



**GOLDEN
RETRIEVER
CLUB OF
ILLINOIS**

Golden Moments

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Judy Bush

Hello to all our GRCI members and their Goldens-

Good to touch base with you again and reflect on the past couple of GRCI events and those that are going to be upon us shortly.

We had an outstanding Agility trial at Rush n' Around in Manhattan. Great weather for the outside events, and coverage for those inside. As always, Annette Narel does a great job with everything, and we are extremely grateful for her involvement.

Special thanks is extended to Robin Comp Zelles, Kris Garra, and Michelle Kolb for attending to making sure this event was a huge success. This event drew many great compliments. Thank you all.

Chairwoman Joan Wetton, Cathy Thrasher, Kaye Dahlquist and their crew of wonderful tracklayers Howard Bernier, Jeff Beatty, Bev Kozlowski, Kathy Green, Deb D., Patti W, and Michelle Kolb provided for an exceptional event in the Hampshire Forest Preserve. GRCI member Margaret Tyler completed her TD with Annie. Congratulations!

At our last meeting at Ruff and Ready, GRCI awarded recognition to Goldens who qualified for special awards. As you know, the Awards Program was a first in several years, and from the recipients perspective, they were thrilled to be recognized and receive a remembrance of their achievements. We will proceed with another Awards program next year, and strongly urge more members to submit their applications. Enclosed you will see a brochure that Lynn Mines designed that identifies all those talented members and their Goldens who received recognition. Congratulations to all, you are a wonderful tribute to the breed and our club.

Ruth Smith baked a delicious dessert to celebrate her recent victory and that of our members-what a nice gesture. A special thanks to Randy Johnson, Chair of the Awards Committee, who would not give up making sure this event happened for our members. His loyalty and perseverance through tough challenges made this event so successful.

Now with the weather chilling out, our outside GRCI events are over for the year, and the next two to look forward to are the CCA on December 4, 2011, and our Christmas-Holiday Party on December 14, 2011.

This is the first year GRCI will be holding the CCA event, and to make sure that member questions were answered before the event, you saw a preview at the last meeting by Bev Kozlowski, Cathy Williams, and Nancy Einwich. Please be sure to check the web site for more information on how to register for the CCA event.

GRCI Board of Directors

President – Judy Bush, 847-259-3391
judibu5@aol.com
Vice President – Cathy Williams, 847-540-0394
cwilliams0727@gmail.com
Treasurer – Kim Mroczenski, 708-687-3188
murphystradingcompany@earthlink.net
Secretary – Betty Smith, 630-231-9892
betty.greg@comcast.net
3-Year Director – Hal Axelrod, 847-831-2050
harryaxe@comcast.net
2-Year Director – Michelle Kolb, 847-800-6124
partyintheprint1@sbcglobal.net
1-Year Director – Pat Alberts, 708-301-5014
alberts16211@att.net
1-Year Director – Randy Johnson, 815-485-4411
lottierandy@comcast.net
1-Year Director – Open

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: The Bellyrub Klub

612 E. Western Avenue,

Lombard, 60148

630-542-3559

Upcoming Events:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Column	Page 1
Animal Assisted Therapy	Page 2
A Dog's Perspective	Page 3
Humor	Page 3
Public Education	Page 4
The Obedience Corner	Page 5
GRCI Tracking Tests	Page 6
Bitch's Perspective	Page 7
Awards Presentation Brochure	Page 9
Sunshine Notes	Page 10

Continued on Page 2

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN, continued.

Pat Covek brought an unexpected treat for our members: a large beautiful fabric covered storage box for us to raffle off at the end of the meeting. Nancy was the happy winner. Thanks Pat.

And as a closing event for the 2011 year, we will again have a member Christmas party. GRCI will supply the main course of the buffet, and we ask members to bring a dish to pass. Don't forget that Santa will be present to listen to all the Golden's special wishes too. There will be more information emailed to all in the next couple of weeks.

Thanks to Laurie Stecker for her role as the Sunshine Lady for the past many years: always letting our members know we are thinking of them during their difficult times.

Please make sure to send your dues and membership renewal forms in for GRCI 2012 membership. That information will be mailed out snail mail in the next couple of weeks.

Lynn Mines talent with the Newsletter is outstanding, and portrays GRCI in a positive light.

Reflecting back over the last few months, there were great events, outstanding volunteers, happy trial and award recipients, and those amazing Golden's: all that contributes to a great Golden Retriever Club of Illinois. Thanks to all of you.

See you in December.

Warm golden regards,
Judy and Chase



ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY

By Judith C. Bush, MS, CJ

Reconnecting With Patients After an Animal Assisted Therapy Session

About a decade ago a nontraditional Pen-Pal movement began in Denver, Colorado, linking therapy and search and rescue dogs with cancer survivor children recently discharged from hospitals. Many of the canine Pen Pals were also cancer survivors.

It is a well documented fact that children hospitalized with life threatening illness can greatly benefit from Animal Assisted Therapy sessions. For some children, the therapy dogs helped them take their first step after critical surgery. For others, tightly hugging a therapy dog helped make them feel more secure in stark hospital environment. The dogs provide a link to the outside world, de-institutionalize the hospital setting, and helped them progress toward leaving the hospital.

Continued.

ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY, continued

Ann Ingalls, a nurse with Children's Hospital of Denver believed that either reconnecting critically children with the therapy dogs they formed relationships with in the hospital, or forming a new partnership with a therapy or search and rescue dogs, could be a therapeutic partnership that offered several years of positive continual therapeutic contact. Ms. Ingalls contacted therapy organizations and search and rescue groups to recruit future Pen Pal candidates for the Children's Hospital's newly discharged children.

Writing is a form of creative therapy that allows children to explore their feelings of sadness, happiness, fear, and anger in a very safe format. The canine Pen Pal's owners penned letters under the dog's identity and respond to the child with hope, understanding and encouragement.

One successful pairing transpired between a fourteen year old girl named Kelsy, diagnosed with leukemia, and a Golden Retriever named Sandy, a mast cell tumor cancer survivor.

Kelsy began writing to Sandy after she was released from the hospital, but still had a long, hard recovery ahead of her. She said, "I can tell Sandy things I can't tell anyone else because dogs just understand better than some people." Kelsy's parents say Kelsy eagerly looks forward to the letters arriving, and they give her a burst of energy. The relationship she has with Sandy has done her a world of good.

Sandy's owner feels that even though Sandy cannot directly interact with Kelsy, they have a strong bond between them. She said, "I know that Sandy is helping her with her struggle with cancer, and we are glad to be there for her."

A Pen Pal program can be adapted to other populations where the need for diminishing isolation, offering friendship and hope can ease the pain of others. Pen Pal programs can be offered and administered through local organizations and hospitals, or individual therapy teams can select seriously ill individuals who can be positively helped by the pairing up with a therapy dog.

Consider, the next time you and your Golden offer an Animal Assisted Therapy session to a nursing home, hospital, or rehab facility you may meet someone who is in need of an extra touch of kindness. Becoming a Pen Pal with your Golden may be the perfect way to offer friendship, hope, and love to someone less fortunate.



A DOG'S PERSPECTIVE



Hello, Blazin Blue here,

Don't really have a story to tell this time because Mommy and I have been working really hard at Tracky Tracking. But I will tell you that ever since Diamond got released from jail, she is right there with me and she is really good. Sometimes, a track is laid and she goes right behind me, I say she is walking in my paw prints. Ha ha. Sometimes she gets a track of her own and still comes back with her arr-tea-kles. I like watching from the back of the Tahoe, but once they get out of sight I just lay down and take a nap.

Mommy thought I was ready to go for the TDX and we got first draw at the Rand Park Dog Training Club's event. It was at a forest preserve that we have never been to before. When we got to the event, the people were soooo nice. There were five dogs total, one was with Cathy Thrasher from our club. One lady who "found the entire track" with her dog, gave Mommy a good luck penny and a big hug. I liked that. We drew the fifth/last track and we were the only ones who had to drive to get to the beginning, and get picked up after it was over. Mommy was anxious. I could tell because at first she was chatting with everyone, then she got pretty quiet. I watched over her and kept her calm.

Then Cathy and her dog "found their entire track" and we heard yippii's. We were so happy for Cathy, and the only other Golden in this event. Like I said, we were last, and we drove to the beginning. Someone drove Mommy's Tahoe away. Then we walked down the street and into the woods. We got next to this big wire tower, like an antenna tower. We saw the flag, I laid down on the arr-tea-kle and Mommy picked it up and put it in her pouch. I found some really nice stuff, and we had a wonderful walk in the woods and tall grasses and short grasses and we went down and up a ravine with water in it. Mommy tried to jump, but she isn't as young as me—tehe! Did I say it was a rainy day? It was a rainy day. Mommy gave me a couple of drinks of water, especially one after I rolled in the dead snake. I also found where the deer had laid down for the night and sniffed that, but I heard Mommy say—"Blazey, I have no idea where the track is and you need to find it—Tracky Track". Well, of course, Mommy, that's what I'm here for, remember—I sniffed around, and off we went again. I found 4 or 5 arr-tea-kles, I can't remember, but I always remember when I find THE GLOVE...Because Mommy yells—yippii-dippi, and hugs me and the judges and track layer come up and give me hugs. That is the best part. The judge that walked behind us took a lot of pictures. It was nice. We walked back to the road and Mommy's Tahoe came driving up. We got in and went back to where everyone else was. I got this beautiful trophy that said TDX on it. In the mail Mommy got a certificate for me too. She put them on the wall next to the photos that were taken. I must say, I was tired and slept really good that night after dinner.

Continued,

A DOG'S PERSPECTIVE, continued

Mommy helped with the GRCI Tracking event which she said was cold but fun. She took Diamond on Saturday when the judges set the tracks. Mommy was a track layer...she said really all she does is write down where the judges tell her to go and make sure she knows where the landmarks are and then she re-walks it the next day (Sunday) picking up the flags and putting down the arr-tea-kles. Diamond didn't get to go on Sunday.

This year there were eight-yes 8- TD tracks. There were seven Golden and one Dobie. The Dobie drew Mommy's track, but unfortunately he did not find the entire track. BUT there were several winners and that was pretty cool. Mommy came home saying she had a great day and that was that.

The next event we went to was the GRCI club meeting. After the formal meeting, Mommy and Cathy W and I made a PRESENT-tation, with the help of Nancy E. We talked about what to expect in the upcoming CCA event. Mommy has been getting a lot of mail and phone calls and is on the computer a lot for this. So it must be something really exciting. I can't wait to go. After the PRESENT-tation, Randy gave away a lot of really nice trophies and certificates. They were absolutely beautiful. OK, I hope I don't sound like I'm bragging, but I got one of those also. Mommy is waiting for a picture to be posted on the website so she can put the picture next to the beautiful plaque. Auntie Patti is going to keep one and Mommy is going to keep one...they like to share things when it comes to me...I like that.

Mommy said to thank everyone who has volunteered to help with all the events, and especially the upcoming CCA event. She said everyone is cooperating so nicely. Thanks everyone for everything you have done for the club this past year. We have had so much fun.

So until the next time.... Thanks for listening. Keep giving hugs and kisses...the love goes both ways. Oh, send good thoughts and wishes to my Daddy Mikee in Afghanistan.

Blazin Blue



Humor

A three-year-old boy went with his dad to see a new litter of Golden Retriever puppies. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother, "There were three boy puppies and four girl puppies."

"How did you know that?" his mother asked.

"Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it is printed on their bottoms."

PUBLIC EDUCATION

By Pat Alberts

Ten Ways to Prepare in Autumn for Winter Dog Care

As brisk fall days signal the end of summer and the coming of colder weather, what should dog owners do to care properly for their canine companions?

Here are 10 tips to help dog lovers look after their Labradors, Boxers, and Chihuahuas, Poodles, Retrievers or other canine favorites.

1. Give your dog a fall grooming.

Dogs naturally grow thick winter coats each year, and you can stimulate this process with a thorough shedding and shampooing. Be sure to brush out all mats and tangles.

2. Include a flea dip for your dog.

A flea dip is a smart step before bringing your pet inside for winter. Once fleas enter upholstery and carpets, they can be tough to lose.

3. Procure winter pet wear.

If you plan to dress your dog in a sweater for outdoor wear, now is the time to buy it. Just don't put it on your pet too soon. A few weeks of cool fall temperatures will jump-start his coat growth, unless you cover him.

4. Look out for leaf piles.

Autumn leaves may tempt your pooch for playing or burying bones, but raked piles also harbor dangers. Snakes, rodents or sharp objects may hide there.

5. Beware of bee stings.

As summer flowers fade and the mercury drops, stinging insects grow ever angrier. Keep dogs away from nests, sugary spills, garbage cans and other sites where bees congregate.

6. Keep your dog away from pesticides.

Autumn is prime time for putting mousetraps and rodent poisons out, when pesky creatures may begin seeking indoor access. These products are dangerous to dogs, so be cautious where you leave them.

7. Be cautious about antifreeze.

Wipe up antifreeze spills immediately. Antifreeze tastes sweet, but it's deadly for dogs, unless you choose non-toxic options. Some antifreezes contain bittering agents, making them less enticing to canines.

8. Prepare a sheltered spot for your dog.

If your dog lives outside, autumn offers time to prepare his shelter. A sturdy dog house or a doggy door will prove essential when winter winds blow. Help him grow accustomed, so he'll settle in before the snow flies.

Continued.

PUBLIC EDUCATION, continued

9. Bump up your dog's nutrition.

Like most creatures, dogs burn more calories in cold weather. Begin ramping up your canine's consumption in autumn, as needed.

10. Offer your pet plenty of exercise.

Caring pet owners find creative ways to keep dogs moving in winter. Even house dogs need workouts. Agility classes and indoor playtimes in pet-friendly facilities are ideal. Shorter, frequent outside trips are better than fewer extended jaunts.

Winter pet care begins with autumn preparation.

Original article by Linda Ann Nickerson (http://contributor.yahoo.com/user/62771/linda_ann_nickerson.html)

Linda Ann Nickerson, pet lover, equestrian and horse breeder, brings decades of reporting and a globally minded Midwestern perspective to a host of topics, balancing human interest with history, hard facts and often humor.

More from this contributor:

5 Ways to Protect Your Pet's Paws in Every Season

10 Tips for Horseback Riding Safely in Winter

10 Tips for Caring for Furry House Pets in Winter Weather



THE OBEDIENCE CORNER

By Jane L. Coen

“The Time Is Now”

It has always been my objective to have my Golden, “Tiera,” earn her American Kennel Club (AKC) Utility Dog (U.D.) title. A couple of months ago, it hit me that if I wanted Tiera to earn her U.D., we were going to have to get busy and do the proof-training necessary to prepare us to enter some Utility trials at the end of the year. Why the urgency? Tiera will be 10 years old in a couple of weeks, and although she continues to enjoy good physical health, it is only a matter of time before she will need to be retired from competitive obedience training for the sake of her health. Given Tiera’s age, I’ve made a commitment to myself to put in the time necessary this fall to get her ready for the December Utility trials.

Over the years, I have put U.D. titles on eight different dogs—four Shetland Sheepdogs, a Belgian Tervuren and three Golden Retrievers. With my Shelties and Tervurens, I found the transition from Open to Utility to be easy and smooth, and the preparation for Utility competition to be free of challenges. For example, one of my Shelties earned her U.D. title in four trials at 19 months of age, and my Tervuren earned her U.D. with a Dog World Award (earning her title in her first three trials with scores of 195 or higher out of 200 possible points). [NOTE: A dog must earn qualifying scores at three different trials to earn an AKC Companion Dog (C.D.), Companion Dog Excellent (C.D.X) or Utility Dog (U.D.) title.]

Interestingly, the transition from Open to Utility has not been free of challenges for all of my Golden Retrievers. The level of concentration required to perform most of the Utility exercises is much greater than that required for the exercises in either the Novice or Open classes. My one Golden, “Sparkle,” was able to sail through Utility without any challenges, earning her U.D. title in four trials, because she was a very steady and focused worker—qualities that are a great asset in the Utility ring. The one Utility trial Sparkle did “flunk” was a trial where she glanced away from me momentarily, missing my “down” signal on the Signal Exercise. In Utility, a split second of inattentiveness can be the difference between a qualifying and a non-qualifying score.

My other two Golden Retrievers started out their Utility careers with a series of “flunks” (non-qualifying performances). During the Scent Discrimination exercise at their first few Utility trials, they bolted out to the pile of articles on the first retrieve and snatched up an incorrect article without thoroughly searching the pile of articles to find the one bearing my scent. By the time they were sent out for the second article, they had settled down, and consistently retrieved the correct one (the Scent Discrimination exercise involves two retrieves—one metal article and one leather article). Those two dogs consistently qualified on all of the other Utility exercises at those early trials, but the one incorrect article meant a non-qualifying score.

THE OBEDIENCE CORNER, *continued*

In Utility, the dog needs to concentrate on its handler or the task at hand for “an extended period of time” during the Signal, Scent Discrimination, Directed Retrieve, and Directed Jumping exercises. Although the Moving Stand exercise in Utility can present its own problems, they are not particularly related to concentration issues.

It has been my experience that preparing for Utility class competition requires training a dog in many different locations. As a result, over the last few weeks, I have been carting my portable set of Utility jumps to a number of different locations several times a week to prepare Tiera for Utility competition.

Finding multiple training locations nearby has required some creativity, along with an attitude of “Well, the worst that can happen is that we’ll get thrown out of here”—which did happen on two occasions! One of the locations we got kicked out of was the park district parking lot, which is right across the street from my town’s train station. I considered this particular parking lot to be an ideal training location during the late afternoon rush hour because of the distractions it afforded with trains pulling in and out of the station, commuters getting off the train and walking to their nearby parked cars, and a high volume of automobile and bus traffic.

On one particular evening while training in that parking lot (before we got kicked out!), I was running my Golden, “Tripper,” through the Utility exercises. All of a sudden we heard a LOUD bang. The noise came from a man crashing his head into the lamppost across the street! The poor man was intently watching Tripper perform the Directed Jumping exercise rather than watching where he was going as he walked down the sidewalk. My friend, Joan, who was training with us, rushed across the street to make sure the man was alright. Although he claimed he was OK, I wouldn’t be surprised if he ended up with a concussion!

I have been quite amazed at the progress Tiera and Tripper have made over the last few weeks since we began regularly training in different locations. The dogs’ level of concentration has improved significantly. They are much more reliable in their performance of the Utility exercises, ignoring distractions that a few weeks ago would have broken their concentration.

I am using the gauge I learned from my obedience mentors, Bob Self Sr. and Jack Godsil, over thirty years ago to determine when Tiera is ready to be entered in a Utility trial. That gauge: when a dog can run through the set of required exercises cold (without any warm-up) ten training sessions in a row in different locations—and qualify, the dog is ready to be entered in a trial. At this point, Tiera is delivering “qualifying” Utility performances with a good bit of regularity. We have another month before we will be exhibiting at some December Utility trials, which gives us a little more time to increase our “pass rate” further.

Continued,

Continued on Page 6

THE OBEDIENCE CORNER, *continued*

In years past, I had the time and inclination to attend obedience "correction" matches on a frequent basis (practice ring run-throughs that do not count toward AKC titles). That has not been the case in more recent years. I've found that training in different locations nearby my home can be just as beneficial as traveling to matches much farther away. The key is finding training locations that provide high levels of distraction.

I'm hoping that by the time I write my next obedience column I will be able to report that Tiera has earned her U.D. In the meantime, we will continue to train in multiple locations that provide ample distraction.

Are you training your dog in multiple locations that provide lots of distraction? If not, I hope you'll consider doing so. If you do, I'm confident you will see an improvement in your dog's level of attention and concentration, along with an increase in the dog's overall reliability. One word of caution: be sure to use your good judgment in training your dog off leash in areas where the dog could be exposed to potential dangers, e.g., moving cars. I would never train a dog off leash in an open area until I was absolutely confident that I had complete control over the dog. Until that point, I would look for "safer" locations, e.g., fenced in tennis courts.

Until next time, Happy Heeling!



Lynn Mines and the late Macintosh's Indian Apple (Bear) taken in 2003.

On the Slopes...

Golden Retrievers are among the most popular breeds for avalanche rescue at ski resorts. They spend most days riding the ski lift, patrolling with their handlers, and acting as goodwill ambassadors. But when a skier is covered by snow, they can cover the same area in 30 minutes that it would take an entire human team eight hours to probe.

GRCI TRACKING TESTS

Sunday, October 16, 2011

By Joan Wetton

After enduring a "no work" situation by tracking judges and then the death of one who was willing to work, Donna Wielert, we were finally able to have our tracking test. However, the weather was not on our side for this weekend at Hampshire Forest Preserve. It was quite windy and cold for plotting on Saturday. When able to be in the sun it provided some warmth. The wind died down a bit, but nature dealt us rain for part of our test on Sunday. Nonetheless, we had a great test and a lot of fun.

We only had TD entries for our test so we were able to have eight tracks. The eight entrants were all Golden Retrievers. However, the eighth withdrew and the first alternate was a Doberman.

Only three dogs passed and achieved their TD titles. Aylwyn's Luck Be a Lady, Annie, owners, Margaret Tyler and Laurie and Jerry Stecker (GRCI members) was the first to find her glove. Margaret was a first time handler. Winterset's Indian Harvest CD, RE, Pilgrim, owned by Nancy Einwich (GRCI member) located his glove next, earning another tracking title for Nancy's Golden Retrievers. Hightimes Ready N Willing CDX, Willie, owned by Terry and Robert Bonnel from southern Indiana, drew the eighth track and found his glove for Terry. All three were Golden Retrievers and made their owners very proud. Congratulations to the passing teams.

We are grateful to our gracious judges, Donna Kircher and Wally O'Brien, for stepping up and enabling GRCI to have a tracking test. Big thanks go out to our test secretary, Cathy Thrasher, and chief tracklayer, Kaye Dahlquist, for your support again this year. Cathy surmounted many obstacles and labored to keep us on "track" to have a successful trial. Kaye along with Cathy obtained the personnel to lay the tracks. Kaye also orchestrated the plotting schedule. Cathy and Kaye along with Bev Kozlowski, Howard B., Deb B., Kathy G., and Patti W. plotted the tracks. Thanks for your track laying efforts. A thank you to Jeff for shuttling tracklayers and handlers to their tracks. Judy Bush provided nourishment for both days of the event. Michelle Kolb lent assistance on both days when it was needed. Thanks go out to both of them.

The tracking test is a two day event. Day one is for plotting the tracks with the second day for running the tracks. It's worth every minute to witness the dogs doing what only they can do with their strong sense of smell and their handlers following behind. Please come and join us next October for thrills and fellowship.

Photos shown on Page 7

New TD's!



FROM A BITCH'S PERSPECTIVE...



Hello, Diamond here

Hello Everyone, I missed the GRCI meeting because Mommy had to do a PRESENT-TATION, but when she and Blaze got home, I didn't see any PRESENT—oh well, tehe.

Auntie Judy says that I should write another health education section. It just seems so serious for me, because, well, I'm just a flower child ☺ tehe. But Auntie Judy is the "boss," so here goes.

Mommy went off to a re-treat for a week. Again, I saw no TREATS for us when she came back, but oh well, tehe. When she got back we were soooooo happy to see her. But the next morning Blazey wasn't feeling very good. It was a Saturday. Mommy took him to see our doctor; she is SOOOOOOO nice. We usually all go together, but not this time. Blazey was throwing food back out on the floor that he just ate, and what he wasn't putting on the floor, he was pushing out the other end—ugh!!! I know, it IS disgusting. So Dr. Yocom gave Blazey a shot to help him out and took x-rays to ensure (big word for a little girl :) that he had not eaten anything that got stuck in his belly. Or to see if there was a buildup of gas. The x-rays looked good, and Blazey came home with some medicine. After a couple of hours, Blazey did still not want to play and he was foaming at the mouth and it was just awww-wful. He was also anxious and would not sit still or lay down. He was "praying" a lot too. So Mommy called Dr. Yocom back and informed her. Dr Yocom said "give it a little time". Well, a couple more hours went by and Mommy was pretty frantic and called Dr Yocom who said to bring Blazey back in. She took more x-rays and ran some blood tests. She also said that Blazey was now DE-HYDRATING and needed to stay. Blazey's tests said that he had Pancreatitis

According to <http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/dog-pancreatitis-symptoms-and-treatment> "Pancreatitis is inflammation and swelling of the pancreas. It can occur in a mild or severe form. The cause of spontaneous pancreatitis in dogs is not well understood. Dogs taking corticosteroids are at increased risk. There is a higher incidence of pancreatitis in dogs with Cushing's syndrome, diabetes mellitus, hypothyroidism, and idiopathic hyperlipemia (a disease of Miniature Schnauzers). These diseases are associated with high serum lipid levels. Pancreatitis is also more prevalent in overweight spayed females and dogs on high-fat diets. An attack may be triggered by eating table scraps or a fatty meal. Acute pancreatitis is characterized by the abrupt onset of vomiting and severe pain in the abdomen. The dog may have a tucked-up belly and assume a prayer position. Abdominal pain is caused by the release of digestive enzymes into the pancreas and surrounding tissue. Diarrhea, dehydration, weakness, and shock may ensue.

Continud on Page 8,

From A Bitches' Perspective, continued

The diagnosis can be suspected based on a physical examination. It is confirmed by blood tests showing elevated amylase and/or lipase levels, along with a new serum test called canine pancreatitis lipase immuninol reactivity and TAP (trypsinogen activation peptide). Abdominal ultrasonography may reveal an enlarged and swollen pancreas.

Mild pancreatitis produces loss of appetite, depression, intermittent vomiting, and diarrhea and weight loss.

Fulminant necrotizing pancreatitis is an acute, extremely severe, usually fatal form of pancreatitis. In hours, your dog will go into shock. Dogs may vomit or simply show signs of severe abdominal pain. If you suspect this problem, get your dog to the veterinarian immediately!

Following an attack of pancreatitis, the pancreas may be permanently damaged. When it is, the dog may develop diabetes mellitus if the islet cells have been destroyed or may develop exocrine pancreatic insufficiency if the acinar cells have been destroyed.

Treatment: Dogs with acute pancreatitis require hospitalization to treat shock and dehydration. The most important step in treating pancreatitis is to rest the gland completely. This is accomplished by giving the dog nothing by mouth for several days and maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance with intravenous saline solutions. Antibiotics are used to prevent secondary bacterial infections. Pain is controlled with narcotics. Cardiac arrhythmias, if present, are treated with anti-arrhythmic drugs.

Dogs who do not respond to medical treatment may require surgery to drain an infected pancreas. The prognosis for dogs with shock and spreading peritonitis is poor.

Dogs who recover from pancreatitis are susceptible to recurrent attacks, which can be mild or severe. These episodes can be prevented, in part, by eliminating predisposing factors. For example, place overweight dogs on a weight-loss program. Feed the total daily ration in two or three small servings to avoid overstimulating the pancreas. Do not feed table scraps. Dogs with high serum lipid levels (determined by your veterinarian) should be placed on a fat-restricted diet. If scarring has damaged the acinar or islet cells, your dog may need supplemental treatment such as enzymes or insulin.”

But our clinic does not have people to stay overnight with Blazey so he had to go to an Emergency Clinic for Animals and he stayed there overnight Saturday and all day Sunday. He had several IVs to help him re-hydrate and was given more medicine to keep him from throwing up and having diarrhea. It was a L-O-N-G weekend for all of us. Mommy was sad and we sat and put our heads on her lap to keep her company. But on Sunday afternoon, the Emergency Clinic doctor called and said that Blazey could come home—yippii dippii. Mommy had gone to visit Blazey early in the morning, but this time he got to come home. They were an excellent clinic—Mommy liked them very much and they liked Blazey very much and

From A Bitches' Perspective, continued

took excellent care of him. He had to take medicine for about 10 days – he didn't like it, but Mommy made him take it. Tehe!

Blazey was stretching and bowing and praying for several days, but he started feeling better and we could all tell. One of the questions asked was, what did he get into? Well, if you know my Mommy, OMG goodness, that would not happen. She has a trash can that rolls into the wall, no getting late night snacks from that. And she hardly ever gives us any doggie treats...maybe we get one in a day...maybe! I know, I know, one time, I stole a piece of pumpkin bread from her—well it was sitting on the end table, just calling my name. But I know better now—she explained it to me—nicely. Blazey would NEVER think of taking anything not given to him. So however it happened is a MYSTERY, but thank goodness for great doctors and wonderful medicine.

Well, let me brag on Blazey. That very next Sunday he had a TDX test. Mommy said by the end he was very tired, but he came home with a TROPHY and more letters behind his name. Congrats, big brother, Blazey! Tehe ☺ I'm not bragging on myself (tehe) but I'm getting pretty good at this Tracking stuff myself.

Yippii Dippi, Yippii, Dippi, Yippii Dippi, zowie, wowie, I'm a happy happy happy golden girl again... 'cause I can play with my brother Blazey ☺.

Remember, last time, I met my Daddy Mikee. I l-i-i-k-e him. I said he gave kisses and is funny. He is now in Afghanistan, and talks to us on the phone every once in awhile. Cross Paws until he comes home and send lots of licky kisses and wonderful thoughts for him. Mommy said to thank all the Golden Girls for sending packages to him. He says it's a piece of heaven from home delivered in a box...thanks for thinking of him and wishing him well.

Love to everyone, but remember to bring treats if you come for a visit. Hugs and Kisses.

Princess Diamond—Forever in Fashion Blue Jeans Lady (whew!)



Continued



Golden Retriever Club of Illinois
Awards Presentation
October 19, 2011
7:00 P.M.
Ruff and Ready
333 West Golf Road
Schaumburg, IL 60195



Program

Member's Name(s)	Dog's Name (Call Name) <u>GRCI Certificate</u>	Award (Date)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Rebel Without a Cause (Rebel)	Can CH (10/10/2010)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Wind in the Willows (Willow)	CCA (11/06/2010)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Classic Tradewinds (Raider)	CCA (11/06/2010)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Royal Pennant (Penny)	CCA (11/06/2010)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Chasin' a Dream (Chase)	Can. CD (10/15/2010)
Cynthia Pakenas	My Golden Dalliance (Dallas)	UKC-CD (03/26/2011)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Classic Finn (Finn)	UKC-UD (1/15/2011)
Beverly Kozlowski and Patti Stitz	Blazin Blue Golden Bear (Blaze)	GRCI Dog of the Year
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Classic Windburst (Classi)	Versatility Award 2011
Julie Pinn	Windswept Trace (Tracer)	Versatility Award 2011
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Tropic Thunder (Gus)	Working Certificate (10/3/2010)
Carolyn Hesse and Wm Hallenbeck	Stargazer's Macintosh's My Most Valuable Player (Payton)	CGC (3/20/2011)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Rebel Without a Cause (Rebel)	TDI (2011)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Chasin' a Dream (Chase)	TDI (2010)
Jane Coen	Summersets Sentimental Journey (Tripper)	TDI (2011)
Jane Coen	Bonacres Big Time Winner (Kistler)	TDI (2011)
Lottie Johnson	Marley's Osweald Winterdance (Ozzie)	TDI (2011)
Beverly Kozlowski and Patti Stitz	Blazin Blue Golden Bear (Blaze)	TDI (2011)
Rhonda Schechter	Jake of Rhonels (Jake)	Delta Society (2011)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Classic Tradewinds (Raider)	TDI (2011)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Rebel Without a Cause (Rebel)	Alywyn's Jump'NJNE O Sundown Trophy
Lottie Johnson	Marley's Osweald Winterdance (Ozzie)	Therapy Dog - Linus Trophy
Beverly Kozlowski and Patti Stitz	Blazin Blue Golden Bear (Blaze)	GRCI Dog of the Year
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Classic Windburst (Classi)	GRCI Versatility Award
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Windswept Trace (Tracer)	GRCI Versatility Award

Member's Name(s)	Dog's Name (Call Name) <u>Plaque and/or Brass Placard</u>	Award (Date)
Randy Johnson	Marley's Osweald Winterdance (Ozzie)	OAJ (1/2/2011)
Randy Johnson	Marley's Osweald Winterdance (Ozzie)	OA (12/31/2010)
Betty Smith	Lycinan's Venturesome Voyager (Jason)	OAJ (1/10/2010)
Betty Smith	Lycinan's Venturesome Voyager (Jason)	NA (1/23/2011)
Ruth Smith	Reds Terra Cotta (Clay)	MH (08/07/2010)
Ruth Smith	Hurricane Creeks Marathon Man (Racer)	JH (10/30/2010)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Tropic Thunder (Gus)	JH (5/8/2011)
James and Pat Alberts	Sundowns Rebel Without a Cause (Rebel)	CD (3/19/2011)
Jane Coen	Sommersets Sentimental Journey (Tripper)	CDX (7/31/2010)
Nancy Einwich	Winterset's Indian Harvest (Pilgrim)	CD (3/6/2011)
Nancy Einwich	Evergreens Ocean Breeze (Grace)	CDX (7/31/2010)
Cynthia Pakenas	My Golden Dalliance (Dallas)	CD (09/25/2010)
Julie Pinn	Sunsprits Windswept Trace (Tracer)	CD (11/21/2010)
Julie Pinn and Julie Collins	Sunsprits Classic Finn (Finney)	GO (4/3/2011)
Nancy Einwich	Winterset's Indian Harvest (Pilgrim)	RN (8/01/2010)
Nancy Einwich	Winterset's Indian Harvest (Pilgrim)	RA (9/12/2010)
Nancy Einwich	Winterset's Indian Harvest (Pilgrim)	RE (12/17/2010)
Nancy Einwich	Evergreens Ocean Breeze (Grace)	RAE (11/26/2010)
Randy Johnson	Tender Touch Ozzie's Amazing Harriet (Mazie)	RN (12/16/2010)
Rhonda Schechter	Jake of Rhonels (Jake)	RA (7/10/2010)
Rhonda Schechter	Jake of Rhonels (Jake)	RE (11/07/2010)
Betty Smith	Lycinan's Venturesome Voyager (Jason)	RN (11/14/2010)

*Congratulations to our members
 and their
 wonderful Golden's!!*



Sunshine Notes:

Please remember to call our "Sunshine Person" if you know of someone who is 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 and she will arrange flowers, cards, and other forms of "sunshine" to brighten their day.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OF ILLINOIS NEWSLETTER POLICY

"Golden Moments" will not publish any article or letter of comment that is in disagreement with the policy or procedures of the AKC.

Articles carried will be such that they are of an informative or educational nature or general interest.

Letters to the editor will be published that do not criticize any member of the club, his/her dogs or kennel, or the judging of any dog, but that are of general interest to the members. Letters that are acceptable must indicate the name of the author. "Golden Moments" invited diverse opinions from the members of the club. Anyone wishing to comment on a particular issue may do so. However, remarks which stray from a particular issue, make negative comments on members as individuals or in groups, or attack a member's character or personality are not in good taste, do not benefit Golden Retrievers, and will not be accepted.

For a copy of the **GRCA Code of Ethics** go to:
www.grca.org/pdf/all_about/codeofethics.pdf

ADVERTISING POLICY

It is the responsibility of all advertisers in "Golden Moments" to ensure the accuracy of all references made to official field/obedience/show and other wins and awards. Challenges to the factual correctness of a particular advertisement may be addressed to the Board of Directors of GRCI. GRCI will only investigate complaints that include the name of the author. Any necessary corrections will be published in "Golden Moments"

Rates are as follows:

- Full Page \$20/members \$30/non-members
- Half Page \$15/members \$25/non-members
- Business Card \$10/members \$20/non-members

Rates are based on camera-ready art. Litter listings must indicate appropriate clearances for sire and dam.

NEWSLETTER STAFF:

Lynn Mines, Editor: 815-726-6929 or anglergirl@comcast.net

Pat Alberts, Public Education: 708-301-5014 or alberts16211@att.net

Karin Boullion, Conformation: 630-941-7568 or goldbulyon@aol.com

Judith Bush, Therapy: 847-259-3391 or judibu5@aol.com

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

Robin Comp-Zelles, Agility: 815-929-1884 or mzelles@aol.com

Beverly Kozlowski, A Dog's Perspective: 847-721-1627

or bevkozlowski@yahoo.com

Golden Moments

Lynn Mines, Editor
110 Comstock St.
Joliet, IL 60436-1665

TO:



Next Meeting: December 14, 2011 at 7:00 PM