



## GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OF ILLINOIS Golden Moments Newsletter

October 2018

### GRCI News & Updates

Welcome to GRCI Golden Moments! This version is mobile device friendly! We hope that it will be even more convenient for member communication. While we try our best to get everything updated, if you notice something that could be better or a link that isn't working, please give us your feedback.

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#### Message from GRCI's President

Hello GRCI Members!

Fall is upon us which means many of our club traveled to St. Louis for the National! The last time it was there was my first National. We arrived just in time to be hurried into the building, hunker down and take cover from the horrible storm. Thankfully this time was a little less eventful! Anyone that was there please send me any pictures you want to share and I'll post them on the Facebook page. We want to celebrate anyone who made the journey!



Lots of things have happened since our last newsletter. We had yet another fabulous July Agility trial at McCook where many people earned new legs and titles. A huge thank you to our fabulous team of Kim & Mark Mroczenski, Manny Zelles, Andreana Zelles, Betty Smith, Murray Mitchneck, Carolyn Hesse, Michelle Kolb and last but not least Robin Comp-Zelles! Also thanks to the many members who help make it all happen. This trial is a long 3 day weekend and this team goes above and beyond to make sure it runs smoothly and is FUN. We are very lucky as a club to have this team working so hard for us.

August brought our annual meeting and picnic. If you missed it this year, you missed out on such a fun afternoon. We were a bit worried that there was too much going on at Hawthorn as well as our party. Would we be crowded? Would it be too loud? Well, it turned out all those other people/groups made it such a party atmosphere that we hope they are there next year! We had a steel drum band playing music in the background, volleyball players that were loving on our dogs, and people that were eating offered to help be 'the crowd' for the CGC testing. We were such a hit we had people walking up who had Goldens and wanted to know how to join. Thank you so much to Cheri Mitchneck for arranging everything, to

Kaye Dahlquist who organized and presented our awards and to Kaye Dahlquist and Michelle Kolb who put together fun games for the dogs. All in all a FUN afternoon.

During the meeting portion of the picnic we voted in our newest Board Members. My thanks to Kathy Bova (Vice President) and Jennifer Rudolph (Director, health clinic & awards) for agreeing to join us on the Board! A huge thanks to out-going Board members Jane Coen and Kaye Dahlquist. We are so very grateful for all of your help for so many years!

September 23rd was our Grooming and Handling seminar! The seminar was taught by the mother-daughter team of Deb Oster and Kristi Falkenthal, both of whom have many, many years of experience in grooming and handling. The day was a huge success, and boy did the fur fly! In the morning, Deb gave us a very thorough demonstration of how to groom, and then the attendees went to work. Deb went from table to table to give extra help and advice. We all worked hard, ate lunch, and then moved to handling. Kristi had us stacking and gating. We did several mini practice sessions and gained lots of practical ring experience. By the end of the day we were all tired, but we had so much learning under our belts.

We are now looking at the calendar for 2019. At this point we have no Tracking committee. I hate to see this event drop as the tracking tests are already so hard to get in to. We have lots of people with experience that can help out a team that is willing to step up. Can anyone please take this on? Please consider it - but do it soon so that Judges can be secured.

Donna Bihner. GRCI President  
dbihner@gmail.com  
630-762-8441

## **GRCI General Meeting**

**October 22, 2018 7:00 p.m.**

**Biscuits and Bows, 1945 S. Plum Grove Road, Palatine, IL 60067**

Our next General Meeting is coming up soon! We will begin with a talk by Dr. Ashley Jones, a canine cardiologist who works at the Veterinary Specialty Center in Buffalo Grove. She will bring us up to date on what is known about taurine deficiency and diet induced DCM (canine dilated cardiomyopathy).

DCM is a heart disease that normally does not affect Goldens. However, recently vets are seeing even young, seemingly healthy Goldens affected and sometimes dying from this disease.

Following Dr. Jones's presentation we will have our General Meeting.

Dogs are invited, too!

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Betty Smith  
GRCI Secretary

## **GRCI Annual Picnic and Awards**

## **Event Summary**

Congratulations to all the Golden and their owners for their hard work in all areas of competition and service.

Highlighting a few of our perpetual trophy award winners:

**Dog of the Year - Bill Staub's "Dusty" - Agiligold Leave'M In the DustCCA NA NAJ THDD TKN TDIG TWT UAG-1 CL1-R Achiever Dog**

**Pete and Cathy Miller Award - Murray Mitchneck**

**Linus Award - Bill Staub's "Dusty" - Agiligold Leave'M In the DustCCA NA NAJ THDD TKN TDIG TWT UAG-1 CL1-R Achiever Dog**

**Alwyn's Jumpnjyme O Sundown Award - Nancy Pederson's "Driver" - CH SHARMIK-FOREVER GREEN WHITE CHECKER CDX PCD BN GN RE TKN CCA**

For a complete list of all the Award Recipients and achievements, please [see this link](#).

## **GRCI Agility Trial Event Summary**

What a wonderful time it was at the July 2018 Agility Trial! This year the agility committee hosted our annual three day trial at The Max, in McCook IL. During the weekend, we also invited people to join the annual non-regular fun run; \$260 was raised and donated to Charge Against Cancer.

As usual, the crowds were cheery, friendly, and enjoying the judges and their courses! Everyone enjoyed the trial even more as we had surprised them with exhibitor and golden retriever entry gifts; these gifts are a perfect way to advertise and grow GRCI's awareness. Thanks to amazing members who were key players in running the show; such as, Michelle Kolb, Kim & Mark Mroczenski, Betty Smith, Murray Mitchneck, Carloynn Hesse, Robin Comp-Zelles, and Andie Zelles; along with other members and dear friends who assisted the trial, all attendees had an amazing and memorable time!

More smiles, laughs, and memories were, yet again, made at the agility trial. Next up is the November agility trial, as the club has decided to assist the Collie Fancier Club in running the Thanksgiving trial. The show will be the weekend of November 24th, hosted at Rush N Around Agility facility in Manhattan, IL. As always, everyone is invited to share in the fun! We hope to see you there!

Andie Zelles

## **GRCI's AKC Scent Work Trial**

GRCI'S FIRST AKC SCENTWORK TRIAL WILL BE  
HELD OCTOBER 27 AND OCTOBER 28, 2018  
AT DASH K9 IN GENEVA!

Entries are currently being accepted - see premium for full details  
2 Trials per day!!  
Events:  
10/27: Container and Exterior (Novice, Advanced, Excellent and Master)  
10/28: Interior (Novice, Advanced, Excellent & Master)  
Buried (Novice and Advanced only)  
All Breeds Including All-American are Welcome



GRCI Member Workers Welcome Also!!

Please contact Helen Borosak at [hbgolden@comcast.net](mailto:hbgolden@comcast.net) or more information, or to volunteer, please contact volunteer coordinator, Cathy Williams at [cwilliams0727@gmail.com](mailto:cwilliams0727@gmail.com)

[AKC Scent Trial Premium](#)

## Wags and Brags

Here are some great achievements from GRCI members from the GRCA National Specialty held earlier this month. Congratulations to all who went to compete and enjoy the hundreds of Golden Retrievers that gather annually at this spectacular event!

Jennifer Rudolph reports that her Gambit finished his Novice Agility title with a first place at the National! He's just 19 months old! Gambit also Q'd in his first Beginner Novice obedience class and his first Rally Novice class.

Leah (Gambit's mom) Q'd in her first Rally Novice class also. It was our first National and it's one to remember!



Leah and Gambit

Jane Coen spent a week at the National competing MANY events with her girls, Loosey and Stella. She came back with much success! In addition to those listed below, both Loosey and Stella passed the CCA at the National. One of the evaluators gave Loosey a 97 and Stella a 99!

Loosey's Accomplishments:

1. Qualified in Rally Excellent B and Rally Advanced B, earning her first RAE leg, with scores of 89 and 99, respectively.
2. Won the Hunting Class Bitches Class.



3. Placed fourth in Sweepstakes Gun Dog Senior Hunter Class
4. Passed the Working Certificate (WC) Test
5. Passed the Senior Hunt Test
6. Earned the Triathlon Award



Jane and Loosey pass the Senior Hunter Test at the GRCA National

#### Stella's Accomplishments:

1. Won the Rally Novice B Class with a score of 100/100 (60 dogs competing)
2. Earned her first Novice B Obedience Leg with a score of 196/200
3. Won the Sweepstakes Gun Dog Junior Hunter Class, expertly handled by Lindsey Siflinger and went on to win Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Gun Dog Sweepstakes, expertly handled by Kristi Falkenthal
4. Passed the Working Certificate (WC) Test, earning her WC title
5. Passed the Junior Hunt Test
6. Earned the Triathlon Award



Jane and Stella passed the Junior Hunt

Nancy Einwich and "Timothy", Magicshades N' Victory Believn in Fun & Games BN RI TD earned his Rally Intermediate Title at the GRCA National in St. Louis. We had a great time and I was so proud of him.



Nancy and Timothy Einwich

Jan Williams handled "Dora" in the Amateur Owner Handler, and took Second Place! Jan co-owns Dora with Jan Winters.



Dora

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Joan Wetton's dog, Celson, earned his SH title on 9-29-18. His sister Loosey (right) also earned her SH title in September.





Celson (left) and Loosey (right)

Jane Coen also reports that Stella (left) earned her JH title in August, passing all 7 of the JH tests she ran. Loosey (right) earned her SH title over Labor Day, passing 5 out of the 6 SH tests she ran.



Stella and Loosey

Cheri Mitchneck reports that MISTY earned her Novice Preferred Standard Agility Title October 7, 2018 at Lyons Dog training club at McCook. She ran so happily and determined to beat the odds of a pup diagnosed with elbow dysplasia at 13 months of age and overcome a diagnosis of never being able to do AGILITY again. With therapy and determination, Misty beat the odds and won her first title in agility at age 4! Way to go Misty...congratulations!



Cheri and Misty

Please share your Golden's accomplishments! Send an email summary and a photo to Cathy Williams at [cwilliams0727@gmail.com](mailto:cwilliams0727@gmail.com) to be included in the next Golden Moments!

## Halloween Safety Tips for Your Dog

Please read these important tips for a safe and fun Halloween for your pets from *Victoria Stilwell*, a recognized and respected trainer of positive reinforcement techniques.

### Top Ten Halloween Safety Tips:

1) Keep the candy bowl away from your pets.

Candy is never a good idea for any pet, and chocolate in particular can be very dangerous for dogs and cats thanks to a toxic chemical

called theobromide. Put the candy bowl where your pets can't reach it and be sure to lock the cupboard door so they can't do some scary scavenging.



2) Careful with the costumes. We may love dressing ourselves up, but I'm pretty sure that if we asked our dogs and cats, they'd agree that they'd just as soon not wear that canine superman outfit you think is so cute. If you absolutely must dress your pet up, consider a simple themed bandanna, or at least make sure the outfit is not constricting, uncomfortable or harmful to the animal. Dog costumes often cover so much of the body that their ability to express important canine body language signals to us or other dogs is compromised, which can lead to unnecessary, avoidable instances of aggression or bites.

3) Don't take your dogs trick or treating with you, even if you're confident that your dog will be able to handle it. There are too many unknown factors on a night like Halloween, and even if your dog is well-adjusted, some others you encounter may not be. Plus, seeing a bunch of four-foot tall Yodas and goblins can unnerve even the most placid dogs.

4) Keep your dogs away from the door during trick or treating hours. Again, even if your dog is a good, well-mannered greeter, your smaller guests are not always prepared to see dogs bounding down the hallway or sniffing their candy bags. Just



play it safe and keep your dogs and cats locked away in another part of the house for those couple of hours.

5) Make sure any electric cords for holiday decorations are out of reach of your pets, especially if they're chewers. Nibbling on a hot wire won't turn out well for anyone.

6) Be sure your jack-o-lanterns with live flame inside them are also kept out of reach. They can get easily bumped or knocked over, leading to fire hazards.

7) Halloween is a great excuse to make sure your dog or cat is microchipped. Given all the crazy sights and sounds of the evening, many pets end up running away each year.

8) Keep your pets indoors on Halloween and in the days surrounding it. There are just too many jerks around sometimes, so play it safe and don't tempt fate.

9) Head out for your afternoon or evening walk with your dogs well before trick or treaters start hitting the neighborhood. No reason to risk a frightful encounter with Buzz Lightyear and his noisy, flashing guns and jetpacks.

10) Desensitize ahead of time. Be aware of how stressful the repeated ringing of the doorbell can be for dogs. If you haven't already, take some time to desensitize your dogs to the sound of the doorbell or knocking in the weeks leading up to the big night so that they're prepared.



### **[Shop GRCI Merchandise!](#)**

Show your support of GRCI through logo apparel, hats and outerwear. Check out the website - choose any item and size you like! They are nice for GRCI event chairs and committees, or for your competitions.



## 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 a cards or other forms of "sunshine" to brighten their day.

## GRCI Board of Directors

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