

# A.G.R.C. Rug Rag

September, 2005

## Special Interest Articles:

- Member Spotlight: Roger Fuller
- Why Hunt Test?
- Agility Trial a Success!



Gower's Love at First Bite – D. Gower

MEETING  
9/21/05

Brick Oven  
10710 Research  
Boulevard

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

See you there!

## Agility Trial A HUGE Success

A very loud round of applause should start the upcoming club meeting as it is much needed for all who helped with the Agility Trial on July 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. Club members came out in the numbers to help with the event that was held at Triple Crown Dog Training Academy, and everyone, regardless of experience chipped in and found their way through the world of agility.

We had a good sized entry and according to the

treasurer's report we made a net profit of 3905.07. There was also a raffle at the event which on its own rose over \$400, not to mention allowed us to get rid of most of the remaining t-shirts and sweatshirts from the 2003 Regional.

There were a few comments made by competitors that are aiding us in making the next trial an even greater success, but for the most part everyone truly enjoyed

themselves and had a great time competing at our event.

We are already making plans for upcoming agility trials which we hope will be even bigger and better than our last!



Helen Dorrance's "Ruffian"

## Board Meeting is never a BORED meeting....

The board meeting was held at Mirabelle's on Mesa and in attendance was board members: Debby Gower, Helen Dorrance, Melissa Jones, Diane Senterfitt, Judi Hollenbeck, and Linda James. Aside from other great conversation and socialization one of the most important topics discussed was the upcoming Specialty.

The Specialty will be held on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Travis County Expo Center in conjunction with the T.C.K.C. Dog Show. We discussed the classes that will be offered as well as the entry fees that will be charged. It was decided that we will not be offering Sweepstakes as

we were worried about the time issues that it may involve. It was also decided that toys will be given for first place in each class, and we have sent out a search for "nicer, more appropriate" prizes for BOW, BOS, and BOB. The start time for the specialty will be decided when the entries are in and we can more accurately tell how many competitors we will have.

We also discussed offering a donation only dinner of sandwiches and chips, etc after the specialty.

Also discussed was the Animal Advisory Commission's (Mandatory

Spay/Neuter) Meeting that was attended by Debby Gower. They are aware that the responsible breeders (like those involved in our club) are not the problem with the pet population in Austin and would like to find a way to make such breeders "exempt" from the laws. As of the meeting they were asking AGRC as a club to aid them in defining the term "Responsible Breeder" so they may have a better chance of drawing the line between ethical dog enthusiasts and backyard breeders. If you have input, please see Debby Gower as she has been our liaison thus far.

## Member Spotlight: Roger Fuller



**RR:** How many years have you been in goldens?

**RF:** "I purchased my first Golden in Tucson from a newspaper ad in about 1980. Her name was "Ms Shamima". She was a wonderful obedience dog winning quite a few blue ribbons in novice class before I was shipped overseas by IBM. Ms Shamima went with me to Germany for two years. When I got back, my interests changed once I met Kaye. My focus went toward field work and marriage."

**RR:** What got you started in goldens?

**RF:** "I had always had dogs in my life. My family had a series of purebred dogs during my youth growing up in Denver. I spent many days hiking the Colorado Rockies in the 1960's seeking truth and enlightenment with my faithful coonhound Sam. During college dorm days, I had to give up dogs. But as soon as I moved into an apartment, along came a Shetland Sheepdog."

**RR:** Who was your mentor/driving force?

**RF:** "I'd have to say that in dog matters the most influential person has been Kaye who has been on Goldens several years longer than I. She teaches and motivates me all the time."

**RR:** What is your most valued accomplishment?

**RF:** "I'd have to point to the AFC that we put on our wonderful dog Chip (AFC KC's Chip Off the Ole Block MH). AFC's are few and far between in the Golden world. He earned his last point when he was in remission from lymphosarcoma. He also went to the 9th series of the Amateur

National in 1995. Again, few Goldens ever run the Am National. May zero to one per year might qualify. I was a basket case by the 9th series in Stowe VT. Unfortunately he did not qualify at that National but few dogs ever do."

**RR:** Who is your favorite dog, not owned or bred by you, and why?

**RF:** "Wow that's a tough one. I guess Lassie ;-). Probably a bitch owned by a friend from Idaho. Her name was Ticket (Topbrass Over the Limit). She had all the drive and grace that I love in Goldens but also was a clown. Life never bothered her a bit."

**RR:** What are your current ventures: who's competing in what, who's the queen bee and hanging around the house, etc?

**RF:** "We are competing at all levels of field work from derby to the all age stakes with our 6 Goldens. I will run a 5 month old in the WC at the GRCA National Specialty next month. Our queen bees are gone. We lost a 4 1/2 (Jackie) and 14 1/2 (Lola) year old to cancer within the last two months. Kaye and I are still recovering from these devastating loses. Jackie was one of the top field Goldens in the country. Probably our most talented dog ever. "

**RR:** Where do you hope your dogs/breeding program will be in 10 years?

**RF:** "We hope to have cancer free dogs in ten years. We'd love to win some field trials as

well with dogs out of our lines. Until we get the cancer under control in our breed, as breeders, we may be fighting a losing battle with time. The average life span on Flat Coated Retrievers is now about 7 years. Anecdotal evidence suggests that Golden deaths due to cancer may be headed the same direction. I encourage all AGRC members to give to The Golden Health Foundation to help with basic research. There are some neat work going on in canine genetics but it costs money. I suggest all AGRC members spend 30 minutes visiting the GRF website."

**RR:** What is the most outrageous/funniest thing one of your goldens has done?

**RF:** "It was a bright sunny day and I was running a senior hunt test with my dog Dewbers. He was about 90 lean pounds. He disappeared into the woods and was not seen for about 3 minutes. Out came Dewbers with a sack of dead ducks in his mouth. He had stolen the bird boy's sack. He dutifully brought the bag back to the line and handed it to me. I was mortified. I threw the bag backwards in disgust and hit the judge in the chest. Oops. Dewbers didn't pass that day ;-)"



"Chili"  
KC's Beau'l Of Red

## Meeting Notes: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005

July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
 General Club Meeting  
 AGRC  
 Place: Brick Oven, Jollyville Rd.

### All Members Present:

Linda James  
 Helen Dorrance  
 Debby Gower  
 Fred & Marsha Spreeuwiers  
 Diane Senterfitt  
 Geoff Weisbart  
 Judi Hollenbeck  
 Donna Tarbox  
 Clay and Ming Chase  
 Melissa Jones  
 Jane Fish  
 Terri Post

### Guests:

Stacey Robinson  
 Adam & Shannon Casto  
 Pam Rabon  
 Jerry & Linda Reitzel  
 Peter & Suzanne Forsling  
 Cathy Nairn

The meeting was called to order by Debby Gower, President. Debby made a motion that the club vote to approve new member Stacey Robinson and the

motion was passed.  
 Welcome, Stacey!

The guest speaker for this meeting was Dr. Cathy Nairn. She presented information regarding vaccination protocols and answered many question on this issue.

Much of this meeting was dedicated to planning for the agility trial at Triple Crown Dog Center held on July 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>.

The club voted to donate \$100 to the Los Angeles Golden Retriever Club to assist with their expenses incurred during the 2004 Nationals.

Jane Fish encouraged members to get educated regarding the various P.A.W.S. legislation issues.

Debby Gower announced that she planned to attend a meeting regarding Austin's mandatory

sterilization proposition and will report on the specifics of the meeting.

The clubs' website has been non-functional for several months. Marsha Spreeuwiers will contact the person responsible for maintaining the website to report the problem.

Melissa Jones is asking members to submit dog pictures for the newsletter.

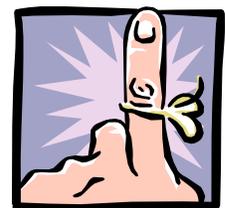


Upcoming member Christina Murphey's bitch "Irie" training at Triple Crown this spring!

Please note the Editor's address change on the back cover. Email address remains [liss@austin.rr.com](mailto:liss@austin.rr.com).

## A Friendly Reminder!

We would like to ask everyone to bring one or more items to the next meeting that can be used in baskets that will be raffled off at the Specialty in October. We know that for some of you this is a little redundant as you've already given so much (and it is very much appreciated), but if there are others who have not yet contributed we'd appreciate the help! Popular donation items are: treats, toys, bowls, dog related home décor items, gift certificates, dog food, stationary, dog beds, and coffee mugs. We also could use **large baskets**, and stuffing supplies.



## Why Hunt Test?

Hunt Tests test your dog's skill against a hunting retriever skill standard. Created by hunters, like you, during non-hunting season as friendly competition during training and was later adopted by AKC and UKC clubs.

These tests are designed to test you and your dog in true to life hunting conditions in which a dog is judged for his Marking ability, Trainability, Style and Perseverance.

The AKC offers three levels in which to compete in order of complexity: Junior Hunter (JH), Senior Hunter (SH) and Master Hunter (MH). Dogs are judged (two judges per test) in four major categories: Marking or Memory, Style, Perseverance, and Trainability. The categories are judged on a scale of 0-10. An average overall score from all four categories of 7 must be attained to pass. A dog must pass this test four times to receive a Title. Special rules apply if you skip a stake.

### AKC Junior Hunter Title

Junior Hunter requires simple single retrieves. The dog must stay GENTLY restrained by the handler's side, by a flat buckle collar; no other training collars can be used. (Touching the dog after you release him and before you take the bird is an automatic disqualification, lots of new handlers do this!) No more than 100 yards away, a bird boy, blows a duck call, fires a shot and a bird falls (also known as a "Mark"). Upon the judge's signal, you release your dog to retrieve the bird. The dog must retrieve the bird and deliver to hand. The straighter the dog runs to and from the mark the better the score.

To pass Junior Hunter the dog

must complete four "Marks". Usually separated by two series or scenarios. Two marks on land and two marks on water. Although the handler is not required to fire a gun, the handler is required to shoulder a gun sometime during the test.

Your dog is scored on a 0-10 scale on four different categories: Marking, Perseverance, Trainability and Style. An average score of 7 in all four categories must be attained to receive a pass. To receive an AKC Title as Junior Hunter, you must receive a pass in four separate tests.

### AKC Senior Hunter Title

Senior Hunter requires an honor, a walk up, a double mark, and a blind (Handling), each no more than 100 yards. NO COLLARS are allowed, and you may NOT touch your dog. You will also be required to shoulder a gun. The test is two series, one on water, and one on land. Depending on your judges, the honor or walk up can be given on water or land or both.

Double Marks consist of two birds thrown; the dog must retrieve a bird and come back, then retrieve the next bird and come back. It does not matter which bird the dog retrieves first. If a dog hunts for his first bird and can't find it you may handle the dog to the mark, however, if you do not handle and the dog clearly switches to the other bird it is an automatic disqualification. You can only handle on one mark in the entire test.

The Walk Up will require that the handler and dog (unrestrained, at heel) walk past an invisible line; the judge will call for a bird (mark), while the handler and dog are still walking. When the shots are fired, the dog must remain at heel (whether he is sitting or standing).

You may NOT touch your dog. Another bird will be thrown/shot; the dog must remain at heel and under control. Then the judge will call for release of the dog.

Honoring will consist of the dog remaining at the line, under control and unrestrained, you may NOT touch your dog. The test will continue with another dog running marks. Your dog may Not BREAK from your side. Your dog will be released to leave the line after the dog running the marks has left for his retrieve. However, if your dog breaks at this time it will also be a disqualification. (Note: always check with Marshall on the call names of the dogs you are honoring with, rare but it happens)

Blinds will consist of a bird down that the dog did not see go down. Again you may NOT touch your dog. You must line your dog by heeling and hand pointing, then you must handle your dog to the bird, by whistling and casting the dog. Excessive whistles and excessive cast refusals will score low. The better the dog stay's on the straight line to the downed bird the better the score.

Items highlighted can be an automatic disqualification. Your dog is scored on a 0-10 scale on four different categories: Marking, Perseverance, Trainability and Style. An average score of 7 in all four categories must be attained to receive a pass. To receive an AKC Title as Senior Hunter, you must receive a pass in four separate tests assuming your dog has a Junior Hunter title, if not you must pass five.

Article Submitted by Debby Gower. It is a reproduction from the Alamo Retrieve Club

## Braggs and Wags.....

As of print time we had no braggs submitted! Please make sure to submit your braggs in advance, and do not worry about their significance! Anything that you are proud of, we're proud of....we want to share in your excitement!

Thanks!



She definitely thinks she's something to brag about! (Mia Nieman's Ace X Scout litter.)

## Humorous Dog Show Dictionary

**ANGULATION** - Degree to which dog handlers will bend over backwards to impress the judges.

**BALANCE** - How to arrange the checkbook so your husband won't know how much money you spent on dog shows last month. Usually done in the bathroom with the door locked.

**BITCH** - A. Name for a lady dog. B. name often overheard at dog shows, not always to describe a lady dog.

**COAT** - The hairy covering of a dog that usually falls out about one week before the Specialty show.

**DAM** - A. A lady dog with children. B. Expression frequently overheard at dog shows as losers leave the ring.

**ELBOW** - Method of getting to ringside when late.

**EXPRESSION** - "Sweet" look adopted by dogs while staring ravenously at chunks of liver.

**FANCIER** - Degree to which some gentlemen handlers dress more than others.

**FEATHERING** - What winners are accused of doing to judges' nests.

**FRONT** - Part of the dog often stacked toward the outside of the ring.

**HEEL** - A. you feel like when your dog beats the one you had just sold to an eager novice. B. Expression often screamed to attract the attention of deaf dogs

**HEIGHT** - As in "Maximum Allowed", a measurement which all champions fall under by AT LEAST 1/8 of an inch.

**HOCK** - A way of financing your dog shows by the use of jewelry such as wedding rings.

**KENNEL** - Where you go when the kids fight and your husband yells at you.

**LITTER** - Trash left all over the building and parking lot after a dog show.

**MUZZLE** - What to put on your kids at a dog show to prevent them from calling your competition what they overheard you call him last night.

**NOSEPRINTS** - Cute marks left all over your French doors.

**OUTCROSSING** - What your husband tells the minister you are doing out in the kennel with the dog and the bitch.

**POINTS** - Minute, invisible awards for winning which you cannot convince your spouse are more important than cash prizes.

**PUPPIES** - Small, doglike food-processing machines with the ability to stink up an entire house and collectively deafen a band of Magpies. (These creatures have not yet been perfected, as they come with a leaky system, and can also be dangerous to weak hearts and bank accounts).

***Club Information***

**Austin Golden Retriever Club Inc.**

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

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**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 ideas 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.



## **Blast From The Past...**

Can you name this club member  
with two dogs out of her  
breeding?

Photo taken ~ 10 years ago.  
Submitted by Jean Stokes.

**MELISSA JONES**  
**EDITOR**

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