



GGRR Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 7

July 2013

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Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue
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June Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President, Mike S. Pat M. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by John R.. and passed. There were no corrections to the minutes.

President's Report

Mike S. announced that the Golden Retriever Club will be having their member picnic at the Dog Museum the same day as the Golden Retriever Dog of the Day at the Dog Museum, Sunday, June 23rd. This will be a pot luck picnic and the Memorial Wall from the specialty will be on display



at the museum for six weeks starting that weekend. If you would like to come to the picnic, please let Mike know. Also, our GGRR forms need some revamping. Julie M. is helping Mike with updating these forms. If you find something that you think needs to be changed please let Mike know.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy D. was absent so her report will be given at the next meeting.

Membership Report

Judy S. was absent so her report will be given at the next meeting. It was brought up that our member rooster list needs to be updated on our website. Judy S. needs to contact Paul S. and get a list of paid members to him so the website can be updated.

Intake Report

Michelle F. reported that we had two dogs come in during the previous month:

13-004 Charlie—a 6 year old male. Returned the same day.

13-005 Sadie—a 14 month old female from Windsor, MO. She was from the animal control facility there. She seems to be a sweet girl. Getting used to being around other dogs.

Adoption Report

Mike S. reported that we had zero dogs adopted out in the previous month.

Website Report

Paul S. was not at the meeting to give his report.



GRRR Events

Upcoming Events

Next GRRR Meeting

Thursday, July 11th at 7:30 p.m.
at the Dog Museum in Queeny
Park.

Golden Retriever Day at the Mu- seum and the Golden Club

Member Picnic

The Golden Retriever Day at the Dog Museum will be held on June 23, 2013 from 1-4pm. The Golden Retriever Club will also be having their member picnic at the same time. We bring our dogs and have a booth set up to answer questions at the Dog Museum about the breed for families that may be interested in getting a Golden Retriever. We will be accompanied by the Golden Retriever Club.



Greentree Festival in Kirkwood Park 2013

The Greentree Festival will be held on September 13, 14, and 15 at Kirkwood Park. We usually have three booths and share with the Golden Retriever Club. Mark your calendars now and set aside a time to come work our booth with your Golden. All

volunteers are needed to work a shift at the Greentree Festival.

The Scottish Games at Forest Park

The Scottish Games will be held on Saturday, September 28th at 10:00 a.m. We will have a booth there. More information to come on this event.

APA Carnival in Tillis Park in Rock Hill

The APA Carnival will be held on Sunday, October 6th. We will have a booth at this event. More information to come later.

Old & New Business

Old Business

There was discussion about printing our GRRR flyers or pamphlets to leave at vet clinics around the St. Louis area. Tim M. and Tracie G. to look into the cost of getting these flyers printed. This will help get our name out there and possibly get more dogs into our rescue group.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

A motion was made by John R. and seconded by Tim M. to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Dog Obesity: Dog Weight Loss Tips www.petparents.com

According to a recent study, an estimated 10 percent of dogs in the United States are obese. That means there are more than seven million canines suffering from obesity.¹ A striking number! If you are unsure about the healthiness of your dog's weight, there are a few signs to look for:

- You can find handfuls of fat to grab (especially on the stomach and chest areas).
- It's hard for you to feel distinct ribs, spine or other bones underneath fat.
- The abdomen sags, noticeable most often from the side.
- You see no waistline when observing your dog from above. Stomach and chest areas).



Before starting Fido on a doggie diet, it's crucial to first consult your veterinarian. Your overweight dog could possibly have a medical condition rather than an overeating-and-not-enough-exercising problem, so a weight-loss plan is not always the best solution.



Weight loss tips: When you know your dog needs help

Once you're sure your pet is ready for a weight loss plan, you will want to begin by discussing particular kinds and amounts of food with your veterinarian. More often than not, diet dog food is not the best answer. Instead, pets need strict portion control. The best approach is usually to use high-protein food and to gradually decrease your dog's portion sizes over the course of a week. You never want to do too much too soon. If your dog does not like his new food, you may want to try different condiments (or even garlic powder) on top to add flavor.

Another thing you might experiment with is how many times a day you feed your dog. Sometimes splitting portions into four or five meals per day works well because your dog thinks she's getting more than she actually is. As with humans, another great way to weed out some calories is to use veggies as treats. Try green beans or carrots; this way your dog is still getting that crunch she likes. Whatever your choice of food, you want to be

sure you are giving your dog daily calorie consistency.

Add movement to the mix

Exercise also plays an important role in helping your dog shed pounds. Simply walking your dog regularly will get you some results, but make an effort to keep moving: A steady pace makes a world of difference. Other ways to get your dog moving are to incorporate some sort of fetching into his daily routine (10 to 20 minutes a few times a day) and to move his food bowl to a location where he has to climb some stairs.

Weight loss takes some time; do not expect instant results. Check your dog's weight monthly, and if you do not see



a loss of at least 1 or 2 pounds, you may want to adjust or contact your veterinarian for possible supplements. Perceivable changes will likely take at least six months to develop. Just remember that every little bit you do as a pet owner adds a little bit more time to your adored dog's life.

Dehydration and Overheating in Dogs www.akcchf.org

Potentially serious if left untreated, dehydration and overheating can be prevented by recognizing early warning signs. While field dogs are especially vulnerable, these conditions can impact all dogs.

Dehydration

An excess loss of body fluids, dehydration involves the loss of water and depletion of electrolytes, which include the essential minerals of potassium, sodium and chloride.

Signs of a dehydrated dog include sunken eyes and dry mouth, gums and nose. Poor skin elasticity is another dehydration symptom, which you can test by gently pulling up on the skin at the back of your dog's neck. If the skin doesn't immediately spring back to its normal position, your dog may be dehydrated. The longer it takes for the skin to return to its normal position, the more severe the dehydration.



You can perform another at-home dehydration test by checking your dog's mouth for capillary refill time. Press your finger against your dog's gums until they turn white, then remove it. If the gums don't regain color immediately, your dog could be dehydrated.

Since untreated dehydration can lead to organ failure and death, seek immediate medical attention if dehydration is suspected. Depending on the severity, your vet may suggest water with electrolyte products. In extreme cases, intravenous fluids will be administered to replenish your dog's fluids.

Overheating

Heat-related canine conditions can also become life-threatening without immediate treatment. Overheated dogs can suffer heat exhaustion, heat stroke or sudden death from cardiac arrhythmias.



Panting, followed by disorientation and fast, noisy breathing could signal overheating. Other possible signs: Collapsing or convulsing, bright red or blue gums, vomiting and diarrhea. Since field dogs are unlikely to stop hunting or retrieving when they become dangerously hot, owners should watch their dog closely for overheating signs.

If you suspect your field dog or other dogs are overheated, wet him with cool tap water before heading to the veterinarian. Let the office know you're on the way, so a team can be prepared to act quickly.

Your vet may apply alcohol to the ears, foot pads and groin to safely lower the temperature, as well as administer cool IV fluids. For serious overheating, your dog may need a breathing tube and artificial ventilation. Depending on the severity of symptoms, correcting electrolyte imbalances and controlling seizures may also be needed. If organ damage is suspected, hospitalization may be required.

Prevention

Simple precautions can ward off dehydration and overheating.

To help prevent dehydration, offer field dogs water at least hourly, experts advise. Many enjoy hunting so much they run until collapsing, so owners should watch closely to know when their dog has had enough. Wobbliness, weakness or collapse are signs to provide shade and offer small amounts of water. If your dog doesn't improve, seek immediate veterinary attention.

To prevent overheating, help your dog beat the heat by encouraging resting and drinking at his leisure. For field dogs, deep, fast-moving lakes, ponds and rivers may be available to provide fresh, cool water. Allow your dog to submerge his body to siphon off the building heat.



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Next Meeting

Thursday, July 11th 7:30 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

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