



The Potomac Valley News

March - April 2012

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT!

Again this year we have lots of great things planned for our furry friends and their humans. Please be sure to check the PVGRC web site, it is being constantly updated by Janet Kaplan. If you haven't gotten anything from our yahoo group lately that probably means that you aren't enrolled or you have changed your e-mail address and forgotten to update Laurie. Please contact Laurie Collins to be added to the group or for a change to your e-mail address. She can be reached at SABrirTo4@verizon.net

Marie Huffman has had two lovely programs this year so far for our members to enjoy. Thanks to Beth Sokohl and Megan Baker and their dogs for the lovely field program in January. Those of us who needed to do some drills because we have gone up a level learned a lot, and it was a great reminder for more experienced handlers as well. They even let us try to handle their dogs who are way more experienced than most of ours are. The dogs were good sports about all the mixed signals they got! In February we had a seminar on first aid and dog CPR. Lots of good ideas and Franklin was a great sport about letting people feel the right places for pulses, breathing etc. While Franklin was a PAL dog he had a heart of gold and the temperament to be a "true golden" so we were able to learn a great deal from him and his Mom. A big suggestion was to take a human CPR course as the methods have changed and the new method for humans is the method that is used on dogs. Two for the price of one!

March brings our awards banquet. I hope by now you've sent your pictures to Sheri McAlevey for the slide show and that you've sent your check to Marie Huffman for your dinner reservation. This will be a big night. We have a constitution change coming up, you'll want to hear the specific's and have some input, and of course you will want find out who did what in 2011. Even if you haven't titled this year be sure to come and cheer on those who have.

Our show this year has been moved to the Frederick Fairgrounds. We hope you will enjoy our new site. There will be some changes so **please, please, read the premium and your judging program.** Set up day will be on Thursday starting around 9 a.m. Only those on the list for set up crew will be allowed in the buildings until 3 p.m. There is plenty of crate space and electricity but there is no driving into the buildings for drop off or set up and there is no grooming allowed on Thursday. Be sure to observe all the signs for parking and off loading. Obedience people have their own building and parking area so be sure to look at the judging program for the gate you are to use. If you park in the wrong place you will have quite a hike carrying your crate. All this said, if you would like to be on the set up crew please let me know. I will need good strong bodies to move mats and ring gating, people who will tape mats, and those willing to help with trophy set up etc.

Right now I have 5 people and need about 5 more. General set up of crates etc. will be from 3 to 6 on Thursday. The buildings will be locked at that point until 6:30 the next morning. Like I said before, **please read the information on your judging program**. This site is lovely and we don't want to lose it and we don't want you to get a ticket either.

The month of May brings our WC/WCX on Sunday May 6th. Please call Andy Moore to volunteer. If you don't have a dog entered, never did field work, aren't sure about what field work is, it doesn't matter, we have a job for you. Please volunteer! Andy can be reached by e-mail andythehandyman@verizon.net or 410-997-1405. It takes a whole lot of people to run a field event so consider this your invitation to help.

One other reminder, like our dogs we need to be gentle around people, be a great sport, offer to help a beginner, give an encouraging word to someone who didn't have a great day, and always volunteer to help. If Megan and Beth's dogs and Franklin can do it, so can we. See you around the ring or in the field.

Debbie

SPECIALTY UPDATE

We need volunteers to set up and clean up and help the days of the shows. We have a new site, two buildings, different parking, a "c match" on Friday night, judges transportation needs, etc. So please volunteer. Call Addie Stocks to volunteer for breed stewarding addiestocks@yahoo.com or 410-489-2343, Pat Kavanagh for obedience stewarding patkav@comcast.net or 410-252-6758, Leslie Stanley for the "C match" stanleyL3@verizon.net or 703-369-1597 and Debbie Barrows, debrabarrows@hotmail.com or 703-503-5184 to help with set up or clean up. We need **everyone to help** in some way to make this a great show.

CONFORMATION STEWARDS FOR 2012 SPECIALTY

Addie Stocks, Chief Conformation Steward at our Spring Specialty on April 13 and 14, needs volunteers to serve as conformation stewards. Since it is a 2-day event, you may sign up for either day, or both. You may sign up for sweeps or for regular classes or a portion thereof. You may not serve as conformation steward if you or someone else is showing your Golden to the conformation judge. Please email Addie at addiestocks@yahoo.com or call her at 410-489-2343. Thanks for volunteering. Your help will be much appreciated.

Obedience Brags **Lesley Stanley**

Sally Henry and Ryser (MACH High Peak's Rising To The Top UD RN NF JH WCX VCX CCA ADHF) earned their first UDX leg on January 29 at the York County Dog Training Club obedience trial taking first place in utility and open for 18 points and going High in Trial and High Combined.

General Meeting/Board Meeting Highlights

Nancy Kulig, Secretary

General Membership Meeting Minutes - 1/7/12

The meeting was held at the Canine Training Association facility, Davidsonville, MD. There were 27 members in attendance. An excellent program on how we can train our dogs to transition between junior hunter and senior hunter was presented by Megan Baker and Beth Sokohl.

Treasurer's Report: The annual Treasurer's Report will be sent to all committee chairmen as a reference for expected expenses in the coming year.

New Members: Laurie Falter of Burke, VA, Robyn Magee of Wilmington, DE, and Sisi Smith of North East, MD were voted in as members of PVGRC.

Club Calendar: The annual club calendar is in the January/February 2012 newsletter and on the PVGRC website. Although the dates are set, chairmen are still needed for several events. Laurie Collins volunteered to chair the Veteran's Day. Laurie is also in charge of the GRREAT silent auction at the PVGRC Awards Banquet in March and requests donations.

PVGRC Annual Trophies: A last request was made for members to apply for the club's annual trophies.

WC/WCX/Pee Wee Stakes: The date for the WC/WCX/Pee Wee stakes will be May 6, 2012. The judges will be Carol and Dan Lewis.

Annual Election: There were no additional nominations from the members-at-large, and the slate presented by the nominating committee was unanimously approved:

- President- Debbie Barrows
- Vice President – Marie Huffman
- Secretary – Nancy Kulig
- Treasurer – Clayton Kilrain
- Board of Directors- Beth Sokohl

PVGRC Specialty: The 2012 PVGRC Specialty will be held at the Frederick, MD fairgrounds. We will not have our traditional potluck lunch supplied by members due to health department regulations.

GRCA Nationals: The President of the GRCA, John Cotter, gave an update on GRCA projects and activities. The GRCA Nationals will be at Purina Farms in 2012, Texas in 2013, North Carolina in 2014, Minneapolis in 2015, and Nor Cal in 2016.

PVGRC Code of Ethics/Bylaws: PVGRC will update our Code of Ethics during 2012 to conform to the GRCA Code of Ethics. We will also examine changing our Bylaws to have membership categories that allow for both voting (active) and non-voting (less active) memberships.

[Respectfully submitted by Marie Huffman (acting Secretary).]

Highlights: Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - 1/29/12

The meeting was held in Annandale, VA with seven of nine members as well as one out-going member present.

Meeting Minutes: The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for November 10 and the General Membership Meeting minutes for December 18 were approved with minor changes.

Correspondence: Both a judge and an agility competitor expressed thanks to Nick DeCesare for the well-run PVGRC agility trial this fall.

Update on awards banquet: The awards banquet will be Sunday, March 11, 2012. The banquet will be held at "That's Amore Italian Restaurant" in Rockville, MD. Laurie Collins is working with GRREAT and PVGRC members to get donations for the auction. The proceeds support rescued Golden Retrievers.

PVGRC Match: The PVGRC Match will be held in Catoctin, MD. A breed judge and an obedience judge are still needed. The match chairman will be Sandy Selander.

Proposed Bylaw Changes: Marie Huffman recommended considering two types of PVGRC membership: voting (active) and non-voting (less active). She proposed using a point system linking a particular level of participation in club events and meetings to voting eligibility. This would require a change to the PVGRC Bylaws. Approval from AKC, GRCA, and PVGRC membership is needed for changes to our Bylaws.

Marie Huffman also suggested having General Membership meetings every other month and Board of Directors meetings on alternate months, and she stated that this would also require a change to the PVGRC Bylaws. At the same time, other policy changes could be proposed and updated if necessary. She proposed that potential changes to the PVGRC Bylaws be discussed at the February general membership meeting and that members also be informed of potential changes electronically. This calendar year, PVGRC will need to retain the same Bylaws since approval of changes could be lengthy.

Treasurer's Report: Clayton Kilrain stated that PVGRC ended December 2011 \$2,000 in the black. He remarked that agility events bring in much of the money made by the club. He discussed the good work done on changes to PVGRC's tax status by Mr. Ed Carey who also supports other clubs as an accountant. The decision was made to ask Mr. Ed Carey to be the PVGRC accountant.

Committee Reports:

- Breed: Bob Crowley gave an update on the breed show.
- Obedience: No report.
- Field: Andy Moore reported that he will chair the WC/WCX on Sunday, May 6 with Lorraine McPartland as the apprentice chair and that the Capital Region Flat Coated Retriever Club WC/WCX would be held Saturday, May 5, with both events at Rover's Retreat. They will coordinate logistics with the CRFCRC event chair.
- Agility: Nick DeCesare wrote that the April and June PVGRC agility trials have been approved by the AKC. The AKC has not yet approved the October agility trial.
- Tracking: Marge Paulding wrote that the Tracking Committee is working to identify a chair for the November tracking event.

Mark Maisel Award: The draft document providing the criteria for the Mark Maisel award was reviewed by the Board of Directors and comments will be sent back to the Field Committee for consideration. A revised draft will be reviewed by the Board of Directors at the March 2012 meeting.

Annual budgets for committee/events: No additional funds were identified as needed.

Safety deposit box and storage unit update: Contents/size/cost of renting a safety deposit box and storage unit will be identified prior to making a decision on whether to rent them.

Mats: Because of quality issues related to rented matting for conformation and obedience events, Bob Crowley and Andy Moore are researching the types and cost of matting that could be purchased by PVGRC. The decision was made to rent matting for this year and possibly purchase matting for future years depending on the research.

Updating judges lists: Leslie Stanley, Bob Crowley, and Sharon Albright sent PVGRC Committee-approved judges lists to the President, and these lists will be provided to members.

Supported entries: The Salisbury Maryland Kennel Club requested a PVGRC supported entry for their event again this year, and the request was approved for the minimum amount.

Monetary request: PVGRC will send \$100 to the Blue Ridge Retriever Club for laying track at the PVGRC tracking event.

Policy for Chairpersons/Secretaries Showing at an Event or Entering Dogs: PVGRC's policy that was effective March 23, 2011 may not be widely known. Every committee chair will have a copy to provide to their chairman.

Highlights: General Membership Meeting Minutes 2/11/12

The meeting was held at the Catoclin Kennel Club, Catoclin, MD. There were 19 members and no guests present. A very informative presentation on canine first aid and CPR was made by Brooke Loewenstein, DVM CCRT from the Buckeystown Veterinary Hospital.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the January 7, 2012 General Membership Meeting and the January 29, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting were read and approved with minor changes.

Awards Banquet: The next meeting will be at the PVGRC Awards Banquet on March 11. PVGRC members need to make their reservations soon because the restaurant must be prepaid. Auction items are needed for the event to support GRREAT.

K-9 Olympics: The K-9 Olympics is scheduled for July 21 which is the same day as the Salisbury Kennel Club dog show. If no one volunteers to chair the event, then it will be cancelled.

PVGRC Match: The Match will be held in November this year rather than August due to heat concerns.

PVGRC Specialty: Bob Crowley reported that PVGRC will use rented mats for conformation and obedience for this year. He stated that they are researching options to purchase mats for future years. The judges for the PVGRC Specialty are set. The event will be held at the Frederick, MD fairgrounds which has lower rent for interior space. Conformation will be in one building, and obedience will be in another building. There will be a food vendor at the site.

The premium/judging list should be read by those planning on entering the show because of the changes in venue and requirements such as grooming, parking, and hours of access to the two buildings. Debbie Barrows is

developing a list of those who will help the days of the show. If anyone has ads for the catalog, send them to Rachel Toren (Rhonda's daughter) as soon as possible.

Bylaw Changes: PVGRC has 280 members who are geographically dispersed among multiple states, making achieving a quorum (20% of members) at meetings difficult; we are not allowed to vote electronically. Marie Huffman has proposed having two types of membership: voting (active) and non-voting (less active). She also proposed having six General Membership Meetings each year and six Board of Directors Meetings each year on alternate months. She stated that changes to membership dues had not been discussed. PVGRC members should e-mail any changes and preferences to Marie Huffman.

Agility Column
Nick DeCesare

PVGRC agility types will want to mark their calendars for our three trial weekends for 2012. Our Spring trial will be held April 21 & 22 in Westminster, MD and our judges will be Lavonda Herring and Stephanie Capkovic. We will offer 660 runs each day with standard, jumpers and FAST on Saturday and standard, jumpers and Time 2 Beat on Sunday. This trial is the weekend after the PVGRC Specialty and no, it is not Easter weekend. We always need help for these trials so don't be bashful. Most jobs are very easy - replaced knocked jump bars, walk leashes, etc. The trials are indoors so nobody gets wet or sunburned and you have a perfect up close view of all the action. No prior experience necessary - we will train you. Just think how you can impress your family and friends when you tell them how you worked at the PVGRC Spring agility trial. Please contact me by email if you would like to help at any trial.

The Summer agility trial has been expanded to three days and will be held on June 22, 23 & 24 in Westminster, MD. Our judges will be Clyde Closson and Darryl Warren, both Golden retriever guys with fast dogs and lots of agility experience. The Friday trial will be an "excellent only" event with 500 runs and will offer standard, jumpers and Time 2 Beat. Saturday and Sunday will be 660 runs and will offer standard, jumpers and either FAST or Time 2 Beat. Please note: this trial filled last year.

The Fall agility trial will be held on October 26, 27 & 28 and will be a replay of the June trial with judges Karen Winter (past President of the Greater St. Louis GRC) and local favorite Blair Kelly. This trial also filled last year.

There are no new titles or qualifying runs to report this month but I'm sure the PVGRC agility gang has been out trialing every weekend and they will be sharing their success stories with us in the next issue.

Conformation Column

Joan Donohue
Aquest@erols.com

New Champions

Firestar's Go For Broke TD (Sharon & Clayton Kilrain) picked up that last point to finish at the Thursday Northern Neck show. "Chip" followed up his championship with a BOB at the Middle Peninsula KC of Virginia Sunday show.

Eldorado's Give Me Liberty or... (Debra Eib and Chris Browning) picked up his last major at the Friday Greater Fredericksburg show.

Specials News

Ch Golly G's Nix the Rumour (Teri Poetker & Bill & Janet Lauderdale) took the breed at the Thursday Annapolis show.

Veterans News

***CH Bonacres Firstar Enterprise BN, RE, TD, WC, VC* (Sharon and Clayton Kilrain) went BOSVISS and Best Veteran at the Long Island Specialty.**

Class News

Rhapsody Whole Lotta Love RA (Sharon and Jeff Ackerson) took home more points from the Sunday Annapolis show and was reserve at the Friday Carroll show.

Genesis Rise and Shine (Jeanette Hoover & Teresa Blumberg) picked up his first points at the Saturday Carroll and was reserve at Sunday Annapolis and the Sunday Maryland shows.

At the Middle Peninsula KC of Virginia shows, *Cane'Doro's Last Minute Reprieve* (Diane Petruso) went WD both Saturday and Sunday.

Sunkota's Do The Math (Cathy Story) picked up more points at the Sunday Maryland show. "Larry" was reserve at the Thursday Northern Neck and Greater Fredericksburg shows.

My Buddy's Times They Are A-Changin (Jeanette Makowskyj & George Makowskyj & Leeah Chew) picked up the points at the Northern Neck KC and the Saturday Greater Fredericksburg shows.

Sandpiper's Rock Star (Caroline Bruton) is quickly picking up points from the puppy class. "Diva" was WB at the Chesapeake Club of MD, the Saturday Middle Peninsula and picked up a four point major at the Rockland County show. "Diva" was also BOS sweeps at the Hudson Valley specialty.

Also, quickly picking up points is *Sun Bay's Flash This Just In RN* (Alice Hathaway) with wins at the Thursday Northern Neck, Thursday Annapolis and the Sunday Maryland shows.

Eldorado's Fawnboro the Color Purple (Chris Browning) went WB/BOS at the Middle Peninsula KC of Virginia Sunday show.

Golly G's Fellow Traveler (Cher & John Snyder/Teri Poetker) went WD at the Friday Carroll show and reserve at the Saturday Greater Fredericksburg show.

Sunkota's Natural Selection (Maureen Allnutt & Cathy Story) picked up her first points at the Saturday Greater Fredericksburg show.

Odyssey's Remember the Titan (Yolanda Stephens) was WD, from the puppy class, for his first point at the Annapolis KC Thursday show.

Goodtime's Peyton Place (Sandy Selander) was WB, from the puppy class, for her first point at the Friday Carroll show and reserve at the Sunday Annapolis show.

TRACKING NEWS

Marge Paulding (email brags to mkpgold1@verizon.net)

Well, as I sit here thinking about the prospect of spring, I wonder ----- did we really have a winter season? Not sure about all of you, but I do enjoy at least one snow fall each season. And I know my golden Jackson, just loves making his snow doggy angels in the new fallen snow. We never know what March might have in store, but as my daffodils are just about ready to bloom, maybe we just will make tracks right into spring.

Most of us have been able to continue our tracking training throughout the winter months this year, which is good. Hopefully, the mild weather will continue through the month of March.

I have no tracking brags to share, but I know some of you are out there working on TDX training. Hope that we here some good news very soon.

Here is a tracking training tip for those of you that might be having some problems with "turns." If your dog is consistently overshooting turns, it might be time to focus some additional training devoted to assisting the dog in indicating "loss of scent" sooner (within 6 feet of a turn) rather than later (more than 20 feet). Based on the lay of the land and weather conditions, when dogs overshoot turns, it is very difficult for them to work out where the actual turn is and which way it goes.

Never be afraid to take a few steps back in your training program, and help the dog understand. Simplify by decreasing age and length of track, lessening the amount of obstacles, etc.

A simple approach would be plot a track that has 3-4 turns. Make sure whoever lays the track – whether it is you or someone else - picks good landmarks so you know exactly where the turns are. Instead of doing a perfect 90-degree turn, make it slightly rounded. You can triple lay the turn, or shuffle-step your way through the turn. Approximately 15-20 yards after each turn, put an article to reward the dog. When you run the track with your dog, keep your dog on a shorter lead. Instead of the normal 20 feet of line, keep it at 10 feet, so you can help the dog.

As you approach each turn, maintain a neutral body position by continuing to face the direction of the leg before the turn. Do your best to not let your body position aid the dog in finding the next leg after the turn. Pay close attention as your dog approaches the upcoming turn. Most times, a tracking dog will give a slight head nod in the

direction of the next leg of the track. BUT, the dog might continue on the leg it is on, without making the actual turn. If the dog goes past the actual turn, allow only about 6 feet of line so that the dog is restricted from overshooting the turn too much. You want the dog to understand that when it loses the predominant scent of the track, that a change of direction has occurred. The dog might start to cast. Because you have the dog on a shorter line, it will find the next leg of the track much sooner, then be rewarded with a well-placed article. Continue to run the rest of the track this way.

After a few of these sessions to help hone the dog's skills at finding turns in the track, both you and your dog should exhibit more confidence. You can then gradually add in distance, complexity, and age.

Happy Tracking Tails!

FOR SALE

Zinger Winger for sale! Winger is wired for use with Dogtra or Tri-tronics remote electronics, and can also be used manually to launch bumpers or birds.

Email zingerwinger@hotmail.com for more information.



A reminder that green grass and spring are coming....winners from the K9 Olympics
2011!!!

Pictured from left to right as you view the picture:
Rosie (Barbara Clem)(Veterans), Frosty (Debbie Barrows)(Veterans)
Rumor (Melissa Gauthier)(Adult), Shimmer (Penny Geddes)(Adult)

Thank you Jeff Ackerson for the reminder and the picture!!!!



In Loving Memory

**SR Aquest's Down Under JH, RAE, WC, CGC
(9/15/1997 - 1/18/2012)**

Loved and missed by Joan Donohue

In January 2003, Sydney was diagnosed with oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma and to save her life, part of her lower jaw was removed. Syd handled the surgery and recovery in typical golden retriever manner by taking everything in stride. I was thankful to have her still alive and thought her hunt test days were done. Syd had other ideas. She insisted on getting her ducks and picked up her last three legs for her JH in straight tests four months after her surgery. Although, she loved the field, she also loved being my buddy and my niece's junior dog. What a girl! After the surgery, I was not sure what the future held for her but I was thankful for every day with her. Little did I know I would be very lucky to share almost nine more years with her before I had to say goodbye. Rest in peace my sweet girl.

Calendar of Events 2012 (con't)

July

July 21	K9 Olympics & General Meeting	Monrovia, MD
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August

August 11	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
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September

September 1	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
September 22	WC/WCX/Puppy Stakes And General Meeting	Cheltenham, MD

October

October 13	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
October 20	PVGRC Hunt Test & General Membership Meeting	Cheltenham, MD
October 21	PVGRC Hunt Test	Cheltenham, MD
October 27	Agility Trial	Westminster, MD
October 28	Agility Trial	Westminster, MD

November

November 3	Conformation/Obedience/ Rally Match & General Meeting	Point of Rocks, MD
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December

December 16	Holiday Party & General Meeting	TBD
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Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club Officers

<u>President</u> Debra Barrows 4905 King Richard Drive Annandale, VA 22003 703-503-5184	<u>Vice President</u> Marie Huffman 12306 Sherwood Forest Drive Mount Airy, MD 21771 301-865-0523
<u>Secretary</u> Nancy Kulig 12604 Clifton Hunt Lane Clifton, VA 20124 703-266-7998	<u>Treasurer</u> Clayton Kilrain 5655 Pageland Lane Gainesville, VA 20155 703-451-8900

Board of Directors

Bob Crowley, Andy Moore, Sharon Kilrain, Morgan Francis, Beth Sokohl

Committee Chairpersons

<u>Membership</u> Penny Geddes 6131 Miles Lane Warrenton, VA 20187 540-347-7531	<u>Tracking Info</u> Marge Paulding 17000 Gerting Road Monkton, MD 21111 410-472-2868	<u>Conformation Info</u> Bob Crowley 13594 Skyview Terrace Mt Airy, MD 21771 410-795-5771	<u>Programs</u> Marie Huffman 12306 Sherwood Forest Dr Mount Airy, MD 21771 301-865-0523
<u>Puppy Referral</u> Ellan Thorson 410-268-9249	<u>Historian</u> Suzi Gatipon 178 Dusty Road Camden, SC 29020 803-713-8440	<u>Newsletter Editor</u> Beth Sokohl 3500 State Route 97 Glenwood, MD 21738 410-489-5066	<u>Obedience Info</u> Leslie Stanley 11320 Estates View Lane Manassas, VA 20112 703-369-1597
<u>Field Info</u> Sharon Albright 916 Cloverfields Drive Stevensville, MD 21666 443-603-9259	<u>GRCA Delegate</u> Penny Geddes 6103 Miles Lane Warrenton, VA 20187 540-347-7531	<u>Agility Info and Historian</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555	<u>GRCA Correspondent</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555

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.