

Golden Tales

DECEMBER 2018



Holiday Greetings



MID-FLORIDA GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB

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From the President's Desk

Christmas comes but once a year, lights and trees and gifts we choose. But let us take time to be thankful for our family and friends (furry ones too!), memories and accomplishments we have made during the past year. Our club has completed some very successful functions – hunt tests, obedience trial, conformation and obedience match, dock diving, specialty trial just to name a few -- and then we certainly are looking forward to planning the 2020 National Specialty!

I am wishing you blessings and joy this Christmas. Here's to hoping that you find happiness, peace and good will these next days and through the coming New Year. May your Christmas sparkle and shine – and may you have a “golden” holiday season!

Ann Rowe

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!



WC/WCX

Those of you who have traveled in, or hail from the UK, might think this refers to some kind of exotic rest room. Nope! You would be wrong. It refers to Working Certificate and Working Certificate Excellent.

As the name indicates Golden Retrievers were designed to RETRIEVE. No, alas, not gold, but game birds such as ducks.

AKC recognizes both titles. Obviously the second one is more advanced than the first. The tests were "designed" by the Golden Retriever Club of America. There is no sight better than watching a Retriever do what it was bred to do. If you own a Retriever you have a responsibility to your dog to show the world at large, a small sample of just what your dog was bred for and CAN do.

Golden Retrievers love this work and with a little bit of help from you, the owner, your dog can proudly add WC to his name. All teamwork with you and your dog can only serve to enrich your relationship.

Jean Bates



From WC/WCX Event Chair, Ted Misilo

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the MFGRC's WC/WCX on November 3-4 at Golden Oaks Ranch in Montverde, FL, including the Southern Skies Flat-Coated Retriever Club and the Florida Gulf Coast Golden Retriever Club who were co-hosts.

Special thanks to MFGRC members Ann Rowe and Robin Bowen on Saturday and Michele Throm and Ellen Bartkus on Sunday. Also kudos to Cheri and Pete Browne without whose help I would not have been able to pull it off. I would also like to thank Pat Kopco and Mike Orloff for judging all weekend.

Thanks again!



WCX qualifiers from Sunday, November 4 -- (left to right) judge Pat Kopco, Jeff Mead and Cinnamon, Cheryl Browne and Storm and judge Mike Orloff.

Photo courtesy of Cheryl Browne

WC/WCX Qualifiers . . .



WC qualifiers from Saturday (left to right): judge Pat Kopco, MFGRC member Beth Meaney with Jesse and Prez, MFGRC member Kay Johnson with Summer, Susan Howard with Winston, Jeff Mead with Cinnamon, MFGRC president Ann Rowe with Austin, and judge Mike Orloff.



WCX qualifiers from Saturday (left to right) judge Pat Kopco, MFGRC member Beth Meaney with Jesse and Xtra, MFGRC member Kay Johnson with Summer, Susan Howard with Winston, and judge Mike Orloff.



WC qualifiers from Sunday, November 4 - (left to right) judge Pat Kopco, Boone and Addie Loyd, MFGRC member Beth Meaney with Prez and Kix, and judge Mike Orloff

Photos courtesy of Cheryl Browne

Mark your calendars . . .

Christmas Party - December 15 at Ann Rowe's home. This is also the club's Annual Meeting. New officers will be voted on at this time.

January 19 – General meeting at Brooksville show

February 8-10 – Hunt Test, Montverde FL

February 16 - General meeting at Lakeland Show

Time to Renew Your MFGRC Membership

It's that time of year again – time to renew your membership in the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club. Membership fees remain the same: \$25 for individual, family or associate memberships. Please indicate your category, make your check payable to MFGRC and mail to:

Michele Throm
MFGRC Vice President and Membership Chair
235 Lake Ellen Drive
Casselberry, FL 32707

People who have become club members in October and November do not have to renew for 2018; their membership will carry over. Also, please note that attending meetings is not a membership requirement – club members are always welcomed at meetings but no one is going to be excluded from membership for not being able to attend meetings.



2018 New Title Rosettes for MFGRC Members

All members of the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club who earn new titles for their Golden Retrievers during calendar year 2018 are eligible to receive a new title rosette from the club.

If your dog has won a new title in 2018, please email the full name of the dog and what the title earned was to MFGRC board member Robin Lemieux. Robin will order the rosettes later this year and make them available for pickup early next year. If you will not be able to attend an event to pick up your rosette, you will need to send a check for \$10 for postage and handling, made out to MFGRC, so that it can be mailed to you. Robin's email address is robin.c.lemieux@gmail.com.

The deadline for submissions is December 31, 2018.

On the Cover:

CHRISTMAS TIME from Paula Black . . .

Two of my boys . . . "Ollie" in the front, hoping to get a lick of the candy cane mom was holding - and "Tat" in the background, hoping his brother was going to share!

MFGRC

The Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club, Inc. (MFGRC) was founded in 1984 by a group of Golden Retriever enthusiasts who came together in order to pursue ways of promoting and enjoying their Golden Retrievers. We are currently a member club of both the Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA) and the American Kennel Club (AKC). MFGRC is licensed by the AKC to hold conformation shows, obedience and rally trials, agility trials, and retriever hunting tests. We also hold Working Certificate / Working Certificate Excellent tests in accordance with the rules of the GRCA, and also offer a breed/obedience match every year. In addition, MFGRC offers an ongoing slate of seminars, clinics and "fun days" to encompass all aspects of the Golden Retriever. We promote the versatile competition golden, the gentleman's hunting retriever, and the consummate family pet.



Welcome

New MFGRC Members



From September general meeting: Margaret Gaydusek (left) and Sally Sherman were voted in at the general meeting held at DOCOF in Kissimmee.



From October meeting: Dalia Ruffato, Janet Franklin and Carolee Stewart were voted in at the general meeting held at agility fun day in Osteen.

Welcome
Welcome
Welcome
Welcome



From November meeting: (left to right) Tricia Kesler, Marilou Marshall and Julie Wangelin were voted in during the general meeting held at the Ocala show. (Julie is a former club member who has returned).



Separation Anxiety in Dogs

By Jean Bates

Much has been written on this subject - mostly to try and CURE it. However, I have found very little on how to PREVENT it. As with most things - prevention is much easier than the cure!

Dogs are not born with separation anxiety. It is not hereditary. It is not genetic. It is totally created/developed by the dog's owner. If owners could teach good manners and obedience as successfully as they seem able to develop separation anxiety dog trainers would lose a lot of business!

Some people decide to get a puppy or adult dog when they will be working from home for a while or just home for a while so they never leave the dog alone. This is good from the point of view of housebreaking. However Tootsie has to learn also to be left alone. Leaving the dog alone for a while is in fact an unnatural thing for a pack leader to do. However it is something a dog can easily learn to adjust to.

Presumably your dog has learned to feel comfortable in his crate which is NEVER used as a punishment. He has always been fed in his crate. Slept in his crate at night and generally learned it is his own safe den. It is his home away from home if you are travelling.

So you are about to start a new job. Tootsie will have to be left alone for long periods of time. Start by planning to be gone for a relatively short time. Trip to post office or food store. Be sure Tootsie has peed and pooped as needed then put her in crate with a toy or chewy. Close the door to crate. Leave a radio on if you want to. Pick up your keys and purse and walk out the door without a backward look. Above all DO NOT start whining and wilting like a plant in need of water, apologizing at great length for leaving and in general convincing the dog that the end of the world is just about to come.

Upon your return just walk in, glance at Tootsie, wave a hand in her general direction with a casual "hello dog". Put whatever you are carrying down. Walk into bedroom. Take off your good shoes. Put on whatever you would wear to take the dog for a walk. Then when ready quietly go about your routine of letting him out of his crate and CALMLY taking him out. DO NOT burst into your house apologizing for leaving him and rushing around wailing "oh you poor darling how could mummy be so cruel.....," etc. etc. you get the picture.

Vary the length of time you are gone. Don't jump from never leaving to leaving for the whole day. Do it in small increments. If you live in an apartment and there is a lot of activity outside leave a radio on to drown out some of the noise. Leave calming music. Some people leave the dog a Kong filled with peanut butter (fattening) so he is entertained with that for a while.

Leaving a young dog loose in the house to roam around at will is never a good idea. There are a gazillion things he can get into and destroy, injure himself.....the list goes on. He might get bored and discover the joy of chewing sofa cushions. Tear the wallpaper. Poop in your potted plant. Devour your new pair of expensive shoes. No good you coming home, getting angry at the dog who doesn't have a clue why you are behaving so weirdly. Dog starts off happy to see you return but all of a sudden you turn into a ranting aliendog gets scared and slinks off out of sight and pees.

(Continued on next page)



Objectives of the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club

To encourage and promote the purebred Golden Retriever; and to do all possible to bring their natural qualities to perfection. To urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the American Kennel Club as the only Standard of Excellence by which Golden Retrievers shall be judged; and to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, obedience trials, and field events.

ESTABLISHED 1984

Find us online at: WWW.MFGRC.ORG

Separation Anxiety - continued . . .

Once you have developed separation anxiety it is very hard to reverse. If you go on vacation or any time you have to board your dog or leave it with someone it is that much harder on the dog and chances are whomever you left it with will not be willing to take it again.

When people get a shelter dog they tend to assume it was abused so they treat it like Humpty Dumpty. In fact it is totally unsocialized and neglected. It needs a pack leader.

Home Depot and Lowe's Hardware are good places to take your dog to expose it to new things. However, it should walk on its four legs **BESIDE** the cart, not ride in it. That defeats the whole purpose of the exercise! Doggie Daycare a couple of times a week can be helpful, however, check it out first before you leave your dog. Satisfy yourself that the dogs have competent supervision. There are many mentally stimulating activities available to you and your dog. All of which can help build his confidence. Be calm and confident and Tootsie will follow your lead!



FOUNDATION PARADE –

MFGRC members Johann Goines and Dalia Ruffatto traveled to St. Louis to walk in the **Parade of Heroes** at the GRCA National Specialty with their Golden Retrievers Carter (CH Jazzie's Sunshine on a Leash Carter BN RN CA DCAT RATN CGCA TKN) and Luna (Luna the Wagging Tail Wonder CA BCAT DSX CGCA TKI RATN). The parade is for dogs enrolled in the **Golden Retriever Lifetime Study** – a prospective, observational study by the Morris Animal Foundation that is following approximately 3,000 golden retrievers, throughout their lifetimes, to identify the risk factors for cancer and other common diseases.



Fall Agility Trial Wrap Up

The Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club staged another successful agility trial Oct. 19-20-21 at the Grand Oaks Resort in Wiersdale, FL. Judges Cindy Deak and Jill Roberts did a great job for us as there were more than 1,500 runs over the three days.

Our two agility trials are very important to the financial health of the club, and many thanks to the club members who helped stage the trial, whether it was helping set up on Thursday or working as timers, scribes and gatekeepers during the three days of competition. We could not do it without you.

Members who helped were Anthony Brown, Jan Casey, Nina DePetris, Jackie Hardin, Vickie Maloney, Camille Nasca, Vern Gank, Melissa Vaughan, Ralph Orlando, Coralee Leon, Michele Throm, Robin Burket, Pat Kopco, Mike Orloff and Andy Hall. Also thanks to my husband John for all of his work before, during and after the trial and thanks to Lynne Wetherell, who is not a club member but who stepped in to handle the volunteer coordinator position for this trial since Pat Carlile could not attend.

Our next trial will be April 19-20-21, 2019, at Grand Oaks. Setup day will be Thursday, April 18, and that's the day we need the most help. Hope many of you can plan to be there.



Agility contenders: Michele Throm above, and Coralee Leon at the right.

Photos by Maria Orlando



Thank you,
Dee Thibodeaux
Agility Trial Chair

Accolades . . .

***Paula Black** and her Golden girl **Lulu** (Misty Ridge Lillie Santa Lucia) earned Lulu's Rally Intermediate Title in October under judge Sally Hansen at the Lake Eustis Kennel Club trial in Eustis, FL.*



***Ann Rowe** and her Golden **Lexus** won a fourth place in Novice Obedience at the Central Florida Obedience Club Trial in November.*



***Vern and Diane Edwards Gank's** Golden girl **Zest** (Summits Wonderlands Orange Twist BISS) earned the final point she needed on November 10 in Ocala to become a Grand Champion at age 20 months. Zest is pictured with Chatham Napoli, who showed her in Ocala. She was owner-handled by Vern, including her majors, before Vern had to step aside because of his bad knees.*



***Vern and Diane Edwards Gank's** Golden boy **Stone** was part of the prestigious Top 20 ceremony at the Golden Retriever Club of America National Specialty in St. Louis. **Stone** (GCHB Nocatee Wonderlands Stone In Love) was handled by Erik Strickland.*

More Accolades . . .



It's been a great year for **Laura Bellocchi** and her Golden boy **Tenor** - Tenor finished his Championship back in May in Maine - then over Thanksgiving weekend in Massachusetts he won his fifth major and became a Grand Champion (GCH Pathfinder's Count to Ten or Else). Laura's boy **Bluff** (CH Pathfinder's Poker Face) finished his title in October.



MFGRC President **Ann Rowe** and her Golden girl **Lexus** (Magik's Top of the Line RN BN) won 1st place and earned Lexus' CD title Nov 18 at the Greater Ocala Dog Club Show in Ocala FL.



MFGRC Treasurer **Dee Thibodeaux** and her Golden girl **Sizzle** earned Sizzle's Master FAST title in the MFGRC Fall Agility Trial at Grand Oaks Resort near Lady Lake, FL in October.



Carol Atkinson and her Golden boy **Crash** (Snobird's Raise Your Glass, Party Crasher BN RN SWN, SHDN, SEA, DN CGCA TKP) have had an excellent year in AKC Scentwork. Crash earned his Exterior advanced title with a 1st place in the Tampa Bay German Shepherd Dog Club trial in Brooksville, FL in November after earning other titles earlier in the year.



MFGRC board member **Robin Burkett** and her 10-month-old Golden girl **Eve** (Halia's Christmas In Killarney CGC TKN) earned Eve's CGC and Trick titles in November.



Yvette Rivera's Golden boy **Maui** (Mischiefs I Change At Will) earned the first leg toward his CD at the Golden Retriever Club of America National Specialty in St. Louis. Maui, who is handled by MFGRC member Nancy Brown Clinchy, also competed in WC and in the Jr Hunter class of the Hunt Test at the GRCA National.

And More Accolades . . .



Jill Kennon and her Golden girl **Moon** (Goldenzrule The Eagle Has Landed), at 20 months was the first of the girls to achieve her dock diving senior "DS" title, and **Breeze** (Goldenzrule Cool Breeze) earned her junior "DJ" title in Columbia, TN. The first qualifying jumps for both were earned in August in Orlando.



Laura Topping had a successful trip to the Golden Retriever Club of America National Specialty in St. Louis that included earning a new title and winning in sweepstakes. Laura and her Golden girl **Gretchen** (Loralei's Here for the Party) earned Gretchen's Obedience Novice A title while Laura and **Campbell** (Loralei's America Girl) took first place in Sweepstakes Puppy 9-12 Bitches. **Campbell** also placed second in regular conformation in the 9-12 class.



Anney Doucette and her Golden boy **Bally** (GCH CH Richwood Wing-T Workin' Like A Dog CD MH) won the Gun Dog ** Field class in Sweepstakes at the GRCA National in St. Louis.



Nina DePetris and her Golden girl **Peaches** (Picabo's Sweet As A Peach AXJ OF) earned Peaches' Excellent Standard title in the final day of the club's Fall Agility Trial at Grand Oaks Resort in Lady Lake, FL in October.

MISSION COMPLETE . . .



President George H. W. Bush's companion and faithful service dog **Sully** had been with President Bush since this summer after former first lady Barbara Bush passed away earlier this year. Sully was trained by America's VetDogs, a nonprofit that provides service dogs. Sully will now return into service to help other veterans and will be going to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center where he will assist wounded soldiers and active duty personnel during their journey to recovery.

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep.
Oh hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea.

Oh Christ whose voice the water heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word.
Who walked'st on the foaming deep
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep.
Oh hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.