

July/August 2013  
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# The Golden Reporter

Est. 1967 Serving the Interest of the Greater Twin Cities Golden Retriever Club



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## President's Letter

Hi GTCGRC Members

Well summer is finally here. I cannot believe how fast this year is progressing. The GTCGRC club will be pretty busy the next couple of months. We have the supported entry at Duluth, CCA, and the second field seminar all in July. August starts out with a fun match, Agility trail, the August Specialty, and the State Fair. Check the club web-site for all dates, times and locations.

I hope everyone is remembering to use their heart worm and fleas and tick prevention. The ticks and mosquitos are pretty bad this year with all the rain.

Finally the weather cooperated and the first field seminar was held. There was a lot of positive feedback from members who attended the event. Thanks to Kathy Carroll for all her hard work in getting these seminars going.

Also a big thanks to all the members for all the efforts they are expending making all the above events possible. Good luck to all the members who are competing in these events. Hope to see you all at the upcoming events.

LuAnn

## Upcoming Events

**July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Duluth KC Sponsered Entry

**July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

Field Seminar 10-4pm

Location: Kelley Farms

Registration form can be found on the club's website.

**July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

CCA (Certificate of Conformation Assessment)

Location: Animal Inn

Evaluators: Maureen Shaughnessy, Ellen Hardin, Marcia Schlehr

Entry form can be found on the club's website.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013**

Obedience Fun Match

Location: Animal Inn

**August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Field Seminar 10-4pm

Location: Kelley Farms

Registration form can be found on the club's website.

**August 16-18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Agility Trial

Soccer Blast, Burnsville

Premium is available at [agilitysec.weebly.com](http://agilitysec.weebly.com)

If you would like to volunteer (no experience required), please contact Alyssa

Taylor at [adtaylor2013@gmail.com](mailto:adtaylor2013@gmail.com)

**August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013**

Specialty Show (Conformation/Obedience/Rally)

Washington County Fair Grounds, Lake Elmo, MN

Mindy Elledge is collecting donations for the raffle. Please contact her at 651-779-0555 or 612-592-6312

Premium can be found at [www.onofrio.com](http://www.onofrio.com)

This specialty is in conjunction with the St. Croix Valley KC All-breed show

**August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Golden Retriever Day at the State Fair

More information to follow.



**All Breed**  
**Obedience and Rally**  
**FUN MATCH**

**Saturday August 3rd, 2013**

**Registration From 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM**

**1st run \$7, second run \$5**

**Ring 1 Utility A & B Judging starts 9:30 AM**

**Ring 2 Open A & B Judging starts 9:30 AM**

**Novice A & B to follow in first open ring**

**Ring 3 Beginner Novice A & B Judging starts 9:30 AM**

**Rally Excellent A/B to follow**

**Rally Advanced A/B to follow**

**Rally Novice A/B to follow**

**Animal Inn Training School**

**8633 34th St.**

**Lake Elmo, MN**

**For more info contact Karen Thompson at 715-835-3006  
or Sharon Anderson at 651-429-5549**

## Keeping cool in the hot summer months

Well...it is that time of the year. Temperatures are rising, which means more time in the great outdoors. To help prepare you and your pooch for the 90 degree weather, there are a few tips to help.

1. Always have plenty of water available at all times, inside and outside
2. Limit the amount of exercise during the hottest part of the day
3. Provide adequate amount of shade
4. Keep an eye out for any signs of heat stroke
  - a. Panting
  - b. Dehydration
  - c. Excessive drooling
  - d. Increased body temperature
  - e. Rapid heart rate
  - f. Shock
  - g. Vomiting blood
  - h. Seizures
  - i. Muscle tremors
  - j. Wobbly, uncoordinated movement
  - k. More...
5. Do not keep your dog in the car for long periods of time, or just not at all

There are many products out there that are available for purchase to help keep your dog cool during the hot summer months. Cooling mats, vests, collars, fans, and solar shades to name just a few.

**Stay  
Cool!**



## Golden Retriever study suggests neutering affects dog health

By Hart and Bailey

Neutering, and the age at which a dog is neutered, may affect the animal's risk for developing certain cancers and joint diseases, according to a new study of golden retrievers by a team of researchers at the University of California, Davis.

The study, which examined the health records of 759 golden retrievers, found a surprising doubling of hip dysplasia among male dogs neutered before one year of age. This and other results were published Feb. 13 in the [online scientific journal PLOS ONE](#).

“The study results indicate that dog owners and service-dog trainers should carefully consider when to have their male or female dogs neutered,” said lead investigator Benjamin Hart, a distinguished professor emeritus in the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

“It is important to remember, however, that because different dog breeds have different vulnerabilities to various diseases, the effects of early and late neutering also may vary from breed to breed,” he said.

While results of the new study are revealing, Hart said the relationship between neutering and disease-risk remains a complex issue. For example, the increased incidence of joint diseases among early-neutered dogs is likely a combination of the effect of neutering on the young dog's growth plates as well as the increase in weight on the joints that is commonly seen in neutered dogs.

Dog owners in the United States are overwhelmingly choosing to neuter their dogs, in large part to prevent pet overpopulation or avoid unwanted behaviors. In the U.S., surgical neutering — known as spaying in females — is usually done when the dog is less than one year old.

**Cont...**

In Europe, however, neutering is generally avoided by owners and trainers and not promoted by animal health authorities, Hart said.

During the past decade, some studies have indicated that neutering can have several adverse health effects for certain dog breeds. Those studies examined individual diseases using data drawn from one breed or pooled from several breeds.

Against that backdrop, Hart and colleagues launched their study, using a single hospital database. The study was designed to examine the effects of neutering on the risks of several diseases in the same breed, distinguishing between males and females and between early or late neutering and non-neutering.

The researchers chose to focus on the golden retriever because it is one of the most popular breeds in the U.S. and Europe and is vulnerable to various cancers and joint disorders. The breed also is favored for work as a service dog.

The research team reviewed the records of female and male golden retrievers, ranging in age from 1 to 8 years, that had been examined at UC Davis' William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital for two joint disorders and three cancers: hip dysplasia, cranial cruciate ligament tear, lymphosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma and mast cell tumor. The dogs were classified as intact (not neutered), neutered early (before 12 months age), or neutered late (at or after 12 months age).

Joint disorders and cancers are of particular interest because neutering removes the male dog's testes and the female's ovaries, interrupting production of certain hormones that play key roles in important body processes such as closure of bone growth plates, and regulation of the estrous cycle in female dogs.

**Cont...**

The study revealed that, for all five diseases analyzed, the disease rates were significantly higher in both males and females that were neutered either early or late compared with intact (non-neutered) dogs.

Specifically, early neutering was associated with an increase in the occurrence of hip dysplasia, cranial cruciate ligament tear and lymphosarcoma in males and of cranial cruciate ligament tear in females. Late neutering was associated with the subsequent occurrence of mast cell tumors and hemangiosarcoma in females.

In most areas, the findings of this study were consistent with earlier studies, suggesting similar increases in disease risks. The new study, however, was the first to specifically report an increased risk of late neutering for mast cell tumors and hemangiosarcoma.

Furthermore, the new study showed a surprising 100 percent increase, or doubling, of the incidence of hip dysplasia among early-neutered males. Earlier studies had reported a 17 percent increase among all neutered dogs compared to all non-neutered dogs, indicating the importance of the new study in making gender and age-of-neutering comparisons.

Hart, B. and Bailey, P. [updated 2013 Feb 13]. Golden retriever study suggests neutering affects dog health. [Internet]. UC Davis: News and Information. [Accessed 2013 Jun 16]. Available from [http://news.ucdavis.edu/search/news\\_detail.lasso?id=10498#.UaT0v7mIC0Q.facebook](http://news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=10498#.UaT0v7mIC0Q.facebook).

## Therapy Dog



First thing first, therapy dogs are not service dogs. Therapy dogs volunteer with their owners in different settings such as schools, hospitals, and nursing homes. There are numerous benefits for people from having a visit from a therapy dog (e.g. decrease blood pressure, positive mood alterations, increase socialization and verbalization, and increase alertness).

Any dog, purebred or mixed, can be a therapy dog. The dogs must have a wonderful temperament, tolerant and not aggressive towards other dogs, friendly, patient, and gentle. Dogs must also be comfortable having strangers pet them. They must be up to date on vaccinations, and be at least a year old.

To volunteer, teams must register with an organization. The most common organizations are: Therapy Dogs International (TDI), Delta Society, and Therapy Dogs Incorporated (TD Inc.). More information about each organization can be found on their website.

To become a registered therapy dog, the owner and dog must pass a test by a certified evaluator. Some training schools do offer therapy classes to prepare teams for the test. Many organizations require that the dog must pass the AKC Canine Good Citizen test. After a dog has passed and is registered with an organization, the team can begin to search for facilities in their area and start volunteering!



## Wins & Brags

Tilly (Elmcreek's Chantilly Lace MJB MX CGC) earned her Master Bronze Jumpers title on April 14<sup>th</sup> at the St. Paul Dog Training Club agility trial.

~Ava Higginbotham

Jackson (Harborplace Diamond In The Ruff CD OA OAJ AXP AJP NF OFP RAE CGC CL2-R CL2-H CL2-F) received his AXP (Agility Standard Preferred) title at the Bloomington Obedience Training Club Agility Trial on May 24<sup>th</sup> with a 1<sup>st</sup> place. That same day, he got 1<sup>st</sup> in Master Jumpers Preferred with 6 points and in Open FAST Preferred. To top it off, he then got his first QQ with a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and picked up 31 points on the same weekend. ~Alyssa Taylor



Abbey (Angelica's Failure Is Not An Option Abbey RN CGC) had her debut in agility on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. She qualified in both Standard and Jumpers, placing 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in her classes! ~Jim Lawson and Alyssa Taylor

Jozie (MACH Cashmere's Dream Weaver UD RN XF CGC) earned her MACH on May 18<sup>th</sup> in Fargo under fellow Golden owner, judge Rhonda Crane! On that same day, Jozie completed the requirements for the GRCA Agility Dog Hall of Fame. ~**Lori Copsey**



Charlotte (GCH CH Fiagai's Twelfth Night) finished her Championship with two 4-point and one 5-point majors on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Five weeks later, she finished her Grand Championship with a 5-point major. ~**Mindy Elledge**

River (CH Fallchase Made In The Shade CGC) received 3 BOBs back-to-back and two Group 4s back-to-back at the Fargo-Moorhead KC shows May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>. He was then awarded another BOB at the Lake Minnetonka KC show on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Wave (Fallchase Batt'N Down The Hatches) went WD at the St. Peter show! ~**Kelly Davis**

Henry (Royal Blue's Renaissance King) went WD in St. Peter on May 25<sup>th</sup>. He followed that up with a BOB from the classes and over specials at the Lake Minnetonka show on June 9<sup>th</sup>!! Henry then went WD/BOW in Ft. Dodge, IA on June 15. He is being shown by Dave Slattum and his team. ~**Nancy Dahlen**

Coach (Amigold Classic Edition CD JH WC CCA) earned his CD title on May 26<sup>th</sup> at the Key City KC trial with placements every day and 1<sup>st</sup> place from Novice B. ~**Susan Kluesner**



***Congratulations on all  
of your  
achievements!!***

## Strawberry Banana Popsicle Dog Treat Recipe

### Ingredients:

- 1 c plain yogurt, divided
- 1 pound strawberries, divided
- 1 banana
- 4 rawhide sticks (or other type of chew to use as a stick)

### First Layer

- ½ pound strawberries, chopped
- ½ c plain yogurt
- Add strawberries and yogurt to a blender and mix until smooth

### Second Layer

- 1 banana, chopped
- ½ c plain yogurt
- Add banana and yogurt to a blender and mix until smooth

### Third Layer

- ½ pound strawberries, chopped
- Add to blender and mix until smooth

### Directions

- Pour an inch or so of your first layer mixture into the bottom of each cup.
- Allow to freeze for 30 minutes and insert your rawhide stick
- Repeat pouring layers, allowing them to set 30 minutes in between, until they are all used
- Freeze for 8 hours to allow them to fully set
- Run warm water around the mold/cup to remove the popsicle

Makes 4 popsicles

