



# GGRR Newsletter

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June 2013

## June 2013 Newsletter

Gateway Golden Retriever Rescue  
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#### May Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President, Mike S. 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

Mike S. thanked everyone that helped out with the reunion picnic including Tracie and Kathy that organized and ran the picnic. All seemed to go smoothly. Our GGRR Forms need to change. Especially the phone interview form. Mike said that he wants to take out the age section and change the wording on some of the questions. If there is anything you would like to see changed on this form or any of our other forms, please email them to Mike.



#### Treasurer's Report

Kathy D. gave the following report on our accounts:  
 Beginning Balance: \$1,415.23  
 Income: \$432.00 (\$16.81 Escript)  
 Expenses: \$1,343.09  
 Ending Balance: \$520.95  
 Flash Fund: \$35,657.24

#### Membership Report

Judy S. reported that we had one new member. There were also two visitors at the meeting, Debbie K. and Jenna M.

#### Intake Report

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

13-001 Beau—a 10 month male who is neutered and from the Branson area.

13-003 Daisy—an 8 year old female who is a good dog and just wants attention.

We also have a dog from the Kansas area who has extreme storm anxiety and needs to be with a family that is home a lot. If you are willing to foster this dog, please call Michelle.

#### Adoption Report

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

13-001 Beau

#### Website Report

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



## GRRR Events

### Reports

#### GRRR Reunion Picnic

Julie G. announced that we had \$119.00 in sales at the Reunion Picnic and another \$85.00 in donations. Tracie G. reported that out of the 105 invitations we sent out, about 10 were returned with bad addresses, 20 families RSVP'd and 19 actually showed up. We had about 50 people total attend the picnic. Despite the rainy weather, it was a good time and everyone had fun.

Thanks to all of the volunteers that showed up to work and brought food for our meal. Everything turned out fantastic!

### Upcoming Events

#### Next GRRR Meeting

Thursday, June 13th at 7:30 p.m. at the Dog Museum in Queeny Park.

#### Greentree Festival in Kirkwood Park 2013

Greentree Festival will be held in September at Kirkwood Park. We usually have three booths and share with the Golden Retriever Club. Is this still okay? It was determined that we would get 3-4 booths and share with the Golden Retriever club like we usually do. More information to come on this event in the next newsletter.

#### Golden Retriever Day at the Museum

The Golden Retriever Day at the Dog Museum will be held on June 23, 2013 from 1-4pm. We will have a sign up sheet at our next meeting on June 13th. 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.

## Old & New Business

### Old Business

The only old business was the Golden Retriever Day at the Dog Museum on June 23rd from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. We will be doing this event with the Golden Retriever Club. A sign up sheet will be passed around at our next meeting.

### New Business

The question was raised if our ads that we ran in the papers did any good? It was determined that we received a few calls from the ads, but we probably won't do it again for a while.

We are going to send letters to the veterinary clinics and shelters in Missouri explaining who we are and what we do. Hopefully this will send more dogs our way. It's a good way to get our name out there and explain what we do.

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 8:06 p.m.



## Camping with Your Dog [www.lovetheoutdoors.com](http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com)

Are you thinking about taking your dog camping? The outdoors is one of the best places to spend time with your dog. The dog loves all the new sights, sounds and smells. Here are a few tips that may make camping with your dog a bit more enjoyable and possibly safer.

Consider a pre-traveling vet visit.

Get current on all shots and vaccinations and obtain a Rabies tag for your dogs collar.

Consider a possible Lyme disease vaccine.

Obtain a current copy of their records and vet's phone number.

Get a proper dog license & ID tags for your dog—there name, your name and address and phone number.

Temporary tags may be a good idea – name and phone number of where you are staying.

Microchips, tattoos and pet registries are also available.

Bring medications and copy of prescriptions.

Consider use of a crate for travel and short term restraint.

Don't forget to pack plenty of water from home for your dog. Bring their regular food bowls, food and treats. To avoid problems, keep them on their regular schedule.

Bring their chew toys and dog brush.

Always bring their collar and leash. Extras may be a good ideas.

For unexpected situations, pack first aid items for your dog and also a towel. Obtain the phone number of a vet in the area where you are staying.

Check with your destination to be sure whether dogs are permitted.



Pets are prohibited at many state and national parks. Try to get a site with some shade for your dog.

Many private campgrounds allow dog but it is of utmost importance that you respect the other campers around you.

Make sure you have complete control over your dog at all times. Keep them on their leash.

Do not allow your dog to bark. Frequent and continued barking disturbed the wildlife and other campers.

Closely supervise your dog around children, other visitors and other dogs.

Never leave your dog outside unattended.

Always pick up after your dog.

Make use of designated dog walking areas.

Use ziplock bags to pick up after them and properly dispose of it in appropriate trash containers.

Give your dog time to adjust to their new surroundings. Give them time to rest.

Watch that your dog doesn't get tangled around tent poles or stakes, tables, trees, rocks etc.

Make sure your dog is getting enough exercise. But consider the effect of activity and energy levels on your dog health.

Be aware of how weather conditions effect your dog – heat, cold, rain etc.

Remove any leftover food after your dog eats. This food could attract unwanted insects or wildlife.

Be courteous of others while walking your dog. Keep your dog calm and controlled.

Consider your dogs sleeping arrangements.

Be aware that your dog may have increased exposure to ticks and fleas. Have the proper tick/flea collars, repellents or use Frontline applications. Other diseases can also be obtained from wild animals and insects.

## Ten Reasons to Add Coconut Oil to Your Dog's Diet [www.dogster.com](http://www.dogster.com)

With more and more Americans appreciating the fantastic flavor and health benefits of coconut oil, there are many excellent brands out there. My favorite happens to be Tropical Traditions because it's made from certified organic coconuts that have not been treated with chemicals or fertilizers.

Plus, it comes in a generously-proportioned glass bottle (which I much prefer to plastic) so I always have enough to share with my beloved five-pack of dogs!

My K9's get a loving spoonful of the stuff at every meal (a teaspoonful, to be precise, straight from the bottle) and I do all my cooking with it (coconut oil makes the best-ever stir-fries). I even give a bottle to my neighborhood falafel place; trust me, chick-pea balls are out of this world when they're bathed in hot coconut oil.

Fed regularly to pets, coconut oil can have many health benefits - for their skin, digestive and immune systems, metabolic function, even their bone and brain health! Here are the top 10 reasons to add coconut oil to your dog's diet:

1. Coconut oil improves overall skin health, and clears up skin conditions such as eczema, flea allergies, contact dermatitis, and itchy skin.

2. Incredibly emollient, coconut oil helps moisturize the driest K9 skin and makes a dog's coat gleam with health whether you add it to her diet, her shampoo, or both!

3. Applied topically to the skin, coconut oil promotes the healing of cuts, wounds, hot spots, bites, and stings.



4. The antibacterial and antifungal properties of coconut oil help reduce doggy odor, and its pleasantly tropical aroma imparts a delightful scent to a dog's skin and coat.

5. Coconut oil prevents and treats yeast infections, including candida. Its antiviral agents also help dogs recover quickly from kennel cough.

6. Digestion and nutrient absorption are improved by the addition of coconut oil to a dog's diet. It can, however, cause stool to loosen; if that happens, just add a few spoonfuls of canned pumpkin to your dog's diet.

7. Coconut oil reduces - and sometimes eliminates - doggy breath. Some dog lovers even brush their pets' teeth with the stuff! Which makes sense, as dogs love the taste of coconut oil, and that makes the chore less arduous for brusher and brushee.

8. Like cinnamon, coconut oil helps prevent diabetes by regulating and balancing insulin. It also promotes normal thyroid function, and helps prevent infection and heart disease.

9. Helping to reduce weight and increase energy, coconut oil also promotes mobility in dogs with arthritis and other joint issues.

10. Again like cinnamon, coconut oil is excellent for brain health; it's being used to stave off dementia in humans, and it's a must to keep senior dogs' minds from becoming cloudy.



## Dogs, Swimming & Water Safety

As a responsible pet parent you may assume that your dog instinctively knows how to swim yet that is not always true. Most will attempt to do so although some breeds may seem to be "top heavy" and sink like a brick. On the other hand, even if your dog does know how to swim, things can still go terribly wrong, subjecting your dog to swallowing water, panicking and drowning, just as a human would. If you have a dog that does or does not love the water, be sure you know the water safety tips to keep your dog safe.

Be aware that a dog can actually drown in a lake or pool just as a human. It is acceptable to let your dog go for a swim or chase a ball or stick into the water. Be sure you take frequent breaks so the dog can catch its breath and have the energy and lung capacity to swim back during a game of fetch.

When dealing with the older dogs, be aware that, even though they may seem to be excellent swimmers, they do tire more easily, just like you and I in our "tender years." When you notice your dog getting exhausted, finding it difficult to keep the head above water, by all means, get your pooch out of the water and take a much needed break.

If you have a home pool, your dog should be monitored at all times. Just like children should not have access to the pool while unattended, neither should your pet. You should have the pool completely gated off or the ladder pulled up when you are not monitoring the situation. If your dog loves water, gets inquisitive and goes for a swim without your knowledge, serious things can happen. Your dog may not find a way out and panic, a first step to drowning. Covered or uncovered, the pool is off-limits to uninvited guests for safety reasons.

Aside from the usual swimming safety tips, there are other things to be aware of regarding water and your inquisitive pup. Be aware of any stagnant water and keep your dog away. For one thing, old stagnant water may form algae, especially the blue-green algae which is very dangerous if ingested - causing serious rapid illness or even death. Never allow your dog to drink from puddles of any type outside and try to keep your yard free from such "invites" to your pet. In public areas, the stagnant water can also contain car chemicals such as oil and anti-freeze, both dangerous to pets as well. The best safety tip - only let your dog drink water that you provide which is clean and safe.

It is perfectly fine for your dog to love the water but just as for you and your children, there are safety tips that should be followed in order to keep your dog safe and healthy - in and out of the water.



## GRRR Donations

The following individuals or groups made generous donations to our organization:

**The Karraker Family,**  
in honor of their "Angel".

**Jonelle & Raymond Chambers,**  
in honor of Jim and Jane Cerbie

**Absolutely Golden, Charlotte, NC,**  
in honor of our work with  
Golden Retrievers



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### Next Meeting

Thursday, June 13th 7:30 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**

Mike Stemmler  
mstemmler1012@yahoo.com

#### **Vice-President**

Jim Dilg  
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#### **Secretary**

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#### **Treasurer**

Kathy Dierkes  
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#### **Membership Representative**

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### Coordinators

#### **Intake Coordinator**

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#### **Adoption Coordinator**

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#### **Events Coordinator**

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#### **Webmaster**

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#### **Intake Phone Lines**

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#### **Adoption Phone Lines**

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#### **Home Visits & Dog Visits**

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#### **Foster Homes**

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Kathy\_dierkes@yahoo.com