



Golden Retriever Club of Illinois GOLDEN MOMENTS NEWSLETTER

Announcements

General Meeting - Monday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m.
at [Belly Rub Klub](#), 520 West Interstate Road, Addison, IL

Following a brief General Meeting of the GRCI Members that will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m., the Club will present a program in response to the feedback you, our Members provided in the recent Membership Survey. A brief description of the program appears below.

ASK A JUDGE

Expert AKC Obedience and Rally Judges, Loretta Lazzara and Rick Cox, will give a presentation on what an Obedience and Rally Judge is looking for/at while judging a dog and handler team. They will then answer your Obedience and Rally questions to help you prepare for the Spring Trials. Bring a list of your most burning questions to ask our expert panel of judges so you can improve your Obedience and Rally knowledge and handling skills.

Membership Survey Results

In December 2014, a membership survey was mailed to all members of the Golden Retriever Club of Illinois (GRCI). Members were requested to complete the survey and return it to GRCI's Vice President by January 5, 2015. All members who returned the completed survey by the due date and provided their names were entered into a random drawing for a \$100 gift certificate.

19 completed surveys were returned, representing a 27% response rate, which is down considerably from last year's 50% response rate. Of the 19 returned surveys, 16 respondents chose to be entered into the random drawing.

To those of you who returned completed surveys, a very sincere thank you! You provided valuable input, which GRCI's Board will continue to act upon.

[Read More](#)

Chicagoland Family Pet Expo - March 20-22

Hi everyone, it's that time again to staff our booth at the [Chicagoland Family Pet Expo](#) at Arlington Park Racecourse. The show runs from Friday, March 20, 1-9pm, Saturday, March 21, 9am to 6pm, and Sunday, March 22, 10am to 5pm. Listed below are the time slots available for you and your golden.

Friday: 1-5pm 1 team (dog and member)

Saturday: 9am -Noon 2 teams

Saturday: Noon-3pm 1 team

Saturday: 3-6pm 1 team

Sunday: 10am-1pm 1 team

Sunday: 1pm-3pm 2 teams

Sunday 3-closing 2 teams

Please let me know via email or phone if you will be able to help. Once we get closer to the date I will send out more information regarding the show and parking.

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Upcoming Events

[GRCI General Meeting](#)-February 23

[Chicagoland Family Pet Expo](#) - March 20-22

[Certificate of Conformation Assessment](#) - April 11

[Eye, Heart and Microchip Clinic](#) - April 12

[Hunt Test](#) - May 2 and 3

Shop GRCI Logo Merchandise!



Visit our Website

Looking for more information?

Find it at on our website
grcillinois.org

or on our Facebook Page



Thank you

Barbara Gron-Grosse
bgg2134@sbcglobal.net
847 272-9548

Certificate of Conformation Assessment (CCA)

We are pleased to be hosting a CCA this Spring. It will be at Pawsitively Heaven Pet Resort on April 11, 2015. Entry opening dates will begin February 23, 2015. Entries should be sent to: Sandy Foster, PO Box 43, 604 E. Church Street, Minooka, IL 60447. Entries received before 2/23/15 will be returned. For full information, please click [here](#).

We are also in need of volunteers for the event. If you would like to help, please contact event Chair Robin Comp-Zelles at mzelles@aol.com.

Annual Heart, Eye, Microchip and Genetic Eye and Skin Testing Clinic

Sunday, April 12 from 10:30 to 2:00 p.m. GRCI is hosting our annual Heart, Eye and Microchip clinic. Dr. Gretchen Schmidt will be giving eye exams, Dr. Michael Luethy will give heart exams, and Dr. Mark Rusley will implant microchips if your dog needs one.

This year, we are also offering Also genetic testing for conditions Golden retrievers are at risk for: Optigen PRA 1&2 (eyes) and Ichthyosis (skin) tests. Optigen offers a range of tests for all breeds. Check site: www.optigen.com for details and for making advance arrangements. On the day of clinic blood draw cost is 10.00 while cheek swab at no cost.

Please consider having your Golden donate sample blood for research re: canine diseases. These studies are the OFA DNA repository, and the Dog genome project at MIT and Harvard. The costs for these studies are to be covered by the Golden retriever foundation. More info at: www.offa.org and www.dogDNA.org

For full information and to register, click [here](#). Contact Pat Covek with questions at 847-526-5089 or patriciamcovek@gmail.com. Deadline for reservations is April 8, 2015.

GRCI Hunt Test

GRCI Members - Your help is needed!

Our annual Hunt Test is coming up May 2 and 3 at the Des Plaines Conservation Area in Wilmington. We expect many more entries than in recent years, which means we need even more volunteers!

For most positions, volunteers do not need to be experienced, but will be trained "on the job." We need two marshals for master each day, one marshal for senior on Sunday, and two marshals for junior each day. The test begins at 8:00 a.m. each day and runs until dusk. Helpers are required to be there around 7:00 a.m.

We also need one or two members with trucks for transporting crates of birds to the different sites.

Please let me know your availability. Thanks for any help you can give!!!

Beth Gerdes, gerdes2@maxwire.net 309-310-3330

A Star is Born??

GRCI was contacted by an individual from a non-profit organization producing a short film about a dog walker, and she is looking for a club member who excels in Obedience with Golden Retrievers to participate. The dog would be needed for 1 day between March 21 and 23. If you are interested, please contact Betty Smith at betty.greg@comcast.net.

Board of Directors

President

Hal Axelrod, 847-831-2050
harryaxe@comcast.net

Vice President

Jane Coen, 847-236-0138
warrington26@comcast.net

Treasurer

Murray Mitchneck
847-530-6401
mmitchneck@aol.com

Secretary

Betty Smith, 630-231-9892
betty.greg@comcast.net

3-Yr. Director

Joan Wetton, 847-251-2264
jrw00013@aol.com

2-Yr. Director

Michelle Kolb, 847-800-6124
partyinthepaint1@sbcglobal.net

1-Yr. Director

Barbara Gron-Grosse
847-272-9548
bgg2134@sbcglobal.net

1-Yr. Director

Kaye Dahlquist, 847-341-0084
kaye.dahlquist@gmail.com

1-Yr. Director

Cathy Williams, 847-540-0394
cwilliams0727@gmail.com

Sunshine Notes

Do you know someone in the hospital, sick or in need of some Sunshine in his or her life?

Call Laurie Stecker at 847-705-9172 or email at Aylwyn1@aol.com. She will arrange flowers, cards, and other forms of "sunshine" to brighten their day.

Newsletter Contributors

Editors:

Cathy Williams 847-452-2568
cwilliams0727@gmail.com
Hal Axelrod 847-738-0708
harryaxe@comcast.net

Conformation

Karin Boullion 630-941-7568

Wags and Brags

WAGS AND BRAGS!

Donna Bihner reports that Parker, Rhythm's Dat Knight on Bourbon St CD BN RE TDX NA OAJ CGC CCA, earned his OAJ last weekend and his CD this weekend. Doing so, he also is now a VCD1! Way to Parker and Donna.



Donna and Parker earning their CD



Donna and Ellie in action on the agility course

Donna also reports that Ellie, Kanosak Wild Goose Chase VDC2 BN GN RE MX MXB NAP, earned her MXB last weekend.

goldbulyon@aol.com

Obedience

Jane Coen 847-236-0138

warrington26@comcast.net

Public Education

Barbara Gron-Grosse

847-272-9548

bgg2134@sbcglobal.net



Evergreens Ocean Breeze UD - enjoying the post blizzard snow!

Nancy Einwich reports that Evergreens Ocean Breeze UD- Grace - earned her 6th leg of her UDX - over 1/2 way there! Congrats to Nancy and Grace!

If you have a Wag and Brag to share, please send your story in "copy and paste" mode, along with a picture if you have one to Cathy Williams at cwilliams0727@gmail.com or Hal Axelrod at harryaxe@comcast.net.

Around the Ring

Golden Notes from Karin Boullion

Ring Etiquette

Going to classes helps you learn what to do as a team - the stacking, movement and the patterns. But do they cover any of the other "do's and don'ts"? Many are unwritten and some could be deemed common sense courtesies.

First, try to watch the judge a bit before it is your time to go into the ring. You'll see what sort of movement pattern they want, where to set up and if they watch the dog move all the way around at the end of the individual exam. Some want an initial setup to look over all the dogs in the class and others will check in and have everyone move around. Do they want everyone in catalog number order? If so, try to figure out where you are in the order. For example, if you are the last dog in the class, don't stand right in the opening and block others from getting in.

Try to be on time and ringside for your class. If you have multiple dogs it can be difficult to quickly switch dogs and numbers (especially if you are alone), but try to have a friend there to help you out with the switch. If fellow exhibitors know you are there, they can save space for your dog in the lineup, so you can easily slip in and set up. Otherwise, if you have to squeeze in, you are forcing everyone after you to move and reset their dog.

[Read More](#)



Happy Golden Valentine's!!! Give
your dog lots of Love!