



# **The Potomac Valley News**

## **July - August 2019**

### President's Message

The Dog Days of Summer!!! All of our Spring events are in the books!!! Thanks to all who ran the events, helped with the events, and participated in the events!!! Read farther down in the newsletter to see all of the club members who helped with these events. Our events are always run so well. We hear from judges, competitors, workers, about how nice our events are. As you read over and over again...it takes a village...and we need to expand our village!!!! We have volunteers who raise their hands over and over again....they are getting tired!!!! We need your help. When someone comes a calling...why don't you say "Why not?".

As you read farther down in this newsletter, the education committee reposted a column from Glenda Brown...who I idolize from afar. I have never met her. I email with her frequently, and have talked with her on the phone...I admire what she has done with Golden Retrievers, and I admire what she has done for GRCA...after reading her column, I admire her even more!! It is not secret what I have been doing for the past year, training conformation Golden Retrievers for field work...and while I have had no real success yet, I have to say...I have learned so much, and continue to learn everyday from these dogs...they are helping me be a better handler, and I hope I am helping them become better Golden Retrievers!!! And, each day, I hope that maybe the "two sides" come closer to the center!!! Gosh, some might think this was a political discussion!!! LOL!!!

While our competitive events take a hiatus for the summer, there is still plenty to do. We are having an obedience teaching event combined with K9 Olympics on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, right here at Silver Lining Farm (my new place) in Gettysburg, PA...while we know people in VA are collectively sighing, we are hoping our PA contingent is cheering and will plan on participating!!! A dock diving day is in the works for August, stay tuned for more details....and we are having a field training day on August 4<sup>th</sup>...and the Beginner field class starts this week!!! So while we might be resting from competitive events, there is still plenty to do!!!

Hope to see you this summer!!

Beth

## **NEWSLETTER NEWS.....**

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS –

NEXT ISSUE IS **September - October**. Your deadline for column submission is **August 25**.

MEMBERS please continue to send BRAGS or other items of interest relating to our established COMMITTEES to our Committee Chairs (see last page with contact info). The Committee Chairs will include your brags and other news in their submissions to me.

If you have items to send to me directly, August 25 is your deadline. My hope is to publish by September 15.

I look forward to your submissions!

Mary Ann Massie

[slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com)

**We are looking for your submissions for future newsletters.....**



**Get busy!!!**

## **Report from Ann Strathern**

### **2019 Spring Hunt Test June 1-2, 2019 Report**

### **2019 Spring Hunt Test June 1-2, 2019 Report**

We had 119 Entries, 108 Started, and had 3 refunds for injury, in season dogs.

Master had the limit of 60 dogs entered, 53 started and 24 Qualified. (Kevin McLaren/Doug Hunter substitute for Mike Ostrom)

(4 dogs, 17%, were owned by PVGRC members)

Senior had 22 dogs entered, 20 started and 12 Qualified. (Marcie Baer/Mary Gurlacz)

(3 dogs, 25%, were owned by PVGRC members)

Junior had 37 dogs entered, 35 started and 20 Qualified. (Marcie Baer/Mary Gurlacz)

(2 dogs, 10%, were owned by PVGRC members)

We had warm but clear weather, and everyone seemed to take it in stride! We had wonderful workers that put on a great test!

I would like to thank Beth Sokohl, Chairman and all of our volunteers. It takes a village to hold a well run event:

Master Stake:

Sue Armstrong

Rodger Armstrong

Holly Kelley

Tina Moran

Lynn Pacenta

Molly McEvoy

Kelly Shufflebottom

Beth Sokohl

Tricia Dunseith

Senior Stake:

Andy Moore

Mary Ann Massie

Ken Wiedel

Janet Ciarico

Steve Suprenant  
Sharon Kilrain  
Clayton Kilrain

Junior Stake:

Kim Sipola  
Laurie Collins  
Gwyn Jones  
Arek Rusek  
Holly Kelley  
Clayton Kilrain  
Suzanne Miller  
Sue Rocco  
Karen Schumaker

Live Gunners:

Mike Bullinger - Captain  
Cliff Williams  
Bob Tinder  
Bob Tebbens  
Steve Suprenant  
John Zubey  
Ryan Spicer

PVGRC has received the following three applications for membership:

Karen Wiley, endorsed by members John Bitner and Sandy Christiansen. Karen is from Mechanicsburg, PA and is interested in conformation, obedience, rally, agility, tracking and field events.

Cindy Harbaugh, endorsed by members Robert Crowley and Roberta Primeau. Cindy is from Walkersville, MD and is interested in nosework, field events, tracking, rally and obedience.

Brenda Griffith, endorsed by Laurie Collins and Jeannette Hoover. Brenda is from Boonsboro MD and is interested in obedience and field events.

Rita Bumgardner (email 6/6 and 6/19)

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COMMITTEE COLUMNS/UPDATES: The Board encourages ALL PVGRC members to email Committee chairs with news, items of interest, or brags!

**Conformation (Cindy Williamson)**

Chris Browning's special, **BISS GCH Avalor-Eldorado's the Force Continues** (Walker) has been cleaning up. In May he was BOB at the Penn Treaty KC, and Select both days in Chambersburg KC & Lancaster KC. He went to Maine and was BOB/GR1 at the Thurs Vacationland Dog Club, was BOB both the Fri and Sun York Co KC of Maine shows, and was BOB at the Maine GRC Specialty(!), picking up 20 Grand points in 1 weekend. He went to the New Castle, PA shows and was select at 3 shows to finish his GCH. In June, Walker went to the Columbus, NJ shows winning a BOB, a GR3 and 3 Selects, and at the Fisherville, VA shows he also won a BOB and 3 selects. At the Virginia KC shows, he won another major select and was BOB both days at the Tidewater KC shows (Majors) with a GR4 on Sun. He is getting really close to his Bronze GCH! Congratulations, Chris and Walker!

Chris Browning and Pris Warnock's boy, **Eldorado's Rock My World** (Kixx) won three WDs, a BOB and a RWD at the Columbus, NJ shows, a WD and 2 RWD at the Fishersville, VA shows and WD/BW (2pts) at the Tidewater KC Saturday show, in June. Nice start for Kixx!

Cathy Story's **CH Sunkota Casey's Off to Dublin** (Teague) was on a hot streak in early Spring! That was a FAST CH, Cathy! Congratulations!

3/1 PVGRC – Best in Sweeps  
4/11 Lebanon (Harrisburg) – WD, BOW, 4 pt major  
4/12 Lebanon (Harrisburg) – WD, BOW, 4 pt major  
4/21 Baltimore KC – 4 pt major  
5/17 Magic Valley KC – WD, BOW – 2 pts  
5/19 Blennerhassett KC – WD, BOW, 2 pts

Reminder, please send your win info to me – I'll not be looking it up.

**Needed: Show Chairman for our March 2020 Specialty . Also, it would be great to have an apprentice to help the chair to learn the ropes. There will be plenty of help from members to assist the Show Chairman. Contact Cindy Williamson, if interested.**

**Cindy Williamson**

**FIELD COLUMN** (Beth Sokohl, [bethsokohl@gmail.com](mailto:bethsokohl@gmail.com) )

Guest columnist for July/August : Mary Ann Massie

I recently attended a Carol Cassity retriever workshop. It was EXCELLENT. Addie and I had a working spot for the young/green dog workshop held over a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Goose Ridge Farm in Gordonsville VA. The property was gorgeous – thank you to Jim and Marcy Burke and Lise Pratt for hosting.

Carol was organized and deliberate in her selection of drills from her book, “Building a Retriever – Drills and More”. The folks with working spots were at many different levels of training but Carol was able to adjust the drills to educate the handlers and accommodate the dogs. Some of the drills were ‘get in, get them done, and move on’. Others were foundation drills that you could (and should) repeat throughout the life of your retriever. There were several PVGRC members attending – there was enough enthusiasm in the group that we brainstormed how to organize a drill or drills at future training days!

If you have an opportunity to attend a Carol Cassity workshop, do it!!

Mary Ann

**AGILITY AND FAST CAT COLUMN** (Nick DeCesare, [kiowagold@gmail.com](mailto:kiowagold@gmail.com) )

Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club held our second agility trial of 2019 on the weekend of June 22 and 23, 2019 at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center. This was a one ring, two judge, event with 450 runs on Saturday and 420 runs on Sunday. Barbara Bounds from West Palm Beach, Florida and our own Tricia Dunseith were our judges. The trial was full both days with 450 runs on Saturday and 420 runs on Sunday. This was an extremely challenging but gratifying trial on many levels. 400+ runs for a one ring trial is pushing the envelope of what is possible, but through the combined efforts of a large number of PVGRC volunteers and “friends of PVGRC” we were able to get it done.

I want to thank the following PVGRC members who volunteered to work at our June trial. Donna Sims, Janet Shriver, Marta Coursey, Cher Snyder, Alyssia Black, Maureen Allnutt, Roberta Primeau, Elaine Maher, John Bitner, Rita Bumgardner, Jim and Nancy Runion, Jeff Ackerson, Sharon and Clayton Kilrain and new members Patricia and Richard Mathews, and my wife, Sharon, who remembers all the stuff I forget. My apologies if I have omitted anyone. PVGRC members worked multiple classes and assignments on one or both days. I can’t begin to say enough about how everyone pitched in to make our trial run efficiently.

Our September 7 & 8, 2019 trial at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center opens on July 17. This will be a two day, trial with **350** runs each day. Our judge for this trial will be Howard Etzel from Hollidaysburg, PA. If you are planning on entering this trial I would not wait until the last minute. The trial closes on August 21, 2019.

Now I can share more good news about NEW Titles!

Eleven year old brothers MACH ADCH ARCHEX Fast-Trak I'm A Believer (Gabe) CDX GN RAE MXS MJB2 MXF T2B TKP BCAT DS CGCA ADHF (Marta Coursey) earned an **MFP** title and Fast-Trak's Don't Hold Back (Preacher) BN RN TD AX AXJ OF TKN BCAT (Sharon DeCesare) earned an **XFP** title.

**OBEDIENCE & RALLY COLUMN** (Mary Ann Massie, [slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com) )

The obedience “**Panel Palooza**” fun day has been scheduled for **Saturday August 3**.

If you are interested in participating YOU MUST RSVP to me.

The event will be held in the indoor arena at Silver Lining Farm in **Gettysburg PA**. Run throughs with input from the judging ‘panel’ in the morning, cook out mid day, dogs allowed in the pond if it is hot!

If you are interested please email me at [slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com) with Panel Palooza in the subject line. Participation will be limited so we do not go over into the heat of the day. Preference will be given to PVGRC members but non members may be accepted if time allows.

The judges for “Panel Palooza” will be Pat Kavanagh, Debbie Barrows, and we are recruiting the third ! I will be the judge in the ring calling the exercises. The panel will share their insight after your run – everyone ringside can benefit from listening to their reviews.

It promises to be a great morning!

Let me know if you want to participate.

[slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com)

### **PVGRC 2020 Specialty NEWS:**

**Date: Friday February 28, 2020** mark your calendar

### **Co-chairs of the obedience and rally shows :**

Karen Wahler Schumaker and Mary Owens

**Obedience Judge: Bill Craig, Cheshire MA**

**Rally Judge: Diane Stout, Langhorne PA**

### **BRAGS:**

Congratulations to Barbara Clem and “Jaunty”....Barbara reports that Sun Bay’s Flash This Just In CD BN RAE CGC CCA finished her CDX at the Oriole Dog Training Club on May 25 with a first place and a score of 192.5 !!

Take Flight’s Adrenaline VCD2 UD JH VER AXJ, “Addie”, qualified in Utility B and Open B at the June 23 trial held at Richmond Dog Obedience Club. This is our fifth leg toward our UDX title! Half way there! Mary Ann Massie

## TRACKING COLUMN (Marge Paulding, mkpgold1@verizon.net)

Hope everyone is enjoying the hot and humid days of Summer!

I wanted to share with you some changes to PVGRC's Tracking Committee. I am no longer Chairperson of the Standing Committee. I will remain on the committee, continue to write the newsletter articles, and help with the Annual Fall Test.

Please welcome **Bob Kurtz** as the new Chairperson. He has stepped up to the plate, and I am very grateful for that.

Marie Huffman, who has been a long-time member of this Tracking committee and was the previous Chairperson prior to me, has moved on to other endeavors. Thanks to Marie for all the many years she served on the Tracking Committee and helped with our annual fall tests.

Donna Thompson will also be leaving the Committee. She has done so much to help over the many years of being involved with Tracking and helping with our fall Tracking Tests. Thanks to Donna for letting us use the little Red Schoolhouse as test headquarters and securing properties in Cross Junction to lay tracks. And, the many tests she Chaired and also was secretary for.

Joining our committee is Debbie Barrows, who coordinates the Tracking classes for PVGRC. Welcome Debbie! Glad to have you on our crew.

So here is the lineup of PVGRC's Standing Tracking Committee. If anyone has any Tracking questions, please contact any one of us.

Bob Kurtz, Chairperson  
Marge Paulding  
Sharon & Clayton Kilrain  
Cher & John Snyder  
Debbie Barrows

News about this year's TD/TDX tests on November 10. Fees have been increased to be more in line with other clubs' fees. TD = \$75; TDX = \$125

Location Change: Fields in and around Bob Kurtz's property in Lovettsville VA. This is pending AKC Approval.

We want to thank **Donna Thompson and members of Blue Ridge Dog Training Club** for the many years we held our tests in Cross Junction VA. Members of Blue Ridge often were some of our tracklayers at our tests. Donna also served as Test Chairperson, Secretary, and "hostess" with the mostess at the Little Red Schoolhouse that served as "headquarters."

No tracking brags to report from anyone.

Happy Tracking Tails!... Marge

### **SCENT WORK NEWS**

Marge Paulding is happy to share the news that in February, Jackson earned his NACSW NW2 title in a very wet and rainy trial in NC. Also, he earned AKC Advanced Buried and Interior titles, completing his “overall” Advanced Title (SWA). In May, he earned the necessary legs in Novice Buried, Interior and Exterior – to earn his Elite title in each class – and earning his Elite Novice Overall. Way to go Jackson! VETERANS’s ROCK!

### **EDUCATION COLUMN** (Sharon Ackerson, [sharon@siriuslygoldens.com](mailto:sharon@siriuslygoldens.com))

The following is an article that appeared in the most recent Golden Retriever News (Vol. LXXVI, No. 2 March-April 2019). Sharon received permission from Ms. Brown to reprint the article here.

The Great Divide  
By Glenda Brown

*This will not be an article on training, but it is a subject which I feel is very important. I wrote this some years ago for “Everything Golden” and found it in my files. Although still a problem, I have been delighted to see the increase in the number of conformation competing Goldens that are participating in field events, and being successful. Good on you!!*

It seems like every few months or so, in the various Golden “chat rooms” the subject of field versus conformation comes up. A few persons become very passionate about their own points of view. Often some of the participants become quite rude to others of a different persuasion as far as what venue is best. Why does any venue have to be “best”?

I am what could be called a “hard core” field trialer. This is where my time and energy have gone for many, many years. When I started with Goldens in 1975, I didn’t even know what field work was, nor did I particularly care. I began in conformation and obedience and did some tracking.

I have always been athletic and prefer performance activities. When I competed with and trained horses as a kid, I did a little conformation (and in some classes conformation is factored in together with performance), but performed in every venue. I had one horse that I would go from a Western class back into an English class. My Mother would take my chaps which covered my jodhpurs; I would put on a jacket and hard hat; my Dad would help me switch tack on the horse; and back into the English ring we would go. Also, I rode for other people and learned to appreciate a variety of breeds. In horses, as in Golden Retrievers, form should follow function. I was young and had lots of energy in those days!!

Each breed of dogs has a standard, and the standard should be based on the original purpose for that breed. Not only does the standard for Goldens contain a description of what the Golden should be from a physical point of view, it states “primarily a hunting dog,

he should be shown in hard working condition". It also describes what the ideal temperament of a Golden Retriever should be.

We should be cheering on all those breeders who are trying to blend together the standard as far as conformation combined with the purpose of a Golden which is "primarily a hunting dog."

As in humans, not everyone will be able to play golf at a top tournament level, compete at an Olympic quality standard in any venue, or look like a Sports Illustrated swim suit model; we find the same in our Golden Retrievers. To campaign as a Special requires an "especial" dog in addition to money, time, and the desire to have that dog continue competing. To earn an FC AFC with a Golden requires an extremely talented dog, a very good handler, money, time and energy and the desire to try and reach that level.

What we do wish to accomplish, is having Golden Retrievers who are Retrievers as well as meeting the physical standard. Not every Golden will meet the standard, nor will every Golden have an innate desire for birds and the ability to work as a hunting dog. It doesn't mean these Golden Retrievers cannot bring pleasure and joy to their owners nor contribute in a variety of other ways. It does not mean their owners are "bad persons" because their dogs do not reflect our ideal of perfection. What you would like to encourage, is that these dogs should not be bred if the faults they have would diminish the goal of the betterment of the Golden Retriever breed as a whole.

There was an excellent article in an academic magazine recently which described a study done about changing person's opinions. It was determined that the stronger you work on trying to change their minds, the less success you have. In fact, the harder you push, the more firmly entrenched the original position becomes. In other words, you are wasting your breath when you harangue. You can educate; encourage; demonstrate alternatives; present a good example, etc. You hope they will "see the light". Then of course, is your "light" the correct "light". This opens the discussion for all sorts of philosophical discourses.

If you believe conforming to the physical standard is the most important point of all, reread the standard and note where the breed purpose is located --- at the beginning. If you believe that only a strong desire to retrieve and work in the field is all that matters, read the breed standard and try to determine why it was written if the qualities listed didn't have merit. You still can have conformation as your primary interest or have field as the venue that brings you joy. Just keep an open mind.

My best friend, who has been my best friend for a considerable amount of time --- we met when our daughters started kindergarten --- have very different views on many things. She loves to garden. She does beautiful needle point and knits sweaters and baby blankets that could be sold in a boutique. She has been the treasurer of the Symphony forever. We have voted for different political candidates at times. She hasn't a clue as to what I really do with my dogs, but loves her Briard. I cringe when I see how Bentley's (the Briard) obedience training rarely comes into play. What we do have in common is we share a strong core value of principles together with the fact that we laugh a lot at the same things. I admire her strengths, and I think she tolerates mine.

We need to learn how to admire the strengths represented by Golden Retrievers who compete in any venue. We do not have to participate in each and every one ourselves, but tolerance for one another is what will keep our breed together.

Years ago, I read a book (novel) about the various religions and how a worldwide conference was planned to see if it could be determined if there was some way that these religions could work together. Many had been opponents, even flat out enemies, for innumerable

generations. Delegates from each religion, major and minor, sects and sub-sects, all showed up. It was a fascinating book (and regretfully I can't remember the title) as it went into detail about all the various rules, regulations, beliefs that each group maintained. Finally, at the end when everyone was ready to throw up their hands about the impossibility of finding anything to which they all could agree, one very wise man pointed out that every religion, sect and sub-sects, shared one major belief: The Golden Rule. They all had a version of "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

If field training, both hunting tests and field trials, and competing in them is what brings you and your dog delight and pleasure, realize that those who compete primarily or only in conformation may feel the same way about their pursuits. For those of you, who believe conformation competition is the only way to determine the merit of a Golden Retriever, reread the Golden Retriever standard. Let us treat one another with kindness, tolerance for our different views, and the understanding that a closed mind never expands.

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# Calendar of Events 2019

## January

January 27                      Membership Meeting (tentative)                      Laytonsville, MD

## February

February ??                      Board Meeting                      Glenwood, MD

## March

March 1                      Spring Specialty, Obedience  
Rally                      W Friendship, MD

March 17                      Awards Banquet, Membership  
Meeting                      Glenwood, MD

March 30                      Field Training Day                      Cheltenham, MD

## April

April ??                      Board Meeting                      Glenwood, MD

April 20-21                      Agility Trial                      Frederick, MD

## May

May 5                      Field Training Day (Flyers)                      Cheltenham, MD

May 11                      WC/WCX/Puppy Veteran/  
Membership Meeting                      Cheltenham, MD

May 31-June2                      Hunt Test                      Cheltenham, MD

## June

May 31 – June 2	Hunt Test	Cheltenham, MD
June TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD
June 22-23	Agility Trial	Frederick, MD
June 29	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD

## July

### August

August 3	Obedience Panel Palooza & K9 Olympics	Gettysburg, PA
August 4	Field Training Day (water only)	Cheltenham, MD
August 25	Dock Diving/Membership Mtg (tentative)	Millersville, MD
August 3	Board Meeting	Gettysburg, PA

### September

Sept 8-9	Agility Trial	Frederick, MD
Sept 15	Field Training Day (flyers)	Cheltenham, MD

### October

Oct 11-13	Hunt Test	Cheltenham, MD
Oct TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD

### November

Nov 9-10	Tracking Test	Locations TBD
Nov 16-17	Fast CAT	Union Bridge, MD

### December

December TBD	Holiday Party/Membership Meeting	Locations TBD
December TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD

## Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club Officers

<p><u>President</u> Beth Sokohl 110 McGlaughlin Road Gettysburg, PA 17325 301-641-8606 bethsokohl@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Vice President</u> Betsy Harringer 10310 Greenacres Drive Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-613-2119 <a href="mailto:betsy@harringer.com">betsy@harringer.com</a></p>
<p><u>Secretary</u> Kim Sipola 201 Kaufman Road Parkton, MD 21120 410-952-0649 kimsipola@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Clayton Kilrain 5655 Pageland Lane Gainesville, VA 20155 703-753-8321 csk9gold@gmail.com</p>

### Board of Directors

Amy Brown, Pat Kavanagh, Ken Wiedel, Ann Strathern, Gary Newbaum

### Committee Chairpersons

<p><u>Membership</u> Rita Bumgardner 557 Acorn Circle Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 304-876-2912 rbumgardner17@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>Tracking Info</u> Marge Paulding 17000 Gerting Road Monkton, MD 21111 410-472-2868 mkpgold1@verizon.net</p>	<p><u>Conformation Info</u> Cindy Williamson 3911 Grimm Road Jarrettsville, MD 21084 410-692-9335 cindy@lycinan.com</p>	<p><u>Programs</u> Betsy Harringer 10310 Greenacres Drive Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-613-2119 betsy@harringer.com</p>
<p><u>Education</u> Sharon Ackerson 538 Habron Hollow Road Fort Valley, VA 22652 540-933-6743 sharon@siriuslygoldens.com</p>	<p><u>Historian</u></p>	<p><u>Newsletter Editor</u> Mary Ann Massie 4520 Three Chopt Road Gum Spring, VA 23065 804-467-5947 slipknotfarm@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Obedience Info</u> Mary Ann Massie 4520 Three Chopt Road Gum Spring, VA 23065 804-467-5947 slipknotfarm@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Field Info</u> Beth Sokohl 110 McGlaughlin Road Gettysburg, PA 17325 301-641-8606 bethsokohl@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>GRCA Delegate</u> Penny Geddes 6103 Miles Lane Warrenton, VA 20187 540-347-7531 pengold@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Agility Info and Historian</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555 kiowagold@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>GRCA Correspondent</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555 kiowagold@gmail.com</p>

Puppy Referral: Nicole DeBernardi 724-980-1964

**Newsletter Advertising:** Limited to club members only. Full page ads are \$30, half page \$15, quarter page \$8. Listings (member-owned adults or litters from member-owned bitches) will be for Golden Retrievers only and must be accompanied by copies of the OFA clearances within the last 18 months. All other advertisements for miscellaneous items or services must be dog-related. The PVGRC does not endorse any of the dogs, services, or items advertised in this newsletter.

**The Objectives of the PVGRC:** To encourage and promote the quality breeding of purebred Golden Retrievers, and to do all possible to bring their natural qualifications to perfection; to urge members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the AKC 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; and to conduct sanctioned and licensed specialty shows, field trials, hunting retriever tests, and obedience trials under the rules of the AKC.