidine. 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.

**Beth Shelmidine, PO Box 4, Lorraine, NY 13659**  
**[golden28@twcny.rr.com](mailto:golden28@twcny.rr.com)**

**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](http://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](http://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**.



Original and republished material is selected on the basis of quality, author credentials, and potential interest to members, but implies neither acceptance nor endorsement of content, methods, or products by GRCCNY. We are honored to have received multiple Dog Writers Association of America awards.

Previously published and copyrighted material appears with permission of author/publication. Original material is copyrighted by GRCCNY, and may not be republished without written consent from the Editor.

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

***From Your Best Friend***

Please don't mourn for me today  
My love was strong, but I couldn't stay  
The Rainbow Bridge, they call this place  
And God has blessed it with his grace

In His hands I am safe and sound  
And you won't believe who all I've found

If some days seem too much to bear  
Just close your eyes - You'll find me there

*By Permission from Sandy Rolling  
Iowa City Golden Retriever Club*



**Goldens  
Remembered**

Image ©Debrah Muska, Animal Images - Modified from original

**Storybook's Poise'n Ivy CCA CGC**

*Dave and Janis Tyler*

**Quincey**

*Tom and Jill Malagisi*

**Cinnamon**

*Carol Allen and Sallie Lennox*

**Maggie**

*Mike and Linda Bonczek*

**Activity & Event Leaders**

**Puppy Referral**

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

**Licensed Specialty Show-Trial**

Beth Greenfield  
315 363-0012 — BGreenfield@oneidahealthcare.org  
Carol Allen, Trophy Chair  
315-469-7926 — carosal@twcny.rr.com

**Eye Clinic**

Patti Gambier  
315-794-0355 — zeropctdown@adelphia.net

**Internet Web Site**

Lee Painting  
315-524-2234 — lpainting@aol.com

**Member Records/Database**

Liz Moran  
315-699-1322 — elizmoran@twcny.rr.com

**Golden Tales Newsletter**

Judi Questel  
315-393-5379 — bonefeathers@yahoo.com

**WC / WCX**

Maxine Clark  
315-963-8682 — MaxDoglady@aol.com  
Kathy McCloskey  
315-445-9682 — kmcclosk@twcny.rr.com

**Annual Banquet**

Lisa Andrews  
315-455-6874 — quinala2@aol.com

**Golden Retriever News Correspondent**

Carol Lantiegne  
315-963-8403 — puppies@adirondac-goldens.com

**WELCOME**

**New Members**

**Cindy Barry**, Pennelville

*Individual*

**Becky Byrns**, Fulton

*Individual*

**Pamela Cox**, Manlius

*Individual*

\* Election Required for Individual or Household Applicants

Don't Forget... Golden  
Tales is available  
***ELECTRONICALLY***  
via e-mail. Have you  
tried it yet? Contact  
Judi Questel at  
**bonefeathers@yahoo.com**  
today to sign up!

**Back Issues of Golden Tales are on the Web at  
<http://www.grccny.org/Newsletter.htm>**

## More Club News & Events

### Meeting Highlights

- The Following Is An Unofficial Summary -

#### GRCCNY meeting 6/10/10

Submitted by Maxine Clark

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 PM by President Kathy McCloskey. The minutes were read and accepted. A brag sheet was circulated.

Kathy announced that we will be collecting dog hair to donate to "Matter of Trust" for oil spill clean up. Kathy encouraged members to join the GRCCNY Yahoo group. Send her your email and she will send you a link to join.

The treasurer's report was given by Carol Allen. A balance was reported for our three accounts and all bills are paid to date.

Correspondence – We have received a thank you from GR Foundation for our donation of \$900.

Carol Allen announced that puppy packets will soon be available for breeders at the GRCA store for \$3 each. The Morris Animal Foundation has partnered with the GRCA Foundation to battle canine cancer.

GRCA will have a new CD out soon on the WC/WCX.

Membership – The following were voted in and welcomed as members: Ann Wood, Cindy Berry, Becky Byrns, Janet and Tom Gray, Martha and Russell Sturtz and Kari Mickinkle.

Specialty – Beth Greenfield thanked all involved. We had 64 dogs entered giving 2 points for dogs and 3 points for bitches. We had a loss of \$180. A trophy list for next year's specialty was circulated by Carol Allen. Carol gave an explanation of what the money goes for.

CCA – The CCA made a profit of \$572 with 24 entries and 3 alternates. Beth thanked all members who worked to pull this off so smoothly.

Field – Our next training day is July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 AM at Three Rivers. The WC/WCX will be August 1<sup>st</sup> in Mexico with Lisa Weinberg and Art Bresleau judging. Kathy will get the premium to Judi for the July issue of Golden Tales. We still need a gun team. Birds are ordered and will be

delivered July 16<sup>th</sup>, Ray will keep them until the test. Super Singles will be September 26<sup>th</sup> at Echoewood. Carol Lantiegne has agreed to a fee of \$1 per dog. All the clubs using Three Rivers share the cost of the "porta-pottys" for the six-month training/trialing season, our share is \$231.12. It was voted on for Carol Allen to send a check for this to Tom Rourke.

Eye Clinic: The eye clinic will be October 17<sup>th</sup> in Wampsville. The flyer will be sent with the July issue of Golden Tales.

Rescue – Numbers are smaller than this time in previous years. Janet Gray talked about the Golden Reunion that GRCCNY is holding this year.

Website – Kathy told about a tech teacher willing to design our website at a rate of \$30/hour with an estimated time of 10-20 hours. Suzi and Carol Allen will work with Kathy on this. It was decided to go with this, with a cap of \$600.

Kathy called for volunteers for a nominating committee for the year – 1) Sallie Lennox, 2) Ann Wood. 3) Lynn Mickinkle. They will report on the slate of officers at the August meeting.

Awards Dinner – It was reported that everyone liked the Spinning Wheel. It was suggested to try a different night. Lisa will be asked to check and see if other nights are available.

Raffle baskets for the National Specialty – Carol Allen explained that this is a way of helping the host club. This will be discussed more in August.

Carol Allen brought up that we have members who were officers for 10 years that should be recognized (Janis and Lisa). It was decided to do this at the awards dinner. Carol will put together a gift for each (wine/glasses).

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM. Next meeting 7:00 PM on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Gander Mountain.

# 2011 GRCCNY SPECIALTY

## Will You “Sponsor” a Class?

by Carol Allen

It is nine months until our April 2011 Specialty but our Trophy List has to be submitted this fall. Following our practice of alternating among the three Golden Retriever Foundation Funds, it is again the Rachel Page Elliott Fund for Public Education to which our donations will go. Our goal is to once again donate as much as possible – public education impacts us all and is a key component of breed improvement and vitality. Our Club is proud of our members who make these donations instead of presenting “hardware” trophies at the Specialty.

If you are able to support a class, contact Carol Allen at (315) 469-7926 or carosal@twcny.rr.com. Select a class and ask if it is still available. Mention if you wish to have your donation “in memory of” or “in honor of”. All we need to know is pledges; we’ll send you a reminder in the spring when the pledged amount is due.

Many thanks to our members who have already pledged: Fukes, Salce, Allen, Greenfield, Lynn, McDonald, Mueller, Wood, Gray, Berry, Byrns, L. Mickinkle, K. Mickinkle, Supernault.

The number in (\$) is the minimum pledge for that class.

### CONFORMATION:

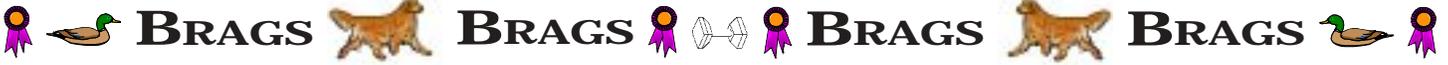
- Winners Dog (\$30)
- Winners Bitch (\$30)
- Reserve Winners Bitch (\$25)
- Open Dog (\$25)
- Open Bitch (\$25)
- American Bred Dog (\$15)
- American Bred Bitch (\$15)
- Bred by Exhibitor Dog (\$15)
- Bred by Exhibitor Bitch (\$15)
- Novice Dog (\$15)
- 12-18 Month Dog (\$10)
- 12-18 Month Bitch (\$10)
- 9-12 Month Dog (\$10)
- 9-12 Month Bitch (\$10)
- 6-9 Month Dog (\$10)
- 6-9 Month Bitch (\$10)
- Veteran Dog, 8-10 Years (\$10)
- Veteran Bitch, 8-10 Years (\$10)
- Amateur Owner/Handler, Dog (\$15)

### OBEDIENCE:

- High Scoring Golden  
in Trial (\$50)
- in Novice A (\$10)
- in Novice B (\$10)
- in Open B (\$10)
- in Utility B (\$10)

### RALLY:

- High Scoring Golden  
in Rally Novice A (\$10)
- in Rally Novice B (\$10)
- in Rally Advanced A (\$10)
- in Rally Advanced B (\$10)
- in Rally Excellent A (\$10)
- in Rally Excellent B (\$10)



Suzanne McDonald and Cedar (Adirondac Cedar Chest of Gold CD JH) completed their CD obedience title at the January SOTC trials, earning two legs with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placements.

Carol Lantiegne reports that Rusty (Adirondac Rusty Jason CD MH WCX CCA VC) completed his Master Hunter title in April.



Photo courtesy of Gail Puzon

Gail Puzon and Glory with judges Ilene Morgan and Doris Viguers

Gail Puzon and Glory (One Ash Brit's True Glory Ale UDX3 TD JH) earned their Tracking Dog title in Danby, VT on April 25<sup>th</sup>.



Photo courtesy of Bruce Coleman

Vinny Coleman shows off his new MH ribbon.

Bruce and Audrey Coleman are thrilled to report that Vinny (Blue Ribbon's Vinny the Enforcer \*\*\* MH CGC) completed his Master Hunter title at the Carolinas Retriever Association Hunt Test on May 2, 2010.

Sally Baritell had a good weekend at the German Shepherd Club obedience trials in mid-May, completing two CD titles with Haley (Rivermate's Hail Storm CD CCA CGC) and Caper (Birchrn's Heart-N-Soul CD CCA CGC).

Beth Greenfield and Ada (Birch Run Heart at Westbrook RN CCA CGC) now have two Rally Advanced legs.

Karen Fukes reports that Dora (Schuyler Dora Where R U Going CCA) took first place in the American Bred Bitches class at the SLVDC show on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Dawn Supernault reports that Tucker (Hillock's Caribbean Nights) recently took 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placements from the Open Dog conformation class.

Anne Wood and Dusty (Indian Acre Dusty Road RE UD CCA CGC) completed their Rally Excellent title at the SOTC trial on June 13. Anne also reports that Molly (Tessahoc Bear Mountain Touch of Gold CD CCA CGC) earned two legs toward her Rally Novice title at the SOTC trials. In late breaking news, Anne reports Molly finished her RN title at the Binghamton trials – congrats!!

Judi Questel and Sidra (Bonefeathers Sidra Caliente RA CCA) completed their Rally Excellent title at the SOTC trials in June. Sidra also completed her Novice Jumpers agility title in mid July.

Ray Blaskeiwicz reports that Tugger (Adirondac Tugs at Your Heart) has completed her Agility Excellent Jumpers (AXJ) and Rally Excellent (RE) titles.

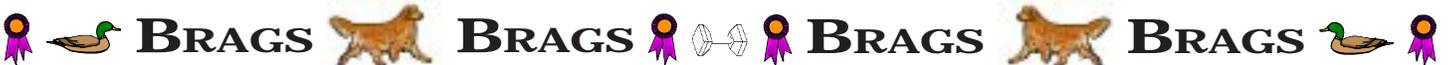
Lynn Mickinkle and Comet (Topflite Shooting Star) have earned their Agility Novice Jumpers title in addition to CD and RE obedience titles.

A huge congratulations to Beth and Lee Painting as Regal (Graceridge Painting's Birdwing CCA) completed his Champion title at the Yankee GRC Specialty in June.

Lynn Mickinkle reports that Blaze (Topflite Skyes Still On Fire) has earned his CGC.

Kathy McCloskey reports that McKenzie (Adirondac Lass McKenzie) earned her GRCA VCX by earning her CCA in April.

Kathy also reports that Cameo (Topflight Cameo Rose) has earned her NA, OA, OAJ and OF agility titles. She has also earned her CDX obedience title and GRCA VC title.



# Stop Scratching!

by Mara Bovsun

It had become a tradition for the man and his dog. Every month, they'd go to the veterinarian for steroid shots, which were essential to keep the Wire Fox Terrier from scratching himself raw.

On the way home the pair would stop at a fast-food drive-in, where the dog would be treated to a nice big burger, his reward for being such a good boy at the vet's.

But the terrier's symptoms grew progressively worse. Finally, after about six years of scratching and suffering, the owner decided to see a specialist, John C. Angus, DVM, a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology (ACVD).

By then, the dog was "one big, red rash," and bald over 80 percent of his body, Angus recalls.

Angus put the terrier through a battery of tests to try to pinpoint the source of the itch.

## The culprit? An allergy to beef.

Unwittingly, the dog's devoted owner was rewarding his pet with a Whopper-sized dose of the very thing that was making him sick. On top of that, his premium-brand dog food was beef. It was a recipe for misery.

At first, the owner could not believe it, and got angry at the vet for making such a suggestion.

But all doubt evaporated after the food trial. In three months of dining on rabbit-based meals, the terrier's skin cleared, his hair grew back, and he held his head and tail high. He became a normal dog.

While this case was extreme, in both the severity of the dog's suffering and the success of the solution, the story is far from unique. Itching is among the most common complaints in veterinary offices.

"It's a problem I see on a daily basis," says Bonnie Beaver, DVM, a professor in the Department of Small

**Dermatology  
detectives can  
save your  
dog's skin –  
and  
everyone's  
sanity.**

Animal Clinical Services, Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine, and a past president of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Dogs will be brought in because their constant scratching, day and night, is driving their owners crazy. Owners want something fast, a shot or a pill, to get the dog to stop, but it's not that simple.

Itching, Beaver says, is just a symptom, a sign that something is irritating the skin, and the cause may not be apparent. "Sometimes it takes a lot of detective work to find out what's causing the problem," she says.

## A Word for It

During his six years as a primary-care vet, Angus saw hundreds of dogs who spent the better part of every day scratching. The scientific term for an unbearable itch is *pruritus*. Rolling, scooting, rubbing against furniture, licking, licking, or the "corn-cob-like" chewing of a leg, are all canine coping mechanisms for pruritus, and can lead to hair loss, red rashes, and sores. It was such a frequent, frustrating problem that Angus decided to go back to school to specialize in veterinary dermatology.

"A lot of times, vets and owners will want to provide a dog with immediate relief, so they will give steroids," Angus says. Another drug – Atopica – is also used for itch relief. It is a low dose of the drug cyclosporine, which is used in humans to prevent rejection of organ transplants. Atopica, Angus says, is a good choice for severe cases where an anti-itch medication is needed long-term.

But chronic, lifelong use of any drug is not an ideal solution for an itchy pet.

"Frequently, itching leads to other problems," says Linda Bell, representative for Pet Partners, Inc., the

**Continued on Pg. 12 ➔**

# Dig It!

by Peggy Swager

To say that dogs dig because that is what dogs do is a bit of an inaccurate statement. Some dogs don't ever seem to want to scratch their paw into dirt – others, especially terriers, Dachshunds, and several breeds I've owned, seem to dig with commitment. In truth, dogs dig for different reasons. Some are bored, some dig to get out, and some dig to get critters. There are different ways to try and change the habit of a dog who is digging when and where you don't want. Understanding why and when the dog is going to take up digging can help you choose how best to deter the dog's unwanted habits.

If your dog digs because he is bored or likes the entertainment of digging, you will benefit from setting aside an area where you don't mind indulging him. One way to do this is to set up a pen in an area where he can enjoy bare dirt to dig in. You can begin your training for the dog to dig in this area by confining him to the area. Take note if your dog tends to dig more after a rain when the ground has stronger scent, and be sure to pen the dog on those days. After he gets in a few good digs in your designated area, try leaving the gate open so he can come and go. You can also encourage your dog to use the digging area by putting some animal scent (available at hunting-supply stores) in the digging area.

Some digging problems are a matter of location. Your dog may choose to scratch holes in your flower garden, or along a fence when he detects a neighbor dog nearby. You may cover up that hole only to find that he goes right back and again digs up the dirt. One of the easiest ways to stop spot digging is to put some of the dog's droppings in the hole. For whatever reason, dogs don't like to dig their elimination. Leave the droppings for several days until he changes his habit of digging in that unwanted area.

If you don't want to use the dropping idea, there are some commercial sprays available. Boundary Guard is one such spray. You can spray Boundary Guard in the area where you don't want the dog to dig. This does a fairly good job of discouraging digging, but be aware that you need to reapply it at least once a day. You will need to keep reapplying the spray for a week or two until the dog gets out of the routine of digging in a specific area.

## Secure the Perimeter

Some dogs dig with the mission of escape. Many northern breeds, such as Siberian Huskies, are known escape artists. Some smaller dogs quickly learn that digging under a fence means freedom. If you are dealing with this kind of a problem, you need to create barricades that prevent the dog from digging to freedom.

With kennel enclosures, you may choose to make the entire kennel floor out of concrete – but that has some disadvantages. Constant standing on concrete can be hard on paws. Another alternative is to pour a perimeter pad. The perimeter pad is about a foot wide and can be about two inches on the outside of the fence and extend inside the kennel enclosure. The very interior of the kennel is left as bare dirt.

If you are trying to secure your perimeter in a grassy area, you may want to use chicken wire to prevent a dog from digging out. This is a bit of an undertaking, but it has long-term success. You will first need to uproot your grass by digging down a few inches. A lot of grass can be peeled back, making it look like a sod roll. Once the grass is removed from the area, use a two-foot-wide roll of chicken wire. An ideal situation is if you can secure part of the chicken wire underneath the fence. Lay the chicken wire on the ground and replace the sod. Make sure you water that area extra for the next two or three weeks to allow the root to grow deep again, through the wire. If the dog tries to dig in any area, he will be stopped from escaping by the chicken wire. Even if you need to repair an area or two in the beginning, most dogs learn quickly to give up this escape idea.

Sometimes after you have secured your fence, you find the dog gets out under a gate. One Husky rescue I housed would paw under the gate, make a small indentation, and then squeeze out. To solve that problem, a buried a four-by-four post on each side of the gate, running the length of the gate similar to a door threshold. That kept him from digging out.

If you need to discourage a dog from digging in random places, you may want to try an electronic

**Continued on Pg. 13** ➔



## **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.

Rescue work seems to be one continual series of highs and lows. Every day seems to bring some of each.

Rarely a day goes by when we do not receive at least one report of how well an adopted Golden is doing, how much that dog means to the family, how happy the dog seems. Pictures accompany many of these messages. Very seldom – only a handful of times in 15 years and nearly 600 dogs – has the adoption not “worked.” Success has been because of thorough evaluation of both the dog and the potential adopting home. For that we owe thanks to our foster homes and our adoption volunteers.

The highs are many and they sustain us. But there are some lows.

Two weeks ago a man, recently divorced and living apart from his family including his dog, asked us to accept his male Golden. The dog has had seizures for several years but the family elected not to have the dog take the medication because of the expense of the accompanying bloodwork. So now I was faced with trying to find a foster home (already in short supply and particularly so this time of year) for a dog that is incontinent during seizures. It was taking me some time to find a willing foster home but I figured that

after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July it might be possible. But on July 5<sup>th</sup> I received a terse email message: “The dog is dead. Contact my ex-wife for details.” I made that call to learn that the Golden had “broken his chain,” ran into the road and was hit by a car.

How many times can you kick yourself?

And last week there was an intake in the southern part of our region and I drove there to handle it. Upon arriving at the foster home with a very timid fearful young female, I unlatched the crate. As I did the dog hit the door with such force that both the foster mom and I were not only caught off guard – we were knocked off balance. Out of the crate, down a long driveway, up the road, and into very thick underbrush and forestation. For the next hour I waded through “bramble where a rabbit wouldn’t go” (remember Davey Crockett?). This story has a good ending – how the dog was recovered is quite interesting and I’ll tell you about it next time. By then I hope to be able to report that this fearful girl is adjusting well and has made tremendous progress.

A good old-fashioned dull moment would be very welcomed.

## **“I Will Give Him The Opportunity To Be All That He Can Be”** An interview with Sara Kuzenko of Phoenix, Arizona, about her rescue dog “Arthur”

by Carol Allen

*Q: How did Arthur become your dog?*

A: Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue of Oklahoma rescued a group of Goldens from a puppy mill. Some of those rescued Goldens were transported to Rescue a Golden of Arizona and one female, “Amber,” whelped her litter of seven only two days after arriving in Phoenix. I had been on a waiting list for a male puppy and adopted “Arthur.” He was born on May 21, 2007, and became my puppy seven weeks later.

*Q: What were your initial intentions?*

A: Arthur was originally intended to be my pet and I wanted to have him become certified as a therapy

dog. As part of that certification process he had to earn the AKC Canine Good Citizen. It was on the AKC website that I discovered that non-registered purebred dogs could obtain the Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) and compete in all AKC events except conformation.

*Q: What has been accomplished thus far?*

A: Today, Arthur is AMBER’S SWEET ARTHUR HAMISH CDX, GN, RAE, CCA, TDI. He is first and foremost my best friend and with his certification with Therapy Dogs International he and I volunteer for area hospices when we are not showing.

Continued on Pg. 14 ⇨

## Golden Retriever Foundation Partners with Morris Animal Foundation to Help Dogs Live Longer Healthier Lives

The Golden Retriever Foundation and Morris Animal Foundation have teamed up to announce a new major canine cancer study titled *Discovery and Characterization of Heritable and Somatic Mutations in Golden Retrievers*, or the MADGiC Project (Making Advanced Discoveries in Golden Cancers). This is a three-year, \$1 million project slated to start in the summer of 2010. This jointly funded project is part of Morris Animal Foundation's CanineCancer Campaign, a worldwide effort to prevent, treat and, ultimately, cure this disease in dogs. Learn more at [CureCanineCancer.org](http://CureCanineCancer.org).

The study will be led by premier canine cancer researchers Jaime Modiano, VMD, PhD, at the University of Minnesota; Matthew Breen, PhD, at North Carolina State University; and Kerstin Lindblad-Toh, PhD, at the Broad Institute of MIT and Uppsala University, Sweden. They will work together to investigate mutations that are involved in risk and progression of the two most common cancers affecting Golden Retrievers, hemangiosarcoma and lymphoma. This research will be of interest to all dog owners because these cancers affect every breed and cause the deaths of tens of thousands of dogs each year.

It is expected that this research may directly benefit humans too, because the genes involved in cancer are sometimes the same in dogs as in people, although these mutations can be more difficult to discover in people. Therefore, identifying these genes may also advance scientists' understanding of common human cancers such as lymphoma.

**It is expected that this research may directly benefit humans too, because the genes involved in cancer are sometimes the same in dogs as in people**

In addition, researchers will seek to identify genes that predispose some dogs to cancer so that breeders may someday be able to reduce cancer risk through breeding selection. DNA tests may also be used for diagnosis and possibly to guide treatment choices in the future. The scientists will also investigate mutations that occur in the tumors themselves and will profile the susceptibility of specific tumor types

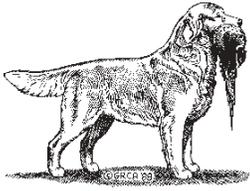
to various chemotherapy compounds, which may lead to improved therapy options.

Owners of Golden Retrievers diagnosed with lymphoma or hemangiosarcoma can support this research by donating a small tumor and/or blood sample; blood samples from healthy Golden Retrievers over 12 years of age are also needed. More information about sample donation can be found at [www.breenlab.org](http://www.breenlab.org), [www.modiolanlab.org](http://www.modiolanlab.org), [www.dogdna.org](http://www.dogdna.org) or contact Rhonda Hovan at [rhondahovan@aol.com](mailto:rhondahovan@aol.com) or (330)668-0044.



### 2010 GRCA National Specialty

The 2010 GRCA National Specialty in Greeley, CO is just around the corner, with events starting September 25 and running through October 3. Sponsored by Mile Hi Golden Retriever Club, this year's event is set 50 miles from Denver in the spectacular Rocky Mountains. A full slate of events is scheduled over the nine days, with literally something for everyone involved in Golden Retrievers. We wish good luck and safe travels to everyone competing at the National!



---

## Our Club's Column in *Golden Retriever News*

By Carol Lantiegne, Club Correspondent

*Carol's 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.*

---

### Doing Zoomies

Nowadays it can be tough to maintain optimism with all the uncertainties of current American life. Heck, it's often enough to make us happy just knowing we still have a job, the stock market didn't plummet today, and the truck didn't break down. Moments of gung-ho pleasure can be few and far between for most of us. Oh, to be carefree and uninhibited again...!

Enter stage left:...our Golden, who in the midst of these troubled times can delight us with his ability to find uncluttered fun. For no apparent reason, he can transform into the most exuberant and joyful creature, and just cut loose with honest emotions. What is it that triggers a "zoomie"? It's impossible to witness one - tail tucked, back humped, jackrabbiting in tight circles over, under, around and through anything in the path - without feeling your heart lift and wishing the freedom would never stop. And when it's over and he's had enough, and comes back to sit in front of us with his brown eyes dancing, we know he is the happiest dog alive.

I had a dandy little red Golden, ADIRONDAC REDDOG JUNEAU who would "zoom" at competitions. We had a lot of trouble perfecting the obedience drop on recall. At one outdoor show when we finally got it right, upon hearing "exercise finished," she was OFF - racing around the perimeter of the ring, exclaiming, "I did it! I did it! I'm SUCH a smart dog!" The judge joined in the laughter at her pleasure. She did the same thing following the completion of a killer water blind at the GRCA National in CT as she finished her Senior Hunter title. What an funny and FUN dog she was... Talk about providing comic relief!

The ability of our Goldens to exhibit near-human emotions is just one of their gifts to us. We have a dwarf Winesap apple tree on our lawn and it actually bore fruit a couple of years ago. A Winesap pie is one of life's greatest pleasures and my husband was

watching the apples ripen with anticipation. I had all the dogs out for a romp and ADIRONDAC MIDAS TOUCH discovered this most attractive red "ball" hanging at nose level. He gently took it in his mouth, gave a little tug and as he heard the satisfying snap as the stem parted, he had the most surprised and pleased expression on his face. It made me think of a simple-minded child who had made a great discovery. He put the apple down and proceeded to pick every one that he could reach with the same delight each time. When hubby came home and questioned, "what happened to the apples?", the pie was already cooling on the counter. Thank you for your help, Midas!

During these times of anxiety and change, I hope for all of us at least an occasional zoomie, when we can bite at snowflakes, jump in a puddle, chase some leaves and just respond to the joyful voices in our heads. Maybe teaching us to do zoomies or find happiness in the simple things is the most wonderful gift we can learn from our Goldens.

2010 is shaping up to be a most ambitious year for GRCCNY. Our licensed Specialty is April 3. Our second CCA event will be April 10, offering a CGC assessment as a bonus. The WC/WCX will be mid-summer and our eye clinic is scheduled for October 17. There is even some talk of the possibility of hosting our first licensed AKC hunt test in September, so stay tuned.

Indoor activities are all we can enjoy during NY winters and our newest brags are all in obedience. ADIRONDAC DANDELION WHINE CDX SH OA NAJ NF RN WCX (Clark) is our latest and greatest Utility Dog. CD's are the newest accomplishments of TOPFLIGHT CAMEO ROSE RE JH NAJ NF CCA WC VC (McCloskey) and ADIRONDAC CEDAR CHEST OF GOLD JH (McDonald). We are all hungry for spring!



## ⇒ Scratching (Cont from Pg. 7)

exclusive provider of the AKC Healthcare Plan. A scan of PPI claims shows that itching rarely resolves with one or two treatments. “A dog will go on to require long-term care,” she says.

“Odor is not normal in dogs,” he says.

Location of the itch is another telltale sign, especially if the dog is scratching at the base of his tail. That region is the favorite dining spot for fleas. Scratching there suggests that there’s an infestation, even if none of the little creatures are visible. “You don’t have to see the fleas for fleas to be your dog’s problem,” Angus says.

Behavioral issues may stem from skin problems, Beaver says. One of her patients had been brought in for aggression. It turned out that the discomfort from a skin irritation was making him cranky.

In some parts of the country, season can be a tip-off, Peikes notes. “Every pollen has a peak time.” In New York, it’s tree pollen in early spring, grass pollen in midsummer, and weed and mold in late summer through fall. But even after the traditional pollen seasons end, it’s possible that the dog will still be suffering.

“I have been seeing more dogs with year-round symptoms in the last two years due to lack of frost until later in the winter,” Peikes says. “Dust mites can worsen when heat turns on, but can be problematic year-round.”

Angus, who practices at the Animal Dermatology Clinic, in Pasadena ([animaldermatology.com](http://animaldermatology.com)), points out that pollen season is year-round in sunny Southern California. “There’s always something blooming,” he says.

## Frog Legs, Anyone?

Even if there are strong hints to the problem, a series of tests and trials is usually needed to pinpoint what’s wrong.

Angus starts with cytology tests for bacteria, such as a staph infection, or yeast. A common yeast-based problem is *Malassezia dermatitis*.

The dermatologist will also examine skin scrapings for mite parasites. A negative finding, however, does not mean that there are no mites, so Angus follows laboratory tests with a “parasite-treatment trial.” This consists of medication for mites, such as those that cause mange.

Sometimes, this step proves to be effective for diagnosis and therapy.

“If it resolves and never comes back, then we’re superheroes. It can resolve in a month,” he says. “These can be some of the most severely affected dogs I see.”

Treating for fleas, mites, bacteria, and yeast may eliminate the problem. But if it persists, the next step is to look for an allergy, which can be a long and involved process.

Many dermatologists start with an “elimination-diet trial.”

This phase takes a high level of motivation and discipline on the part of the owner. The idea is to remove all foods that could possibly be causing a reaction in the dog. Angus says that chicken, often given for canine stomach upsets, is one of the most

Continued on Pg. 13 ⇒

## Bath Time

A lot of dog owners resist giving their dogs regular baths, in fear that excessive exposure to water and shampoo will dry or damage the skin and coat. But dermatologists point out that newly developed moisturizing shampoos can actually improve skin and coat condition. In cases of persistent itches, frequent bathing may be essential, especially if the culprit turns out to be an infection. “Never underestimate the power of bacteria or yeast to produce an inhumane level of itch,” veterinary dermatologist John Angus says.

## ⇒ Scratching (Cont from Pg. 12)

common dietary allergens. Up to 50 percent of his food-allergic patients react to it.

The trial diet must consist of proteins the dog has never eaten before, and nothing else – no treats, rawhides, or table scraps. Even flavored medications and hygiene products, such as heartworm preventatives and flavored toothpaste, can throw off the results. “Nothing else passes the dog’s lips,” he says.

Angus recommends home-cooked meals with novel proteins – exotic meats such as rabbit, buffalo, kangaroo, ostrich, alligator, or even frog legs. Not at your local Stop & Shop? No matter. They can be ordered online at [exoticmeatsandmore.com](http://exoticmeatsandmore.com).

Several companies also make diets for treatment of allergy, consisting of either uncommon meats, such as rabbit, or hydrolyzed protein, in which the proteins are chopped up into segments so small that they evade detection by the immune system.

If the dog improves on the elimination diet, next up is a “provocative challenge,” which means simply returning the dog to his usual food. A flare-up suggests that food is the trigger.

Beyond the dietary investigations, there are other tests that can home in on the allergy source, including scratch tests and blood tests, the same approach used to find allergies in humans.

Once an environmental allergen is identified, treatment may include immunotherapy to build a tolerance to the exposure.

This approach can help in cases of environmental irritants, such as pollen and house-dust mites. “These are tiny, harmless mites, but they do shed a lot of protein that could cause a reaction,” Angus says. There are little house-dust mite bodies everywhere we go.”

Angus recently rescued a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier who has “a nice set of allergies,” he says. “I’m living the dream.” So far he has narrowed his pup’s problem down to house-dust mites, grasses, and weeds.

Pinpointing the source of skin irritation can be a daunting, long process, but the good news is that

with a combination of careful diagnostics, management, and medication, dog owners can do much more than scratch the surface of those annoying canine itches.

*This article first appeared in the June 2010 issue of AKC Gazette and is reprinted with permission.*

## ⇒ Dig It! (Cont from Pg. 8)

citronella collar. When I used one of these collars, I’ll admit I didn’t exactly follow directions. The collar had a beep noise, meant to encourage a correct behavior, and two levels of spraying meant to discourage the dog. I used the collar in a different manner. I put the collar on the dog, and turned him out in my yard. The first time I sounded the beep, my dog startled and stopped digging. If your dog doesn’t associate the sound with the need to stop digging, then follow it up immediately with the low spray level. Save the high-level spray for dogs that require more discouragement.

When working to train the dog this way, don’t say anything to him. You don’t want to use a verbal command to stop the dog; the goal is for the dog to learn to refrain from this activity even when you are not there to reprimand. In fact, you may want to look the other way when you use this device, or operate it inside your house while looking out the window. That way the dog doesn’t know you did anything to intervene. This will increase the chance that he will learn to resist digging when you aren’t around.

For people who plan on having a variety of dogs over their lifetime, and who don’t want holes in their yard or have a dog escape, it is often worth taking some extra effort when securing the boundaries of their yard with buried chicken wire. But if you only have a casual digger, a milder form of discouragement may be all you need. Some dogs do well by providing them a special digging area. Having success often means finding the right solution for your dig-happy dog.

*Peggy Swager is an award-winning author who often consults to resolve behavior issues in dogs. Her latest book is Training the Hard to Train Dog.*

*This article first appeared in the June 2010 issue of AKC Gazette and reprinted with permission.*

⇒ Arthur (Cont from Pg. 9)

*Q: It isn't unusual for rescued Golden Retrievers to compete in obedience and rally venues. Would you give us some background on Arthur obtaining those titles?*

A: Arthur is my "Novice A dog." We started in February of 2009, and he was a natural. I, too, was dedicated and set specific goals for both of us. We showed a lot – going to all the Arizona shows and traveled to California a few times and Oklahoma for the GRCA National Specialty.

*Q: And the Certificate of Conformation Assessment?*

A: We made the journey to the Golden Retriever National Specialty in Enid, Oklahoma, where Arthur was entered in the CCA. This was very important to us because having the CCA allows dogs unable to get conformation points to earn the GRCA Versatility Certificate, which is a goal of ours. Arthur qualified under all three esteemed evaluators. Needless to say, many tears of joy were shed that day.

*Q: Some assume that most handlers with the interest in doing fieldwork with their Golden Retrievers will look for a Golden from known performance lines. Arthur comes with more history than pedigree. What led you to start field work with him?*

A: Golden Retrievers are hunting retrievers. They are not meant to only stand in the show ring. Nor are they only meant to do obedience and tracking, although these are important as foundation and groundwork. These dogs are meant to work birds and be companions in the field. Arthur deserves the chance to be all he can be and to be out there in the field. You should see him swimming through the reeds going after a bumper! No retriever should miss out on this.

*Q: How has Arthur performed in field training and competition? Your training with him, your future goals, your mentors?*

A: I train with Copperstate Hunting Retriever Club and we meet one to two times a month. Because we live in the Phoenix, Arizona desert, in the summer it

is a five-hour round trip drive to get to the training site and two hours to get to where we train in the winter. I also train at home incorporating as much as I can to assist us in the field. I am fortunate to have a wonderful mentor, Mary Trick – she is patient! Arthur and I had our first JH test and came so close to qualifying – but I'm hooked and I know we will get our JH this year!

*Q: You refer to Mary Trick as your field mentor. What would Mary have to say about Sara's work with Arthur?*

*I contacted Mary and this is her reply:*

A: "Sara loves Arthur and wants him to experience everything and become as proficient as he possibly can be in all kinds of endeavors. When Sara and Arthur first came to me, neither had any idea of what retrieving was. But Sara was so up and so enthusiastic that Arthur was too. They began learning together and Sara identified the training practices and methods with which she was comfortable. It is a gentle approach, blended with drive and desire and both love working with and for each other."

*Q: Do you agree that Arthur has opened up new worlds for you as you have for him?*

A: Arthur was my gateway into the dog fancy. This silly laid back dog has taken me on the ride of my life! He taught me what it meant to always be there and to not let someone down – amazing how one dog can teach a person such poignant life lessons. In my first year of showing in 2009, I put 15 titles on four dogs. Owners and breeders are now sending me their own dogs that they want titled. Versatility is a lost art and I feel it is so important that we keep these Golden Retrievers well rounded. One of my mentors, Maura Phelan taught me, it is a dog show, not a dog win – so I say go out there and have fun and enjoy your dogs. For me, there is nothing better than a blue sky, fresh air, and your best friend at your side... with a bird in his mouth.



Arthur and Sara

Photo courtesy of Sara Kuzenko

Continued on Pg. 15 ⇒



# 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.*

## Hot Enough For You?

This summer has certainly offered some warm – and downright hot – weather so far. Temperatures usually not seen until August were showing up in early July, near triple digits in some areas. With these conditions we really need to be mindful of our dogs and the risk of overheating.

I really have to wonder about the apparent lack of common sense some dog owners exhibit during warmer months, especially when it comes to taking pets out while running errands. The sentiment of "I'll only be a minute" can wind up being a death sentence for a dog left in a car parked in the blazing sun, even if windows are cracked a few inches. Studies have shown that even when outside temperatures are in the mid-60s the internal temperature of a closed vehicle can reach 130 degrees within minutes. A dog's own body temperature increases the heat and moisture, which can quickly lead to overheating and death can occur within 15 minutes.

Overheating can happen at home as well, often accidentally. Having a temperature alarm in your home set to contact you in the event of an emergency can save the life of your pet in the event of a power failure or air conditioner malfunction. Be aware of humidity levels as well and adjust your daily routine accordingly when planning training or exercise for your dog. The higher the humidity, the greater the risk of overheating. If we are uncomfortable because of heat and humidity, our pets are feeling it even more.

Dogs don't sweat. Their main mechanism for cooling is panting, using their lungs to exchange body heat for cooler, drier air. If the surrounding air is already hot and moist, dogs can get into trouble in a hurry as this temperature exchange mechanism is compromised. Even dogs who are working in water can overheat if that water is warm. Age can also be a factor, elderly pets are often at higher risk.

Pay attention to your dogs in warm weather. Take steps to avoid overheating, including providing shade and plenty of cool water. If your dog shows any signs of overheating – such as frantic panting, extreme salivation, bright-red oral membranes, and labored breathing – don't wait to intervene. It may just save your best friend's life.

---

### ⇒ Arthur (Cont from Pg. 14)

*Q: Other venues into which you are now venturing...*

A: In 2010, Arthur and I will be enjoying agility trials, tracking, and of course pursuing the JH title. Arthur is also a regular on the Dock Diving scene – this is one of his favorite things to do! I always say the minute my dogs don't want to hop into the car they don't have to go, but this has yet to happen!

Thank you, Sara and Arthur, for sharing your inspirational journey with us.

*This article first appeared as the Spotlight on Rescue column in the May/June 2010 issue of Golden Retriever News and is reprinted with permission.*

### Skunked!

Never a pleasant occurrence, and it always happens right before bedtime since skunks are nocturnal. Keep these ingredients on hand and mix just before using:

1 quart 3% hydrogen peroxide  
¼ cup baking soda  
1 to 2 tablespoons liquid castile soap

Apply mixture to a DRY dog and let sit for about 10 minutes, then rinse and bathe dog as usual. Follow up with a spritz of Listerine to the mouth and ears, which will help neutralize skunk spray in areas that cannot be bathed with the peroxide mixture.



**Golden Tales**  
Golden Retriever Club of  
Central New York, Inc.  
PO Box 388  
Jamesville, NY 13078  
USA

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

YOUR Membership Expiration Date Shown on Address  
Label



*ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED*



### 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).

**August 19 (Thurs)**

7:00<sup>PM</sup> General Meeting

**September 16 (Thurs)**

7:00<sup>PM</sup> General Meeting

**October 21 (Thurs)**

7:00<sup>PM</sup> General Meeting

### Activities

**WC/WCX - Aug 1**

*Echoewood - Mexico*

**AKC Hunt Test - Sept 12**

*Three Rivers WMA - Baldwinsville*

**Eye Clinic - Oct 17**

*Village Veterinary Clinic - Wampsville*

**Awards Dinner - Dec 12**

*TBA*

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