

A.G.R.C. Rug Rag

May, 2005

Special Interest Articles:

- New Section: Member Spotlight!
- Rug Rag gets a new editor.
- Lots of winning going on at the Specialty!

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MEETING
5/18/05

Brick Oven
10710 Research
Boulevard

Meetings start at 7pm, please arrive at 6:30 if you wish to order dinner!

See you there!

New Year – Fresh Start

It seems that the Austin Golden Retriever Club has hit the ground running this year! With the support of the club, it can be the best yet!

There are many fun things planned for this year, most important of which are the Agility Trial and also the proposed Specialty in conjunction with the Travis County Kennel Club Dog Show in late October. Also topping the list are the proposed health clinics

and the awards ceremony.

Also to be commended are Judy Hollenbeck and Diane Senterfitt for stepping up to be co-writers for the A.G.R.C.'s article in the Golden Retriever News. They are writing about many different topics from a somewhat novice point of view. Judy has mentioned that it would be nice to have article ideas from anyone who would like to send them their way.

As a few of the board members are novice, any input from you veterans would be greatly appreciated!

Remember, the next meeting will be held at the Brick Oven (North - 10710 Research Boulevard) on Wednesday May 18th, please make plans to attend as it is much more fun when everyone can give their input on making this year a success!

New Board Members Have First Meeting

The new A.G.R.C. board got off to a great start during their first meeting held Wednesday April 20th. In attendance were President Debbie Gower, and board members: Judy Hollenbeck, Jane Fish, Diane Senterfitt, Helen Dorrance, and Melissa Jones.

The board began the meeting by reviewing the bylaws, and noting a few things that need to be altered with our general running of the club. Namely, everyone should have signed a code of ethics when joining the

club, as well as we should be sending out renewal notices for our annual dues.

Also a topic of conversation was the upcoming specialty, and the potential judges for that event. As well, the board discussed potentially setting up a "calendar committee" to put together a calendar of all club events for the entire year. This would hopefully alleviate any confusion and help us stay on track with meetings and events.

There was also talk of the need to get updated with the trophy situation, and get the trophies in the hands of those who should have them for 2004.

Finally, the board discussed ideas for upcoming guest speakers at meetings, as well as ways to get new members and more involvement from the golden retriever community as a whole.

Much thanks to Debbie for her wonderful hospitality!

Member Spotlight: Debby Gower



"Journey" wins at the Ft.Worth Specialty!



"Stella" with a win in Oklahoma City!



"Arielle" wins her class at the Specialty!

Braggs and Wags.....

- Judy and Mike Hollenbeck's bitch "Dallas" - Delavega Don't Mess With Texas received an EXCELLENT Hip Rating!
- Diane Senterfitt's bitch "Stella" - CH Stella by Starlight IV completed her Championship!
- "Journey" – Gower's Scentimental Jouney – won her sweeps class at the Ft. Worth Specialty, as well as winning an exciting RWB in the regular classes! She is owned by Mia Nieman and Debbie Gower.
- Helen Dorrance's bitch "Arielle" – Ducat Brytlea Arielle – also won her sweeps class at the specialty!

Congratulations members, on all of your wonderful accomplishments!

Stewarding Opportunity

Judy Ward, a very nice lady of Rhodesian Ridgeback fame, is in charge of stewards for the International All Breed Club Dog Show in Hutto that will take place July 2nd and 3rd. Judy needs about 5 people to help steward. Some may end up being back up. Those who work full time will be paid by IABCA, \$50 per day. So both days gets you \$100. If you are showing, they can make accommodations, but you must be sure not to steward for a judge you are showing to.

Contact Judy at 512-697-9520 or email her at judyward@austin.rr.com to apply or for details.

Meeting Notes: March 16, 2005

March 16, 2005
General Meeting
AGRC
Place: Brick Oven ,
Jollyville Rd.

All members present:

Judi Hollenbeck
Mia Nieman
Debra Keen
Kara Anderson
Pat Simpson
Mike Simpson
Bob and Linda James
Helen Dorrance
Debby Gower
Jane Fish
Marsha Spreeuwiers
Fred Spreeuwiers
Kathie Cool
Diane Senterfitt
Jeff Wisbart
Jean Stokes

Guests:

Stacey Robinson
Patty Wedding
Terri Post

Speaker:

Randi Lyman

Pre-Meeting Program by
Randi Lyman of A Helping
Hand Organizing Service

The program featured
local organizer, Randi
Lyman who moved to
Austin from Chicago. She
specializes in helping

people get organized at
their business or at their
homes.

She spoke and offered
handouts. "Clutter is
defined as: items about
which you have not yet
made a decision". She
offered various
organizational ideas and
systems. Her presentation
was received with much
enthusiasm by the group.

Meeting was called to
order by Jane Fish,
president. The new slate
of officers was presented
and passed . At this point,
the meeting was turned
over to the new president,
Debbie Gower, who
announced that the club
would have a great year.
There was a brief
discussion begun by
newcomer to Austin,
Stacey Robinson
concerning Therapy Dog
work in Austin. Debbie G.
was able to supply much
information about this
topic.

There was a general
discussion concerning
supported entries versus
having our own specialty
this coming year. It was

the consensus of the
group that it was probably
past time for a real
specialty. The idea of a
stealth specialty was
mentioned along with
a point made by the club
treasurer that the raffle
was the big money maker
for the club last year. IT
was decided to have an
Austin Golden Retriever
Club Specialty the last
weekend in October. Lotus
Kiffe is willing to be
Secretary.

The treasurer suggested
that donations for the raffle
be collected as soon as
possible. Our speaker,
Ms. Lyman volunteered to
donate one hour of her
professional services to
the raffle.

Debra Keen volunteered to
be web site liason for the
club and asked members
to forward any good
Golden photos to our club
web site.

Treasurers Report:
General Account:
\$5,821.67



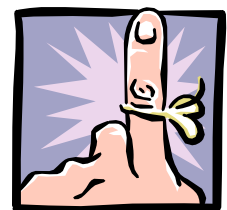
Jean Stokes' son,
Paul, and newest
addition, "Rico".

"A dog teaches a boy
fidelity,
perseverance, and to
turn around three
times before lying
down."

~ Robert Benchley

A Friendly Reminder!

It's never too early to start stockpiling neat goodies for the Raffle!
Anything you'd like to donate is greatly appreciated. A few examples
are dog supplies (bowls, food, treats), Apparel (hats, t-shirts), dog
toys, coffee mugs, any golden retriever paraphernalia is perfect. We
could also use some large baskets, and stuffing supplies. The raffle
isn't until October, but it's never too to hit those sales!





"Lissi" says goodbye to the bluebonnets until next year!

Newsletter Gets New Editor

After her many years of service Helen Dorrance has handed down the Rug Rag to me, Melissa Jones. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who may not know me.

I've been in dogs my entire life, but it was only 6 years ago that I entered the wild and whacky world of conformation. I spent several years as an

apprentice to Sherry Ray, a German Wirehaired Pointer breeder, but soon found Golden Retrievers to be a much more suitable breed for me. Needless to say, I've been here ever since.

I've done mostly conformation, but would be lying if I said that I wasn't interested in field work and agility. I look forward to meeting all of you and encourage all of

you to contact me with any ideas that you might have for articles, anecdotes, brags, or (my favorite) pictures. My goal is to make this newsletter fitting for all club members, educational and most assuredly something we can be proud of!

Love and Golden,
Melissa
liss@austin.rr.com

It's not just about the tummy rub anymore.....

Pet Massage

Massage offers real benefits which can help your dog physically, emotionally and mentally. Certain styles of massage improve and enhance a large number of functions in the physical body. Two of the most critical functions are blood circulation and the animal's general well being.

Blood circulation - Massage helps to open blood vessels, which in turn improves blood circulation. Better blood circulation means more oxygen and nutrients can be distributed throughout the dog's body. In addition, the stronger blood flow can push out more waste and toxins that may be making your dog sick.

Muscle health - Among other numerous benefits, massage helps to loosen tight, constricted muscles, decrease pain, increase range-of-motion, and restore

proper tone. Think of your dog as an athlete. If muscles remain tight for a long time, a dog's body feels tension/stiffness/pain; less blood will be able to reach these muscles, and the dog may start to stand, walk and run incorrectly.

Massaging your dog has many benefits:

1. Relaxes your dog.
2. Soothes tired or sore muscles.
3. Eases pain from surgery or other injuries.
4. Helps your dog suffering from ailments caused by old age to feel better.
5. Gains your dog's trust.
6. Noticeably increases the bond between you and your dog.



Is there such a thing as being TOO relaxed?

The TTouch Method

TTouch – the Tellington TTouch – is a method based on circular movements of the fingers and hands all over the body. The intent of the TTouch is to activate the function of the cells and awaken cellular intelligence – a little like “turning on the electric lights of the body”. The TTouch is done on the entire body, and each circular TTouch is complete within itself. Therefore it is not necessary to understand anatomy to be successful in speeding up the healing of injuries or ailments, or changing undesirable habits or behavior.

The Tellington TTouch is a specialized approach to the care and training of our animal companions. Developed by internationally recognized animal expert, Linda Tellington-Jones, this method based on cooperation and respect offers a positive approach to training, can improve performance and health and presents solutions to common behavioral and physical problems. It also helps establish a deeper rapport between humans and animals through increased understanding and more effective communication.

Using a combination of specific touches, lifts, and movement exercises, TTouch helps to release tension and increase body awareness. This allows the animal to be

handled without provoking typical fear responses. The animal can then more easily learn new and more appropriate behaviors. By using the TTouch and a variety of other tools, like the Confidence Course, you can assist the animal in experiencing self-confidence in previously frightening situations.

Even the most difficult problems are often eliminated. You can also learn how to apply the Tellington TTouch to assist with recovery from illness or injury, or just enhance the quality of your animal's life. The Tellington TTouch can help in cases of:

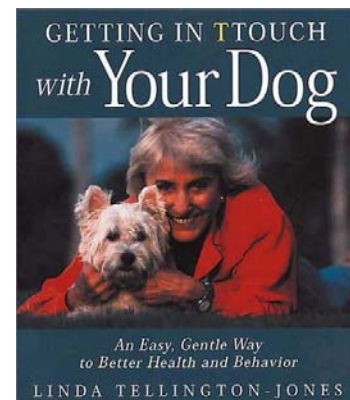
- Excessive Barking & Chewing
- Leash Pulling
- Jumping Up
- Aggressive Behavior
- Extreme Fear & Shyness
- Resistance to Grooming
- Excitability & Nervousness
- Car Sickness Problems Associated With Aging

This gentle method is currently being used by animal owners, trainers, breeders, veterinarians, zoo personnel and shelter workers in several countries. There are many certified practitioners teaching TTouch around the world who can show you how to help you with your dog, cat or other pet.



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For more extensive information on TTouch, including hints for improving your conformation dogs make sure to check out, lindatellingtonjones.com



Club Information

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The Rug Rag is the official newsletter of the Austin Golden Retriever Club.

The Rug Rag is sent, without charge, to all paid members, to various club editors that request it, and the AKC. Non-members may subscribe for a \$10 one-year subscription fee. To receive a subscription please mail a check to for \$10 to the address listed above. Make all checks payable to AGRC.

Submit Articles to the Editor: Please submit all articles on a disk or via e-mail (preferred) to the Editor. Pictures may accompany any article.

Deadline: All articles, wins, advertising, etc. must be received by the last week of the months prior to publication (i.e. the last week of April to appear in the May issue).

Reprinting Articles: Articles may be used in club newsletters but proper identification of origination of article MUST be made.

Note: All idemas and ads are published at the Editor's and Board of Directors' discretion. Opinions expressed may not reflect the opinion of the Editor and/or Members of the Austin Golden Retriever Club.

**MELISSA JONES
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