



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – Melinda Grosch

So 2020 is not turning out to be anything that we thought it was going to be at the beginning of the year when I wrote my last President’s Message. Pretty much all of our events are canceled for this year: the Show-n-Go, the Supported Entries, the Specialties and supported entries with Del Valle Dog Club, and all of the General Meetings up to the Holiday Party which is still tentatively on. We are going to try having a couple of field days and the Holiday Party may be a field training day followed by a dinner at a restaurant in Suisun but we won’t know for awhile whether that will work out or not. We have decided to concentrate on the field training aspect of the club as it can meet many of the requirements for best practices in the time of a pandemic.

Our first field training day is planned for Sunday, June 14, 2020 and will be held at the California Retriever Training Association (CRTA) grounds.. Hopefully we will have a couple more this summer culminating in a Working Certificate Test in October on the weekend that would have been our Specialty.

For those of you who replied with “training my dog to do tricks” or “training my dog” to Lorrie’s request for a little information on what you and your dogs are doing during the Shelter In Place here’s some information you might want. AKC has implemented a video titling option for Rally Novice and Trick Dog Titles - see more information on the AKC website here:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-virtual-entry-pilot/>) and here: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/any-dog-earn-a-virtual-trick-dog-title-even-puppies/>

Trick Dog titles can also be earned from Do More With Your Dog. For more information on their programs use this link:

<http://www.domorewithyourdog.com/trickdog/>

I have spent most of my time working on trying to contain the weeds that are my yard and running errands for my mom. I have been working on some training but with no goals in mind it has been sporadic and my dogs are not ready to pursue either type of title at this point. Well Lydia is but she already has all these titles.

Hopefully my next message will find us all looking forward to real, in person trials and shows. In the meantime keep thinking about who will be your next GGLRC President,

Melinda

GGLRC 2020 OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- President: Melinda Grosch
- Vice President: Jennifer Kelly
- Secretary: Connie Holm
- Treasurer: Terri Herigstad

Board Members: Allen Garfinkle, Sharon Ventura; Vivian Poole, Catherine Lewis and Kim Sweetnam

Other Important GGLRC Contacts:

Membership Chair (Updated 4/2020)

Kim Sweetnam

sweetnamk@aol.com

(email Kim with new members or address changes)

Newsletter Editor

Lorrie Bellows

Loralie@mlbellows.com

(email Lorrie with your newsletter additions)

Changes at GGLRC

GGLRC recently joined the California Retriever Training Association (CRTA). CRTA is an organization with memberships for Retriever Clubs. They have more than 4500 acres of prime habitat in Northern and Southern CA. GGLRC's membership to CRTA will enable us to focus on our field program and offer training days and other field events. Now all we need is someone to get us started.....

Well..... GGLRC Board thought of Sharon Ventura. Sharon graciously accepted the Boards invitation to take on our field program and make sure we get use of the grounds at CRTA. She'll get us started on training days and other field events. The first field event is Sunday June 14 and GGLRC members received the flyer from Melinda on May 30.

Previously, Sharon handled GGLRC's membership for as long as I can remember. Now all we need is someone to take over the membership....

Well.... GGLRC Board thought of Kim Sweetnam. Kim is now the new Membership Chairperson. She will be the person to contact if you want to sponsor a new member, or if you have a new address.

Thanks Sharon and Kim for your continued support of GGLRC.

Shelter-In-Place

In the middle of May, Lorrie sent an email to GGLRC's membership asking "What have you, your family and dogs been doing during the shelter in place?"

There was only one response:

Lauren Rice-Springs: I completed a video Novice Trick Dog Title with my dog "Rain", CH Mischief's Purple Rain, TKN.

Lauren said this is a fairly new event for AKC. They allowed people to participate in the test via a video where the evaluator(s) watched the video. Some of the videos were posted on Facebook group formed by some local dog people.

Lauren offers this AKC weblink if anyone else is interested in finding out more about this new event:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog>

Lorrie Bellows: Natasha demonstrates how she wears her mask when going out in public. (Just kidding – LOL)



It's not too late for you to submit what you've been up to for the next newsletter.

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training – submitted by Lorrie Bellows

Last summer I enrolled my two labs, Deion and Natasha for Rattlesnake Avoidance Training. The training was held in a dirt/gravel parking lot at a veterinarian office in Lakeport.

They used real rattlesnakes which were muzzled. The dogs were fitted with training collars and were put on a long line. There were 3 snake stations, one laying out in the open gravel, one in the grass and one in a bag that made the rattle noise. The training is done one dog at a time and it took my dogs about 12-13 minutes each to complete their training. The trainer walks the dog around and then walks over to where the snake is. When the dog goes to sniff the snake the trainer hits the button on the training collar. The last part of the training required my dog to walk past the snake in the gravel to come back to me. It was very interesting to see both dogs give a wide berth between them and the snake.

I hadn't really thought much about the snake training we did last summer until a couple weeks ago. Deion and I were in the dog yard where he was doing his usual sniffing around and then all of the sudden he jumped backwards. I immediately went over to where he was and noticed a snake in the grass. It wasn't a rattlesnake but it was a snake. I was very happy to see his reaction to the snake and felt his training was worth the time and money we spent.

I'd recommend checking into this type of training if you live in an area or travel to areas where rattlesnakes are very common.

American Kennel Club – website

In between catching up on my reading, I've taken the time to check out the AKC's website. My past visits to the site have always been searching for judges, but lately I've spent time looking at the various other bits of information they have. One that caught my eye was under the category of Expert Advice, Tools & Quizzes "Can my dog eat this". I have to say I did get a couple wrong. Check it out and see how you do.

<https://www.akc.org/dog-food-quiz/>

Artificial Sweeteners – Xylitol

I recently saw a post on Facebook where a family had their dog die from eating a box of breath mints. The breath mints were sugar free and contained Xylitol. My initial thought was how sad; but then I thought, "really a box of breath mints could kill a dog?"

I did some research and found out that Xylitol is used in a lot of sugar free items. I went on AKC's website under Vet's Corner and found:

"Xylitol is NOT to be consumed by dogs in any amount. It's dangerous and can be fatal. Xylitol can be found in "sugar free" – ice cream, candies, pastries, gums, yogurts, etc. Even in small doses, it can cause seizures, liver failure and death.

Check out AKC Vet's Corner for more on sweeteners and other interesting topics.

Revised GGLRC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2020

Sun., May 31	GGLRC All Breed Obed./Rally Workshop General Meeting at 1:00 pm at Match site
Sun., June 14	Field Training Day at CRTA
Thurs., June 4 & Fri., June 5	Sierra Vista LRC Speciality in conjunction with Woofstock
Sat., June 6 & Sun., June 7	Woofstock – Sierra Vista LRC supported entries
Thurs., July 9	GGLRC Board Meeting - On-Line/Conference Call
Thurs. - Sat., July 11 - 13	Rose City LRC Specialty Shows - Check with Club
Fri., July 3	High Desert LRC Specialty - Check with Club
Sun., July 26	Field Training Day at CRTA
Fri. - Sun., August 2 - 4	Puget Sound LRC Specialty Shows - Check with Club
Thurs. - Sun., Sept. 10 to 13	GGLRC Supported entry Lake/Drake Shows, Solano County Fairgrounds, Vallejo
Sat., Sept. 12	GGLRC General and Board Meetings At Lake / Drake shows
Sun., Sept. 13	Field Training Day at CRTA

2020 Labrador Retriever Club Inc. National Specialty - Pending
October 3 through October 10, 2020 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 3 & 4	Hunt Tests
Mon. & Tues., Oct. 5 & 6	Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Specialties Agility, Obedience and Rally Shows
Wed., Oct. 7	LRC Parent Club Regional Show
Thurs. & Fri., Oct. 8 & 9	LRC National Specialty Show

2020 Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club Specialty Shows
Location: Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton CA

Thurs., October 15	Setup for GGLRC Specialty
Fri., October 16	GGLRC's 56 th Specialty
Sat., October 17	GGLRC's 57 th Specialty
Sun., October 18	GGLRC Supported Entry at Del Valle Dog Club
Sun., October 18	Working Certificate Test at CRTA
Thurs., November 12	GGLRC Board Meeting - On-Line/Conference Call
Sat, December 5	GGLRC Holiday Party & General Meeting - This will be a Field Training Day followed by a Dinner - Location CRTA