



The Potomac Valley News

July-August 2017

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Is it me or does July seem to be one of the hottest in recent memory?! Getting up at the crack of dawn to get a little training in with the dogs has become a daily ritual. When working your dogs this summer be sure to keep a close eye on them for heat stroke, especially when the humidity is so high. Everyone be careful out there!

The club had a very busy June. We held a successful hunt test the weekend of June 3rd thanks to the hunt test chair Beth Sokohl for organizing the test and getting great judges, the hunt test secretary Megan Baker, the hunt test committee and the many volunteers that showed up to put on a great test.

The K9 Olympics and Veterans Day was held on June 18th at the Armstrongs in Monrovia, MD. Our veterans were honored with a beautiful rosette made for each dog, a picture of the veterans and their owners, and each went home with a special goody bag. Both the veterans and young dogs had fun playing games and saving the baby! Thank you to Betsy Harringer and Kelly Armstrong for chairing the event and providing a fun day for everyone.

Though agility entries have been trending down, our June trial had very good entries and was profitable. Nick DeCesare once again did an outstanding job chairing the event. This trial, too, went off without a hitch because of the great team of club members that are part of his committee and the many volunteers that stepped in to help. They are why our club is known for holding great agility trials.

Our next big event this summer is Dock Diving, which will be held on August 20 at the Hog Dog facility in Millersville,

MD. Please check the website for details. There will be a general membership meeting in conjunction with the event. Hope to see everyone there.

It is now less than 2 months to the 2017 GRCA National hosted by PVGRC! I can not express my gratitude sufficiently to thank the members of the steering committee, all the event chairs and committee chairs for their commitment, hard work and professionalism in putting together what will be a great national. I also want to thank Jeff Ackerson for all his hard work in developing the National website. I hope everyone has had a chance to check out the merchandise on the store. Beth Sokohl and Betsy Harringer have been keeping UPS very busy mailing hundreds of packages every week. As we get closer I know I am getting excited and have sent in my entries! The closing date is August 23rd so get your entries in soon!!!

53!!!!!!

It's getting real folks!!! 53 days till the National!!!

Have you volunteered to help??? We will find a job for you...

Have you entered!!! Entries close soon...go enter your dogs!!!



General Membership Meeting
March 19, 2017
Annual Awards Banquet—Glenwood, MD

President Rita Bumgardner called the meeting to order at the Annual Awards Banquet. She welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to what has been a really nice banquet.

President's report:

Rita thanked the following members:

- Beth Sokohl for making all the arrangements for the banquet,
- Kelly Armstrong for getting the information and checking it all for the rosettes,
- Joan Donohue for doing the same for all the trophy winners,
- d'Alex Childers for being our trophy curator for the last several years and getting the trophies to the banquet,
- Sheri McAlevey for putting together a wonderful slide show,
- Jeff Ackerson for making sure it runs well so we can all enjoy it and
- Laurie Collins for arranging the silent auction to benefit GRREAT.

Upcoming events:

The combination Veteran's Day/K-9 Olympics will be held on Sunday (Father's Day), June 18 at Twin Ponds in Monrovia, MD from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. See the Committee Reports for other upcoming events.

Secretary's Report:

There were some errors in the Field Committee portion of the previous meeting minutes (February 18) that Marge Paulding and Laurie Collins recognized in the minutes as distributed on the listserv and brought the appropriate information to Addie's attention. The corrections were listed at the meeting. Then the minutes of the previous meeting as distributed on the listserv, along with these corrections, were accepted by unanimous vote.

Because PVGRC is hosting the 2017 GRCA National Specialty, we have asked AKC to give us BYES to "Reserve Our Dates" in 2017 for Corresponding Dates in 2018 for several of our club events this year. The September Agility Bye has already been approved. The Hunt Tests and the TD/TDX Tests are not under the same AKC BYE regulations/departments as those governing Agility, Conformation, Obedience and Rally. I have been in communication with AKC regarding these matters and they are still in process. I would especially like to thank Marge Paulding for her invaluable help in negotiating this AKC process and putting me in touch with the best person at AKC to work with in Event Operations.

We have received communication from AKC that the results from our Spring Specialty events have been processed and the events closed out. Next year's events info for our Spring Specialty is on their calendar as the corresponding date in 2018 of March 2.

The November 2016 Treasurer's Report, which should have been added to the end of the 12/03/16 General Membership meeting minutes, will be sent out again on the list serv and can also be seen in the most recent newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

There will be a breakout of our current financial position in the next newsletter. We needed \$5K seed money for the National and this required cashing in one of our CDs. Once all the profits and the expenses from our Spring Specialty have been reported, our updated financial position can be calculated and determined. So far Agility and Field have the only events in the black.

Committee Reports:

Breed: Our Spring Specialty was somewhat successful. Diana Caskins, this year's Specialty Chair, received a very nice "Thank You" note from the conformation judge stating that she really liked the group of dogs that were presented to her to judge. This will be shared with the membership in our newsletter. We still need a Chairperson for next year's Spring Specialty.

Field: The first field training day is April 8 and the second field training day is May 6, both in Cheltenham, MD. There will be no field training days in September and October. Two clubs in the area will be offering field training days in September so our members will have a place to go to train. The WC/WCX, Pee Wee Hunter and Veteran Stakes will be held on Sunday, May 14 from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm at Rover's Content in Brandywine, MD.

Education: Nothing new to report at this time other than we will be offering Dock Diving on Sunday, August 20 at Hog Dog Productions in Millersville, MD. This event could be considered as a kind of training/educational event because there will be persons available to help and give instructions to dogs and owners who may have never done Dock Diving before. There will also be a General Membership meeting during lunch.

Agility: The Spring Agility Trial will be held on April 22 - 23 at the Frederick, MD Indoor Sports Center.

Tracking: A letter has been sent to AKC requesting a BYE to "Reserve Our Date" for our November 12, 2017 TD/TDX Tests for the corresponding date of November 11 in 2018.

Obedience: There have been 2 successful PVGRC obedience training days located at the CTA Davidson location. They were well-attended which paid for the rental of the building. Debra Barrows worked with those who are having obedience issues and need help. Debbie thanked Karen Wahler and Mary Owens for instructing those who wished to work on advanced and excellent exercises in rally. Laurie McCain has worked with the participants on attention training. Next year there will be 3 training dates. The Connie Cleveland "Theory & Problem Solving Seminar" will be on January 6 & 7, 2018 at the CTA Building in Beltsville, MD. There are currently 2 working slots still available which will be first open to our members before being open to the general public. There are lots of open auditing slots.

Membership: Two new members were voted in:
Alyssia Black, Warfordsburg, PA
Claudia and Michael Muterspaugh, Harrisonburg, VA

One Prospective New Member Read for the First Time:
Michael Bullinger, Laurel, MD

National Report: We are 6 months out from the National Specialty. Lots of people have been working very hard and everything seems to be on target. There is a list of the Chairs on the National website, which can be reached through a link on our website. Many volunteers are needed and can sign up with the appropriate/desired venue Chair. There is also an opportunity on the website to sponsor a trophy. As referenced on the website, the term "trophy" is applied very broadly to many different recognition objects that have been selected for award to exhibitors who distinguish themselves and their dogs at particular events. This can range from beautifully-carved ducks to plaques of varied size and composition to picture frames and the like. Obviously, the more elite the trophy, the higher the cost of the sponsorship. All qualifiers from every venue will get a prize. In addition, keep an eye on the website for lots of new merchandise in many new colors that will be appearing on the website frequently.

The meeting was adjourned and the presentation of the ribbons and trophies by Kelly Armstrong commenced. This was accompanied by the slide show, produced by Sheri McAlevey, which presented wonderful pictures of members' Goldens.

President Rita Bumgardner presented Joan Donohue with the PVGRC Lifetime Member Award. Then in her role as the 2016 Hap Arnold Award winner, Rita presented the 2017 Hap Arnold Award to Beth Sokohl.

The next general membership meeting will be held in conjunction with the WC/WCX on Sunday, May 14 (Mother's Day) in Cheltenham, MD.



Attendees: All Board members were present except Paula Abernethy with Susan Sheets attending via phone. Tricia Dunseith was the only outgoing member who was present. Field Committee Chairperson Ann Strathern was also present.

President's Report:

- Rita expressed her appreciation for the number of Board members who attended our Annual Awards Banquet on March 19.
- Our website should have the ability available for next year for members to renew their annual PVGRC membership using Pay Pal. In order to do this, Pay Pal charges a fee for each transaction. Rita led a discussion about possibly needing to raise the dues for membership to recover the cost to the club to use Pay pal for online renewals. The dues have been the same for a number of years, online renewals are a convenience for the members; and the club puts on so many events for the members. Raising the annual dues to \$25 (individual membership) and to \$35 (regular/family membership), effective 2018, was approved unanimously. This will be announced in our Newsletter, on Yahoo Groups and on our Website.
- Some members have recently not been able to establish contact with our puppy referral person because she has been in extended rehab following surgery. Rita will contact her to determine if she wishes to continue handling the puppy referrals for PVGRC. Rita will also find out what procedures and information she sends out to those persons looking for a puppy referral.
- Recap of the 2017 Spring Specialty: We have not received a check from Rau yet. We have not received a bill yet from MSDA for our part of Hospitality. We made \$1012 on the raffle and catalog sales. There were no "New Title" rosettes available for Obedience and Rally. There were also no "High Combined" rosettes for Rally. We need to see what is going on with the ribbons; we need to make sure this is done correctly next year. The Conformation Chair and the Obedience Chair must make sure we have the proper ribbons at the Specialty. It may have to do with having Rau instead of Rhonda for our Show Secretary. Joan said that if the ribbons are not listed in the premium, they can't be given out. Susan received no bill for ribbons for the Specialty. Rita will ask our Conformation Chair Diana Caskins to write up her procedures and ask Joan to review them and add steps as necessary so we can have a check list for the next Specialty Chairs.

Secretary's Report:

- Addie added a clarification in the Obedience Committee portion of the previous meeting minutes (January 25, 2017) regarding the location of the first Training Day. Then the minutes of the previous meeting as sent to the Board, along with this clarification, were accepted by unanimous vote.
- Because PVGRC is hosting the 2017 GRCA National Specialty, we will be asking AKC to give us BYES to "Reserve Our Dates" in 2017 for Corresponding Dates in 2018 for several of our club events this year...the September Agility trial, the October Hunt Tests and the November TD/TDX Tests. I will be in communication with AKC regarding these matters. Marge Paulding has been extremely helpful to me in negotiating this AKC process and putting me in touch with the best person at AKC to work with in Event Operations.
- We have received communication from AKC that the results from our Spring Specialty events have been processed and the events closed out. Next year's events info for our Spring Specialty is on their calendar as the corresponding date in 2018 of March 2.

Treasurer's Report:

- We have about \$9800K in our checking account along with 2 CDs. We needed \$5K seed money for the National and this required cashing in one of our CDs. We may have to cash in one of our other

- CDs for a temporary
- loan to the Field Committee to help purchase the new field equipment and a new/used field trailer.
- Susan has been working on our yearly financial position and there will be a breakout of our current financial position in the next newsletter. Once all the profits and the expenses from our Spring Specialty have been reported, our updated financial position can be calculated and determined. So far Agility and Field have the only events in the black. We have a 501c4 tax status so contributions are generally not deductible as charitable contributions. She received the state of Maryland 2017 Personal Property Return.
 - She will submit the 2016 Annual Treasurer's Report and the monthly Treasurer's Reports for January, February and March to the next newsletter.

Committee Reports:

Breed committee: (Joan) See the President's Report above for her recap of the Spring Specialty. In addition: New title rosettes have been not available at the show for 2 years in a row. Diana Caskins, 2017 Specialty Chair, is looking into the process and is not sure who has the list of impacted competitors and it is unknown at this time if there will be an additional cost. Joan needs to know if PVGRC will approve a supported entry, including prizes, at the Salisbury Club Show on November 17, 2017. She is in favor of approving. The Board voted unanimously to approve this supported entry.

Agility committee: (Nick to Kelly) You can quote me on this...first the bad news. I don't have the final numbers for the April trial because it doesn't close for another week but I doubt we will hit 450 runs either day. There is a large USDAA trial the same weekend in Palmyra, PA (near Harrisburg) which may account for the low entry at our trial. Our trial secretary has also indicated agility entries are down at all her trials around the region.

This could be the first agility trial that doesn't show a profit and may lose money. The April trial has always been the weakest performer of our three trials. I'll know more after the trial when I have the actual numbers. Given the history of the April trial, I believe a change is needed. I will present a plan at the next board meeting regarding the future of our April trial.

There is no good news.

Field committee: (Beth) 2017 Field Events: WC/WCX Puppy-Veteran (Chair and Equipment, Andy Moore) on May 14; Hunt Test (Chair, Beth Sokohl) on June 3-4. PVGRC 2017 Training days: 4/8, 5/6, 6/17, 8/5. Beth renewed the Master National Retriever Club membership for 2017. Ann Strathern presented a list (attached to these minutes) of recommendations from the committee of much needed field equipment and trailer for the National as well as our 6 club training days per year and our club field events. We have 2 hunt tests and a WC/WCX every year. The field equipment is used extensively and much of it is in bad condition. We also really need to purchase a new field trailer or at least a used, fully inspected and in good condition trailer. She discussed in detail with the Board the various equipment needed and some of our options for attaining it. The purchases that we make for the National can be retained and used by PVGRC. She suggested that perhaps PVGRC could get a temporary loan until after the National to purchase the equipment and trailer. The Board approved by unanimous vote that the Field Committee should purchase the requested equipment and research the options of purchasing the trailer. They agreed that Beth should send a letter by regular mail to each PVGRC member informing them of these Board approved actions and asking for any response they have by April 15. After that date, the Field Committee will begin to make the necessary purchases. She will first send out a notice on Yahoo Groups informing the membership that they will be receiving this letter by regular mail.

Tracking committee: (Penny) Nothing to report.

Obedience committee: (Susan) The Connie Cleveland seminar will be January 6 and 7, 2018. The first Training Day for obedience and rally was held at the Davidsonville Training Building for CTA in Beltsville, MD on Saturday, January 21. Even though this is a small facility with only 8 dogs/people attending, it was a success. The atmosphere was very casual and relaxed and Laurie McCain's working for about an hour with the participants on attention training was reported as fantastic. Entry fee is \$15. There will be another one in March.

Education committee: (Jeff) Nothing new to report.

Membership committee: There are 6 prospective members to vote on:

Kuzeyhan Ozdemir, Bethesda, MD

Heather Weaver, Olney, MD

Eileen & Tim Hanold

Natalie Herzner

Mark and Jane Milosch

Schmidt (paperwork and dues needed)

All were unanimously approved for membership.

Need paperwork and dues for members voted in at Banquet: Claudia and Michael Muterspaugh and Alyssia Black.

A week after the prospective member has been approved, Beth will send a letter to the new member and then call to tell about events taking place in the next month. From time to time there is an issue with persons who allow their membership to lapse due to not paying their annual membership dues by the designated deadline. Due to the bylaws, anyone who has a lapsed membership must reapply for PVGRC membership in the same manner as a new member applies. The GRCA has this policy as well.

Website Development: Nothing new to report.

National Report: The following is the March 2017 report on the National Specialty just sent to the GRCA by Suzanne Miller:

"At this point, we are six months out from the Specialty. All contracts for judges, sites, dinners, photographers, videographers, and other assorted suppliers have been signed. The AKC has approved all the event applications. The budgets for all events have been finalized and incorporated in to the master budget, which has been shared with the National Specialty oversight committee. There have been a few stress points, most notably over the grooming spaces, which were complicated by the proliferation of unsubstantiated rumors and panic, but we are working hard to ensure that everyone who attends the National will have all that they need to make it a special, memorable, and successful experience.

Currently the Steering Committee is holding silo meetings, one each for the Civic Center, the Crown Center, and the Field events. These meetings will incorporate all the various stakeholders and committees essential to that site, including such disparate committees as decorations, CCAs, hospitality, transportation, trophies,

and the actual event committees. One of the working products of these silo meetings will be an hour-by-hour, day-by-day schedule of the tasks and events that must be coordinated within and across all venues to make a successful National, and the clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for each activity and task. All volunteers have been given the schedule of tasks and lists needed for the superintendent, premium list, and catalogue, and are on target for the completion of those benchmarks. We are continually updating our website and maintaining communication with everyone through Facebook, attempting to keep all interested parties up to date with our plans. And the Maryland marine fisheries department anticipates a bumper year of crabs!"

Old Business:

There was continued discussion on the need for a revision of the Trophy Guidelines. The Board will prepare a list of recommendations for what they think is good and should be kept in the Guidelines and what things they would like to see changed. The Board would like to see the presentation of the Trophies at the Annual Awards Banquet conducted in a somewhat more formal manner than it was at this year's Banquet. For instance, the members would like to see the Annual Trophies presented first, followed by the Perpetual Trophies. The Board members would also hope to have more volunteers serving on the Trophy Committee. The current members of the Committee will attend an upcoming Board meeting to share and discuss the recommendations they have for revising the Guidelines and how to best resolve some of the issues.

Meetings:

The next General Membership Meeting will be held at the WC/WCX on May 14 (Mother's Day) at Rover's Content in Brandywine, MD.

The next Board meeting will be held at the home of Beth Sokohl on Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30 pm.

Field Equipment Needs for 2017				
	# that we have	# Needed	Cost each	Total Cost
Popper Guns (Wayne)	7	6	~200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Holding Blinds (3 panel/aluminum TBI?)	12	8	\$ 130.00	\$ 1,040.00
Wingers	6	2	\$ -	\$ -
Popper Gun Stands (From Carolina Piedmont)	5	5	\$ 10.00	\$ 50.00
Handler Gun Stand (Keystone has 5@ \$20.00)	1 angle iron, 1 full	5	\$ 20.00	\$ 100.00
Bird Dryers	2 metal, 1 PVC	4	~150.00	\$ 600.00
Radios (pair)	5	10	\$ 60.00	\$ 300.00
Decoy Pole	1	0	\$ -	\$ -
Orange Bumpers	12	0	\$ -	\$ -
Duck Calls	3	16	~9.00	\$ 142.77
Ear protectors (Foam on string-Cabellas)	few	150	~30.00	\$ 125.05
Trailer	1	1	3-6,000.00	\$ 4,700.00
Trailer outfitting (Eric Whitacre)				\$ 2,693.34
Umbrellas & Stands?	5 umbrella/6 stands	0	\$ -	\$ -
pop ups?	3	1	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00



**General Membership Meeting
May 14, 2017
WC/WCX—Cheltenham, MD**

President Rita Bumgardner called the meeting to order at the completion of the WC/WCX and thanked the judges and chairpersons.

President's report:

- Our April Agility Trial went well. K9 Olympics/Veteran's Day will be on Sunday, June 18 at the Armstrongs in Monrovia, MD.
- Every PVGRC member was sent a letter from the club sharing the presentation to the Board by the Field Committee of a list of equipment items, including a new trailer, that the Field Committee recommends we purchase. The Field Committee feels it needs these purchases to continue to provide for the club in both field training days and in field events that are sponsored by the club. There were only 2 comments by club members, one negative and one very positive. Therefore, it was decided to go ahead and start buying the equipment and looking for a trailer.

Secretary's Report:

After correcting his spelling in the previous meeting minutes (March 19) and adding his location, Michael Bullinger, Laurel, MD was voted in as a new member. In the Field Committee portion of the same minutes, additional information provided by Ann Strathern was listed and added. Then the minutes of the previous meeting as distributed on the listserv, along with both corrections above, were accepted by unanimous vote.

All of the AKC BYES we have requested because we are hosting the 2017 GRCA National Specialty have been approved. Our September Agility Trial is already listed on the AKC 2018 Corresponding Dates Calendar. Our October Hunt Tests BYE has been approved in writing. Our TD/TDX Tests BYE has been approved over the phone and hopefully we will receive the approval in writing soon.

AKC has recently launched its newest sport called Scent Work.

We have received permission to hold a Sweepstakes event on 11/11/2017 at Wicomico Youth & Civic Center, Salisbury, MD in conjunction with the event hosted by the Salisbury Maryland KC.

Treasurer's Report:

Our May-June Newsletter will have the PVGRC 2016 Annual Treasurer's Report. We have \$5726.96 cash in our checking account. This doesn't include all our Agility income nor income from our Specialty. We will have expenses from our WC/WCX and from purchasing the new field equipment and the field trailer. In addition, after the National we will have to order more poppers for the following season/new year.

We recently received a donation check which will go towards the purchase of the field trailer. We will probably have to cash in one of our CDs which will incur a monetary penalty. Because of this, Susan will need to coordinate income and expenditures to avoid cashing in a CD as long as possible, so anyone having major expenditures coming up should let her know as soon as possible.

Committee Reports:

Obedience: There is still one working slot in the Connie Cleveland Seminar in January 2018. This will be first open to our members before being open to the general public. There are lots of auditing slots available. Get in touch with Debbie Barrows to sign up.

Field: The Beginning Field Class will start in July, probably the 2nd week but we are waiting to hear from Sue Armstrong before setting the exact date. It will be for 4 consecutive weeks with the graduation on the August training date. We will again have a Hunt Test in June on the 3rd and 4th in Remington, VA. The June field training day will be sometime after the Hunt Test.

Agility: The AKC All-Breed Agility Trial is June 24-25 in Frederick, MD.

Membership: The following prospective new members were read:

Lorri-Anne Burke, Laurel, MD

Linda Rhinehart, West Friendship, MD

Bill Shiltz

Jennifer Holmquist, Wyoming, MN

Clifford Williams, McDaniel, MD

Lauren Weidner, Turbotville, PA

National Report: Everything seems to be on track in preparation for the GRCA National Specialty. The heads of the various sub-committees are posted on our website so that members interested in helping will know who to get in touch with to volunteer. We still need lots of volunteers.

The next general membership meeting will be held in conjunction with K-9 Olympics/Veterans Day on June 18 at the Armstrongs in Monrovia, MD.

The following general membership meeting will be held in conjunction with Dock Diving on August 20 at the Hog Dog facility in Millersville, MD.



Minutes, Board Meeting, May 17, 2017

Attendees: All Board members were present except Paula Abernethy and Leslie Peszczyński. Agility Committee Chairperson Nick DeCesare was also present.

President's Report:

- Last year the Board adopted a proposal submitted by Martha Cole Glen that in addition to honoring the passing of members' dogs each year on the memorial page in our Specialty Catalog that we also honor them by recognizing them each year at our annual Holiday party and by making a donation in the names of those dogs on the memorial page to a charity each year. It was decided that the charity each year and the amount being donated each year will be decided by the Board. The Board also decided that the donation will go to a charity concerned with the health issues of Golden Retrievers and that we will start this by honoring the dogs in the 2016 Specialty Catalog. The Board voted unanimously to donate \$500 this year to the Zeke Fund. A list of the dogs names honored on the memorial page will accompany the donation. Once the charity has received and acknowledged the donation, this information, including the list of dogs' names, will be published in our newsletter and on our website. Rita will email Martha to finally let her know what the Board has decided regarding her thoughtful and significant proposal.
- The Board regrets that Ellen Thorson can no longer be the Puppy Referral person for PVGRC any longer. Although it is hardly enough, the Board will send her an Amazon gift card to thank her for her dedicated years of service in this capacity to our club. Another member will be asked to perform this service for us and once we have a replacement, it will be published on Yahoo Groups, in the Newsletter and on our website.
- The Armstrongs have always been very generous over the years to allow us to keep our club trailers on their property. The one that has been used in the past to hold and transport items for our Spring Specialty and other conformation and obedience club events is still being kept there and they would like it moved. It was suggested that someone from each of our Committees meet at the Armstrongs after the K9 Olympics/Veteran's Day on June 18 to check out the trailer and decide what to save and /or sell. Then Andy Moore will haul the trailer away and perhaps we will be able to sell it. This will finally move all the PVGRC property from the Armstrongs. It was suggested that our club look into renting a small storage unit for trophies, ribbons and other items the club needs to keep, preferably near the Howard County Fairgrounds so we don't have to keep these types of items at the Armstrongs anymore. The Board liked this idea and will investigate doing it.
- As reported at our Board Meeting on March 29, there have been no "New Title" rosettes available for Obedience and Rally at our Spring Specialty for 2 years in a row. There were also no "High Combined" rosettes for Rally. Rhonda took care of this in the past. The Conformation Chair and the Obedience Chair must make sure we have the proper ribbons at the Specialty next year and that they are listed in the premium. Rita will talk with Diana Caskins and get her to write up her procedures. She will also ask Joan to review them and add steps as necessary so we can have a

check list for the next Specialty Chairs. It has been suggested that all the Spring Specialty ribbons be kept and maintained by one member...what volunteer should or is willing to do so has yet to be determined.

Secretary's report:

- As she reported at the March Board Meeting, Addie has been in communication with AKC regarding getting AKC BYES to "Reserve Our Dates" in 2017 for Corresponding Dates in 2018 for several of our club events this year. Our September Agility Trial is already listed on the AKC 2018 Corresponding Dates Calendar. Our October Hunt Tests BYE has been approved in writing. Our TD/TDX Tests BYE has been approved over the phone and hopefully we will receive the approval in writing soon.
- As regards the October Hunt Tests, the Back Bay Knotts Island Retriever Club (BBKIRC) released its September Hunt Test dates to our club so that we could have Hunt Tests at the GRCA National Specialty. This was not known to either Rita or me so when I spoke with AKC I wasn't sure whether we should release our October dates to BBKIRC. However, in a letter from AKC (that I sent to the members of our Board), I was assured that if we released our October dates to BBKIRC we would have priority to our corresponding 2018 October Hunt Tests dates because AKC granted us a BYE for those dates. The Field Committee has already filed an application for our 2018 October Hunt Tests so all is well.
- The take home message from this experience is that the communication from those members serving as Chairs of the different events at the National Specialty to the PVGRC Officers and Board members could be improved.
- As Rita reported today and Addie shared with members at an earlier General Membership meeting, AKC has recently launched its newest sport called Scent Work which entails many different levels and is open to mixed breeds in addition to pure breeds.

Treasurer's Report:

- Susan unexpectedly received a \$500 check in the mail which was a refund for a deposit we made with the Frederick Fair in 2012. We received a check from Rau for \$35.04 for the Spring Specialty which is the first time we have broken even. Our April Agility Trial netted only \$44, a very low amount for us. Still to come will be the results of the WC/WCX, the June Hunt Test and the June Agility Trial. We had to cash in one of our CDs for National seed money but have 2 CDs left for \$23,500 and \$41,000. Our checking account balance is \$22,300.
- Wayne will go ahead and prioritize purchases with shotguns and ammo. A company is donating 25 cases of ammo and 5 cases will be saved for next year.
- We received a donation of \$300 to the National Specialty from Rick Brunn, Sugarloaf Embroidery, who supplies our merchandising for the National.

Committee Reports:

Breed committee: (Joan) First let me start by saying I and the rest of the breed committee believe our current specialty format is the best option but I understand there was concern from the obedience committee. I talked to a number of obedience/rally folks and most still seemed happy with the set-up but I did not get feedback from everyone.

Option 1: Stay with the current plan which is a conformation ring, empty ring and two obedience/rally ring. The only things I would change is

putting in the contract we have obedience/rally crating outside of the obedience/rally rings for Friday and there is coordination with MSDA's obedience/rally ring times.

Option 2: Request we move to the rear of the building for obedience/rally and then have our conformation ring at the end of the conformation rings. Also, include the above new contract changes.

Option 3: Only have a conformation ring and support MSDA obedience/rally. We would need to have a reduction in what we pay to make this work.

Option 4: just have conformation and obedience/rally would hold a trial at some other time. Again we would need a reduction in what we pay. (I think this is the least preferred)

There is no room for our obedience/rally rings in the upper building.

Option 1 was passed with a unanimous vote for our 2018 Spring Specialty.

Agility committee: Nick attended this Board Meeting with the admonition that his presence indicated the seriousness of the condition...in the agility world, that is. He reported that our 2017 June Agility Trial does not have 900 runs yet. He presented each member with a detailed table of Agility Trial income, expenses and profit under various conditions of # of rings and # of judges. He explained the various conditions in some detail and how they effected/resulted in different profit outcomes. He also went into some detail about how the different conditions in the agility world in general (e.g. the 30 day, 200 mile rule in relation to judges and the glut of agility trials available every day) affects individual agility trials, especially as it impacts profit margin. There will be no PVGRC club September Agility Trial because of the National Specialty. He then gave the Board the following proposals:

- 1) In 2018, our April Trial would be 1 RING/1 JUDGE
- 2) In 2018, our June Trial would be 1 RING/2 JUDGES
- 3) All runs would be \$20.

The Board voted unanimously for all of Nick's proposals.

Field committee: (Beth) The WC/WCX went well. The Hunt Test will be on June 3 and 4 again and lots of help is needed. The senior handling class has started and the beginning handler class will be the 4 Saturdays in July with graduation at the Field Training Day in August.

Tracking committee: The Board needs a liaison to the Tracking Committee. Rita suggested Leslie Peszcznski.

Obedience committee: (Susan) Nothing to report except there is still one working slot available for the Connie Cleveland in January 2018.

Education committee: The Board needs a liaison to the Education Committee. Rita suggested Paula Abernethy.

Membership committee: (Beth) There are no prospective members to be read or voted on. It was brought up that there may be some members whose membership has lapsed that are still in our directory. This should be looked into and a policy established to make sure this doesn't happen, especially on the directory on our website, which is always the most current.

Website Development: (Jeff) Nothing to report.

National Report: (Suzanne) The main issue is grooming. The first floor (reserved spaces) is already sold out as it always does. By AKC rules, there must be a certain percentage of free and daily spaces. The entire 2nd floor and part of the 3rd floor is free. The PVGRC National Steering Committee will ask the various National Committee Chairs when do you need money and how much. It will pay PVGRC back for the seed loans it has made, as much as it can as soon as it can. That is, as soon as the National has the money to do it, hopefully starting in August, PVGRC will begin receiving payments on the loans it has made to the National. Merchandising is going well. Beth has been getting lots of orders to send out. The Pittsburgh GR Club will sell merchandise for us very soon.

Old business:

A letter/email should go out to every new member explaining Yahoo Groups and how to best access it. There is concern that new members are not signing up for Yahoo Groups as much as we would like. Suzanne suggested that an "email blast" go out to all members on "here's how we communicate and here's how you get on" and perhaps Jeff could do it. Before this happens, Laurie should be given a heads-up about this. Only certain members have the "publishing rights" to post Yahoo Groups. As of now, it is Laurie, Jeff, Addie, Rita and Suzanne. Perhaps all officers and the chairpersons of each committee, especially the membership committee, should also have "publishing rights".

New Business:

The combined K9 Olympics/Veterans Day will be co-chaired by Kelly Armstrong and Betsy Betsy Harringer and held at the Armstrongs, starting at 1pm. They will send out an EVITE to members. The fee for the games will be \$1/dog. They will request that members sign up their veteran dogs ahead of time by June 1st with the call name and date of birth so that each veteran can be recognized and honored. They request that no cars be parked at the bottom of the hill at Twin Ponds. You can drive down, unload and drive back up to park your vehicle or for those members and/or dogs who may have difficulty negotiating the hill at Twin Ponds, a valet service will be available.

The next General Membership meeting will be held at K9 Olympics/Veteran's Day on Sunday, June 18 (Father's Day) at Twin Ponds in Monrovia, MD. The following General Membership meeting will be held at Dock Diving on Sunday August 20 at Hog Dog Productions in Millersville, MD.

The next Board meeting will be held at the home of Beth Sokohl on Wednesday, July 19 at 6:30 pm.

Conformation Column

Joan Donohue

Joan@aquestgoldens.com

New champion

Eldorado's Hawaii Five O (Leslie Gordon & Chris Browning) went WD all four days at the Hampton shows, the Sunday Skyline show, both Gloucester Kennel Club Of Virginia shows and finished up at the Sunday Virginia show. "Dano" picked up a grandchampionship major the first time out as a special.

Specials News

GCHB Goodtime's Perfect Ten (Belinda Gosnell and Lisa Smith) has been busy winning with a Group 1 and Reserve Best In Show at the Thursday Gloucester KC of Virginia show. Ruby also took home a Group 3 at the Friday Gloucester KC of Virginia show.

GCG Steadmor's Take A Gander (Nancy Sherick & Jacqueline Morasco) went BOB at both Southern Maryland shows.

GCHB Eldorado's BootScoot'N Boogie (Chris Browning) won BOS the Sunday Skyline show.

Class News

Online's Very Special Agent @ CSK TDX (Sharon and Clayton Kilrain) took home the point at both Chambersburg shows. "Tony" went reserve, for a major, at the Sunday Tidewater and Sunday Clarksburg shows.

Ruffwater Tablespoon of Trouble (Susan Sheets) picked up his first point, from the 9-12 class, at the Sunday Bushy Run show and was reserve at the Saturday show.

Also, picking up their first point is *Goodtime's All Things Consydered* (Belinda Gosnell & Lisa Smith) went WB, from 12-18, at the Sunday Clarksburg show.

Bandury's Hee Bee Gee Beez (Debbie Gibson) took the major at the Friday Southern MD show.

Golden Dome's Party Time (Diane R Lenk & Brandon R Lenk & Katie Shepard) went WB, from Am Bred, at the Friday Southern MD for a major and the Skyline shows.

Eureeka's Firehouse's Seeing is Believing (Theresa G Peace & Nancy Sherick & Michaela Matkins) reserve at the both Gloucester KC of VA shows

Firestar's He'll Be No Tribble At All (Sharon and Clayton Kilrain) won the 4-6 month puppy group at the Greater Clarksburg WV show.

Aquest's Beach Bunny (Joan Donohue) is closing in on her championship by going BOS at the Sunday Salisbury North Carolina and the Sunday Blennerhassett shows. "Sena" also won at the Friday Chambersburg Area show.

River Rock's Firehouse Eye of the Storm (Ruth Kocian and Nancy Sherick) took home the point at the Thursday Altoona Area show.

Eldorado's Slam Dunk JH WCX (Mary Dean & Chris Browning) picked up two points at the Sunday Mattaponi show.

TRACKING NEWS

Marge Paulding

Email brags to mkpgold1@verizon.net

So have you heard the news? AKC is now offering a new title Event ----- **SCENTWORK**. Per the AKC website..... "AKC Scent Work is a sport that mimics the task of working detection dogs to locate a scent and communicate to the handler that the scent has been found. Scent Work is a positive, challenging activity that allows dogs the opportunity to use their strongest natural sense in a way that is fun, engaging, and that builds and strengthens a foundation of trust between the handler and dog."

Find out all about it on the AKC website: <http://www.akc.org/events/scent-work/>

October 1, 2017: Official launch of AKC Scent Work--earliest date that a club may hold a Scent Work trial.

I still have to review all the regs and what is all involved, so stay tuned for more info in the next newsletter. I am currently training my boy Jackson how to do Nosework . We started last September learning the first odor of Birch. He passed his ORT (Odor Recognition Test) in May, as you must have passed the ORT for a specific odor before you are allowed to enter a trial. This would be similar to having to be precertified for Tracking.

Both NACSW, which is the National Association of Canine Scent Work, and also C-Wags have been offering titling programs for nosework for quite some time.

Happy to announce that Jackson earned his Nosework Level 1 (Birch) title on 7/8/17, in Carlisle in his very first trial. Lots of fun! Love watching the dog problem-solve and figure it all out.

This is a great Game for our Veterans to do. Especially when they already understand some of the other games involving Scent.

Every day is a great tracking day! Happy tracking tails... Marge

Obedience Column

Debbie Barrows

debrabarrows@hotmail.com

HELP WANTED: I know that our national specialty is just around the corner and everyone is excited, but we do have our annual specialty coming in March and we need chairman now!!! The obedience chair works with the general chair to make the show go. He or she finds a chief ring steward (we need one of these also), makes sure that the judges are under contract and that the obedience chair (that's me) has an original contract for them. I have hired the judges and they are great people and easy to work with ! Makes sure that there are trophies and ribbons ordered by our trophy chairs for obedience, makes sure that there is a crating area in the building contract for obedience crating the day of the show. That all equipment for obedience and rally is on site and that the rings are set up properly. Our obedience chair and chief ring steward can show unlike our general chair. This was voted on several years ago so that you can show, you just can't be the person to take the judges to dinner the night before. You can find someone or perhaps they can join the breed judges and show chair. Anyway, not a hard job, one I can explain and will be glad to. Marie Huffman who has been our chief ring steward many times can help with the job description for that job if someone would like to step up.

Just a reminder: no chair or no chief ring steward no obedience at our show. Marie and I are unable to do it this year.

Now brags: Cozette earned here CGC and RN at only 6 months of age at the LRCP Potomac Specialty and Sophie earned her Open Barn Hunt Title at TnT Canine. Congrats go to Roberta Primeau on all her hard work. Both dogs have numerous titles and show just how hard Roberta and her gang work. You go girl!

Ranger earned his CD and his RE in the last two months and now we are off and running toward that CDX! Summer is a great time to train dumb bell retrieves.

Good luck to all at our National's and be sure to let me know all you successes !

Debbie

Agility Column

Nick DeCesare

kiowagold@gmail.com

PVGRC held our second agility trial of 2017 on June 24 & 25 in Frederick, MD. The June trial held on to its reputation as our best trial weekend going back to our first June trial in 2004. It was kind of like the good old days with 1200+ entries and we made a tidy profit, which is always nice. Our chief ring stewards, Pat Kavanagh, Marta Coursey and new volunteer Roberta Primeau kept the rings fully staffed with eager workers for all classes. John Bitner, Tina Borden, Molly McEvoy, Janet Shriver and Ken Wiedel all pitched in to work multiple classes. Special thanks to Sharon and Clayton Kilrain who both worked multiple classes doing whatever was needed. And once again, special thanks also to Donna Sims who somehow was on the spot wherever help was needed. And a big thank you to my wife, Sharon, for everything she does before, during and after the trial.

I received a very nice email from Kim Crenshaw, from Alabama, one of the judges at our June trial. To quote:

Hey y'all.

*Had SO much fun with both of you this weekend.
Another really nice trial, Nick. I hope everyone had a great time.*

Kim

And that was followed up by this email from Chris Dewey, our judge from sunny Florida:

THANK YOU so much for the WONDERFUL weekend!!! As always, PVGRC delivered!!! I always enjoy judging for y'all, and...just saying': it is SO nice to work with people who "got it together"!!

Please, pass on my sincere THANKS to all the volunteers for their contribution to a well-organized, well-run...and totally FUN trial!!!

IT was a privilege working with you, and...should you feel the need to take a run at that judging record, I will be continuing to "wave my arms around" for selected clubs LOL PVGRC is most definitely on my 'short list'!!

Nick, thanks SO much for making this a PLEASURE!!!

Chris

It is sooo nice when the exhibitors and the judges go home happy! Thanks to all the PVGRC members who helped to make our June trial a success. Now it's on to Salisbury and let's make it happen again!

Field Column

Beth Sokohl

bethsokohl@gmail.com

Dog days of summer!!! Field people are busy!!! Ann Strathern and Megan Baker have been very busy getting everything organized for the National...including thinking about, researching, buying, outfitting a new trailer!!! They have also purchase a lot of new, and badly needed, equipment!!! The new trailer has been outfitted by Eric Whitacre, of Rappahanock Retriever Club, one of our neighboring clubs. It was delivered yesterday, and boy is it NICE!!! Thank you Eric and his able assistant Leslie Stanley!!! We are all busy stalking Entry Express as the numbers for our hunt test, field trial and WC/WCX creep up, and up!!! Don't forget to enter!!!

The summer field classes are coming to an end. Thanks to all who have participated in both the beginner class, and the senior class!!! Thanks also to Laurie Collins, Andy Moore, and Bob Kurtz for being the fearless leaders of the Beginner class.

We have one more training day before the National...August 5th. Get your dogs out, stretch their legs, make sure they are ready to strut their stuff!! See you in September!!! Please volunteer to help wherever you can!!!!

New Master Hunter!!!

Eldorado's Hawaiian Tropical Storm, MH, WCX "Gov" has qualified for his Master Hunter title, all before he turned 3 yrs old!! "Gov" went five for five in spring of 2017 for his master title...in this order: American Chesapeake Club, March/ Lumber River Retriever club, April/ Yadkin River Waterfowl and Retriever Club, April/ Carolina Retriever Club, April/ and Labrador Retriever Club of the Piedmont, May. He is co-owned with Jim Lasley & plans to try to qualify for Master National this coming Fall

New Senior Hunters!!!

Ken Harringer and Horst Bruno von Hillside UD RAE BN JH WC earned their Senior Hunter title at the Tidewater Retriever Club hunt test in Remington on a VERY hot July day!!!

Tom Lehr and Weebe Cook'in Up a Storm also earned their Senior Hunter title at the Tidewater test.

New Junior Hunters!!!

The following dogs and handlers earned their Junior Hunter titles in June!!!

Pat Kavanagh and Hill Crest Strike a Pose MX AXJ WC
Pam Turgeon and Heads Up I'm Your Wingman WC
Laurie Falther and Thunderstruck Some Like it Hot
Megan Baker and Weebe Mr. Fix-it
Holly Kelley and CH Lychinan's Mug Full of Cheer WC
Beth Sokohl and Turbo Uh-Oh The Big 5-0

Calendar of Events 2017

January

January 25 Board Meeting (tentative) Glenwood, MD

February

February 18 Obedience Fun Match/
Membership Meeting Beltsville, MD

March

March 3 Spring Specialty, Obedience
Rally W Friendship, MD

March 15 Board Meeting

March 19 Awards Banquet, Membership
Meeting Glenwood, MD

April

April 8 Field Training Day Cheltenham, MD

April 22-23 Agility Trial Frederick, MD

May

May 6 Field Training Day Cheltenham, MD

May 14 WC/WCX/Puppy Veteran/
Membership Mtg Cheltenham, MD

May 17 Board Meeting Glenwood, MD

June

June 3-4 Hunt Test Remington, VA

June 17 Field Training Day Cheltenham, MD

June 18 K9 Olympics/Veterans Day Monrovia, MD

June 24-25 Agility Trial Frederick, MD

Calendar of Events 2017

July

July TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD
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August

August 5	Field Training Day (water only)	Cheltenham, MD
August 20	Dock Diving/Membership Mtg	Millersville, MD

September

Sept 6	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD
Sept 22-30	GRCA National Specialty	Salisbury, MD

October

REST FROM A BUSY NATIONAL SPECIALTY!!!!!!

November

November TBD	Board Meeting	Glenwood, MD
November 12	Tracking Test	Cross Junction, VA

December

December TBD	Holiday Party/Membership Meeting	Beltsville, MD
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Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club Officers

<p><u>President</u> Rita Bumgardner 557 Acorn Circle Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 304-876-2912</p>	<p><u>Vice President</u> Betsy Harringer 10310 Greenacres Drive Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-613-2119</p>
<p><u>Secretary</u> Addie Stocks 2638 Hobbs Road Glenwood, MD 21738 410-489-2343</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Susan Sheets 1173B Hall Court JB Andrews, MD 20762</p>

Board of Directors

Suzanne Miller, Kelly Armstrong, Paula Abernethy, Leslie Peszczynski, Beth Sokohl

Committee Chairpersons

<p><u>Membership</u> Beth Sokohl 3500 State Route 97 Glenwood, MD 21738 301-641-8606</p>	<p><u>Tracking Info</u> Marge Paulding 17000 Gerting Road Monkton, MD 21111 410-472-2868</p>	<p><u>Conformation Info</u> Joan Donohue 1588 Bandbury Court Crofton, MD 21114 410-721-0329</p>	<p><u>Programs</u> Betsy Harringer 10310 Greenacres Drive Silver Spring, MD 20903 301-613-2119</p>
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<p><u>Field Info</u> Ann Strathern 9802 Gas House Pike Frederick, MD 21701 301-662-3876</p>	<p><u>GRCA Delegate</u> Penny Geddes 6103 Miles Lane Warrenton, VA 20187 540-347-7531</p>	<p><u>Agility Info and Historian</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555</p>	<p><u>GRCA Correspondent</u> Nick DeCesare 1500 Dennings Road New Windsor, MD 21776 410-848-8555</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.