



GGRR Newsletter

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April 2011

April 2011 Newsletter

Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue
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Inside this issue:

Meeting Minutes	1
Events	2
Donations	2
Socializing Your Dog or Puppy	3
Old & New Business	3
Reunion Picnic Flyer	4

March Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by President, Tim M. Julie G. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Penny M. and passed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

President's Report

Tim reported that member, Cheryl Gruber passed away last month.

Treasurer's Report

Beth J. reported that our beginning balance for the month of February was \$1,711.73. Income was \$1,125.00 (\$40.61 came from our Schnucks e-Script cards) and our expenses were \$633.87 leaving us with an ending balance of \$2,243.47. Our ending balance in the Flash Fund was \$20,156.69.

Membership Report

Amy G. reported that we had three membership inquiries and two new members during the previous month, Julie M. and Dan E. Amy also reported that there are still some members that

month:

011-005 Twitch—a six year old female, red colored and 56 lbs.
 011-006 Trooper—1-1/2 year old male who needs transport to his foster home.

010-030R Lacey — a 1-1/2 year old female who was returned because she was knocking down the little kids in the household.

Penny M. reported that Billy was at our meeting and his foster family reported that VSS has determined that his hips are abnormal. It looks like he will most likely need surgery.

Adoption Report

Amy R. reported that two dogs were placed in their

forever homes in the past month:

010-026 Blondie
 010-027 Honey

Amy also reported that we have four families on our waiting list and they are looking for Golden Retrievers between the ages of 1 and 4 with a variety of different needs.



Website Report

Paul S. reported on our website traffic for the last two months:

January

Hits: 109,166
 Page Views: 26,224
 Visitors: 10,425
 Unique Visitors: 2,733

February

Hits: 92,023
 Page Views: 24,124
 Visitors: 9,345
 Unique Visitors: 2,535

Paul explained that parts of our website have been down and he will be working on fixing them in the near future.

There was also discussion of ways to improve our website and how to get more traffic. Paul explained that our foster homes need to update the dog's bios frequently. There is also a blog on our website. Paul encouraged members to go on there and share their stories.

GGRR Events

Event Coordinator's Report

Barb thanked the members that came out and helped at the Tri-County Agility Event: Rich and Barb B., Susan and Courtney I., Julie G., Dan, Carrie, Kayla, and Megan T., Debbie D., Sasha J., and Bill and Barb B. We received a \$250.00 donation check for helping out!

Barb also announced that if you placed a clothing order with Chris R. that it is in. Please see Barb or Chris after the meeting.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Downtown Saturday, March 12th

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is Sat., March 12th and begins at 18th and Market. All members walking the parade need to be there by noon to get lined up. Please wear lots of green or your GGRR member shirts. Barb will have a cooler of refreshments in her car so you do not need to bring your own.

Dog Museum Guest Dog of the Week Sunday, April 3rd—1:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Three Golden Retriever groups will be attending this event held at the Dog Museum in Queeny Park: GGRR, Love a Golden and the Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis. Each group will be bringing dogs and have literature available about how we operate. If attendance is poor, we do not have to stay the entire time. It will be held in the large upstairs room. A sign-up sheet was circulated at the meeting but if you would like to attend, please contact Barb B. We can bring our own dogs



Member, Pat M., hangs with her foster dog, Twitch, and her honorary Golden, Sebastian, before the parade.

or foster dogs. This is our chance to educate the public about our breed so people can make an informed decision before deciding to adopt a Golden.

Golden Specialty at Purina Farms

April 8th, 9th and 10th

This is an all-Golden competitive event which includes information, obedience, and agility. We have not been asked to preform any spe-

**GGRR Annual Reunion Picnic
will be Sunday, May 1st
All members are needed to help!
Mark you calendars!**

cific tasks, so we will only need volunteers to man our merchandise booth on Saturday and Sunday. The dogs are gorgeous and the competitions are fun to watch. It's well worth a trip out to Gray Summit to watch or work.

GGRR Reunion Picnic at the Dog Museum Sunday, May 1st

This is a required event for all members. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending! Tracie, Barb and Amy G. are working on invitations which should go out around the 1st of April. Amy R. is working on getting donations for our raffle baskets. If you have any items such as sports tickets, gift cards, or items that can be added to baskets, please talk to someone

on the committee. Amy G. is our committee chair and she announced that she will need some volunteers to handle the games and transporting raffle baskets. The person that handles the games will need to go to our storage locker and pick them up and then assign members to work each game station. The raffle baskets will be made the week before the picnic and then will need to be stored and transported to the picnic on May 1st. If you are interested in helping with either of these duties, please contact Amy G. Set up will be at 10:00 a.m. and Amy will have a sign-up sheet at our next meeting. More information to come then. (See our GGRR Reunion Picnic invite included in this newsletter!)

Donations

GGRR received donations from the following individuals and groups:

The following donations were made in memory of Shawn Blaes:

Deronda & William Schuver

Mike & Anna Robichaux

Joseph & Rosalene Rinke

Linda & John Varberg

The Wasserman Family, in memory of Molly Abramson

Rosie Weiss, in memory of Molly Abramson

Virgil & Joan Farenzena, in memory of Mary Jane Wolk

David & Patricia Crooks



Socializing Your Dog or Puppy From the Whole Dog Journal Tip of the Week

Socializing Your Dog or Puppy: Making a Lifelong Difference

You'd better get out there and get started! There's no such thing as overkill when it comes to properly done socialization. You can't do too much. Pups who are super-socialized tend to assume that new things they meet later in life are safe and good until proven otherwise.

Dogs who are very well-socialized as pups are least likely to develop aggres-

sive behaviors in their lifetimes. Pups who aren't well-socialized tend to be suspicious and fearful of new things they meet throughout their lives, and are most likely to eventually bite someone.

If your pup comes to you from a socially impoverished environment, you'll already see the signs of neophobia. You have no time to lose, and you may never be able to make up all the ground he's lost, but you can make him better than he'd be otherwise.

Trainers talk about giving pups "100 new (positive) exposures in the first 100 days." If your pup is already showing signs of timidity or fear, triple that to 300 exposures in 100 days. And get busy!

For more details and advice on ways to socialize your dog or puppy, purchase Whole Dog Journal's ebook, *Socializing Your Dog or Puppy: Making a Lifelong Difference*.

Submitted by Barb B.

Old & New Business

Old Business

Pat M. announced that if you ordered a green bandana for your dog for the St. Pat's Parade that it is on the front table. \$5.00 can be paid to Pat for each bandana.

New Business

Tim M. reported that our Flash Fund is in very good standing and that we are pretty well off right now. Tim suggested that we need to spend some money on our PR and asked everyone where they thought it would be wise to advertise and what facilities to do so in. We

need more foster homes and we need to get our name out there. Paul S. stated that we can put adds on Facebook and Google. He also stated that our website is not updated very often. We need more updates on foster dogs, stories, etc. We have the Blog tool that our members can go on to write their own stories about dogs, experiences, etc. It's called "Golden Notions." One of our new members, Dan, offered to help out with publicity. He said he will look into getting our name out and

GRRR needs more publicity! If you would like to help out, please let President, Tim M. know.

trying to sell GGRR to the public! Amy R. also volunteered to help out with any write-ups that need to be done. John and Nancy R. also noted that we need to educate the public on how to Golden proof your environment and how to deal with common Golden issues. It was also discussed that we need to update some of our old brochures and flyers and make

them more attractive. It was also discussed getting some car magnets with GGRR on them and some writing pens to give out at functions. Tim M. also suggested that we use some of our funds and make a donation to an organization that is in need of funds. This could become an annual thing for GGRR. There was discussion about the three organizations that need help.

Tim will do more research and email it to members so everyone can read more on each one before we decide.

Pat M. reminded all members that the foster homes need to communicate with Amy R., Adoption Coordinator, so that we place our dogs with the right family. We want all of our Golden's to have good homes that are a good fit for them.

Rich T. announced that the Dave Glover Show would like someone from GGRR to be on it. If anyone is interested, please see Rich.

A motion was made by Julie G. and seconded by Pat M. to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



Steve D. tries to calm Blondie down after the cannons shot off to mark the beginning of the parade.

Gateway Golden

Retriever Rescue

**GGRR 2011
Reunion Picnic**

**Sunday, May 1st
12:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.
(Rain or Shine)**



**Held at: AKC Museum of the Dog
1721 S. Mason Road
St. Louis, MO 63011**

**The Dog Museum does not have picnic tables.
Please bring lawn chairs.**

**Please RSVP to let us know how many
two-legged and four-legged guests will
be attending by Sunday, April 24th.**

It's an afternoon of fun for our adoptive families and their Golden Retrievers!

- Lunch served from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Free games with prizes for you and your dog, raffle tickets and much more!
- Raffle begins at 2:30 p.m. You do not have to be present at time of drawing to win.

Directions to the Dog Museum:

Hwy. 270 to Hwy. 40/64 West: Exit 24, Mason Rd. Go south on Mason Rd. and follow the Dog Museum signs. Turn right at the park entrance. Make an immediate left into the parking lot.

Note: Dogs must be current on vaccinations and kept on a leash.

**By Internet: www.ggrr.com/rsvp
and complete the online form.
By Phone: Amy: (314) 591-8297
*If you give us your email,
we'll even send you a reminder!***



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Next Meeting

Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m.
At the Dog Museum in Queeny Park
We love having happy healthy Golden Retrievers at
our meetings! Please make sure your dog
is up to date on shots and vaccinations.

To Adopt or Surrender a Dog Call the GRR Phone Lines: (314) 995-5477

Officers

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