

# GGRR NEWSLETTER

Volume Number 5

Issue Number 3

Date: March 2008

## \* \* \* Meeting Notice \* \* \*

**Date:** Thursday, March 13th

**Time:** 7:15 p.m.

**Place:** The Museum of the Dog

*We love having well-behaved, healthy Golden Retrievers (up-to-date on shots, please) 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.*



Champ Ellege dressed in style for the 2006 St. Pat's parade.

**GGRR members and their Golden Retrievers will be marching in the downtown St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The parade begins at noon. You will receive all of the necessary information at our March meeting!**

## MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>:

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by President Pat Moran. Drew C. moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the January meeting. Kathy D. seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion passed. Barb B. noted one correction to the newsletter:

On page 7, in the box with the officers' names and email addresses, the V.P.'s email address should read [tsemiget@charter.net](mailto:tsemiget@charter.net).

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

None this month

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beth was unable to attend the meeting, but she made the following figures available for the newsletter. Our account balance at the beginning of January was **\$7,612.37**. Income was **\$688.64**. Expenses were **\$4522.04**, leaving an ending balance of **\$3758.97**.

## MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Pat M. reported for Kristen since she was ill with the flu. There were 5 membership inquiries, and one new family joined GGRR:

### **Michelle and Darren Huelsman**

We welcome them to our group! We also had several new faces in attendance at this month's meeting: **Kate Ryder, Janice Elsenraat, Matt Bonini, and Barb and Dave Koce**. We enjoy talking about our dogs and our activities with anyone who is interested in attending a meeting! Pat reminded members that our **2008** dues need to be paid. The cost is **\$10.00** per family.

## INTAKE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Four dogs were surrendered to GGRR since our last meeting. Two dogs are new, and two dogs are returns

- 03-065R:** **Rex**, who was exhibiting aggression, and had to be euthanized.
- 04-016R:** **Ginger**, formerly named **Sky**, who is currently at Under One Woof being evaluated by Sharon West.
- 08-001:** **Sadie**, a 13 month old female, who is currently being evaluated by Sharon West at Under One Woof.
- 08-002:** **Bailey**, a 12 month old red female who is being fostered by Pat Moran

We have received numerous leads on dogs on our phone lines and by email; however, other rescue groups have taken them or the owners have changed their minds.



Rain Moran curls up for a nap with his feline buddy, Milo.

## ADOPTION COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Three dogs were placed in their forever homes during the past month:

- 07-036 River**  
**07-040 Sasha**  
**07-041 Sonny**

Littermates Sasha and Sonny were placed together in their new home. Adoptions are also pending, but not yet finalized, on **Gryffin, Finn, Max, and Lady**.

## EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Chris R. reported that GGRR was accepted to participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade. It will be held downtown on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at noon. The parade route is a little less than 3 miles long. Chris R. will drive a van behind our unit in case dogs or members do not want to walk the entire route. Chris has also invited members of the Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis to walk along with our unit in the parade. We have not been given our location in the parade. Our location will determine the time we need to arrive. It is important to stay together as a group in the parade. People love to pet our dogs, but parade sponsors want to keep the parade moving. Parade participants are not allowed to consume alcoholic beverages while they are walking along the parade route.

Chris R. will order green member sweatshirts to wear in the parade if anyone is interested. Please see her after the meeting. Pat M. will order green bandanas



### **EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:**

(cont.)

for our dogs to wear. The cost will be \$4-\$5 per bandana. The bandana will be embroidered with your dog's name in gold lettering and have some gold paw prints. Paul S. suggested that Pat order a few extra scarves with just paw prints for foster dogs to wear. See Pat after the meeting to place your order.

The Golden Retriever Specialty dog show will be held April 5 – 6 at the Kennedy Recreation Complex on Wells Road in South County. We have been asked to provide a lunch buffet for the competitors on both Saturday and Sunday. Korisa C. and Kathy D. will work with Chris R. to create a menu and purchase the food. GGRR members will be asked to contribute side dishes for the buffet. The Golden Retriever Club of Greater St. Louis, who hosts this event, has suggested providing box lunches for purchase on Sunday. Lunch is generally served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on both days. GGRR will also have a booth at the event with dog-related items for sale. Please mark your calendars so we can provide plenty of volunteers for this event.

The Dog Museum has asked us to host a Meet the Golden Retriever event again this year. Chris is requesting Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> or May 25<sup>th</sup> if either date is available. Once the date has been finalized, Chris will let us know. She is also inviting the Golden Retriever Club to join us for this event.

### **WEBSITE COORDINATOR:**

Paul reported our website numbers for the previous month.

<b>Hits:</b>	<b>75,658</b>
<b>Visits:</b>	<b>17,246</b>
<b>Unique Visitors:</b>	<b>8,868</b>
<b>Page Views:</b>	<b>2,712</b>

Google is sending our website the most traffic, with 804 visitors. 7% - 10% of our website traffic is from Missouri and Illinois. Approximately half of the traffic is from the United States, and the rest is from overseas. The top search phrases are "Golden Retriever Rescue," *Golden Retriever Rescue-MO*," and "GGRR." 3,317 of this month's visitors typed in our web address or had our website bookmarked. These people are already familiar with our organization. We also want to attract people who are not yet familiar with the work we do. There were 410 logins from members who were accessing messages or our membership roster. Barb B. asked if there was a way Paul could add a blurb advising people who wanted a dog this summer to fill out an application as soon as possible. If people wait until May or June to start the adoption process, they probably won't get a dog until the fall. We generally have a lengthy waiting list by the beginning of summer. Paul said he would be able to create such a blurb.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Heather H. needs a home visit in Chesterfield. Tim M. offered to take care of it.

Barb B. asked if anyone might be able to help call people who complete online adoption applications. Rich T. is having problems with his voice. Tracie B. is interested in this position.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Heather H. and seconded by Paul S. All were in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**F.Y.I.** : It has been awhile since I listed attendance figures for our meetings. Here is an update:

August 2007:	21 people	
September 2007:	22 people	
October 2007:	25 people	
November 2007:	22 people	
December 2007:	28 people	(everyone likes a party!)
January 2008:	17 people	(too many sick people!)
February 2008:	28 people	

Thanks to everyone for making the effort to attend our meetings after a hard day at work!



Rush Miget seems a bit befuddled by the white stuff covering his yard. He must be on a mission to uncover that bone he left outside overnight!

**HEALING THOUGHTS:**

Nona Bauer has asked that members keep Ralph B. in their thoughts and prayers. Ralph has developed a sizeable mass on his spleen, and there is no way of knowing how fast it is growing. Ralph, who is almost 14 years old, still seems to be spry and enjoying his vacation in Texas with the Bauer family.

**RAINBOW BRIDGE:**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our GRRR families who have recently lost a beloved Golden Retriever companion:

**Taz**, beloved companion to **Mike and Linda Stemmler**, went to the Bridge most unexpectedly in February at the age of 4 years.

**Katie**, beloved companion of **Kathy and Jay Dierkes**, went to the Bridge in February at the age of 9 years. Katie had been diagnosed with a brain tumor.

## DONATIONS:

Donations to GGRR were received from the following individuals and groups:

**Drew and Korisa Carbone** (2/14/2008)

**Bill and Barb Blacksher** (2/14/2008)

**Pat Moran** (2/21/2008)

**David and Patricia Crooks** (2/25/2008)

- to help spay/neuter, chip, love, and protect our Golden Retrievers

## ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER:

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

[blacksher@charter.net](mailto:blacksher@charter.net)

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

## DOGS LIVE HERE

If you don't want to be greeted with paws and swinging tails, don't come inside—because DOGS live here.

If you don't like the feel of a cold nose or a wet tongue, don't come inside—because DOGS live here.

If you don't want to step over many scattered toys, don't come inside—because DOGS live here.

If you think that a home ought to smell like perfume, don't come inside—because DOGS live here.

But if you don't mind all this, you will instantly be loved when you do come inside—because DOGS live here.

- by David Lester—Humane Society Volunteer

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

**314-995-5477**

### Officers

President: Pat Moran  
[P4021m@sbcglobal.net](mailto:P4021m@sbcglobal.net)

Vice-President: Tim Miget  
[tsemiget@charter.net](mailto:tsemiget@charter.net)

Secretary: Barb Blacksher  
[blacksher@charter.net](mailto:blacksher@charter.net)

Treasurer: Beth Johnson  
[Goldenmom03@charter.net](mailto:Goldenmom03@charter.net)

Member Rep: Chris Rogers  
[chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net)

### Coordinators:

Intake Coordinator: Barb Blacksher  
[blacksher@charter.net](mailto:blacksher@charter.net)

Adoption Coordinator: Carrie Tennesen  
[carrie2tenn@aol.com](mailto:carrie2tenn@aol.com)

Membership Coordinator: Kristen Carter  
[kriscdc@gmail.com](mailto:kriscdc@gmail.com)

Events Coordinator: Chris Rogers  
[chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net)

Webmaster: Paul Swarhout  
[Cody@antidotecomputer.com](mailto:Cody@antidotecomputer.com)

### Mentors:

Intake Phone Lines: Mike Stemmler  
[kreator@aol.com](mailto:kreator@aol.com)

Adoption Phone Lines: Barb Blacksher  
[blacksher@charter.net](mailto:blacksher@charter.net)

Home Visits: Shane Stark  
[golddog05@mac.com](mailto:golddog05@mac.com)

Dog Visits: Shane Stark  
[Golddog05@mac.com](mailto:Golddog05@mac.com)

Foster Homes: Barb Blacksher  
[blacksher@charter.net](mailto:blacksher@charter.net)