



# The Potomac Valley News

July – August 2020



## **President's Message**

Happy Summer!

By the time you read this, we will be well into the “Dog Days” — the brutally hot, high humidity weather the Mid-Atlantic is known for in the summer. Those of you who have access to water (ponds, lakes, streams, beaches — any water) already know how much our Golden Retrievers LOVE to swim and paddle about. In fact, this is the time of year when we discover that the best-trained dog can go suddenly deaf when asked to get out of said water. Never heard the words “Come” or “Here” before. No idea what you possibly mean. And the cleverest among them figures out just how far out to swim back and forth so you have to get soaking wet to get them. Sigh.

Dogs love boats, too. In the past few weeks, I've had conversations with two Golden owners about introducing their dogs to boats — one, a kayak, and one, a sailboat. In both cases, the answer was the same — patience, training, safety, and equipment. We all already have tons of equipment; it seems that every dog sport just adds more and more to the garage collection. But boating with dogs adds life jackets, harnesses, non-skid pads or pillows, tethers, and still more to the collection. But, boy, do dogs love boats, once they figure out that balance thing.

The PVGRC Board has continued to meet via Zoom during the COVID lockdown and slow reopen. We've been trying to figure out what club activities we can hold safely and when. For certain, we will have a FAST CAT trial in November, thanks to Nick DeCesare's perseverance in finding a venue and trial secretary who can organize the event in a safe manner.

As you know, sadly, we will not be holding our WC/WCX or Spring Hunt Tests, but we are trying to figure out how to possibly hold them in the Fall, undoubtedly with some adaptations and restrictions to keep our more vulnerable members safe. We will keep you posted as time moves on and ask you to be patient in the meantime and cooperative when we do schedule our next Club event.

In the meantime, stay safe and stay cool. And have some water fun with your dogs!!

Suzanne

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**NEWSLETTER NEWS.....**

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS – NEXT ISSUE IS September - October 2020.

Your deadline for column submission is August 26.

AND....Please provide DATES for your events so I can fill in the calendar at the end of the newsletter.

MEMBERS please continue to send BRAGS or other items of interest relating to our established COMMITTEES to our Committee Chairs (see last page with contact info). The Committee Chairs will include your brags and other news in their submissions to me.

If you have items to send to me directly, August 26 is your deadline. My hope is to publish by July 10. I look forward to your submissions!

Mary Ann Massie

[slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com)

SPLASH IN TO SUMMER ..... STAY COOL !



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COMMITTEE COLUMNS/UPDATES: The Board encourages ALL PVGRC members to email Committee chairs with news, items of interest, or brags!

**TRACKING COLUMN** (Marge Paulding, [mkpgold1@verizon.net](mailto:mkpgold1@verizon.net))

Well by the time you are all reading this – it will be July. Time is just zooming along! Hope you all had a great Fourth, staying safe and socially distant.

The PVGRC Standing Tracking Committee wants to compile a list of club members who have experience in Tracklaying. Whether it be laying TD, TDX, or VST, being a cross-tracklayer – can you please notify Chairperson Bob Kurtz at email address of ....

[bobkurtzjr@gmail.com](mailto:bobkurtzjr@gmail.com)

If you would have some type of physical limitation, like “bad knees” and cannot do hills, that would be helpful to know.

Tracklaying for a test requires experience. When our club hosts our Fall Test – still “on” for this year so far, it would be helpful to know who from within our club has this type of experience.

Happy Tracking Tails!... Marge

## AGILITY AND FAST CAT COLUMN (Nick DeCesare, [kiowagold@gmail.com](mailto:kiowagold@gmail.com) )

In a normal year I would be reporting on the April and June PVGRC agility trials but, as we all know, this is not a normal year. Both the April and June trials were canceled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the PVGRC board recently voted with an abundance of caution to cancel the September agility trials. For the first time in 20 years and 54 trial weekends and 106 trial days, PVGRC will not have any agility trial in 2020.

But, as they say, there is no sense crying over spilled milk. This just provides a little more time to plan for our 2021 agility trials which hopefully will be held normally and that nasty COVID-19 will be in our past.

### Fast CAT 2020

On a more positive note, at this time it appears our November Fast CAT events will be held as scheduled on November 14 & 15, 2020. We will be at a new location this year at the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Department in Walkersville, MD, right off MD Rt. 194 about two miles from the center of Frederick, MD.

I made a visit to the site yesterday while a Fast CAT event was being held. The site features a large (150 space) asphalt parking lot directly adjacent to the level grass coursing area, indoor restrooms, carryout food locations within a mile and easy access from MD Route 194. The normal social distancing rules will be observed as well as the mandatory wearing of face masks for exhibitors and workers. Because Fast CAT events are outdoors and the dogs run sequentially, social distancing will be easy to practice but face masks will still be mandatory.

Nick

## OBEDIENCE & RALLY COLUMN (Mary Ann Massie, [slipknotfarm@aol.com](mailto:slipknotfarm@aol.com) )

I have seen a few obedience and rally shows posted so hopefully we will all be back in the ring in the coming months. I suspect that masks will be part of showing for some time so get your dogs used to seeing you during your training sessions with a mask on. My dog is used to seeing me smile at her and/or spit food to her so this has been an adjustment. Awesome rewards should be part of this transition whether that means turkey meatballs, beef hearts, or tug toys! The inability to spit string cheese to your dog is a great opportunity to focus on feeding your treats with BOTH hands, feeding with your dominant hand all the time can create a dog that sits in front of “that pocket”. Use a mirror that sits on the floor and leans against the wall to make sure you are getting the fronts you want.

Fingers crossed for improving conditions and a return to the obedience and rally rings!

Mary Ann

**CONFORMATION COLUMN** (Cindy Williamson, [cindy@lycinan.com](mailto:cindy@lycinan.com) )

Greetings!

A few of the dog shows are starting up again as well as many being cancelled. It will be interesting to see how the first few shows are handled as far as COVID concerns. In the meantime, we can keep our dogs fit and trained in the hopes that the shows can be handled safely. There was a cluster of shows in OK late June, The Learning Cluster, where new protocols were keeping COVID precautions in mind. Amy Booth has a good youtube video discussing how the dogs shows are likely to be run– including a demonstration of the exam of a dog and a discussion of the Learning Cluster:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR0E5itaeAmw5-NCajK4jVfdN0PNT\\_CPxgnw88raJAVSQ\\_6sUEysIOK4MuE&v=969Vq-soSnw&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR0E5itaeAmw5-NCajK4jVfdN0PNT_CPxgnw88raJAVSQ_6sUEysIOK4MuE&v=969Vq-soSnw&feature=youtu.be&app=desktop)

AKC has links to COVID protocols for all venues at: <https://www.akc.org/press-center/covid-19-updates-from-the-american-kennel-club/>

PVGRC is going ahead with planning of our late winter specialty, held at the W. Friendship fairgrounds, on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We welcome help with this specialty. There is lots of different kinds of help needed.

Keep cool and safe!

Cindy Williamson

# Calendar of Events 2020

## January

January 19                      Membership meeting                      Westminster MD

## February

February 28                      PVGRC Specialty                      W Friendship MD

## March

March 15                      Awards Banquet/Membership Mtg                      Glenwood, MD

Mar 28                      Field training                      Cheltenham, MD

## April

Apr 25                      Field training                      Cheltenham, MD

## May

May 30-31                      Hunt Test                      Cheltenham, MD

## June

June 13                      Field training (live flyers)                      Cheltenham, MD

June 19-21                      Agility trial

## July

July 12                      WC/WCX test                      Cheltenham, MD

**August**

Aug 2                      Field training (water only)                      Cheltenham, MD

**September**

Sept 13                      Field training (live flyers)                      Cheltenham, MD

**October**

Oct 10-11                      Hunt Test                      Cheltenham, MD

**November**

Nov 8                      TDX/TD Tracking test                      Lovettsville, VA

**December**

## Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club Officers

<p><u>President</u> Suzanne Miller <a href="mailto:pvgrc-president@pvgrc.org">pvgrc-president@pvgrc.org</a> 202-686-6442</p>	<p><u>Vice President</u> Molly McEvoy <a href="mailto:vice-president@pvgrc.org">vice-president@pvgrc.org</a> 410-549-3413</p>
<p><u>Secretary</u> Kim Sipola <a href="mailto:pvgrc-secretary@pvgrc.org">pvgrc-secretary@pvgrc.org</a> 410-952-0649</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Clayton Kilrain <a href="mailto:treasurer@pvgrc.org">treasurer@pvgrc.org</a> 703-753-8321</p>

### Board of Directors

Amy Brown ([board1@pvgrc.org](mailto:board1@pvgrc.org)), Pat Kavanagh ([board4@pvgrc.org](mailto:board4@pvgrc.org)), Ken Wiedel ([board2@pvgrc.org](mailto:board2@pvgrc.org)), Ann Strathern ([board3@pvgrc.org](mailto:board3@pvgrc.org)), Gary Neubaum ([board5@pvgrc.org](mailto:board5@pvgrc.org))

### Committee Chairpersons

<p><b><u>Membership</u></b> Rita Bumgardner 557 Acorn Circle Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 304-876-2912 rbumgardner17@comcast.net</p>	<p><b><u>Tracking Info</u></b> Bob Kurtz 12314 Moon Lake Ln Lovettsville, VA 20180 703-850-2135 bobkurtzjr@gmail.com</p>	<p><b><u>Conformation Info</u></b> Cindy Williamson 3911 Grimm Road Jarrettsville, MD 21084 410-692-9335 cindy@lycinan.com</p>	<p><b><u>Programs</u></b> Betsy Harringer 10310 Greenacres Drive Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-613-2119 betsy@harringer.com</p>
<p><b><u>Education</u></b> Sharon Ackerson 538 Habron Hollow Road Fort Valley, VA 22652 540-933-6743 sharon@siriuslygoldens.com</p>	<p><b><u>Historian</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Newsletter Editor</u></b> Mary Ann Massie 4520 Three Chopt Road Gum Spring, VA 23065 804-467-5947 slipknotfarm@aol.com</p>	<p><b><u>Obedience Info</u></b> Mary Ann Massie 4520 Three Chopt Road Gum Spring, VA 23065 804-467-5947 slipknotfarm@aol.com</p>
<p><b><u>Field Info</u></b> Beth Sokohl 110 McGlaughlin Road Gettysburg, PA 17325 301-641-8606 bethsokohl@gmail.com</p>	<p><b><u>GRCA Delegate</u></b> Penny Geddes 6103 Miles Lane Warrenton, VA 20187 540-347-7531 pengold@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b><u>Agility Info and Historian</u></b> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555 kiowagold@gmail.com</p>	<p><b><u>GRCA Correspondent</u></b> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555 kiowagold@gmail.com</p>

Puppy Referral: Nicole DeBernardi 724-980-1964

**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.