

GGRR NEWSLETTER

Volume Number 3

Issue Number 10

Date: OCTOBER 2006

* * * Meeting Notice * * *

Date: Thursday, Oct. 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 SEPTEMBER 14th:

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by President Shane Stark. It was moved and seconded that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Shane invited members to feel free to contact him if they have ideas or suggestions to help improve the functioning of our group.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Our account balance at the beginning of the month was \$5,599.32. Income was \$1,235.00. Expenses were \$877.58, leaving an ending balance of \$5,956.74. The current balance in the Flash Fund is \$2564.70.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

We had 1 membership inquiry. There were no new members.

INTAKE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

One dog was surrendered to GGRR during the past month:

06-022 Chance, who is being fostered by Stacey

Rybar



We had plenty of volunteers, both human and canine, in our booth at the Kirkwood Greentree Festival. Unfortunately, rain closed the festival early Sunday afternoon. Paul Swarhout (dog in lap) and Kathy Dierkes are pictured attempting to keep the dogs dry and mud-free during the storm.

ADOPTION COORDINATOR'S

REPORT:

Eight dogs were adopted by their forever families this month:

05-041R Bernie
06-004 Sundance
06-006 Gordon
06-011 Cody
06-018 Duke
06-020 Annie
06-013R Drake
06-021 Lucy/Marley

With so many dogs being placed this month, there are only a few families left on our waiting list. Pat Moran said several home visits have been assigned to members, so the length of the waiting list will increase soon.

EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Chris Rogers reminded everyone about the Greentree Festival taking place this weekend. She distributed maps and suggested that volunteers bring a lawn chair with them.

Now that the Ballwin Petco has moved to its new location, the manager said GRR no longer has a Sunday adoption day there. There is a small store in Webster Groves called **Lucky Dog** that has expressed interest in having GRR hold some adoption days there.

The membership agreed that we would participate in their Christmas Walk in November and

hold an adoption day at **Lucky Dog** in both November and December. After the first of the year, we can discuss whether we wish to continue adoption days at this location.

Chris reported that the Dog Museum had more rescue groups than schools interested in the educational program they hope to begin this year, so we may not be able to participate. However, Hope Montessori Preschool on Mason Road in Creve Coeur would like us to bring some dogs and present a short educational program to its students. Chris Rogers, accompanied by Chloe, and Pat Moran, accompanied by Max Blacksher, volunteered for this event.

The Animal Protective Association of Missouri is holding their Canine Carnival on Sunday, October 1st from 10:00 - 3:00. Chris Rogers, Pat Moran, and Cheryl Gruber are scheduled to work in our booth at this event.

Final preparations are underway for the Canine Olympics, which will be held at Purina Farms in Gray Summit on Saturday, October 14th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The rescue parade will take place at 12:30 p.m. Randy Carriker, a radio sports announcer who has adopted two dogs from GRR, will be the announcer for the parade. If you would like your Golden to take part, be prepared to fill out an application at the

EVENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

(cont.)

event and include some biographical information about your rescue dog for the announcer to use. The following people are scheduled to work at the Canine Olympics on October 14th:

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Pat M., Chris R., Lee and Carmie, Nanette

12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m.

Mike S., Pat M., Barb, Chris R.

Due to our busy fall schedule and the driving distance involved, GRR will not be participating in the Belleville Pooch Fest this year.

PDR REPORT:

None

WEBSITE COORDINATOR:

Paul Swarthout reported that our website received 91,189 hits during the past month. The majority of them are still from outside of the state and country. However, 28% of the hits were from Missouri. There were 14,448 separate page views. The total number of visits was 8,146, with 2,746 unique visitors.

OLD BUSINESS:

Several of the Suburban Journal newspapers are now listing our monthly meeting dates for their readers. The dates are also permanently listed on the website of KDHX FM 88.1. Meeting dates and GRR events are occasionally described on-air as well. Kirkwood's Journal mentioned that GRR volunteers and their dogs would be participating in the Greentree Festival. A big thank you goes to Barney Combs for arranging to get GRR events covered by the media!

NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion as to whether or not it would be possible to have more than one person involved in making phone calls to families who submit online applications to adopt dogs. Paul said the system can be set up so that the applications go to different people on different days. If we continue to receive online adoption applications in large numbers, we may want to consider giving Pat Moran some help with this responsibility.

Several members reported receiving phone calls at home from people wanting to adopt or surrender dogs. Since our newsletter is



Chris Rogers and Nanette Swarthout don't let the rain dampen their spirits at Kirkwood's Greentree Festival. Dogs and volunteers alike were occasionally deluged with water when too much rain collected on our overhead canopy. It took some quick work to put away our merchandise before it became thoroughly soaked.

posted on the GGRR website, it is possible for people to access our home phone numbers instead of calling our phone lines. Barb will add something to the newsletter requesting that people call the phone lines with their requests, so the appropriate person can return their call.

There was discussion about our current shortage of foster homes. Mike Stemmler stated that we will only accept dogs when we have a foster home available. If our foster homes are full, the surrendering owner will need to keep the dog until we have room or find another rescue group with available space. Money spent on kennel fees can be put to better use, especially when we have

dogs with large medical bills. To illustrate his point, Mike listed the money that has been spent on some of our recent dogs:

- Maggie: \$1556.00**
(all due to kennel fees)
- Shelby: \$1461.82**
(vet, trainer, and kennel fees)
- Bernie: \$1110.00**
(\$146 in vet bills and the rest in kennel fees)
- Sundance: \$991.63**

Owners have to be willing to work with us when we agree to accept their dog into our program. We can only do so much with our limited resources. We do the best we can with the space that we have. GGRR is licensed as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational group. Although we have placed fewer Golden Retrievers with adoptive families this year than in some previous years, we may be seeing the results of our efforts in educating the community about our breed. We try to

ensure that fewer Golden Retrievers end up being surrendered to rescue groups by educating the public about the characteristics and requirements of Golden Retrievers.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

RAINBOW BRIDGE:

Clyde Stemmler went to the Bridge on September 6, 2006 due to cancer. Clyde had resided with Mike and Linda Stemmler and their pack of Golden boys for the past 10 years. Clyde will be fondly remembered by his parents, GGRR members, and his human and canine siblings.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER:

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

Barb Blacksher
26 Cynthiana Court
Florissant, MO 63031

Put your furkids in an upcoming newsletter!

You can also email items 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.



Pat Moran and Chris Rogers have their hands full trying to keep Cowboy, Pat's foster dog, Max Blacksher, and Chloe out of mischief as they wait outside Channel 5 for the taping of a Show Me St. Louis segment. They were helping to publicize the upcoming Canine Olympics at Purina Farms.

TO GOD; FROM: THE DOG

Dear God: Why do humans smell the flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another?

Ral
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Bau
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Dear God: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?

Dear God: Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not **ONE** named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the "Chrysler Eagle" the "Chrysler Beagle?"

Dear God: If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?

Dear God: We dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent ID's, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?

Dear God: More meatballs, less spaghetti, please.

Dear God: Are there mailmen in heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear God: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.

TO GOD; FROM: THE DOG (cont.)

2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.

3. The litter box is not a cookie jar.

4. The sofa is not a face towel.

5. The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.

6. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.

7. Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying "hello."

8. I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table.

9. I must shake the rainwater off of my fur before entering the house--not after.

10. I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.

11. I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch.

12. The cat is not a squeaky toy;

so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.

P.S. Dear God: When I get to heaven, may I have my testicles back?

Home Visits: Eileen Combs 636-464-5937
leenbean58@charter.net
Dog Visits: Shane Stark 636-349-7854
tenille01@earthlink.net
Foster Homes: Barb Blacksher
314-831-0757
blacksher@charter.net

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

GRRR PHONE LINES: 314-995-5477

In order to reach the appropriate person, please call our phone line number to adopt or surrender a dog.

Officers:

President: Shane Stark 636-349-7854

tenille01@earthlink.net

Vice-President: Tim Miget 636-458-2145

TimMiget@hotmail.com

Secretary: Eileen Combs 636-464-5937

leenbean58@charter.net

Treasurer: Beth Johnson 314-846-5645

Goldenmom03@charter.net

Member Rep: Chris Rogers 314-968-1109

chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net

Coordinators:

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636-227-3471

kreator@aol.com

Adoption Coordinator: Carrie Tennesen

314-843-1593

carrie2tenn@aol.com

Membership Coordinator: Barb Blacksher

314-831-0757

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Events Coordinator: Chris Rogers

314-968-1109

chrissyrogers@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster: Paul Swarhout

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