



## UPCOMING EVENTS

SPECIALTY-March 21

APRIL 7-Club meeting and agility  
workshop with Bonnie Norris



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Volume 35, Issue 3

March 2008

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## MARCH Meeting –PLANNING FOR THE SPECIALTY

**Tuesday, March 11**

**6:30-7 :snacks served**

**7: the meeting begins**

**Home of Kathy Felix**

**5717 Trails Edge Court, Arlington, Texas  
76017**

### DIRECTIONS:

From George BUSH(190) merge onto TX-183 W via  
the exit on the LEFT toward FT WORTH and go 2.6  
miles .

Merge onto TX-360 S / ANGUS G WYNNE JR FWY  
toward FAA RD / GRAND PRAIRIE / ARLINGTON.  
Go 11.7 miles

Merge onto I-20 W / RONALD REAGAN MEMO-  
RIAL HWY toward FT WORTH. 7.3 miles

Take EXIT 445 toward GREEN OAKS BLVD / LIT-  
TLE RD. 0.2 miles

Stay STRAIGHT to go onto W I-20 HWY. 0.1 miles

Turn LEFT onto SW GREEN OAKS BLVD / CR-  
2005 E. 0.4 miles

Turn RIGHT onto OVERRIDGE DR. <0.1 miles

Turn LEFT onto STAGE LINE DR. <0.1 miles

Turn RIGHT onto TRAILS EDGE DR. 0.1 miles

Turn RIGHT onto TRAILS EDGE CT.

## SPECIALTY TROPHIES

Thank you so much to everyone who signed up  
to Sponsor a Trophy for the upcoming Specialty..  
If you have not already done so... please mail  
your Check (Payable to: DFWMGRC) to:  
Kathy Felix

5717 Trails Edge Court  
Arlington, Texas 76017

### Join us for Dinner with the Judges

March 21st after the Specialty  
@ The Blue Mesa Grill on University (Fort  
Worth) Blue Mesa is a reasonably priced  
Mexican food establishment not but 5 min-  
utes from the show site. Please contact  
Kathy Felix by email to R.S.V.P.

## DFWMGRC CLUB DUES FOR YEAR 2008

Dues for year 2008 are due February 1, 2008 and  
are considered delinquent after May 1, 2008.

Send all monies to the treasurer. Regular dues  
are \$25 per family or \$20 per individual or \$15  
per Junior. Send to Linda Miller.

## What Is an Obedience Title?

By Sandy Mowery

Not just a brag, not just a stepping stone to a higher title, not just an adjunct to competitive score.

A title is a tribute to the dog that bears it, a way to honor the dog, an ultimate memorial. It will remain in the record and in the memory, for about as long as anything in the world can remain. And though the dog himself doesn't know or care that his achievements have been noted, A title says many things in the world of humans where such things count.

A title says your dog was intelligent, adaptable and good natured. It says that your dog loved you enough to do the things that pleased you however crazy they may have sometimes seemed. It says that you loved to spend time with him because he was a good dog and that you believed in him enough to give him yet another chance when he failed and in the end, your faith was justified. A title proves that your dog inspired you to that special relationship enjoyed by so few. That, in a world of disposable creatures, this dog with a title was greatly loved and loved greatly in return. And when that dear short life is over, the title remains as a memorial of the finest kind, the best you can give to a deserving friend. Volumes of praise in one small set of initials after a name. An obedience, agility, flyball, herding, etc title is nothing less than true love and respect - given and received and recorded permanently.

### From the WEB

I pulled into the crowded parking lot at the Super Wal-Mart Shopping Center and rolled down the car windows to make sure my Pup had fresh air.

She was stretched full-out on the back seat and I wanted to impress upon her that she must remain there. I walked to the curb backward, pointing my finger at the car and saying emphatically, "Now you stay. Do you hear me?, Stay! Stay!"

The driver of a nearby car, a pretty blonde young lady, gave me a strange look and said, "Why don't you just put it in park?"

## TOP DOG SHOW AND GO-OBEDIENCE

Please visit our web site for Show & Go updates at [www.topdogdallas.com](http://www.topdogdallas.com)

1138 Pleasant Valley, #D, Garland, 75040  
\$6 first entry, \$4 second entry of same dog

Open and utility starts at 8

Novice starts at 12

## MABOC SHOW 'GO

March 9

Obedience and Rally

Cobb Armory 2101 Cobb Park Dr Fort Worth

Registration: 8:30-11

Judging: Begins at 9

Check MABOC.org for more information

## APRIL 7TH @ 7pm..

WE WILL HAVE A MEMBERSHIP MEETING / OUTING

JOIN US AT PAWS FOR APPLAUSE DOG AGILITY SCHOOL (ROWLETT) FOR "A TEST DRIVE" WITH BONNIE NORRIS. BONNIE, THE OWNER WILL GIVE A SHORT LECTURE ON STARTING YOUR PUPPY, YOUNG DOG OR OLD DOG IN THE SPORT OF AGILITY.

AFTER BONNIE TALKS WE WILL HAVE THE FACILITY TO INTRODUCE OUR DOGS TO THE "BEGINNERS" EQUIPMENT.. WITH HER SUPERVISION WE WILL ALL HAVE TIME WITH HER (SHE MAY HAVE AN ASSISTANT, DEPENDING ON HOW MANY REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE.

THE COST IS \$5.00 PER DOG

(THIS IS TO PAY FOR THE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT/FIELD AND BONNIE SPEAKING)

PLEASE SEND A CHECK PAYABLE TO ..

DFWMGRC

MAIL IT TO KATHY FELIX at: 5717 Trails Edge Court, Arlington, Texas 76017

\*\* Please check her Website for Directions [www.pawsforapplauseagility.com](http://www.pawsforapplauseagility.com)

In case of rain we will reschedule...If you would include your phone number

on your check we could call if there is a cancellation.

## BRAGS

### AGILITY

#### Lone Star Poodle Club Agility Trial Jan 26th

EX-B Standard preferred -- Q -- 1st Place  
EX-B JWW preferred -- Q -- 1st Place ( DQ )  
REMUDA'S LUCK OF THE DRAW, CDX, MX, MXJ,  
MXP, AJP (felix)

#### Lone Star Poodle Club Agility Trial Jan 27th

EX-B Standard preferred -- Q -- 1st Place  
EX-B Standard preferred -- Q -- 1st Place ( DQ )  
REMUDA'S LUCK OF THE DRAW, CDX, MX,  
MXJ, MXP, AJP (Felix)

EX A JWW-2nd  
U-UD Aero-jett's Speaker of Tales UDX RE SH  
OA OAJ WCX Frick) **TITLE!!**

24in, Exc. B std.- 2nd- 18 points  
Glengowan's Man on a Mission CDX RE MX MXJ  
OF (Caldwell/Couch)

#### Texas Kennel Club 2/2/08

ExB JWW Preferred ---1st Place  
*Remuda's Luck of the Draw* CDX, MX, MXJ, MXP,  
AJP (Felix)

#### Fort Worth Kennel Club 2/3/08

ExB Standard Preferred --- 2nd Place  
*Remuda's Luck of the Draw* CDX, MX, MXJ, MXP,  
AJP (Felix)

ExB Standard Preferred --- 1st Place  
*Remuda's One More Last Chance* AX, AXJ, MJP,  
AXP (Felix)

Exc B Std, Q - 8 points  
Glengowan's Man on a Mission CDX RE MX MXJ  
OF (Caldwell/Couch) -

#### DFWESSA, Sunday, Feb 10, 2008

Exc B JWW, Q - 7 points  
Glengowan's Man on a Mission CDX RE MX MXJ  
OF (Caldwell/Couch) -

## CONFORMATION

#### Abilene Kennel Club Jan 27

WD from the 6-9pd 1st. point  
Brytlea Ducat JusCoz Triple Scoop  
(Williams)

#### Argus KC, Ontario, Canada feb 8

Best of Breed/Group 1/BEST IN SHOW!  
Can. Ch. Glengowan's Authentic Playboy Can  
SDHF (Kashuba/Caldwell)

#### Argus KC, Ontario, Canada, Sunday, Feb 10

Best of Breed/Group 1/BEST IN SHOW!  
Can. Ch. Glengowan's Authentic Playboy Can  
SDHF (Romeo) (Kashuba/Caldwell)

#### Guadalupe Valley Dog Fanciers, February 17, 2008

WB

Goldstorm Hard to Resist (Chapman)

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF JANUARY 20, 2008 MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30p A quorum was established. There were 29 members present which includes the Board Members.

#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Leslie sent the Club's renewal for membership to the GRCA. The Club received permission from AKC to hold Sweeps on 3/21/08.

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Shari Degan has volunteered to be Chief Ring Steward for the August, 2008 Agility Trial.

#### TREASURER

Reminded everyone that 2008 dues are due.

#### CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The proposed Amendments that were published in the January, 2008 newsletter were voted on. There was a motion that was accepted to take into consideration the proposed amendments as a whole and be voted on with 1 (one) vote. It was accepted and passed.

#### FIELD COMMITTEE

Lab group wants to do their hunt test individually. Our club must find land and decide on a date on their own. Dick thinks there may be property available in Rockwall and will look into it. If anyone knows where there is land available for the club's hunt test, please contact Richard.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The 2008 Board was voted into office.

## THE FOUR SECRETS OF TRAINING GOOD RETRIEVING SKILLS

It was my first litter of English Cocker Spaniels, and there in the whelping box were my crystallized hopes and dreams, beautiful, healthy, and wriggling with potential. I couldn't get over the wonder of it all: Here before me was my very own contribution to the breed. But would they grow up to be good enough for hunt tests? I thought about their mother and her terrible form. How had my beautiful bitch gone so bad? Every time I threw a bumper she'd dash off with it, find a place to hide, and tear it to shreds. Live birds were out of the question. How had I ruined her? What technique was missing from my trainer's bag of tricks? Before I began working with her puppies, I formed a clear objective of what I wished to accomplish. Ultimately I wanted a dog who would enthusiastically retrieve a bird to hand without any more damage than a few ruffled feathers. A biddable worker with a soft mouth was essential- the birds would come later. In my mind I sorted my many mentors and e-mailed a fellow Cocker enthusiast who breeds for show and field. Her advice to me was profound: "For now, remember to just play, play, play. They shouldn't know they're being trained. You have to make sure the puppy is enjoying playing with you." I took these words to heart and wrote down her suggestions, carefully trying them out as my puppies matured. The results were highly satisfying. As soon as your pup is coordinated enough to run and carry things, buy a small fleece toy. I like the kind without a squeaker because the high-pitched noise seems to stimulate the puppy's desire to bite down. Start with a wide-awake puppy who has been fed and has "taken care of business." Find a spot inside your home that can act as a throwing chute—a hallway makes a nice chute if you can close off all other doorways so there is only one way to run down and back toward you. Sit on the floor at the open end of your chute and put the puppy on your lap. Use the fleecy to play with the pup, encouraging him to pick it up in his mouth. As he holds his treasure, keep him on your lap and praise him lavishly. Let him keep the toy for half a minute or so, allowing him to think of it as his prize. Then gently remove the toy by coaxing open his mouth. Here is Secret Number One: Be careful not to pull on the toy. Tug-of-war is a terrible game if your goal is to develop a soft mouth.

When you have successfully taken the toy from the pup's mouth, praise him for letting go of it. Next raise the toy so it's higher than his head but out in front of him, and ask if he wants the "bird." When he jumps for joy, throw the toy down the chute. Hopefully, prey drive will kick in and the puppy will be in fast pursuit of his quarry. I have learned that silence during the time he is running out is better than making distracting noises of encouragement.

When the puppy reaches the toy, he should pick it up and playfully start running with it. Clap your hands, call his name, thump on the floor, and encourage him to run back to you. Secret Number Two: Do not use food as a bribe, as he will most likely drop the toy in favor of food, Just use your enthusiasm. Now he may zoom right past you in an attempt to keep his prize, and here is Secret Number Three: Scoop him up as he runs past and place him on your lap, but do not take the toy. Let him have it for at least 30 seconds, and for the entire time he has it in his mouth, pet and praise him lavishly. Make a fuss over the puppy and his prize. When he stops wriggling and you feel enough time has gone by, gently remove the toy from his mouth and repeat the exercise. But here is Secret Number Four, and it is essential: Keep the playtime short. Three times is enough. Stop while the puppy is still fresh and the game is still fun.

Later, when the pup is older, you can graduate to the outdoors, a check cord, and a nubby bumper small enough for his mouth. Just like the indoor games, always let him keep the treasure for 30 seconds before removing it. Praise him lavishly while he holds his prize, and then gently remove the bumper.

The mistakes I made with the puppies' mother-tug-of-war, food bribes, and quickly snatching the toy from her mouth seem hideously thoughtless in retrospect, yet I often learn of other show-dog fanciers who make the same simple mistakes with their hunt-test prospects because they didn't know about the play chute. Whether your "show dog" is a spaniel, retriever, or pointer, his good retrieving technique will cause your heart to swell with pride. This kind of training is something anyone can do: Why not give it a try?

Kerrin Winter Churchill and her husband, Dale Churchill, are the authors of *How to Photograph Dogs: A Comprehensive Guide*.

*From the AKC Gazette January 2007...copyright, Kerrin Winter Churchill*

## FROM THE WEB SITE OF DEAN KOONTZ

Hardcover Nov. 27—THE DARKEST EVENING OF THE YEAR Amy Redwing has dedicated her life to the southern California organization she founded to rescue abandoned and endangered golden retrievers. Among dog lovers, she's a legend for the risks she'll take to save an animal from abuse. Among her friends, Amy's heedless devotion is often cause for concern. To widower Brian McCarthy, whose commitment she can't allow herself to return, Amy's behavior is far more puzzling and hides a shattering secret. No one is surprised when Amy risks her life to save Nickie, nor when she takes the female golden into her home. The bond between Amy and Nickie is immediate and uncanny. Even her two other goldens, Fred and Ethel, recognize Nickie as special, a natural alpha. But the instant joy Nickie brings is shadowed by a series of eerie incidents. An ominous stranger. A mysterious home invasion. And the unmistakable sense that someone is watching Amy's every move and that, whoever it is, he's not alone. Someone has come back to turn Amy into the desperate, hunted creature she's always been there to save. But now there's no one to save Amy and those she loves.

*Three copies of this book were traded at the DFWMGRC holiday party. He certainly describes well the Golden personality.*

McClain's has donated a trailer for the day for our use at the Fort Worth Kennel Clubs show so that DFWMGRC may hold a heart clinic.

Many thanks to them for their support and generosity.

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**THE DALLAS FT.-WORTH METRO GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB (DFWMGRC)**

-Member Club of the Golden Retriever Club of America, Inc. (GRCA)  
 -Licensed by the American Kennel Club for AKC Shows , Obedience Trials, Hunting Tests, and Agility Trials

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**MEMBERSHIP AND MONTHLY MEETINGS**

An application for membership can be obtained at a monthly meeting (Jan.-Dec.).  
 Family \$25, Individual \$20, Junior \$15. Meetings are held at various times and sites  
 each month. Contact the Editor or President for information. Meeting schedules are  
 printed monthly in the Mailer/Memo.

**METRO GOLDEN MAILER**

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**FIRST CLASS**

**\*\*\*\*\* Attention\*\*\*\*\***  
**If you requested info on our club**  
**and this area is circled, this is**  
**your last copy. Call us!!**