



# GGRR Newsletter

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August 2012

## August 2012 Newsletter

Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue  
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#### July Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 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 Pat M. and passed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

#### President's Report

Tim reported that we have placed a lot of dogs in the last month so the waiting list will be long. The people doing the phone interviews need to let the applicants know that they may be on the waiting list a while. Tim also announced that we received a nice letter from the family who adopted Bogie. They said he's been a delight and they wanted to commend us for our good work!

#### Treasurer's Report

Pat M. reported that our balance in our checking was \$2,831.33 at

the beginning of the month. Income was \$945.19 (\$25.19 from Schnucks E-Script Cards) and our expenses were \$2,680.48 leaving us with an ending balance of \$1,096.06. Our



balance in the Flash Fund is \$32,471.10.

#### Membership Report

Amy G. reported that we had two inquiries in the month of May and zero in June. We have one new member from May, Carol R. There were no visitors at the meeting.

#### Intake Report

Penny M. Reported that we had one dog come in in the previous month:

012-013 Katie —a 13 month old female

#### Adoption Report

Mike S. reported that we adopted out one dog in the previous month:

12-008 Bridget

#### Website Report

Paul S. reported on our website activity for the past two months:

Page views: 14,430 (May) & 38,142 (June)  
 Visits: 6,621 (May) & 5,075 (June)  
 Hits: 120,650 (May) & 119,803 (June)

Paul reported that we had a hacker access the Membership Coordinator's e-mail. Access to the membership form is down and he is working on it.



#### 10 Reasons Your Dog's Hair Cut Costs More Than Yours

10. Your hairdresser doesn't wash and clean your rear end.
  9. You don't go for 8 weeks without washing or brushing your hair.
  8. Your hairdresser doesn't have to give you a sanitary trim.
  7. Your hairdresser doesn't have to clean your ears.
  6. Your hairdresser doesn't have to clean boogies from your eyes.
  5. You sit still for your hairdresser.
  4. Your haircut doesn't include a manicure or pedicure.
  3. Your hairdresser only washes and cuts the hair on your head.
  2. You don't bite or scratch your hairdresser. (I hope not anyway).
- And the Number 1 reason your dog's haircut costs more than yours....
1. The likelihood of you pooping or peeing while your hair is being cut is extremely slim.

## GRR Events

### Upcoming Events

#### Next GRR Meeting

Thursday, August 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Dog Museum in Queeny Park.

#### The National Specialty

Tim M. has sign up sheets for the National Specialty. We will be there on Sept. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. We need at least 2 members to volunteer each day from 9:00-4:00. All members are required to wear their blue shirts. See Chris Rogers if you need a shirt. She has some sizes in stock but may need to place an order.

Mike S. reports that our booth will be next to the Golden Retriever Club booth and we will pool our manpower with them to run both.

The important day will be Friday, Sept. 7th. The rescue parade will be held around the noon lunch break.

Carol Allen, President of GRC Rescue will have a room available for a "meet and greet."

Tim and Mike have started making the blocks for the Memorial wall. If you want a block, place your order through our website or print off the application and send it to Mike Stemmler with your \$25 payment. If received by August 6th, your block will be included on the wall for display at the National Specialty.

#### Greentree Festival in Kirkwood

##### Park

The annual Greentree Festival will be held on September 15th and 16th this year. We will need a lot of our members and their dogs to come out and staff our booth. More info to come on this event at the next meeting. Sign-up sheet will also be available.

#### Annual Reunion Picnic 2013

Tim announced that the Dog Museum has been booked for our Reunion Picnic on Sunday, May 3, 2013.

### Miscellaneous Reports

Julie G. announced that the St. Louis Pet Expo is being held in October. The fee is \$350. It was decided we would not participate due to the high fee.

Julie reports that if we become an affiliate of Bigdogs.com, we could earn 10% on all sales generated through our website.

Julie said the APA Carnival is on Oct. 7th. Not sure yet if we will participate. The deadline to register is September 17th.



## Many Causes for Dog's Carpet Scooting [www.dogingtonpost.com](http://www.dogingtonpost.com)

Most of us have seen our dogs do it at some point. We may have been disgusted, horrified (or even humored) as our pet dragged his bottom across the rug. Well, they aren't doing this just to gross us out. There can be many causes for your dog's carpet scooting. Check out this list of possible causes by Dr. Ryan Goupil, DVM, written for NorthJersey.com:

### **Many Causes for Dog's Carpet Scooting**

There are several reasons for scooting which your veterinarian can easily check. The first, and most common cause is a problem with your pet's anal sacs. These are two small sacs lined with glandular cells located just inside the anus which produce an odorous fluid that is normally excreted when your pet defecates, or perhaps when she is nervous. These sacs are akin to the stink-glands in skunks, explaining the pungent smell. They are also the same sacs that dogs sniff when they greet each other, like a sniffing fingerprint.

If the sacs become inflamed or abscessed, they can become irritated and even painful, requiring intervention from your veterinarian; the pain can be analogous to hemorrhoids in people.

Your visit may be as simple as expressing the sacs to relieve pressure or opening an abscess to allow it to drain. If anal sacs are not the root of the problem, a few other things should be assessed:

- Have I done an annual fecal check for intestinal worms? (They can be irritating.)
- Has my pet been groomed lately? (Is there any clipper-related irritation?)
- Does my pet have allergies? (Either seasonal, fleas, food, etc. – your vet can address any of these concerns.)
- Is my pet's rear end clean? (If there are any fecal remnants on the fur, your pet may simply be trying to wipe them off.)

If you have exhausted this list of potential causes for scooting, your pet may simply have an occasional itch down there. Unfortunately for your carpets, scooting is their best means for providing relief.

## Old & New Business

### Old Business

Membership Coordinator Amy G. is stepping down. Tim opened the floor to anyone who would like to volunteer to take this position. Judy S. will do it. Amy G. will help her with the transition.

### New Business

Mike S. suggested that \$300 be the new adoption fee effective immediately. Tim put it to a vote and it was passed.

Mike also suggested that puppies (12 months and younger) have a higher adoption fee; perhaps \$500-\$600. It will be discussed and voted on at a later date.

Kathy D. volunteered to re-type the Adoption Agreement.

Michelle F. verified that adopted puppies not spayed by the day they turn 8 months old will have to be taken back from the adoptive family. This is within GGRR Adoption guidelines.

Mike S. would like to have training sessions at



our meetings regarding our procedures. This is to ensure that all members are properly executing home visits, dog visits, etc. Perhaps this could start with the meetings after the National Specialty.

Michelle F. said an agility trial is being held at Purina Farms on Aug. 31, Sept. 1 & 2. They could use volunteers.

A motion was made by Julie G. and seconded by Amy G. to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



**The Foster Dog**  
*~ Diane Morgan ~*

I know I don't look like much.  
My ears aren't the longest –  
But I can hear everything you say.  
My coat isn't very shiny, either –  
But I love to be brushed.

I am not a perfect dog, I guess.  
Sometimes I make mistakes in the house,  
Mostly when I get scared.  
And I get really frightened when my foster mom  
goes away.  
I know what it's like to be abandoned forever.  
What if she never, never comes back?

I get awfully possessive about my food  
sometimes.  
I know what it's like not to have any.  
And big people with loud hard voices scare me  
When they try to clip my nails.  
I've been hurt bad.  
And sometimes kids run and scream,  
One of them hit me once. And one kicked me.

I feel better than I used to,  
But I still get kind of sick sometimes.  
I don't know what's wrong,  
But sometimes I just like to lie down in the sun and sleep.

I like my foster mother very well.  
She's a really nice person.  
And I have been here a long time now.  
She likes me too.  
But I wish I had someone to really, really love me.

Some very nice people came to look at me one time.  
They petted me and took me for a walk!  
I was so sure. But they went away.  
They said I was too old.  
I wonder what that means.

Does that mean I won't ever get my own home?

ForTheLoveOfTheDog



## Top Ten Pet Emergency Kit Items [www.petmd.com](http://www.petmd.com)

When disaster strikes, being stocked and ready to face an emergency is the best way to keep your family safe. Your pets can't fend for themselves and are especially vulnerable if you're forced to batten down the hatches because of bad weather. Here, ten items to include in a pet emergency kit so that your entire family can weather a natural disaster safely.

### **#10 Water**

When bad weather strikes, obtaining fresh water becomes a top priority. When you go to the store to stock up on emergency supplies and reach for the bottled water, don't forget to think of your pet. The more you can store for you and your family the better, but a week's worth of water for each family member, including your pet, is a safe bet.

### **#9 Food**

Because your pet is less likely to understand food and water rations, it is best to stock up on canned, wet food. Food in cans keeps better, and your pet will be less thirsty if they get moisture from their meal, thus enabling you to stretch out the precious water supply. Don't forget to pack a can opener!

### **#8 Medications**

Like people, some pets suffer from chronic conditions that require the constant administration of medicine to keep them healthy. Speak with your veterinarian ahead of time to secure an emergency supply of pet medicines you may not have access to if your community is hit with severe weather.

### **#7 Proof of Ownership**

You'll want to place photographs and/or any ownership papers of your pets in a sealed, airtight container as an essential component of your pet emergency kit. If your family has to evacuate to a shelter, you may have to board your pet. Keeping proof of ownership on hand will identify you as a pet owner.

### **#6 Proof of Recent Vaccinations**

Again, if your family has to evacuate and relocate to a shelter, note that due to capacity and safety issues, you may have to board your pet. Some animal clinics and boarding facilities will offer shelter to pets, but require your animal

have up-to-date vaccinations. If you need to take your pet to an emergency animal shelter, taking a copy of their vaccination record with you will help ensure they get a spot.

### **#5 An Emergency Help List**

Because everyone in the affected community will be in survival mode, you will want to have a list of helpful neighbors and/or emergency boarding facilities handy. Knowing where you'll need to go to ensure your pet is safely cared for ahead of time will ensure your pet is safe for the duration of the emergency.



### **#4 Leashes and / or Pet Carriers**

In the event of severe weather, your pet may panic and try to break loose to find a place to hide. Many pets become fatally trapped or injured because of this. In addition, the aftermath of a natural disaster usually results in downed power lines, fallen debris and contaminated groundwater. Therefore, it is best to utilize leashes and/or carriers to restrain your pet from running out into unsafe conditions.

### **#3 ID Tags**

Whether faced with an emergency situation or not, if you do become separated from your pets the best way to be reunited with them is to have additional ID tags you can fit them with in a hurry. Consider installing a microchip in your pet to help locate them as well. Just don't forget to keep your contact information up to date!

### **#2 First Aid Kit**

Together with the telephone number of the nearest emergency animal clinic, you can put together an emergency medical kit for your pets should they become injured. Include items such as gauze to bandage an injury, hydrogen peroxide to disinfect a wound, and milk of magnesia to absorb poison should accidental ingestion occur.

### **#1 Creature Comforts**

Your pet may be confined to a small space for an undetermined amount of time. Try to include a pet bed, extra litter, clean blankets and towels in your pet emergency kit. Like you, your pets will be nervous and frightened. Soothing them any way you can, will make your pets more likely to stay calm and relaxed until conditions improve.

## Hot Spots on Dogs! Just What Are These, Anyway? [www.petmd.com](http://www.petmd.com)

Hot Spots are one of those less than desirable skin irritations seen in pets. Often, you'll here your vet refer to them as moist eczema, but you ... well, you can call them hot spots. They occur when your dog itches, scratches or licks him or herself excessively, eventually forming a wet scab on the fur. But what do you with a hot spot?

Hot Spots (also known as Summer Sores or Moist Eczema) can seemingly appear spontaneously anywhere on a dog's body; the surrounding area can rapidly deteriorate too. This moist, raw skin disorder has a variety of causes but the most consistent factor is bacteria.

Anything that irritates or breaks the skin can create the environment for bacterial contamination if the surface of the skin has but only a little a bit of moisture on it. Such incidences of moisture can be such seemingly innocuous things such as a recent bath, swim, stroll in the rain, or play-time in wet craze. Even a slightly oozing sore can provide enough moisture and/or nutrient for a bacterial infection to take hold.



Although there are various types of "hot spot"-causing bacteria, most respond to oral and topical antibiotics. For some reason, cats rarely acquire hot spots.

### How to treat a Hot Spot

1. Trim the area around the hot spot with animal clippers. If the area is too big, shave it. Exposing it to air will dry out the moisture and help speed healing.
2. Clean the area with a mild water-based astringent or antiseptic spray, or specialized shampoo, and pat dry.
3. Apply hydrocortisone spray or hydrocortisone cream (with a veterinarian's prescription) to stop the itching and help promote healing.

4. Prevent your dog from biting, licking or scratching the hot spot affected area. Placing an Elizabethan collar (plastic cone) around your dog's neck, for example, can be an excellent tool to keep him/her from biting and licking at it.

5. Keep an eye on the area to make sure it continues to heal and doesn't worsen or spread. Hot spots often require a visit to the vet, who will likely prescribe topical medication usually in the form of a Gentamicin / Betamethasone spray, and possibly oral antibiotics. The vet may also give your dog a cortisone injection to jump start the healing process.

Here are a few more things you might not have known about hot spots, moist eczema and summer sores. They really do

seem much more prevalent in the summer months. They can cause severe itching and self-trauma because the infection goes into the deep layers of the skin. This is why hot spots may take two weeks to finally look like they are going to heal. On occasion if a dog has extensive and deep areas of Moist Eczema, oral antibiotics and antihistamines may need to be prescribed and large areas of skin will be shaved

Keep your dog well groomed, especially in hot seasons. Any dog that has matted, dirty hair coat is at greater risk of developing hot spots. Many owners will have their long or thick-furred dog shaved closely in the summer. You can do this yourself -- carefully, of course -- by using animal clippers, especially around the ears and where there is thick fur that doesn't dry quickly. This really does help prevent the thick coat from covering any dampness on the surface of the skin. If the fur is allowed to accumulate too much moisture, the wet skin underneath can become the perfect breeding ground for bacterial growth and hot spots.

And though they mostly occur in the summertime, hot spots can develop at any time. If your dog develop a skin lesion, call your veterinarian immediately. Do not delay! You may run the risk that your dog's condition deteriorates quickly.

## Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue

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### Next Meeting

Thursday, August 9th 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. please!

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

### Officers

#### President

**Tim Miget**

tsemiget@charter.net

#### Vice-President

**Kathy Dierkes**

kathy\_dierkes@yahoo.com

#### Secretary

**Tracie Grimm**

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#### Treasurer

**Pat Moran**

p4021m@sbcglobal.net

#### Membership Representative

**Chris Rogers**

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### Coordinators

#### Intake Coordinator

**Michelle Frasca**

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#### Adoption Coordinator

**Mike Stemmler**

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#### Membership Coordinator

**Amy Gerber**

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#### Events Coordinator

**Julie Goldman**

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#### Webmaster

**Paul Swarthout**

paul@paulswarthout.com.

### Mentors

#### Intake Phone Lines

**Mike Stemmler**

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#### Adoption Phone Lines

**Pat Moran**

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#### Home Visits & Dog Visits

**Shane Stark**

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#### Foster Homes

**Kathy Dierkes**

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