Greater Twin Cities Golden Retriever Club

September 24, 2016

General Minutes

President Karen Ander called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Saturday, September 24, 2016, at Helping Paws in Hopkins.

**Secretary:**

The minutes were approved as written and posted on the website.

**Treasurer:**

Checking: $19,181.17

Outstanding checks: $1,468.60

Total: $17,712.50

Savings: $3,029.66

CD: $27,400.31

Total: $48,142.54

Treasurer Sarah Gaaswyk reported that there were quite a few of expenses for the August agility trial payable on the day of trial. To cover those expenses, she needed to borrow $7,000 from the savings account. Now that bills are paid, and receipts are in, she will be putting the money back into savings.

**Membership:**

Membership chair Deb Rahm reported that there are no potential new members who’ve met the two-meetings-per-year requirement. Deb said that if, a year after applying, potential members haven’t attended two meetings, she sends their checks back, inviting them to re-apply. Deb said she will be organizing the Halloween party. She will order pizza when she knows how many members are present. The party will be at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, October 29, at Helping Paws in Hopkins.. She said there will be prizes for best dog costume, best owner-handler costume, and prizes for “anything else I can think of!”

**Conformation:**

Things are on track for the club’s back-to-back specialties on January 6, 2017. Conformation cochairJane Doctor said that the club is hoping to bring more competitors “to beautiful Minnesota in January.” There has been no decision on what prizes will be, but not much is available for $10 or $15. There will be a sign-up sheet for trophies, tonight, and.only a few trophies are left requiring sponsors. Jonathan Chase will judge in the morning specialty, and Linda C. More will judge in the afternoon. The original plan was to have Ms.More judge in the morning, but she will be is judging Cairn Terriers, then. Sharing a judge like this helps the club cut expenses. Monica McGee will judge morning sweepstakes classes. There will be no sweepstakes in the afternoon show.

The club needs at least two volunteers for the raffle, which is a good money-maker if donations are good. Mindy Elledge will accept donations at any time, and reminded members to donate things they would like to get as a prize. No one volunteered to help, and she reminded members that the club can’t function without volunteers and that, while members always like the club’s events, there can be no events without members helping out.

Corrine Gronvold suggested the club have a trophy fund to supplement trophy donations. That way, she said, the club could offer better prizes. While members seemed to voice general agreement, no vote was taken. Mary Phelps will again be chief ring steward, The club also will need volunteers to hand out numbers at ringside. Corrine said to pencil her in, and that she could be considered a “maybe.” Karen Ander complimented conformation chairs for the August specialty going so well.

**Field:**

Ed Pfeifer reported that the club’s WC/WCX had 21 entires and had a good pass rate. There was $140 profit. The new puppy event was extremely well received, he said. He suggested the club consider expanding it next year. He said only a couple of Goldens failed, including his. Melissa Driggers reported that field chairs are planning a seminar for May, 2017, and that the club will be selecting a different trainer for monthly seminars. She asked members for recommendations.

**Performance:**

Agility: Sarah Gaalswyk said the club’s August agility trial went extremely well, thanks to chairs Ava Higginbotham and Alyssa Taylor. There were three days of agility at Soccer Blast in Burnsville. She said agility trials are big money makers, and therefore, it’s good to have two per year. Sarah said everything is in order for the club’s January agility trial, and that plans are underway for August, 2017. Sarah has volunteered to chair the August trials in both 2017 and 2018.

Obedience: Bonnie Oian reported that the club will sponsor an obedience/rally trial on March 25 and 26, 2017, at Total Recall in Hugo. Ed is chair.. She said she’d be calling volunteers if no one steps up to do it.

**State Fair:**

Ed said the annual State Fair exhibitions went well, with one big exception. While the club paid for tickets and parking for those who volunteered to exhibit their dogs, some people took the tickets and didn’t show up. This resulted in Ed having to buy seven more tickets, meaning the club ended up paying twice for those tickets. Even with that, he said, there were plenty of people to fill all time slots, and it was a lot of fun.

**Unfinished business:**

Audits: Karen Ander pointed out that the last two audits of the club’s treasury were at the meeting and available for any member who wanted to review them. She said they wouldn’t be available to take home, and that photos wouldn’t be allowed. She said that, if any member had questions, he or she should send them to her. Questions will be submitted to the board or the CPA who did the audits, depending on their nature. Rob Hanson asked if the audit was done by club members. Karen said no, the audits were done by a CPA not affiliated with the club.

Teeshirts:

Gretchen Olson reported that “Be Golden Kind” teeshirt sales have been good. She said she had a few left, and that they were available at the meeting.

Puppy referral:

Karen Ander said the club is still battling the challenge of having a puppy referral person, but no available puppies. She said the club needs a volunteer to do this, because Sheila Daly is done doing it. She said she talked with GRCA president Jonathan Chase, who said every club is having the same problem. He suggested that the club go regional by cooperating with other Golden Retriever clubs in other states.

Paint-Your-Pet painting party: Charney Petroske reported that she has been working on a Paint-Your-Pet painting party as a club fundraiser, and is looking at various studios.

Fun match: Karen Ander said chair Michelle Meyer has had some health-related issues, but that she will check with Michelle to see how things are going.

Club’s 50-year anniversary: Karen said it was time for the club to get busy on planning a celebration at the August specialty for the club’s 50th anniversary. Perhaps, she said, it will have a “Back-to-the-‘50s” theme. Laurie Hanson and Paula Ellis volunteered to chair. They welcome ideas and connections for photo opportunities and the like.

**New business:**

Newsletter: Megan, the editor, is resigning after this year. Luann Runkle asked why the club needs a newsletter, since the club has a Facebook page and a website. Alyssa Taylor is still doing the website.

Nominating committee: The club needs to appoint a nominating committee by November because Ed will be going off the board as field cochair, and Jane will be going off as conformation cochair. The committee is comprised of one board member and two members. Jane offered to be the board member. Judy Super volunteered and Corrine Gronvold volunteered to be member representatives.

Christmas Party:

Karen said the club needs someone to chair the party. No one volunteered. Usually, the party includes a potluck dinner. The party will be at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, December 3, at Helping Paws in Hopkins..

Banquet: Karen said the club needs someone to volunteer to get the traveling trophies engraved, design and print certificates, and tally points. Corrine volunteered to get the trophies engraved. Trophies need to be to Corrine by February. Karen Ander will tally up points. No one volunteered to handle certificates.

2017 Health Clinic: The club needs a volunteer to chair, which includes lining up the requisite veterinary experts needed. Specialists’ schedules fill up fast, so that needs to be done as soon as possible. No one volunteered.

Karen asked if there was any other new business. Corrine said she went to Fusion Pet Retreat, on Williston Road by The Marsh. She said it is a boarding kennel and has classes, and that it might be a nice place for meetings, or a fun match.

Corrine moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ed. The motion passed. President Karen Ander adjourned the meeting at 7: 07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda S. Elledge

Secretary