

## MID-FLORIDA GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB – Board Meeting

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

John Blair

Andy Hall

The November 15, 2017, Board meeting of the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club was called to order by president John Blair at 7:06 p.m. via telephone conference call. The following officers and board members were present:

John Blair – President

Andy Hall – Secretary

Ann Rowe – Vice President

Dee Thibodeaux – Treasurer

Board Members:

Anney Doucette; Pat Kopco; Betty Lambert, Ted Misilo, Mike Orloff; Kristin Sipus; Michele Throm.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (John Blair)**

Thanked board members who helped put together Year-End Awards and thanked Betty Lambert for volunteering to administer the compilation of awards.

### **REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (Ann Rowe)**

Ann read three new member applications and the board approved two of the three for membership. The applicants now must attend a club meeting to be voted in. The approved applicants:

Bob and Diana Burns

Shirah Rosenek and Virginia Menard

The third application was submitted without a sponsor and will be reviewed at a later date.

### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY (Andy Hall)**

Andy presented an idea to the board that was introduced by Tom Misilo, the club's webmaster, about using a new email program for communications with membership. The emails would be formatted within a template to make them more attractive and we would know who has opened the emails. There is no cost associated with using the program. Andy discussed with assistant secretary Pat Carlile and she is interested in trying it. The board voted unanimously to try the new program.

### **REPORT OF THE TREASURER (Dee Thibodeaux)**

Checking and money market accounts in good standing but are down slightly due to expenditures for new hunt test trailer and equipment and new agility equipment. Funds will be coming in for hunt test and specialty entries.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Nomination Committee (Michele Throm)**

Michele has eight people who are interested and nominated to be on the board but the club by-laws call for seven. Also, more candidates for the board and officer positions can present themselves at the Nov. 18 general meeting in Ocala. We will have voting at the annual meeting at the Christmas party and all members who are present at the party can vote for seven people from among the eight candidates. Michele will ask new candidates to present a small bio on themselves so that members can learn more about them.

**December Hunt Test (Mike Orloff)**

Entries opened while the board meeting was in progress and the 90-dog Master was almost full by the end of the meeting. Mike is set with the student workers and Kristin Sipus reported that she has plenty of volunteers which was a very good sign.

**Specialty (Andy Hall for Caroline Kendrick)**

Caroline had planned to join the meeting to update the board but had a flight delay. She reported that all on track. There were only nine trophy sponsorships remaining as of the day of the meeting. The board agreed that the club would sponsor any trophies not sponsored by the deadline, which is approximately a week before the event.

**Spring Agility Trial (Dee Thibodeaux)**

Dee reported she has judges lined up for our agility trials through 2020. The St. Petersburg event that had conflicted with our event is moving to another date so we hope that will bring more entries for our trial. The new timers are on their way and will be stored at Dee's house. She sold our old timers for \$1,060.

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

2020 GRCA National – John Blair led the ongoing discussion of the club's interest in hosting the 2020 GRCA National. We have not yet submitted a bid and the GRCA is asking if we are still interested. As of now we still do not have a chair for the event and we cannot submit a bid without one. At the general meeting at dock diving fun day, John passed around a sign-up sheet and some members signed their names for activities they'd be interested in being involved in. He will pass the same sheet around at the Nov. 18 general meeting. John, Kristin Sipus, Pat Kopco and Ted Misilo visited the under-construction World Equestrian Center in Ocala as a possible site and John is waiting to get some more information from the person who gave them a tour. There is concern about booking the location and then it not being finished in time. We still have Tampa Fairgrounds on hold.

Puppy Referral – Michele Throm reported that she received a nice compliment from a person from Alabama who was looking for a Golden puppy and found our website to be the most user-friendly and informative he'd come across. Ted Misilo will pass along the compliments to Tom, the club webmaster.

Updating Club Logo – Anney Doucette apologized for not having the new logo finished yet. Andy Hall is proceeding without the logo to get tablecloths for use during shows and Dee Thibodeaux will wait for the logo before ordering ribbons for our trials.

CCA and Heart/Eye Clinic – Kristin Sipus said that our event will be March 31 at the MADTA facility in Ocala. The contract is signed with the building and Robin Bowen has lined up the evaluators. The GRCA has put the event on its website. Kristin has one of the two doctors needed and will have the second one soon.

Renting our agility equipment – Negotiations are still in progress with the ABTC, which would like to rent our agility equipment for a Monday-Tuesday trial after our trial in April. In addition to the income from the rental, Dee Thibodeaux said the trial could help us attract more entries for our trial as there are exhibitors who want an event of four or more days. John Blair is waiting to hear back on the contract and price that he sent.

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

Club member year-end awards – The board members discussed and decided upon recipients of the club's year-end awards for members. The recipients will be announced at the Christmas Party. Ann Rowe will order plaques for the awards.

Fallchase Owner-Handler Award -- Andy Hall will prepare a notice to go to members about entering to win the award and run it by the board before it is sent out.

50/50 Raffle – Kristin Sipus suggested that the club hold a 50/50 Raffle over the course of the Ocala meeting, the hunt test and the specialty, and have the drawing for the winner at the Christmas Party (the winner will not have to be present). The club will match its half of the proceeds and donate all to the Smiling Blue Skies Canine Cancer Fund. Kristin will handle everything. Kristin made motion, seconded, and board voted unanimously to proceed.

Idea for Membership Renewals – Andy Hall introduced idea of pushing membership renewals through the mail with a renewal form rather than using email. The board decided to continue pushing renewals via email but will make sure to not send mass emails that include people who have renewed.

Donation to FGCGRC Specialty Trophy Fund – Board voted unanimously to donate \$150 to the trophy fund for the specialty that the Florida Gulf Coast Golden Retriever Club is holding in January in Brooksville. FGCGRC has sponsored a trophy in our club's upcoming specialty.

Idea for Christmas Photos – board briefly discussed setting up a fundraiser in which people can get Christmas/holiday photos done with their dogs. Too late to do this year, tabled for later discussion.

January 2018 calendar – first board meeting of the year will be Jan. 1 at Ann Rowe’s house. First general meeting of the year will be Jan. 20 at the Brooksville show. Rest of the 2018 calendar will be determined at the first board meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Ann Rowe, seconded by Ted Misilo. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

The next general meeting will be Nov. 18 at the Ocala show.

The next board meeting will be January 1, 2018, at Ann Rowe’s house.

Andy Hall – Secretary