



# GDF Suncoast Puppy Raisers Newsletter June 2017



Suncoast Puppy Raisers

*Puppy Saturday Meeting*

*Date: June 24*

*Where: Hillsborough County Courthouse*

*Coffee shop*

*800 E. Twiggs Tampa, 33602*

*Time: 11:00am*

Hi everyone,

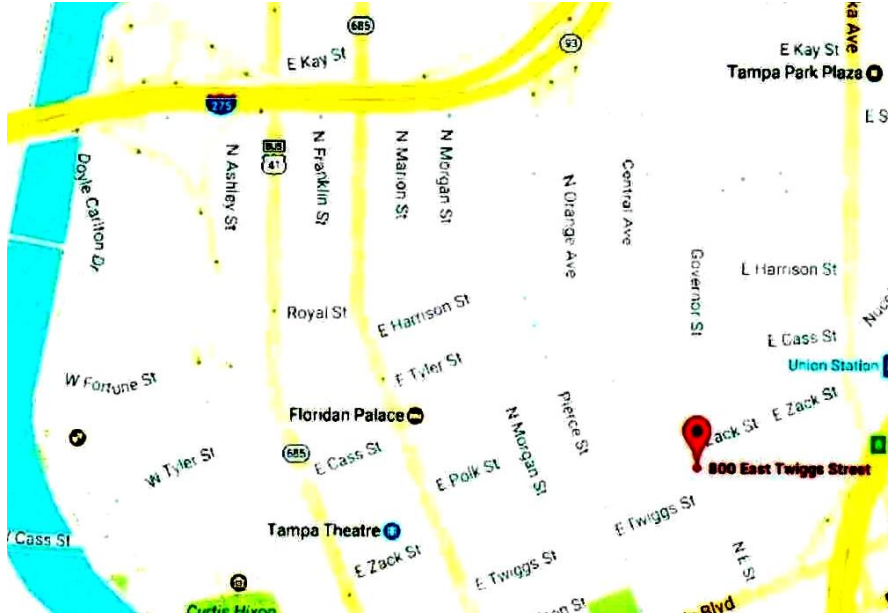
As you will read further in this newsletter, you will find that our puppy raiser group is going through a period of transition. We sent 5 pups in for training in April which left us with only two, and we are losing our long term sub group leaders, Donna and Don Thompson as they are moving to Jacksonville. Chuck and I felt this was the perfect time to make any changes.

The biggest change is we are moving our regularly scheduled monthly meeting from the second Saturday of the month to the fourth Saturday of the month. Next, we have not determined how we are going to handle our sub group meetings as of yet. We will let you know when we have figured it out.

The location for the next meeting will be at my coffee shop inside the courthouse. Our newest pup will be very young and not up to any advanced types of experiences so this will be a casual meeting. It will also be a perfect setting for our more experienced raisers to share information with some of the new people. So yes, even if you don't have a puppy, we would like for you to attend. Besides, I will be providing complimentary lunch and beverages.

**Directions:** There are many ways to get here depending on where you are coming from; I will give the directions from I275 northbound thru Tampa. If you need help from a different direction call or email Chuck.

Take I275 north thru Tampa to the downtown Ashley Drive Scott street exit. Stay in left lane of this exit to Scott street go straight on Scott to Jefferson/Orange street, turn right on Jefferson follow main traffic lanes they will make an s and street will turn into Pierce street stay on Pierce to Twiggs turn left on Twiggs go 1 block and



**Debbie and Maddox tour GDF September 2011. Debbie feels like we are at a new beginning with so many changes to the group it is a good time to reflect on where we came from.**

Court House will be on your left park on Jefferson or Twiggs. Do not pay the meters they are not in effect on the weekends around the courthouse.

Chuck or someone else will be by the Lady Liberty statue to give you directions on going thru security and going to cafeteria on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

### *Last Month*

Although we did not have an official Puppy Meeting in May, Chuck and I were very busy. First, Chuck got to meet Tommy, Karen Killen's new pup as they met for dinner at Chili's. Tommy is a yellow Lab that is sure to capture some hearts. Next, we did a home visit with Gail Bradford in Hudson. Gail has raised 6 times previously, twice with Guiding Eyes and then 4 times with us under Southeastern. She is a part time teacher and while she is on summer break, it was the perfect time for her to start raising a puppy. So the request was put in and if all goes well she will be picking up Murphy, a Golden Retriever on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Next, we would like to welcome Pam and Wayne Lyle and Susan and Eric Urbach to the group. Pam and Wayne are first time puppy raisers living in Gulf Port and Susan and Eric have raised 6 times, also twice for The Seeing Eye and 4 times with Southeastern. They have taken a break from raising to settle into their new home on Reddington Beach but are ready to get started in July with a pup. Welcome everyone and we are looking forward to working with you.

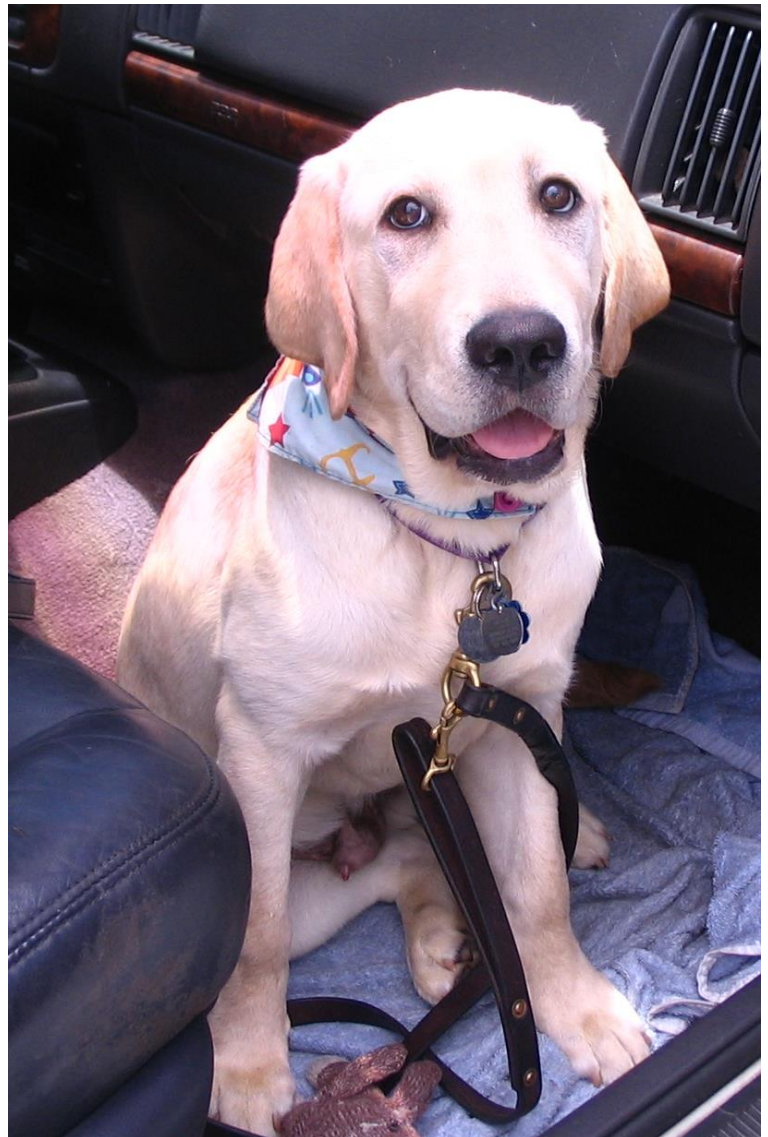
### *Group Up Dates*

Francis and Paul Lucas have returned from their 2 month travels visiting their children. They are also new grandparents twice over since the trip started so they have been very busy. Francis plans to be home only a short while and then she is off to England to visit her mother, who, unfortunately is having some health issues. We hope your trip goes well. Francis expects to be ready for a puppy some time in the fall.

Eileen Newsome is planning to move to Minnesota in the fall so she will not be raising again with us. Carmon, one of the pups she raised went back to GDF and became a breeder. Carmon had 10 puppies which are now ready to be placed, Eileen was hoping to be able to raise one, but now



**Above; Debbie and Maddox in front of Guide Dog Statue at GDF September 2011. Below; the newest Suncoast pup, Tommy being raised by Karen Killen.**



maybe someone else in our group will be lucky enough to get one. Eileen hopes to visit with the group in July or August to have a chance to say “good-bye.”

Don and Donna Thompson have been doing a lot of traveling back and forth from Jacksonville as they prepare for their relocation there. They do have an offer on their house in St. Pete and just waiting for the usual financing and closing to become final. Sunny, has been having lots of fun traveling back and forth with them as well. She is not due to go in for training until September. I made the Thompsons promise they will get with us once more before they make their final move. Donna and Don, we owe you such a big THANK YOU for all your dedication as group leaders and raisers. We will miss you VERY much! But, as the saying goes, when one door closes another one opens.

## *Training Up Dates*

We are happy to report that all the pups this group has sent to NY the last couple of months are doing well. We got their training reports and all are progressing to where they should be for the stages of training they are in. We hope they keep their noses to the training grindstone, so in the next couple of months we can be announcing their graduations! Good luck to all and good job puppy raisers for following the program and sending quality pups in for training.

We are also happy to report Ivan the pup who was having health issues is also doing well. The medications seem to have the seizures controlled. GDF also has a permanent home for him. Some pups just grab your heart and he grabbed Debbie's, probably because the first time she met him was in the middle of our monthly meeting and with all the commotion going on around him he curled up in her lap and went to sleep. Way to suck up to the boss Ivan. So we are very happy to report he is doing well.

## *Training Tips*

Deana Izzo, our regional field representative for GDF has been nice enough to offer us a series of her training tips to share with our puppy raisers. Her Last month's training tip was on house manners, which you can review by going to : [www.suncoastpup.org](http://www.suncoastpup.org), access newsletters; May 2017. Below is this month's training tip on “Puppy Camps”

Puppy camps are an intricate part of our program. Camps may be a few hours or several weeks in length. There are many reasons why a camp is needed. It could be so someone can study for an exam or when they go on vacation or an externship. We also have mandatory 2 week camps that are to be done around 12 months of age. No matter the reason, we use campers a lot.

Puppies act differently when in the care of someone they do not know. They may try and make you think that it's ok for them to do, or not do, things you know they should or shouldn't do. For example, a pup may try and convenience you that they don't busy on concrete or that they are allowed on the furniture. All our raisers know, and abide by, the rules outlined in the puppy manual you have read. This is a pup's way of testing the waters. Be steadfast in what you know the pup knows and do not judge what you think the raiser may or may not have done. If you have any problems, please check with your AC or myself.

During a camp, it is your responsibility as the care taker to ensure that the dog doesn't destroy anything or ingest any foreign objects.

By the phrase “destroy anything”, we are referring to walls, carpet, puppy coat, leash or any other objects that a pup should not eat. As the care taker, you are responsible for replacement of any objects eaten. The raiser is not responsible to replace any destroyed items while the pup is in your care.

By the phrase “ingest any foreign objects”, we are referring to things such as fabric, rocks, or any other objects that could cause a blockage requiring surgery.

During the camp, we want an honest look at the dog from a different perspective. Look at the soundness (do you notice any fears), house manners and controllability of the dog (what does it take to control the dog in areas with varying level of distractions).

When you start a camp, it's probably going to be with a dog you do not know. Don't bring them home and leave them out of the crate for 2 hours alone, that's not being a responsible handler or being fair to the dog. You want to first bond with the dog, get to know them before you wean them into the evaluation.

At the end of the camp when you are filling out the camp report, we don't want to know about something that was done or see only once, we are looking at the overall view of the dog, not a snap shot of a moment in time, unless it's something that was really bad. For example, the first day of the camp the dog peeing in your home. Ask yourself if you set them up for success. Did you busy them before entering your home? Were they really excited and maybe you should have given them another chance to busy after being home for 5-15 minutes. If they chewed a stuffed toy, was it left where they maybe thought it was a toy for them?

You have a huge responsibility when camping another dog. We want you to be honest in what you saw in the dog but always be sure to set them up for success.

Deana Izzo

Good words of wisdom Deana, and everything she mentioned has happened to us whenever we've taken care of someone else's puppy. No matter the age of the pup, they will always surprise you by doing something you know the puppy raiser would never allow in their home, like jumping on the bed or tipping over the garbage can. Dogs are like children and they will always test the limits. So go back to the basics and assume the dog you are camping knows nothing. That way you will be ready for their antics.

## Barking Barbeque

Karen Killen shops at Royal Pets by her house in Clearwater so she sent us this add for a customer appreciation event at their 3 area locations also on the 24th. If any of you shop with them it looks like a fun event. So after our meeting stop in for a hot dog!

Hope to see you all on the 24<sup>th</sup>. You're Area Coordinators Debbie & Chuck Hietala

**ROYAL PETS MARKET & RESORT**

**ROYAL BARKIN' BBQ**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24<sup>th</sup>**

**11AM-4PM • DOOR BUSTER SALES! HOT DOGS**

**SUMMER SAFETY BOOTH • VENDORS • PET TATTOOS**

Today's Menu  
**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY**  
BBQ

**BEST SALES OF THE YEAR!**

**FREE SUMMER PET PHOTOS!**

**GET \$5 IN BARK BUCKS FOR EVERY \$50 YOU SPEND!**

**SPIN THE PRIZE WHEEL EVERY PET WINS!**

Palm Harbor: 33550 US 19 North, Palm Harbor, FL 34684, Phone: 727.269.5344  
Carrollwood: 16010 Mapledale Blvd., Carrollwood, FL 33624, Phone: 813.448.6744  
St. Pete: 2195 66th St. North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710, Phone: 727.300.5005



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