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News and Information  
About Golden  
Retrievers For Those  
Who Love Them



# The BARQUER

Vol 13 Spring 2009 , Issue 1



## *Having a Golden Spring*



# From Our President!

Dear Friends,

THANK YOU FOR YOU!!!

Often while driving back with a Golden just accepted for GRRCNY, the sadness of the situation wells up within and sometimes spills over into tears. It is for the Golden in back of me, for life as she/he has known it is gone. I “converse” with that dog and hear “It wasn’t much but it was all I knew”. Or “they didn’t have the time (or money, or knowledge) to care for me but they did the best they could”. With the unconditional love that a Golden shows us over and over again, no blame is assessed. “They did the best they could but their best wasn’t always very good”. Alright. I know these conversations on all in my imagination – but are they?

So I tell the dog in my car “today is the first day of the rest of your life”. And “You won’t want for food, water, vet care, human contact ever again”. You know its like she hears me. Heads tilt, tails wag more, not in the swish-swish motion of anxiety, but with the eagerness and anticipation of a dog being talked to softly. The surrendering owner may tell me “I left him outside because he wants to be outside”. We’ll find out about that very soon.

Maybe an overnight at my house – with lots of dogs sharing their opinions on the rules of the house and yard. “But that’s okay – maybe a little over-whelming at first but everyone is nice so no big deal. The food isn’t very interesting but I get to sleep in a bedroom. Met the veterinarian. She felt me all over and gave me a treat after pricking me with something sharp. Not so bad.” But then another car ride. “Where am I going? Back to that place I used to call “home” “?

No, another house. “The people came running out of the house to meet ME. They touched me all over, said I was beautiful, and then the first lady left. Maybe this is what she meant by ‘first day of the rest....’ “

Was the second home a foster home or an adoptive home? Really doesn’t matter much in the Golden’s eyes. “Either way, its comfortable, its warm, they like – maybe love – me”.

I can tell you that as GRRCNY’s Intake Coordinator for 15 years that if I had only the experience of accepting the Golden (from owners or shelters) that I would be, by this time, very jaded without the balance of seeing the love and care of foster homes and adopting homes. To be fair to surrendering owners, SOME truly care for the dog and care enough to want something better for the dog. I have held some in my

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We heartily thank the following donors for generously supporting the cause so dear to our hearts. With a Golden Bark, we gratefully Thank our **most recent Contributors for 2009:**

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## LOOKING FOR HOMES IN CENTRAL NEW YORK

Contact our Adoption Coordinator for more information. Sallie Lennox is at 315 469-7926. All dogs placed by GRCNY are spayed or neutered (unless medically contraindicated), shots are current, heartworm and fecal testing done.

**Keystone** came into rescue during the summer of 2008 at 140 pounds. He was and is a big boy but his weight is down to 87 pounds. He is 9 years old but is very energetic and enjoying moving so much easier with less weight. He is wonderful in a group of dogs and has a distinctive and engaging personality. Keystone had a neglected past and except for too much food, he wasn't given much attention and stimulation. Although he is fine with people he lives with, he does get very excited when guests visit. When with small children or anyone not steady on their feet, he should be supervised – without intent, he could knock them over. <http://www.grcny.org/images/keystone.jpg> Keystone is a loving and responsive companion and will need a fenced area – he tends to be stubborn and comes in when he is ready. In addition to still being very difficult to walk on lead (he has so much to see and so much time to make up for), he loves being outdoors and watching everything – birds, airplanes, squirrels. Neutered and all shots are current.



**Dewey** came to rescue from a Central New York Shelter. He was surrendered by his owner to the shelter – his family re-modeled their home and the new décor didn't match Dewey so he was tied to a doghouse before going to the shelter. He is just turning 3 years old. Excellent with other dogs. Lots of energy and inquiring to do, he needs a fenced yard for adequate exercise, obedience training and lots of stimulation to meet his needs for active mental stimulation.. Neutered and all shots are current. **ADOPTION PENDING**

**Duke** came to us from a shelter in eastern New York. He had been left outdoors and pretty much on his own as his owner was gone for many days at a time. Duke was Lyme positive and we treated that. Duke has poor hips and knees but does well on daily doses of Cosequin and pain medication. Surgery is not an option. We've had difficulty being sure of his age (and he's not telling us) but think it's 8-10. He's a wonderful and friendly guy and does well with other dogs. Duke is very responsive to voice command. Should have a home with few stairs. 2-3 would be acceptable. Neutered and all shots are current.



*Continued on page 5*



*Looking for Homes in CNY continued from page 4*

**Lucky** – we watched Lucky on a shelter’s website for a month before just having to go get him. As a stray, his age is unknown but we are suggesting at least 8-10. While appearing “very Golden”, his size leads us to assume there is part Spaniel (perhaps) in his lineage. He weighs about 35 pounds and looks quite like a 6-month-old puppy. We are treating for several medical conditions, and these conditions will be addressed by us to the extent possible. Lucky is totally deaf. He does well with other dogs but cannot hear the various ways that dogs communicate with each other. Lucky most wants to be with people. Small children should be avoided – Lucky has been hurt in the past and will snap when his ears are handled. GRRCNY will remain financially responsible for continuing to learn about and treat his medical conditions until all avenues are explored. In the meantime, he could be meeting someone in need of a loyal companion who will provide him the love and attention he deserves. Lucky does have some separation issues and will follow his people from room to room. This sweet little dog needs special care. Lucky is neutered and all shots are current.



*President’s Message continued from page 2*

arms before taking the leash and walking out the door. Bad things do happen to good people, and some are beyond their ability to cope. But when vet care is two years past due and yet the TV is bigger than my car, when the yard and house are littered with expensive ATVs and video games, then I wonder why they say they couldn’t afford to take the dog to the vet. There are times you can’t say what you would really like to but “get the dog and run”.

Able to go full circle with this “rescue thing”, I get to open the mail addressed to GRRCNY. You adopters are amazing. The love you feel for your adopted Golden and the tenderness with which you express it time and time again sustains us. Keeps us on an even keel. Provides the balance.

For that, and for so much more, I am indebted to you. You are making my “Golden years” something special.

Carol

*“Golden retrievers are not bred to be guard dogs, and considering the size of their hearts and their irrepressible joy in life, they are less likely to bite than to bark, less likely to bark than to lick a hand in greeting. In spite of their size, they think they are lap dogs, and in spite of being dogs, they think they are also human, and nearly every human they meet is judged to have the potential to be a born companion who might, at many moment, cry, “Let’s go!” and lead them on a great adventure.”*

— Dean Koontz



*Ellie*



## Ask the Barquer by Carol Allen

Q: Recently I was in the Vet's office with my adopted Golden on a Flexi Lead (expandable length recoiling type) and a person in the waiting area (not a very friendly type) said I shouldn't use a lead like that in a waiting area. What do you think?

A: While I think the person could have been nicer about it, I do think his or her message is correct. In a situation like a waiting area or a dog park, where there are many unknowns (both in terms of how dogs and humans will react), we believe that a Flexi-Lead does not give you the necessary control of your dog. A regular 5- or 6-foot lead gives you the protection that you, your dog and other dogs should have.

A few words about leashes of any kind and dog parks – dog parks are intended for those dogs that play nicely with other dogs. If your dog does not do that, or if you notice other dogs there that do not play nicely, then a dog park isn't for you. Your dog on a leash of any kind within such a park is a signal to all dogs – yours and others – that your dog is vulnerable. The usual and normal posturing and communicating between dogs cannot fully occur. The leashed dog cannot move away from a situation that makes him uncomfortable. Often it is much more our need than our dog's that he socializes in that way. Personally I am uncomfortable with most dog parks – the humans are too stupid and the other dogs are often not healthy.

Q. I have had Sophie for one year. I adopted her from

GRRRCNY when she was 4 years old. "No" means nothing to her. She just doesn't seem to "get it". How can I teach her what "no" means?

A: Well, you can't teach her what "No" means because "No" has no meaning. It is just a word that is usually said sternly and perhaps loudly but you could just as well say "Blah-blah-blah". Dogs don't understand that No is the opposite of Yes. What they understand is that some behaviors get more reinforcement than others but remember that negative reinforcement, while not as rewarding as positive reinforcement, is preferable to no attention. I expect my dog to say, "Well, at least she isn't ignoring me".

Sometimes when the dogs and I are in the backyard and the excitement of mealtime leads to barking, I catch myself saying "no bark". How stupid is that? The dogs don't understand that "No" modifies "Bark". So they just join my chorus and keep on barking. Who is the dumb animal here? It is I.

Your question gives me the opportunity to once again say why basic obedience training is so valuable. For a dog to reliably know "Sit", "Stay", "Down", "Come" and to give you that behavior on command every time – that (plus "leave it", "wait" and "watch") is the foundation for all other learning and behavior. You notice that these aren't negative commands – you are letting the dog know what you want (not what you don't want). In the beginning your positive reinforcement of these behaviors is a high-value treat AND your verbal praise. Later you can lessen (or fade) the treat part but there is no reason not to give your dog the verbal feedback of "gooooood boy".

*Ask the Barquer continued on page 7*

### NEW FOSTER HOMES

Bernie and Jacquie Tufts



### ***More Foster Homes Are Needed!***

Our need for foster homes able to care for males of all ages is a particular and desperate need, but new homes to care for both genders of all ages are necessary. For information on becoming a foster home, please contact Marge Hoyt 315/469-1657

Two phrases are the foundation of this:

1. A dog can't do something wrong and something right at the same time.
2. "Catch" your dog doing something right and praise, reward, praise.

A dog is never too old for obedience training. I enrolled a ten year old in Basic Obedience and we did pretty well. Only the "Sit/Stay" as I moved away gave us problems (she had some "abandonment issues").

I will say that until a new behavior is learned that you need to keep you dog from doing what it is that you find objectionable. If the problem is "counter-surfing" at mealtime, then the dog, until she learns a solid Sit/Stay, needs to be out of the kitchen or dining area. Do not allow a behavior you don't want to be allowed to occur. Baby gates across door ways works well, but the best is a solid sit/stay across the room. Once your dog gets that ham sandwich off the table, that is the motivation for trying to do it 100 times again.

Q: My dog and I belong to a "Dog Play Group" and my adopted Golden needs to remain on leash. It is held in a big open area. The humans talk and move about and some (most) of the other dogs are off leash. My adopted Golden has been attacked twice. Why is he the target?

A: Communication between dogs is a fascinating topic. While we usually think that dogs are excellent communicators, I have come to think that some are better at it – or at least more experienced at it – than others. This involves Expressive Language (what signals the dog gives off to other dogs) and Receptive Language (how well the dog reads the signals of others).

I actually know your dog as he was in my home for a while. His Expressive Language skills aren't as good as

they might be – that is, his body language, while actually having an origin in fear and anxiety and perhaps anticipation, looks to other dogs to be mildly aggressive. A couple of my dogs began to react to him, too, until I called them off and they seemed to take a second look. Your dog likely was lacking in the learning opportunity with other puppies at the proper developmental stage. Now he doesn't communicate to others his true intentions. And the fact that he is on a leash and the others are not is also a problem. Your dog reacts to your tension (leash tightening) as another dog approaches plus the leash makes him very vulnerable. In the Fight or Flight choices, he can't flee (flight) so is given no choice really.

What would I do? I would not take my dog into a situation where he is vulnerable. And on a leash he is vulnerable. I would find alternative methods of providing him exercise. He is way beyond the age where mere exposure to other dogs will change his communication skills. What would change his communication skills is to have only positive experiences with other dogs so that what he expresses is not fear and anxiety but confidence and anticipation. As long as he fears he may be attacked, this won't be the case. If change is to occur he needs to be in an enclosed area off lead and exposed to dogs that you know are very reliable. He did well in my home with a variety of males and females. The one male with which he might initially have had words became his best buddy.

There are other training strategies (counter-conditioning and desensitization) that could be employed but these are detailed and require considerable consistency and time commitment. Perhaps we can briefly describe these in a future column. A dog trainer (not to be confused with an obedience instructor) could be engaged in the process too.

***"Dogs are our link to paradise. They don't know evil or jealousy or discontent. To sit with a dog on a hillside on a glorious afternoon is to be back in Eden, where doing nothing was not boring - it was peace." - Milan Kundera (b. 1929) Czech author, critic***



***Cinnie***

# Letters From Our Friends



Marilyn and Larry Wholley, with **Brody** adopted 5 years ago, have moved but keep in touch: We wanted to let you know how our wonderful Brody is doing. We moved nearer to family and now Brody has a one-year old child as a new pal. Brody is still

our wonderful gift that you made possible and we still spread the word about rescue. We find that one of our neighbors volunteers for Golden Retriever Rescue here. Your gift to us, and to others makes huge differences in people's lives. Do know how grateful we will always be for Brody and for the love and caring you give all Golden Retrievers. You are the best.

Dr. Bonnie Norton tells us that **Nordica** continues to do well: She loves the snow and playing with our daughter outside.

**Zao** was adopted by John and Judy Sheets. Things are going well with Zao and Lucy, our cat. (Some uncertainty about that early on) He is a beautiful young man. We love him dearly.

Cate Ingalls writes in behalf of her family. They have adopted three from GRRONY and two remain with them: It is amazing how **Gracie** and **Chance** have bonded. In good days these seniors play like pups. We have been so blessed to have these beautiful souls in our lives. I thank Gracie every day for all the times she woke us when our son James was having a seizure. She is a true hero

**IF YOU MOVE..... please let us know if your postal address changes. The Post Office makes money with each returned piece of mail (and we have better uses for your donations).**

**Write to GRRONY, PO Box 735, Jamesville, NY 13078 or Janet Gray, jsg4@cornell.edu.**

**We are also interested in having your current email address. Janet would be happy to receive that, too.**

## How You Can Help!!!

We are grateful to all of our contributors, through whose generous donations, we are able to provide medical care to all of our foster dogs. But this year, possibly because our economy is sluggish, donations are down, and we fear a day when we might have to forego a necessary operation because it might mean another foster dog wouldn't get care he or she needs. Won't you help? All contributions are tax deductible and will be gratefully acknowledged. As a supporter of GRRONY, you'll also receive quarterly issues of *The Barquer!* All contributions help fund our Rescue efforts and also help with medical costs for our foster Golden Retrievers!

### Donation to Golden Retriever Rescue of Central New York, Inc.

Amount:  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$\_\_\_\_\_

Dedication:  In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

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Make Checks Payable to GRRONY and Send to:  
Golden Retriever Rescue of Central New York, P.O. Box 735, Jamesville, NY 13078



## RESCUERS at WESTMINSTER

By Carol Allen

Soon after Pedigree announced that the Golden Retriever Club of America had won the prestigious “AKC Parent Breed Rescue of the Year” Award, I was honored that GRCA asked me, as Chair of their National Rescue Committee, to accept the award in New York City on February 7th. This meant that a guest and I would enjoy a 6-day all-expense trip to New York City that included the Award Dinner, stay at the Waldorf Astoria and box seats to Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.

The black-tie Awards Dinner is also the kick-off event for Westminster and was an evening to remember at the American Museum of Natural History. After I was interviewed for publicity purposes, and among the elephants and other jungle animals, wait staff served unending drinks and hors d’oeuvres to 500 people. Soon we entered another amazing hall as a 9-piece orchestra played and more drinks and eventually dinner were served. Of course, all of this led to free and easy conversation with people who only an hour before were complete strangers. This included a lovely and long conversation with Broadway star Bernadette Peters about her Golden and her interest in rescue.

Eventually the Award was presented as the following was read:

“ The Golden Retriever Club of America, by forming a charitable foundation for funding support and a National Rescue Committee for coordination and networking, has established for Golden Retrievers a nation-wide delivery system. Nearly 100 programs rescued 10,000 Golden Retrievers in 2007 with total expenses of \$7 million. All numbers will be higher for 2008. The Golden Retriever Club of America is recognized for establishing an effective model of service, for supporting that model and for articulating a high standard of care for the dogs. It is in recognition of this work that Pedigree presents them with this honor”.

As the number of 10,000 Goldens rescued each year was read there was an audible gasp from the audience. Few seemed to know the magnitude of the “rescue effort” for our breed.

Westminster was also a wonderful experience and we were able to see as much as we wanted to including the judging of the Goldens very close. Our lingering impression, though, is that Madison Square Garden is not large enough for this event. And the benching area is almost impossible to move through. I seriously wondered if I would subject my dog to that but, on second thought, if invited to do so I likely would.

Rescue brings to us many intangible rewards but seldom tangible ones. This was a wonderful exception to that. Sallie Lennox was my guest for the trip and I’m pleased she was able to join in this unusual and memorable acknowledgement.



**Carol Allen and Bernadette Peters talk goldens and rescue at the Westminster Kennel Club Awards Dinner**

Photo by Sallie Lennox

### Write To Us !

Do you have a story or letter to share with us about your adopted Golden? We love to hear from you and about how they are doing! Send your letters to GRRCNY, PO Box 735, Jamesville NY 13078.

# ***RACHEL PAGE ELLIOTT* – Authority on and friend of Golden Retrievers**

By Carol Allen

For many years when the gait and movement of dogs was discussed or written about, Mrs. Rachel Page Elliott's name was given as the expert in that. This well-deserved reputation began in 1973 when she wrote "Dogsteps" about canine anatomy and movement. In 1974, the Dog Writers Association recognized that book as the Best Dog Book of the year and Gaines Pet Food named her Dog Woman of the Year. In 2009, Mrs. Elliott was inducted into the Dog Writers Association of America Hall of Fame after her memoir was published "From Hoof Beats to Dogsteps: A Life of Listening to and Learning From Animals".

"Pagey", as she was known to her friends, died on March 20 at the age of 96 after a 16 month battle with cancer. And battle she did.

It was for Golden Retrievers that Mrs. Elliott held her deepest personal feelings. She and her late husband raised over 50 litters over four decades. Upon her passing there was nearly an audible sigh of grief and respect from all over the country for she has been considered for as long a many of us can remember as the Grand Dame of Golden Retrievers. When she spoke, we listened, not only because what she said was so learned and respected but also because of the gracious manner in which her advice would be delivered. We remember, too, her activity and energy as she was running in Agility events at age 90. After falling off her horse at 89, she got right back on. "The world always looks better from the back of a horse"

When the Golden Retriever Foundation was establishing a Public Education Fund, it was named the Rachel Page Elliott Fund. When Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue, the first such program in the country, was being formed, she was a strong supporter. At the Golden Retriever Club of America Specialty in Rhode Island in September, after a book signing, Mrs. Elliott was driven around the show grounds. There wasn't a dry eye for we all understood that this, for most of us, would be our last time with "Pagey".

The funeral procession route into the First Parish Church of Concord MA on March 27 was lined with 50 Golden Retrievers decked out in tartan scarves as a bagpipe played in honor of Mrs. Elliott and in recognition of the Scottish origins of her (and our) breed.

On March 28, at our local Golden Retriever's Club Specialty, several of the judges at that All-Breed Dog show approached me as a person obviously involved with Golden Retrievers and likely to have known Mrs. Elliott. They wanted to talk about her. "Everything I know about gait and movement I learned from Rachel Page Elliott" was said over and over again.

## **Golden Retrievers paying tribute to Rachel Page Elliott at her funeral on March 20**

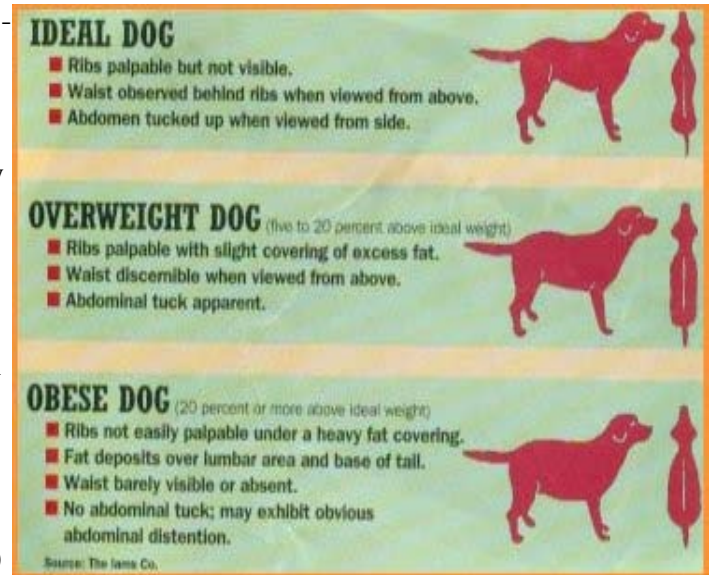


# The Obese Dog

By Sue Averill

One of the biggest health concerns facing dogs today is obesity. Obesity is responsible for creating and aggravating serious problems in dogs. The good news is obesity is preventable and (mostly) reversible. The bad news is that owners have to change their habits because a dog's weight problem is not his fault, it's his owner's!

Overweight dogs that have conditions such as arthritis, hip dysplasia and over-angulated joints, (pasterns, hocks and stifles) suffer greater pain, which causes a greatly reduced quality of life. Obesity in dogs can cause stroke, diabetes, shortness of breath and heart attacks. Obesity can aggravate epilepsy. Many people with epileptic dogs feed them a no or low fat diet and can more easily manage their condition this way. Obese dogs get pressure sores from supporting too much weight on their elbows and hocks when they are laying down (which is most of the time). Young overweight dogs are prone to ligament and tendon injury when playing too hard; for example -- going to the park once or twice a week to chase the tennis ball or Frisbee. Obese dogs cannot easily control their own movements and are extremely prone to injuries caused by twisting and turning sharply and jumping; blown cruciate ligaments (knees) are the most common. The worst condition caused by obesity is simply this, a greatly reduced life-span and unnecessary suffering.



Like humans, dogs should check with their doctors before beginning a weight loss program. A thorough veterinary examination, including a thyroid function test, will reveal whether a dog is suffering from any medical problems. (Many overweight dogs suffer from low (hypo) thyroid function. This can be remedied with an inexpensive prescription costing \$10-\$12 per month). An overweight dog may have certain conditions that would be exacerbated by exercise. Severely dysplastic dogs may need to diet to get the weight off before they can begin gentle exercise to gain muscle support on their hip joints.

All other dogs may be fed a reduced amount of a high quality diet and exercised more!! Dogs should be fed twice daily. Feeding the same amount once daily can actually cause a dog to gain weight due to the starving\stuffing effect. The metabolism of a dog with an empty stomach twenty three hours out of the day slows, and then his system processes the food too efficiently when he finally does eat. Food must always be measured, and you should feed by "eye" not by what it says on the dog food label. The feeding instructions for most dog foods only guarantee that the food will keep laboratory (bred) dogs alive in a cage. Trust what you see, not what you read. Feeding a dog by "eye" means that you should always see a clearly defined waist (imagine an aerial view of your wet dog) and, while you should not see ribs, they should be easily felt when you press your hands against his sides. You need to be aware of his daily activity and be flexible in adjusting his food slightly up or down as needed. If you've been sick a week and you've only been letting your dog out to potty, subtract a small handful of food out of each meal. If you're hiking with him in the mountains for a week, add a little extra to each meal.

Overweight dogs, like people, benefit from consistent sustained aerobic activity. Sporadic hard exercise like chasing sticks or balls should be reserved for fit dogs. Fat dogs benefit most from power walking. Start slowly with a good strong ten-minute walk on flat terrain. Add a minute a day until you're up to half an hour. Once you get to that level begin adding different terrain, little hills or long gentle grades. (Remember that in the summer or hot climates, the best time to exercise a dog is in the morning, before the ground heats up. Dogs' unprotected feet and tummies are close to the ground and the dog overheats faster.) As your dog's tolerance for exercise increases (of which you must be the careful judge) and his weight decreases, you can increase the time out walking or the difficulty of the terrain. Always feed the highest quality food you can afford. Good food costs more, but there are benefits. You will feed less



due to its quality ingredients. Less food “in” means less poops “out” to pick up. Most importantly, you will have an overall healthier dog. Stay away from “lite” foods. Most contain ingredients to add bulk without adding calories. Your dog would never eat “cellulose” (wood pulp!) or peanut hulls, given the choice. Do not use “fat burning” additives.

The following is a tried and true weight reducing diet used for many different breeds. For ease of writing I’ll assume the dog is an average size Lab cross.

Buy him a smaller bowl.

After a.m. exercise, feed him 1/2 cup adult dog food with one of the following mixed in:

1/2 cup green beans, 1/2 cup carrots, 1/2 cup pumpkin, 1/2 cup zucchini

Noon, feed him an apple or big carrot

Evening, repeat a.m. meal

Veggies should be fresh or frozen and never canned (too much salt). You can experiment to find what your dog likes best, any high fiber low calorie veggie will do. The trick is to keep the dog ‘full’ without giving him any extra calories. This will keep his metabolism up and help him burn more calories. This is what “Lite” dog food attempts to do, often by using peculiar ingredients (when was the last time anyone you knew went on the ‘sawdust diet’?) or resorting to carbohydrates which don’t contain fat but will eventually turn into fat in an inactive dog. Once your dog has achieved his goal weight, you need to find his feeding/exercise balance point. If you find both you and your healthier, fitter dog enjoy the amount of exercise you’re currently doing, you can gradually add dog food and subtract veggies until the dog ‘holds’ his weight. If you want to exercise your dog less, you may have to feed lesser amounts of dog food long term.

We all regret that our pets never live quite long enough. If we really love our dogs we must, as their custodians, do everything we can to make sure they are healthy and comfortable during the time that they have. The proof of our love needs to come in the form of care. A dog needs to have a lifetime of the best food, health care, exercise and grooming in exchange for his lifetime of uncomplaining unconditional love. It is our duty and his right.

**Note About Exercise:** Some school track surfaces are spongy for humans wearing shoes, but they are very abrasive for dog paws. If your dog jogs or walks on one with you, be careful and check his paws frequently for abrasions.

*Re-Printed with permission from Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue and Sue Averill*

## ***GRRNCY at the Cornell Vet School Open House - Great Success***

The annual Cornell Vet School Open House was April 4 and we were there! Wow, what a great showing of Golden Retrievers and their humans! This is a very big event with estimates of 10,000 visitors. We were able to talk to folks about Golden Retrievers, adoption, fostering and a variety of other questions. The Golden Retrievers are very popular with the younger set.

A special thank you to Janice Brown who helped set up and take down, Margaret Georgia, Rosemary Lang & Ellie, Maureen Chapman, Alan Barton & Teddy, Debra Ledet & Jessie, Carol Allen & Sassy, Audrey & Bruce Coleman & Arrow, Rocket, Leo & Fanny, Bill & Michele Dunning & Tang & Storm, Dave & Marge Hoyt and Autumn Novakowski



***Ace Gray giving everyone a chance to get their “pets” in***



# Golden Firsts!!!

## **BRINKER** – GRRRCNY’S FIRST UTILITY DOG

Brinker came to GRRRCNY in the summer of 2002 and after a couple of foster homes, Lisa Mitchell agreed to foster this one-year old male. His lack of previous training, energy, and youth led him to be a “handful” in some foster homes. Lisa saw in him however a considerable desire to please and quickly began obedience training. Soon she realized that he was “her dog” and a wonderful training partner. Brinker earned his CGC in 2003, both Companion Dog (CD) and Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) in 2004, three Rally titles in 2005, and 2006 and 2007 added NA, NAJ and OAJ (Agility Titles). The Utility Dog (UD) title was earned this year.

Brinker and Lisa are fortunate to have “found” each other and to have begun this journey. Our Congratulations. Lisa adopted a wonderful training partner and invested the time and energy needed to give Brinker a job, a purpose and a trusting relationship in which to grow.



**Brinker shows his style**

**Lisa and Brinker**



## **First dog to be awarded AKC’s Versatile Companion Champion title (VCCH) is a Golden Retriever**

The AKC proudly announced the first VCCH was awarded on February 15th, 2009 to VCCH Jakki UDX a Golden Retriever from Hermitage, TN. Jakki is owned and handled by Andrea Kyllarova. The Versatile Companion Dog title was developed in 2001. There have been hundreds of dogs of all different breeds have been awarded VCD titles, yet it has taken eight years for a team to achieve the impressive Versatile Companion Champion (VCCH) title.

The Versatile Companion Dog titles are designed to acknowledge and reward owners of all breeds that compete in Obedience, Agility, and Tracking events. Jakki won a OTCH title (Obedience Trial Champion), a MACH title (Master Agility Champion) and a CT title (Champion Tracker) to be awarded the VCCH title (Versatile Companion Champion.)

# The Rainbow Bridge



Just this side of Heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing: they each miss someone very special, someone

who was left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; his eager body begins to quiver. Suddenly, he breaks from the group, flying over the green grass, faster and faster. You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again.

The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into those trusting eyes, so long gone from your life, but never absent from your heart. Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together. - Author Unknown

## Contributions Have Been Received In Memory Of

Goldilocks Coleman	1985	Gordie Jewell	2001	Brandy Greenwood	2003	Max Anderson	2005
Robbie Forbes	1990	Moxie Martin	2001	Sammi Keast	2003	Gatsby Lebo	2005
Charlie Wood/Chagoll	1991	Tucker Stoker	2001	Cody Allen/Lennox	2004	Casey Tice	2005
Daisy Martin	1991	Bear Scott	2001	Topper Pelose	2004	Blue Monroe	2005
Oliver Wood	1991	Binkley Dowd	2001	Luke Siegert	2004	Sophie Baer/Brooks	2005
Teddy Marquis	1992	Sam Mehlenbacher	2001	Parker Moran	2004	Teddy Baritell	2005
Brandy I Eberley	1992	Sacha Grace	2001	Babe Gray	2004	Kricket Birch	2005
Dasher Birch	1993	Baxter Henderson	2001	Lucky Dodd	2004	Lady Marquis	2005
Tassie Birch	1993	Roscoe Wood/Chagoll	2001	Casey Gardner	2004	Darby O'Reilly	2005
Phoebe Wood/Chagoll	1993	Hank Snow Benlevi	2001	Max	2004	Tucker O'Reilly	2005
Shamus Shelmidine	1993	Molly De Vito	2001	Charlie Wirshing	2004	George Kannus	2005
Caesar Shelmidine	1994	Tanner Gover	2001	Cedar Shavaliar	2004	Boggs Wallace	2005
Sandy Burton	1994	Shawnee Mellinger	2002	Lucas Gray	2004	Ben Allen/Lennox	2006
Sunshine Birch	1995	Casey Clark	2002	Candy Clark	2004	Libby Allen/Lennox	2006
Beau Mooney	1995	Baggins Smith-Hansen	2002	Chelsea Donovan	2004	Ginger Eaton	2006
Rubens Henderson	1995	Jesse Simon	2002	Truman Kukowski	2004	Casey Ryan	2006
Sox Forbes	1996	Sammy Reynolds	2002	Tanner Budis	2004	Abby Abdo	2006
Ariel Tice	1997	Wooleybear Herlihy	2002	Bert Birch	2004	Haley Durand	2006
Gus Marquis	1997	Bucky Questel	2002	Rocket Drake	2004	Allie Scopelliti	2006
Mellow Wood/Chagoll	1997	Joshua Allen/Lennox	2002	Mulligan Comerford	2004	Tanner Shelmidine	2006
Amber Carter	1997	Sara Moran	2002	Cody Stoker	2004	Breeze Wilson	2006
Sandy Dodd	1997	Sox Stoker	2002	George Getman	2004	Friar Tuck Wilson	2006
Quaid Smith	1998	Bruce Felch	2002	Mac Worth	2004	Noah Beardsley	2006
Barney Underwood	1998	Missy Larkin/Parker	2002	Smash Coleman	2004	Chiquita Clark	2006
Golda Gover	1998	Alexandra Moshier	2002	Murray Case	2004	KC MacBain	2006
Barney Worth	1998	Sutter Rundle	2002	Nelson Summers	2004	Clancey Monroe	2006
Ginger Ashmeade	1999	Sundaze Massaro	2002	Jack Ingalls	2004	Jake Johnson/Moynihan	2006
Buffy Maroney	1999	Heidi Wood	2002	Quincey Andrews	2005	Lance Smith	2006
Beau Voorhest	1999	Cato Donovan	2002	Shadow MacHarris	2005	Mufasa Cohen	2006
April Carter	1999	Chelsea Sternlicht	2002	Molly Liebling	2005	Bogey Miller	2006
Aynde Carter	1999	Suki Coleman	2002	Bailey Shaw	2005	Cooper Zariello	2006
Toby Wattles	1999	Alexandria Moshier	2002	Jesse Goodrich	2005	Kelsea Wilson	2006
Reina Coleman	1999	Obie Brown	2003	George Brown	2005	Molson Long	2006
Alexandria Moshier	1999	Lancer Mitchell	2003	Mitchell Brown	2005	Sophie Yarbrough	2006
Toby Brown	2000	Ben Wood/Chagoll	2003	Missy Overton	2005	Seamus Ingalls	2007
Corky Lyman	2000	Baxter Wood/Chagoll	2003	Annie Zicari	2005	Oliver Brown	2007
Bear Nickol	2000	Jake Bathrick	2003	AJ Birch	2005	James Coon Brown	2007
Cinnamon Scott	2000	Riley Adams	2003	Lady Clark	2005	Howie Howard	2007
Ashley Carson	2000	Brandy II Eberley	2003	Minnie Clark	2005	Casey Buckley.Lembke	2007
Shana Thor	2000	Scarlet Knapp	2003	Molly Ingalls	2005	Zebulon Smith	2007
Barney Bathrick	2000	Chloe McFarlane	2003	Tobey Ingalls	2005	Spice Norton/Phykitt	2007
Scout Wood	2000	Iris Clickner	2003	Sadie Jo Kelsey	2005	Andy Warren	2007
Ben Beaux II Tice	2000	Chaco Freeman	2003	Molly Mead	2005	Bumper Warren	2007
Sam Forbes	2000	Nemo Sessler	2003	Louie Mitchell	2005	Goldie Zimmerman	2007
Bear Nickol	2000	Hoosier Cleveland	2003	Darby Salce	2005	Blue Howard	2007
Sebastian Tice	2001	Tacey Tice	2003	Jake Rubinrott	2005	Delilah Drake	2007
Hunter Carter	2001	Sara Puzon	2003	Aruba Monroe	2005	Buddy Leahy	2007
Shadow Allen/Lennox	2001	Teddy Wattles	2003	Skipper Langford	2005	Lacey Brown	2007
Sydney Wood/Chagoll	2001	Nikki Williams	2003	Cassie Phykitt/Norton	2005	Jake Reynolds	2007
Arrow Birch	2001	Ben Norton	2003	Cody Weber	2005		
Molly Brown	2001	Sam Biviano	2003	Buddy Case	2005		
Cassie Wink	2001	Mickey Turczyn	2003	Sadie Britton	2005		
Zac Beam	2001						

*Continued on page 15*

continued from page 14

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## Contributions Have Been Received In Memory Of

K.C. Williams	2007	K 9 Alex Moone	2008	Ripley Underwood	2008	Annie Cook	2008
Duffy Gray	2008	Tasha Prevost	2008	Amanda Buckley/Lembke	2008	Aggie McCarthy	2008
Randall Elrod	2008	Lucy Lee Sherlock	2008	Oliver Henderson	2008	Schooner Harding	2008
Lady Monroe	2008	Ben Veshosky	2008	Molly Palmieri	2008	Catcher Hilderbrandt	2008
Krystle Allen/Lennox	2008	Emily Anderson/Law	2008	Meghan Noonan	2008	Appu Simon	2008
Bo Brown	2008	Morgan Gray	2008	Aurbrey Drake	2008	Toby Gray	2009
Holly Gray	2008	Murphy Knapp	2008	Molly Wing	2008	Jesse Moran	2009

Contact Carol Allen to Establish a Memorial

**I think we are drawn to dogs because they are the uninhibited creatures we might be if we weren't certain we knew better. They fight for honor at the first challenge, make love with no moral restraint, and they do not for all their marvelous instincts appear to know about death. Being such wonderfully uncomplicated beings, they need us to do their worrying.**

*~George Bird Evans, Troubles with Bird Dogs*

Dempsey    Gibson    Goldie    Jeb    Jenny  
Katie    Richtor    Sara    Winston

### New Adopters



#08-23 and 08-25	Alfred and Janine	Sandy	12/5/08
#08-21	Michael and Lauren	Drake	12/7/08
#08-24	Autumn and Mark	Novakowski	12/13/08
#08-14	Patrick and Kate	Rao	12/20/08
#08-26	Kenneth and Linda	Phelps	1/10/09
#08-27	Archie and Mona	Green	1/30/09
#09-04	John and Carol	Oxford	3/2/09
#09-07	David Greenberg and Cynthia	Durham	4/3/09

This month's issue of the Barquer will be on the web! If you would prefer to download the newsletter (in color!) from the web than receive it via "snail mail", please let us know and we will send an e-mail out when the newsletter is available for download.

Contact Janet Gray at [grrcny@lightlink.com](mailto:grrcny@lightlink.com) to sign up!

# What's Happening???



## Looking Ahead

Upcoming Meetings for 2009 - Grace Church, 13 Court St., Cortland NY

We meet five times a year. All are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

Thursday, June 18 at 7pm

Thursday, August 13, 7pm

Sunday, November 8 , 1:30 pm Annual Meeting

**This is your chance to help rescue beyond fostering and financial help. Be a part of rescue and participate in these fun events with your golden!!**

**Finger Lakes SPCA Pet Festival** May 17

Austin Park, Skaneateles 12noon -4 pm

Volunteers Needed

**Pooches in the Park**, May 30th

Cicero, New York 12noon -5pm

Volunteers Needed

**Ithaca Festival Parade**

May 28th, Thursday 6:30pm

Participants Needed!

## Looking Back

Cornell Vet School Open House, April 4, 2009, We had a great time!



Golden Retriever Rescue of Central New York Inc.

PO Box 735

Jamesville, NY 13078

Address Correction Requested