



Retriever Reflections

Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Club, Inc.

September/October 2008

2008 Officers and Board Members

President:

Allen Garfinkle
PH: 510-339-2117
E-Mail: janzoon@aol.com

Vice Pres.:

Terri Herigstad

Secretary:

Constance Holm

Treasurer:

Noel-Ann Carpenter
1690 Grizilo Dr.
San Jose CA 95124
PH: 408*264*5393

Board:

Vacant
Melinda Grosch
David Rowinski
Sharon Ventura
Vacant

Newsletter Editor:

Melinda Grosch
PO Box 4012
Santa Rosa CA 95402-4012
PH: 707-537-7786
E-Mail:
wtrprufdogs4me@netscape.net

Membership Chair:

Sharon Scharff-Ventura
942 Rancho Arroyo Pkwy
Fremont CA 94536
PH: 510*794*5027
E-Mail: dukfinder@aol.com

GGLRC Web Page:

<http://www.gglrc.org/>

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It is October already!! Seems like it was only just the middle of summer. We have had enough rain last weekend that the grass is looking happy. In honor of our upcoming specialty and Halloween I have included some treat recipes. They both make exceptionally good treats for training or the show ring and have won over many dogs who were "not food motivated" (generally breeds other than Labradors have this problem). I was expecting some brags but haven't received any so that section is a little lonely this month. Maybe after the specialty!! Speaking of the specialty - the shopping is usually fabulous as Del Valle is one of the largest shows on the West Coast and we will have our wonderful raffle. Come on out and help the economy by getting a jump on your holiday shopping.

See you at the Specialty,
Melinda Grosch, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Even though the word retriever is part of our breed name, I cannot help but be amazed at the ability of our dogs to perform this instinctual act. Whether it is merely a tennis ball or a large waterfowl, it is a wonderful sight. Sure, there are times when this instinct can be annoying. For instance, when my dogs brings me dirty socks from the hamper or some trash from the waste can, but generally it is an endearing trait. At our recent Field Training Day and Working Certificate (WC) test, our dogs got to apply their talents and were tested on it.

Since I don't hunt myself, the closest some of my dogs get to a real bird in their mouth is a rubber duck I use for training. So it was with some amusement to see what amounted to an epiphany in my youngest pup when she finally got to work with birds. When first offered the bird, she wanted nothing to do with it. It was only when my other dogs were taking some delight in fetching it back from short throws, did she decide "this" was something she wanted to do. Sibling rivalry can be a very useful tool.

The Training Day was a wonderful opportunity and the Working Certificate test following was a treat to watch. While my pup didn't receive her WC that day, she obviously enjoyed herself, and my wife and I really enjoyed watching her give her all to the task she was bred to do. My thanks go out to those members who put so much time and energy into making this day a success (10 out of 13 dogs received WC's).

Looking to the future, our Annual Specialty is coming up fast on October 17th and 18th. This event is a fine opportunity to socialize and see some great dogs. When entries closed there were 138 Labradors entered in conformation, 15 in obedience and 8 in our first ever rally event. Considering the economic climate, this is an example of our love of the dog and the sport. Even if you are not entered in one of the events, come on out and join the fun. I hope to see you there!!!

Allen Garfinkle
President