



The Potomac Valley News

September - October 2019

President's Message

So I just flipped the calendar to an "R" month. I am not a big fan of summer, mainly because of the heat and humidity, and all the months without an "R" bring heat and humidity. I would much rather wear a sweatshirt. And, I don't worry about the dogs in the fall, spring or winter...so I am always relieved when an "R" shows up. Plus...it's football season, and chili season, and I could go on and on, and I realize I am in the minority...Fall also means the club ramps back up...fall sees an agility trial, a hunt test, training days, a FastCat trial and a tracking test...so we are about to get busy again. We went a little bit outside the box this summer, and had an obedience panel palooza, and we combined it with the K9 Olympics...and we had it up at our new farm in Gettysburg. An obedience ring was set up, we had three obedience judges to give their good points, and their things to work on...we had a crowd, and dogs at all three levels. And, once the obedience dogs were finished, they could go join the fun of the K9 Olympics!!! Nobody could dethrone Ken Harringer with the marshmallow toss, but fun was had by all. And we had some new faces, and some we don't get to see very often. It was a pretty big crowd, on a beautiful summer day...thanks to all that put it on...Mary Ann Massie, who thought of the idea of the obedience panel palooza and our wonderful judges Pat Kavanagh and Debbie Barrows, and to Betsy Harringer and Monica Stevens, Julie Crespo, and Molly McEvoy for the help of the K9 Olympics!!!! And, two weeks later, we had our annual dock diving event...and a whole group of new members stepped up and chaired the event...Thank you Martha and Mike Skladanek and Gary and Liz Neubaum and Jen Holmquist and Denise D. McHarg.....they did a fabulous job, especially for a first effort.

So, just to add some food for thought as all the competitions start up again. I failed a hunt test this weekend, with all three of my master dogs...that doesn't happen very often, and I don't like losing or failing at all. As I was trying to put this in perspective, I came across this on Facebook:

“Chin up Kiddo. You win some, you lose some. You steal some. You get some stolen from you. That is our sport. No matter how negative this feels, just know it’s positively building you as a rider and sportsmen. All of this is just another chapter to close and grow from as a team. You got them next time – the time after that. Now pat your horse, tell the rider ahead of you congratulations, and hold your head high.” This was a coach giving a rider a pep talk at the American Eventing Championships....and like so many other things with horses...it is absolutely true for dog sports...every single one of them...so go hug your dogs, and thank them for being your partner....and, like the broken record I am....go volunteer at one of our events this fall!!!!

Beth

Mark your calendars!

PVGRC’s Annual Fall TD/TDX test - Sunday, November 10, 2019

****Location Change*****

Headquarters at Bob Kurtz’s home:
12314 Moon Lake Ln
Lovettsville VA 20180

Offering: 3 TDs; 2 TDXs, with Alt X possible as a Qualifying Track
Judges: Judith Edwards and Michelle Gillette

Premium will be posted to Club’s website by beginning of September.
Fees: TD - \$75; TDX - \$125

Test Chairperson: Marge Paulding
Test Secretary: Bob Kurtz

If you want to volunteer, please contact Marge Paulding at mkpgold1@verizon.net. We need folks to help with hospitality, drivers to help drop off and pick up Judges, tracklayers, and fans to cheer teams to the final article.



Image from bing.com

NEWSLETTER NEWS.....

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS –

NEXT ISSUE IS **November - December**.

Your deadline for column submission is **October 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, October 25 is your deadline. My hope is to publish by November 15.

I look forward to your submissions!

Mary Ann Massie

slipknotfarm@aol.com

“Annabelle” and I are looking for your submissions for future newsletters.....Get busy!



photo credit Becky Pearman

PVGRC has received the following applications for membership:.

An application for family membership to PVGRC has been received from Dana and Brendan Foley of Lutherville, MD. They have been endorsed by members Steven Surprenant and Bob Kurtz. Their interests are conformation, rally, tracking and field events. Special skills they would like to share with the club is writing. They say they are novices with events but are happy to help with anything! Dana's email is danafoley91@gmail.com

An application for family membership has been received from Denise and Michael McHarg of Odenton, MD. Their membership has been endorsed by Cindy Williamson and Karin Shinego. Though Denise and Michael are interested in conformation, obedience, rally agility and field events, they would like to concentrate on rally and obedience. They would like to help PVGRC with equipment set up and computer needs, and are willing to help with the upcoming dock diving event.

An application for an associate membership to PVGRC has been received from Dale Soper of Woodbine, MD. She has been endorsed by members Laurie Collins and Jeannette Hoover. Dale is a retired teacher and is interested in agility, obedience and field events. She would like to assist the club with field events and agility trials. Her email is thornhillfcr@gmail.com

Rita Bumgardner (email 8/3 and 8/9 and 7/11)

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

FIELD COLUMN (Beth Sokohl, bethsokohl@gmail.com)

Summer is winding down...our beginner field class was packed with newbies...our training days have been crowded with people working towards their goals. **Our fall hunt test is on the calendar for October 12-13.** We are having a **double junior/double senior** this year. We are skipping master because it is so close to the master national. Tricia Dunseith and Molly McEvoy have agreed to chair the test. We always need workers...come enjoy a nice fall day in the field watching dogs doing what they love...

Congratulations to Megan Baker and FedX and Sawyer, who all made the long drive to Montana, and came home with big pretty ribbons from the Master Amateur Invitational!!! And, Good Luck to all our club members competing at the Master National in October:

Megan Baker and FedX and Sawyer
Pam Turgeon and Goose
Rita Bumgardner and Sammy
Beth Sokohl and Jazz, Joker, Cinco and Brazen
Hopefully we will have good news in the next newsletter!!!

AGILITY AND FAST CAT COLUMN (Nick DeCesare, kiowagold@gmail.com)

Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club held our summer AKC agility trial on June 22 & 23, 2019 at the Frederick Indoor Sport Center. If you have every heard the saying about having too much of a good thing, this was our year and our trial. In an effort to attract as many exhibitors as possible, I set an entry limit of 450 runs on Saturday and 420 runs on Sunday. I really didn't believe we would get close to filling either day. Guess what? Everybody showed up! I don't think the AKC keeps records on this type of thing but I am positive this weekend will rank high on the list of the longest two day agility trials. Which just goes to show, when you think you have everything figured out, the unexpected will pop up and bring you back to earth quickly. On a very positive note, for the first time PVGRC member and newly approved AKC agility judge, Tricia Dunseith, judged at our trial and did an outstanding job under a very challenging judging schedule. Thank you, Tricia!

With the June "full house" agility trial behind us, PVGRC will hold our "late summer" trial on September 7 & 8, 2019 at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center and it will be a much more manageable 350 runs each day. As always, we are in need of workers for a variety of positions, many of which afford an excellent vantage point to watch the dogs and handlers.

This trial marks the 20th anniversary of our first agility trial in 1999. I would like to share some agility trial trivia with you. Over the past 20 years PVGRC has held 106 AKC agility trial dates over 54 weekends, including the GRCA Nationals in 2005 and 2017, a couple of "Golden Only Agility Trials"- G.O.A.T.s and one Sporting Dog Only Trial. Some were three day events, some were two days. Our first agility trial was part of a cluster with the Potomac Valley Belgian Sheepdog Club and the Warrenton Kennel Club at Rectortown, Va. Over the past twenty years, by my fairly accurate but un-official count, we have had a total entry (number of runs) of 56,240 dogs. I have many fond memories of great dogs and great handlers, of good times with good friends, much joy and some sorrow. But given the chance, I would do all of the trials again.

November Fast CAT

Our November 16 & 17, 2019 Fast CAT event will be held at the Gamber & Community Fire Company, on MD Rt. 32 at 3838 Niner Road, Finksburg, MD 21048. This site is being used by most clubs in our area for Fast CAT. The Site has lots of parking, indoor, heated restrooms, a covered pavilion with picnic tables and a flat, level grass running surface for the dogs. We will be part of a three-day Fast CAT with the Potomac Valley Belgian Sheepdog Club on Friday, November 15 and our tests on Saturday and Sunday. I have ordered three nice fall days with moderate temperatures and no snow! I hope we can get the member support we had last year at our first Fast CAT and can have the same success we had last November. If you haven't been to a Fast CAT or would like more information please contact me at kiowagold@gmail.com. Fast CAT is a very rewarding event (\$\$\$) for our club.

OBEDIENCE & RALLY COLUMN (Mary Ann Massie, slipknotfarm@aol.com)

The “**Panel Palooza**” obedience fun day was a success!

Thank you to Beth Sokohl and Kelly Shufflebottom for the use of their indoor arena at Silver Lining Farm in Gettysburg ! I received a number of very nice emails about the event with encouragement to do another!

Pat Kavanagh, Bets Keen, and I hauled ring gates from home – we added those to Beth and Kelly's ring gates to complete our ring set up. It takes a village! The indoor arena, complete with a plastic owl swinging in the breeze, was a real test for our teams but everyone handled it beautifully. We had six utility dogs, eight novice dogs, and three open dogs. I started calling the exercises at 9:30 and we powered through by 12:20 (just in time to enjoy the hamburgers and picnic fixings!) The input from our judging “panel” included one positive observation and one ‘area needing improvement’ for each dog and handler team. Focus/attention and pace were noteworthy in the ‘area needing improvement’. The positives included excellent fronts, great teamwork, awesome go outs, great retrieves, straight sits, super stands, speedy recalls, and the list goes on. Thank you so very much to Pat Kavanagh and Debbie Barrows for their time and expertise in ‘judging’ our participants. I appreciate the effort you made to ensure the success of this event.

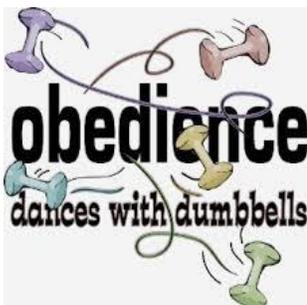


image from zazzle.com

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:

Janet Kaplan and “Trigger” (Kiowa’s Stop Or I’ll Shoot JH WCX) earned their CD title in one weekend at the Indian River Dog Training Club’s July Obedience Trial in Melbourne FL.

Way to go Janet !



“Trigger” is so proud!

Grace Brown and her Golden Retriever “Scarlet” qualified in great style (all three legs in one weekend) to receive their Rally Advanced title. Congratulations Grace!!

TRACKING COLUMN (Bob Kurtz , bobkurtzjr@gmail.com)

In every organization, the time eventually comes for some change. And so it is with the tracking committee. After many years of providing great leadership to the tracking committee, Marge Paulding is stepping down from that committee chair role, though she will be continuing on the tracking committee for at least a bit longer. Donna Thompson, who has for years hosted the tracking test, is also taking a break as is Marie Huffman. I know that many others will join me in thanking all three ladies for their hard work over many years!

As part of this change, I will be serving as the new tracking committee chair. Many of you know me from other venues; I've been active in PVGRC field events for almost 20 years. While I've yet to title a dog in tracking, I've enjoyed several tracking classes with the club, and have worked with Debbie Barrows to run the introduction to tracking class for the past several years. In fact, Debbie is also joining the tracking committee this year.

We'll also be changing the tracking test venue this year. After many years in Cross

Junction, Virginia with Donna, we'll be moving to western

Loundoun County, Virginia, in and around Lovettsville

(NOVEMBER 10). It can be hard to line up the vast amounts of property needed for a tracking test, so in 2019 we're starting a little smaller and limiting the test to 3 TDs and 2 TDXs. As we get to know our new properties better (and hopefully find some additional sites to add to our mix) we plan to return to our historical 4 TDs and 3 TDXs.

Tracking is a different game than the other dog events I've been involved in. It requires total faith in your partner, as there's almost nothing you can do as the handler to help your dog—though as I've come to understand there are any number of things you can do to hinder success! There's that first time when you work a full-length track, and you feel like you're totally lost and about to give up, and then BAM! Your dog has found the final glove! All your trust has been rewarded.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in the field!

-Bob



CONFORMATION COLUMN (Cindy Williamson, cindy@lycinan.com)

Sandy Selander reports that her "Barry" has not only finished his American Championship on April 27th, but that he has recently been to Canada for a whirlwind 3 week tour, walking off with both a Canadian Championship, and a Canadian Grand Championship. He was also Best of Breed from the Open Dog class, over 18 specials, at the Golden Retriever Club

of Canada's Regional Specialty, and took a Group 4 placement. Three titles in the first 6 months of 2019. He is now officially known as: CH, Can GCH, Aus. Supreme CH. Nautilus Great Barrier @ Online

Congratulations, Sandy and Barry! Most impressive!

Chris Browning's, Walker - BISS GCH Avalor-Eldorado's the Force Continues (Walker) is continuing his winning ways:

Virginia KC shows in Doswell he was BOB under Linda Reece & BOB and Gr 4 under S Hedgepath, and at the Salem VA shows he took a BOB, a BOS & 3 Selects (all Grand CH majors) for 16 Grand CH pts. Walker is now #21 in Breed pts in his past 2.5 months of showing. Excellent, Chris!

Chris also reports that [ELDORADO'S ROCK MY WORLD](#) (Kixx) was WD/BW at the Sat Tidewater KC of VA and WD for a major at the Upper Marlboro KC show in July. Way to go Kixx!

Please remember to send me you wins and accomplishments to have them included in the next column.

We are organizing the 2020 PVGRC specialty to be held on Feb 28. We'd love volunteers for many different jobs. Please contact Cindy Williamson or Cindy Partridge if you'd like to help out. It would be great to have a lot of help so it is not such a large job for the specialty chair.

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	Millersville, MD
August TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD

September

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

October

Oct 12-13	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 7	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 betsy@harringer.com</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> Bob Kurtz 12314 Moon Lake Ln Lovettsville, VA 20180 703-850-2135 bobkurtzjr@gmail.com</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

PVGRC Webmaster: Jeff Ackerson jeff@siriuslygoldens.com or webmaster@pvgrc.org

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.