



**Golden Retriever Club of Illinois  
GOLDEN MOMENTS NEWSLETTER**

## Announcements

### A Message from GRCI's President

I hope this e-blast finds you and your dogs well. With temperatures rising, the muddy paws are increasing. With this change in temperature comes the ramping up of the club's busy time of year. We have many events and activities planned in the coming months. Your board and committee members have been hard at work preparing. What we need now is you, our members, to come and help assist in the execution of these wonderful events. As you read through the newsletter please do so with the intent of helping your club at one or more of these. No prior experience is needed. There is on the job training.

Many thanks to the board members and their committees, who have worked so hard planning what will be a very busy and exciting year. I look forward to seeing many of you compete and volunteer in the coming months.

If you have any articles or "Wags and Brags" send them to Cathy Williams.

Sincerely,  
Hal Axelrod

### GRCI General Meeting

GRCI's next General Meeting will be on Monday, April 25. Location and agenda to be determined.

### Chicagoland Family Pet Expo

Volunteers are needed to help at the GRCI booth at the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo at Arlington Park Racecourse on March 18, 19 and 20, 2016. Contact Cheri Mitchneck at [agility12@aol.com](mailto:agility12@aol.com) for information about times needed.

### Eye, Heart and Microchip Clinic

Sunday, April 17 from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. GRCI is hosting our annual Heart, Eye and Microchip clinic. This is open to all breeds, members and non-members. Dr. Gretchen Schmidt, Ophthalmologist, will be giving eye exams, Dr. Michael Luethy, Cardiologist, will give heart exams, and Dr. Mark Rusley, DVM will implant microchips if your dog needs one.

For full information and to register, click [here](#). Contact Pat Covek with questions at 847-526-5089 or [patriciamcovek@gmail.com](mailto:patriciamcovek@gmail.com). Deadline for reservations is April 10, 2016.

### GRCI Hunt Test

GRCI Members - Your help is needed!

Our annual Hunt Test is coming up May 7 and 8 at the Des Plaines Conservation Area in Wilmington.

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### Upcoming Events

[Chicagoland Family Pet Expo](#)  
 March 18, 19, 20

[GRCI Board Meeting](#)  
 March 28, 2016

[Eye, Heart, Chip Clinic](#)  
 April 17

[General Membership Meeting](#)  
 April 25

[GRCI Hunt Test](#)  
 May 7, 8

[GRCI June Specialty](#)  
 June 18, 2016

[GRCI July Agility Trials](#)  
 July 29, 30, 31

[GRCI Tracking Test](#)  
 October 16, 2016

### Shop GRCI Logo Merchandise!



### Visit our Website

Looking for more information?

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

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

Beth Gerdes,

[gerdes2@maxwire.net](mailto:gerdes2@maxwire.net) 309-310-3330

## GRCI June Specialty and Obedience/Rally Trials

June 18, 2016 - GRCI is hosting 2 Golden Retriever Specialty shows, 1 ALL BREED Obedience Trial and 1 ALL BREED Rally Trial

Sites: GOLDEN SPECIALTY -- Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL

OBEDIENCE and RALLY -- Libertyville Sports Complex, Libertyville, IL (1.5 miles from Fairgrounds)

GRCI Supported Entries in 3 other shows: June 16 and 19, 2016 with Little Fort Kennel Club and

**June 17, 2016 with International Kennel Club**

Also June 19 -- North Shore Dog Training Club will have ALL BREED OBEDIENCE AND RALLY at Libertyville Sports Complex.

Contact Joan Wetton for more information [jrw00013@aol.com](mailto:jrw00013@aol.com)

## Time to Think About GRCI Trophies!

GRCI club offers yearly trophies that recognize outstanding achievements in: Conformation, Obedience, Therapy, Combined-field/bench/obedience, and also for a member's outstanding leadership. Our award presentation meeting will be in conjunction with our August 14, 2016 barbecue picnic/ general meeting. In addition to trophies, owners of dogs, having earned AKC titles, will be presented with 5"x 7" wood plaques as well as brass plates. Framed certificates are given for Therapy, GRCA, and UKC awards. Let us know all the great activities your team has been doing!

Members need to submit validation for awards or titles completed from June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016.

Send to: Kaye Dahlquist

947 Saratoga Dr. Palatine, IL 60074... or [Kaye@Dhlqst.com](mailto:Kaye@Dhlqst.com)

For full details, see

[Detail on the GRCI website](#), along with a [letter from Kaye](#).

## Wags and Brags

### WAGS AND BRAGS FROM 2015

Patti Stitz reports that her dog, Golden Grace BB'S Legacy, "Barney" earned his 3rd AKC Beginner Novice leg with a 1st place score of 192 on 12/04/15 at the Skokie Valley Kennel Club obedience trial.

Find it at on our website

[grcillinois.org](http://grcillinois.org)

or on our Facebook Page



## Board of Directors

### President

Hal Axelrod, 847-831-2050

[harryaxe@comcast.net](mailto:harryaxe@comcast.net)

### Vice President

Jane Coen, 847-236-0138

[warrington26@comcast.net](mailto:warrington26@comcast.net)

### Treasurer

Murray Mitchneck

847-530-6401

[mmitchneck@aol.com](mailto:mmitchneck@aol.com)

### Secretary

Betty Smith, 630-231-9892

[betty.greg@comcast.net](mailto:betty.greg@comcast.net)

### 3-Yr. Director

Beth Gerdes, 309-310-3330

[gerdes2@maxwire.net](mailto:gerdes2@maxwire.net)

### 2-Yr. Director

Michelle Kolb, 847-800-6124

[partyinthepaint1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:partyinthepaint1@sbcglobal.net)

### 1-Yr. Director - Public Ed

Cheri Mitchneck

847-722-4287

[agility12@aol.com](mailto:agility12@aol.com)

### 1-Yr. Director - Awards and Clinics

Kaye Dahlquist, 847-341-0084

[kaye.dahlquist@gmail.com](mailto:kaye.dahlquist@gmail.com)

### 1-Yr. Director - Specialty

Joan Wetton, 847-251-2264

[jrw00013@aol.com](mailto:jrw00013@aol.com)

## Sunshine Notes

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

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

## Newsletter Contributors



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

## The Obedience Corner

by Jane Coen

### "The Importance and Value of Absolute Respect"

Training dogs and helping other people train their dogs has been a passion of mine for over 40 years. I was very fortunate to have been exposed to a very sound, reliable method of training early on. My dog training mentors were Jack Godsil and Bob Self Sr., and I have modeled my training methods after what I learned from them.

Jack and Bob traveled all over the country delivering weekend training clinics. They also offered weeklong summer school sessions during the summer. Over the course of a number of years, I attended two dozen or so of their seminars and clinics. I loved watching Jack train dogs-both his own and those belonging to others. Jack was the most gifted dog trainer I have ever known. He commanded dogs' respect and attention instantly, and produced confident, happy attitudes in the dogs he trained. Bob was also a fine dog trainer, but would often laugh and say he did not possess Jack's lightning fast reflexes. Bob was an exemplary teacher, and excelled at imparting his knowledge to others.

One of the most important things I learned from Jack and Bob was that obedience is dependent on respect-absolute respect. Earning a dog's respect requires clearly communicating our expectations, and the consequences of not meeting those expectations; consistently requiring the same responses from the dog; and consistently rewarding the desired behavior.

[Read More](#)

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Have a Happy and Golden Easter and Spring\_\_