



**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. Our last general meeting was highlighted by the picnic and awards presentation. Thank you to Cheri Mitchneck for arranging the picnic and a beautiful day, to Kaye Dahlquist for getting the awards program organized and presented so well, and Michelle Kolb for organizing some fun activities for the dogs. I assume that Willow, the 11 week old puppy, won the tennis balls in the water tub contest. She wouldn't leave the tub until she got all the balls!

Special congratulations to Cathy Williams for being awarded the Pete and Cathy Miller award. This award exemplifies the spirit of generosity and willingness to give his/her time that Pete and Cathy had always shown to this club. This trophy is awarded to a member for leadership in the Golden Retriever community and selfless commitment to the well-being and betterment of the breed. This award is based on the person's behavior and not on the accomplishments of any particular dog. Thank you again for all that you have done for our club and breed.



To see all pictures from the picnic click on the photo above.

It was nice to see so many of our members at the Agility Trial in July. Thank you to Michelle Kolb and her committee for all your hard work. The number of entries was close to an all-time high

In This Issue

[Announcements](#)
[Wags and Brags](#)
[Golden Health Tips](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[Shop!](#)
[GRCI Website](#)

Upcoming Events

[GRCI Agility Trials](#)
 October 7, 8 and 9

[GRCI Tracking Test](#)
 October 9, 2016

[GRCI General Meeting](#)
 October 24, 2016

Shop GRCI Logo Merchandise!



Visit our Website

Looking for more information?

Find it at on our website
grcillinois.org

or on our Facebook Page



Board of Directors

for the club. I know there were some very long days setting up and taking down all the equipment and keeping everything organized. A job well done.

Next up we host our fall Agility Trial and Tracking Test in October. I hope you can participate, volunteer or come by and watch these great events. A lot of hard work goes into organizing and putting on these different events. It is well received when our members come out to show their support. Your new board is in place and very busy planning the coming year's events. I want to thank Joan Wetton for her years of service on the board. We welcome Nolan Ryan to the board. He is already very busy planning next year's Specialty.

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

Sincerely,
Hal Axelrod

GRCI General Meeting

Save the Date - Monday, October 24. Location and topics will follow in a separate email.

Upcoming Events

**GRCI Tracking Test, Sunday October 9, 2016,
Hampshire Forest Preserve, 44W780 Allen Road, Hampshire,
Illinois,
7:00am to 5:00pm**

GRCI will be holding its annual Tracking Test this fall at the Hampshire Forest Preserve. Come on out and enjoy a beautiful day in the country watching dogs in a venue that is performed with pure natural instinct.

Tracking is one venue which is performed by dogs using their natural instinct to smell. Training is required in this sport in order to teach the dog to find a certain smell but the rest is up to the dog. Dogs and their owners put in so much effort all summer to get ready for the fall tracking test. These tests are fun to watch because of the teamwork between handler and dog. It is just amazing to see the dogs in action.

Come on out and see what tracking is all about. There will be plenty of people on the day of the test to explain to you what tracking is all about and what is taking place. If you want to come the day before the test you will really learn what tracking is all about. The day before the two judges and tracklayers plot the tracks marking each turn with a pole. On the day of the test the tracklayer goes out and walks the track putting down their scent, pulling the flags and leaving a glove at the end of the track to be found by the owner and their dog. It really is fun to watch this sport.

We will be having lunch and goodies on both days so if you want to see what the sport of tracking is all about and enjoy some GRCI folks come on out.

President

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

Vice President

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

Treasurer

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

Secretary

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

3-Yr. Director

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

2-Yr. Director

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

1-Yr. Director - Public Ed

Cheri Mitchneck
847-722-4287
agility12@aol.com

1-Yr. Director - Awards and Clinics

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

1-Yr. Director - Specialty

Nolan Ryan, 630-940-5212
nryan9444@comcast.net

Sunshine Notes

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

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

Newsletter Contributors

Editors:

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

Conformation

Karin Boullion 630-941-7568
goldbulyon@aol.com

Obedience

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

Sincerely
Nancy Einwich
Trial Chairman

GRCI October Agility Trials - October 7, 8 and 9

On Friday October 7th 2016, we are partnering with Lyons Township Dog Training Club. They will be having an Excellent/Masters only Agility Trial at Rush 'N' Around in Manhattan. Our very own Betty Smith is a member of LTDTTC and is the Chairperson for the trial.

GRCI: Saturday and Sunday, October 8th & 9th, 2016, also at Rush 'N' Around. Andie Zelles is the Chairperson for these events. If you have any questions, please call her at 630/536-4854.

At the Saturday October 8th trial, Andie is planning several activities for the exhibitors and helpers-BBQ, Games, and more! I think she wants to surprise us. It will be fun to see what she has planned!

Please go to the Agility Trial Services website, <http://agilitytrialservices.com/>, for both Premiums.

Report from the July GRCI Agility Trials

Agility Trial Games

At this year's 2016 GRCI Agility Trial we had our second annual Summer Non-Traditional Games! About 30 people attended these games and a grand total of \$145 was raised thanks to all of the exhibiting friends, Ready To Go Veterinary Rehabilitation, and GRCI members. The money was donated to The Shine On Project.

Located at the University of Minnesota, The Shine On Project is a current clinical trial being performed. The Shine on Project's goal is to develop effective methods for early detection and prevention of canine hemangiosarcoma, an insidious cancer. They use blood tests to look for the cells responsible for establishing and maintaining the disease and then use an experimental drug treatment that attacks those same cells in order to prevent development of the tumor. The Shine On Project believes that reducing the number of dogs that ever get hemangiosarcoma provides the best chance to reduce the death and suffering from this disease. If you would also like to help this cause, visit www.vetmed.umn.edu to find out more information.

Thank you for all of the GRCI friends and members who stayed to help the Non-Traditional Classes on Friday night; without all of the patience, fun, and support we wouldn't have been able to raise such a wonderful amount to donate to The Shine On Project. The Non-Traditional Classes had great reviews from all who attended. Even though the classes ran later, it was due to the good size crowd who stayed to play the games and practice. Many people appreciated the opportunity to bring their young dogs out to work in a show environment. So far, GRCI is the only club that has run a non-traditional class night at the McCook facility during a show, and the attendees truly appreciated that opportunity. Next year we plan to get more marketing material

out to different training facilities to encourage more people to join in the fun and will have even more fun! Hope to see you there!

Andie Zelles

Hip, Hip, Hooray! The July 2016 Agility Trial was a great success!

Michelle Kolb, Robin Comp-Zelles, Kim Mroczenski, Andie Zelles, and Betty Smith

There is a lot to say, so please read this article to the end. If you do there may be a **prize or a surprise at the end(???)!** Did you know that there is a little person that reports back about who reads the articles or not??

PLANNING: In our opinion our Trial is heads and tails above the rest. We planned for this Big Event for almost one year.

All of GRCI's Major Events take a great deal of pre-event planning by a few GRCI members. We would greatly appreciate if we had more GRCI members involved in the planning stage.

NUMBERS: Let's begin with the number of entries for the last two years:

We had an increase in entries thanks to our awesome Judges Diane & Rick Fyfe. They are both well-liked by many and have very fun courses.

EXHIBITORS: Another big hit was the fantastic gifts we gave out. **Golden exhibitors** received a lovely stemless wine glass with the GRCI logo. **All Exhibitors** received mats with the GRCI logo to put under dog cages. **Workers** received small insulated bags with the GRCI logo to carry dog treats or lunches. We received lots of compliments from the exhibitors about our gifts. One person said it "felt like Christmas with all of the gifts." And a lot of them said that they enjoyed our Trial, because it was **very well organized and ran very smoothly.**

CLASSES: **Friday** we offered all classes-all Standard, all JWW, T2B, Fast, and Standard and JWW Premier. And then we had Non-Traditional Agility Games at the end of the day.

Saturday and Sunday we offered all Standard, all JWW, T2Beat and Standard and JWW Premier. The very busy days created a lot of different course building.

ORGANIZERS: Several very important people helped plan and organize the Trial.

Robin Comp-Zelles is the Thinker, Planner, Perfectionist of the group; she helps lead us every step of the way. Robin is our Foundation, and we help her to put it all together. She is highly respected in the Agility community and in the dog world. When Robin speaks people listen! She helped plan, shopped for gifts, helped course build, was a Ring Coordinator all three days, and more. The list of tasks Robin helped with is endless.

Kim Mroczenski

is our people person, the eyes and ears to know what Agility people like and do not like. Kim is our compassionate one and Mrs. Hospitality. She makes sure our pricing is fair and that everyone has an awesome time. Kim probably knew the names of 95% of all of the people at the Trial! She did the shopping and heavy lifting to buy and transport all the lunchroom supplies, pop, water, etc. She made signs to organize the lunchroom, and made sure water and pop was always easily available. Kim also had the novel idea to split the lunch delivery times, so people coming to lunch a bit later had hot food available. Kim also helped make sure everyone received their gifts. The list of

tasks Kim helped with is also endless.

Andie Zelles, is our young, full of life member of the committee, Andie is so much fun to work with, and she knows what needs to be done, and gets it done. Andie was a Ring Coordinator for all three days. She also organized the Non-Traditional Agility Games/ Fund Raiser after Friday's trial, which was a big success. You can read Andie's article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Another very generous task Andie took on was to help out one of our members several weeks after the trials: Dana Nelson miscalculated and did not realize she had finished her PACH 3 at our Trial until she received the AKC Certificate in the mail. Getting a PACH Bar and Ribbon from our club was very special to her and her 10 ½ year old Golden, Napa. So Andie went out of her way to an Agility Trial (that she wasn't entered in) to deliver the PACH Ribbon and Bar. Andie went above and beyond to make one of our GRCI Members happy!

Betty Smith is the worker coordinator and created the online worker sign up. Betty also helped set up on Thursday, filled in wherever she was needed during the Trial all three days, was there to the end each day, and helped with reloading the trailer on Sunday. [Betty and Mattie also received their PAX on Friday. It was a very special weekend for Betty and 11 year old Mattie!]

Michelle Kolb is the trial chairperson, and "kept everyone glued together and sane, throughout the whole entire process!" "She calmly dealt with the little glitches and helped ensure that everything ran smoothly."

GRCI MEMBER HELPERS:

Dana Nelson was there for set up on Thursday and **Dana and Ken Nelson** helped all three days of the Trial from the beginning to the end of each day. **Carolyn Hesse** also helped with set up on Thursday, was a Ring Coordinator on Friday, and helped where needed the rest of the trial. **Mark Mroczenski** helped all three days from beginning to end. He filled in wherever he was needed, and when asked to take a break he said he had to "keep working because he wanted us to have a well run trial." Mark also went out to dinner with our judges on Saturday night along with **Kim and Robin. Murray Mitchneck** was a Ring Coordinator on Saturday and Sunday. Murray did an awesome job finding people to fill in on jobs each day, which helped relieve Robin because she was busy course building and running dogs. Murray made it easy for Robin to look to other things as he was covering the worker check in. Murray also stayed to the end both days, and helped reload the trailer. **Mark Rusley** helped where needed for all three days. **Helen Borosak, Kathy Guerra, and Bill Staub** also helped where needed. **Sandy Heimberg** helped where needed, and she and her husband **Curt Heimberg** also stayed to the end to reload the trailer. **Laurie Stecker and Karin Boullion** did not even have any dogs entered and they came to help where they were needed one of the days. **Kaye Dahlquist** helped on Thursday with delivery and set up.

I'm sorry if I missed any GRCI members who stepped up and helped. I did not see your name on the worker signup sheet.

NON-GRCI MEMBER HELPERS:

Barb Rypstra helped with set up on Thursday and was a Ring Coordinator for all three days. **Lynn McMaster** helped in organizing the lunch room and keeping all the pop and water filled, and also helped with Thursday set up. And we had probably over 100 Non-GRCI people volunteer to do many different tasks to help keep our Trial organized and running smoothly. **Maddie and Zack Weber**, my boss's children, were very impressive and helped with Thursday set up, filled in where needed all three days during the trial, and helped with tear down and reloading the trailer. Teenager **Zack** even learned the job of Gate Steward, performing like a pro!

LONG DAYS:

- Thursday set up was from 12pm to 8pm. = **8 Hours**
- Friday we were at the Trial site at 6am and left at 8pm after the Non-Traditional Agility Games were over and the courses were set for Saturday morning. = **14 Hours**
- Saturday we were at the Trial site at 6am; the trial was over and set up for Sunday about 6pm. Although we all wanted to go home and take showers and go to bed, Kim, Mark and Robin went out to dinner with our judges until about 8:30pm, and then they still had to go shopping for more water. It was a really late night. = **14 plus Hours.**
- Sunday we were at the Trial site at 6am; we started tearing down the rings and loading the trailer about 3pm; everything was done about 4:30pm. = **10 plus hours**
- Then we all went home and unloaded our cars.
- Think it was a long week end???

Oh, I cannot forget to talk about moving all of the heavy equipment:

- The A-Frame-each side weighs about 100 pounds for a total of 200 pounds.
- The Dog Walk-each plank weighs about 72 pounds for a total of 216 pounds.
- The Teeter weighs about 87 pounds.
- Sandbags weigh about 30 pounds each.

MORE HELP IS NEEDED:

All major events that GRCI conducts during the year, including the Hunt Test, Conformation/ Obedience/ Rally Specialty, Agility, Tracking, can be physically and mentally exhausting.

We need more GRCI members to step up and lighten the load, and we are always looking for new ideas. If you are not physically able to do heavy lifting, you can bring someone you know is capable of physical labor. And there are always tasks that do not involve physical labor and knowledge of the sport.

Please Help!!!

The Moral of the Story: When you renew your GRCI membership, please make a commitment to yourself, and to GRCI, to volunteer your time for the planning as well as the execution of one or two of our club's major events.

Next Agility Trial volunteer opportunity:

LTDTTC: On Friday October 7th 2016, we are partnering with Lyons Township Dog Training Club. They will be having an Excellent/Masters only Agility Trial at Rush 'N' Around in Manhattan. Our very own Betty Smith is a member of LTDTTC and is the Chairperson for the trial.

GRCI: Saturday and Sunday, October 8th & 9th, 2016, also at Rush 'N' Around. Andie Zelles is the Chairperson for these events. If you have any questions, please call her at 630/536-4854.

At the Saturday October 8th trial, Andie is planning several activities for the exhibitors and helpers-BBQ, Games, and more! I think she wants to surprise us. It will be fun to see what she has planned!

Please go to the **Agility Trial Services** website, <http://agilitytrialservices.com/>, for both Premiums.

If you read this entire article, thank you very much!

What is the Prize or Surprise if you read the entire article?

It is a Pot of Gold filled with Friendships that you form while planning and executing a GRCI Event!



Michelle Kolb
Trial Chairman

GRCA 2016 National



GRCA is hosting the 2016 National in beautiful Placerville, California, the heart of California's Gold Rush country. Come to the 2016 National for the Golden Retrievers, and stay to enjoy our beautiful scenery, local wineries, food, recreation, gold mines, historic towns, and all that Gold Country has to offer.

Wags and Brags

WAGS AND BRAGS

GRCI member Betty Smith reports that Mattie achieved her PAX (Preferred Agility Excellent) title at our GRCI Agility Trial, July 29! She got her 20th QQ, which means she qualified in both Standard and Jumpers With Weaves classes at the same trial 20 times. Betty is so proud of her!



Dana Nelson reports that her dog, Napa My Napa - aka Dichi Vintage Valley Reserve, earned his PACH3 and PAX3 on Saturday of the GRCI trial! Napa is 10 1/2 and going strong!



Dana and Napa

Cheri Mitchneck reports that Misty earned her Beginner Novice Title with a 195 First Place at Waukesha Kennel Club on July 29, 2016. She is so proud of her pretty girl! Cheri also reports that Blue earned his Companion Dog title (CD) also on July 29 at Waukesha Kennel

Club show. Beau, age 12, is still competing in agility and earned three first place ribbons in Fun Dog Agility CPE agility trial on September 4. He also has 5 legs toward his second RAE title!



Jane Coen reports that "Kizzie" earned her Senior Hunter title at the Madison Retriever Club hunt tests on Sept. 3 and 4. She is very proud of her!



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

Golden Health Tips

By Cathy Williams

My, What White Teeth You Have!

People always tell me what clean, white teeth my dogs have. In the past few years, I made a commitment to brushing my dogs' teeth at least twice a week - I choose the same days, because it's easy to remember, or I pair it up with brushing or ear cleaning and call that day "Health Care Wednesday"! It makes a huge difference. Brushing every day is best, and easy if you have one or 2 dogs, but if you can't keep that commitment with more, imagine the difference brushing their teeth 50 to 100 times a year will make!

The picture below is the proof of the difference. These are my 8 year old Golden's pearly whites!



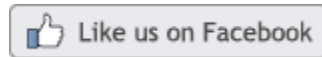
Why is dental upkeep important to your pet's overall health? Tartar and plaque build up is not only bad for your pet's teeth, but oral disease and bacteria in the mouth and gums can spread to your pet's vital organs including their heart, kidneys and liver which can create serious health issues.

Brush with toothpaste specific for pets, as people toothpaste can be harmful to your pet. In addition to brushing, chewing on raw marrow bones and other dental chew toys can also help keep your pet's teeth and gums clean. As always, consult your veterinarian if your pet has a lot of plaque and tartar for the best dental treatment.

Happy Golden Smiles to you!



GRCI Picnic and Awards Ceremony was a great time to socialize with people and dogs alike!



Golden Retriever Club of Illinois | | cwilliams0727@gmail.com | <http://www.grcillinois.org>