

GGRR NEWSLETTER

Volume Number 5

Issue Number 4

Date: April 2008

* * * Meeting Notice * * *

Date: Thursday, April 10th

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Place: The Museum of the Dog

*We love having well-behaved, healthy Golden Retrievers (up-to-date on shots, please) attend our meetings. However, please keep them leashed and at your side while we conduct the business portion of our meeting. Dogs are welcome to romp and socialize both before and after the meeting. **Please be a responsible pet owner and clean up any messes your dog may make both inside and outside of the Dog Museum.***



Puppy Update: Mama Shadow and her 9 pups are doing well. Shadow developed mastitis and the pups were unable to nurse, so they have been bottle fed around the clock by a large group of GGRR volunteers. Now 3 weeks old, the puppies' eyes are open, they are walking, and have recently started lapping up a gruel made from formula and baby cereal. They have graduated from a small wading pool to a larger enclosure built for them by Pat M. The pups are having a great time exploring their new pen and are starting to wrestle and play together.



Rory (shown above), also known as Big Bertha, is the largest puppy in the litter. When Rory is hungry or uncomfortable, she lets everyone know about it! She was also the first pup to learn how to escape from the wading pool. Shadow, being a very attentive mom, picked Rory up by the scruff of her neck and placed her back in the pool.

MINUTES FROM MARCH 13TH :

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Pat Moran. Kathy D. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the February meeting. Paul S. seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

None this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beth reported that our account balance at the beginning of February was **\$3,758.97**. Income was **\$655.00**. Expenses were **\$1,025.47**, leaving an ending balance of **\$3,398.50**.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Kristen reported we had 10 membership inquiries during the past month, with four families joining GRR. The new members include:

Kate Ryder
Barb and Dave Koch
Jim and Jennifer Kandlik
Blaine and Janice Eisenraat

We're glad to have so many families join our ranks!



Ella and Rush M. are sure to be a hit with the crowd when the St. Pat's parade starts its journey down Market Street.

INTAKE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Sixteen new dogs came into our possession since the last GRR meeting:

- 08-003: Toby**, a 2-3 year old heartworm positive male from the Higginsville, MO animal shelter, being fostered John and Nancy R. while being treated for heartworm.
- 08-004: Chester**, a 3 year old male from the Hannibal, MO animal shelter, being fostered by Pat M.
- 08-005: Lucky**, a middle-aged stray male found in South County, being fostered by Barb and Bill B.
- 08-006: Shadow**, a very pregnant stray female found in Shipman, IL; being fostered by Pat M.

All of the puppies listed below were born to Shadow on 3-06-08, five hours after she arrived at Pat M.'s house. Mom and pups are currently with Pat M.

- 08-007: Little Seamus**, newborn male
- 08-008: Ronin**, newborn male
- 08-009: Aiden**, newborn male
- 08-010: Maddy**, newborn female
- 08-011: Kelsey**, newborn female
- 08-012: Allie**, newborn female
- 08-013: Gillian**, newborn female
- 08-014: Keira**, newborn female
- 08-015: Rory**, newborn female
- 08-016:** unnamed female (deceased)
- 08-017:** unnamed female (deceased)
- 08-018:** unnamed female (deceased)

INTAKE COORDINATOR'S REPORT: (cont.)

Barb reminded foster parents to make sure their foster dogs are wearing tags identifying them as belonging to GGRR. The foster parent's phone number should also be listed on the tag in case a dog escapes from the house or yard.

ADOPTION COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Four dogs were placed in their forever homes during the past month:

- 07-014 Lady Day**
- 07-028 Max**
- 07-032 Gryffin**
- 08-005 Lucky**, reunited with his owner

Carrie reported that we currently have ten families waiting for a dog. Most of these families would prefer a female between the ages of 6 months and 3 years. Several families have no gender preference. We are receiving many new applications from families who want one of Shadow's puppies.



Megan T. showed up for the St. Pat's parade wearing rollerblades and her helmet. Now there's a girl who knows how to travel in style!

EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Chris R. reported on final plans for the St. Pat's parade. It will be held rain or shine so dress for the weather. Your hands will probably feel cold first, so remember to bring a pair of gloves. GGRR is unit number 82. Members should plan to arrive between 11:00 and 11:15 a.m. Chris R. will check in for GGRR when she arrives. The A.G. Edwards lot on the corner of Jefferson and Market has been a great place to park in past years. Walk down to Market and look for the number 82 painted on the street to locate our group. If you ordered a green member sweatshirt, see Chris after the meeting to pick it up. See Pat M. after the meeting if you ordered a green bandana for your dog. Parade participants are not allowed to smoke or drink alcohol while walking along the parade route. Chris will bring water and treats for the dogs. Anything you don't want to carry can go into Chris's van, as she will be driving behind our unit in the parade.

The Golden Specialty dog show will take place on Saturday, April 5th and Sunday, April 6th. We will be providing lunch for the participants on both days between noon and 2:00 p.m. Kathy D. and Korisa C. are in charge of food. Volunteers are needed to man the GGRR booth and to help with lunch. Chris R. circulated sign-up sheets for people willing to donate a side dish for lunch and for volunteers to work in our booth. This event is held at the South County Recreation Complex on Wells Road. Suson Park is on one side of Wells Road, and the Recreation Center is on the opposite side. Turn into the entrance by the golf course and follow the road up to the Kennedy Center.



Lucky Dog is located at 38 North Gore in Webster Groves. The store is definitely a shopping paradise for dog lovers!! GRR is there from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. on the third Saturday of every month. GRR does **not** do on the spot adoptions. However, adoption applications are available, and visitors can talk with one of our members about our adoption requirements.

EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT: (cont.)

Chris also circulated a sign up sheet for our monthly adoption day events at Lucky Dog in Webster Groves. It is held from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. on the third Saturday of every month. Please plan to bring a dog with you. Lucky Dog is holding an Easter egg hunt in March, with the proceeds going to one of the Greyhound rescue groups in St. Louis.

The Golden Retriever will be the Guest Dog of the Week on Sunday, June 22nd at the Dog Museum. This event is designed to educate the public about this breed so people can make informed decisions before bringing a Golden Retriever into their homes. The event will be held on the front lawn outside the Dog Museum if the weather is nice. In the event of extreme heat or rain, we will be in the upstairs meeting room. Chris circulated a sign up sheet for members who are willing to attend

this event with their dog(s). The Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis will be invited to participate in this event with GGRR.

Eileen C. briefed members on the preparations for the annual Reunion Picnic. It will be held on Sunday, May 4th from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Love Park. Members should plan to attend **without** their personal dogs or foster dogs, as this a working event for us. Please wear your blue member t-shirts to the picnic. We still need donations of items for our raffle. Tickets to sporting events, restaurant gift cards, store gift certificates, and dog-related items for baskets would be greatly appreciated. Paul and Nanette S. are in charge of games. If you have any new ideas for games, please talk to Paul. Eileen circulated a sign up sheet for people bringing side dishes to the picnic. Electrical outlets will be available. Please make sure the dish you bring will not spoil if the day is hot. The picnic committee should stay after the meeting to stuff envelopes and place mailing labels on them.

WEBSITE COORDINATOR:

Paul reported the following website numbers for the month of February:

86,098 hits
17,771 page views
8,300 visitors
2,779 unique visitors

14% of the traffic was from Missouri, which doubled from the previous month. Paul would like to try some website sales on the GGRR website. He will post some Golden Retriever photos he has taken online. People can use pay pal to purchase framed

WEBSITE COORDINATOR: (cont.)

or unframed prints. GRRR will incur no expenses for this project, and Paul will donate 20% of the profits to us.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy D. presented an updated version of our home visit form to the group. She would like feedback from members before we actually decide to use this new form. She added a line for the family's email address, added a line to list any cats the family may have, and added a comment section. Please take some time to critique the form and send your comments to Kathy.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Our faithful banner carriers led the way as GRRR walked along the St. Pat's parade route. We couldn't have asked for a more spirited group, as all of them were decked out in green.



Natalie H., our youngest GRRR member, was dressed in green from head to toe for the St. Pat's parade. It's too bad Gus's Pretzels didn't have any green pretzels to coordinate with her outfit!

DONATIONS:

Donations to GRRR were received from the following individuals.

Barb and Bill Blacksher

Kathy and Jay Dierkes

Pat Moran

Linda and Dwight Roberts

Paul and Nanette Swarthout

Pamela Wollenberg

Your generosity is greatly appreciated! The cost of bottle feeding Esbilac formula to our puppies is over \$100 per day!

F. Y. I.

Greyhound Companions of Missouri does nail trims at the Florissant PETCO on the first Saturday of every month from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Members will trim and dremmel your dog's nails for a donation of \$3.00. It's a great way to socialize your dog and help a worthy cause!



Sleeping is such hard work!

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER:

Please send items of interest, *photos of your pups, brags*, etc. to:

blacksher@charter.net

Please submit items by the last day of the month to include them in the newsletter for the following month.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP DAY:

Every September, the American Kennel Club sponsors events which are intended to be fun for the entire family—pets included. They demonstrate activities such as agility and obedience in which dog owners can participate with their dogs. Responsible Dog Ownership Day is also an opportunity to remind pet owners of everything that is required to be a responsible dog owner. On August 7, 2006, the American Kennel Club published the AKC Responsible Dog Owner Pet Promise to ensure that dog owners do not allow their dogs to infringe on the rights of others. See how well you honor the commitment you have made to your four-legged friends when you read the following pledge:

AKC RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER PET PROMISE

As a dog owner, I do solemnly swear:

-  I will never overlook my responsibilities for this living being and recognize that my dog's welfare is totally dependent on me.
-  I will always provide fresh water and quality food for my dog.
-  I will socialize my dog via exposure to new people, places, and other dogs.
-  I will take pride in my dog's appearance with regular grooming.
-  I will recognize the necessity of basic training by teaching my dog to reliably sit, stay, and come when called.
-  I will take my dog to the vet regularly and keep all vaccinations current.
-  I will pick-up and properly dispose of my dog's waste.
-  I will make sure my dog is regarded as an AKC Canine Good Citizen by being aware of my responsibilities to my neighbors and to the community.
-  I will ensure that the proper amount of exercise and mental stimulation appropriate for my dog's age, breed, and energy level is provided.
-  I will make certain that my dog is identified with both a collar tag and a microchip and I will adhere to local leash laws.

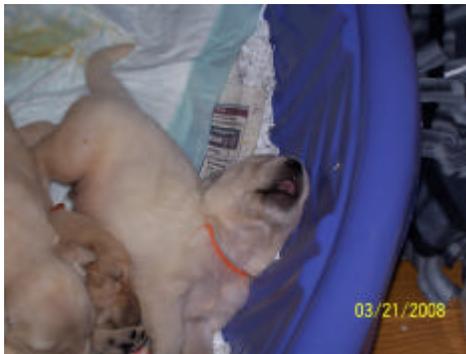
MORE PUPPY PICTURES



Kiera, the smallest pup, takes a snooze. She has a white stripe on her head, and her nose is finally turning black.



Meet Kelsey! Faces don't come any cuter than this one!



A full belly makes for a great nap!

TO ADOPT OR SURRENDER A DOG, CALL THE GRRR PHONE LINES:

314-995-5477

Officers

President: Pat Moran
P4021m@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President: Tim Miget
tNSE@charter.net

Secretary: Barb Blacksher
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Treasurer: Beth Johnson
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Member Rep: Chris Rogers
chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net

Coordinators:

Intake Coordinator: Barb Blacksher
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Adoption Coordinator: Carrie Tennesen
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Membership Coordinator: Kristen Carter
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Events Coordinator: Chris Rogers
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Webmaster: Paul Swarhout
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Mentors:

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Adoption Phone Lines: Barb Blacksher
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