



# THE GOLDEN GAIT

Vol. 42, No.5

May 2016

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Board Meeting	May 12
General Meeting	May 19
Hunt Test	May 28 – 29
Specialty	June 22 – 24
Agility Trial	July 22 - 24

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

New Member  
The Wild West Dog Show  
Laryngeal Paralysis in Dogs  
Why Dogs Do That in the Show Ring  
Acceptable Range of Colors in Goldens



**HAPPY SPRING!**

## **Welcome to our new Member:**

### **Chuck Loya**

Chuck was voted in at the last meeting . He and his family have a Golden named Buddy from Tammy Tomlinson. Many of you have met Bonny and Billy who are also members. They live in Claysville, PA.

*It's a Wild West Dog Show*

GREATER PITTSBURGH GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB  
 CUYAHOGA VALLEY GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB

*6th Annual Combined Specialties*  
*wear your western attire!*

Conformation  
 Puggy Sweeps  
 Junior Showmanship  
 Obedience  
 Rally

**June 22 - 24**  
**Two days - Four Majors!**  
 Lawrence County Fairgrounds  
 New Castle, PA

Wednesday June 22

CVGRC Sweepstakes and Veterans - Teri Poetker  
 Rally - Karen Schroeder

GPGRC Rally - Karen Schroeder

Thursday June 23 - Morning  
 CVGRC Breed, 4-6 puppy & Jrs. - James M. Brown  
 Obedience - Don Levinson

Thursday June 23 - Afternoon  
 GPGRC Breed & Jrs. - Cindy Partridge  
 Obedience & Rally - Cathy Thompson

Friday June 24 - Morning  
 GPGRC Breed, 4-6 puppy & Jrs. - Dr. Robert Indeglia  
 Obedience - Don Levinson

Friday June 24 - Afternoon  
 CVGRC Breed & Jrs. - Susan Peterman  
 Obedience & Rally - Cathy Thompson

For more information contact:  
 Sally Dines, GPGRC Show Chairman, 724-584-3300  
 Pat Flanagan, CVGRC Show Chairman, 330-272-6601




**Come and join us next month!**

**Lindsey Daniello is still looking for Raffle Baskets. Let her know what you will be donating. We made \$500 from the baskets last year – let's beat it this year.**

**Wear your wild west clothes and come for a lot of fun.**

## EVENT DATES FOR 2016

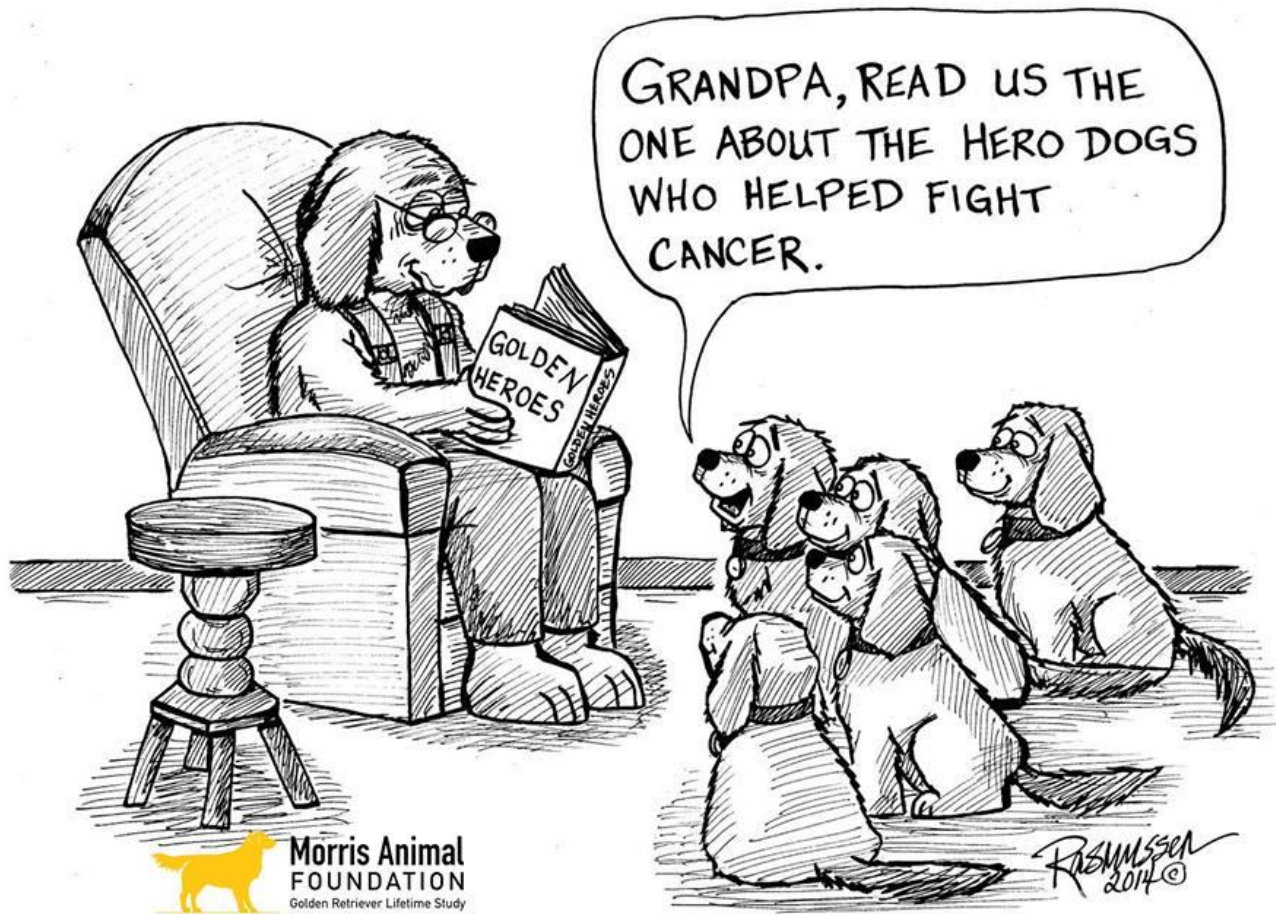
HUNT TEST	MAY 28 and 29*
CONFORMATION SPECIALTY	June 22 through 24
AGILITY TRIAL	July 22 through 24

\*please note revised dates

### 2016 General Meeting Snack Sign Up

*Folks who signed up to bring snacks for the General Meetings, will find the schedule below. We should have two members per meeting bringing a snack. There are still some openings at meetings. Please fill the empty slots and let Anne Pittman know when you can bring something.*

May – John Osheka and Kathy Fertal  
June - Clark / Sheryle Long and Anne Pittman  
August - Roseanna Frankowski and Ann Ferguson  
September – Pat Depp and Barbara Brock  
October - Candy Verduce; *still need one person here*  
November – Billie / Bonnie Loya; *still need one person here*



## PLEASE NOTE: NEW ACCOMPLISHMENT RECORDER – KATHY FERTAL

Effective January 1, 2016, Kathy Fertal is assuming the role of Accomplishment Recorder. Please send your award forms to [fertalkm@verizon.net](mailto:fertalkm@verizon.net). or send to :

909 Ruth Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

It is also recommended that you submit the title certificate along with the award form. Please provide the abbreviation and the full title of the award (i.e. SH, Senior Hunter; CH, Champion).

**Please be sure and fill out the form accurately and completely. The form will serve as the basis for the awards at the next banquet, so ensure it is correct. Only AKC titles can be recognized at the Awards Banquet – please see the members only section of the website for further information.**

# Laryngeal Paralysis in Dogs | GOLPP Geriatric Onset Laryngeal Paralysis Polyneuropathy

In: [Neurology](#), [Small Animal Surgery](#), [Veterinary Specialists](#)

Q Need a veterinary expert? Search for a veterinary specialist

## Overview

Laryngeal paralysis is a common condition of middle to older aged dogs that involves loss of normal function of the larynx. The larynx is a collection of cartilage flaps, or laryngeal folds that sit in the back of the throat over the entrance to the trachea (wind pipe). Muscles attach to the larynx allowing it to open when breathing and close when the dog is eating and drinking to protect the airway. When the larynx becomes paralyzed, the folds remain in the closed position even when the dog is trying to breathe. Breathing becomes labored and difficult.

There are many potential causes of laryngeal paralysis, but the most common cause is idiopathic. This means there is not an identifiable underlying cause. The most common presentation occurs in older dogs particularly Labrador Retrievers and Golden Retrievers. St. Bernards, Newfoundlands and English Setters are also commonly affected. Most of the time laryngeal paralysis does not progress to involve other parts of the body. However, some dogs have been noted to develop neurologic signs in other parts of the body within a year of diagnosis suggesting that laryngeal paralysis is part of a more generalized problem (degenerative polyneuropathy affecting multiple nerves).

## Signs & Symptoms

Clinical signs of laryngeal paralysis are primarily a result of progressive failure of the laryngeal muscles. Dogs with laryngeal paralysis are noisy when breathing in, particularly when panting. In early stages of the disease, owners may easily miss the abnormal sounds. As the disease progresses, the dog may fatigue easily, develop a bark change, and cough/gag when eating and drinking. Signs may progress for months to years before becoming a clinical problem for the dog. Severe upper airway obstruction can occur during strenuous exercise or in heat and humidity, which results in respiratory distress and collapse. The symptoms can snowball as increased breathing rates and panting cause the laryngeal folds to become swollen and inflamed and worsen airway obstruction. Dogs that have more generalized signs (degenerative polyneuropathy) may present with difficulty swallowing, regurgitation, and hind end weakness.

# Diagnosis

Laryngeal paralysis is often suspected based on physical examination and neurologic examination findings. Increased sounds when the animal breathes in can usually be heard on physical examination. A neurologic examination will demonstrate evidence of generalized involvement in dogs with polyneuropathies. A sedated laryngeal exam with a laryngoscope, endoscope, ultrasound or CT may show failure of the larynx to open when attempting to breathe in. Thoracic radiographs can be performed to look for dilation of the esophagus, which can be seen with generalized involvement. General blood work (complete blood count [CBC] and serum biochemistry profile) can demonstrate evidence of metabolic diseases, myopathies, endocrine diseases or infections. Since some cases of laryngeal paralysis have been linked to hypothyroidism, thyroid function testing may be performed.

# Treatment & Aftercare

Treatment options can vary widely depending on the severity of signs and quality of life. Dogs that are not severely affected may be managed conservatively. Conservative management involves moderation in exercise, weight loss and possibly anti-inflammatory medications to reduce laryngeal swelling.

Dogs that have severe difficulty breathing may be candidates for surgery. Multiple surgical techniques have been described, however “laryngeal tie back” surgery is the most commonly performed. This procedure, also known as arytenoid lateralization involves suturing one or both sides of the larynx into a permanently open position to relieve upper airway obstruction. Tie back surgical procedures carry the risk of leaving the airway unprotected and increase the risk for aspiration pneumonia. As a last resort, a tracheostomy can be performed.

# Prognosis

Prognosis for improvement of clinical signs and quality of life is generally good to excellent for idiopathic laryngeal paralysis. Unilateral (one sided) laryngeal tie back surgery usually results in less respiratory distress, less respiratory noise, and improved exercise tolerance, but leaves dogs at risk for developing aspiration pneumonia.

Dogs with more generalized signs (degenerative polyneuropathy) progress to develop additional neurologic signs around one year following diagnosis. Unfortunately, it can be difficult to predict which dogs will progress to develop more generalized signs. However, dogs that do not develop more generalized signs can continue to live a good quality of life following successful treatment of laryngeal paralysis.

## Fact Sheet Author

Laurie Cook, DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)

The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center

# WHY DOGS DO THAT IN THE SHOW RING

by Pat Trotter

With permission from and thanks to the Houston Dachshund Club  
( [http://www.houstondachshundclub.org/index\\_files/page0005.htm](http://www.houstondachshundclub.org/index_files/page0005.htm) )

WHAT YOU SEE	REASON &/OR PROBLEM
*Dog can't put their head down	*Shoulder blades are too close together. (Seen in Borzois a lot)
*Dogs move with head down	*Shoulders are too straight so front reach will be lacking and the dog can only move with head down. *Neck is usually too short
*Dog has short neck	*Has steep shoulders.
*Dog has nice long neck	*Could have well laid-back shoulders.
*Doesn't have an arch to its neck	*Has a "Ewe Neck" - can't swim or carry anything heavy in his mouth - common in Bernies, poodles & goldens.
*Wrinkles over shoulders	*Too straight or too wide in front
*Dog moves wide in front	*Shoulder blade tips are set too far apart. *Has barrel front – not oval. (dachshunds
*Moves easty/westy in front	*Pinched at elbows
*Dog comes to you wide in front and out at elbows	*Short upper arm
*On side gait, dog doesn't move with enough reach. It's reach in front looks restricted – can't open up to move	*The straighter the shoulders, the shorter the reach or *Loaded shoulders or *Steep & short humerous (upper arm) or *Steep & forward scapula (shoulder blade)
*Crabs – trots with his rear to the side – moves slightly off angle to allow front feet and rear feet to avoid interference	*Has more angulation in rear than in front or *Could have a short body
*Have up and down action in front assembly	*Shoulder blades are set too high
*Dips in top line when it starts to move and has choppy forward reach	*Straight shoulders
*Up and down motion in top line	*Shoulders set too high

## **Golden Retriever Club of America (GRCA)**

All Golden lovers are encouraged to join our Parent Club, GRCA. The *GR News* is published bi-monthly by the GRCA and contains educational articles, provides a forum for issues of interest to Golden owners, highlights Golden accomplishments and contains correspondent columns from the Member Clubs across the country. Contact the Editor for more information.

### **GREATER PITTSBURGH GOLDEN RETRIEVER CLUB (GPGRC)**

- Member club of the Golden retriever Club of America, Inc. (GRCA)  
Master National Retriever Club (MNRC)  
Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, Inc. (PFDC)
- Licensed by the American Kennel Club (AKC) for Conformation Shows and Obedience, Rally and Agility Trials and Hunt Tests.

General Membership Meeting is held the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Membership applications are available from the Membership Chairperson. Attendance at two Club functions (one being a General Membership Meeting) and endorsement of two Club Members is required before an application can be accepted. Dues are: Regular Membership (individual) - \$25.00, a second adult – an additional \$13.00. Associate Membership (individual) - \$15.00, a second adult – an additional \$8.00. Junior Membership - \$1.00. Completed applications and dues are to be submitted to the Membership Chair.

Newsletter is posted monthly on the Club's Website at [www.gpgrc.org](http://www.gpgrc.org). Club members may request printed, mailed copies of the *Golden Gait* for a fee of \$20 per year. Litter advertisements are accepted from Club Members only on a space available basis. (Fees are full page - \$10; half page - \$5; quarter page - \$2.50.) Refer to the Puppy Referral Policy and Breeder Code of Ethics for required clearances.

In summary, puppy referral is a service provided to GPGRC Members only. (1) Both sire and dam must be two years of age or older at the time of breeding; (2) copies of eye clearances within one year of breeding must be supplied; and (3) an OFA numbers for hips and elbows must be submitted. Also hearts must be evaluated by an approved veterinary cardiologist.

Acceptance and use of the information provided by GPGRC constitutes an acknowledgment that the user hereby releases and indemnifies the GPGRC and its Officers, Directors, Members and Agents from any and all liability and damages sustained by the user as a result of any information obtained from this organization.

Title/Award Record Form should be filled out and sent to the Accomplishments Recorder for all Conformation, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, Rally, Field Events or Community Service Events before they can be reported in the Newsletter.

If you have any matters you would like the Board to consider, contact the President, John Osheka, at 412-977-3870.

### **Monthly Meeting**

The monthly meetings are held at the Sisters of Holy Family of Nazareth, 301 Bellevue Rd 15229. Meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. Guests are Welcome!

Directions from I-279: Take exit 12 toward US 19/Perrysville Ave. At Perrysville Avenue, turn left. Go approximately .8 mile and turn left onto Bellevue Road (Sunoco Station on corner). Go approximately .5 mile and turn right to stay on Bellevue Road. End at 301 Bellevue Road. Entrance to complex is one way. Sign will direct you to building. Yellow brick building behind large red brick building is the meeting place. There is an open parking lot or 2 deck parking garage available.



### OFFICERS

President

John Osheka  
1908 Aspen Court  
Conway, PA 15027  
412-977-3870

Vice-President

Kathy Fertal  
909 Ruth Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
412-341-2459

Secretary

Roseanna Frankowski  
55 Marlin Dr West  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216  
412-531 1424

Treasurer

Vicki Osheka  
1908 Aspen Court  
Conway, PA 15027  
412-215-9314

### DIRECTORS

Kris Tosadori  
72 Kennedy Lane  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
412-331-6588

Marcy Kronz  
407 Fairview Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220  
412-377-7153

Sally Dines  
4120 Windfall Lane  
Gibsonia, PA  
724-584-3300

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Accomplishment Recorder

Kathy Fertal  
fertalkm@verizon.net.  
412-341-2459

Agility

Marcy Kronz  
412-377-7153

AKC Liaison

Community Services

Education

Roseanna Frankowski  
412-531 1424

Equipment

Field Training Day

John and Candy Verduce  
412-741-1021

GRCA Delegate

GRCA News Rep.

Candy Verduce  
412-951-7577

GPGRC Webmaster

Megan McClung

GRF Liaison

Historian

Grace West  
412-341-6625

Hospitality

Anne Pittman  
724-355-5106

Membership

Shirley Koper  
412-771-1995

Merchandise

Rosanna Frankowski  
412-531-1424

Newsletter

Sally Dines  
sallydines4120@gmail.com  
724-584-3300

Puppy Referral

Pat Depp  
412-931-0590

Program

Rescue Liaison

John Osheka  
412-977-3870

Specialty

Sally Dines  
724-584-3300

*Please email me pictures of your dogs which I can use in future issues. [sallydines4120@gmail.com](mailto:sallydines4120@gmail.com)*

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GOLDEN GAIT - Greater Pittsburgh Golden Retriever Club, Inc.- Sally Dines, Editor



The above photo illustrates the extreme limits of the acceptable colour range for the Golden Retriever.



"Lushious golden of various shades" This photo illustrates the broad range of acceptable colour in the Golden Retriever.

*Acceptable range of Golden Retriever colors (from the Canadian GR Club)*