



GGRR Newsletter

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December 2012

December 2012 Newsletter

Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue
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Inside this issue:

- Meeting Minutes 1
- Events 2
- Holiday Etiquette for Dogs 2
- Old & New Business 3
- Dangers of Christmas Decorations 4



November Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:22 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 Kathy D. and passed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

President's Report

No report given.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy D. gave the following report on our accounts:

Beginning Balance: \$4,074.22
Income: \$1,207.00 (24.05 Escrip)
Expenses: \$1,363.09
Ending Balance: \$3,942.18
Flash Fund: \$32,831.96

Membership Report

Judy S. reported that we had two membership inquiries over the previous month but no new members.

Intake Report

Michelle F. reported that we had no dogs come in in the last month. We had one referral for an 8-9 year old male who is up to date on shots in Illinois. We also may have Ben coming back in. He has seizures and needs some blood work done. We need a foster home for him and someone to consult with VSS.

Adoption Report

Mike S. reported that we adopted out two dogs in the previous month:

12-017 Lucky
12-020 Jackson

Website Report

Paul S. was not at the meeting so he can give his report at the next meeting.



GGRR Annual Christmas Meeting & Doggie Gift Exchange

Thursday, December 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Bring a \$10.00 wrapped dog gift and a snack to share if you would like. Elections will be held for President & Secretary at this meeting.

GGRR Events

Next GGRR Meeting & Christmas Party with Dog Gift Exchange

Thursday, December 13th 7:00 p.m. at the Dog Museum in Queeny Park.

There will be a \$10 dog gift exchange. Please have your gift wrapped and we'll swap presents after the meeting. You may also bring a snack or dessert to share with everyone too.



Holiday Etiquette for Dogs www.wonderpuppy.net

1. Be especially patient with your humans during this time. They may appear to be more stressed-out than usual and they will appreciate long comforting dog leans.
2. They may come home with large bags of things they call gifts. Do not assume that all the gifts are yours.
3. Be tolerant if your humans put decorations on you. They seem to get some special kind of pleasure out of seeing how you look with fake antlers.
4. They may bring a large tree into the house and set it up in a prominent place and cover it with lights and decorations. Bizarre as this may seem to you, it is an important ritual for your humans, so there are some things you need to know:
 - don't pee on the tree
 - don't drink water in the container that holds the tree
 - mind your tail when you are near the tree
 - if there are packages under the tree, even ones that smell interesting or that have your name on them, don't rip them open
 - don't chew on the cord that runs from the funny-looking hole in the wall to the tree
5. Your humans may occasionally invite lots of strangers to come visit during this season. These parties can be lots of fun, but they also call for some discretion on your part:
 - not all strangers appreciate kisses and leans
 - don't eat off the buffet table
 - beg for goodies subtly
 - be pleasant, even if unknowing strangers sit on your sofa
 - don't drink out of glasses that are left within your reach.
6. Likewise, your humans may take you visiting. Here your manners will also be important:
 - observe all the rules in #4 for trees that may be in other people's houses. (4a is particularly important)
 - respect the territory of other animals that may live in the house
 - tolerate children
 - turn on your charm big time
7. A big man with a white beard and a very loud laugh may emerge from your fireplace in the middle of the night. **DON'T BITE HIM!!**



Old & New Business

Old Business

The positions of President and Secretary will be voted on at our next meeting. Anyone that wants to run for one of these positions should let Tim M. know or just show up to the December meeting. The description of the duties of President and Secretary are in the green box on this page.

New Business

Mike S. reminded everyone that our adoption fee is \$300.00. \$25.00 comes in with their application and then the rest (\$275.00) is due at the time of the adoption. Throw away any old adoption agreements that state anything different than the above. New adoption agreements can be found on our website.

Tim M. announced that our contract for the Dog Museum has come due. It was brought up that we do meetings every other month instead of every month. The idea was thrown out and we will continue to meet at the Dog Museum on the second Thursday of every month in the upcoming year.

President, Tim M. announced that we are in great need of volunteers. We need volunteers to help out in every are of our organization along with FOSTER HOMES. Without foster homes, we can't do what we're here to do. It was suggested that we take out some adds in the paper for foster homes and volunteers. Another suggestion included contacting the people who have adopted from us in the past to see if they would like to volunteer. Kathy D. is going to look into putting it on Craigslist which is free and Tim M. was going to look into the local newspapers and run a few adds.

A motion was made by Julie G. and seconded by John R. to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Description of the President's and Secretary's Duties in GGRR Taken from the GGRR Constitution

President—The President shall preside at Annual, Regular, and Special meetings. He/she shall be virtue of his/her office to be the Chairman of the Board of Directors. He/she shall present at each annual meeting of the organization an annual report of the work of the organization. He/she shall appoint all committees, permanent or temporary. He/she shall see that all books, reports, and certificates as required by law are kept properly and filed. He/she shall be one of the officers who may sign the drafts of the organization. He/she shall have such powers as may be reasonably construed as belonging to the chief executive of any organization. He/she shall appoint interim Coordinators if necessary.

Secretary—The Secretary shall keep the minutes of general meetings and all pertinent records of the organization. He/she shall present to the membership at any meetings any communications addressed to him/her as Secretary of the organization. He/she shall be official custodian of membership lists and meeting attendance. He/she shall be responsible for maintaining a Post Office Box and Telephone Line for the organization. He/she shall be the keeper of the seal. He/she shall report directly to the President on any correspondence.

Dogs and the Potential Dangers of Christmas Decorations in Your Home

www.paddingtonpups.com

Christmas is a joyous time for most of us; filled with pretty lights and decorations that transform our humble abodes into our own 'Christmas Wonderland'. While you may enjoy the change in scenery for the holidays, the addition of all the different decorations can make your wonderland a hazardous area for your dog. The added fact that Christmas is also the most distracting time of the year can put your canine companion's life in danger. However, with a little preparation and presence of mind you can decorate your house to be one of the most festive Christmas representations it can be while keeping your dog safe during the holidays.



The most common Christmas threat to your dog is the tree. It isn't the tree itself but the decorations we dress the tree up in. Many owners use glass ornaments when decorating their tree that, if broken, can cause lacerations to your dog's paw and possibly other parts of his or her body. This problem is easily avoided if you are simply mindful of your canine's tendencies. Some dogs don't like to go anywhere near the Christmas tree, however, even if these cases accidents can occur. If you have a medium to large breed dog try placing ornaments a little higher up on the tree and leave the lower level bare so as to prevent a rambunctious tail from sending a barrage of glass toward your furry companion. Also, while decorating the tree be mindful of how you are arranging the ornaments. Try to place any and all potentially harmful ornaments on sturdy branches that will reduce the chances of them falling. A little proactive thinking can go a long way in avoiding disastrous outcomes.

The next major threat to your dog is the additional lights that add more electrical cords than usual. Some dogs have a tendency to want to chew on these cords which can lead to a shocking surprise should the cord

be plugged in when your dog penetrates the outer part of the cord. If your dog is old enough to have been trained not to chew on extracurricular items then you have nothing to worry about. However, if your dog is an avid chewer or puppy this problem may be hard to avoid. You can't keep watch over your dog every second of every day. So instead, put PVC pipe around

the electrical cords in order to reduce the possible danger of your dog being shocked.

The last major threat to discuss is ribbon and tinsel. Many owners like to decorate their homes and gifts with ribbon and tinsel. It brightens up rooms and adds an extra bit of sparkle and color that is not normally seen throughout the year. However, these pretty little decorations are often the most life threatening decorations in a dog owner's house. Even the most experienced and well-trained dogs can decide that these pretty decorations would make a delectable snack. The problem is that these string-like objects can become caught in your dog's intestinal tract and cause lacerations on the inside you're your dog's stomach and intestines. The best thing to do if you think this could be a potential problem is to steer clear of ribbon and tinsel altogether, especially if you have a new puppy or younger dog. If your dog does swallow this he or she will show symptoms for depression, sickness, and begin vomiting. Should your dog swallow a piece of ribbon or tinsel you need to call your veterinarian right away.

Whether you have a seven year old or a puppy, these precautions are never too much to implement in order to protect your canine during the holidays. Other than taking the necessary precautions, the best thing you can do to keep your dog safe is to be mindful and check on him or her every so often to ensure he or she isn't getting into something he or she shouldn't. A little proactive thinking and presence of mind can ensure a fun holiday time had by all.

GGRR Needs VOLUNTEERS!!!!

Would you like to help GGRR rescue abused and neglected Golden Retrievers?

Please volunteer today!

Volunteers are appreciated for whatever time they can provide to GGRR. There is no minimum amount of time required to volunteer. Your contribution of time will be appreciated whether you volunteer for 1 hour every few months or for 100 hours every week. However, volunteers that are willing to work 8 or so hours every month are desperately needed. The more dedicated volunteers we have, the more golden retrievers that we can save from abusive and neglected situations.

Won't you volunteer to help a golden retriever today?

Foster Homes NEEDED!!!

Keep and care for a Golden Retriever in your home. Evaluate the Golden Retriever and report on the dog's strengths and weaknesses. Provide pictures and a written description for our website. Make arrangements with prospective adopters to meet the Golden. GGRR pays for all food and medical costs.

Other Ways GGRR Needs Your Help:

- Conduct Home Visits
- Conduct Telephone Interviews
- Conduct Dog Visits
- Provide Transportation
- Coordinate Activities/Events and Help Out at Them
- Fundraising
- Crafts & Sewing

Please contact one of our Officers as soon as possible or visit our website for more information.

Click "We Need Volunteers" on the Left.

www.ggrr.com



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Next Meeting Christmas Party & Dog Gift Exchange

Thursday, December 13th 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

President

Tim Miget

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Vice-President

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Coordinators

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