



## Golden Retriever Club of Illinois

This is a new version of our online newsletter. It is mobile compatible. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for added content or improvements. Thank you for your patience as the Editor gets familiar with the new format!

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## Golden Moments Newsletter

### President's Letter

Hello GRCI Members!

I am humbled and honored to be serving again as your president. I look forward to working with this board, which has many new faces, to uphold the mission statement of our club. With that being said, running this club is more than one person or the board. It takes our entire membership to step up and volunteer and assist when they can. Every event we do requires many helpers to keep things running smoothly. Even if it is not your comfort zone, members are willing to help make you feel comfortable in what you are doing to assist.



What a strange 3½ years this has been. When I stepped off the board, having served for 6 years (3 as president), I thought I was done. Living in Quincy, while only a 5 hour drive with the dogs, surely would put me out of touch and consideration for doing much for the GRCI. When I was approached to come back on the board, Zoom and Skype meetings were becoming the norm. I had recently retired from my career in the hospitality industry. So I thought what the heck, we'll make this work.

I want to thank Cheri and Murray Mitchneck and Kathy Bova for putting on another wonderful picnic and awards presentation this past August. I enjoy watching our members receive awards for all the hard work you do to get new titles. The food was good and more than enough to have leftovers. Thanks to Michelle Kolb and Kaye Dahlquist who planned wonderful games following CDC guidelines.

A big shout out goes to the agility committee for putting on yet another trial. The committee for agility is Kim Mroczenski, Betty Smith, Michelle Kolb, Robin Comp-Zelles, Mark Mroczenski, and Andie Zelles. Both trials, in July and October, followed new safety protocols and had very good attendance.

I look forward to see many of you on Zoom for our general meetings. Hopefully, we can meet in person for the holiday party.

Until then, stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Hal Axelrod  
President

## Get Involved and Have Some Fun!

We need your help!

First - We are looking for pictures that were taken at the picnic. We would like to collect them and put them on the website.



Second - We have three events, that if our club is going to sponsor them, we need volunteers for a variety of positions. In calendar order there is the **CCA test, Scent Work Trial and Tracking Trial**. If you have any interest in helping for any of these please contact Hal Axelrod at [harryaxe@comcast.net](mailto:harryaxe@comcast.net).

Please remember that there is always a first time for everything! Co-chair with a friend!

You will be glad you volunteered!

## Agility Trials - Event Summary - October Upcoming Trials - November 28 and 29

That's not just a dog show... That's an  
AGILITY SHOW!

As the year is winding down, the GRCI Agility Committee is still running strong. This year has been wonderful as both the July and October agility trials were ran as smooth and successfully as possible, with a COVID safe environment placed. At the October trial held on the first 3 day weekend of the month, runs were at a high count of 165 runs on Friday, 215 runs on Saturday, and 198 runs on Sunday. With a dedicated, power house committee, Mark Mroczenski, Robin Comp-Zelles, Michelle Kolb, Betty Smith... and of course the trial chairman Kim Mroczenski, the October agility trial was successfully designed and ran as planned!



The show was held at Rush N Around Agility on the indoor and outdoor fields. It was a perfect fall weekend to share enthusiasm and passion for the sport of agility with everyone's dogs. The committee thanks the trial's judge Lisa Potts, club members, worker volunteers, friends and exhibitors for attending the trial; without them, the agility show would not be near a success that it was!

The goal of the committee was to host an agility trial that gave an opportunity during trying societal times to have fun, laugh, and run with our beloved dogs. As exhibitors proclaimed their praise of the trial and thanked the committee for hosting, GRCI also thanks the Agility Committee for dedicating their time, energies, and passion to hosting an enjoyable agility trial that holds up the prestigious reputation they have created for GRCI's agility shows.

Next to follow, the Agility Committee has the November 28th and 29th Thanksgiving Agility Show. This will be held at Rush N Around in Manhattan IL in the indoor agility field, judged by Jean Munger. To stay safe for COVID, the committee has new steps placed to ensure a fluid trial during winter times. One of the new strategies they are using is a live action app that will be able to notify exhibitors on their phones of the real time running order, as people can remain at safe distances from each other while getting ready to enter the building to run. As the committee has seen and experienced other shows in the area, they are dedicated to hosting a safe and fun trial that continues to provide the best experience for exhibitors. We welcome club members looking to volunteer. Please contact Andie

Come next year, the GRCI Agility Committee has graciously accepted to host two agility shows from other clubs. The Flat Coated Retriever Club's trial in January judged by Kathy Guerra and the Lhasa Aspo's trial in February judged by Randy Capsule. Both trials will be held at Rush N Around in Manhattan IL. The GRCI Agility Committee is only hosting these trials this one time, as the clubs were unable to host themselves. Their goals for hosting are to be able to provide the dog showing community with opportunities to run with their dogs as there is limited showing in the state. We must support our fellow breed clubs, as we are friends and look for the opportunities to keep the sport of dog agility strong in the area!

Lastly, I wanted to bring forward some exciting news! Back in June, the GRCI agility committee was sadly unable to host their annual agility fundraising show for sporting dogs due to COVID situations. At this trial, the fundraiser provides donations to the organization Charge Against Cancer; since the show did not occur, gracious exhibitors and club members donated their entires to help raise approximately \$3,200! What an exciting achievement for the agility community to be able to support Charge Against Cancer without even having a trial. The GRCI Agility Committee is excited to be able to plan 2021's June agility fundraiser trial in great hopes that the trial will be able to run.

We wish you all the best in the fall season, and we look forward to seeing club members joining us at the November trial!

— Andie Zelles Lehman, GRCI Agility Liaison



October Agility Trial

## Picnic and Awards Ceremony

We had a great picnic and awards ceremony in Naperville. It was a warm, but sunny day, and we were able to have a nice, COVID compliant event.

Kathy Bova and Donna Bihner came up with beautiful and creative new award choices for members and our Golden to celebrate our successes.

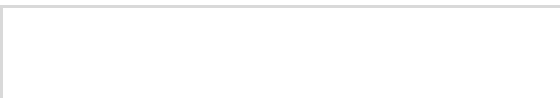
Cheri Mitchneck coordinated an individually served picnic lunch for all of us to enjoy. Thank you all!

Michelle Kolb and Kaye Dahlquist had some fun games for us to play with our dogs after our meal.

Thanks to all for making this a fun and safe social event!



## Wags and Brags







Donna Bihner reports Zee has earned his CD, NA, NAJ, OA, OAJ and VCD1 in the past six weeks. It has been busy! He us now Ruffwater Ready 2 Roll Dat Dice VCD1 CD RE TD TDU OA OAJ TKI CGC.



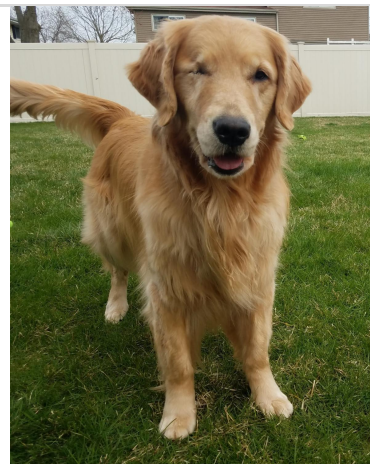
Blue and Murray Mitchneck: Firststar Fast Rhythm & Blues of Relyea , CD RE CGCA CCA - Blue earned 2 legs towards his CDX title in Open A on September 19 (179.5) & September 20, 2020 (190.5 3rd place) at Forest City Dog Training Club. One more Q to go for Companion Dog Excellent title! So proud of our Blue Boy!



Sandy Heimberg's Twisted Sisters have been enjoying fun with Tricks, Rally and Obedience.

"Treasure" earned her Rally Novice Title with perfect scores (because she is simply perfect) and her Advanced Trick Title. Treasure also earned her Master Jumpers Gold Title.

"Token" earned her Advanced Trick Title and her Rally Novice Title with 3 perfect scores."



Sandy Heimberg's "Trinket" earned her Rally Novice Title virtually during the summer. We never "played" in Rally before, so Trinket is my first dog to enjoy this fun game. She is working on her Intermediate Title as well. She then went on to earn her first Novice B leg in August.



Kaye Dahlquist reports that Timer finished her TRACKING EXCELLENT TITLE at Hampshire forest preserve. Did 5 turns, 6 legs for 900 yards and found all 4 items! Good girl Timer!! She got to share Kaye's peanut butter & jelly sandwich to celebrate!



Jane Coen reports that on August 22, Kizzie earned her AKC Excellent Buried title and her AKC Master Exterior title. On August 23, she earned her first AKC Master Buried leg. On September 12, Kizzie earned a NACSW NW3 qualifying score toward her NW3 title. We are thankful for all of the guidance we've received from our mentor, Cathy Williams.



Cathy Williams girl, Keenie, has been busy sniffing! She earned her AKC Excellent Exterior, Excellent Buried, Excellent Scent Work, Master Interior, and Master Container titles in August with several top placements. She recently earned her first NACSW NW3 title with a Second Place overall!! She knows how to scent!

Please send YOUR Wags and Brags to Cathy Williams at [cwilliams0727@gmail.com](mailto:cwilliams0727@gmail.com) with a summary and picture to share with our members. And congratulations to all our Golden Stars!!!





Jane also reports that her boy, Trevor, earned his NACSW Odor Recognition Test (ORT) title on August 30. We'd like to thank our mentor, Cathy Williams, for coaching us.

## Halloween Pet Safety

# HALLOWEEN

## Pet Safety Tips



**NO SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE**  
Keep your pets away from candy (especially chocolate); avoid placing bowls on the ground.



**KEEP PUMPKIN AWAY FROM THE PUMPKIN**  
Decorative plants can be toxic; candle-lit jack-o-lanterns are fire hazards if tipped over.



**COSTUMES ARE OPTIONAL**  
Don't force on an unwanted costume. Most pets prefer birthday suits.



**NO TRICK OR TREATER GREETERS**  
The front door is a high traffic area. Doorbells and knocks can upset even the friendliest pets.



**MUST SHOW I.D.**  
Spooked pets can get lost. Microchip and tag them in case they get out.



**PARTY POOPERS ARE OK**  
Some pets are happier in a quiet room away from the party.



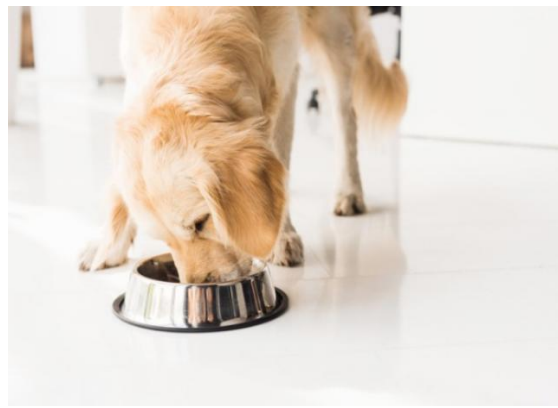
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**Maintain Good Nutritional Gut Health**

## From Andie Zelles Lehman

I love to make sure our dogs have some good gut health as they are going from one season to the other and this article has some great tips and facts!

[4 Ways to Restore Your Pet's Gut Health](#)



## 2020-2021 GRCI Board of Directors



**President - Hal Axelrod**

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

**Vice President - Miriam Zarate**

[sm2mz1@gmail.com](mailto:sm2mz1@gmail.com)

**Secretary - Sandy Heimberg**

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

**Treasurer - Murray Mitchneck**

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

**Director-Hunt Test - Wes Lehman**

[lehmanwesley92@gmail.com](mailto:lehmanwesley92@gmail.com)

**Director -Agility- Andie Zelles Lehman**

[andreana.zelles@gmail.com](mailto:andreana.zelles@gmail.com)

**Director - Public Education- Cheri Mitchneck**

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

**Director - Specialty - Meredith Leuck**

[wetnoses3@comcast.net](mailto:wetnoses3@comcast.net)

**Director - Awards and Clinics - Sally Banka**

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

**Newsletter Editor - Cathy Williams**

[cwilliams0727@gmail.com](mailto:cwilliams0727@gmail.com)

**Sunshine and Sympathy - Laurie Stecker**[aylwyn1@aol.com](mailto:aylwyn1@aol.com)