



GGRR Newsletter

Volume Number 7

Issue Number 4

Date: April 2009

***** Meeting Notice *****

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2009

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.



Wishing You a Happy Easter!

GGRR Minutes from March 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Tim M. Pat M. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Amy G. A vote was taken and the motion passed. There was discussion over whether or not there was a Website Report at the last meeting as it was not mentioned in the minutes. Tracie B. will check into it.

President's Report:

Tim M. reported that on Sunday, April 19th there will be a Training Session for all people doing home visits, dog visits, phone lines, etc. at the Dog Museum from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. The training session will be taught by Rich T.,

GGRR Newsletter

Mike S., and Shane S. Everyone who does any of the above mentioned items needs to be there.

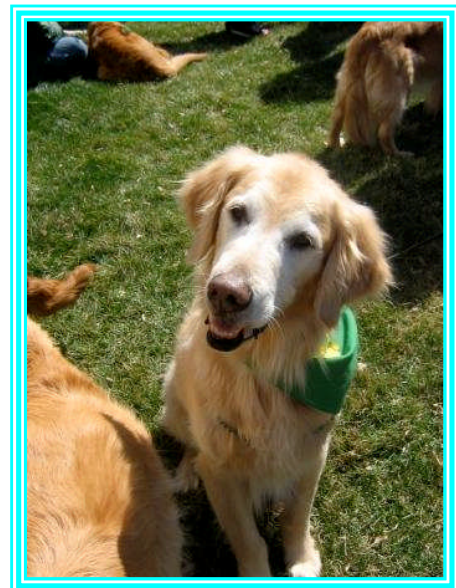
Treasurer's Report:

Beth J. gave the treasurer's report. Our account balance at the beginning of February was **\$3,484.81**. Income was **\$697.61**. Expenses for the month were **\$723.78**, leaving an ending balance of **\$3,458.64**.

Beth also reported that \$2.61 of our income came from the e-Script cards from Schnucks!

Membership Coordinator's Report:

Janice E. reported there was one membership inquiry in February, and that she was present at the meeting. Rosie W. is now a member of GGRR and has already donated a ton of items for our garage sale fundraiser. We had one visitor at the meeting, Chris R.



Rusty Gerber looks to say, "Can we go now???" as he tries to patiently wait for the St. Patrick's Day Parade to begin in Downtown St. Louis. GGRR was towards the back of the parade and the dogs were getting very antsy to get the show on the road!

Intake Coordinator's Report:

Barb B. reported that 4 dogs were surrendered to us this month:

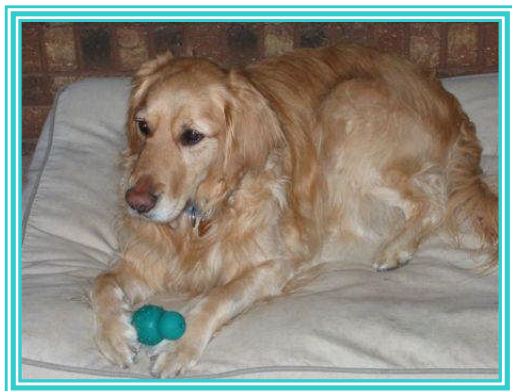
09-003: Fu-Fu, (now called Freda) a two year old female who has been fostered by Pamela W.; she is the girl who has been living under the owner's porch for the past two years.

09-004: Spencer, a four month old male who has been fostered by Paul and Nanette S.

09-005: Tyler, another four month old male who has also been fostered by Paul and Nanette S. Paul and Nanette said he is an absolute sweetheart and is very good with kids. He will be at the St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday with them.

09-006: Daisy, a 12 month old, 45 lb. female who is being fostered by John and Nancy R.; she was kept in someone's garage up until a month ago and then placed on Craig's List. A Golden lover adopted her a month ago with the intention of keeping her, however, this lady is being laid off at the end of March after 27 years on the job and already has two cats and two dogs to care for.

Barb also reported that she had a call in about a 13 month old female in the Springfield area too.



Koby, a.k.a. Mr. Handsome, was adopted from GRRR two years ago and seems to be a perfectly happy Golden! This picture was taken at Nona B.'s farm a few weeks ago. Koby lives with his new family now in Crystal Lake, Illinois.



Barb & Bill B. are pictured above along with their dogs, Max & Blitz, at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Max & Blitz are modeling the festive dog hats Barb made for the dogs to wear in the parade!

Barb is tracking the number of days each month that we pay expenses for dogs that are being kenneled. Below are the figures for February:

Chester	2/16/09 thru 2/24/09	9 days
Chance	2/1/09 thru 2/29/09	29 days

February Total: 38 days
2009 TOTAL TO DATE = 59 days

Adoption Coordinator's Report:

Carrie T. reported that three dogs were placed in their forever homes during the past month:

09-002: Max
08-004R: Chester
09-004: Spencer
08-048: Sparky





The Combs Family lost their beloved Buddy on March 26th. He is pictured above on the right with his Golden brother Moses in the back and his cousin Chaise in front. They will all miss him dearly.

Event Coordinator's Report:

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Chris R. reported that the St. Patrick's Day Parade is this upcoming Saturday, March 14th. Our number in the parade is #114 which is in the last third of the parade. We need to be lined up and ready to go by 11:45 p.m. You'll want to get there earlier than that to find a place to park. The best place to park is around the corner of Jefferson and Market. Chris suggested to come early and bring a few chairs and hang out there until the parade begins. The benefit of us being towards the end of the parade is that by the time we are finished, the streets will be back open for us to get back to our cars easier. Chris has flyers up at the desk for everyone with our parade information and her cell phone number on it.

GRCA Golden Specialty

The GRCA Golden Specialty is Saturday and Sunday, April 4th and 5th at Purina Farms. Chris has the sign-up sheet to sell our GGRR merchandise and Kathy D. and Korisa C. will have sign-up sheets for the food.

Chris, Pat, and Kathy are going to go to Purina Farms this weekend on Sunday to check out where we will be setting up, etc. The tables will be there and Mike will have his trailer there with
GGRR Newsletter

a refrigerator in it if we need to store anything. Chris looked into renting a motor home for the weekend, but it would cost \$299.00 and they said absolutely no animals in the motor home, so that wouldn't work anyway.

Duck Shoot at Busch Wildlife

The Duck Shoot at Busch Wildlife will be Saturday and Sunday, May 30th and 31st. Tim reported that two weeks before the event they will know exactly how many volunteers they need. There will be two stations for shooting live ducks that will require two shooters and two launchers and then we will need runners for water, paperwork, etc. A portion of the proceeds from this event will also be donated to our group for helping out. Tim will know more about this event in May and will send out e-mails and make phone calls once we know more information.

GGRR Reunion Picnic

Amy G. reported that we have an issue with the original date picked for the picnic. Jan, who is in charge of booking at the Dog Museum, said that she could get an employee to come in two hours early on a Sunday, around 11:00 a.m., to let us in to set up for our picnic. We need to decide if Sunday, June 14th or June 28th would be best for our picnic. Pat M. stated that earlier in the month of June is probably best because it could be slightly cooler rather than towards the end of the month. A motion was made by Barb B. that we do our picnic on Sunday, June 14th, and it was seconded by Tracie B. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The time frame was discussed of the picnic and it was decided that it should begin at 12:00 p.m. and the raffle will be done at 2:30 p.m. so there is not a gap in the activities. Everyone can eat, play games and then move on to the raffle. It was also decided that you do not have to be present to win raffle items either. Just make sure the phone number is on the ticket. Amy G. asked if anyone knew where the pool for the duck pond was, and Paul and Nanette S. said they had it at their house and would bring it the day of. Amy has the side dish sign-up sheet and will bring the worker sign-up sheet to the May meeting.

Annual Paw Festival

Saturday, May 30th is the 2nd Annual Paw Festival sponsored by Belleville Area Rescue of K-9's (B. A. R. K.). It will take place from 10:00 – 2:00 in Swansea, IL.

Golden Retriever Weekend at the Museum

Sunday, November 8th is the Golden Retriever Weekend at the Dog Museum from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

APA Carnival

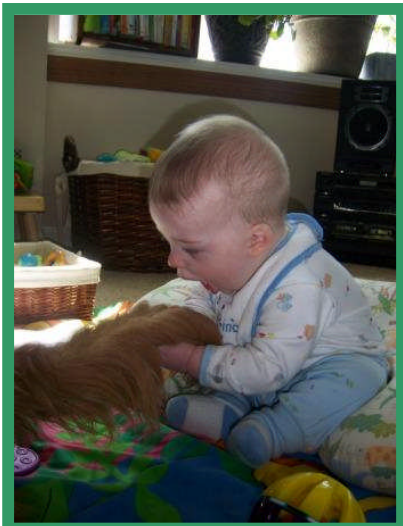
Sunday, October 4th is the APA Carnival.

Greentree Festival

September 18th through the 20th is Greentree Festival at Kirkwood Park.

GGRR Garage Sale

Kathy D. is collecting items for the garage sale. It will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at her house. She is looking for people to help out the day of the sale. Our newest member, Rosie W., has already donated a ton of stuff for the garage sale and Kathy will take any items you may have to contribute. Kathy asked if we could add a line to the invites for the picnic asking people to bring items to donate for the garage sale. Please see her if you want to help out at the garage sale.



Alex Carbone has finally discovered his brother Stone's tail! He's pictured above about to get a mouthful of hair in trying to see what that constantly waggin' thing tastes like!



Heather H. is pictured above with Freda, a foster dog, and Sebastian Moran after the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Sebastian tried to blend in with the other Golden Retrievers in the group as best he could!

GGRR Merchandise

Chris reported that Tim had expressed some interest in getting collared polo style shirts with our logo on them to wear at events. They come in lots of colors and they will be \$20.00 a piece. We do need an order of 12 before we can order shirts. We also looked into camouflage shirts for the Duck Shoot we will be helping out with on May 30th and 31st. They are available and are \$15.00 a piece and only take about 10 days to get. Tim thought it would be great if we could all match as a group in our camo shirts for this event since we are required to wear some sort of camouflage anyway. Chris will take orders for these shirts next meeting.

Website Coordinator Report:

Paul S. reported on our website traffic during the previous month. Our website had:

Hits: 93,435
Page Views: 23,022
Visitors: 6,228
Unique Visitors: 2,705

Old Business

Pat M. has the bandanas for the St. Patrick's Day parade. They are up on the desk and they are \$5.00 a piece. If you ordered one last meeting, make sure you pick it up and pay Pat tonight.

Old Business (cont.)

Barb B. stated that she brought some Adoption Folders and Heartguard for Foster Dogs, so if you need some, please come see her tonight.

Mike S. is putting together an Emergency Checklist. He will get the packets together for next meeting.

New Business

Kathy D. spoke about her foster dog, Sparky, and what happened with him and Xylitol. She handed out some pamphlets on Dangerous Household Items for pets. (See the article on page 6 for more information on Xylitol Poisoning.)

Paul S. brought up that he will have a copy of the Constitution, Bylaws of our Group and the Policies and Procedures up on the website before the training meeting. It was suggested that we print some hard copies for new members.

Carrie T. told everyone that she has updated copies of the waiting list up at the desk if anyone wanted a copy.

A motion was made by Carrie T. and seconded by Paul S. to adjourn the meeting. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Donations

GRRR received donations from the following individuals and groups:

Mr. Stewart Mayer, in loving memory of his friend Marie Bergmann's brother.

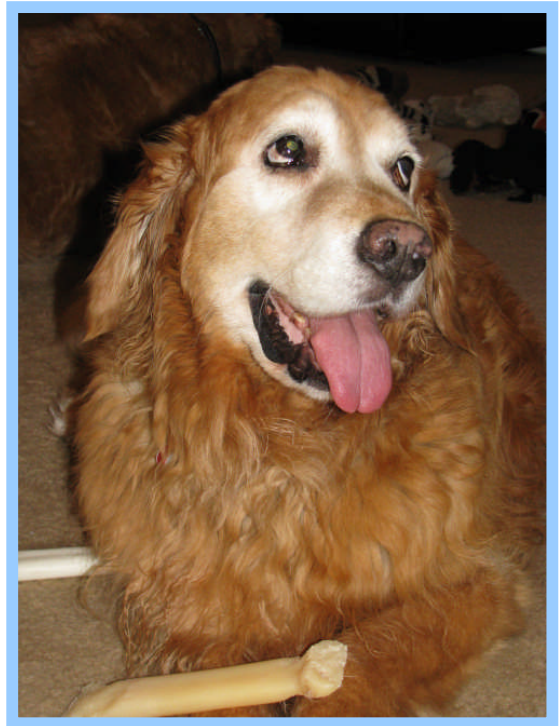
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bowman

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Blacksher, in memory of Marcie Roberts

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Cage

Rainbow Bridge

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the following families who recently lost a beloved Golden companion.



Buddy Combs

"Grieve not, nor speak of me with tears, but laugh and talk of me as if I were beside you...I loved you so - 'twas Heaven here with you."

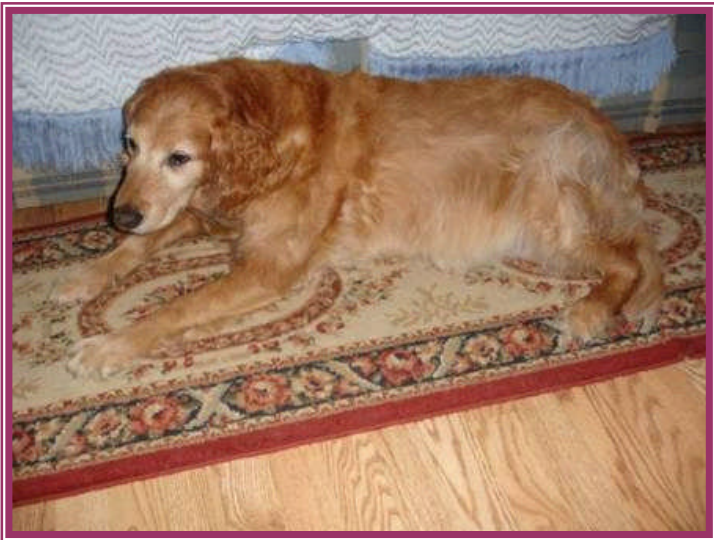
- Isla Paschal Richardson

Buddy, beloved companion of **Eileen and Barney Combs**, went to the Bridge on March 26, 2009. Buddy was their first Golden rescue and he will be missed terribly.

Newton, beloved Grand-dog of **Mary Fran Fige** and baby brother of **Chloe Rogers**, went to the Bridge on March 30, 2009 at a young age of eight.

Belle, beloved companion of **Lee and Carmie Adkins**, went to the Bridge on April 1, 2009. Belle was a rescue that Lee and Carmie decided to adopt after fostering because of her advanced age and some of the issues she had. She turned out to be an incredible dog and she will be missed dearly by their family.

Rainbow Bridge (cont.)



Belle Adkins

Her lack of social skills created a bit of a challenge for Lee and Carmie at first, but she eventually found her place in their pack, and they take comfort in knowing that she was finally content in her “golden” years. They will miss their little Belle who truly captured their hearts with her determined personality and unconditional love.

Xylitol Poisoning in Dogs

Xylitol is a sugar substitute found in a variety of sugar-free and dietetic cookies, mints and chewing gum and is proving highly toxic, even fatal, to snack-snatching dogs.

Xylitol can be very serious to dogs when ingested. It doesn't take a whole lot of xylitol, and the effects are so rapid that the window of opportunity to treat the dog is extremely small.

Within 30 minutes of consuming a small amount of a xylitol-sweetened product, dogs can experience a dramatic drop in blood sugar, and they usually begin vomiting, become lethargic and can have difficulty standing or walking. Some have seizures, develop internal hemorrhaging and lesions and suffer liver failure. As few as two or three sticks of xylitol gum could be toxic to a 20-pound dog.

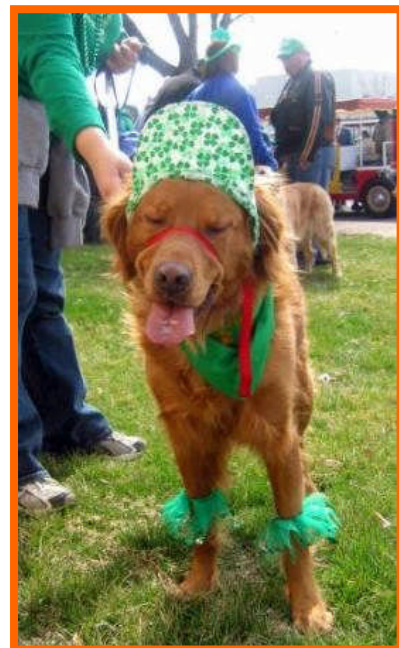
Immediate and aggressive veterinary treatment, which includes glucose drips and IV fluids, has proved effective in many cases.

Right now, xylitol is used mostly in cookies, candies, cupcakes and other sweets developed for people who have diabetes. It's also sold in bags of crystals for baking. Because of its bacteria-killing properties, it is put into some oral care products, including some toothpastes.

It also is beginning to be used in a broad assortment of products intended for the general public. Among them: Jello sugar-free puddings and a wide variety of sugar-free gums, including Trident, Orbit, Stride, Icebreakers and Altoids.

Makers of products with xylitol say their products are designed for people, including diabetes patients, who are seeking an alternative to sugar; they were never recommended for dogs and were never intended to be ingested by dogs. Owners should be careful because some dogs will get into just about everything and eat everything they find!

There is no indication that any of the other sweeteners on the market adversely affect dogs. And there is no evidence so far that xylitol is toxic to pets other than dogs. For now, veterinarians advise pet owners to keep xylitol away from all animals.



Toby Wilson smiles for the camera in his St. Patrick's Day attire! Toby is quite the celebrity and is featured monthly in a local newspaper!

Taken from the Doggie Dictionary

Submitted by Rich Taylor

LEASH: A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.

DOG BED: Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

DROOL: A liquid which, when combined with sad eyes, forces humans to give you their food. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and get the drool on the human.

SNIFF: A social custom used to greet other dogs, similar to the human exchange of business cards.

GARBAGE CAN: A container which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with margarine wrappers to shred, beef bones to consume and moldy crusts of bread.

BICYCLES: Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly and run alongside for a few yards. The person then swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

DEAFNESS: This is a malady which affects dogs when their person wants them in and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

THUNDER: This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

WASTEBASKET: This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and old candy wrappers. It is important to evenly distribute its contents throughout the house before your person comes home.

BATH: If you find something especially good to roll in, humans get jealous, and they use this degrading form of torture to get even. Be sure to shake only when next to a person or a piece of furniture.

LEAN: Every good dog's response to the command "sit!" Especially if your person is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

BUMP: The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

GOOSE BUMP: A maneuver to use as a last resort when the regular bump doesn't get the attention you require ... especially effective when combined with the sniff. See above.

CHILDREN: Short humans of optimal petting height. Standing close to one assures some good petting. When running, they are good to chase. If they fall down, they are comfortable to sit on.

LOVE: A feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.

TO ADOPT OR SURRENDER A DOG, CALL THE GRRR PHONE LINES: (314) 995-5477

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