



Conformation · Field · Obedience

Golden Tales

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October 2011

Autumn in the Field

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



Photo courtesy of Tom O'Connell

Cedar (Adirondac Cedar Chest of Gold), owned by Suzanne McDonald, struts her stuff during the WCX test.

Late summer and into the autumn season means field events for our Goldens. This has been a busy time for GRCCNY with training days, Super Singles, GRCA WC/WCX tests, and an AKC hunt test.

While these events draw many local dog and handler teams, it is not uncommon to see Canadians and those from other NY counties as well as neighboring States as frequent participants.

Whether you actively train for field events or not, it is always a pleasure to see the dogs perform the job they were bred to do.

Please turn to page 7 for a full report of these activities. Candid's from the WC/WCX tests may be found on page 6.

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President's Message

We are finally winding down from our club's busy months of events. Between the speciality, training days, WC and WCX, hunt test and eye clinic it has been a lot for our small club to do. A special thanks to all who helped, especially those in leadership roles for each event and activity.



Kathy

saying that we shouldn't evaluate these events but rather that the events that bring us together as a club seem to be getting less and less. If the eye clinic does not continue, that will leave the speciality and WC/WCX for sure and "sometimes" the CCA and yes, the awards dinner too. Maybe, this is all our club should do or maybe we need to consider other types of events to sponsor. This will be an important discussion for our club. I urge you all attend on Thursday!

At our September meeting, the club voted to discontinue the september hunt test. At our October meeting, there will be discussion about whether or not to continue the eye clinic. As president, I am concerned by these decisions. I'm not

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

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.

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!

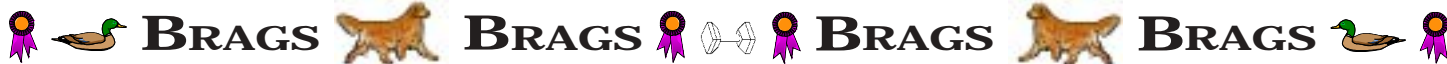
Golden Tales is the official quarterly member newsletter of **The Golden Retriever Club of Central New York, Inc.** a Member club of **The Golden Retriever Club of America** and Licensed by **The American Kennel Club**.



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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



Anne Wood reports that Molly (Tessahoc Bear Mountain Touch Of Gold CD RN) has now upgraded that CD to a CDX, taking third place at the Western Lakes obedience trial on September 10.

Carol Lantiegne has been busy with her dogs. She reports that Karma (Adirondac Kiss Me Karma) has received her WC title, Laker (Adirondac Great Laker CD SH WCX CCA) is now a Master Hunter, Trixie (Adirondac Trick or Treat) has earned a WCX, and Echoe (Adirondac Tea Party JH WC) is now SH and WCX titled at only 20 months of age.

Flyer (Adirondac Princess Firefly SH WC CCA), owned by Martha Sturtz, and Daphne (Adirondac Dutchess Daphne), owned by Tom O'Connell, have both received Therapy Dog certification through Sunshine Friends, Inc.

Kathy McCloskey reports that Cameo (Topflight Cameo Rose) has completed her Utility Dog obedience title.

Maxine Clark and Peep (Topflite Bye Bye Birdie) have earned a JH title.

Beth Greenfield and Ada (Birch Run Heart of Westbrook) earned their second Rally Excellent leg with a second place finish, and then went on to complete their RE title at the GRCA National in Georgia. Beth also reports that 13 month old Brees (Westbrook Heart of Bramisole) showed very well in the 12-15 Month Bitch class, where there were 50 entries.

Tom Questel reports that Diva (Bonefeathers Its All About Me CDX RE NA NAJ CCA Can CD) has now upgraded her Standard Agility title from Novice to Open, earning the final required Q at Wine Country. Judi Questel and Sidra (Bonefeathers Sidra Caliente CD RE NAJ CCA) have now added a Novice Standard agility title, earning the last required Q at Wine Country. Sidra also earned her first Open Agility qualifying score that weekend as well as one in Open Jumpers.

Holiday and Awards Banquet

SUNDAY, December 11

Borio's Restaurant

8891 McConnells Parkway, Cicero

Cash Bar – 4PM Buffet Dinner – 5PM

Reservations Required – Deadline Dec 1

Clip, complete and mail coupon at right.

Grab-Bag Gift Exchange

Each attendee is invited to contribute a gift to be randomly swapped for that of another contributor. Gifts should be wrapped, “doggie related” and not exceeding \$10 in value.

Dinner Cost

Cost of \$24 per person includes Dinner Buffet and Dessert.

Annual Awards

Presented after dinner. See pg. ___ for information.

Directions

From Rt. 81 - Exit at Cicero, go east on Rt. 31. Turn left onto South Bay Road. In 1.9 miles, take slight right onto Lakeshore Road. Go 0.4 miles and then turn left onto McConnells Parkway. (OR follow Lakeshore Road as it meets Rt. 31 in Village of Cicero.)

From East - Follow Rt. 31 West into Cicero area. Take right onto South Bay Road. Follow directions above.

**Holiday and Awards
Banquet Reservation**

Reservation Deadline is December 1

Mail this coupon & check payable to GRCCNY to:

Lisa Andrews

GRCCNY Banquet Chairperson

PO Box 421

Mattydale, NY 13211

Name _____

Phone (_____) _____

Number in Your Party _____

Enclose \$24 per person. Total enclosed: \$_____

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

"Misty"

Adirondac Amber Aspengrove
Ken and Joan Kogut

"Marcy"

Adirondac My-Tee Marcy
Ken and Joan Kogut

"Hunter"

GRRONY #06-46
Carol Allen and Sallie Lennox

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@yahoo.com

Internet Web Site

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315-233-9571 — kmcclosk@twcny.rr.com

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315-470-6654 — kmickink@syr.edu

Golden Tales Newsletter

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315-393-5379 — bonefeathers@yahoo.com

WC / WCX

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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

**Last Call for
Trophy Sponsorships**

Only six months now until our April 2012 Specialty and the trophy sponsors list is just about complete EXCEPT for the seven classes listed below. If you would like to sponsor a class or classes, please contact Carol Allen promptly at (315) 469-7926 or carosal@twcny.rr.com. The trophy list must be submitted for the catalog during November. As you know, the amount sponsored becomes a donation to the Golden Retriever Foundation.

CLASSES WITH NO SPONSOR YET

(The minimum pledge amount is the number in parentheses)

- Open Dog (\$25)
- Open Bitch (\$25)
- 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)

Thanks to members who have already covered a class: Allen, Berry, Blaskiewicz, Byrns, Clark, Coleman, Craig, Fuller, Gray, Greenfield, Kogut, Lennox, Lynn, McCloskey, Mickinkle (K.), Mickinkle (L.), Mueller, O'Connell, Painting, Puzon, Questel, Salce, Shelmidine, Supernault, Tyler, Wood.

More Club News & Events

Meeting Highlights

- The Following Is An Unofficial Summary -

GRCCNY meeting 9/15/11

Submitted by Beth Shelmidine

Meeting called to order, 18 members and 1 guest in attendance.

Motion made, seconded and carried to dispense with reading of previous minutes as they had appeared in the newsletter received by the membership.

Reports:

President: 1) Brag sheet circulated. 2) Club credit card. Obtaining a credit card for club use was discussed at the last meeting. President reports that Chase Bank charges no annual fee. Motion made, seconded and carried to pursue obtaining a card. Discussion ensued of having club name rather than one individual name on the card, President will see if this is possible.

Secretary: 1) Brags reported. 2) Correspondence – Sanctioned All-Breed BOB Match 9/24/11 in Hamlin, sponsored by Genesee Valley KC.

Treasurer: 1) Balances given for three accounts. 2) Profits reported for WC/WCX, Hunt Test and Super Singles.

Specialty: Beth G reports the rebate check for this year's Specialty was unexpectedly low and suspects it was incorrectly figured, she will investigate with FLKC to see if a corrected check can be issued.

CCA: Tentatively scheduled for April 7, 2012 with evaluators firm by October 2011.

Golden Tales: No report.

Field: 1) Maxine Clark reports that a sweeping thank you goes out to the FLRC for their assistance with people and equipment for all of our recent field events. She shared concerns that our club is sparse in offering volunteer workers. Club discussion followed with the decision that our membership is too small and that it is too much of an undertaking to support future Junior or Senior Hunt tests. Motion made and seconded to have that be the case for 2012, even though we would forfeit those particular event dates. Motion passed to forego 2012 JH/SH. 2) Maxine also requested a new

Chairperson for training days and Super Singles for next summer as she has family commitments she must attend to. She will assist wherever possible but can no longer take the reins.

Legislation: No report.

Eye Clinic: October 16, contact Patti Gambier to volunteer.

Rescue/Referral: More dogs are having medical and behavioral needs upon surrender which is a challenge as well as an added expense.

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

Nomination Committee: Sallie Lennox, nomination committee Chair, reports slate as follows: 2012 Slate of Officers (proposed) – President, Kathy McCloskey; VP, Beth Shelmidine; Secretary, Lynn Mickinkle; Treasurer, Carol Allen. Board of Directors (proposed) – Judi Questel, Beth Greenfield, Ray Blaskiewicz, Sallie Lennox, Suzanne McDonald. No nominations from the floor were received.

Membership: New members – first reading of application from Peter Vassallo.

Old Business: Janis Tyler reports on a fundraising effort that OKA has ongoing to purchase and donate to area fire departments, oxygen resuscitation masks especially made for use on animals. She hopes to have more info at next meeting.

New Business: 1) Carol Allen has been working on a project called "A Good Breeder Defined" and had rough draft copies to distribute in hopes that members would make suggestions for additions and corrections, for more discussion at the October meeting. 2) Sallie Lennox suggested a break in the fun raffle at the end of the meeting, which prompted discussion. No action agreed upon and raffle will continue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM. Next meeting October 20, 7 PM, Gander Mountain.

***Back Issues of Golden Tales
are on the Web at
[http://www.grccny.org/
Newsletter.htm](http://www.grccny.org/Newsletter.htm)***

2010 WC/WCX Candids



Photos from the WC/WCX: Top Left: Adirondac Rigby Reddog, owned by Kevin Crinklaw. **Top Right:** Adirondac's Grand Lady of Sandy Pond, owned by Charles Thousand. **Left:** Red Mills Harley Hunter, owned by Diane Hunter. **Bottom Left:** Rippling Run Blue Ribbon's Kiss Me, owned by Bruce and Audrey Coleman. **Bottom Center:** Highmark's Sweet Sir Galahad, owned by Kathleen McLaughlin-Wager. **Bottom Right:** Saturday Night Big City Lights, owned by George and Judy Pearsall. Photos courtesy of Tom O'Connell.



WC / WCX Qualifiers



Photos courtesy of Kathy McCloskey

WC: 15 starters, 12 qualifiers. Front Row (from left): Adirondac Barton Miner (owner Kevin Crinklaw), Adirondac Rigby Reddog (owner Kevin Crinklaw), Red Mills Harley Hunter (owner Diane Hunter), Adirondac's Grand Lady of Sandy Pond (owner Charles Thousand), Adirondac Tea Party (owner Carol Lantiegne), Adirondac Kiss Me Karma (owner Carol Lantiegne), Adirondac Cedar Chest of Gold (owner Suzanne McDonald), Saturday Night Big City Lights (owner George and Judy Pearsall), Topmast Take the High Road (owner Pamela Martin), Rippling Run Blue Ribbon's Kiss Me (owner Bruce and Audrey Coleman), Highmark's Sweet Sir Galahad (handler Ken Kogut, owner Kathleen McLaughlin-Wager), Goldencol's Ready Aim Flyer (owner Deb Brunner-Walker). Back Row: Judge Diane Sanfilippo, Judge Thomas Sanfilippo.



WCX: 14 starters, 9 qualifiers. Front row (from left): Topflight Cameo Rose (owner Kathy McCloskey), Adirondac Trick or Treat (owner Carol Lantiegne), Adirondac Moonlight Magic Eclipse (handler Carol Lantiegne, owner Joe Orsen), Coppertop's Captain Kirk (owner Ann Lynn), Saturday Night Big City Lights (owner George and Judy Pearsall), Topmast Take the High Road (owner Pamela Martin), Blue Ribbons Funny Girl (owner Bruce and Audrey Coleman), Rippling Run Blue Ribbon's Kiss Me (owner Bruce and Audrey Coleman). Back Row: Judge Diane Sanfilippo, Judge Thomas Sanfilippo. Missing from photo: FCR Alidar Can't Buy A Thrill (owner Bob Spelta).

2011 Field Report

by Maxine Clark

The 2011 field season has come to an end – but what a year it was. With six training days, a WC/WCX, Super Singles and ending with our hunt test. We saw new faces in the field this year along with the old ones. Young dogs, old dogs, and all where having a great time.

Our WC/WCX was held on August 3rd at Echoewood in Mexico. Tom and Diane Sanfilippo judged and many of the dogs qualified. Once again we had nearly a full entry with 29 dogs. Thanks to all club members who helped and a special thanks to Martha Sturtz for co-chairing, Ray "Birdman" Blaskiewicz for running birds all day, Todd Clickner for making the trip to man a station all day, and Kevin Crinklaw and Chuck Thousand for gunning. As always, Kathy McCloskey did an awesome job as secretary.

On September 4th we returned to the beautiful Echoewood for

our Super Singles competition. This is the day we laugh, relax, socialize and run our dogs. I don't know if the dogs or handlers enjoy it most. Eight challenging marks were run by about 30 dogs and prizes were given at the end of the day.

We held our final field event of the year on September 11th, an AKC licensed hunt test. The event saw an entry of eight Senior and 30 Junior dogs, with six Club members entered. A short memorial service was held at each stake, the national anthem played and flags put on the holding blinds for the tenth anniversary of the bombing of the Twin Towers. Thanks to all the Club members that came to throw birds, pack lunches and marshall stakes. Special thanks to Suzi McDonald for all her work as secretary and beyond, and to Lynn Mickinkle for being the head marshall.

Hope to see you all in the field next year.

Canine Lifetime Health Project

Anyone with a Golden understands the joy these loyal, loving balls of energy bring to life. Anyone who has loved more than one Golden has likely also experienced the heartbreak of losing one of these animals to cancer. Sadly, Golden Retrievers have a high risk of developing multiple cancers, particularly hemangiosarcoma and lymphosarcoma. Morris Animal Foundation is helping scientists figure out why.

Last year Morris Animal Foundation teamed with the Golden Retriever Foundation (GRF) to launch a \$1 million, three-year study (MADGiC) to find cancer mutations in Golden Retrievers. Shortly, Morris Animal Foundation will take a much bigger step in learning what causes cancer in Golden Retrievers. By the end of 2011, the organization will begin its initial enrollment of Golden Retrievers into its Canine Lifetime Health Project (CLHP), a groundbreaking, long-term effort to discover how to prevent cancer and other canine diseases.

This project is expected to determine the incidence of cancer in Golden Retrievers in the United States and to identify risk factors for the development of cancer, specifically hemangiosarcoma, lymphosarcoma, osteosarcoma and mast cell tumors, as well as other health issues that occur during the study period. The research team will also develop and evaluate strategies and guidelines for canine cancer screening and prevention.

CLHP will be the largest observational, prospective study ever conducted in dogs. Morris Animal Foundation is asking GRCA members and GRF

supporters to participate in a big way to make a big impact on stopping cancer. Your dog's participation in CLHP could yield valuable information on prevention strategies, early diagnostic tools and new treatments for cancer and other diseases.

Morris Animal Foundation expects to enroll the first few dogs by the end of this year, and active recruitment of 3,000 Golden Retrievers will begin in early 2012. Dogs must be healthy and less than two years of age at the time of enrollment, and their owners must be willing to participate for the life of the dog.

Participating owners will be asked to complete online surveys about their dog's food type and feeding habits, environmental exposure, behavior/temperament, body size, disease events and other related items. They will also work with their dog's veterinarian to ensure that the appropriate health data and samples are taken at the routine annual exam and submitted for review. More details on specific requirements will be provided if your dog is admitted to the study.

The CLHP will be one of the most significant studies of dogs ever undertaken. GRCA members and GRF supporters have the ability to make this project a success and to help scientists learn how to better prevent and treat cancer in all dogs.

If you are interested in enrolling your dog, visit www.CanineLifetimeHealth.org and provide your email address. You will be contacted when enrollment begins.

Did you know...

Since 2006, diabetes increased 32 percent in dogs – due mostly to obesity, according to The State of Pet Health 2011 Report by Banfield Pet Hospital, a national chain of veterinary practices.



Apply / Nominate Now for All Club Annual Awards

- □ Golden Member Award
- □ Heart of Gold Award
- □ Versatility Award
- □ Title Awards

All Nominations and Applications Must Be Received Prior to November 6

Golden Member – Heart of Gold – Versatility

Nominations Must Be Received Prior to November 6

Submit to: Maxine Clark, 59 Pulaski Street, Box 391, Mexico, NY 13224

Questions? 315-963-8682 or maxdoglady@aol.com

Procedure and Policy Applying to Golden Member, Heart of Gold and Versatility Awards

- The Board will invite, receive and review nominations for all, and will determine one winner for each annually.
- A commemorative award will be presented for each, to be owned permanently by the winner.
- A deadline for receipt of nominations will be published annually.
- Nominations for the Golden Member award may be submitted by any member in good standing on behalf of any other member in good standing. Nominations for the Versatility and Heart of Gold awards may be made by the owner or co-owner of the dog being nominated.
- Nominations for these three awards are to be submitted in letter format.

GOLDEN MEMBER Award

To a Club Member

Purpose:

To recognize one member annually who consistently and ably contributes to the success of Club activities and events.

Selection Criteria:

- Consideration will be favored toward members not currently serving in elected (officer, board of directors) positions.
- Number of activities and level of involvement.
- Years of service.
- Manner of participation in activities; respect for the Club, its members and the Breed.

VERSATILITY Award

To a Golden, owned or co-owned by a Club Member

Purpose:

To acknowledge the versatility of Golden Retrievers owned by Club members, 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 Golden Retriever Club of America.

Selection Criteria:

- An individual dog may win this award only once.
- A dog may not be nominated posthumously.
- All titles earned through a dog's lifetime, completed prior to the current year deadline, will be considered.
- A dog must have earned titles from a minimum of two areas of competition (Breed, Obedience, Rally, Agility, Tracking, Field). Consideration will be favored toward dogs having

earned a Breed (conformation) title, along with one or more performance titles, followed by dogs having earned performance titles in multiple areas of competition.

- Selection will be on a point system modeled after GRCA's VC/VCX program.
- Qualifying Breed (conformation) titles: AKC Champion, CKC Champion, GRCA CCA. Also GRCA OS and OD titles.
- Qualifying Performance titles: (Obedience) GN, GO, OM, OGM, CD, CDX, UD, UDX, VER, NOC, OTCH; (Rally) RN, RA, RE, RAE; (Agility) NA, NAJ, NAP, NJP, OA, OAJ, OAP, OJP, AX, AXJ, AXP, AJP, MX, MXJ, MXP, MJP, MACH, NF, NFP, OF, OFP, XF, XFP, FTC, FTCP, MXF, MFP, PAX, NAC; (Tracking) TD, TDX, VST, CT; (Field) WC, WCI, WCX, JH, SH, MH, AFC, FC, NFC, NAFC, *** (QAA); (Versatility) VCD, VC, VCX; (Multiple championships) DC, TC, VCCH.

HEART OF GOLD Award

To a Golden, owned or co-owned by a Club Member

Purpose:

To acknowledge the close bond between Golden Retrievers and humans by recognizing one dog annually for distinguished but unspecified contributions to the individual or family with which it resides.

Selection Criteria:

- An individual dog may win this award only once.
- A dog may not be nominated posthumously.
- Specific points for nomination are left for determination by the nominator, with only the suggestion the nomination should seek to describe how and why the dog is valued.

Application for Title Awards – 2011

Use this form to apply for Title awards only and submit prior to November 4
Send to Marcia Martin, 518 Babcock Rd., Tully, NY 13159
Questions? 315-696-8889

GRCCNY strongly encourages its members to compete in activities enabling them to place titles on their dogs. The Club will annually recognize every title achievement with a customized decorative plaque. Each member's dog (or dogs) qualifying for the first time will receive a master plaque emblazoned with the club logo and your dog's name; also, there will be an attachment to hang below the plaque honoring each title earned in the past year. In future years, additional attachments will be awarded for each additional title. Awards are presented at the Club's annual Holiday & Awards Banquet each December.

- Members, qualified in accordance with GRCCNY Title Awards Policy, having titled dog(s) during the period November 1, 2010 through October 31, 2011 are eligible to receive Club awards.
- Recognition will be bestowed for a title awarded by any recognized sanctioning body, such as AKC, CKC, UKC, NAHRA, USDAA, CARO, APDT and GRCA. Qualifying titles may be in any field of endeavor, such as breed competition, obedience, rally, field, agility, tracking, etc. Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification is not a title and therefore ineligible for recognition.
- To apply for your award(s), you must complete all required information on this form and return to be received not later than Friday, November 4, 2011. Copy this form if additional space required. Members whose applications are not received by this date will not have an award available at the banquet. Send to: Marcia Martin, 518 Babcock Rd., Tully, NY 13159.

Member Name(s) _____ Phone _____-_____-_____

I/We attended _____ Club meetings during the period 11/10 – 10/11 (minimum requirement 2 meetings).

I/We worked at the following Club activities during the period 11/10 – 10/11 (minimum requirement – working a minimum of eight (8) hours at Club-sponsored activities):

1. _____

2. _____

Examples of work that typically would require a commitment of four hours would include Field Clinic leadership, DEC meeting attendance, Eye Clinic eye droppers, WC/WCX bird care and transport, bird throwing for one series, Golden Reunion (grounds, CGC testing, grooming clinic, demonstrations, other event leadership). Any task taking more or less than four hours to be credited accordingly.

Master Plaque Wood Finish Preference LIGHT DARK

Dog #1 DO DO NOT Already Have a GRCCNY Master Plaque For This Dog

(Dog Name As To Appear On Master Plaque – Include All Titles Earned Prior To This Award Period)

New Titles Earned 11/1/10 – 10/31/11

Sanctioning Body

Date Earned

Dog #2 DO DO NOT Already Have a GRCCNY Master Plaque For This Dog

(Dog Name As To Appear On Master Plaque – Include All Titles Earned Prior To This Award Period)

New Titles Earned 11/1/10 – 10/31/11

Sanctioning Body

Date Earned

Obsessive-Compulsive Canines

by Nicholas Dodman, BVMS, DACVA, DACVB

Obsessive-compulsive disorder in people involves a vicious cycle of obsession, anxiety, compulsion, and relief. Obsessions, such as concerns about personal hygiene and safety, are constantly recurring thoughts; compulsions are repetitive behaviors typically performed in response to an obsession. Obsessions may occur without compulsions, and vice versa. Since the early 1990s it has been recognized that dogs, and other species, exhibit compulsive behaviors, too.

In dogs, as well as humans, genetic and environmental factors combine to cause the disorder. Genetic factors predispose an individual toward compulsive behavior, but environmental stress or conflict triggers it. It is impossible to tell if dogs experience associated obsessions.

Any breed can be affected by a CCD, and they display behaviors that are excessive, out of context, and often disrupt life or lead to self-injury.

The classical canine compulsive disorder is acral lick dermatitis, otherwise known as “lick granuloma.” Affected dogs lick the lower (acral) extremities of their front or hind limbs, often until the overlying hair is lost or the skin becomes ulcerated. The appearance of this behavior is similar to the classical human condition involving repetitive hand washing. In addition, acral lick dermatitis responds to the same anti-obsessional medications that people do.

Canine compulsive disorder takes many forms, all of which are related to dogs’ normal behaviors, like grooming, predation, ingestion, and locomotion. Out of this Pandora’s box of hard-wired behaviors come CCDs like ALD, tail-chasing, flank- or blanket-sucking, circling/running in geometric patterns, light- and shadow-chasing, and possibly snapping at imaginary flies.

Less common CCDs include obsession with objects (rocks, balls, sticks, food bowls), digging, compulsive swimming, and arranging.

Any breed can be affected by a CCD, and they display behaviors that are excessive, out of context, and often disrupt life or lead to self-injury.

ALD, a grooming compulsion, affects working and sporting dogs and is most common in large, active breeds like Doberman Pinschers, Labrador Retrievers, Great Danes, and German Shepherd Dogs. It clearly has a strong genetic component. Flank- and blanket-sucking is almost exclusive to Doberman Pinschers, occasionally occurring in a couple of other German breeds – Dachshunds and Weimaraners. Deriving from suckling behavior, it involves repetitive mouthing and sucking of the flank region or a nearby blanket. Oral injuries or intestinal obstruction can result in the latter.

Terriers and herding breeds often exhibit canine compulsive disorders derived from predatory behavior: light- and shadow-chasing, which may be more prevalent in deaf dogs, and tail-chasing. Affected dogs may vocalize excessively and injure themselves. Some are so driven they become aggressive if restrained.

Researchers have recently found the gene that causes this behavior, a development that holds promise in the future for finding a cure for CCDs, and perhaps even human OCD.

Fortunately, something usually can be done to improve the lot of dogs affected with CCD. Treatments can include environmental enrichment, stress relief, the avoidance of triggers for the behavior, providing fulfilling activity, and pharmacotherapy. In the latter, classical human anti-obsessional drugs work quite well, but a new Tufts University treatment with so-called NMDA antagonists (drugs that block the brain’s main excitatory neurotransmitter, glutamate) either alone or in a combination with more conventional treatment offers new hope for hard-to-treat cases.

This article first appeared in the May 2011 issue of Dog Fancy and is reprinted with permission.

Canines Undercover

by Bob Morley and Lorraine Chittock

Being unaware of your mutt's manipulative tendencies means you could be in danger of clinging to a few centimeters of bed while a cold wind whistles where it shouldn't.

Our dogs range in size from a mongrel medium to a huge hound, but even if they were all Chihuahuas, we'd still need at least a king size bed. Two people and 12 paws make the biggest bed seem like a twin, and the only way to thwart our dogs' blanket-stealing tactics is to staple the covers to the mattress. Here's a rundown of their various sheet-stealing tactics:

The Stretch: Bizkit, our lean, leggy mutt, is exceptionally talented at tripling her body length by stretching out fully. The problem is, she doesn't return to her original size until morning.

The Fake Out: A restless dog trampling over you to sit by the door doesn't always mean your mutt needs to pee. More often than not, as soon as you've dragged your drowsy carcass out of bed, she'll bounce into the space you've just vacated and peer alluringly at you while wagging her tail. At this point you'll be wide awake and shivering in the open doorway. Call her bluff, and you'll be in danger of wringing out a rug in the middle of the night.

The Dream: Squeaks and twitching paws are precursors to a running dream – all ploys to steal bed covers. Stretching and running motions gather the blankets into a nice, warm pile that always covers your dog and leaves you naked. If the noise or being pawed doesn't awaken you, imminent hypothermia will.

The Push: Never let your pup sleep close to anything he can push against. Four paws planted against the wall gives the tiniest dog enough leverage to push even the heaviest snoring biker onto the floor. Our smallest dog is particularly good at this.

The Squirm: Random wriggling to gather blankets around them. If you look at or interact with your dogs in any way, their squirming increases exponentially until they're cocooned in a wooly nest. Your only defense is to ignore them.

The Immovable Object: Bruiser is a large dog who's used to sleeping wherever he likes. Often first on the bed, he plants himself diagonally in the middle while he does his best impersonation of a "rug with organs." He can be moved, but you'll be doing all the work.

The Shuffle: They appear comfortably asleep, which is exactly what they want you to believe. But get one dog out of the way, and the others will quickly shift to occupy the empty space.

Shock Tactics: A cold wet nose in the bed is like sleeping with a concealed weapon. Undoubtedly, pajamas were invented by a dog lover.

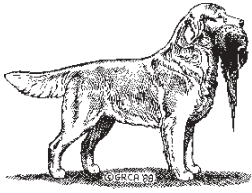
Skunk Tactics: Often accompanied by a soft sighing sound that envelopes you in an eye-watering stench that could strip paint from a door. As soon as you move to open a window or door, the space you fought so hard for is gone forever. After trying every possible diet variation, we've deduced that nothing prevents the gassy onslaught.

Heat Expansion: Dogs curl up into tight little balls that weigh the same as a Mini Cooper, but expand to Volvo size as soon as they warm up. Stealing back a blanket in order to reshrink the canines doesn't work unless they're first walked in snow.

On a cold night there's nothing better (or warmer) than being under the covers with our entire pack. But when humans agreed 10,000 years ago to exchange food for the devoted protection of our dogs, there was some fine print we should've read before signing. Why is it that in the middle of the afternoon when we're hard at work, our dogs are *still* on the bed napping when they're the only ones who slept during the night?

Lorraine Chittock has taken her career as a writer and photographer on the road with her two Kenyan street dogs. Bob Morley is an English biker who swapped his beloved BMW cycle for a Peruvian pickup truck because his dog couldn't ride on the rear. On the loose since 2003, last seen in Chile – missing, presumed fed.

This article first appeared in the September 2010 issue of Dog Fancy and is reprinted with permission.



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.

Evaluating Risks

We make decisions about our dogs on an almost daily basis, and fortunately, most are not life threatening. Many of the decisions we must make are based on information that may or may not be scientifically proven or even accurate – like choice of a feeding program, vaccine protocol, or breeding options. But one choice that I believe is obviously a very poor one, is taking a potty break at a “community” rest stop while traveling.

I *know* my nose inadvertently puckers up when I think about the myriad of diseases and parasites my dogs are sniffing and I am walking through. As I watch the ground so I don't step in the obvious, my dog is categorically inhaling and storing as much info about the previous users as possible. The longer it takes them to find the most appropriate “spot”, the more agitated I feel myself becoming, knowing that the chance for exposure to something nasty is exponentially increasing.

At least our adult dogs are probably protected against a lot of what is out there by having had multiple vaccines and a more mature immune system. But puppies going to their new homes are

simply sponges, soaking up organisms. Most of us probably follow the time tested protocol for puppies of a vaccine at 6 weeks of age, another at ten weeks, and so on, based on the maternal immunity factor. Puppies are born with immunity from their dam, but that immunity “expires” sometime before 18 weeks of age. Therefore, we give them booster vaccinations, hopefully to close the windows when there may be a gap in protection. It's cheaper and easier to go the booster route, rather than checking blood titer to determine when Mom's immunity has left their system. As long as maternal antibodies are present in the puppy, the vaccines we give have no value. So, at 8 weeks, puppy heads home, comes in contact with parvo or corona along the way and becomes ill or even dies shortly thereafter. It's worth the extra time to take an exit off the highway and drive until you find a more secluded country road to let the pup out. OR, simply deal with a soiled crate during the drive. A plastic bag, bottle of spray soap, change of newspapers and a little inconvenience makes much better sense than risking exposure to deadly organisms.

WELCOME

New Members

Paul and Patricia Muller, Syracuse

Rescue Honorary

** Election Required for Individual or Household Applicants*



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.

Earlier this year, several of us wished we could wave a magic wand and make a local puppy mill evaporate. No magic wand and no mill evaporated – just moved to other property, different town and kept right on producing and selling puppies. Without health clearances, without veterinary care, without oversight or regulation from any jurisdiction with any power to enforce even the weak regulations that do exist. Most of these puppies were sold via the internet or from the back of a truck.

My good friend and fellow rescuer, Robin Adams of Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue, Lancaster County, PA, has provided me with some hard facts that helps us understand what a lucrative and big business breeding puppies is.

In Pennsylvania, a mill can have 25 dogs before a kennel license is required. By keeping 25 producing dogs (and not 26 +), a mill can “fly under the radar”.

25 females that begin breeding at 6 months and it continues until litter sizes decrease and results in less income. Typically, they are bred until 7 years of age.

25 females bred twice a year = 50 litters. Typical litter size is 8-12. For this purpose we’ll continue the math at the low end – use 8 puppies in a litter.

8 puppies X 50 litters = 400 puppies. 400 puppies sold at \$500 to wholesalers = \$200,000 per year. 7 years X \$200,000 = \$1,400,000 (\$1.4 million) and most of it, if not all of it, is an “underground” economy.

But if you go to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture website and look at the kennels in Lancaster County that are licensed for 200 to 500 or more dogs, you’ll be stunned. Using the above data for 25 dogs, imagine the income from 500 dogs.

Why won’t they stop? Money, a great deal of money.

We should all be incensed that this underground economy affects our tax base. The only answer apparently is education of the public. Cut the demand, you cut the supply.

Thanks to Robin for the above data.

Can someone please help me to understand why these puppy millers have found bedfellows in a few of the many good and ethical breeders who continue to believe that if we the people legislate against the millers that they, as breeders, are next in line for being legislated against?



Photo courtesy of DVGRR

Pennsylvania regulations specify the size of a cage for a 85 pound dog and her puppies. Mom and puppies remain in the cage – not out for one minute! - until the puppies move on to a wholesaler or are otherwise sold. This picture is a replica of a regulation size cage – what is not depicted is that these cages are stacked. Notice the wire floors – feces and urine drops through. If you are a “lucky” dog, you are on top.

You don’t have to be a rescuer to be offended by this. And I hope you are. This is not a “witch hunt”. When something is wrong, let’s have the courage to oppose it.



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.*

Halloween – Is Your Dog Ready?

Halloween is often a time of year that humans associate with fun – dressing up in costumes, collecting or passing out candy, attending spooktacularly thrilling parties. Is your dog ready for the festivities?

Enduring the insult of wearing costumes aside, many canines don't particularly enjoy the trappings that go along with Halloween. The constant ringing of the doorbell, strange looking entities coming to the house, squealing children running around outside... all of these things can be stressful to your dog. There's nothing scarier to a dog owner than having your pet bolt through the door while you're attempting to pass out candy to the little goblins.

Crating or gating your dog away from the center of activity is the safest approach. Leaving a radio on to help mask the noise at the front door may be helpful, as well as offering an interactive toy to keep your canine occupied. Dogs who don't handle the commotion well will be thankful the festivities only last a few hours.

While my pack may look forward to mugging anyone who ventures our way on Halloween, I'm personally thankful our visitors are few and far between.

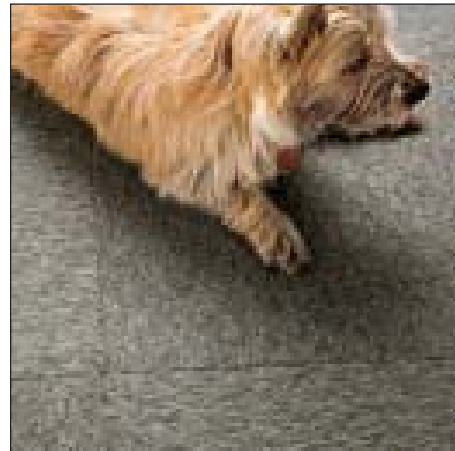


What's New

FLOR



FLOR is a coordinated design system of 19.7-inch carpet squares you can mix and match. It comes in a variety of colors, patterns, and textures. The durable construction hides dirt and cleans easily, making it suitable for heavy traffic areas and a good choice for homes with pets. From \$11.99, from FLOR; (866) 281-3567 or www.flor.com.



K9Grass

Tired of the state of destruction that your dog leaves after a frolic on the lawn? Dig proof and chew proof, K9Grass, the artificial grass designed for dogs, is said to offer superior drainage, elimination of mud and improved cleanliness. K9Grass allows liquids to drain rapidly through the grass while offering easy solid waste removal, the manufacturer says. Prices vary. ForeverLawn, (866)992-7876 or www.foreverlawn.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).

October 20 (Thurs)
7:00^{PM} General Meeting

Activities

Awards Dinner - Dec 11
Borio's Restaurant, Cicero
4 PM Cash Bar, 5 PM Buffet Dinner

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