



**GOLDEN
RETRIEVER
CLUB OF
ILLINOIS**

Golden Moments

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Judy Bush

Greeting to all our members, their Golden, and our dear friends.

I hope this Newsletter finds everyone in good health and enjoying their golden kids.

GRCI has had a full calendar of past events since the last Newsletter. In case you did not attend the Agility event, it was the best yet! We are still hearing compliments from members and attendees. It would not have been possible except for the extraordinary efforts of Kris Garra and Robin Comp Zelles. They organized an event with over one hundred volunteers helping in all aspects, so that our guests (attendees) were graciously taken care of. Kris even designed and gave GRCI glasses and totes to everyone. A million GRCI thanks to all who volunteered to showcase GRCI is such a fantastic light!

Our Annual Meeting/Picnic was held at Hawthorne's Backyard, and was exceptional. Hawthorne's did all the preparations for a delicious buffet. Cindy Pakenas was overseeing this event, and we received rave reviews. Michelle Kolb promoted Agility to our guests with an excellent Agility hands on demonstration with our members participating.

It was GRCI's intention to announce and distribute awards at the Annual Meeting/Picnic. However, due to some unforeseen situations we will reschedule Award distribution to the October General Meeting. We apologize for the rescheduling, however; there were serious health issues, and a few key individuals could not attend the August event. In respect for their tremendous amount of work on the Awards project, and our desire for them to participate fully we modified the date.

At our Annual Meeting/Picnic we said a sad farewell to outgoing board members, Jane Coen, Joan Wetton, Nancy Einwich, and Cindy Pakenas. These outstanding individuals always promoted GRCI in a positive light, and are immensely talented members who worked diligently in their former board positions. Three years ago, Jane, Joan, Nancy and Cindy took the challenge of devoting countless unselfish hours to rebuilding the board and greatly strengthening the organization. They will continue to fully support GRCI, and the new board members who recently came on board. We thank you and will be forever grateful.

We extend a warm welcome our new board members: Betty Smith is our new Secretary. Our former Director of Specialty, Kim Mroczenski has moved into the Treasurer's position, and Michelle Kolb is our new Director of Agility, as well as Tracking. Pat Alberts is our new Director of Public Education. All of these new board members' credentials are outstanding, and we know their dedication, integrity, and commitment will continue to move our organization forward. Please join me in welcoming them to the board.

GRCI Board of Directors

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1-Year Director – Pat Alberts, 708-301-5014
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1-Year Director – Randy Johnson, 815-485-4411
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1-Year Director – Open

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Ruff and Ready

339 W Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL

PHONE: 847-519-9140

Upcoming Events:

TD & TDX Trials

Saturday & Sunday – October 15 & 16, 2011

Hampshire Forest Preserve

44W780 Allen Road, Hampshire, IL

Agility Trials

October 7, 8 & 9, 2011

Rush 'N' Around Training Center

27432 State Route 45, Manhattan, IL

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN, Continued,

The IKC show is scheduled for February, and Cathy Williams is requesting members to submit their choice of awards for this event. Email blasts have gone out regarding this, but feel free to contact her at cwilliams@0727gmail.com.

We have an upcoming Tracking Test event and Agility Event transpiring in the next few weeks. Check the web site for detailed information. Volunteers are always welcome.

Bev Kozlowski and Patti Stitz are producing the CCA event, and continue to make this a great new event for all Golden in our club. Many thanks for all your efforts Bev and Patti.

Our next general meeting will be Wednesday, October 19th, and additional plans are forthcoming. Mark your calendar to join us.

Recently, there was a newspaper article about an increase (almost 35%) in dog thefts: primarily from dogs being left in their owner's cars in shopping lots while their owners are shopping or unattended in back yards. The article said these thefts are resulting from the poor economy, and the availability of quick cash the thief can get from selling dogs to laboratories or for fighting. The biggest threats are to Golden, labs and other large breeds. Please remember keep a careful watch on your beloved Golden. The article indicated that once a dog is stolen, the chances of them being returned are nil, regardless of the type of identification on them. No one wants our Golden to become a statistic!

Look forward to seeing you and your Golden. If you have anything either our board or I can help you with, do not hesitate to contact us.

Warm regards to all our wonderful members,

Judy and Chase



ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY

By Judith C. Bush, MS, CJ

Overview of Working With Hard of Hearing Individuals and Therapy Teams

Communication, a very important component in our relationships with others. Hearing the human voice, with its pitch, volume, and warmth all help us with interactions every day of our lives. But for individuals who have hearing loss, their world is different, and connecting is more challenging.

About one out of every ten individuals in the United States has some degree of hearing loss, and as our population ages, the ratio goes much higher. And for individuals in nursing homes, it is one of the most common disabilities. Half of the individuals 75 years and older have hearing issues to contend with along with other physical issues.

Continued,

ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY, continued

One of the challenges to therapy teams, who are primarily women, is that the high pitch of a woman's voice is often the first sound to be lost for a resident: therefore, it is more difficult to communicate with a resident. A suggestion is to use a slight touch to the resident's arm to get their attention, and then use face to face talking at a slightly slower pace. Also a "Dry Erase" board brought to a session is a simple way for you to communicate your thoughts. Using voice modulation or changing the pitch of your voice can help some residents to hear you better, if their hearing loss is not severe.

Additionally some residents hear better out of one ear than the other. You can position your therapy dog on the side of the better functioning ear.

Visual sense is heightened in those with hearing loss. So the deaf person tends to see things that a hearing person may miss, and draw your attention to it. People with hearing loss are focused on body language and how you present yourself and your therapy dog. Eye contact is extremely important. Hard of hearing residents rely heavily on visual cues to help them understand what is going on. Make sure to wear a name tag on your shoulder with your dog's name on it also, to enhance their interaction with you and your therapy dog.

When approaching residents who cannot hear well, it's important to alert them to your presence, either by a gentle touch or by putting yourself in their line of vision. Vision and touch conveys comfort.

What is the best way to interact as a therapy team to a hard of hearing/deaf resident?

- taking the time to communicate with the resident, don't be apprehensive of the disability. Use patience!
- encourage the resident to become involved with your dog. Use patience!
- ask for permission to introduce them to your therapy dog. Again use patience!
- if a resident needs to convey a thought, have a pad of paper and pen available for his use.
- hard of hearing residents can do some of the same activities you would normally do in a session; such as walking with you and your therapy dog, doing hand signals, brushing your therapy dog, and holding his leash when sitting.

Many hard of hearing residents can function quite well with your use of patience and kindness.

Consider leaving a book mark with your therapy dog's picture on it for the hearing impaired individuals you visit.

Communication challenges present the opportunity for therapy teams to create ways to bring a fulfilling therapy session to those individuals who already are missing so much in their daily lives.



(This information was mistakenly omitted from the Specialty 2011 Report in the July/August issue by the Editor. My apologies, Lynn Mines.)

SPECIALTY 2011 REPORT

By Karin Boullion

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

GRCI thanks the members and friends for their generosity and support of this specialty.

Our Class & prize sponsors:

CONFORMATION

Best of Breed: Jerry and Laurie Stecker

Best of Winners: Randy and Lottie Johnson

Winners Dog & Bitch: Sandy and Bob Cummings

Open dog & bitch: Pat Janes

Bred-by Exhibitor dog & bitch: Karin Boullion and Peggy Covey in memory of the Gold Bullion & Goldberry dogs of the past.

Amateur Owner Handled dog: Beverly Kozlowski

6-9 month puppy bitch: Patti Stitz

Hunting dog & bitch: Barb Gibson-The Pawmer Pet Hotel of Manhattan IL

Novice Juniors: Jim & Pat Alberts, in memory of Chance – Sundown's Chasin second Chance

Veteran bitch 10-12 years: Julie Pinn, in memory of Sara – Sunspirit's Aureo Serenade CDX JH WCX VC CGC

OBEDIENCE

High in Trial: Beth Gerdes

High Combined: Jane Coen in memory of Anne Christiansen

Novice A: Helen Borosak, in memory of Kaylee Borosak

Novice B: Kim & Mark Mroczenski

Open A: Jan Schommer

Open B: Ron Cox & Donna Bihner

Utility A: Jan Winters - in memory of "Keyli" Kanosak's Key Lime Pie CDX

Utility B: Harry & Hollis Axelrod, owners of Volare, Vente & Vespa

Veterans: Candy Ellis & Susan Keller

Beginner Novice: Kathy LeBreton

Graduate Novice: Harry & Hollis Axelrod, owners of Volare, Vente & Vespa

Versatility: Julie Pinn, in memory of Brio – Sunspirits Esprit DeCorps JH UDX10 WCX CGC and Tory – U-OTCH GHRCH Sunspirit's Tory Finarfin UD RAE MH CGC TDI

RALLY

Novice A: Nancy Pederson, in memory of "Whiskey"—Charwood's Golden Valentine CD

Novice B: Nancy Pederson, in memory of Timber - UCD Forever Til The End of Time CD RN

Advanced A: Cindy Pakenas

Advanced B: Jan Williams, in memory of Aspen – Shadowland's Out of Bounds, CD, RE

Excellent A: Nancy Einwich

Excellent B: Jan Williams, in memory of Aspen - Shadowland's Out of Bounds, CD, RE

A DOG'S PERSPECTIVE

GRCI Annual Awards and Picnic 2011



Hello, Blazin Blue here,

Well another year...roahhh, it went really fast. It just seemed like yesterday that my Auntie Patti was with Mommy at the picnic at the GSD club. But instead of Auntie Pattie coming to the picnic, I had my Daddy Mikee who was home on leave. Daddy Mikee brought my Mama Honey Golden Bear. Mama loves Daddy soooo much; she would do anything for him. She misses him so deeply when he is away that when he calls Mommy puts them on the phone together...I can hear them because it is a speaker phone. I don't know what that is except when Mommy asks me to SPEAK I get to make noise. I digress. Back to the picnic...

Auntie Judy Bush was at the picnic. I love my Auntie Judy; she is so friendly to everyone and all of us with four paws. The Peep-1 was supposed to have the meeting first, but I guess they were really hungry because the food came out and we ate first. I say we, because Mommy and Daddy gave us some chicken. It was really yummi. Daddy tried everything and said it was GReat! It was nice just to have the food out and not have to prepare it like before. It was really nice there but a very hot day. Someone brought a wading pool. We have one at home too. We use it when Mommy doesn't want us to go in the lake, but we get to cool off in it.

Then everyone sat around and there was the "meeting". We tried to vote, but there weren't enough people there. So Auntie Judy thanked everyone for coming and also thanked those who ahhh-sis-ted (assisted) at the field trials...I don't know what that is—YET! Auntie Karin, Charlee (my platonic) girlfriend's Mom, was sitting next to Mommy and Daddy. She did an excellent job at the GRCI Specialty at the Lake county fairgrounds. Auntie Patti, Mommy and I went. Auntie Patti and I ran around the SHOW OFF ring and I got a ribbon and we took a picture. I really love to show off with Auntie Patti, because Auntie Patti is nice and I like to show her off to the other Goldens.

We then played some games. Daddy Mikee took Mama Bear and me through a tunnel and over a jump. We had so much fun. Mommy laughed so hard as she took pictures. She said she was being selfish because she usually takes a lot of pictures of everyone, but mostly she took pictures of Daddy and Mama Bear and me. She said Daddy was going to be gone for a long time and wanted good pictures for us to keep him in our hearts and minds. Little Princess Diamond didn't get to go. She stayed home and kept Uncle Tank company

Continued on Page 4,

A Dog's Perspective, continued

We had a GGreat time. The food was excellent...the lady that checked to make sure we had enough food said she never saw so many Goldens in one place before and how beautiful we all were. That was so nice to say so when she bent over to pet me, I gave her a really big smooch on her cheek.

I would like to say that the GRCI Tracking Event is coming up really soon and we are playing every Monday with Gail Ray and hope that we get "drawn" in the "lottery". I can hardly wait, because I love to find the ARR-TEA-KLES (articles) and run through the tall grasses and over the roads (after we look for safety). It will be fun. Mommy says that our members need to volunteer to help in laying tracks and setting up, so if you have a little spare time, that would really be nice of you.

We have been swimming this summer on those hot, hot days. It really feels good to get in the lake and cool off. Mommy throws out these wonderful toys that float and Mama Honey Bear and I go out really far to get them and bring them back to her. It is sooooo much fun. Mommy says it makes my coat stick up like a punk rocker after it "air dries". I don't know what that means, but it must be something really nice because Mommy laughs when she says it.

Oh, I almost forgot, the Awards part of the Picnic—it didn't really happen. The man who was in charge of it was sick, so we cross our paws in hopes that he gets well soon or is better by now. I think Auntie Judy said his wife was ill too, I can't remember, but we send her hugs and kisses too. She and her dog got the Linus Award for Therapy Service...congrats to them...it is so much fun to be a therapy dog team. Auntie Judy said that I was DOG OF THE YEAR, but I don't know what that means—do I become a Cat like my brother KitKat next year? Oh My Goodness, I hope not. There was one more award announced, but I forgot, please forgive me...I'm only four, I just can't remember everything ☺. No official awards were given out; Auntie Judy said they would be given in the October meeting. Good Luck!

Thanks everyone for everything they have done for the club this past year. We had so much fun. Next year will only be better!

So until the next time.... Thanks for listening. Keep giving hugs and kisses...the love goes both ways.

Blazin Blue



GRCI Thanks You -- Also Next Events

By Joan Wetton

Just a few things:

First, I want to thank those who answered GRCI's call for help. For the most part, the slots on the worker board were filled before the running of a class. On those occasions where a slot was open, volunteers readily stepped up when asked to fill the job. The desserts were plentiful and received raves from the volunteers. **You certainly helped your club.** For those who couldn't assist this time, there are a couple of major events coming in October.

Special thanks go out to Robin Comp-Zelles and Kris Garra who stepped up and orchestrated a well-run agility trial. On behalf of GRCI, I want to thank them for making the trial the success that it was. We received and heard positive comments from exhibitors. Note that some of them run agility trials for their clubs! Robin and Kris, you truly helped to promote GRCI and its ability to hold fun and smoothly run events.

Thanks also go out to the other event committee members:

Jaime Brown
Kathy Guerra
Kim Mroczenski
Mark Mroczenski
Annette Narel
Betty Smith

Without volunteers like the above, GRCI could not have set up and held an agility trial weekend that for the most part ran smooth as silk. GRCI also thanks David Behrens who was our Trial Secretary. As usual, he speedily handled our entries and run results.

Second, GRCI's next agility trial will be October 7, 8, and 9 at:

Rush 'N' Around Agility and Obedience Center
27432 South Route 45
Manhattan, IL.

Annette Narel, maghistakes@aol.com, has held very successful agility trials for GRCI. She, again, could use your help. This is a three day trial that will offer FAST in addition to STD and JWW classes. That means we need more volunteers. Each level of a class requires 11 workers. This is in addition to the set up before the trial and tearing down after the trial. Here again, desserts would be most welcomed. Snacks help when one is working.

GRCI needs your help, so that we can continue to hold events that dog competitors are eager to enter. It is your club that you are advancing when events go well. Word does get around. Note, that it is not all work. There is the camaraderie of conversing with club members and fellow dog lovers as well as watching exhibitors competing as a team with their canine friends.

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GRCI Thanks You, continued

Third, the following weekend, October 15 and 16, GRCI holds its Tracking test at:

Hampshire Forest Preserve
44W780 Allen Road
Hampshire, IL

Again, volunteers and desserts are needed, though not as many as for agility.

More info will be posted on GRCI's web site about these upcoming events.

Thanks for the support of your club,
Joan Wetton



THE OBEDIENCE CORNER

By Jane L. Coen

“Kistler’s Victory and Defeat”

Since my last column in the May 2011 edition of *Golden Moments*, I showed my eleven year old Golden, “Kistler,” in the Novice Obedience Class to earn his Companion Dog (C.D.) title. I decided to pursue Kistler’s C.D. when my sister informed me in March 2011 that she intended to enter her eight year old Golden, “Star,” in two obedience trials over the Memorial Day weekend—and insisted I come to Cincinnati to attend the trials with her for moral support. I figured if I was going to the trials, I might as well enter Kistler.

Now Kistler was a well-behaved dog, but he hadn’t had any formal obedience training since he was a young dog. I began to run Kistler through the Novice routine a few times a week out on the driveway. We went through a lot of string cheese and hotdogs, trying to convince Kistler that formal obedience training could be fun, since there was no question that Kistler was a dog that could take or leave formal obedience training!

Kistler and I went to the two shows in Cincinnati at the end of May, and then attended two June shows back home in Illinois, including GRCI’s trial. Although I entered the trials quite confident that Kistler would qualify, my expectations were not very high, score-wise. Well, Kistler pleasantly surprised me with his trial performances. He earned his C.D. with two first and two second class placements with scores ranging from 189 ½ to 194 (out of 200). Not bad for an “old guy!” The day he finished his C.D. at the third trial, he won \$10. On the way home that day, Kistler “shot his wad” and treated me to a chicken salad and Coke at McDonalds, while he enjoyed a plain hamburger and a cup of vanilla ice cream to celebrate his victory!

Continued,

Kistler’s Victory, continued

How grateful I am that my decision to pursue Kistler’s C.D. resulted in me spending extra time with Kistler getting him ready for those trials, attending the trials with him and celebrating our success together. In mid-July, we headed back down to Cincinnati to watch Star earn her third obedience “leg” (qualifying score) to finish her C.D. The day Star completed her C.D., my sister and I took Star and Kistler to McDonalds to get them vanilla ice cream cones to celebrate their new titles. Those were two happy dogs lapping up their ice cream!

That night when I went to bed, Kistler climbed up on the bed to snuggle next to me while I read for a while. When I turned off the light, he hopped down and curled up next to the bed to go to sleep. That next morning, I woke up early and hopped out of bed myself. My younger Golden, Tripper, jumped up and was bouncing around ready to go downstairs for his breakfast. Kistler did not budge from where he was lying. I called to him, and still no movement. I walked over closer to him and saw that his eyes were open, but he didn’t lift his head.

I continued to encourage him to get up. With great effort, he finally stood up, but was very wobbly. I slowly walked him down the hallway and held his collar as we carefully went down the stairs. I had to coax him along and pat each stair to get him to go down the stairs. When we got down to the first floor, he followed me into the kitchen and then collapsed. He lay still with his chin on the floor. I held a biscuit in front of his nose and he did not respond at all. I immediately knew I was dealing with a very serious situation.

We called the nearest animal emergency clinic to let them know we were on our way. We had to carefully slide a large towel under Kistler and carry him out to the car on the towel. When we arrived at the clinic, they met us in the parking lot with a gurney. We carefully lifted Kistler onto the gurney and he was wheeled into the building. The technician immediately took him back to be examined. After completing extensive paperwork, we were ushered into an examining room. When the veterinarian came into the room, he said he had bad news. Kistler’s abdomen was full of blood. I immediately thought: hemangiosarcoma.

The vet said he could do surgery to try to stop the bleeding, but stated it would only be a matter of time before the bleeding would recur. He said, in all likelihood, if they opened Kistler up they would find one or more masses that had ruptured. I tried to call my vet in Illinois to consult with him, but he was not at home. I thought about all I had read about hemangiosarcoma and all of the people I knew who had lost their Golden retrievers to this dreaded cancer.

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Kistler's Victory, continued

With great sadness, I made the difficult decision to let Kistler go. He was in such a weakened state, I was unsure whether he would even be able to survive surgery—a surgery the vet was not recommending. I thought of my Golden, Tess, who underwent a very extensive and difficult exploratory surgery when we thought she had an adrenal tumor, only to find out that her blastomycosis had returned. Had I known how much suffering that surgery was going to cause her—only to die a couple of months later from the blasto—I never would have put her through the surgery.

I did not want to subject Kistler to pain and suffering, given the bleakness of his prognosis. I knew that if I were to pursue the surgery, I would be doing it more for me than for him.

Losing Kistler so suddenly was extremely difficult. He was my constant companion who wanted nothing more out of life than to be close to me. He would sit next to me through an entire full-length movie, completely content just to be petted. I miss his steadfast nature and his gentle, unassuming way. I miss his constant presence and his happy “woof” and five seconds worth of bouncing around when I came home from work at the end of the day.

I cannot tell you how much I treasure the last few months that Kistler and I had together, before he was defeated by a disease we didn't even know he had. That time was made all the more special because of that “out of the blue” decision I made to put a C.D. on him.

At Kistler's fourth, back-up trial in mid-June, he won his Novice obedience class. I knew there was a professional photographer at the show so I had our picture taken with the judge. It is the most wonderful picture of Kistler. In the picture he looks like he is wearing a great big smile. It is my last picture of Kistler. How very glad I am to have it.

We all know that life is a precious thing we should never take for granted. The next time you go out to train your special Golden, please remember to enjoy that special time together. Celebrate your successes and the progress you are making, and think of training as a means of enhancing and enjoying the bond you have with your dog. There will come a day when all we have left is the memories we have of our special dogs. Let's do all we can to make sure those memories will be good and happy ones.

Until next time, Happy Heeling!



PUBLIC EDUCATION

By Cindy Pakenas

August Picnic/Meeting

Thanks to a respite from the heat, humidity, & rain, GRCI members & their Golden Retrievers were able to party & relax at Hawthorne's Backyard for the annual picnic/meeting. Thanks so much to Michelle Kolb who brought, set-up, & supervised the agility equipment. Golden Retrievers & their people seemed to enjoy themselves going over jumps & through tunnels.

I hope that you were able to view the videos which Bev Kozlowski posted on Facebook. Thanks, Bev. Our winners of the most hot dog slices caught in one minute were Destiny with 14, Rebel with 10, & Penny with 9.

It was a luxury to have the food, table set-ups and no clean-up! Thank you GRCI for providing this gift to members. This gave everyone more of an opportunity to chat, get to know new members, & enjoy the wonderful Golden Retrievers.

Hope to see everyone at the many upcoming events.
Cindy Pakenas



VOLUNTEERING OPPORUNITIES

Do you like to surf the net and enjoy time in front of the computer?

GRCI needs a member to maintain our website and keep our events and news current. If you are comfortable cutting and pasting text, website links, photos and documents, you are qualified! Procedures and training are available, and it is a great way to stay connected with the club and other related dog events. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Williams at cwilliams0727@gmail.com or 847-452-2568.

FROM A BITCH'S PERSPECTIVE...



Hello, Diamond here

Yippii Dippi, Yippii, Dippi, Yippii Dippi, zowie, wowie, I'm a happy happy happy golden girl.

After I wrote my last story, everything that could go wrong in a little GRRRLS life, did! My Mommy took me to so many doctors, I can't remember them all, but today I got rrrrr-leashed (released) from my best doctor. He's the best because he also took care of Mama Bear when she had an ACL tear and he took care of Uncle Rusty (Blazey's Dad) when he hurt his foot (Paulie is what Auntie Patti calls it).

I feel like I have been let out of jail. Mommy called it confinement, but there was nothing FINE about it. I didn't get to play, I didn't get to swim, I didn't get to go hot dog hunting, I didn't get to go to o-b-d-ence. I only got to go for a little walk every day, then back in con-FINE-ment. Once in awhile Uncle Tank would come and we played growly-face together. Thank goodness for Uncle Tank. Because growly-face is laying down quietly but still getting to touch noses and make faces. I love growly-face with Uncle Tank who kept me sane for all these months.

So Mommy says I can let you know what I had. Then I will be an ed-u-kat-r (educator), but I don't think KitKat had anything to do with it. First off, Mommy came home one day from shopping and I was in my puppy room and was limping. Ohhh, I hurt sooooo badly that I could not even put my toes on the floor. Mommy rushed me to our normal vet. They gave me medicine, called Rimadyl; for ten days and I didn't limp, but I also couldn't play...I didn't like that. The vet called it Pano. The real name is **Panosteitis**. According to Dog Education.com

"Panosteitis is a bone disease of dogs that is characterized by bone proliferation and remodeling. It is often painful and can last as long as 18 months, though more commonly it lasts from 2 to 5 months. It is characterized by lameness that often comes and goes and changes from leg to leg. It is a common problem in several large breeds and the cause is currently unknown. The treatment is symptomatic but the outcome is usually very good. Panosteitis is most common in large breed dogs between 6 and 18 months of age... There is a higher incidence in several breeds including German Shepherds, Great Danes, Doberman Pinschers, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Rottweilers, and Basset. The cause of panosteitis is currently unknown. There is currently no way to prevent the disease. If an animal shows symptoms of the disease, they should be promptly diagnosed and treated and exercise and activity should be reduced until the symptoms have gone away."

Continued,

From A Bitches' Perspective, continued

There is much information on the come-put-here (computer). Okay, so it didn't go away and Mommy took me back to our regular vet, who then said I should go to a specialist—I like that word, specialist, because we are special, that is why GRCI had a Golden Retriever Specialty event, right!...ok, I digress. I went to a doctor who took care of Uncle Tank when he was a puppy, because the vet who took care of Mama Bear moved and she couldn't find him (yet). She said that I had Pano and that although the x-rays were inconclusive that I might also have OCD....no, no, no, I don't count my paws and nose a million times. OCD is really **Osteochondritis dissecans**. I know why they call it OCD...no one can pronounce that, much less spell it. So again, according to Dog Education.com

"OCD, is a disease of the cartilage that can affect various joints in a dog. In any joint in the body, two bones come together and movement is allowed between them. Where the two bones meet an exceptionally smooth area of cartilage covers their surfaces. This acts as a cushion and protects the underlying bone. If anything disrupts this smooth cartilage surface, movement of the joint becomes painful. In a dog with OCD, this cartilage is damaged or grows abnormally. Instead of being attached to the bone it covers, it separates or cracks. A loose flap of cartilage may form, or an entire piece may break loose. These are known as joint mice. OCD is primarily a problem in large or giant breed dogs. It generally occurs when the animal is between 4 and 10 months of age. OCD may affect the shoulder, elbow, knee or hock, although the shoulder is most commonly affected. The symptoms are lameness in the affected limb. Some dogs have a barely noticeable limp and others are unable to bear any weight on the leg. The lameness tends to worsen after periods of exercise and improves after rest. There are currently two ways to treat OCD, conservative medical treatment or surgical removal of the lesion. Conservative treatment may be indicated for dogs that have early mild symptoms of OCD or where a specific lesion cannot be identified on radiographs. Conservative treatment consists of strict rest for 4 to 8 weeks. Leash walking is permitted but no running or playing is allowed. Anti-inflammatories and painkillers such as carprofen (Rimadyl) may be indicated."

Oh, and to make matters worse, did you know that both of these are usually in males, but I'm so lucky, it picked me—they picked me. So the specialist doctor said 4 weeks of Rimadyl, no playing, and again, I was in JAIL!!!! I went back for follow-up – that means I got to see the special doctor again. She said okay, seems to be doing better, and took me off the meds. Well, I started limping again. And Auntie Patti told Mommy that she found Mama Honey Bear's special doctor, so we went to see him. OMGGOODNESS, I love him. EXCEPT he put me in JAIL for EIGHT, yes EIGHT- 8 weeks and back on Rimadyl. Today we went back to see him again—yeah!

Continued on Page 8,

From A Bitches' Perspective, continued

Mommy told him that she took me off the Rimadyl last week (today is day 8 of no meds) and that she let me go swimming with Blaze, Mama Honey and Uncle Tank two times (once last week and then yesterday). He was so nice to me. When he took me in the back (I don't like the back room), I didn't squeal or hurt at all. He told Mommy that I am better—all better now and I can do all the COOL stuff again. But not all at once. I have to start easy and build up because I have been in Jail.

So Yippii Dippi, Yippii, Dippi, Yippii Dippi, zowie, wowie, I'm a happy happy happy golden girl again.

Mommy took me to PetSmart and got me a new toy, which I'm going to share. Mommy laughed at me because young dogs are supposed to sit around and tell you all the great and wonderful things they are doing, while the OLD dogs are sitting in the back complaining about their surgeries and ailments. I'm not old, I'm eight and one half months old. Yippii Dippi. TeHe

And if I work hard for the next couple of months, I expect to be back on the Tracky track and in the show off ring. So look for me with my Brother Blaze (not my real brother). TeHe

I do want to say that Mommy had a lot of support from the few GRCI members who knew about my issues and helped her with a shoulder to lean on. Because my Breeder was really nice and said she would take me back and take care of me, but my Mommy said that she loved me too much to let me go. I love my Mommy and all her friends. Yippii Dippi

Oh, and I met my Daddy Mikee. I l-i-k-e him. He gives kisses and is funny. He left again. He leaves for Afghanistan (that is not a blanket on the sofa either) in a couple of weeks. Cross Paws until he comes home and send lots of licky kisses.

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!)

"Oh Auntie Judie, I AM a Princess now, the tiara you sent me is gorgeous and has a matching necklace--it matches the name Mommy calls me--Princess Di-- tehe"

THE AGILITY ZONE

by Robin Comp-Zelles

Wow! What a wonderful agility trial weekend put on by GRCI. Kudos to Kris Garra for chairing this event, as well as her able bodied committee. A tremendous amount of foresight and business acumen was used for pulling together our membership and the agility community. I have never seen so many GRCI members helping out at one of our agility trials, with many of them not even exhibiting. It is not easy having enough volunteers, however, this was not one of those times. One member commented that she felt she needed to come and help as she had seen a number of agility GRCI members helping at the recent specialty, even though they didn't "do" conformation or obedience. This is exactly what we all need to be thinking to do as GRCI members. We are members of a village and in the interest in continuing the sport of dogs, especially related to golden retrievers, we all have to help one another regardless of our own personal interest. Way to go members, don't forget the fall trial!

At recent agility trials weave pole entrances were the name of the game. If your dog didn't do perfect entrances independently, then you were forced to help manage your dog all the way into the poles. To help your dog work on entrances, drop your weaves set down to 3 or 4 poles and work close entrances, marking with "yes" or "clicking" and giving the dog a treat when they get it right. By having just a few number of poles you can reward them immediately without pulling them out of a full set. Keep a chart of the angles/approaches you are sending them from to make sure you are practicing different starting spots. Be sure to reward in the direction the dog should be going (along the baseline), **not** pulling them towards you away from the poles. This game is called "around the clock". As your dog gains confidence and aptitude, start moving away from the front of the poles adding distance in five foot increments, still working around the clock. I like my dogs to "find" their weaves from 30 to 40 feet from all different angles, with their ball as a reward. If I am working with a dog that knows how to do a full set of weaves, then I end my session with a full set just to keep them thinking of 12 poles, not just a few.

Another game you can play, which I like to start as soon as my dog can drive through a channel set or weaveamatics, is to play with my position. Can I do a recall with my dog through the weaves (yes your dog stays at one end and you go to the other and call the dog into the weaves.) Can I do a rear cross, as they go into the poles? Can I run by them while they are doing the weaves and they stay in the poles? Will the dog "send away" from me as I don't follow them through the poles? Can I stop while they are in the poles and they continue? And, don't forget, poles have to be done with the dog both on your right and left. Right side weaving tends to be the most difficult for most dogs (dog is on your right), as most of the time your dog is on your left.

Continued on Page 9

The Agility Zone, continued

These are just a couple of games, but please be sure that it is just that, a game that is fun for both you and your dog. Most weave pole issues are caused by a lack of a rewarding relationship with the dog and it's handler, along with the dog's clear understanding of what his job is. The biggest "correction" my dog gets is he doesn't get his ball if he doesn't successfully solve the problem. If after three attempts he still can't work it out, I simplify the problem so he can be successful, make a mental note of the problem so that the next time we train I can address the issue by being closer or starting with a simpler angle. Dogs learn by making mistakes along with being successful, but they can't think that the world is going to end if it doesn't go perfectly

It was great to see all of the golden retrievers out there "doing" agility, and the many new faces that are coming in to enjoy the sport. Remember to "enjoy the journey" and "believe" in you and your dog.

Happy weaving!



GOLDEN NOTES

By Karin Boullion

Since the club is going to be hosting a CCA event in the near future, I thought it might be beneficial to include some information about the program, taken from the GRCA web site. I am also including a copy of one of the score sheet we received during an evaluation.

What the CCA Program IS AND ISN'T

- ❖ **IT ISN'T** just another title and a quick way to earn a versatility certificate.
- ❖ **IT ISN'T** just a way for Goldens from show lines that don't compete in the breed ring to get an easier title.
- ❖ **IT ISN'T** a program where Goldens from working lines will get scored tougher and/or evaluated against a style that is being shown in the breed ring today.
- ❖ **IT ISN'T** a program where all scores will be identical even though Evaluators are comparing the same dog to the same Standard. Scores will vary to some degree and each Evaluator's interpretation of the written words in the Standard and the scoring system will differ. This has been taken into consideration and that is why you can enter the same dog in two events and/or a maximum of six evaluation tries.
- ❖ **IT ISN'T** a program where you can just visually assess which dogs should or shouldn't get a CCA Title by being a spectator or looking at pictures. There is no substitute for a hands-on written critique

Continued,

CCA Program, continued

scored against all the written components of the Standard including temperament.

- ❖ **IT ISN'T** a program where Goldens are compared to each other and placed or awarded placements because of what the other Goldens looks like.

AND

- ❖ **IT ISN'T** that easy. To earn the CCA Title, a golden must have three scores of seventy-five or above with no two categories scoring four or less, no category scoring two or less and no disqualifying faults. An Honorable Mention is awarded to those that earned three scores above or between sixty-five and seventy-four, these scores are noted in the program as above acceptable conformation for a Golden Retriever and **IT IS** an award to be very proud of.
- ❖ **IT IS** a program where the Evaluators are qualified to interpret the Standard. They have met strict criteria, are knowledgeable about the breed's history and have had years of hands-on experience. They certainly wouldn't be volunteering all their time and energy if they didn't care about you, your Golden and the future of this breed.
- ❖ **IT IS** a program where it takes guts to enter your Golden and have your dog critiqued by someone you only heard of and probably never met before.
- ❖ **IT IS** a program that will archive the information, critiques and pictures for future breeders and owners.

AND

- ❖ **IT IS** an educational gateway for everyone to reflect on the written description of what is "ideal" for this incredible breed, the essence of a Golden Retriever, that is timeless, without prejudice and not subject to changing fashion or popular style.

The CCA Committee

Basic information on what is done and scoring

Evaluation

Dogs should be clean and brushed, but need not be groomed as in showing, nor formally posed. Dogs should be under control at all times, and should accept the evaluators' reasonable examinations. As the evaluations may be held in connection with field events, judges should be prepared to see dogs that are not groomed or handled as in show ring competition. Dogs with evidence of "field wear" are not to be penalized; evaluation of the dog's intrinsic quality according to the AKC Breed Standard is the objective. Honorable scars and blemishes from work which do not interfere with or obscure the soundness and basic appearance of the dog are not to be considered in evaluation.

Owners are encouraged to present their own dogs, as this program is intended for educational purposes. Professional handlers may present only dogs that they own or co-own.

Continued on Page 10

CCA Program, continued

Dogs should be observed at some time during the evaluation in small groups of 3 to 6, in order to observe their behavior and temperament in the company of other dogs and people. Males and females may be separated at the discretion of the evaluator, but this is not required. However, females in season must be presented only after all male dogs entered in the event have been.

Each dog should be examined and gaited individually, as directed by the evaluators. Dogs should be observed primarily in a natural stance whenever possible, observed from all angles, and moved at a normal working trot and/or walk as may be requested by the evaluator. Bait (food or toys) may be used at the discretion of the evaluator, but must never interfere with another dog or exhibitor. Each evaluator shall individually examine each dog, pursuant to the Guidelines and the score sheet. The evaluators may together, or separately, observe each dog moving individually. Each evaluator shall score and make written notes on the dog's conformance to the Standard without conferring with any other evaluator. Evaluators shall not share score sheets or compare comments until all scores are finalized and recorded. After scores are finalized, verbal comments by the evaluators are permitted and encouraged, but not required. Evaluators are strongly encouraged to be available at the completion of the event to answer questions from those who presented dogs. It is the intent of this program to foster understanding of the Standard to all Golden owners and breeders, and evaluators should comment on the Standard, and the dogs presented, accordingly. However, evaluators should be cautioned to use both discretion and candor in any remarks regarding a dog.

(My comments – If you plan to enter a CCA, work with your dog to move in a trot. Use a different collar & lead from what you normally use for your other training, something a bit lighter. If you can't get the proper movement with the dog on your left side – especially if you do a lot of obedience work – try moving them on the right. Oftentimes the judge wants to see the movement on a looser lead; not the strung-up style used by many handlers in the conformation ring. A somewhat steady stand for exam is another beneficial element for your dog to know as well. It doesn't have to be a perfect "show stack" as many evaluators will move the feet into position. Kb)

C. Scoring.

Dogs are to be scored in ten categories, with a maximum of 10 points in each category and a maximum total score of 100 points. Half point increments may be used.

Explanation of the 10-point scoring system

(10 categories x 10 points = 100 points maximum)

- 10** Outstanding: as close to ideal as can be expected.
- 9** Excellent: very high in quality; probably not commonly seen.
- 8** Very good: obvious general virtue; any flaws are slight.

Continued,

CCA Program, continued

7 Good: Primarily virtue, although may have minor faults/flaws.

6 Fair: somewhat better than merely acceptable. More merit than fault.

5 Acceptable: generally fulfills the basics but may be

(a) overall only > adequate in quality for that trait; or

(b) may be a balance of both virtues and faults in that category

4 Overall more flaws/faults than merit, in that category/trait.

3 Very obvious faults or unsoundness; strongly resembles trait of another breed.

2-1 Almost wholly deficient in merit; trait present but seriously incomplete, incorrect, unsound.

0 Complete absence of trait; so unsound as to be useless.

Add the 10 category scores and enter in Subtotal.

Enter any penalty in the Penalty space (see below for examples) Subtract any Penalty from the Subtotal and enter Final Score on that line. If the Final Score is NOT a qualifying score*, for any reason, circle the Final Score to so indicate.

Final score 75 – 100* = qualifies toward a CCA.

Dogs must earn 3 qualifying scores of 75 or higher under 3 different evaluators (at least two of whom shall be Category 1) to earn a CCA.

Final score 65 – 74* = qualifies toward an Honorable Mention.

Dogs must earn 3 qualifying scores of 65 or higher under 3 different evaluators (regardless of category) to earn an HM.

* A qualifying score for either CCA or HM, must have no category scored 0 – 2, and no two categories scored 4 or less, and at least 5 points in Temperament in addition to the required total score.

NR = Not Rated (can't examine due to misbehavior, dog ill or lame, etc.) Excuse the dog. *The dog will not be evaluated and will not receive a score. Note reason on score sheet.*

NQ = Not Qualified Any of the following:

Scored 0 – 2 in any category. Scored 0 – 4 in any two categories, scored less than 5 in Temperament. Total score less than 65.

Dismissed A dog which by its behavior gives the evaluator reason to believe that it may not safely be approached and examined, or which threatens or attacks other dogs, should be dismissed. Note "dismissed" on the score sheet and explain the reason. *Dog will not be evaluated and will not receive a score. Two such dismissals and the dog will be ineligible to enter any future CCA events.*

DQ = Disqualifying fault Any disqualifying fault under the Breed Standard or under AKC rules (i.e., blind, deaf, changed in appearance by artificial means). *The dog will be evaluated and will receive a copy of the score sheet but must be penalized heavily enough that the score will not qualify.*

Continued on Page 11,

CCA Program, continued

DQ = Disqualified for The dog attacked or attempted to attack a person. Note the reason on the score sheet. Do not complete the evaluation; disqualify the dog. The dog's owner should receive a copy of the score sheet with the appropriate notation regarding the Disqualification.

Note regarding the Penalty area

Example A: the dog has a number of broken incisors which make it impossible to determine whether the bite is acceptable. Other than that, the dog has a very good head. The evaluator chooses to score the Head as an 8, giving appropriate credit there, but penalizes the dog 3 points for the undeterminable bite in the Penalty area.

Example B: The dog proves to be blind or deaf, or shows evidence of having had surgery to correct entropion. These are AKC disqualifications. The dog may be scored, but should receive a penalty severe enough to render the score non-qualifying.

Any dog that by reason of uncontrolled behavior, illness, lameness, or other reason, cannot be properly evaluated, must be excused from evaluation. The dog will be marked NR, "Not Rated". NR scores do not count as one of the six available opportunities for evaluation in attempting to qualify for a Certificate of Conformation Assessment or an Honorable Mention.

NQ dogs may be evaluated and receive written assessments, but NQ scores shall not count towards a CCA title nor an Honorable Mention. Any NQ score will be counted as one of the six available opportunities for evaluation in attempting to qualify for a Certificate of Conformation Assessment or an Honorable Mention.

Temperament Any dog that is marked "failed for temperament" will be dismissed and will not be evaluated; evaluator shall note "failed for temperament" on the score sheet and report form. A passing score in temperament is mandatory. (5 points or higher) Golden Retrievers are expected to be in a normal situation with other dogs and people and to behave in an acceptable manner. Dogs' behavior may vary within normal limits for sporting dogs, and this is not an official temperament test. Indication of undue timidity, fearfulness, nervousness or belligerence toward other dogs or people in what should be a "normal" situation, must receive some degree of penalty, even to the point of failure if warranted. Any dog that snaps, bites, attacks or attempts to bite or attack any person must be scored zero in temperament and must be immediately disqualified and dismissed from the event. It may not participate further that day, nor in future events, unless officially reinstated by a committee appointed by the GRCA for that purpose. Any entry fees paid will not be refunded. Any dog that menaces or threatens the evaluator or any other person; or a dog that attacks any other dog, must be dismissed, and be rated "Not Qualified - Failed in Temperament." Any entry fees paid will not be refunded. Also refer to Section 8 concerning further eligibility of dogs which are dismissed or disqualified.

Continued.

CCA Program, continued

D. Score Sheets/ Evaluation Forms

Evaluators are to use evaluation forms (score sheets (Seeing a copy of the evaluation form should help a bit in understanding the scoring system and what points an evaluator is looking at).

CCA EVALUATOR SCORE SHEET Date: 9/22/10 Event # GRCA No. 22 M Mn (P) Fs D.O.B. 1/11/00 Height 21 1/4 Weight Score from 1 to 10 in each category. Maximum total score 100 points. Write comments and circle descriptors. CATEGORY SCORE EXPLANATION AND COMMENT (Circle appropriate terms) General Appearance Condition, Size, Substance Proportion 9.5 Correct. Large. Small. Short legs. Long cast. Leggy. Tall. Coarse/overdone. Too fine, weedy. Muscular. Lean. Fat. Soft. Head Skull & muzzle. Expression, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Pigment, Teeth 9 Skull: Good. OK. Narrow. Coarse. Domed. Flat. Cheeky. Muzzle: Good breadth, depth, length. Pointed. Narrow. Shallow. Stop: Good. OK. Abrast. Lacking. Dish-faced. Down-faced. Expression: Kindly. Confident. Too soft. Hard. Atypical. Eyes: Correct. Dark. Medium. Round. Small. Loose. Too Light. Pigment: Very good. Sufficient. Snow nose. Faded. Lacking. Ears: Good. Well set. Large. Lowest. Poorly carried. Bite: Scissors. Even. Irregular. Missing. Disqualifying: Undershot. Overshot. Neck, Topline Back, Croup, Tail 9 Neck: Good. Short. Thick. Dewlap. Long. Thin. Weak. Upright. Topline: Strong. Back: Level. Sloping. Soft. Roesched. Croup: Correct. Flat. Steep. Tallest: Good. Low. High. Tail: Good. Well Muscled Short. Long. Body Forechest, Chest, Ribs, Loins, Tuckup 7 Forechest: Good. Lacking. Overdone. Lacks brisket. Chest: Correct. Wide. Too Wide. Narrow. Lacks depth. Ribs: Good. Deep. Flat. Lack spring. Shallow. Short. Barreled. Loins: Strong. Short. Broad. Long. Narrow. Weak. Tucked-up. Forequarters Shoulders, Upper Arm Elbows, Legs Pasterns, Feet 7 Scapula: Exc. Good. Well laid-back. Fair. Short. Upright. Loose. Humerus: Good. Well angled. Fair. Short. Upright. Elbows: Correct. Loose. Tied-in. Placed forward. Legs: Straight. Bowed. East-West. Fine. Coarse. Pasterns: Good. Long. Weak. Upright. Knuckled over. Feet: Exc. Good. Fair. Loose. Splayed. Flat. Large. Too small. Sub Total 41.50 Evaluator Initials C.D.

CCA Evaluation Score Sheet - Page 2 rev 07/09/07 No. 22 Hindquarters 8.5 Angles: Correct. Sufficient. Straight. Overangled. Upper Thighs: Very Good. Well muscled. Thin. Weak. Narrow Second Thighs: Good. Short. Long. Lacks muscling. Hocks: Strong. Weak. Sickle hocks. "Slipped" hocks. Rear stance: Straight. Close. Cow-hocked. Bowed. Feet: Exc. Good. Fair. Loose. Splayed. Flat. Large. Too small. Coat and Color 9 Coat: Good texture. Shedding. Soft. Open. Thin (not dense). Straight. Slight Wave. Wavy. Curly. Silky Undercoat: Good. Sufficient. Shedding. Lacking. Length: Short. Medium. Long. Excessive. Over-trimmed. Feathering: Sufficient. Angle. Excessive. Lacking. Trimmed. Color: Light gold. Medium gold. Dark gold. Red-gold. Shaded. Setter red. Too pale. No golden. White markings. Off color. Gait, coordination Side view Front & rear views 10 Free. Level. Well-coordinated. Correct reach. Efficient. Short steps. Hackney. Paddling. Over-reaching. Topline: Level. Sound. Rolls. Bounces. Weak. Front: True. Parallel. Tracks wide. Crosses. Elbows. Pin-toes. Rear: True. Close. Twisting hocks. Cow hocks. Tracks wide. Crab/side-winds. Lacks coordination. Poor timing. Tail: Carried Level. Low. High. Curled. Temperament 10 Outgoing. Confident. Sound. Slightly unsure. Lacks training. Timid. Nervous. Hyper. Sluggish. Unwilling. Rascally. Growling at objects or animals. Menacing to other dogs. Score Zero: Aggressive. Snap. Threatens or growls at a person. Overall Impression Brood Type, Character, Balance, Fitness for Purpose 9 Degree of breed type: High. Moderate. Low. Lacking. Atypical. Athletic. Lacks Athleticism. Working type. Masculine. Feminine. Well-balanced. Sufficient. Lacking. Disqualifications: [] DQ Attacking or attempting to attack [] DQ Over/Under Size [] DQ Over/Undershot Bite Sub-total 47.5 Penalty Final Score 84 Date 9/22/10 Judge Cecile Dickerson Leslie Dickerson

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.

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Next Meeting: October 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM