

Golden Tales

JUNE 2023

MID-FLORIDA GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB



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Mark Your Calendars

Field Training Day – June 24 (Saturday)

**MFGRC Summer Specialty – July 8, 2023 –
WEC, Ocala, FL**

General Meeting via Zoom – July 13

Field Training Day - July 23 (Sunday)

**MRGRC Obedience/Rally Trial – August 11-12-
13, 2023 – Daytona Beach, FL**

General Meeting via Zoom - August 17

Field Training Day – August 26 (Saturday)

Photo Shoot- sometime in the fall
location/date TBD

New Perpetual Trophy



COVER: *Super Dock Diver!*
Anne Lowry's Golden boy "Gryphon"
shown in mid-air! Gryphon is currently
ranked #3 in both FCAT and
NADD dock diving.

The new Best In Rally Perpetual Memorial trophy was presented at MFGRC's 2023 Match to the highest scoring Golden in Rally. The trophy was designed and donated by Cynthia and Roy Rothman in Loving Memory of their son, Jack Michael Rothman. Many thanks to the Rothmans for this beautiful and unique award.



From the President's Desk . . .

It's summertime again already! MFGRC has some exciting events planned in the next few months. In July our summer specialty will be held for the first time at the World Equestrian Center in Ocala! This venue was the site of the 2021 GRCA National, and we received so much positive feedback about what a great place it is, we jumped at the opportunity to hold our specialty there as well. We also have some seminars in the works, so stay tuned for more information on that. Our monthly field training days will continue, and in August we have our Obedience and Rally Trial to look forward to in Daytona Beach.

We had record numbers of dogs at our heart and eye clinic in May, so we look forward to being able to provide this service to our community for years to come. Health clearances are important for pets as well as show/breeding dogs, so it's great that so many took advantage of the opportunity to attend.

There are lots of opportunities for club members to volunteer at our upcoming events, so please sign up!

Robin Burket

Welcome New Club Members!

The Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club welcomed new members during its general meetings held in April and May.

Voted in as members at the April meeting were:

Perry, Helen & Katie McIntyre, Sea Island, FL
(Sponsors were Robin Bowen, Debbie Caudill and Ann Rowe)
Bob Connelly, Gainesville, FL (Sponsor was Kristin Sipus)
Elysse Gorney, Tampa, FL (Sponsors were Lucinda Napoli & Kristin Sipus)
Diana Elwell, Naples, FL (Sponsor was Melissa Kay)
Amy & Jeff Troan, Altamonte Springs, FL (Sponsor was Ann Rowe)
Bob Connelly, Gainesville, FL (Sponsor was Kristin Sipus)
Carolyn Culhane, Mount Dora, FL (Sponsor was Ann Rowe)

Voted in as members at the May meeting were:

Samantha Hajas and Taylor Desmond of Orlando, FL (Sponsor was Caroline Kendrick)
John & Ashley Tegg from Orlando, FL (Sponsor was Camille Nasca)
Mike & Shawn Bond from Ocala, FL (Sponsor was Susan Howard)
Terri Andrews from Wellborn, FL (Sponsor was Maria Randell)



Samantha Hajas and Taylor Desmond



The McIntyres



Mike and Shawn Bond



Bob Connelly

VOLUNTEERING . . .

Opportunities to Volunteer are Upcoming

MFGRC members have many opportunities during the year to volunteer as a worker at club activities. Members who perform volunteer work at events are eligible for year-end awards including new title rosettes and Dog of the Year awards. Some opportunities coming up:

Obedience/Rally Trial

A three-day Obedience/Rally Trial will be held Aug. 11-12-13 in Daytona Beach, Fla. Volunteers are needed to work as ring stewards, especially on Saturday and Sunday, August 12-13, when there will be two Obedience Trials held each day. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to contact event chair Andy Hall at andyhall58@hotmail.com.

Field Training Days

Our field training days take a small village for everyone to be able to run their dogs and have a meaningful experience. We need people to come early to help set up equipment, stay late for cleanup, and everyone to take turns working as bird boys.

Please contact Kristin Sipus, the MFGRC Field Training chair, mfgrcfield@gmail.com, if you would like to volunteer at an upcoming field training day.

Hunt Test - November

Our hunt test might be several months away, but it's never too early to start planning for this massive event. We need help with set up the Thursday before the test, marshals, hospitality, equipment stewards, and cleanup on Sunday. We also do a hunt test trailer cleanup a couple weeks before the test to make sure all of our hunt test equipment is in working order and take an inventory of any additional supplies that might need to be purchased. Please contact Pat Rubrecht, our hunt test volunteer coordinator, if you would like to volunteer at our hunt test. prubrecht@gmail.com



NEW VOLUNTEER SHIRTS - We have new t-shirts with the MFGRC logo to give our volunteers who volunteer at our events. Please get with the event chairperson to determine how much time you will need to volunteer at that event to qualify for a t-shirt.

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



MFGRC

Year End Awards . . .

Once again, the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club will be offering year-end awards in 2023 for members and their dogs who excel in competition in the ring and field.

The MFGRC encourages all members who meet the eligibility requirements to enter and compete for the awards. **Remember: there is no charge to enter and you can't win if you don't enter!**

MFGRC is offering the following awards for 2023:

Agility Dog of the Year

Field Dog of the Year

Hunt Dog of the Year

Obedience Dog of the Year

Rally Dog of the Year

Show Dog of the Year

Tracking Dog of the Year

Versatility Award (calculated by adding points from at least three separate categories)

Fallchase Owner-Handler Award -- recognizing the club's top owner-handler in conformation during the awards year with a perpetual award donated by Fallchase Kennels.

Gold Standard Challenge -- awarded to the owner-handler accumulating the highest points in breed shows and field events during the awards year. Perpetual trophy donated by Kristin Sipus.

New in 2023 will be the **Upland Hunting Dog of the Year Award** with a perpetual trophy donated by Elizabeth Scherer. Dogs will not earn points toward the Versatility Award by competing in this category.

The club's awards period runs from December 1, 2022, to November 30, 2023. The deadline for entering will be November 30 and awards will be presented at the club's annual Christmas party.

To be eligible for year-end dog awards, a member must have worked one event (minimum of four hours) for the club during the awards period (reduced from previous requirement of two events) or the equivalent behind-the-scenes work (all subject to verification).

Full details for all awards, including additional eligibility requirements, will be included in the official entry form that will be sent to club members over the summer.

Any questions about the MFGRC Year-End Dog Awards can be directed to andyhall58@hotmail.com.

Annual CCA/ Health Clinic

CCA . . . *from Robin Bowen*

MFGRC held the annual CCA/ Health Clinic at MADTA on Sunday, May 7.

We did close to 100 eye exams with Dr Ralph Hamor, and a full day of cardiac exams by Dr Maggie Lamy.

The CCA went smoothly, all the dogs passed- see your GRNews for a list and photos! Evaluators were Patricia Flanagan, Elizabeth Greenfield and Kristin Sipus.

We are so grateful to all our volunteers who helped the event go off without a hitch, especially Kathy Cudak, who kept the clinic moving on time.

Health Clinic - *from Camille Nasca*

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Ralph Hamor and Dr. Maggie Lamy for their service on Sunday. It was a long day and your hard work was appreciated. Please expect to hear from me again next year.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who helped at the Heart & Eye clinic on Sunday. This clinic could not happen without people volunteering their time, a very precious commodity for all of us in this busy world.

Knowing that we can depend on the club members (and in some cases non-members) to get the clinic going and to keep it running smoothly is such a relief. We had so many compliments on how well run the clinic was and how much people appreciate this service.

We are grateful to all the volunteers who were willing to give their time to this clinic. This clinic is one of the most important services our club offers to dog owners and we are very thankful that others feel the same way.

I would also like to thank the dog owners who have supported this health clinic this year and in years past. The health of our dogs is the most important gift we can give them and having these tests performed is the first step in ensuring they remain healthy throughout their lives.



DOCK DIVING 101

*Will your dog do anything for his favorite toy?
Have you watched him fearlessly dive into water – say, in a lake or pool?
If so, he might love participating in one of the fastest growing sports,
Diving Dogs!*

Almost any dog can do it, as long as he loves water, knows how to swim, and has a natural passion for retrieving.

Diving Dogs is a fun, exciting but easy to do sport with simple rules: You throw your dog's favorite toy into a pool while he waits on a dock about 40 feet long. On your command, he runs along the dock, flings himself off the end of it, lands in the water and grabs his toy. The goal? To have the longest jump possible, which could be as short as two feet for beginners, but could be as much as 30 feet for those more experienced!

No matter how far your dog jumps, you're guaranteed to have a blast – and you may get a little wet! Diving Dogs is a great activity to share with your best friend! Titles earned through **North America Diving Dogs (NADD)** will be recognized by The American Kennel Club. To apply, simply complete the AKC Title Application.

For more information about Diving Dogs and getting involved in your local area so your dog can be recognized, please visit the **NADD** website. There you can learn more about Diving Dogs events in your area, diving facilities and more!

*Reprinted from the AKC website
Photo: Anne Lowry's Golden boy "Gryphon"*

OUTSTANDING!

WE DID IT! ★ WE DID IT! ★ WE DID IT!

#1 GOLDEN RETRIEVER IN BREED



MBISS GCHB GOLDROX TAKE 'EM TO THE TRAIN STATION BISS

“RIP”

MULTIPLE GROUP PLACEMENTS MULTIPLE BEST IN SPECIALTY

Currently the #1 Golden in Breed and #2 All Breed thru 5/30

Owner Paula Black and Courtney Roxby

Bred by Courtney Roxby

Handled exclusively by Chatham Napoli

Happy Birthday Babies!

Club Members Ann Rowe and Betty Lambert hosted a "first birthday" party at Ann Rowe's home in Sorrento, FL for Miranda and Arson's Golden puppies in May. Looks like a fun time was had by all!



Poppy, Olive, Charlie, Willow, and Piper



A custom designed cake for the humans at the party was made by **Sugar Divas Cakery** in Orlando. YUM!

FUN MATCH RESULTS

2023 MFGRC Fun Match



From Andy Hall – Match Chairperson

The Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club held its annual Fun Match (AKC-sanctioned “B” Match) on Saturday, March 18, at the home of club member and past president Ann Rowe in Sorrento, Fla.

As with all events the club holds, it wouldn't have been possible without club members stepping up to help. A group came to Ann's home on the day before to unload the club's storage trailer and set up three rings, obedience and rally equipment and more for the next day's match.

And then on the day of, members were on hand bright and early to assist with all of the tasks needed to conduct the event, including packing up when it was over.

Thanks to the following members who pitched in: Ann and Bob Rowe, Betty Lambert, Debbie Finch, Donna Hogan, Cynthia Rothman, Angelique Burns, Cindy Patz, Andy Hall, Susan Sherman and Susan Howard.

Also, Debbie and Lamar Tregler, Barb Page, Ellen Bartkus, Robin Senderowitz, Robin Bowen, Camille Nasca, Jan and Brad Paddock, Jean Bates, Suzanne Dukes, Shannon Keim, Richard Kowalski and Bob and Lois Lacoste.

*Enjoy the following candid shots taken by Andy Hall and Roy Rothman. **Congrats to all the winners!***



Check out the following page for Match results!



Match Results . . .

Results for Rally, Obedience and Conformation from the MFGRC's Fun Match (AKC-sanctioned "B" Match) on Saturday, March 18, in Sorrento, FL

Rally (Judge – Barbara Page)

Master

1 – Topbrass Code of Honor UDX5 PUTD OM3 BN GO VER RM5 RAE5 SH MXP MJP2 MJPB XFP DS CGC TKP WCX, Golden Retriever (owner Karyn Angel, DeLand, Fla.), 85.

Excellent

1 – IntCH Goldrox Magik's Carp-Et Ride BN RE, Golden Retriever (owner Ann Rowe, Sorrento, Fla.), 96.*

Advanced - No entries

Intermediate

1 – Magik's Amelia Seabreeze, Golden Retriever (owners Cynthia and Roy Rothman, Heathrow, Fla.), 92.

2 – Magik Woodford Perfect Manhattan RI, CGC TKN, Golden Retriever (owners Jan and Brad Paddock, Eustis, Fla.). 71.

Novice

- 1 – Brody, All-American Dog (owner Carolyn Culhane, Mt. Dora, Fla.), 94.
- 2 – Gemini's Remington Steal My Heart, Golden Retriever (owner Tina Brooke, Osteen, Fla.) 90.
- 3 – Mischief's Old Time Rock and Roll, Golden Retriever, (owners Lamar and Deborah Tregler, Lakeland, Fla.), 89.
- 4 – Surefire Medal of Honor, Golden Retriever (owner Karyn Angel, DeLand, Fla.). 83.

High in Rally

Brody, All-American Dog (owner Carolyn Culhane, Mt. Dora, Fla.).

High Golden Retriever in Rally

(Jack Michael Rothman Memorial Trophy)

Magik's Amelia Seabreeze, Golden Retriever (owners Cynthia and Roy Rothman, Heathrow, Fla.).

**not eligible for High Golden Retriever in Trial award*



High In Rally
Magik's Amelia Seabreeze, Golden Retriever
Owned by Cynthia and Roy Rothman

Obedience (Judge – Susan Howard)

Utility

1 - Topbrass Code of Honor UDX5 PUTD OM3 BN GO VER RM5 RAE5 SH MXP MJP2 MJPB XFP DS CGC TKP WCX, Golden Retriever (owner Karyn Angel, DeLand, Fla.), 180.5.

Open

No qualifiers

Novice

- 1 – IntCH Goldrox Magik's Carp-Et Ride BN RE, Golden Retriever (owner Ann Rowe, Sorrento, Fla.), 182.
- 2 – Brody, All-American Dog (owner Carolyn Culhane, Mt. Dora, Fla.), 179.
- 3 – Intl. BA/CH Cachet's Dare To Dream BN RE BCAT TKN CCA, Golden Retriever (owner Michele Throm, Casselberry, Fla.), 172.
- 4 – Mischief Pas de Deux, Golden Retriever (owner Camille Nasca, Orlando, Fla.), 171.5.

Beginner Novice

No qualifiers.

High in Trial

IntCH Goldrox Magik's Carp-Et Ride BN RE, Golden Retriever (owner Ann Rowe, Sorrento, Fla.).

High Golden Retriever in Trial

(June Kiernan Memorial Obedience Trophy):

IntCH Goldrox Magik's Carp-Et Ride BN RE, Golden Retriever (owner Ann Rowe, Sorrento, Fla.).



High In Trial
IntCH Goldrox Magik's Carp-Et Ride BN RE, Golden Retriever
Owned by Ann Rowe

Match Results continued . . .

Conformation (Judge – Ellen Bartkus)

DOGS

3-6 Month Baby Puppy

1 – Goldcker When U Fish Upon A Star At KnightDrnz, Golden Retriever (owner Robin Scott, Eustis, Fla.).

6-9 Month Junior Puppy

1 – Goodtime’s Morrisey Misneach, Golden Retriever (owner Amy Troan, Altamonte Springs, Fla.).
2 – Graceful Moonstruck’s Unforgettable, Golden Retriever (owner Teri Lynn Vautrain, Citrus Springs, Fla.).

9-12 Month Senior Puppy

1 – Roc Starz’s Fire on the Mountain, Golden Retriever (owner Michele Panetta, Crystal River, Fla.).
2 – Magik’s Goblet of Fire, Golden Retriever (owner Betty Lambert, St. Cloud, Fla.).

12-18 Month Junior Dog

1 – 24K Retrievers Red White and Moo CGC TKN TKI RATN, Golden Retriever (owners Shannon Keim and Destiny Martel, Lake Mary, Fla.).
2 – Magik’s Three’s Company in the Park, Golden Retriever (owner Anita Shafrin, Winter Park, Fla.).

Adult

1 - Magik Woodford Perfect Manhattan RI, CGC TKN, Golden Retriever (owners Jan and Brad Paddock, Eustis, Fla.).
2 – Magik’s Garth Brooks, Golden Retriever (owner Lily Lesmes, Heathrow, Fla.).

Veteran - No entries

BITCHES

3-6 Month Baby Puppy - No entries

6-9 Month Junior Puppy

1 – Magik’s Pot of Gold, Golden Retriever (owner Carolyn Culhane, Mt. Dora, Fla.).

9-12 Month Senior Puppy

1 – Mischief’s My Time to Shine, Golden Retriever (owner Camille Nasca, Orlando, Fla.).
2 – Magik’s Poly Juice Potion, Golden Retriever (owner Suzanne Dukes, Winter Park, Fla.).
3 – Magik’s Champagne Taste on a Butterbeer Budget, Golden Retriever (owner Donna Hogan, Orange City, Fla.).

12-18 Month Junior Bitches

1 – Southerngold Roc Starz November Rain, Golden Retriever (owner Michele Panetta, Crystal River, Fla.).

Adult Bitches

1 – Halia’s Center Stage CCA, Golden Retriever (owner Robin Burket, Winter Garden, Fla.).
2 – Magik’s Amelia Seabreeze, Golden Retriever (owners Cynthia and Roy Rothman, Heathrow, Fla.).

Veteran

1 – Intl. CH Magik’s Emerald Belle Of The Ball CD BN RM JH NAP OJP DJ CGC WC CCA VC, Golden Retriever (owner Michele Throm, Casselberry, Fla.).
2 – SHR Mischief’s The Divine Ms Emerald JH WC CCA DJ, Golden Retriever (owner Camille Nasca, Orlando, Fla.).

Best Puppy In Match

(Ruffles Perpetual Trophy donated by Dr. Robert and Nancy McCune)
Mischief’s My Time to Shine, Golden Retriever (owner Camille Nasca, Orlando, Fla.).

Best In Match

(HGL Magik Perpetual Trophy donated by Susan Fulenwilder and Ann Rowe)
Halia’s Center Stage CCA, Golden Retriever (owner Robin Burket, Winter Garden, Fla.).

Best Veteran in Match

Intl. CH Magik’s Emerald Belle Of The Ball CD BN RM JH NAP OJP DJ CGC WC CCA VC, Golden Retriever (owner Michele Throm, Casselberry, Fla.).



Best In Match
Halia’s Center Stage CCA
Owned by Robin Burket



Best Puppy
Mischief’s My Time to Shine
Owned by Camille Nasca



SPENCER – THE BOSTON MARATHON GOLDEN

By Pat Kopco

On the morning of April 16th, 2023, one day before 30,000 runners made their way to Boston to run the 127th Boston Marathon, 100 golden retrievers walked one mile and crossed the famous finish line in Copley Square in Boston in honor of a 13 year old golden retriever named Spencer, who, one year before, had been named the “Official Dog of the 126th Boston Marathon” by the Boston Athletic Association. This is his story . . .

Spencer had ridden to the Fairmont Copley hotel ceremony in a limousine. To signify the honor, he was given his own Spencer bib, and crowned the “Grand Barkshal” and a “V.I.P., Very Important Pup”. He received the titles because for eight years, therapy dog Spencer was a staple at mile 3 of the 26.2 mile course, cheering on runners holding a “Boston Strong” flag in his mouth after the 2013 bombings. When Spencer became too tired or needed a break, his niece Penny, also a therapy dog, would fill in, but she never quite had the enthusiasm for the ritual that Spencer did. Together however, they made a perfect pair.

Spencer gained worldwide fame as an enthusiastic spectator along the Boston Marathon course, rain, shine or freezing conditions dutifully holding his “Boston Strong” flag for hours as tens of thousands of runners

rushed by and stopped in the middle of the race to pet Spencer or take photos. Few could pass up the opportunity to stop and admire Spencer, flag in mouth, in his yellow raincoat or his blue jacket. Likewise hordes of fans vied to take pictures with Spencer or simply pet him. Spencer loved every pet and every photo.

Spencer was born on August 8, 2009 in Upton Massachusetts on his breeder’s farm. On their way to do some Halloween pumpkin picking, his owner Rich Powers surprised his wife Dorrey instead with a trip to the breeders farm and turned it into a puppy picking rather than pumpkin picking day. Dorrey scooped up Spencer and said “I want this one”. Once home, Rich recognized that Spencer was very smart, and he wanted to put those smarts to good use. He didn’t realize therapy dog was a “thing”, but after he researched it, he thought that Spencer was too good not to share. Spencer went to work at local schools, colleges, assisted living facilities and hospitals where he began making regular visits. He loved frisbees, swimming, dehydrated sweet potatoes and the other golden retriever in the house, his niece Penny, who was three years his junior. When Penny needed surgery, Spencer was there for her physical therapy and comforted her when she was anxious, pressing his nose against hers.



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“Spencer” continued . . .

In 2015, two years after the Boston Marathon bombing, Rich gave a “Boston Strong” flag to Spencer, who loved to hold things, and took him on an adventure to the Boston Marathon. Together they cheered for runners passing by. Spencer’s brush with fame began in 2018 when runners experienced a 20 to 30 mph headwind in freezing rain. Rich dressed Spencer in his own navy raincoat and they walked to their usual mile 3 cheering spot under brutal conditions to cheer on the runners. Spencer perched on a wooden crate, with two flags tucked in his mouth flapping in the wind, squinting as the rain pelted his face for more than four hours. Rich posted a video of Spencer before his phone gave up under the harsh conditions. When he later turned it back on, he was floored to see the video had gone viral.

Runners from around the world began emailing Rich asking if Spencer would be cheering again in 2019. He wouldn’t have missed it. He went to the course in 2020 with his flag even though no one was there. He went in early 2021 on what would’ve been Boston Marathon Monday, despite the race having been postponed because of the pandemic. He was there for the race’s triumphant return on October 11, 2021.

By 2022 Spencer had become so popular that Rich had a friend hold a sign saying “Spencer coming up on the right” so runners wouldn’t miss him. Packs of runners would still form lines on the course waiting to pet him, hug him or get a photo with him. Spencer happily greeted and licked every one. The runners were willing to wait, adding minutes to their marathon finish time, but it didn’t matter because it was Spencer. On those few occasions when Spencer needed to take a water break, Penny would step in, but Spencer wouldn’t stay away for long.

In 2020 Spencer had a tumor removed which was thankfully, benign. However, in December 2021 another tumor, this time cancerous, was discovered in Spencer’s



spleen. The diagnosis came right after the fall running of the marathon. He underwent chemotherapy and was expected to live only another few months. In July 2022, Rich threw a birthday party for Spencer and Penny. Spencer was 13, an age that once seemed out of reach. More than 700 people showed up. It was a four hour event and people just kept coming.

In September of 2022 Spencer’s cancer had progressed to his liver and treatment was no longer an option. Rich and Dorrey let him live life his way. His final days were filled with visitors and treats, frisbees and naps on the couch. When Spencer became noticeably weaker, Rich knew he had a call to make. The vet was scheduled to come to their home to allow Rich and Dorrey to say goodbye, but 10 minutes before the doctor arrived, Spencer began shutting down. “I feel like that was a gift he gave to me so I wouldn’t second-guess for the rest of my life, “Did I do the right thing?” Rich said. “He lived his life to the fullest until the last 10 minutes.” Spencer was 13 years and 6 1/2 months old.



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“Spencer” continued . . .



Penny and Spencer

Eight days after Spencer died, Penny succumbed to hemangiosarcoma. “Did he stay for her or did she stay for him?” Rich wondered. “They were so bonded”. The response to the deaths of the beloved dogs was immediate and global. Rich and Dorrey have received cards, thousands of dollars in donations to the Morris Animal Foundation, visits from local dogs and the biggest surprise of all, the event at the finish line on the day before the 2023 marathon organized by Massachusetts Golden Meetups as a tribute to Spencer and Penny.

In addition to the 100 golden retrievers who walked the final mile in Copley Square in honor of Spencer on that Sunday in April, there were some 250 or so dogs, mostly goldens, that descended on a public park in downtown Boston to honor the two golden retrievers that had become inextricably linked to the Boston Marathon. What was once expected to be 20 dogs turned into a full field of fur. One attendee summed up the event by saying “The only thing better than one golden is a whole bunch of goldens”. The group that organized the event created “Golden Strong” bandanas to be sold in honor of Spencer and Penny. A portion of the bandana proceeds went to the Morris Animal Foundation’s research on canine cancer in golden retrievers, a study in which many of our members have hero dogs enrolled. Spencer and Penny’s family also created a fundraiser for the Morris Animal Foundation when Spencer died. As of April there was over \$32,000 in total donations toward a \$50,000 goal.

Spencer couldn't be at this year's Boston Marathon, but there, at mile 3, on the runner's right, with Spencer's flag, wearing the blue rain jacket that protected the dog he loved was Rich. “I'm overwhelmed,” he said. “I think I can safely say that Spencer and Penny have impacted millions now”. ♥



POTPOURRI . . .

Chris Armanini's Golden boy "**Rebel**" (Magik's Dream Machine) is showing off his MOMARSH Field Blind. This blind is designed specifically for duck hunting and goose hunting in scenarios where you need to keep your dog hidden and safe. It has a mesh floor which easily drains water. This design keeps Rebel off the ground and dry. It has mesh windows and a back and front door which makes it easy for Rebel to use as a temporary crate also.



"Why does everyone want to get to the advanced level quickly? When what they don't realize is that the advanced exercises are nothing more than having better basics.

When your basics are really good, your advanced exercises are halfway done. The truth that nobody wants to hear is that when you run into trouble, it is because you haven't done a good enough job on your basics."

Charles Anderson

AGE for OFA CERTIFICATION



Submitted by Kristen Sipus

NEW CENTRAL FLORIDA ANIMAL ER

Animal Emergency Hospital DeLand

Your Pet's Local Veterinary ER

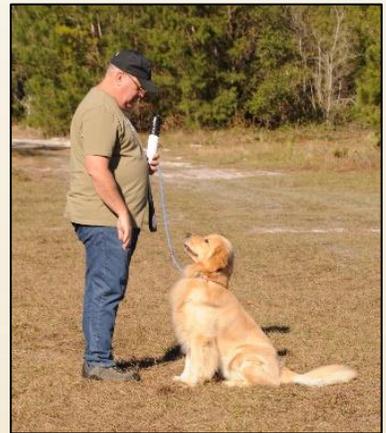
Open 24/7
2100 E. New York Avenue
DeLand, FL
386-252-0337

The bottom line is that ANY concern about your pet's health warrants, at a minimum, a call to your veterinarian or nearest animal emergency hospital.





Field Training Days



Photos courtesy of Kristin Sipus and Roy Rothman



Training days will continue to be held monthly, focusing on beginners just getting started and going beyond junior.

Watch your email for future dates!

Come and join us...lots of fun for everyone!!!

All levels of handlers and dogs are welcome.

June 24 ★ July 23 ★ August 26

Direct any questions to: MFGRCfield@gmail.com

Show Dog Hall of Fame Golden

Ditto



GCHS QUESTAN'S REGENERACESHUN BN RI TKI RATN DM DSX2 CGC SDHF

"Ditto" earned his Show Dog Hall of Fame (SDHF) in style by being awarded a Best in Show in October of 2022. We are exceptionally proud of his recognition by the respected breeder judges who have awarded him at Specialties and all breed shows alike.

Ditto is a three-time breeder/owner/handled Best in Specialty Winner (all breeder judges), received an AOM at Westminster in 2021, is a 2021 GRCA Top 20 Invitational recipient and was awarded 2nd place in the Stud Dog Class and BOBOH at the 2021 GRCA National Specialty. Ditto was also the MFGRC Show Dog of the Year for 2019.

Ditto's essence is so spectacular; he is truly an ambassador to our breed.

We could not love him any more!

Sire: GCHG Steadmor's Take A Gander RI TKN RATN CGCA OS SDHF

Dam: CH Questan's Gnat On My Watch DN OD

Breeders: Julie Wangelin, Suzann & Christopher Painter and Nancy Sherick

Owner: Julie Wangelin – Palm Harbor, FL

SMOKEY

AKC Therapy Dog Supreme

CGC Evaluator News – April 2023

Liebchen's Smokey Bones Mountain Mischief most recent accomplishment after reaching his 600th visit as a Therapy dog and the Top title now of Supreme Therapy Dog.



Liebchen's Smokey Bones Mountain Mischief is known to most as "Smokey." Training began with Smokey in the puppy class at the Obedience Club of Daytona, and his first award was the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy. We went on to more advanced obedience and rally classes and titles.

Smokey is a friend and family member and in addition to the **AKC Therapy Dog Supreme** title, together we have earned the VCD2, UDX, PUTD, BN, VER, RM, TDU, MXP, AJP, OFP, SIN, SHDN, THD, DJ, CGCA CGCU, and TKA.

Smokey and I volunteered at the Halifax Hospital Psychiatry Unit (Daytona Beach, FL) every other Tuesday for 11 ½ years. In the last 6 years, other areas of the 2-building facility have opened for our visits. Before COVID, Smokey was invited to Friday visits to Emory L. Bennett Veteran's Home, and as of March 2023, two nursing homes and the Veteran's Home are back on our schedule.

We now also visit Embry-Riddle University with three or so visits during the high-stress hectic school year to help ease the tension a bit for the students, and we volunteer at the Humane Society summer camp as well a summer camp for children at the Drive-in Christian Church.

I have been a Tester/Observer for the Alliance of Therapy Dogs (formerly Therapy Dogs Incorporated) since 2014 and Smokey has helped me by serving as the neutral dog. His laid-back presence has a calming effect on the teams being tested, and I am grateful to have him as a partner.

From Ralph Orlando



AKC Companion Events Department

Pilot Program for Three-Legged (tripod) Dogs in Non-Jumping Rally and Obedience Classes

May 17, 2023

An 18-month pilot program, allowing tripod dogs to participate in the non-jumping obedience and rally classes, was approved by the AKC Board of Directors, **beginning July 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024.** The sport specific regulation language in Chapter 1, Section 17 will be amended to read: Dogs disfigured as the result of accident, injury, or illness are eligible to compete provided the disfigurement does not interfere with functional movement. A dog that shows no signs of physical discomfort is to be considered fit to compete. The judge must excuse a dog as “unfit to compete” if the dog demonstrates sickness, discomfort, or pain while performing. All Obedience and Rally judges will receive notifications and regulation inserts will be published.

AKC Fetch – A New Family Dog Activity

May 2023

The Board reviewed a recommendation to add a new titling program in AKC Family Dog called “**AKC Fetch.**” Beginning with the premise that one of the most popular activities that dog owners do with their dogs is retrieving a ball, AKC Fetch will be a fun program with four titling levels including Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and Retriever.

By providing a source of exercise for dogs and owners, AKC Fetch has clear health benefits. Further, the skills learned for each of the titles (e.g., remaining steady at the line until the ball is released) are related to future success in other AKC sports. AKC Fetch titles will be a valuable addition to the existing AKC FIT DOG program.

This will be discussed further at the May meeting.

(Reprinted from the AKC Gazette - May issue)



Cynthia and Roy Rothman 's Golden girl “Maia” earned her Intermediate Rally Title in March.

DO YOU HAVE A BRAG?

MFGRC wants to recognize all that are accomplishing events and titles/wins with their dogs.

The Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club’s quarterly newsletter would like to recognize our members who are out doing great things with their dogs. Please send all your brags to Chris Jeffrey at subtlesmoke1@comcast.net. We would like a photo and a brief description of what your dog won, show, judges, etc. Deadline for the next issue is September 1st.

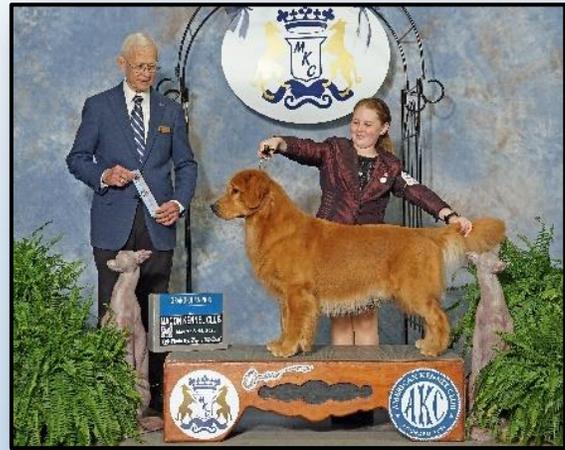
SPECIAL MENTION . . .

From Micheline Laberge . . .

Just want to brag on my Granddaughter, Trinity Lonsdale and her recent accomplishments . . .

On her way to Westminster, we stopped to show at the Pinehurst event where she took a 4 pt. Major/Winners Dog, Best of Winners & Owner Handler with our puppy Maverick in the 12-18 month class. He is now just one major shy of his Championship status.

Then at Westminster, where at 12 years old, she was the only kid in the Golden Breed ring competing against all adult handlers. She showed her Jr. dog, Derry, side by side with his co-owner, Julie Wangelin and his daddy, Ditto. Trinity and Derry went on to make the cut against the 50 dogs showing, which was an outstanding accomplishment. Although she did not get into the final picks, she went on to the Perry, GA show the following weekend, where she took Select Dog to finish Derry's Grand Championship. She has put all of his Grand Championship points on this boy, after Ginny Kincer finished him as a Champion. She is currently ranked with AKC, as the #1 Jr Handler for the Golden Breed, and #2 listed in Canine Chronicle.



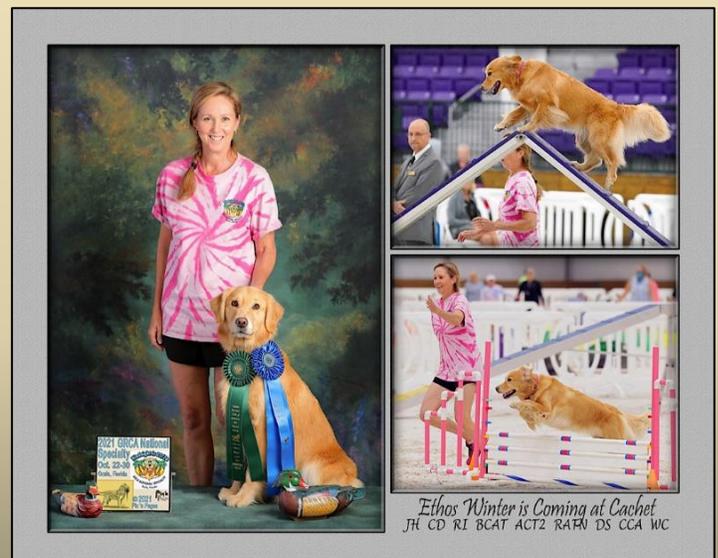
Trinity Lonsdale

“Ary” Achieves Versatility Certificate

Michele Throm’s Golden girl “Ary”, (Intl. CH Ethos Winter Is Coming At Cachet CD BN RE JH OAP NJP BCAT ACT2 RATN DS WC CCA VC), was awarded her **Versatility Certificate** from the GRCA.

The Golden Retriever Club of America holds in highest esteem the versatility of those Golden Retrievers who reflect both the conformation and working attributes of the breed. Versatility Certificate (VC), Versatility Excellent Certificate (VCX) and Versatility Master Certificate (VCM) are awarded to those Golden Retrievers who exemplify that degree of versatility through a combination of accomplishments in each of the following areas:

- AREA 1 - consisting of Conformation
- AREA 2 - consisting of Obedience/Rally Venue, Agility Venue, Tracking/Scent Work Venue
- AREA 3 - consisting of Field work





ACCOLADES

Janice Smith's Golden boy "Goose" (Boca Golds Goose Commander MX, AX, AXJ, MXP, OF, OA, CGC) earned his Masters Preferred JWW title in April, which requires 10 qualifying runs. He earned his Masters Regular and Masters Preferred Agility Standard titles several months ago.



Marilyn Booher's Golden girl "Mya" (Surefire My Armani at JBoo) has passed 3 more master hunt tests this spring and is qualified for the Master National.



Kristin Sipus's Golden girl "Cuvée" (Richwood Champagne For Everyone SH WC) earned her new Senior Hunter title passing 5 of 5 tests.



Anne Lowry's Golden boy "Gryphon" (SH Gryphon Flying Lion Dream SH DEA DMX2 CGCA GCGU CA TKP BCAT) earned his DMX2 (and PB of 26'6"). Gryphon is now working towards MH and Very Best Boy titles. **Currently ranked #3 in both FCAT and NADD dock diving.**

MORE ACCOLADES . . .



Jenny Ford and her Golden boy "Gunnar" have had some nice wins recently, starting with a Select and Best of Breed Owner Handled and a Owner Handled Sporting Group 2 in Clarksville, TN. The following weekend he picked up a BOS and Best of Breed Owner Handled one day, then Best of Breed, Best of Breed Owner Handled and Regular Group 4 the next day. Two weeks later at Bloomington, IN Gunnar took two Best of Breed Owner Handled, Select One Day and BOS another day and a Group 3 Owner Handled.



Julie Wangelin's Golden boy "Ditto" (BIS MBISS GCHS Questan's RegeneRACEshun MBISS, RI, DSX2, DM, BN, RATN, CGC, TKI, SDHF) had a wonderful time in New York City at the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club dog show when he was awarded Best of Opposite Sex to Best of Breed. Breeder/Owner/Handled by Julie Wangelin.



Anney Doucette's Golden boy "BRIX" (MBISS GCH Malagold Wing-T We Can Work It Out MH WCX DDHF) Won Best of Breed at the Northern Flyway Golden Retriever Club specialty in April in Wisconsin. Brix is owned and handled by Anney Doucette.

Perry McIntyre's Golden boy, Jay-R, (Futura's Georgia Traveling Son CGC CCA) finished his Championship May 12 at the cluster in Perry, GA, under Judge Mrs. Judith A. Brown.



MORE ACCOLADES ...

OTCH 9



Susan Howard's Golden boy "Winston" had a great day at the Orlando obedience trial winning the Utility B class out of 19 dogs which earned him High in Trial and High combined. He also finished his **OTCH9** (Obedience Trial Champion x9)!



Judy Jennings' Golden boy, "Aero" (Wynwood's Walk This Way MH) passed the Master Amateur Invitational held in Giddings, TX from April 23-28, 2023. He was one of only 36 out of 86 dogs to do so in our Flight A! Judges were Mike Collson and Richard Gravely. Very proud of him! This was our first time passing at a national event.



Ann Rowe's Golden boy "Ripley" (Magik's Believe It or Not) earned his CGC title.



Bob Rowe's Golden boy "Olaf" (Magik's Frozen Snowman) earned his CGC title.



Kayleigh Casey's Golden girl "Charlie" earned her hydro dash novice advanced title recently at 24k Retrievers/24k Diving Dogs.



Chris Armanini's Golden boy "Rebel" (Magik's Dream Machine) has earned his Farm Dog (FDC), Dock Senior (DS), Canine Good Citizen Urban (CGCU), Canine Good Citizen Advanced (CGCA), and AKC Temperament Test (ATT) titles, since the New Year.



Donna Hogan's Golden girl "Willow" is having a great year in Dock Diving. In April she earned her NADD (North America Diving Dogs) Dock Junior title at a Dock Diving event at 24K Diving Dogs in Cairo, GA. Then in May she earned her Dock Senior title at another event at the same location. Willow just turned 1 year old on May 22.



Jan and Brad Paddock's Golden boy "Woody" (Magik Woodford Perfect Manhattan) has earned all three levels of AKC FIT DOG training and achieved the AKC FIT DOG BRONZE title, the FIT DOG SILVER title, with the FIT DOG GOLD title on the way. Woody also earned his Canine Good Citizen Advanced title (CGCA) in May.