



The Potomac Valley News

March - April 2014

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

March and April are almost here and our calendar for PVGRC is super full! We will be starting our field training days, we have a gun safety class scheduled, a specialty, a WC/WCX, a tracking class to finish and an awards banquet. This is all to happen before I have to write another newsletter article. I am pooped just thinking about it!

My thanks to Leslie Stanley and Bob Crowley for their assistance with our February obedience trial. They were a huge help and only through their major efforts were we able to put on such a wonderful show. My thanks as well to the club members who stayed to clean up as well, Andy and Lee Ann Moore, Rita Bumgardner, Joann, Ken and Ken.

My thanks also goes to the education committee for our January meeting. Marcie Baer gave a wonderful presentation on acupuncture. She explained and demonstrated what acupuncture does for our pets. Thanks to Leslie Peszcynski and Sharon Ackerson for arranging this program for us. Then a big thank you to Leslie Peszcynski and Clayton and Sharon Kilrain who have helped me with our tracking class. We are almost done and we have some very good trackers coming along. I hope we can fill our tracking test this year with all goldens! Usually people think that the winter months are time to hibernate. Guess we don't agree.

So, my question to you is, are you a giver or a taker? You notice the same names appearing over and over again in each of my columns over the last 3 years. Has your name appeared as a giver? Or are you the one who shows up to play but never helps. Always the one to go first because "you have other commitments" and need to leave early? Please think about these statements. We have a huge club and I know some of you very well as I always see you helping, leading, and coaching BUT then when I look at our membership book there is a whole batch of you that I never see. We need people to step up and lead an event if we are to continue to have such wonderful outings and events where our dogs can be with us to play. We presently need a chairman for our February obedience trial, assistance at our show in April, help with field training days, Veterans Day, K-9 Olympics, WC/WCX and hunt tests. Without help and leadership these events will disappear! Sign up to help or chair and I promise you will not be left holding the bag. We have people who will be glad to help you learn the "how" of chairing an event.

As many of you know the board has appointed a committee lead by Beth Sokohl to look into the possibility of us hosting the 2017 National. Many of our members who have been instrumental in the past have said they were not

interested in chairing again. They need time to train their dogs after years of putting the club first. Beth and her committee will be looking for people who will serve on the committee and chair an event if the clubs votes to offer to host. ***But without support from our membership they can't make it happen!***

SO ARE YOU A GIVER OR A TAKER????

See you at an event shortly. Call and volunteer!

Debbie

DID YOU KNOW????

PVGRC has a member designated as the Sunshine Member??? Do you know someone who is sick, had a death in the family, lost a beloved dog??? Jody Culver will send get well cards, condolence cards...just notify her if you think there is someone out there that could use a pick-me-up from the club. (tri-jgoldens@comcast.net).

2014 SPECIALTY CATALOG MEMORIAL PAGE

Each year our Spring Specialty catalog memorializes our members' dogs who have sadly passed away during the year (since the last Specialty catalog). If you had a dog that you would like us to remember in the catalog, please let Addie Stocks know by Friday, March 21st. We would like the dog's registered name, call name, date of birth and death, and owner's name(s). Please email Addie at addiestocks@yahoo.com or call her at 410-489-2343.

CONFORMATION STEWARDS FOR 2014 SPECIALTY

Addie Stocks, Chief Conformation Steward at our Spring Specialty on Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12, 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 a 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.



General Membership Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2013

Meeting was called to order at noon.

Present: Rita Baumgardner, Bob Crowley, Bernie and Donna Thompson, Ken Wiedel, Bill and Marie Huffman, Clayton and Sharon Kilrain, Joyce and Foster Riggs, Debbie Barrows.

No minutes were read.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

October 1 - October 31, 2013

Income

October Agility Trial	\$29,178.00
Total Income for October	\$29,178.00

Expense

Tracking Test-Judges Gifts	\$150.00
Hunt Test	\$658.10
GR News- Page in Field Issue	\$275.00
Treasurer's Expenses	\$108.55
February 2014 Agility Trial-Ribbons	\$328.17
October 2013 Agility Trial	\$18,787.12
Total Expenses for October	\$20,306.94

Net for October	\$8,871.06
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There were two new membership applications read and one new member was voted in.

President Debbie Barrows thanked the Tracking Trial Chair Marie Huffman and the Secretary Donna Thompson and all the track layers for a beautiful test. There were two TDs pass and no TDXs.

Debbie reminded people about the trust seminar on November 16th and to contact Sharon Ackerson about it. She also reminded everyone of the holiday party in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.



PVGRC Board meeting: 11/21/13

Minutes:

Minutes were approved unanimously.

Vice President's Report: (Sharon)

- The matter of a new trailer has been researched and the conclusion reached that we don't need a new one.
- Tricia Dunsieith will do an inventory of all the Club's equipment with Sue Armstrong.
- Twelve members attended the Trust seminar and found it very worthwhile and informative. The presenter offered to help any member of the Club who wanted further information.
- The Holiday party will be held on December 15th.

Treasurer's Report:

All recent income from the Agility Trial has been included.

November 1 - November 30, 2013

Income

October Agility Trial	\$7,607.00
Carol Cassity Seminar-Jacket Sale	\$50.00
Fall WC/WCX-Sale of Birds	\$93.00
Tracking Test	\$495.00
Ways & Means	\$345.00
Puppy Referral	\$25.00

Total Income for November	\$8,615.00
Expense	
Tracking Test	\$457.39
Hunt	\$2,358.79
Test	
GRCA Club Membership	\$100.00
Dues	
Tracking Class	\$240.00
June 2014 Agility Trial-Site Deposit	\$1,450.00
October 2013 Agility Trial	\$883.27
Spring Specialty 2014-Site Deposit	\$1,810.00
Field Training Day-Porta	\$84.80
Potty	
Equipment	\$59.64
GRF Donation	\$750.00
Total Expenses for	\$8,193.89
November	
Net for November	\$421.11

Breed Committee Report: (Tricia)

The Breed committee, chaired by Cindy Williamson, wants to add two new names to the approved judges list: Collette Janes and Michelle Stansbury-Gawenta. The inclusion of Collette Janes was approved; the nomination of Michelle Stansbury-Gawenta was tabled until the question of her residence (and therefore cost of her travel) could be resolved.

Field Committee Report: (Andy)

The case was made for the purchase of three (3) new blinds and two (2) wingers, which will cost a total of approximately \$1500. Motion to purchase was approved unanimously.

Agility Committee Report: (Morgan)

PVGRC Agility Trial Chairman's report for November 2013
Submitted November 11, 2013

OCTOBER TRIALS

The PVGRC Fall 2013 agility trials were held October 25-27 in Frederick, Maryland, at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center (FISC). This trial weekend was by far the largest in our fifteen year history with a total of 1905 entries over the three days, which is just 75 entries short of the maximum number of 1980.

Positive things from the trials: Having both rings in the same building, about 50 feet apart, made the trials run very smoothly. Crating was not a problem, which is a good thing considering the large entry. We had four exhibitors come in their RV / Motor homes. There was adequate parking. With one exception, the exhibitors did clean up after their dogs. Both judges were very complimentary of the club members who ran the trial. The AKC rep who was present was also happy with the way the trials were conducted. There were no problems with dogs or handlers. The trials finished around 5pm. The staff at FISC were very helpful and always available.

Things that could be improved: Logistically FISC was more challenging because we had to do our setup work Friday morning, which made our first class start at 9:30am instead of 8:00am. We may be able to improve the start time a little. I was hoping that with easier access to the Frederick area via I-270, I-70 and US15 we would see more club members coming out to help at our trials. That didn't happen.

Important facts from our October 2013 trials: Both judges drove to Frederick from the Philadelphia metro area, thus incurring only mileage and toll charges, but obviously no airfare.

One judge stayed with a relative in the area saving us three nights in a motel or about \$250.00. Neither judge wanted to go to dinner after the trial Saturday evening, saving us about \$75-\$80. One judge was provisional and charged a lower judging fee, which saved about \$150. Both judges requested separate checks for judging fees and expenses. I think separate checks for judges will be the rule for future trials.

The Friday, October 25 trial did not fill with only 587 entries but the Saturday and Sunday trials were both essentially full with 660 and 657 entries with waiting lists both days.

Summary: Our October 2013 trial should generate a substantial profit and will be the template for future trials. The amount of profit from future trials will depend, as always, on trial expenses and entries. We have \$790.00 of ribbons and rosettes in our inventory at the end of 2013.

FUTURE TRIALS

The April 2014 trial application has been submitted and we have judges. On Saturday, April 19, the American Whippet Club will hold a "trial within a trial" at our trial in conjunction with their National Specialty. This is a change in the AKC rules to help breeds with smaller registries hold agility trials that won't lose money. This should help our entries since our trial falls on Easter weekend again. The Carroll Kennel Club will host a trial on Monday, April 21

The June 2014 trial applications have not yet been submitted. We have judges under contract. This will be a three day trial starting on Friday, June 20. This trial will have the same format as our October 2013 trial; Master/Excellent Only on Friday, all levels on Saturday and Sunday.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: There is a major conflict with our October 24, 25, 26, 2014 trial dates. The GRCA National Specialty will begin on the same weekend as our October agility trial. I have polled all the members who make up the core of our agility committee and are also our chief ring stewards, course builders and serve on the trial committee. ALL of them are going to the GRCA National in North Carolina. Simply put, as of today there will be NO PVGRC members with any agility experience available for this trial. I can fill some positions (chief ring stewards, course builders) with exhibitors, but the trial committee must be club members. We need three club members who are not going to the National to volunteer to serve on the trial committee. They do not have to have agility experience. If not, there won't be enough members to have a trial committee. No trial committee, no trial. Members living close to Frederick would be most desirable as committee members given their proximity to the trial location. Any help from the board will be appreciated. Sharon and I have no plans to go to the 2014 National.

I am not recommending suspending the October 2014 trial. It sets a bad precedent and reflects poorly on the club. It is time for some other members to step forward. I have two very popular judges scheduled for this trial and it should have another full entry. Trial committee members don't have to work but they must be present at the trial.

I know the October trial is 11 months away but we can't wait until August when we put the premium together to recruit committee members.

Tracking Committee Report: (Penny)

The Tracking test was held on November 10, 2013. There were approximately 16 workers each day. The Chair would like to personally thank everyone who volunteered. The following club members worked:

Donna Thompson, Test Secretary

Sharon Kilrain, TDX Tracklayer

Clayton Kilrain, TDX Tracklayer

Ken Wiedel, TDX Tracklayer

Rita Baumgardner, TDX Cross Tracklayer

Joyce Riggs, TD Tracklayer

Hospitality/Food coordinators: Nancy and Jim Runion, Saturday

Hospitality/Food coordinators: Debbie Barrows, Sunday

Driver for Judges and Tracklayers: Lynn Pacentia, Saturday

Driver for Judges and Tracklayers: Melissa Landriau, Sunday
Many other Club members provided food for our delicious breakfast and lunch.
There were two dogs entered in the TD, a GSD and a Bouvier; both passed the test.
Three dogs entered the TDX, A Golden, a Bouvier, and a GSD; unfortunately, no
TDX dog passed.
Submitted by Marie Huffman, Test Chair

Oatlands has been contracted for the next Tracking class, to be held in January and
February.

Trophy Report: (Beth)

The Trophy shop has moved to Hagerstown, so we'll need to find another vendor.

Education committee Report: (Suzanne)

The new education committee consists of Cindy Partridge, Pam Stirling, Leslie
Pesczynski, Carol Nansel, and Bets Keen

Activities:

- Packets on PU are being sent to the puppy referral person to share with breeders and interested persons (Stirling)
- A program on dog nutrition is being planned (Pesczynski)
- An agility seminar is being looked into (Keen)

GRCA 2017 National:

Cathy Story gave a presentation on the need for a sponsoring club to host the 2017
National. 2014 will be hosted by Sandlapper; 2015 by Cincinnati; 2016 by Norcal; 2017 will
be held in the Eastern Region.

A special committee has been established by GRCA to support local efforts and the
National Handbook was updated in 2008; social media and electronic communications
have greatly improved the planning. GRCA also offers loans and gives money for trophies.
A barebones National would include Conformation (no Sweeps), Tracking, Obedience (no
Rally), WC/WCX, Field Trial (no hunt test), and an Educational program, which the GRCA
coordinates. The GRF does the Top 20 and auction.

A motion was made and approved for Beth to explore the Club members' interest in
sponsoring the National and report back at the next Board meeting.

Nominating Committee:

- Andy reported that the committee has been working and will present a slate at the
Holiday party.

Listserv proposal: (Suzanne)

- It was proposed that the Club listserv (Yahoo group) be opened to two-way communication among members. The motion passed with a six-month trial period. Suzanne will work with Laurie Collins to set up a process for this change and will draft a notice to go into the newsletter and go out on the listserv explaining the process.

Policy Manual: (Suzanne)

- A committee has been formed to work on this, consisting of Marie Huffman, Jeff Ackerson, Cindy Partridge, and John Cotter. Work will begin after the first of the year.

Budgets:

- The Board determined that committee chairs will send a proposed budget to the Board prior to any event.

Club Donations:

- Based on Club member requests, the Club will donate \$750 to the Zeke Cancer Research Fund of the GRF. The secretary will send a note to the members who requested the donation, informing them of the action taken. (who are they?)

Holiday Party Awards:

- There was consensus to give awards to the new members who have gone “above and beyond” the usual volunteer (Andy’s suggestion). Committee chairs will be asked for their nominees for this award. Each will receive a club hat and the Committee Chairs will receive a Club shirt.

Meeting was then adjourned.

Next Board meeting – the transition to the new Board – will be held at Morgan’s home.

Conformation Column
Joan Donohue
Joan@aguestgoldens.com

NEW CHAMPION

Congratulations to Pat Shields and *Highmark Braveheart* (Pat Shields) for picking up his last point at the Saturday Boardwalk show.

SPECIALS NEWS

GCH Firestar's Go For Broke AX, AXJ, OF, TD (Sharon and Clayton Kilrain) took home a Group 4 at the Saturday Maryland Kennel Club.

GCH My Buddy's Times They Are-A-Changin (Jeanette & George Makowskyj & Anna Golden) picked up a BOB and a Group 3 at the Northern Neck of VA show. "Dylan" picked up BOBs at both Annapolis, Chesapeake of MD, Greater Fredericksburg and the Friday Carroll shows.

GCH Sandpiper's Rock Star (Caroline Bruton & Patty Pace) picked up BOBs at the Maryland Kennel Club and Middle Peninsula Kennel Club Of Virginia shows.

GCH Steadmor's Take A Gander (Nancy M Sherick & Jacqueline J Morasco) took home a Group 3 at the Northern Neck Kennel Club Of Virginia Thursday show.

CH MY Buddy's Time for Golden Dome CGC RN (Diane R Lenk & Anna Golden) was BOS at the Northern Neck Kennel Club Of Virginia Wednesday show.

CLASS NEWS

Dauninge Full Sail Tioga CD CGC (Suzanne Miller & Vicki Saporta) picked up another major at the Sunday Middle Peninsula Kennel Club Of Virginia show by going BOB. "Tioga" needs one point to finish.

Firestar's Mardi Gras (Cindy Partridge) went WB, from the bred by class, at both Middle Peninsula Kennel Club Of Virginia shows. In addition, "Mardi" took a bred-by group 4 on Saturday and BOS on Sunday.

Goodtime's Perfect Ten (Lisa Smith & Belinda Gosnell) picked up her first points, a major, from the 9-12 month class at the Sunday Maryland Kennel Club show.

Hillside Thriller of Oz (Barbara Koenig) picked up points at the Thursday Annapolis, Saturday Maryland and Wednesday shows. Closing in the finish line.

Sandpiper's Pink Lemonade (Pam Simmons & Patty Pace) picked up major reserves at the Sunday Maryland and both Middle Peninsula Kennel Club Of Virginia shows.

Sombra's Smoke N' Hot Firehouse (Nancy Sherick) picked up reserves, from am bred, at the Chesapeake Kennel Club Of Maryland and Greater Fredericksburg Kennel shows.

TRACKING NEWS

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

Happy Winter Snow!... Tired of it? Been tracking in it? That is always a "fun way" to enjoy the great outdoors during the winter.

No brags to report, but everyone should be gearing up for warmer temps and some Spring tests. Remember to share your new titles.

Mark your calendars. PVGRC's fall TD/TDX test will be Sunday, 11/9/2014, at Cross Junction, Virginia. Details are still being worked on, so will provide updates at a later date.

Happy tracking tails... Marge

Obedience Brags

Leslie Stanley

Sharon Albright is pleased to report that Reese finished her UD at our February obedience trial. This also qualifies her for a GRCA VCX Certificate. She is now UCDX Gaylan's P'Nut Butter Cup Sundae UD TD SH WCX VCX CCA CGC.

Lynn Pacenta had a double-header at the PVSSC trial at Point of Rocks on Feb 2. Lynn is ecstatic to report that Lycinan's Morning Jolt UD WC NA AXJ (Kona) finished his Utility Dog (UD) title with a 1st Place finish. In two of his three qualifying runs, he was the only qualifier. Now it's time to go back to agility and have some REAL fun!

Lynn is also very proud to report that Lycincan's Escapade CGC CD (Kaper) earned his Companion Dog (CD) title with a 1st Place finish the same day, completing his title in 3 straight shows. This little boy is going to keep very busy in 2014 with field, obedience and agility.

Lois Maiman and Rally (Mystic Grand Prix Guiding Wind, CD BN CGC CCA) finished the Novice (A) title 3 for 3 at the PVGRC Trial on February 9, 2014. Lois and Rally earned their Beginner Novice Title with 3 for 3, as well, and two first placements.

AGILITY COLUMN

Nick DeCesare

Well Gary Arbegast, it is March and Spring is just around the corner. And as I write this column our April agility trial is less than two months away and it will be held the weekend after our Specialty shows in Frederick at the Frederick Indoor Sports Center. Please note the word "indoor", as in not outside. No one gets cold or wet or sunburned, unless you want to stand outside. As usual, we always welcome volunteers to help at our trials. If you have never seen an agility trial up close you should try it. That way when someone asks you if you have even been to an agility trial you can say "Oh, yes, I actually worked at an agility trial."

Now I know I just said it is almost Spring but your agility committee never rest and plans are coming together for our June and October trials. I am looking for a few special members for a unique opportunity for our October trials which will be held in Frederick on October 24-26, 2014. I need three or four members to serve on the trial committee for this trial. You will have to be present at least part of the day, not early in the morning or late in the afternoon. You will have reserved parking next to the building and lunch will be provided. If I get enough volunteers you may only have to attend one day. I know October is a long way off but we can't have a trial if we don't have enough club members to form a committee. I normally have more than enough members to fill a committee but our trial will be held the same weekend that the GRCA National begins and many of our regular committee members will be in South Carolina. If you are not planning on going to the National and can spare even part of one day, please consider serving on the trial committee. You don't have to do anything except show up and it will really help the club. Please contact me directly at kiowagold@gmail.com if you are available or have questions.

We have a new MACH title to report! Gary Arbegast and DASH (MACH GOLLY G'S SEEKING SUPER CONNECTIONS CD, BN, RN, MX, MXB, MXJ, MJB, XF) completed their Master Agility Championship on December 7, 2013, at Oriole DTC's agility trial. Gary said DASH makes it so easy for her Dad!

And, Beth Sokohl reports that Trifecta's Will He Bet On Me UDX OM1 VER RAE MH OA AXJ OF WCX CCA earned his AX at the Star City Agility Trials, and Roux's Steamin' Red Hot Blues CDX RE MH OA AXJ NF WCX earned her AX at the Delaware County Agility Trial.

Pam Turgeon and Wakemup Wild Child CD RA JH earned his NA and NAJ at the Delaware County Agility Trial.

G.R.R.E.A.T. Dog Earns His MACH!!!!



**GRREAT's First Master Agility Trial Champion
MACH GRREAT Joey of Woodstock, MXS, MXB, MX, MJB, MXJ, XF, NJ-R
Joey (04-118)**

During the summer of 2004, we agreed to foster a year old Golden who had just been pulled from the Spotsylvania County, VA, shelter. Joey became our 17th GRREAT foster dog. He was an "owner give-up" who had developed kennel cough while he was in the shelter. A kind shelter worker named Lizz had taken him home to get him started on medication until Mary Collings, GRREAT's Intake Coordinator, could pick him up. I remember the day I met Mary halfway to get Joey. He was very tall, very thin, very dark and very calm. After we got him home, it became apparent that Joey was very calm because he wasn't feeling very well. Our vet found that he had Lyme disease in addition to the kennel cough.

Once we got him well again, Joey perked up to show us the unbridled energy that undoubtedly landed him in the shelter in the first place. We've always liked fostering the young, energetic dogs, so he was in the right place. He was a clown and kept us laughing. He loved every person and every dog he saw and would squeal enthusiastically as he was dancing around his new found friends. We soon placed Joey with a wonderful GRREAT family, Patricia and Ivan, who already had a Golden named Bosco – only to find out 2 weeks later that a sudden, unexpected, out-of-country job change made it impossible for them to keep him, so Joey came back to GRREAT and to our home. We agreed to keep in touch with Patricia and Ivan to let them know when Joey found his forever home.

Joey had come back to us during a busy fall agility season. Since we were traveling to agility trials almost every weekend, we just took Joey along to watch while our two Goldens, Aspen and GRREAT Murphy (01-060), competed. We put off showing Joey to new prospective GRREAT families until our schedule slowed down a bit. Our agility friends kept asking us if Joey was our new agility dog. "Oh no, he's just a foster." was our reply.

Sometime that fall, I started to wonder if Joey's athleticism, when combined with his intelligence and his eagerness to please – might make him a good potential agility partner. When I asked Rory what he thought about possibly adopting Joey ourselves and training him in agility, his reply was "Well, I'm not saying no, but do we really need a third dog?" I knew we both liked him a lot. I agreed to take Joey to our training club and have a couple of the trainers help me evaluate his potential. I think Joey knew his future was on the line during that evaluation. We worked with him on the A-frame, tunnel and a few jumps. He had natural ability and if I asked him to do one A-frame, he went back and enthusiastically did two more. As I was talking to the trainers afterwards, Joey was offering tunnels, A-frames and jumps and running back to me as if to say "See, I can do this! Want to see it again? I can go faster!" Needless to say, Joey officially joined the Nansel household shortly after that, got his AKC ILP registration, and began his agility training in earnest!

Joey started out as my agility partner and then became Rory's agility partner several years ago. Joey has collected many AKC agility ribbons and titles and loves the sport. He is strong, smart and he tries so hard to please us. We have kept in

touch with Patricia and Ivan, and they have been able to see him compete in agility and visit with us on several other occasions over the years.

At home, Joey has welcomed many more GRREAT foster dogs into our house. He often serves as the “play police” and keeps an eye on all of the dogs to be sure everyone is playing nicely together. If not, he steps between dogs, or just gives “that look” that says “settle down NOW”. They respect him. Joey loves puppies and he has helped us raise two Golden puppies – playing gently with them and laying with them to comfort them when they were very small. He has special jobs around the house like bringing in the newspaper every morning, carrying cans of food, dog beds and toilet paper up from the basement as needed and picking up things that we drop, or toys that are out of reach in the back of a crate, and delivering them to hand. He is special.

In addition to competing in AKC agility trials in VA, NC, MD and PA, Joey competed, along with our other dogs, in the 2005 GRCA Nationals held in Gettysburg, PA, and was the only one of our dogs to bring home agility ribbons from that event. Joey also walked in the Parade of Rescues. During 2011, Joey competed in the GRCA Nationals held in Conyers, GA. He won ribbons, represented GRREAT in the Rescue Parade and also qualified to walk in the Parade of Titleholders. During 2014, Joey will be attending his 3rd GRCA Nationals in NC to compete in agility and to represent GRREAT in the Rescue and Titleholders Parades again.

But Joey’s crowning agility achievement happened last October, when he and Rory earned their AKC MACH (Master Agility Trial Champion) title in front of many good friends at a trial near Culpeper, VA. What does it take to earn the highest AKC agility title? The dog must have clean runs (no mistakes) in both Master level classes (standard and jumpers with weaves) in the same day – and must do this 20 times. It’s called 20 “double Q’s” because each time you run clean, you earn a qualifying score, or a “Q”. It doesn’t sound that hard, but Joey and Rory were frequent members of the “one little thing” club – with just one little thing preventing them from having two clean runs in the same day. PLUS, the dog has to accumulate 750 points. Joey was earning anywhere from 2-20 points for a clean run, so that also takes a while to accumulate. It all came together on October 20, 2013, when Joey, at the age of 10, earned his final QQ to become the first GRREAT dog to earn a MACH! Cheers and applause erupted as they took their victory lap around the course and were congratulated by Judge Edie Allyn.

While they were chasing their MACH title, Rory and Joey were keeping their sights set on also qualifying for the AKC National Agility Championship event to be held in Harrisburg, PA, at the end of March, 2014. The NAC event moves around the country each year, so with Pennsylvania being so close, we had to try to qualify for it. The qualifying period was December 1, 2012 – November 30, 2013 and the dogs had to earn 20 Q’s, to include 4 QQ’s, and 500 points during that time period. Joey had earned the Q’s but still needed lots of points. We concentrated on going to agility trials almost every weekend in the fall to earn points. On the day before the end of the qualifying period, Joey earned the last points needed to qualify! Joey is one of the top 3178 dogs in the United States to qualify for the 2014 AKC National Agility Championship! He will be the only GRREAT dog competing, and as far as we know, Joey may also be the only GRREAT dog to have ever qualified for the AKC National Agility Championship. It will truly be an honor for Rory to step up to the line at this prestigious event with MACH GRREAT Joey of Woodstock, MXS, MXB, MX, MJB, MXJ, XF, NJ-R! Joey (04-118) has come a long way from that skinny, sick, shelter dog who came to our house in 2004. We can’t imagine our lives without him now.

Over the years we have kept the GRREAT people from Joey’s life informed of his endeavors and his successes. Lizz, the shelter worker who saved him, said recently “it is stories like Joey’s that make all the money spent, difficulties and heartache of doing rescue all worthwhile.”

Mary Collings, GRREAT Intake Coordinator, remembered “When my husband and I transported Joey to his foster Mom, Carol Nansel, he was so sick that he could hardly lift his head. We were really worried about him but as we drove away, we knew we’d left him in good hands. And we weren’t wrong!! Not only did Joey recover quickly thanks to the care he received from his foster home and GRREAT, he turned into a Master Agility Trial Champion! When I see pictures and videos of Joey now, performing flawlessly at agility trials, the memory of that lethargic dog in the back of our SUV seems like a lifetime ago. Joey ended up in the perfect foster home who nursed him back to health and ultimately realized he was already “home”, so they adopted him. Joey’s journey in life started off with many hardships but his life now could not be happier or more filled with love.”

And now, Joey and Rory are working on their MACH 2! Stay tuned for more GRREATness!

Submitted by: Carol Nansel

Field News

Beth Sokohl (bethsokohl@comcast.net)

Did You Know???

In order to recognize a Master Hunter's lifetime of success in the Retriever Hunting Test program, the AKC has introduced the Master Hunter Lifetime Achievement title. The title will be designated by the letters MH followed by a number (i.e. MH20) indicating the number of times the dog passed the MH test. MH12 will be the minimum level MH Lifetime Achievement title. Application for the title is at the discretion of the owner, who may apply for the title at any time. To apply an owner must submit a "Master Hunter Lifetime Achievement Title Application" along with a \$20.00 recording fee. Upon determination of the number of MH passes as recorded by the AKC, the title will be recorded on a dog's record and a title certificate issued. The title may be updated at the request of the owner by submitting another title application form. Higher level titles will supersede previously recorded MH titles. The AKC will recognize passes of the MH test back to January 1, 2000.

The form can also be found on the AKC website:

http://images.akc.org/events/hunting_tests/MasterHunterLifetimeAchievementTitleApplicationForm.pdf.

And...so far, three PVGRC Members have taken advantage of this new title:

Reboot (Megan Baker) is now Ctrl Alt Del UD RAE MH37 OA OAJ OF WCX CCA**, and
Voodoo (Megan Baker) is now Adirondac's Weebe Put'N A Hex On You CDX RA MH22 NA
NF WCX**.

And Jazz (Beth Sokohl) is now Roux's Steamin' Red Hot Blues CDX RE MH20 AX AXJ NF
WCX.



Have You Forgotten To Mark Your Calendar?????

It's the ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET!!!

Sunday, March 23rd, 2014

That's Amore

15201 Shady Grove Road

Rockville, MD

1:30 to 5:00

Lunch, Door Prizes, Awards, GRREAT Auction, Rosettes, and a
Great Slide Show

What More Can You Ask For????

Tickets are \$20 per person!

Mail your requests for reservations with your check payable to PVGRC to:

Beth Sokohl

3500 State Route 97

Glenwood, MD 21738

Questions: Contact Beth Sokohl at 301-641-8606 or bethsokohl@comcast.net

[Please RSVP by March 14, 2014](#)

Calendar of Events 2014

January

January 4	General Meeting	Davidsonville, MD
January 16	Board Meeting	Arlington, VA

February

February 8-9	All-Breed Obedience Trial	Point of Rocks, MD
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March

March 19	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD
March 23	Annual Awards Banquet/ Membership Meeting	Rockville, MD

April

April 11-12	Specialty Show/Obedience and Rally Trial	Frederick, MD
April 19-20	Agility Trial	Frederick, MD
April 26	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD

May

May 3	WC/WCX/Puppy Stakes	Cheltenham, MD
May 24	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD

June

June 14	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
June 20-22	Agility Trial	Frederick, MD

July

July 27	Super Singles	Cheltenham, MD
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August

August 9	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
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September

September 13	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
September 20	WC/WCX/Puppy Stakes/ Membership Meeting	Cheltenham, MD

October

October 11	Field Training Day	Cheltenham, MD
October 18-19	PVGRC Hunt Test	Cheltenham, MD
October 24-26	Agility Trial	Frederick, MD

November

November 9	Tracking Test	Cross Junction, VA
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December

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> Sharon Ackerson 805 Woodland Way Owings, MD 20736 301-855-0580
<u>Secretary</u> Suzanne Miller 3021 Oregon Knolls Drive, NW Washington, DC 20015 202-686-6442	<u>Treasurer</u> Clayton Kilrain 5655 Pageland Lane Gainesville, VA 20155 703-451-8900

Board of Directors

Beth Sokohl, Penny Geddes, Tricia Dunseith, Karen Wahler, Jeff Ackerson

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> Jody Culver 6138 Vantage Court Boonsboro, MD 21713-2641 301-432-0161	<u>Programs</u> Sharon Ackerson 805 Woodland Way Owings, MD 20736 301-855-0580
<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.