

GGRR NEWSLETTER

Volume Number 4

Issue Number 7

Date: July 2007

* * * Meeting Notice * * *

Date: Thursday, July 12th

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Place: The Museum of the Dog

We love having Golden Retrievers 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.

MINUTES FROM JUNE 14th :

President Pat Moran called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Rich T. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the May meeting. Nanette S. seconded the motion. Chris R. noted two corrections that needed to be made to May's minutes: Heather H. will be at Lucky Dog on August 18th. The date was listed in the newsletter was incorrect. Also, GGRR will **not** be participating in The Dog Days of Summer in St. Charles' Frontier Park this year. A vote was taken on the motion to dispense with reading the minutes, and it was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Pat noted that some long-time members have been holding positions for a number of years because no one else was willing to volunteer for these jobs. Pat asked that we all try to be patient with each other, as most members are juggling the responsibilities of full-time jobs, families, and a variety of other

interests. If you have a problem which involves another person in the group or the manner in which something has been handled, please speak with the individual person rather than posting a message to the entire group. She also suggested that we make use of phone calls in addition to email when conducting GGRR business. It's nice to receive a message from a friendly voice on the phone! Pat also asked that we remember the purpose of GGRR. We are members of this group because we love Golden Retrievers and want to help unwanted dogs find homes with loving families. Sometimes it's easy to let personalities interfere with the work we have chosen to do. Everyone needs to stay focused on GGRR's mission: We're all here for the dogs!



Katie Dierkes (l), and her foster sister Emily (r) are shown lying in the doorway to the kitchen where all the action is! Emily was a shy girl that could always be found near Katie. Many times she would lay her head on Katie. Emily's new three-legged brother (yes—3!) is Triumph, who was rescued after being hit by a car. His leg was too mangled to salvage, so it had to be amputated. He was the mascot for last year's Bark in the Park.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our account balance at the beginning of May was \$6,486.22. Income was \$2315.00. Expenses were \$260.00, leaving an ending balance of \$8541.22 for May. The Flash Fund balance remains at \$5,387.51. The proceeds from our garage sale in June were approximately \$700. Kathy D. listed 2 yards of Cardinal's cotton fabric for sale on Ebay. It was originally intended for use in making dog bandanas to sell. However, since the Cardinals logo is copyrighted and the fabric is no longer available in stores, Kathy discovered there was a huge demand for this fabric. The winning bid for the 2 yards of fabric was \$138, which will go into the GRRR bank account. Thanks for putting in the time and effort required to sell the fabric at such a great price, Kathy! It pays to surf on Ebay!

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

There were 3 membership inquiries during the past month, and one person joined GRRR. Welcome to Tracie Bayer and her Golden companion, Tanqueray!

INTAKE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Barb B. will be handling the Intake Coordinator's job for the next year. Pat M. thanked Mike S. for his many years of service in that position. The following dogs were surrendered to GRRR this month:

- 07-011: Mercedes (Macy)**, a 7 year old female being fostered by Amy H. and Tom G.
- 07-012: Lexus (Lexi)**, a 5 year old Golden Retriever / yellow Lab mix being fostered by Kathy D.

07-013: Rocky, an 8 year old red male currently undergoing treatment for heartworm disease. He is being housed at Westinn's Under One Woof while he recuperates

07-014: Lady May, a 5 year old blond puppy mill girl who is being fostered by Kay C. and Mike N. in Columbia, MO

07-015: Jake, a 14 month old blonde male who is currently being housed at Westinn's Under One Woof so Sharon West can work with him before he is placed in a foster home

ADOPTION COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Carrie reported that two dogs were placed in their forever homes during the past month.

07-006: Emily

07-000: Sallie



The Blacksher boys—Max (l) and Bob (r); Bob is seldom seen without one of his light-up superballs hanging out of his mouth.

EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

The summer schedule for the Adoption Days at Lucky Dog (1:00 – 4:00) is as follows:

June 16: Jim D.

July 21: Kathy D.

August 18: Heather H.

The date of the Canine Olympics at Purina Farms has been changed. Instead of being held in October, it has been moved to Saturday, Sept. 15th. However, Kirkwood's Green Tree Festival will be held the same weekend, and we enjoy both the publicity and the profits we receive from our participation at Green Tree. We will let the Samoyed Club, which is sponsoring the Canine Olympics, know that we will be unable to participate this year.

The Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis has invited us to attend their meeting on June 20th. They would like to learn more about our rescue work with Golden Retrievers and discuss some ways that our two groups can work together. The meeting will be held in the downstairs meeting room at the Dog Museum. Members are welcome to bring their Golden Retrievers. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

We have been invited to participate in the V.P. parade on July 4th. Since the weather is generally too hot for dogs, we will not participate in the parade this year. We might want to explore other options in future years, such as riding in a decorated car or van with some of our Golden Retrievers.

Members discussed ways to increase our visibility with the general public. Korisa suggested a booth at the Balloon Race in Forest Park. It was suggested that we contact Purina to let the company know we would be interested in participating in events they sponsor. It was also felt that we needed more than one adoption event each month. Paul S. volunteered to contact some Petco and PetSmart stores to see if they have any open slots for rescue groups. Pat asked members to talk with her anytime they have an idea that might generate additional publicity for GGRR. Members should also feel free to bring up their suggestions at one of our monthly meetings.

Rich Taylor volunteered to do some presentations on grooming Golden Retrievers or performing home visits and dog visits at any of our monthly meetings. Since attendance tends to be lower during the summer months, we will wait until fall before scheduling him as a speaker.

WEBSITE COORDINATOR:

If you still are having difficulty logging on to our website, please contact Paul S. to help resolve the problem.

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

76,073 hits
13,593 page views
8,970 visitors
3,280 unique visitors

Paul said that the number of hits was 21% lower in June than in May. The number of page views was down 13%. We need to

WEBSITE COORDINATOR: (cont.)

make sure that new dogs and their bios are posted on the website as soon as possible. Encourage adoptive families to send us an update on their dogs and to write a success story that we can post on the website. If we don't continually update our website with the latest dogs, people don't have a reason to continue logging on to check it out.

Pat M. thanked Paul for all of the time he has devoted to making our website a useful tool for members. Many members have not yet logged on to update their information since Paul created the online membership roster. Phone numbers and email addresses are missing, which makes it difficult for anyone needing to contact a member. **Please log on, click on My Account, and check to see that your member information is listed on the roster and is correct. If it is not, use the Edit My Registration button to make any additions or changes. You must click on Update Registration at the bottom of the page in order for the information to actually be added or changed on the membership roster. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!**

Pat Moran asked that members speak up if they are willing to help with specific tasks and no one has contacted them. We don't want to overlook anyone interested in volunteering!

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Carrie T. needs a home visit in the 63131 zip code area. Mike S. offered to take care of it. Mike also offered to transport Rocky from Williamsburg to Under One Woolf where we receive cheaper rates.

Pat M. reminded everyone that we are still looking for someone to take on the responsibility of Events Coordinator. If one person isn't willing to fill this position, it would be nice to have a couple additional people to help coordinate some of our events. Korisa C. and Kathy D. said they would be willing to work with Chris R. to help lighten her load.

Barb B. would like someone to assume the responsibility for publishing the monthly newsletter now that she is the Intake Coordinator. Please let her know if you are interested.

Kathy Dierkes would like to update the home visit form we are currently using. The last time it was updated was in 1998. She will send out an email asking for input on changes that need to be made.

Bogey may need arthroscopic surgery on his elbows, which will cost \$1200 - \$1300, which includes our 10% discount at Veterinary Specialty Services. It was agreed that money from the Flash Fund should be used to cover this expense.

Pat M. expressed her appreciation to all of the GGRR members who so willingly volunteer their time to help our wonderful Golden retrievers find loving homes. Whether you attend a monthly meeting, work at an event, do a home visit or dog visit, help with transportation, answer the phone lines,

NEW BUSINESS: (cont.)

foster a dog, or make a monetary donation—every contribution is important to the functioning of GRR. We couldn't make it without **YOU!**

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

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER:

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

Barb Blacksher
26 Cynthiana Ct.
Florissant, MO 63031

Put your furkids in an upcoming newsletter!
You can also email items to:

blacksher@charter.net

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

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

314-995-5477

Officers:

President: Pat Moran
P4021m@sbcglobal.net

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Coordinators:

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