

GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

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t h e **GOLDEN GAZETTE**

DECEMBER 2023

Happy Holidays!



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Message From Our President

I don't know about you – but I am surprised that 2023 is already on its way out yet thrilled to welcome 2024. It has been a rough year in many ways. The national and international news is hard – no other way to describe it. Many of us have had new or renewed physical challenges arise, making even simple day to day functioning difficult. Illness, sometimes tragic, in our dogs has been a constant and ongoing battle and worry since September. And yet – I stand on optimism.

GRCGLA gives me hope. We have a dedicated and willing Board that is taking on many agenda items one at a time, and chipping away at huge tasks. Our members are sticking with us, as our renewals show, and raising their hands to help with club events and committees. We have a lot more to do, and because I am ridiculously busy more days than I like (retirement is not the least bit relaxing, by the way) I ask patience as we sort through the coming year's plans.

This newsletter is one specific reason for optimism. I want to thank Merry Shelburne for her tireless work as editor for a number of years, and as she took a well-deserved retirement from that role we had two members raise their hands to get the Golden Gazette up and running again. Thank you, thank you, thank you to Donna Lee and Andrea Mraz! We are beginning slowly (bimonthly) to get things up and running while Donna and Andrea learn the process; watch for more articles and brags to be included starting with the February issue.

In this issue you will find a calendar of events; introductions from three of our Board members so that we can all get to know each other; an article on building canine immunity from member Gael Parks; and minutes from the August, October, and November Board meetings. If you have articles that you would like to see published, please contact Donna or Andrea (their email addresses are elsewhere in this edition).

I wish you all a peaceful end to this calendar year, and a successful, healthy beginning to 2024. Remember the club meeting on Jan. 4 after the specialty (see flyer in this newsletter). Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Nancy



GRCGLA Winter Specialty, Indio: Jan 4, 2024

General Meeting, Indio: Jan 4, 2024 (Following Specialty)

Board of Directors Meeting: Feb 13, 2024

Spring Match, Canyon RV Park: Coming soon! (*Date to be determined)

Spring Specialty, Industry: April 19, 2024

*Note: The previously announced Spring Match date has changed, stay tuned for

2023-2024 GRCGLA Board of Directors

President: Nancy Talbott, belgoldnt@gmail.com
Vice President: Julia Wolfe, goldenastro@sbcglobal.net
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Director: Denise Potvin, pdgcp4@gmail.com
Director: Beverly Radloff, bradloff@me.com
Director: Paula Rowan, paula@rimetal.com
Director: Sharon Shilkoff, woodlandgr@gmail.com
Director: Mindy Smith, mlsmithnotary@gmail.com

Editors

Watch for future Newsletter requests from your Corresponding Secretary/Editor for submission of brags, bios, fun photos, articles and items of interest. Please submit those, directly, to Andrea Mraz. Thank-you!

Andrea Mraz, bayleewings@verizon.net (Braggs, photos, bios, articles, and requests)
Donna Lee, DLee4211@gmail.com (Technical Questions)

GRCGLA
Specialty
2024

JANUARY 4, 2024

START THE NEW YEAR GOLDEN!



ENTRY COUNT: BREED 124, WD 37, WB 51,
VD 7, HRD 1, BOB 14/15, SWEEPS 38, BP 1, JRS 2,
STUD DOG 1, BROOD BITCH 1,
OBEDIENCE 13, RALLY 5



GRCGLA SOCIAL AND GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JAN. 4, 30 MIN AFTER BOB

Empire Polo Grounds, Indio; Garges Motorhome (specific location will be shared at the specialty)

**Please bring: your own chair and a dessert/ snack/
hors d'oeuvre to share!**

Bring along a new potential member to meet and greet.

**Come learn what we have planned for 2024 and give us
your great ideas, while sharing the love of our wonderful
Goldens with friends new and not so new.**

**Come Celebrate Another Successful Specialty
As We Jump Into A Golden New Year!**



Getting To Know You

Nancy Talbott President



My love of all things dog was evident by the time I was three, when I drew leashes and stick figure people on every dog in the Encyclopedia Britannica D volume with a green crayon. When I was four years old, a family moved into our neighborhood with two Golden Retrievers who quickly won my heart. I begged my parents to get one of those beautiful gold dogs, but they were firm believers in small mixed breeds, and so I admired the neighbors' Golden Retrievers from afar. Years passed, during which I discovered the local dog show (Orange Empire Dog Club), and my mother gave in to her canine-obsessed daughter by dropping me off at the Orange Showgrounds in the morning and picking me up when I called on the pay phone after Best in Show. It was safe to do that with a 12 year old in 1968!

Finally, when I was a college student in 1976, I made my first purchase of a Golden from an ad in the Pennysaver; as it turns out, she had serious temperament and health issues, and although she did earn a CDX I learned that this was NOT what I was looking for in a Golden. I accepted this first experience as a learning opportunity. Three years later, after seeing a Golden win the Sporting Group and High in Trial at the same show, the lightbulb went on and I found my second start. I was privileged to be able to buy a puppy sired by that amazing dog, and he became Am/Can CH Beckwith's Zwiereg Sunshader, UD, WCX, Can CDX. I will forever be thankful to his breeders, the Beckwiths and Ainslie Mills, for entrusting such a wonderful puppy to a graduate student with nothing to recommend her except enthusiasm. In my 47 years with this breed, I am proud to have bred and owned many CH, UD, JH, WCX, and other working titled Golden Retrievers, and Labradors since 1990, under the Belgold kennel name.

In addition to Golden Retrievers and Labradors, I have owned CH Papillons and Pugs. My home is currently shared with 3 housedogs, from 7 months to 14 1/2 years of age.

I retired in 2018 from a 40-year career in public education. I have been approved to judge Golden Retrievers since 1993 and am currently approved for the Sporting Group. I consider it a privilege to be able to serve in that capacity and have had the privilege of judging Golden and Labrador National Specialties in the United States, Canada, Japan, and Australia. I am honored to be a Life Member of the Golden Retriever Club of America and the GRCGLA. I have served GRCA as a Director, Education Director, Nominating Committee Member, Judges Education Committee Member, and National Specialty Committee Member. I also was honored to serve as President of the Golden Retriever Foundation.



It is a great privilege to be President of the GRCGLA. Thank you for this honor.

Getting To Know You

Julia Wolfe ***Vice President***

In 1985 Gael and I got our first Golden, Ruby from John Lounsbury, Jolly Kennels in Poughkeepsie New York. I had met my college roommate's boyfriend's two Goldens in 1973 and thought they were beautiful, so when Gael asked if we could get a dog, I said I wanted a dog I could swim with, how about a Golden. Although her name suggested she was red, she was a Gorgeous Blonde!



We moved to California in 1987, and lost Ruby very unexpectedly at age 10. Heartbroken, we called John who was not breeding at the time. Not knowing where to find another Golden, we went to the want ads. Yes, a Backyard Breeder but we lucked out with our Belle. She actually was from good lines, just her parents were underage! Belle was a handful, and our veterinarian suggested I try Agility with her. I had no idea what agility was, but I knew we needed to do something with Belle. Agility was new to the US, again I lucked out with our trainer Karen Moureaux who had just competed on the first USA World team. Belle and I loved agility. Belle, Mach Lady Belle Rose MXB2 MJC NAP NJP, would be the 2nd Mach Golden In California and the Second Golden to enter the GRCA's Agility Dog Hall Of Fame.

Belle was mildly dysplastic, we chose not to breed her, went back to John, and waited one year for our Grace.. Grace, CH Jolly Stellar Amazing Grace AX MXJ MJS OD would become the foundation for our kennel, Stellar.. Upon Grace's arrival we switched to a completely Raw Fed Diet and Holistic Care. Belle lived to 16.5 years, and Grace to 18.4.



Getting To Know You

Dave Garges Treasurer

My first experience in the sport of dogs was in about 1977 when we went to the pound and bought our first dog as a family. She would take us for a walk, lol. We joined the West Los Angeles Obedience Training Club where I pursued obedience as a junior handler. My brother and I both purchased AKC chocolate Labradors. We trained them in obedience and scent hurdle races.



In 1980 I started dating the love of my life, she also had an All American and ended up with Golden Retrievers. We dated for 10 years before we got married in 1990. We moved to Yucaipa and enjoyed the sport of horses. I joined the San Bernardino County sheriff's search and rescue and became a reserve sheriff's deputy for 25 years.

After we lost our last dog my wife decided that she wanted to get another AKC Golden Retriever on a limited registration. Well, that didn't work out and we ended up with full registration and showed him to his Championship. We have had 6 Champions and 4 Grand Champions. Three of the Grand Champions have been done as an owner handler. I have been a member of the club and involved with the board for 9 years.





*Looking Forward to
Our Spring Match
Coming Soon!*

*Obedience, Conformation, Order of the Egg
Watch for more to come!*



Articles of Interest

Note of Disclaimer: the following article does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Golden Retriever Club of Greater Los Angeles or its Board of Directors. It is intended to be used and must be used for informational purposes only to build your knowledge about options to protect your dogs from illness. It is recommended that every dog owner consult with their trusted veterinarian or health practitioner and follow all prudent advice and protocols.

From the GRCGLA President: As most of us have heard and unfortunately perhaps experienced, there is a perplexing and frightening canine respiratory illness active and severe throughout the country. Veteran dogs and puppies are particularly susceptible to this illness, and so it is crucial to consider many options of prevention and treatment. We hope that this article will stimulate you to learn as much as you can about these options, to make informed decisions for your dogs, and to reduce fear among dog exhibitors and owners. Gael Parks is a long time GRCGLA member and Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

POSITIVE GOLDEN IMMUNITY (Part One – watch for Part Two in the February issue)

Dr. Gael Parks, DTCM

The Veterinary community is saying that they just don't have answers to give regarding the canine respiratory illness that is sweeping the country right now; here are my professional thoughts. If we go to PUB MED and search canine respiratory illness, there are numerous bacteria and viruses that are thought to be part of this illness (the cited study was done almost 10 years ago!). If the illness breaks through a dog's adaptive (acquired) immunity, it then attacks the innate (genetic) immunity, progressing rapidly to pneumonia. The usual progression of the disease is 2-3 weeks. At this time we are hearing about Goldens who are sick for months (*editor note: some of these dogs appear to heal, only to have symptoms reoccur*) and require hospitalization with oxygen. A connection is being made between kennel cough and canine influenza being harbingers of this respiratory illness, and the research is ongoing. Antibiotics and Chinese Herbs can help treat this illness and its symptoms; and perhaps most importantly, building the dog's immune system is a key component for both avoidance of and treatment of symptoms.

Priestnall SL, Mitchell JA, Walker CA, Erles K, Brownlie J. New and emerging pathogens in canine infectious respiratory disease. *Vet Pathol.* 2014 Mar;51(2):492-504.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0300985813511130>

Digestion and Diet Matter!

In Chinese medicine the lungs and large intestine are paired organs. In a nutshell: what you eat is how you breathe. I believe after 30 years of experience that what we feed our Goldens matters for their immunity and longevity. If for some reason you cannot embrace a raw diet, consider embracing a grain free diet. Some vets will say that a dog cannot get enough taurine without grains; however, organ meats have plenty of taurine to satisfy our dogs' needs. Taurine is an amino acid for the heart and vision. I recently created a raw, sustainably raised pork meal

for Harmony Farms here in LA which has cooling raw vegetables added. Pork has a good amount of taurine as well.

Clients will often say that a raw diet is too expensive, and I say give up the Starbucks latte and feed your dog the way nature intended. Every change we are making both in choice of diet and supplements is made to reduce inflammation, and thereby to improve adaptive immunity.



*Ch Jolly Stellar Amazing Grace AX
MXJ MJS OD lived to be 18 years and 4
months without illness! Grace was
Raw Fed from birth.*

If the diet is clean and full of nutrients that are immediately available, the dog's immunity is solid from the ground up (or from the large intestine to the lungs). It is important to visualize the mucous membranes that line these two organs and the connections between them, as this is the second line of adaptive (acquired) immunity. Providing your dog with a liver detox twice a year in the Spring and Fall for 14 days with an herbal formula on their food will help rid the body of toxins which make every species more susceptible to disease. Remember a low-quality diet robs your dog of important vitamins and nutrients which then lowers their adaptive immunity.

Positive immunity is a dynamic interplay of diet, exercise, rest, play and common sense. Our dogs can teach us much about all of these factors.

Here is a list of supplements to research and consider.

Supplements for Immunity

Turmeric: 800 mg daily (think of this as an anti-inflammatory for the entire system).

Organic apple cider vinegar: 1 tsp on each meal. Tastes sweet to your dog.

Bovine Colostrum: Builds immunity quickly.

Colloidal Silver: directly into canine mouth or in their water. Anti-viral and anti-bacterial properties.

Canine Immune Support (Standard Process): once daily by weight.

Mycophyto Mycoceutics: Chinese medicinal mushrooms. Daily for immunity.

Pneumo -Complex (Professional Formulas): a lung de-mulcifier and immunity builder.

LVR (Professional Formulas): the herbal detox I use which contains milk thistle, artichoke, NAC, Turmeric, alpha lipoic acid and luteolin.

Jade Windscreen Formula: builds the protective immunity or wei qi which wards off viruses and bacteria.

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For more reading on current research regarding the canine respiratory illness, we offer these resources:

<https://colsa.unh.edu/new-hampshire-veterinary-diagnostic-laboratory/canine-respiratory-outbreak>

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/departments/riney-canine-health-center/canine-health-information/canine-respiratory-disease-outbreaks>

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About Dr. Gael Parks

Dr. Gael Parks, DTCM, (Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine), L.Ac.,(Licensed Acupuncturist) ,NCCAOM (Nationally Certified in Oriental Medicine), ACN,(Applied Clinical Nutrition) D(Hom)Med.,(Diploma in Homeopathic Medicine) FABAA(Fellow American Board of Animal Acupuncture)



I have been practicing inter-species acupuncture, herbal medicine, and homeopathy for over 30 years. I created and directed a rehabilitation center with hydrotherapy for canines called Dog Paddle. I have been working in an integrative manner with Veterinarians for years. Currently I am the director/owner of Studio Wellness Centre, an Integrative and Holistic Health office in Studio City, California. In the present I am putting the finishing touches on what will be a Canine Shiatsu and Acupressure Online Certification Course for everyone. It will be sponsored by the London College of Animal Osteopathy.

I taught for over 20 years in the field of integrative medicine and TCM. One of my non-institutional teachings was for people interested in switching to a raw food diet for their pets. This was BARF (biologically appropriate raw food). I have a great interest in small animal nutrition. I am also a 30-year breeder of raw fed, holistically treated, Golden Retrievers with Julia Wolfe. Our kennel is Stellar Goldens in Acton California.

*Wishing you and yours peace, joy and
good health...*



Your Newsletter Editors...Donna Lee and Andrea Mraz

And BOD...Nancy Talbott, Julia Wolfe, Dave Garges, Andrea Mraz,
Sharyl Massey, Sharon Shilkoff, Beverly Radcliffe, Paula Rowan, Mindy
Smith, and Denise Potvin

