

KA LEO KULA

"Golden Voice" of the Golden Retriever Club of Hawaii, Inc.

Spring Issue, February, 2004

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It was a great day at our January, 2004 Specialty for Charlotte Farmer's girl Wrigley (Ch Sunbeam's Double gum) as she took Best of Breed. Shown by Tina Beatty.

President's Report

My New Years' resolution for 2004 was made in December 2003. It was to start on the newsletters earlier so I didn't have to put them all together at the last minute as I did so many times last year. So far so good.

Our Board lost two old Directors and gained two new ones. My thanks go out to **Donna Segawa** and **Christi Tadaki** for the selfless and endless help the past year or so. **Donna** got sucked in a couple of years ago when hubby **Darryl** came on as our Treasurer. It just made sense to come to the meetings together. But, like **Darryl**, she was an invaluable member of our Board and recently took the bull by the horns to organize and track our shirt sale. **Christi** came in later when we ended up one short on the board. Like **Donna**, **Christi** came up with fun ideas and, the Aiea hiking trail, that so many people enjoyed last year was all her doing. Plus, since she shows dogs, she had a good understanding of our primary objective which is to put on quality shows and trials. Thank you ladies for all you've done for us. Your 2004 Board of Directors will once more consist of **Steve Anderson**, Vice President; **Peggy Ketcham**, Recording Secretary; **Jackie Kupau**, Corresponding Secretary; **Debbie Williams**, Treasurer; **Robin Anderson**, Director and yours truly, **Moke Strassberg**, President. New Directors **Kurt Herrmann** and **Diana Reuss** are willing and able and will hopefully jump right in with more ideas. Like I said before, it's the differences that help us learn from each other. But one thing is for sure. We will have some fun during the year in addition to our two shows and trials.

KA LEO KULA
Is a Quarterly Newsletter

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& Michael Suchomel*

Edited by Moke Strassberg

*Design & Layout by
Charlene Smoyer*

From the Editor

Yours truly has been the editor for Ka Leo Kula for about four years now and I've enjoyed doing this for our membership. I hope that what I've done has been informative, entertaining and amusing.

Did you ever wonder how we put out a newsletter with such good eye appeal? Like everything else, it doesn't just happen. For those of you who don't know, I only write the articles and try to keep up with shows and trials. Lately, **Gayle Thom** has been getting the show and trial information for me and **Sharleen Perreira** has been kind enough to proof read the draft. But, I don't do the layout for the newsletter. **Charlene Smoyer** does that.

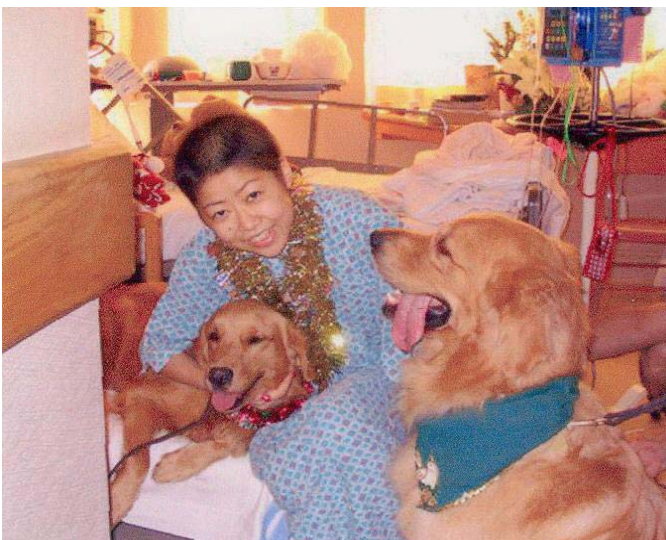
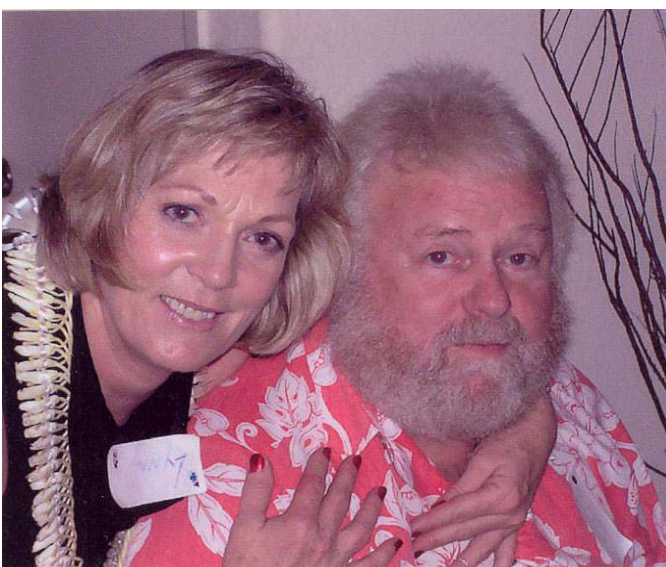
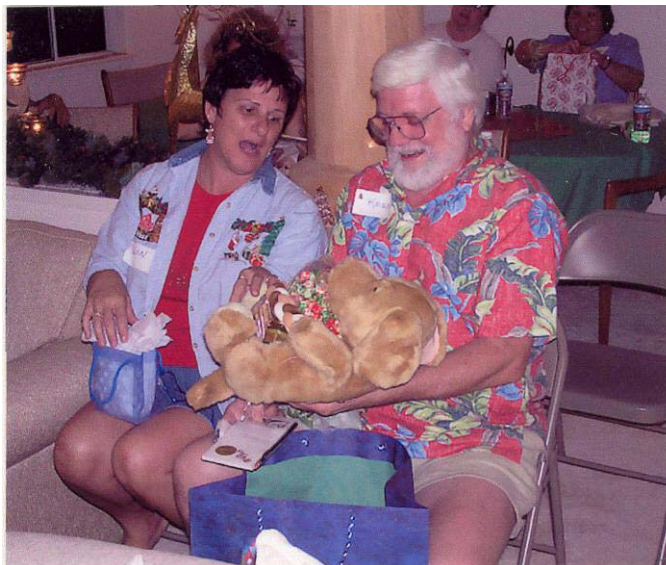
It started four years ago when **Frank and Michael Suchomel** graciously offered to print the newsletter for us. I offered our editor at the time some assistance but, she decided she didn't want to do it anymore and asked that I just take it over (I had to open my big mouth). The Suchomels have a newsletter for their music school and had Charlene doing the layout for them. They asked her to do the same thing for us.

After I E-Mail the articles to Charlene, I let her know where I plan on placing photos. She leaves those spots blank, creates a newsletter that looks good, and E-Mails it back to me page by page. The first page consists of two printings.

First, the header and side banner are printed. Then the copy is printed over it. After all pages are successfully printed (some adjustment is always needed) and the captions inserted, I physically cut the actual photos to size and glue them into place. We get better copies than a cut and paste method. Then I take it to Kinko's for printing and stapling. After the printing, I fold, stamp, address and mail them. Yes! It can be time consuming. But, it's not bad if you keep up. It only gets terrible when you wait until the last minute and have to research everything (been there...done that). We try to print five sides on three sheets. That keeps the postage costs down.

Please think about this. If you have something to contribute, I'll gladly put it into the newsletter. It's your newsletter.

Photos clockwise from top: It looked like a convention of Santa Claus look-alikes at our annual Xmas party: 1. Long-time members and wonderful supporters of GRCH Lin and Ross Fuller. 2. Lynn Barefoot and Bob Frost (who has helped find homes for several Rescue Golden Retrievers). 3. Our Xmas hospital visit started in the lobby as several members and Golden Retrievers assembled. 4. This young lady from Japan was readmitted since we saw her at Halloween. She looked, felt, and seemed better but was actually not well. The Golden Retrievers truly brightened her day. 5. Under Judge Laurella Pang, Betty Brask and Duke took first place in Open B at the Golden Retriever Specialty.



Annual Meeting

We have such a nice group of people in our club that getting together for our yearend Xmas bash is something that we all look forward to. This year was no exception. **Ted and Peggy** were our gracious hosts once again and their home was decked out in full Xmas regalia. Along with our hosts were **Steve and Robin Anderson, Charlotte Farmer, Bob Frost and Lynn Barefoot, Ross and Lin Fuller, Kurt Herrmann, Donna Jinbo, Paul Kilty, Winston and Jackie Kupau, Lola Nakamura, Jack and Marjorie Nunokawa, Diana Reuss, Moke and Glori Strassberg, John and Gayle Thom and Debbie Williams**. Did I miss anyone? I hope not. We had the usual great potluck with each dish seemingly even better than the one before it and lots of goodies for dessert. It was a tough way to start the holiday season (calorie wise).

After dinner we had our meeting at which time the Board for 2004 was elected. The soon-to-be announced website shows the entire Board. The Board is unchanged except that our Directors, **Kurt Herrmann** and **Diana Reuss** replace **Donna Segawa** and **Christie Tadaki**. From the elections, we moved to the gift exchange which Peggy always has a penchant for keeping lively. Some members were unable to attend but we hope you'll make the extra effort next year. This is a good club with great people and we always enjoy each other's company at the Xmas party.

If there was any negative to the evening, it was the weather. Just when the party was breaking up, we encountered a torrential downpour and had to do an umbrella shuttle to people's car. But even that was a form of camaraderie as everyone tried to assist other members. What a night.

Xmas Hospital Visit

The Xmas visit to Kapiolani Women's and Children's Hospital was a first for some of our members. Now they too know the warm and fuzzy feeling we get from visiting those who are going through tough times. In our last newsletter, I wrote about a particular lady who really touched me as she cried while kissing my dog during our Halloween visit. As we waited in the lobby to commence our visit, a Japanese lady approached me and asked if we would visit her friend who had been readmitted to the hospital. It turned out that it was the same lady that we visited during Halloween. Many of us visited that person who I found to be in very good spirits and looking better than before. The staff later told me that she was actually in much worse condition. I had no problem leaving my dog with her for several minutes while I walked about the floor. If you have never participated in a hospital visit with our club, try to make it to one. It's an unforgettable experience.

Digest of Minutes.....

November 8, 2003

- Current checking account balance \$6,012.52.
- Website is up for the club but still under construction.
Address is grchawaii.com.
- New show signs were ordered in blue.
- Revised renewal application approved by the Board.
- Being worked on: Adoption Application and General Release
- Form for rescues.
- Board decided that anyone may join GRCH but, because we are a purebred club, dog activities can only include purebred Golden Retrievers.
- Dog clubs advised that club insurance would increase from \$365 to \$600 a year. Board decided to cancel Accordia and apply to the Fireman's Insurance Fund at \$350 a year plus \$25 for a certificate of insurance.
- Slate of nominees presented to the Board for the December elections.
- Board approved new design for T-shirts.

January 10, 2004

- Current checking account balance \$7,560.21
- Website is up as GRChawaii.com. **Casie Tanimura** will help to make it better.
- Hospital visits around Easter time are being considered.
- New signs for shows were picked up at total cost of \$275.
- New club insurance purchased for \$265 a year from Fireman's Fund.
- Diana Reuss** volunteered to head Chili Fundraiser this summer.

Shirt Sale

Our shirt sale was a resounding success and I really want to thank all of you who participated by purchasing one or more shirts. Yes...they do make nice gifts and we even ordered a few extra just in case anyone wanted more. **Donna Segawa** was great in organizing the ordering and funds and **Jackie Kupau** came up with a terrific drawing of the Golden that we used for the design. Add a little grass and some nice lettering and we ended up with a classy shirt.

Any company could have sold us the shirts. But the company that helped us was **The Custom Company** in Kalihi owned by **Milton Ebesu**. Milton used to work with **Rick Ralston of Crazy Shirts** and one of the businesses that Rick owned was a silkscreen and design company. Rick was always known for his generosity and when he liquidated, he actually gave the entire business (equipment and all) to Milton who runs the business and his life very much like Rick.

I first met Rick in 1963 but didn't see him for years. In 2002, he visited our booth at Pet Expo and signed up to foster a rescue Golden. After a week of fostering, Rick's wife **Michelle** called me and told me they were keeping him. They are real dog lovers.

So when we needed shirts, Rick was the person I called and he directed me to Milton. When I called Milton, he told me that he loved Golden Retrievers and he would do anything for Rick. He understood that our shirt sale was a fundraiser and not only gave us a fantastic price on their best shirts but also waived the \$50 per frame charge which, with six colors, would have amounted to \$300.

It's important that we remember those who help us along the road of life. Milton and his staff have been absolutely sensational. Please remember them when you wear these great shirts.

Kudos for the help

One of the things I've really tried to instill in our members is that this is a club and we need to help the club. I know that many people are working all week and have activities planned for the weekends but sometimes we just need to ask for help.

We recently had our 53rd Show in conjunction with our 10th Obedience Trial. We were in dire need of obedience ring stewards. You simply can't have a trial without ring stewards. Jumping in to assist us were **Janet Ng, Mary Lou Lomaka and Alton Arakaki**. While Janet is active with obedience at Leeward, she wasn't exactly sure what to do as a steward. Mary Lou and Alton were even more uninformed. But they got out there, pulled their weight, and kept the trial running smoothly. They even mentioned that they enjoyed it.

As an AKC licensed club, we have a responsibility to put on shows and trials. It's wonderful when we can get members to help do this. A huge thanks goes out to Janet, Mary Lou and Alton. You folks did a terrific job.

Also helping with our weekend duties was **Barbara Krazniewski** who offered to represent the Golden Retriever Club on the breakdown crew. ASSDA sets up rings and tents for their show on Saturday and has always left it up for the individual Sporting Dog Clubs to use on Sunday. But taking it all down has been a problem because everyone takes care of his

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Kudos for the Help (Continued from Page 3)

own equipment and then disappears after the show. Finally, ASSDA said they would like each participating club to provide one member to help take everything down. Barbara, who really had no involvement in any of the show or trial activities, said she would be our representative. Thanks Barbara. We need more of you. Because of her help, nobody is saying anything negative about the Golden Club not helping.

For our June trial, it would be nice if we had four different volunteers. As far as stewarding is concerned, we need three people from 8:00am until about 10:00am. The breakdown of the rings and tents is for less than an hour in the mid afternoon. I hope more of our members will consider helping out because I'd really like to see more people getting involved. Let's not be like most organizations with 10% of the people doing 90% of the work.

Why are we here? (By Stephen Anderson)

Adapted from an article in Sports Illustrated by Rick Reilly

I was having one of those truly pleasurable, life-fulfilling moments. The kind that really makes you feel glad to be alive. A day at the park. A few clouds smattered the sky while the breeze timed itself just right to keep the sweat at bay. Green was everywhere except for the spots occupied by me and my two goldens.

It was a candid moment. A time for Jake and Wyatt and me to truly have a father and sons experience. The kind that you read about having but rarely have the time to do. Time to talk, to communicate, to share, to learn, to grow. And, like out of a well-scripted play, like a fastball coming right down the middle to Mark McGwire, I was asked by my younger, "Dad, why are we here?" And this is what I said.

"I've done some thinking on this son, it's a good question and it needs to be answered. We're here to leave our mark, somewhere, somehow. We're here to catch the perfect toss, the one that looked for a millisecond to be destined to hit earth only to be toothed at the last minute. To make the gallant and proud victory lap, relishing the accomplishment as the swaying grass claps in unison in disbelief."

"We're here to chase the neighbors cat, just for the sport of it, and because it's just so damn fun to see it take off, knowing that if it really had time to think about it, it had the weaponry to tear us to shreds. We're here to sit at the door and wait, and wait, and wait, and wait... for the sound of the car door shutting so that our day can finally begin."

"We're here to nail a leaf from five feet away with just a cock of our leg. We're here to be there when nobody else is. A hug and a lick are terrible things to waste. We're here to make some noise just because that's what the sign on our fence entitles us to do. Lord knows, that if the barking doesn't work we might actually have to do...."

"We're here to grab for the tail that seems so unreachable, a little scared about what might happen if we actually caught it. We're here to be vulnerable, exposed, on our backs, legs spread, hoping that by doing so the reward will...."

"We're here to seek out every ounce of freedom left in the world. A world without boundaries, leashes, fenceless fences (zap! Ouch!)"

"See, it's not the ribbons and trophies, it's not the job, it's not the status. None of us are going to remember those things on our last leg. What we will remember is that time we had three tennis balls stuffed in our mouth when everyone said it couldn't be done. Sometimes we spend so much time working towards that better coat, perfect score, flawless gait, for the happy day, when happy just went to stare out the window... waiting..."

Show and Trial Results

Does anyone have any idea how hard it is to score a perfect 200 in obedience? **Winston Kupau** does. As well as he did at the OTCH trial in Open B with **Jack (Kalaniakeas Hit da Road Jack, UD)**, he was only able to muster up a 198.5. We all really feel sorry for him. NOT!!!. It was a terrific score for an excellent team which was good enough for another HIT. Congratulations to you **Winston**. Then, at the Hilo trial, Jack scored a 198 in Open. Most people would consider that good enough for 1st place. But he missed it by ½ point. Unbelievable. Nevertheless, the team of Winston and Jack was good enough to earn Jack the number one spot in Utility and Open for 2003. Excellent!

Agility is the up and coming activity and OTCH held an Agility trial in January. On Saturday, **Gayle's Chelsea (Chelsea Nunokawa)** got her 2nd leg with a 1st place in preferred Jumpers w/weave. She had 100 points in 33.55 seconds. While I don't have the scores or times for Sunday's trial, I want everyone to know that **Lola's dog Mitsu** got her 2nd leg with a 2nd place in the same event.

At the West Oahu Kennel Club show at Barbers Point, **Lei Taft** entered a young dog that she had rescued but felt had possibilities. She also liked his pedigree. I seem to recall her telling me that he wasn't ring ready. Naturally, **Gyver (Perrecca Grenada)** earned the points by taking WD. Then, with three of the four class bitches scratched due to health issues, **Peggy Ketcham's Nikki (Shardust La Femme Nikita)** was the automatic WB but then took BOW to get her points. On Sunday, it was **Moke's Dylan (Harmony's And Away We Go)** taking WD and BOW with **Nikki** earning the WB spot. But the weekend clearly belonged to **Marc and Shari's Robbie (Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder)** who took the breed both days with a Group 1 on Saturday and Group 2 on Sunday. Way to go!!!

Moving over to Thomas Square for Saturday's ASSDA show, every exhibitor knew it was a major both days and everyone wanted those points. First one up was **Charlotte's Willy (Karizma's Willy Wonka)** for WD. Then **Peggy's Nikki (Shardust La Femme Nikita)** took WB and BOW. BOB went to **Marc and Shari's Robbie (Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder)** for three in a row.

Since it was also an obedience weekend, new member **Carl Nagatoshi** took a 2nd in Novice A with **Joylet's Maid of Honor, Betty Brask** took 3rd in Open B with **Duke (BJ's That's My Boy, UD)** and **Moke** got 1st place and a 1st leg in Utility A with **Jacey (Ch Kalaniakea's Casey's Gem, CDX)**.

On Sunday for our own specialty, **Charlotte** picked up where she left off with **Willy** taking WD again. **Frank and Michael's** new girl Sharon (**Kalaniakea Rose of Sharon**) took the points for WB and BOW. Then, for the icing on the cake, **Willy's** mom **Wrigley (Ch Sunbeam's Double Gum)** took the Breed beating out **Robbie** who went BOS.

In the obedience ring, **Betty Brask** took 1st in Open B with **Duke**. Everybody else just wanted to forget the day. That's obedience.

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii
November 23, 2003

Open B Kalaniakeas Hit da Road Jack, UD,
1stplace, 198.5 (W. Kupau) HIT

Hilo Obedience Training Club
December 7, 2003

Open B Kalaniakeas Hit da Road Jack, UD, 2nd
place, 198 (W. Kupau)

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii Agility Trial
January 10, 2004

Preferred Jumpers w/weave Chelsea Nunokawa, 1
lace, 100 points, 33.55 seconds (Thom)

Obedience Training Club of Hawaii Agility Trial
January 11, 2004

Preferred Jumpers w/weave Mitsu, 2nd place
(Nakamura)

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Show and Trial Results (Continued from Page 4)**West Oahu Kennel Club****January 17, 2004**

WD	Perrecca Grenada (Taft)
WB, BOW	Shardust La Femme Nikita (Ketcham & Perreira)
BOB, Gr. 1	Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder (M. Kupau & Fukuyama)

West Oahu Kennel Club**January 18, 2004**

WD, BOW	Harmony's And Away We Go (Strassberg)
WB	Shardust La Femme Nikita (Ketcham & Perreira)
BOB, Gr. 2	Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder (M. Kupau & Fukuyama)

Aloha State Sporting Dog Association**January 24, 2004**

WD	Karizma's Willy Wonka (Farmer)
RWD	Perrecca Grenada (Taft)
WB, BOW	Shardust La Femme Nikita (Ketcham & Perreira)
BOB	Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder (M. Kupau & Fukuyama)

Obedience

Novice A	Joylet's Maid of Honor, 2 nd place, 188 (Nagatoshi)
Open B	BJ's That's My Boy, UD, 3 rd place, 182 (Dancil & Brask)
Utility A	Ch Kalaniakea's Casey's Gem, CDX, 1 st place, 192 (Strassberg)

Golden Retriever Club of Hawaii**January 25, 2004**

WD	Karizma's Willy Wonka (Farmer)
RWD	Suntory N Shardust Sweetest Taboo (Perreira)
WB, BOW	Kalaniakea Rose of Sharon (Suchomel & Kupau)
BOB	Ch Sunbeam's Double Gum (Farmer)
BOS &	Ch Abelard's Boy Wonder (M. Kupau & Fukuyama)

Obedience

Open B	BJ's That's My Boy, UD, 1 st place, 177.5 (Dancil & Brask)
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Upcoming Events

February 14,15	Orchid Island Dog Fancier Club, Hilo
February 22 nd	Obedience Training Club of Hawaii, Thomas Square
March 6 th , 7 th	Hawaiian Kennel Club Show, Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
April 10 th , 11 th	Windward Hawaiian Dog Fanciers, King Intermediate
April 24 th , 25 th	Valley Isle Kennel Club of Maui
May 8 th , 9 th	Hawaii Pet Expo

TOP 10 Pet Dog Peeves About Their Humans

(submitted by Lei Seymour)

1. Blaming your farts on me...not funny...NOT

funny!

2. Yelling at me for barking... I AM A DOG YOU ID-IOT!

3. Taking me for a walk, then NOT letting me check/sniff stuff out? Just exactly whose walk is this anyway? Get a clue!

4. Any trick that involves balancing food on my nose... STOP IT!

5. Any haircut involving bows or ribbons. NOW you know why we chew your stuff up when you're not here.

6. The sleight of hand, fake fetch throw. You must really be happy with yourself, you fooled a dog! WOW..What a proud moment for the top of the food chain, you PIN HEAD!

7. Taking me to the vet for "the big snip", then acting surprised when I FREAK OUT every time we go back. I only wish that I could return the favor....

8. Getting upset when I sniff the crotches of your guests. Sorry, but I haven't quite mastered the handshake/verbal introduction thing yet.

9. How you act disgusted when I lick myself. Look, we BOTH know the truth behind this one... YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS.

10. What's up with the stupid dog sweaters? Have you noticed the fur? HELLOOOOOO.....!!

It's been Said

"A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor, big or small, young or old. He doesn't care if you're not smart, not popular, not a good joke-teller, not the best athlete, nor the best-looking person. To your dog, you are the greatest, the smartest, the nicest human being who was ever born. You are his friend and protector." Louis Sabin

"A dog has excellent hearing, but sometimes he decides not to listen." Sylvia Kreng

"A dog is a smile and a wagging tail. What is in between doesn't much matter." Clara Ortega

A dog is better than I am, for he has love and does not judge." Abba Xanthias

"A dog is like an eternal Peter Pan, a child who never grows old and who therefore is always available to love and be loved." Aaron Katcher, M.D.

"A dog is not 'almost human,' and I know of no greater insult to the canine race than to describe it as such." John Holmes