**Greater Twin Cities Golden Retriever Club**

**December 2, 2017**

**General Minutes**

President Karen Anders called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at Augusta Dog Training in Long Lake. She called roll. Karen thanked Laurie and Rob Hanson for planning and setting up the Christmas party.

Secretary: Minutes were approved as posted.

Treasurer:

Checking: $12,308.75

 $630 outstanding checks

 Agility: $630

 Conformation: $ 50

 Banquet: $300

Savings: $10,048.35

CD: $27,432.30

Total: $49,159.40

Membership:

Julie Winters was approved for club membership. Deb Rahm said that dues are due as of January. Membership information is on the club’s website. Membership dues are $20 for individuals and $25 for families.

Conformation:

Kathy Godlewsk is chair of the January show. The premium list is up on Onofrio as of yesterday, and entries close Dec. 20. Each show is limited to 100 entries. Since sweepstakes were split, this time, this shouldn’t be problem. The club needs ring stewards for the afternoon show.Mindy volunteered to be outside ring steward. Deb Rahm asked if there’s a sign-up sheet for the Land o’ Lakes kennel club. Laurie said that show chair Jan Croft has not contacted her. Deb said it looks good for our club to volunteer. If our club volunteers, Laurie said, it gets a price break from Land o’ Lakes. There also is a need for someone to transport judges from the airport to their hotel, and for trophy sponsors.

Laurie said that all required paperwork has been submitted in for the club’s August specialty, and is awaiting approval.

Performance:

The club’s next obedience trial will be March 24 and 25, 2018, at Total Recall in Hugo. Bonnie said there’s need for kitchen help and ring stewards. There was a question about prizes, and Charney said she’d check.

Sarah reported that the club’s next agility trial will be Jan. 19, 20, 21, 2018, at On-the-Run in Ham Lake. The premium is available now, with a link on the website. The draw will be on December 14, and entries close January 3, 2018.

Field:

Dar and Melissa said not much is going on now. Judy Super asked when the club’s WC/WCX will be in 2018. She said the Northern Flyway Golden Retriever Club wanted to know so there would be no conflict. Dar said it will be September 16, 2018. Susan Kluesner asked if the Flat Coat club was going to co-sponsor training with club on June 30. Dar said he didn’t know, but will check.

Old business:

Corrine Gronvold says she has 1,100 spoons, and lots coffee cups and creamer, so there is no need to buy any of this for events. Anyone running an event can get them from her.

Karen announced that the club is celebrating Susan Kluesner’s 25 years of writing the club’s column for the GRCA News. Judy Super will be taking over. Judy did the column before Susan. The club donated $100 to the GRCA in Susan’s name. The club has a cake in her honor, tonight.

Charney, Jessica Anlauf, and Barb Westergard have been busy as the club’s nominating committee, but are having little luck getting volunteers to be vice president, secretary, or treasurer. Jessica Anlauf has been nominated as a field chair, and Judy Super and Lisa Bugman have been nominated as performance chairs.

Karen said the club is in a real crisis because members aren’t willing to be on the board. No one at the meeting, or that the nominating committee has contacted, would agree to be nominated for vice president, secretary, or treasurer.

“We are in dire straits as a club,” Karen said.

Karen asked if Saturday meetings were a problem? Would members want to meet during the week? She asked if anyone wanted to be nominated to be want to be any of those. No one raised his or her hand. She said the club provides directors’ insurance for the board.

Karen talked about officers’ responsibilities. The vice president, she said, arranges meeting venues and fills in if the president is absent. She noted that the club does try to move meetings around so people aren’t driving from the ends of the earth. It’s not hard, she said. Much can be done in the first month in office. There only are seven meetings a year, plus an annual board planning meeting.

For 2018, the club will pay membership dues and provide one ticket for the banquet to board members, website manager, and membership chair.

Karen said that, if the club doesn’t find a member to be treasurer, it will have to hire an accountant, and that would cost at least $5,000/year. Rob Hanson asked how many hours a month the job required. Sarah said she spends an average of 10 hours a month on the club’s finances. Some months are busier than others. The club supplies a computer for its treasurer.

Karen asked if there were reasons why members don’t want to be on the board, or if there were any questions. Jessica Anlauf said perhaps people were afraid they won’t measure up. Karen said that the jobs aren’t that difficult, and that there are many mentors. Corrine asked if two people can be treasurer. No, Karen said, it’s not in the bylaws. Judy Super asked if spouses could be on the board. The answer was no, it’s not permitted according to the bylaws.

Karen said the nominating committee will continue to reach out, and that anyone interested in being nominated, or in putting his or her name on the ballot, should reach out to the nominating committee.

Banquet:

Judy Super said the banquet will be exciting. It will be on March 3, 2018, at 5120 Restaurant near highways 494 and100 in Bloomington. There will be a buffet, including non-bar beverages. The cost will be $28, and club will pay and additional $5 for tax and tip. She said she needs numbers by February 20. There won’t be a raffle, but there will be door prizes. Joanne Dalby will prepare certificates, Corrine Gronvold will get the traveling trophies engraved. Traveling trophies need to get to Corrine no later than the February 3 meeting. Rob Hanson will prepare the program. Karen will tabulate points. She reminded members to make sure the club has all their volunteer hours. Information will be up on the website by January.

Charney reported that there will be a painting party on March 4, 2018, at and for the benefit of Helping Paws. She said there were about 12 spots left, but that because it’s so much fun, it fills fast.

New business:

Karen said the board had been talking of a need to update the club’s bylaws. This would be a big undertaking, Karen said. Bylaws must follow an AKC template, and be approved by the GRCA and AKC. Any committee to revise the bylaws would be made up of board and general members.

Dr. Jaime Modiano will be speaking at the February 3 meeting on cancer, especially hemangiosarcoma, and on cancer in Golden Retrievers. The club is looking for a venue. It was been scheduled for Augusta Dog Training, but might be been moved to Helping Paws, or to a place more convenient for Dr. Modiano. Charney will consult with Dr. Modiano on what will work for him. No dogs will be permitted at the February 3 meeting. There were questions about whether to include members of other breed clubs, but Karen said the club needs to finalize a venue, first. She said she expects many club members will attend.

Because there’s such difficulty getting club members to volunteer, Karen said, the club won’t be having a health clinic in 2018. Perhaps the club will do one in 2019.

Puppy referral: Dr. Nancy Vetscher said puppy referral people have a difficult time with people asking about puppies because they’re non learning of any available litters. She asked that anyone with litters to let puppy referral people know. She noted that they tell potential puppy buyers to look for clearances, on K9 data, and so forth.

Linda Kiey moved to adjourn the meeting, and Anne Reynolds seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Members shared their “brags” for the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda S. Elledge