



GGRR Newsletter

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January 2012

January 2012 Newsletter

Gateway Golden
Retriever Rescue
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December Meeting

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by President, Tim M. Pat M. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Julie G. and passed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

President's Report

Tim M. announced that he had brought all of our new flyers and brochures to the meeting along with car decal stickers if anyone needed some to take with them to post around local veterinarian's offices and other businesses.

Treasurer's Report

Beth J. reported that our balance in our checking was \$2,320.38 at the beginning of the month. Income was \$700.00 (\$39.53 from our Schnucks Escript cards) and our expenses were \$533.94 leaving us with an ending balance of \$2,525.97.



The balance in the Flash Fund is \$31,670.76.

Membership Report

Amy G. reported that we had one membership inquiry and one new member last month. Amy also

reminded everyone that dues are due. Please make sure you fill out the 2012 Membership Renewal form along with the Release of Responsibility form and turn them in next meeting or mail them to her.

Intake Report

Penny M. was absent so Tim M. gave her report. We had two dogs come in in the last month.

011-024 Chase—a 5 year old female who was dumped and the family that found her could not keep her. She is spayed and very sweet.

011-025 Ally—a 7 month female who is not spayed yet. She is a cuddly little girl!

Adoption Report

Mike S. reported that we placed one dog in their forever home in the previous month:

011-023 Titan

Website Report

Paul S. reported on our website's traffic from the previous month:

Hits: 92,597
Page Views: 16,553
Visitors: 5,340
Unique Visitors: 2,107

Membership Dues are Due!

Also, mark your calendars for our

Member Training Session

Sunday, January 29th

1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

GGRR Events

Upcoming Events

GGRR Member Training Session

Sunday, January 29, 2012—1-4 p.m.

GGRR will be having a member training session on Sunday, January 29th at the Dog Museum in Queeny Park. We will be in the room downstairs so no dogs will be allowed at the training session. Please do not bring food or drinks with you either. The training session will be held

**Congrats to our newly
elected officers:
Kathy D., Vice President
Pat M., Treasurer
& Chris R., Member Rep.**

from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All areas will be covered time permitting. If you've been wanting to do more for GGRR but weren't sure how or what needs to be done, this training is for you!!! Phone interviews, home visits, dog visits, phone lines, etc. All will be covered. If we don't have enough time to discuss all of them we will book another day to finish.

To God: From the Dog *From: www.dogbreedinfo.com*

Dear God:

Why do humans smell the flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another?

When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?

Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the "Chrysler Eagle" the "Chrysler Beagle"?

If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?

Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good dog:

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it! up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.
3. The Litter Box is not a cookie jar.
4. The sofa is not a 'face towel'.
5. The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.
6. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.
7. Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying "hello".
8. I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table.
9. I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house - not after.
10. I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.
11. I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch.
12. The cat is not a 'squeaky toy' so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.

P.S. Dear God: When I get to Heaven may I have my testicles back?



Donations

GRR received donations from the following individuals or groups:

*Peter Wollenberg, in honor of his sister Pamela Wollenberg
Sarah Cavin, in memory of Murphy and in honor of Addison
The William Sheppard's of Louisiana, MO
The Karraker Family
The Shepherd Foundation, in memory of Duke*



Old & New Business

Old Business

Carrie announced that Jammers is doing very well in his new home and is adjusting just fine!

New Business

Member Representative, Chris R., announced that she had received a call about one of our former members who had adopted a dog from us a few years ago. Recently they found out that the dog had cancer and would probably not live six months. It was extremely important to this family to keep the dog around because her mother who lived with them was also dying of cancer and that dog was the only thing that was keeping her mother going. They were also having a lot of financial problems and did not have the money to seek out extensive treatment for their Golden. They did end up taking the Golden to Dr. Buss and they did one round of chemo to see if it would extend her life some. Within the last two weeks this family lost her mother to cancer and then they had to put their Golden down one week later due to cancer also. Is there any way

we can financially help this family out with some of the medical bills from taking their Golden to Dr. Buss or the fee to have the Golden put down? After some discussion it was determined that we will take up donations from members until the next meeting and then vote if the membership would like GRR to match the donations to help this family out or if we should just send what we collect.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held in Downtown St. Louis this year on Saturday, March 17th. Would GRR like to participate again this year? A vote was taken and we will participate. More information to come on this.

Tim announced that we needed to vote on our new board members: Vice President, Treasurer and Member Representative. Ballots were distributed and the following was the outcome:

Vice President: Kathy Dierkes
Treasurer: Pat Moran

Member Representative: Chris Rogers

A motion was made by Sandy B. and seconded by Kathy D. to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



"I've bought you a drink... Now can I sniff your bottom?"

13 New Year's Resolutions for Dog Owners From: www.dogster.com

With the arrival of a new year inevitably comes a variety of new year's "resolutions." We vow to better ourselves through losing weight, quitting smoking, stop procrastinating, and so on. But how may we improve ourselves as pet owners? What new year's resolutions should dog owners consider? Here are 13 suggestions for your consideration.

1. Vow to provide your dog with the highest quality nutrition possible. This means researching the ingredients in dog food and often, thinking outside the grocery store kibble aisle. The Whole Dog Journal is a fantastic publication which publishes annual dog food reviews. WDJ offers unbiased reviews as a publication which subsists entirely on subscription revenue - they do not accept advertisements from manufacturers.
2. Make it a point to ensure your dog's health through providing adequate and appropriate exercise.
3. Be realistic about your dog's weight. It's scary how few people recognize weight problems in dogs and equally scary when people think their pet's obesity is funny or a joke. Obesity shortens longevity, both in dogs and people. If you can't feel your dog's ribs easily, he is too fat. Ask your vet for guidance in regulating his weight and achieving healthy body condition.
4. Train your dog. Training is not a luxury, it is necessary. Not only will appropriate training make living with your dog more enjoyable for you, it will make life more enjoyable for your dog by providing him with the mental stimulation all dogs need and crave.
5. Play with your dog. Play can take many forms - training, tug, fetch, food dispensing toys, nose work games and exercises, off leash adventures in safe environments, etc.
6. Keep your dog well-groomed and maintained. Mats in the fur, parasitic infestations, rotten teeth, overgrown toenails, embedded collars, yeasty ears, oozing or itchy eyes, hot spots, etc. are all unsightly and worse, uncomfortable for dogs. Routine care and maintenance can significantly improve your dog's quality of life.
7. Make it easy for your dog to succeed. If your dog loves chewing on shoes, do not allow him unsupervised access to shoes. If your dog eliminates in the house, provide him with plenty of opportunities to eliminate outside by giving him frequent breaks. If your dog bites strange children, don't bring him to your daughter's soccer game.
8. Vow not to get mad at your dog for your management failures. If your dog loves chewing toilet paper and you leave the bathroom door open, it's your fault, not his, that the toilet paper is now strewn throughout your house in 7,986,235 pieces. Simply clean up the mess and next time, close the bathroom door!
9. Be appreciative of how wonderful your dog is. One of the biggest elements of successful training is looking for desirable behaviors and reinforcing them with something your dog likes and appreciates - a treat, a butt scratch, a game of tug, the opportunity to go for a walk. Never miss an opportunity to thank your dog for good behavior.
10. Make time for your dog. This may mean rearranging your schedule. It may mean going out in the cold or rainy weather to give your dog a walk. It may mean skipping Wednesday night book club so that you can enroll in the agility class you wanted to take. It may mean spending less time on Facebook and more time playing, training, and exercising with your dog.
11. Be a responsible dog owner - keep identification tags on your dog, renew your dog's annual license, make the annual veterinary appointment, clean up after your dog, respect leash laws, etc.
12. Keep learning and improving as a pet owner. What does your dog love? What stresses him out? How does he communicate his emotions through body language? Understanding your dog will enable you to be a better friend to him, this year and every year.
13. Help a less fortunate dog at least once this year. Remember that not all dogs are as lucky as yours. Not all dogs have regular meals, veterinary care, someone who loves them and will play with them, a home to call their own. There are many ways you can help less fortunate dogs - by making donations (either goods - beds, leashes, collars, food, toys, etc. or cash) to a local shelter or rescue, volunteering at a local shelter or rescue, organize fundraisers, help take pictures of adoptable pets for petfinder listings, apply to become a foster parent, etc.

***About the Author:** Casey Lomonaco graduated with distinction from the Karen Pryor Academy for Animal Training and Behavior, and is a member of the following professional organizations: APDT (Association of Pet Dog Trainers), CGC evaluator - AKC (American Kennel Club), TDF (Truly Dog Friendly), and the No-Shock Collar Coalition. She is also the author of Dogster's popular Dog Training Guide.*

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Next Meeting

Thursday, January 12th at 7:00 p.m.
At the Dog Museum in Queeny Park
We love having happy healthy Goldens
at our meetings! Please make sure your
dog is up to date on shots and
vaccinations. please!

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

Officers

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