

A.G.R.C. Rug Rag

September, 2006

Special Interest Articles:

- Specialty Quickly Approaching!
- Dogs and Chocolate
- Structure Workshop



Adam and "Charli" Casto at the Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado!

MEETING
7/20/06

Brick Oven
10710 Research
Boulevard

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

See you there!

Help needed with upcoming Specialty!

As hopefully everyone knows by now we have a specialty quickly approaching! Our specialty will be held at the Travis County Expo Center on Friday October 27th. Volunteer participation plays a large role in the outcome of this event (as well as all others for that matter) and we are asking at this time that you please make plans to donate your time, raffle items, money, or cooking skills! In conjunction with the specialty we will be having a raffle as well as a complimentary dinner for exhibitors and workers. At the upcoming meeting we will have a sign up sheet for food items such as finger sandwiches, veggie trays, fruit trays, wine, and variety packs of individually wrapped chips.

If you are unable to attend the meeting please call or email Judi Hollenbeck (contact info below) to sign up! We would also greatly appreciate the donation of any raffle items, as our stock is now minimal for the baskets! Most local businesses that you frequent are happy to donate *so get out there and ask!* If you are unable to donate either food or items, a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated in any amount you would like to contribute, and such donations can be sent to our treasurer, Linda James.

Specialty Hospitality Contact

Judi Hollenbeck
halogoldens@yahoo.com
512-756-9448

Important Website Information: Please Read

We would like to offer all members the opportunity to have their contact information linked to the club website. Our webmaster has suggested an email address (preferred option) or phone number (should you not use the internet) be attached to those members who would like to provide it.

Please send your chosen form of contact to Melissa Jones at liss@austin.rr.com, or 5601 Porsche Lane, Austin, Tx, 78749, no later than Saturday, September 30th for submission to the webmaster. No information will be accepted after this date.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

Board Meeting Notes – August 16th, 2006

Meeting was held at La Madeleine on 183 at 6:30pm. In attendance were officers: Debby Gower, President; Linda James, Treasurer, Diane Senterfitt, Vice President, Marsha Spreeuwers, Secretary. And, board members: Melissa Jones, Judi Hollenbeck, Jane Fish, and Mia Nieman

Topics for Sept. 20th club meeting:

Oct. 27th Specialty

- Conformation judge is Rhoda Winter-Russell.
- Obedience judge is William Chillot, Jr
- Baskets are almost ready for the raffle – nothing else needed.
- Members are asked to donate food/drinks/money/supplies this year., to avoid loss on the part of the club.
- Member donations are also needed for trophies, more will be discussed at 9/20 club meeting.
- Ribbons & judges' gifts need to be ordered.
- Linda will create a donation list for all of the above to bring to the Sept. 20th club meeting. This list will also be emailed to all members (whose email address we have...) to request donations for those that may miss the Sept. meeting.

Christmas Party

- Sat. Dec. 2: To be held at Jane's mother's house - Details will be in upcoming Rug Rag.
- Marsha Spreeuwers will keep sign-up sheet of food items for the party – please email mspreeuw@swbell.net or call 512-670-3351.

Dec 8-10th Agility Trial

- 3 full days are planned & we desperately need as many volunteers as possible to avoid paying workers.
- Maximum number of entries has already been received and a waiting list has been established.

AGRC Web Site

- Sheri Farmer has put together a great home page. The board voted to keep the home page as-is with pictures of anonymous dogs to avoid having to decide whose dogs should have their picture on the home page.
- The link will be changed to Austin Golden Retriever Club instead of Austin Goldens.
- Members/breeders can opt to have their website or

email address added as a link attached to their name on the member list.

- The most current Rug Rag will be available on the website.
- An events calendar and some event photos will be included on the website.
- Judi Hollenbeck and Melissa Jones will be the points of contact for the website.

Member Dues

- Dues are due January 1st of each year.
- Club members are asked to please be as prompt as possible in paying their dues. Failure to pay could result in loss of newsletter and/or membership.
- New deadline for non-payment will be February 1st, after which time the member will receive a delinquency notice.

Club Trophies and Award

- Mia Nieman has volunteered to organize and handle the club trophies for 2005 & 2006.
- Members are asked to provide any titles received during 2005 & 2006 to Mia as soon as possible.

Brags and Wags.....

- "Mack" – Gower's Love At First Bite, MH, WCX (Gower), picked up a five point major at the Houston shows in July!
- "Aimee" – Goldrun Amarillo By Morning, owned by the Carlson family completed her championship! Way to go Aimee (and family)!!
- "Topsy" – Ducat Watermark's Homebrew (Dorrance/Tatum) finished her championship as well!
- "Lindy" - KC Spirit of St. Louis, UD, MH, WCX (Thurman) is an outstanding Dam, out of 10 progeny, 6 are Outstanding Progeny, she turned 14 on August 21!
- "Apple" - Mach Eden's Forbidden Fruit, SH, CD, WCX (Thurman) received her MACH, as did "Seth" - Mach Eden's Forgotten Son, MH, CD, WCX (Thurman)

Another Successful Agility Trial

The agility trial held on Saturday August 26th and Sunday the August 27th was another successful one for the Austin Golden Retriever Club! Many compliments were given by exhibitors, and the even ran smoothly! A HUGE thank you to the club members that gave of their time and energy this weekend....we could not have done it without you!!

The show photographer has been kind enough to provide the club with a CD of professional photos from this agility trial showcasing the amazing dogs that participated. Please keep an eye out for more event photos in the next Rug Rag!



Jordan Jones spends some down time with Mia Nieman's dog "Secret" in her comfy crate!



Club members and workers attentive to their positions within the trial.

Flash: Agility trail
earns A.G.R.C.
Over \$3,000! Way to go



The raffle was a success once again, earning the club over \$300!



James Wommack and "Cherry" take care of the raffle table while mom, Melissa Jones, takes pictures!

Structure Workshop From Travis County Kennel Club

The Travis County Kennel Club is hosting the **Structure in Action Workshop with Pat Hastings** February 3, 2007, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. at **Austin Canine Central**

STRUCTURE IN ACTION is a new one-day workshop. It combines Pat Hastings' Puppy Puzzle Presentation, as well as Hastings' discussion of the value of structurally evaluating adult dogs that are being considered for a breeding program, working trials or performance competition, along with a veterinarian's perspective on how to reduce the risk of structural injuries in working and performance dogs.

Dogs will do most anything we ask of them. The question is: Do we want to ask them to do things that they are structurally incapable of doing without breaking down? Is that what we really want to do to our most steadfast companions? The more we learn about canine structure, the more we understand what is reasonable to ask of our dogs, given their physical strengths and weaknesses.

AGENDA

- How to evaluate the structural quality of puppies
 - The basics of canine structure
 - The weakest links
- How to evaluate the structural quality of your adult dog
 - What your dog can do and should not be doing?
 - A vet's ideas on how to strengthen structure and
 - reduce the risk of injury
- Questions and hands-on work with attendees' dogs

SPEAKER - PAT HASTINGS

Pat is well respected in dog-world as an educator, author and AKC judge. Well-known for her Puppy Puzzle video, she evaluates the structural quality of over 300 litters per year.

LOCAL PERFORMANCE VETERINARIAN to be announced

Price is \$80 per person and includes a catered lunch!

For Travis County Kennel Club educational programs contact Kym Ubele at papillons@sbcglobal.net, or go to the Travis County Kennel Club's Website at www.traviscounttykc.org.

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL:

Sign up before December 1st and you only pay \$75!!

Chocolate: Just The Facts Reference: Pedigree News

You drop a chunk of baking chocolate on the floor while you're making brownies and your Shih Tzu snatches it, swallowing before you can stop her. Since you know chocolate is poisonous to dogs, you're immediately concerned. But still, it was just one piece. How bad could that be?

Does it really require a trip to the emergency vet?

Well, maybe. When it comes to chocolate and dogs, there are a number of factors at play. Let's take a look at the facts. Then we'll come back to the question above.

The truth about chocolate

Chocolate contains a compound called theobromine. And in sufficient quantities it is toxic to dogs. It's the "sufficient quantities" part that causes confusion. But here's the good news: On average, it takes a fairly large amount of theobromine (100-150 mg/kg) to cause a toxic reaction.

Of course, there are other factors to consider, including individual animal sensitivity, weight of dog, and the chocolate's theobromine concentration. In general, the darker and less sweet the chocolate, the greater the theobromine concentration. The chart below serves as a good rule of thumb. But if you're ever in doubt, don't hesitate to consult your veterinarian.

Type of Chocolate	How Much Toxin?	A Toxic Dose
Milk chocolate	44 mg theobromine per oz	1 ounce per 1 lb of body weight
Semisweet chocolate	150 mg theobromine per oz	1/3 ounce per 1 lb of body weight
Baker's chocolate	390 mg theobromine per oz	1/8 ounce per 1 lb of body weight

The Shih Tzu and the chocolate

In our example, 2 oz. of baker's chocolate can cause great risk to a 15 lb. dog, but 2 oz. of milk chocolate will simply result in a mild case of digestive upset. So our Shih Tzu is in serious need of immediate veterinary attention.

Signs & symptoms

Chocolate affects the nervous and cardiovascular systems, as well as peripheral nerves. It also has a diuretic effect and can cause stomach upset. Here are some clinical signs and symptoms to look out for:

- Extreme agitation
- Severe irritability
- Increased heart rate
- Increased urination
- Muscle tremors
- Vomiting and diarrhea
- Restlessness

Treatment options

If you suspect your dog has eaten some chocolate, take him to the nearest vet immediately — they'll determine the best course of treatment. Be ready to tell them any and all information you have. Show them the chocolate packaging, if you have it.

There is no antidote for chocolate toxicity, however there are treatment options. If the amount of chocolate your dog's ingested is unknown, inducing vomiting is a must. Your vet may also give your dog activated charcoal in order to inhibit absorption.

And further, depending on the severity of the case, your dog may also receive an anticonvulsant, which is necessary if neurological signs present. In order to help protect the heart, oxygen therapy, intravenous medications, and fluids may be needed.

Club Information

Austin Golden Retriever Club Inc.

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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 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.

Check out our updated website!

www.austingoldenretrieverclub.com

Much thanks to our new webmaster, and Dallas/Ft.
Worth GRC Member Sherri Farmer for her beautiful
work!

MELISSA JONES

EDITOR

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