



GOLDEN HIGHLIGHTS

April 2009

NEXT CLUB MEETING

May Meeting date & location TBA
speaker to talk about legal issues and dog breeding

June 6 SPRING PICNIC
 at Vintage Acres, details TBA

NEXT CLUB SHOW/TRIAL/EVENT

Reliant Specialty
 Thursday July 16, 2009
 at Reliant Center
 Show Chairman: Tom Causey

SPECIALTY RESULTS

Greater Houston Golden Retriever Club, March 13, 2009 – Farm & Ranch Club, Houston, TX
 Show Chairman – Judith Haithcoat

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Ms. Sue N. Melancon

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES – 9-12 Bitch

BROOKSHIRE CAMOFLAGE SPICE IT UP --

Combs/Hempel

(**CH. Faera's Future Classic** ex **CH. Gi-Ki's Moonstruck**)

BEST OPPOSITE SEX IN SWEEPSTAKES – 9-12 Dog

APOLLO GOLDANCE SHOT OF BOURBON -- Schultz

(**CH. Bravo Apollo's Southern Comfort** ex **Goldance Jess B E Z On Impact**)

REGULAR CLASSES

Judge: Dr. Maureen Shaughnessy

WINNERS DOG (4 points) - Amateur-Owner-Handler Dog

ARTISTRY-BRAVO DON'T MAKE WAVES --

Word/Scribner

(**CH. Bravo's Old Spice** ex **Artistry's Lil One Whatz It To You**)

RESERVE WINNERS DOG – Open Dog

PLANTANORO TOPSPIN N HOT PURSHOE-T --

Johnson/Hollenbeck

(**CH. Mariner Orion** ex **CH. Rush-Hill's Ollyollyoxenfree**)

WINNERS BITCH (2 points) /BEST OF WINNERS – Open Bitch

SIDEKICK BRIO'S PERFECT ALIBI -- Keen/Whitney

(**CH. Eirene's Soul Provider** ex **Sidekick's Verdict Is In**)

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH – Open Bitch

MWM RYCROFT'S FROZEN SOLID -- Abernathy

(**CH. Amberac's Hi Thyme Rycroft** ex **CH. MWM Bound For Glory**)

BEST OF BREED (11 competing)

CH. TOASTY'S TREASURE ISLAND –

Douglas/Bates/Oxenberg

(**CH. Happy Hour Highmark Toasty** ex **CH. Toasty's Josie**)

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX

CH. COSMIC GOLDSTORM COWBOY HARDWARE

– Roberts/Mueller

(**CH. Bravo's Old Spice** ex **CH. Goldstorm Pardon Me Boys**)

JUDGE'S AWARD OF MERIT

CH. GLENGOWAN'S GREAT BALLS OF FIRE –

Caldwell/Gear

BEST BRED-BY

XIV KARAT HOLD THAT TIGER – Hurst/

McIlwraith/Schwartz

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES (2 competing) Judge: Mrs. Carolyn B. McKenna

BEST JUNIOR HANDLER – Open Senior: **Ryan Tepera**

Working Certificate and Working Certificate Excellent Results

April 5, 2009 Hidden Lake Kennels, Anderson, TX

Judges: John and Janet Frick

WCX Qualifiers (12 competing)

Topbrass Diesel MH (Gibson)

HR Vintage Fire 'N Ice CD SH WC
(McGuire)

Vintage Gold Miner's Thrill SH WCX
(McCuiston)

*pictured at right, in order left to right, the
judges are the in the middle*



WC Qualifiers (9 competing) *(pictured below in order left to right)*

Splash N Dash Red Rockin Devil JH (Beckley)

Seven Bridges Samuel CD RA (Haugland)

OTCH Sunfire's Gift of Freedom UDX5 RN WC (Pilkerton)

OTCH Sunfire's What A Hoot UDX3 JH NA (Pilkerton)

Topbrass Rebekah JH (Bailey)

Wynwood Vintage Bejeweled (McGuire)

& Sharmead Hearthstone's One More Time JH (Palinkas) (Flat-Coated Retriever)



BRAGS AND CRIES

Rex Gibson's boy **Diesel** (Topbrass Diesel) earned his **MASTER HUNTER** title!!! And his **WCX** at the club's recent test!

Charles and Pat Jones report that **Presto** finished his **Master Agility Excellent** title. So now he is Dal-Rhe River Run Irreplaceable RA TDX JH MX MXJ OF CCA WCX VCX!

At the GHGRC hunt test, **Susan Pilkerton** and **Freebie** (OTCH Sunfire's Gift of Freedom UDX5 RN WC) earned their 1st JH leg. The next day they passed the WC test. **Andy Pilkerton** and **Hootie** (OTCH Sunfire's What A Hoot UDX3 JH NA) earned their WC!!!

Also the club's hunt test, **Lee McCuiston** and **Prize** (Vintage Seismic Attraction MX AXJ WC) earned their 3rd JH leg. The next day Lee and Nugget (Vintage Gold Miner's Thrill SH WCX) passed the WCX test.

Anne McGuire and **Ruby** (HR Vintage Fire 'N Ice CD SH WC) earned their WCX, and **Gem** (Wynwood Vintage Bejeweled) earned her WC!

Congratulations to all on their accomplishments and new titles!

FEATURE ARTICLE

CALL TO ACTION

WE NEED YOU NOW!!!

Spring 2008 has brought a rash of anti-pet ownership legislation to the Texas State Senate and House of Representatives. These bills appear well-intentioned, but in fact they significantly endanger the rights of Texans to own & breed dogs. These bills are all being considered in committee right now. It is critical that your state representatives hear your opinions on these bills NOW, within the next few days. There is little time left!

Rex Gibson offers the following instructions for sending a letter to your state representatives. Included is a sample letter that you can use – just add your own name and address at the end of the letter!

What Can You Do to Protect Dog Owners in Texas? 7 Steps:

1. **Find your State Senator and State Representative:** <http://www.house.state.tx.us/resources/faq.htm>
2. **Copy the following text by highlighting it and clicking Edit, Copy.**
3. **An Open Letter to My State Senator and State Representative:**

An Open Letter to My State Senator and State Representative:

I own a dog and I vote. Several bills have been introduced in the Texas Legislature that attempt to deny me of my rights to own my dog. I support reasonable, enforceable, non-discriminatory laws to govern the ownership of dogs. And I believe that dog owners should be responsible for their dogs. Many of the provisions in pending legislation – including HB 925, HB 1982, HB 2001, HB 3180 / SB 1910, HB 3380, HB 4277 / SB 1845 – however, are unnecessary and vague. Legislation of this type unreasonably impacts many responsible dog owners. I am AGAINST these specific bills and all bills of a similar nature.

Please do not be swayed by organizations that attempt to distort tragic, yet isolated, dog attacks as justification for overbearing government intervention into my everyday life with regard to how I interact with my dog. These organizations do not support responsible dog breeding; they do not offer dog rescues; they do not host pet owner education courses; they do not offer free veterinarian services; they do not support dog performance events. In short, these organizations have nothing to do with pet ownership or my relationship with my dog.

Please keep all Texas dogs and their owners free to enjoy each other's company. Dogs are used in everyday life in Texas in many ways that these legislative proposals will impact in a negative, if not devastating way, including:

- Companionship at home and office
- Hunting for upland and migratory birds, as well as other game
- Therapy for patients, for children, for veterans, for elderly
- Detection of cancer and seizures in patients
- Bomb and contraband detection
- Livestock management
- Search and rescue
- Police assistance
- Personal security

My dog and I enjoy many activities together. Most of all, we enjoy participating in the many events sponsored by the American Kennel Club, the United Kennel Club, the National Kennel Club and similar events sponsored by many local clubs that permit my dog to demonstrate its natural abilities for which it was originally bred. Please do not limit my ability to enjoy these events or to properly train for these events in open areas.

My dog is a pure bred dog from a responsible breeder. Please do not deny my grandchildren of the ability to purchase a similarly bred dog.

The issue before you is not a dangerous dog issue, nor is it a dog breeder issue. It is a dog ownership issue. The bills currently pending are attempts to limit my rights to own my dog. And I am AGAINST all such proposals.

Thank you for your time,
I Own a Dog and I Vote.

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4. **Add Your Name, Address, and ZIP Code to the note.**
 5. **Paste into an email or your legislature's internet comment box.**
 6. **Send note to your elected officials. If email doesn't work, send by fax or US post ASAP.**
 7. **Forward to everyone in Texas that you know that owns a dog.**

**If you've had enough and are not going to take it anymore,
then let your elected officials know about it.**

From Anne McGuire:

Here is my summary of the impact of the most significant of these bills. Note that almost all have both Senate (SB) and House (HB) versions:

SB 1845 / HB 4277 -- Require mandatory spay/neutering of all dogs and cats 6 months of age or older in the state of Texas. Exemptions are provided for service dogs (but the bill does not define what a “service” dog is) and dogs shown in conformation (but would not apply to dogs in any other kind of competition), or if a vet certifies there are health reasons not to sterilize that animal. Owners who wish to keep an animal intact would have to obtain a \$300 per year intact animal license. The bill does not address what requirements might be established to obtain such a permit. Violation would be a Class C misdemeanor. Would take effect September 1, 2009!

Full Text: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/81R/billtext/pdf/HB04277I.pdf>

SB1910 / HB3180 -- Commerical breeder bill that places restrictions on large volume breeders. Aimed at controlling puppy mills, this bill seems like a good idea at first. The problem is buried within the bill is clause that applies to any puppy or kitten sold within the state. This clause says that a puppy or kitten can not be sold, or transported for purposes of sale, within the state or into or out of the state of Texas, if it is under 12 weeks of age. This means that breeders will not be able to sell puppies less than 12 weeks age, even to out-of-state buyers. It also means NO ONE will be able to bring a puppy bought out of state into Texas until it is 12 weeks age.

8-12 week old puppies need to socialize with humans. Few reputable breeders have the resources to care for an entire litter of medium to large breed puppies until age 12 weeks. There’s not enough hours in one day for the needed daily amount of individual attention, socialization, and training, never mind space and time cleaning up after them! The result of this bill will be to put reputable high- quality hobby breeders out of business and to encourage a plethora of poorly socialized pet store and puppy mill puppies.

Full text: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/81R/billtext/pdf/HB03180I.pdf>

HB 1982 -- relating to the regulation of dangerous and vicious dogs. This bill would define a dog as being “vicious” based on the dog’s behavior within its own “enclosure” (read ‘its own yard’). If a “reasonable” person believes based on the dog’s behavior within its yard that the dog ‘might’ attack or cause harm or is behaving in an aggressive manner, the dog can be declared “vicious.” All your dog has to do is bark repeatedly while in your own backyard and someone could report the dog as being “vicious.”

The bill outlines requirements for owners of “vicious” dogs including registering the dog with local animal control authorities, specific types of outdoor enclosures the dog must be kept in, must be on leash at all times while outside of the residence or the enclosure, owner must carry liability insurance for the vicious dog. *(Imagine what happens to your home owners insurance rates when your dog is declared “vicious” – for many it probably means being dropped like a hot potato by your insurance company!)*

The REALLY bad part of this bill is the clause that states within a city of 1 million people or more “A person who owns or keeps custody or control of a dog weighing 40 pounds or more shall ensure that the dog, at any time the dog is not on a leash in the immediate control of a person, is kept inside a residence or in a secure enclosure on the premises where the dog is kept.”

This means that any dog, of any breed, not just vicious dogs, weighing 40 pounds or more – ANY 40+ lb dog -- must be AT ALL TIMES either in your residence, in a secure enclosure, or on leash. NO EXCEPTIONS. This means that 40+ lb dogs can’t go to the dog park, can’t compete in obedience or agility trials within city limits, can’t engage in ANY activity that requires the dog to be off leash in that city. *(Oddly enough there is NO exemption for service dogs or on-duty police dogs!)* Even to be loose in your own fenced yard, the yard would have to meet the legal definition of “secure enclosure.” This clause is buried in the midst of much language about “vicious” dogs, yet it would apply to and affect the quality of life of hundreds of thousands of NOT-vicious dogs in the state of Texas starting September 1 of this year!

We can all agree that dog attacks on people are a serious problem that needs to be addressed. This bill is not the answer and it would harshly penalize those who responsibly own and love medium and large breed dogs! If you want to continue to own and love and enjoy retrievers, you NEED this bill to be defeated!!!

Full text: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/81R/billtext/pdf/HB01982I.pdf>

For status updates and full text of any bill in the state legislature:

<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/Home.aspx>

Litter Listings & Advertisements

WANTED – FUN, FUNNY, and CANDID **photos** of YOUR Golden(s)! *(or if you have a good black-mail photo of another member's dog!)* I want to start featuring a photo of a club member's dog(s) every issue! So send me your fun, silly, ROTFLOL photos! Photos should be in digital format, medium/low resolution is fine. E-mail to the Editor at anne@vintagegoldens.com

Beginning in the May newsletter, short Classified Ads (Wanted to Buy or For Sale) may be placed by club members at no cost. Limited to approximately 30 words. Inanimate objects only, no puppies or dogs *(use Litter Listings for that)*.

Beginning in the May newsletter, Litter (or Dog available) Listings will be accepted from GHGRC members. They will be brief listings limited to Date due/whelped, name of sire & dam, contact name, phone number &/or e-mail. Please indicate if it is puppies or an older dog. No other information will be listed. No photos. Please note that as members of a GRCA member club, GHGRC members are expected to adhere to the GRCA's Code of Ethics. Those listing litters should be prepared to provide health clearance information to potential buyers.

For the GHGRC Puppy Referral information page and Breeders List, please go to the club web page (<http://www.ghgrc.org>) and click on PUPPY REFERRAL.

<p style="text-align: center;">GHGRC 2009 Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Officers</u></p> <p>Cathy Sharp.....President Elaine Donnell.....Vice President Becky McKee.....Treasurer Andrea Stringer.....Secretary Joanie Patrick.....Membership</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Directors</u></p> <p>Pauline Grennan Rex Gibson Paula Parrish Anne McGuire</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GHGRC 2009 Committee Chairmen</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Well Dog Clinic 2010</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Elaine Donnell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring Specialty 2009</td> <td>Judith Haithcoat</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reliant Specialty 2009</td> <td>Tom Causey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reliant Specialty 2010</td> <td>Cathy Terrell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hunt Test 2010</td> <td>Elaine Donnell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Puppy Referral</td> <td>Pauline Grennan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GRNews Columnist</td> <td><i>volunteer needed</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>GRCA Delegate</td> <td>Anne McGuire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legislative Liason</td> <td>Rex Gibson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunshine</td> <td>Debbie Ward</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newsletter</td> <td>Anne McGuire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Webmaster</td> <td>Cathy Sharp</td> </tr> </table>	Well Dog Clinic 2010	Elaine Donnell	Spring Specialty 2009	Judith Haithcoat	Reliant Specialty 2009	Tom Causey	Reliant Specialty 2010	Cathy Terrell	Hunt Test 2010	Elaine Donnell	Puppy Referral	Pauline Grennan	GRNews Columnist	<i>volunteer needed</i>	GRCA Delegate	Anne McGuire	Legislative Liason	Rex Gibson	Sunshine	Debbie Ward	Newsletter	Anne McGuire	Webmaster	Cathy Sharp
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