



GRREAT NEWS

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Being an MCI Center Volunteer!

By GRREAT Volunteer Susie Barefoot

Three years ago, I was looking for a way to help with GRREAT fundraising, and saw an article in the newsletter about volunteering at the MCI Center. I work downtown near the Center, so this seemed like a good thing to try.

I called Lori Bott and talked to her about the time involved and responsibilities. Then I talked to my boss who readily agreed that taking off an hour early to go to the MCI Center to help raise funds for GRREAT was a worthwhile endeavor.

Since that time, I have worked many, many hockey games and have developed a cadre of regular customers. We arrive at the Center at 5 p.m. and begin the "set-up" routine—bagging popcorn, chips, and hot dogs. We put out cups and lids by the registers, make coffee, and fill the bins up with ice. Each of us takes a few minutes to eat before the doors open.

The kitchen is staffed by employees of the Center and we usually work with the same kitchen team and stand manager. Once the game is about to start, the kitchen is humming with activity. We sell burgers, chicken strips, fries, nachos, pretzels, hot dogs, soft drinks, and lots and lots of beer. And yes, it's true that pouring a beer without foam is an accomplished art!

I was somewhat intimidated about working a cash register and making change, but it couldn't be easier—when someone orders a hot dog, you push the "hot dog" button on the register.

You enter the amount tendered and the register does the math. Besides, you have friends around you to help and they'll have you working like a pro in no time.

Once the third period begins, we begin to store items away and clean up the stand. We are ready to leave around the time the game is ending. Sometimes, there is enough time to sit in the stands and watch the final minutes of the game.

We have been fortunate to work some of the best sold-out concerts, from Shania Twain and the Dixie Chicks to Paul McCartney and Elton John. We try to have enough staff at the concerts to take turns working a register and viewing the concert. If everyone donated an evening or two per month during hockey season, or offered to work during a concert, GRREAT would benefit enormously.

By the time I arrive home, my feet inform me that it has been a long day, but I also realize that the time has passed quickly, because I have had so much fun and enjoyed the camaraderie of my fellow volunteers. I have traded email addresses and phone numbers with other volunteers and gathered thoughtful advice about caring for my dogs. While these efforts have contributed valuable dollars to the GRREAT coffers, the return investment in my life is invaluable.

Join us at the MCI Center. It's fun, it's easy, and the rewards are tremendous! 🐾

Please call Pam at 301.808.0734 or send an e-mail to pam-lori@juno.com for information or to volunteer.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

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GRREAT, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization dedicated to the rescue, foster care, and placement of Golden Retrievers in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Delaware and parts of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I would like to tell you about a GRREAT living legend. His name is Leo. Leo was turned over to GRREAT in 1996, at 10 months of age. He was a typical loving (and lovable) Golden Retriever puppy, except that he couldn't stand for more than a few minutes without falling down. Leo had dysplasia in both hips and needed surgery. Because no one would want to adopt a dog that couldn't stand up, putting Leo down was even considered. Needless to say, his future was very uncertain. But the GRREAT Board of Directors looked deep in his eyes, and voted to do the surgery. However, with financial constraints, finding the funds to do the surgery was a problem. Luck was once again on Leo's side when an orthopedic surgeon donated a substantial part of his fee because Leo was a rescued Golden. Leo underwent two surgeries within two weeks. During his recovery time, showing a typical Golden personality, he never nipped, growled, or whimpered. All his foster home, Skip and Deb Nizer, ever saw was "that friendly Golden face, followed by a full body wag with his tail high in the air!"

Leo had hip dysplasia
and needed surgery.
Because no one would
want to adopt a dog
that couldn't stand up,
putting Leo down was
even considered... His
future was uncertain.

Leo was eventually adopted by the Allen family, who recently wrote:

Leo is doing just great. He will turn nine this October. He is grey in the face, but still plays like a pup. He has been in good health, and the only mark his hip surgery has left is an inability to swim, so he needs a chaperone when we go to the ocean. Leo has brought our family many years of love and joy. He is fantastic with our children, who can try the patience of the best of dogs. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to GRREAT and the Nizers for bringing this terrific dog into our lives. Thanks so much! We will never forget.

Leo's story managed to touch more than a few hearts when his story was first published in the GRREAT News. Jean Kahl was so moved by Leo's story, that she made a donation to start the Leo Fund for GRREAT dogs in need of major surgery.

Today, the stories of Golden helped by the Leo Fund continue to uplift and inspire us. In my own home, two Golden have benefited from your generous Leo Fund contributions. The GRREAT website currently highlights Marty, who came into GRREAT after he had been hit by a car. Donations made to the Leo Fund were used for his surgery, and funds from the Simile-Finale Fund are paying for the physical therapy that will ensure a complete recovery.

Marty is only one of several Golden currently recovering from orthopedic surgeries in foster homes or who are scheduled for surgery in the near future.

Everyone wants GRREAT to always be available to aid injured, abused, neglected, sick, and unwanted Golden. We want to continue to provide extraordinary medical care for every Golden that comes into GRREAT. Unfortunately, the number of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March 20, 2004
Golden Happy Tails Hour
Before & After; Paws Pet
Boutique, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Annapolis, MD

April 3, 2004
Adoption Day
PetCo, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Vienna, VA

May 8, 2004
Adoption Day
PetCo, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Annapolis, MD

May 22, 2004
Annual GRREAT Picnic
and Winetasting
Tarara Winery
Leesburg, VA

For directions to Adoption Days, see page 11. For more information on the Golden Happy Tails Hour, see page 13; for the Annual GRREAT Picnic and Winetasting, see page 20.

Saving Golden Just got Easier!

GRREAT is happy to announce the introduction of online giving and membership renewals! Through this new section of the Web site, you can now make your tax-deductible donation or become a member instantly on your home computer. Thanks to GRREAT webmaster, Bob Fritz, you can even purchase tickets for the annual picnic and winetasting with just a few clicks of the mouse! Visit www.grreat.org/donate to find out more.

Dog Care Exchange

When you are going out of town, do you have a trustworthy person to care for your dog? If the answer is “no,” would you be willing to care for another GRREAT member's dog in return?

Consider adding your name to the list of other dog lovers interested in exchanging dog care. You'll have the comfort of knowing a friendly, reliable person is looking after your dog while you're away. GRREAT member Sheila Cohen is compiling the list, so please contact her by phone if you are interested: 301.652.0995.

Golden Opportunity!

The GRREAT News is looking for some talented individuals to assist with everything from column ideas to proofing to feature writing! No experience is necessary—all that is required is a sense of humor and a willingness to help out. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to newsletter@grreat.org.

Cool Web Site!

Denver Hound Hikers is a dog hiking service in Colorado that provides active dogs with vigorous outdoor adventures. In addition to hikes, they also provide dog walking, dog park trips, and in-home pet sitting services. Check them out at www.denverhoundhikers.com. Be sure to go to the galleries for funny, floppy, furry photos.

Meet Marty

By GRREAT Foster Fay Jenkins

I first met Marty at the animal shelter in Martinsburg, WV (hence his name) on December 22. I agreed to pick him up and transport him to Blue Ridge Veterinary Hospital in Purcellville. He had been hit by a car on Friday evening. His injuries were so severe he could not stand, not even to relieve himself, so he also suffered the indignity of having to urinate and defecate on himself.

Both of his hips were broken, his lungs were bruised, and most of the skin on his belly and private parts had been scraped off from the impact with the car and being dragged along the highway. On December 26, Marty had surgery to repair the four fractures in his hips. The left hip joint had to be removed and the right side had to be plated and screwed back together. But by December 29, he was ready to leave the hospital and I decided to be his foster mom.

After weeks of confinement except for toilet duties, Marty was able to hobble around on three legs. In an effort to reduce the pain he was obviously experiencing, GRREAT purchased a TENS (Transcutaneous Electric Nerve Stimulation) device to use twice a day for 30 minutes. I also did “stretch and pull” exercises three times a day. Throughout the entire recovery process, Marty has been a most compliant and cooperative patient. Stretching his left leg is painful and he looks at me as if to say “please stop that—it hurts.”

Five weeks after surgery, Marty had not regained the use of his left leg. He still could not bear any weight on that hip and his toes curled under, which could be a sign of neurological damage. His surgeon is hopeful that the nerve will regenerate itself in time and he that will



15-month-old Marty came to GRREAT after being hit by a car.

eventually regain use of his leg. However, the muscle mass in his left leg could be so diminished by then that the nerve won't have a muscle to move. If Marty does not regain use of the leg, he faces amputation.

Instead of taking the “wait and see” approach, GRREAT elected to seek an alternative method of therapy for Marty. He is now receiving PST (Pulsed Signal Therapy), in an effort to reduce the scar tissue, which will help eliminate the pain and thereby increase his range of motion in his left hip. He is also doing underwater treadmill therapy three times a week, which forces him to use his left leg.

Marty will now bear weight on his left leg, even with his toes curled under. I've noticed a slight flex in the leg muscle when he occasionally straightens his left foot and uncurls his toes. This leads me to believe that the alternative therapy is working and that Marty will regain the use of his left leg sooner rather than later!

Needless to say, Marty's hip surgery was expensive, but GRREAT was well aware of that fact when they elected to rescue him. They elected to seek alternative therapy for him at considerable cost, and, as Marty's foster mom, I am most grateful. 🐾

To make a donation to support Marty's care, please use the form on page 19 and use the notation “for Marty.” Thank You!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Cont'd from page 3

donations to GRREAT have declined significantly in the past few months. The Board of Directors continues to be as conservative as possible in decisions regarding dogs that need orthopedic surgeries and other medical care. While we are exploring other options to help build our financial resources, they remain uncertain. So I am turning to you: please take a moment, and look into your heart and the eyes of your Golden. Then consider making a donation to help GRREAT. Each donation, goes directly for the care of the dogs we take in. Without the generosity of our members, and the community, we cannot continue this vital work of making their lives better the second time around for Golden Retrievers like Leo! Thank you!

Kim Wiff



The pup who started it all: Legendary Leo (right), pictured here with foster mom Deb Nizer and his forever family, the Allens, at GoldStock 2003.

LEO'S CORNER

Leo's Pals (up to \$99)

Kelly and Scott Daniels
Ricki Ernest
Idalia Fernandez
Cheryl and Stephen Ferrone
Leslie Thornton

Golden Heroes (\$100-\$499)

Jim and Ginny Hayes
Joe O'Neill
Carl Kerby and Jeanne O'Donoghue
Jo and Yvonne Kinkaid
Gary Greenwood
Barbara Boyd
Louis and Teri Stachowiak

Golden Angels (\$500 or more)

Krista and Robert Maslyn

In memory of Bailey, not a GRREAT dog but a great Golden nonetheless! - *Barbara Boyd via Network for Good*

In memory of 'my Buddy' the first Golden love of my life. - *Ricki Ernest*

In memory of our GRREAT dog Holly's (98-153) best friend "Teddie" whose heart was pure Golden and whose presence is greatly missed. - *Cheryl and Stephen Ferrone*

Golden retrievers are our passion and we do what we can to help them. Those of you who do the hands-on work with these wonderful dogs deserve multiple tributes. Our warmest regards to everyone. - *Jim and Ginny Hayes*

In memory of Sunny, Lindy and Pooh, who we lost in November/December last year. Thank you for the memories!
- *Kelly and Scott Daniels*

Thank You for your Generous Donations!

Paula Abernethy
Peggy and Carl Allen
Ronald and Joan Apatoff
Kathy and Donald Ayres
Lila Barth
Carol Basham
Lee Beaton
Elysa and Igor Birman
Priscilla and John Borden
Ethel and Haddon Carryer
Beth and Chris Bogusky
Gail and Richard Calhoun
Arthur and Taeko Clendaniel
Sheila Cohen
Carolyn Cole
Patricia Collier
Rita Hope Counts
Curtis and Stephanie Dalpra
Karen and Charles Davis
Todd and Jennifer Dehart
Patricia and Robert Dickerson
Jennifer Friedman
Rick and Carol Gaskins
David and Sandy Gill
Priscilla Griffith
Melissa Guzman and Mary Mange
Louise Hansen and Shira Modell
Hud and Martie Heaton
Matt and Heather Hiserman
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Judy Lucas
Penny March
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Scott and Cindy Marble
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Suzanne Murphy
Jason Newman and Angela Allevi
Joe and Judy Niebauer
Joyce and Bill Noble
Brenda Pascal
Kelly Paskoski
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Tess and Tracy Provenzano
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Mary Lou and George Siegle
Alan and Michele Smith
Wayne Steinhilber
Christopher and Lori Summers
Kathy Thomas
Veterinary Specialty Center of Delaware
Daniel Volchok and Kathleen Keller
Thomas and Theresa White
Jay and Kathleen Witkin

DONATIONS

In Honor Of..

Mary Chapin Carpenter's birthday (February 21).
- *Michael Rhoads*

Nancy Bender and her dog, Chance.
- *Douglas and Chrystie Adams*

Ida Bergstrom, for allowing us to adopt our wonderful, lovable and loving dog, Bella (03-128).
- *Jon Rolf and Meredith Pearson*

Harma Nyhof and Ted Ritter.
- *Jude and Margaret Boyne*

Demetrio Guerrero and Sandra Rutan, foster family for our Sarah (03-137). On the day we adopted Sarah, I was conflicted due to the fact that we were scheduled to go on vacation in three weeks and was concerned about yet another change of environment for our newly adopted Golden. Demetrio and Sandra offered to take Sarah back into their home for the week we went on vacation, saying she was no problem and the familiar surroundings would be best for Sarah. What a kind thing to do for Sarah's well-being, not to mention our peace of mind knowing our new family member was in wonderful hands in our absence. - *Tana Armstrong*

Pam and Lori, who do such a GRREAT job of coordinating the MCI Center volunteer effort. I only wish the Caps and Wizards were having a better season—since more seats filled means more money for GRREAT! - *Kathy Thomas*

All MCI and Patriot Center volunteers, but especially Lori and Pam! - *Bridget and Eric Cooper*

BISS CH Bargellos Golly G's Louise SH, CDX, TD, MX, AXJ, WCX, VCX, OD 13th Birthday!
- *Mary Swinson*

Desi (03-265). She's a very lucky girl to be recovering under the watchful eyes and caring hearts of Phil and Janet Hauck. God bless GRREAT and the Haucks for their support and devotion to Golden in need. - *Karen and Dave Mergerian*

Three remarkable Golden who have immeasurably enriched our lives. - *Mary Grumbine*

Farah (99-057)—Our Golden Girl.
- *Michael, Susan, and Brianna Sanders*

Rose and Winston. - *Elaine Feidelman*

My lab Buffy, whose health expenses show the need for the Leo Fund. - *Nancy Hamilton*

Jake (03-221), the beautiful senior I adopted in November. He is a joy! - *Jim Wilmoth*

Sofie. - *Lisa Bratt*

Morgan (98-133). The joy of our lives!
- *Anita and John Funk*

Bailey (98-167), our Golden/border collie mix who brightens each day, and to thank GRREAT for the wonderful work they do for these precious dogs.
- *Kristin Simanek*

Shadow (94-172). We don't know how old he is, but he's great! - *Charles and Wendy Heinz*

Zoe, our little red Golden girl. - *Mark Ketterman*

Please use this donation to make a better world for the many GRREAT dogs in your care. I would like the funds to be used within the calendar year 2004 to directly benefit the dogs through special veterinary services and surgery needs, spay/neuter, specialty diets, and long term care for the dogs that are ill or special needs. Please feel free to share this fund among your special surgery and care funds as you see the need. Thank you for the all of the work that your organization does on behalf of the many homeless Golden that need our help.
- *Kathleen and Kerry Skeen*

In Memory Of...

Our good friend John Sidgmore. John loved all dogs, but he was especially fond of Golden Retrievers and, in particular, he really loved his own Golden Retriever, Dewey. We don't know if John knew about GRREAT, but we are sure that he would really appreciate the comfort you bring to both the dogs and their families. We know that John would approve of all the happiness you bring to our community. If at all possible, we would like you to earmark these funds to nurse sick Golden Retrievers back to health. Thank you for everything you do.
- *Fran, Mike, and Ben Simon*

My grandmother Kathryn Muller, who taught me the joy of animals and Jennie, my first fur friend.
- *Christine McCreary*

Cassie Hodges and all other GRREAT dogs who crossed over the rainbow in 2003. - *Mary Ginn*

Simon! He was a fabulous Golden and a faithful companion of Jennifer Friedman.
- *Mary Constantino*

Duchess, SPLASH, and Chester.
- *Al and Teresa Blumberg*

Our sweet Golden, Barnum, who left us 2/3/03.
- *Sharon and Bill Coale*

Chester (the greatest Golden ever.) His Daddy and I miss him every day. - *Melissa and Jeff Dwyer*

Alex Chuba. - *Thomas and Kathy Chuba*

Chelsea. - *GT Ludwig*

Our dear Max (97-171), gone from us two years now. Your "sweet Golden affection" is still missed.
- *Richard and Jule Ann Cheslock*

Cassie (97-045). - *Jeff Joseph and Lisa Merman*

Rocky (00-096), who has joined his mother Rusty (00-097) at the Rainbow Bridge. Rocky and Rusty were rescued by and cared for the rest of their lives by our GRREAT neighbors Barbara and Russell Stephens. - *Rick Stevens and Julie Palais*

Shorty (95-025), the best little red boy ever. We miss you. - *Stephen and Kristina Hays*

Our beloved Popeye.
- *Thomas and Donna Frankhouser*

Ducker (Long Pond's Just Ducky). This well-loved Golden belonged to Jane and John Bishop.
- *Elaine Laube*

In memory of our "earlier generation" Golden Retrievers who have since crossed the Rainbow Bridge: Matt, Cleo, Alex and Miles. We look forward to helping GRREAT achieve continued success in the New Year. - *Ralph and Jondelle Truitt*

For Marty...



Everyone at Berkeley County Animal Control wants to say thank you so much for picking up the injured Golden Retriever from our facility before Christmas and for taking such good care of him. Animal Control is a tough job especially when we get wonderful animals that have no one to claim them. You made the job a little easier and we appreciate all that you do. We were so glad that this fabulous dog could be helped and has a chance for a new home.
- *Brad Sheppard, Staff BCAC, and Autumn Kercheval*

For Marty. - *Joy Scrimshire*

DONATIONS

For the New Year's Eve Puppies...

Roger's Rescue, Somerset, NJ

The pups all went to great homes! Thanks so much for healthy puppies. - *Karen Sulley and NJ Puppy Rescue*



Other Donations...

To thank GRREAT and all its volunteers for the terrific work they all do and for bringing me Nic (02-301), my best companion. - *Jim LeBlanc*

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT for our Howliday Christmas Party reservation for two. Sorry we were not able to attend. - *Sharon Strike*

In honor of all GRREAT volunteers. - *Vicki Eurice*

Please put this contribution wherever you think that it will do the most good. Best wishes for the new year and thanks for all the miracles you make happen. I have my own special miracle named Bailey. - *Linda Young*

To thank everyone who helped us adopt Shadow (03-175) in October 2003. - *Nancy and Richard Hughes*

We were unable to attend the Christmas party because of the weather. Wish we could have. We adopted Sally (03-057) in October. She is doing great. She goes for long walks and loves to hike. - *Lorraine and Patrick Sterrett*

In honor of Shadow and in memory of Sandy, our great Golden. - *John Powell*

In loving memory of Chincoteague and Bourbon and fosters Custer, Alex and Tawney and in appreciation of all the hard work put in by the MCI volunteers.

- *Lori Bott and Pam Briggie*

Thank you, Georgie Bahler, for all the good advice you gave to me and to other Golden lovers and foster parents through the years. And, thank you GRREAT for all the wonderful work you do. Because of GRREAT, I know I have saved a few dogs by sending people to rescue leagues or animal shelters instead of to pet shops. Keep up the good work. God bless you all. - *Jo Dempsey*

To thank Joyce Page for our Rusty (99-192).

- *Linda and Jim Kuhn*

In honor of Jake and Blondie, and in memory of Bear.

- *Tom and Marylou Janczuk*

For Breezy Radt. - *Jan Robertson and Bob Pauls*

To thank Deb and Skip Nizer for being terrific foster parents. We adopted Hoss (03-170) in August and we are very grateful for the love and medical attention they gave him. He's an absolute joy and we're loving every minute with him. Thanks! - *Alice and Jim Seegers*

Thanks for allowing me to be a part of your wonderful organization, even though I can't have a dog—yet.

- *Joe and Joann Lamp*

In honor of Samson (99-133) fostered by Lesleigh Cook.

In memory of Duke (94-?) fostered by Linda Woods.

- *Judith Grant*

For vet bills for Maggie Mae (03-235). - *L. Sidney Morris*

For spay expenses for Rusty (04-020).

- *King George Animal Rescue League*

For the vet bill of Bridget (Walsh) Bradley. Many thanks to you and especially Edie Galpin. She's a real savior.

- *John and Lisa Walsh*

On behalf of Eric MacDonald. - *Firaxis Games*

Ongoing Donations received from...

Sam Connelly, for proceeds from handmade items sold at the Howliday Party

Rochelle Lesser, as a function of her Honest Kitchen's "May the FORCE be With You" and "Golden Greetings" PhotoCards program at www.Landofpuregold.com

iGive.com, representing a portion of sales designated to GRREAT

United Way of Central Maryland

Food Lion, from the Lionshop and Share program

Microsoft Giving Campaign, as a donation for adoption services as a gift from Bob and Carolyn Reagle and Ruby (99-237), our Golden girl.

Network for Good

Anonymous

Anonymous "In memory of Sam Sibarium."

Anonymous, "In memory of Rusty."

Anonymous, "For Linda Werfelman."

Anonymous, "In memory of Lucinda and

Jeff Twining's beloved Shiloh."

Barbara Peters "On behalf of Bette Dudley."

Mike Radt "For Judy and Breezy Radt."

Jennifer Radt, "For Judy Radt."

Debra Eskin, "On behalf of Pat Purfield."

Jean Mansavage, "For Callaway Semple."

Jimma Crockett, "For Dr. Kathryn M. Carbone."

A. Renee Callahan, "For Emily."

Michelle Swink, "In Honor of Tom and Becky Lane."

Deanna Edge

Mary Ann McFarland, "For special needs

Goldens—Amigo."

Jeffrey Twining, "In memory of our beloved Golden, Shiloh. Truly a Best Friend!"

Barbara Boyd, "In honor of Hollie, a great GRREAT Golden!"

Joanne Heininger, "In memory of Tuli."

Anne Thomas, "In memory of Alec, beloved friend of Ginny Rutter."

Chuck Otzel

Zeekee.com, for subscriber donations

America's Charities

JCI Inc., for proceeds from Animal Den web site

Pam Litton, who decorates dog cookies sold at Something Special in Stafford, VA.

Something Special in Stafford, VA, from the sales of donated craft items

Zack's Fund for Mobility Challenged Goldens...



Michelle Wiseman

In honor of Traveler 02-095, Chase 02-237. In memory of Maybe, whose spirit was indefatigable. - *Sharon McIlrath*

In honor of our beloved Argus.* - *Jeannie and Ken Blood*

Eddie's Wheels*

* The Bloods donated Argus' chariot and walk-about sling. Eddie's Wheels refers folks to donate useful items for mobility challenged dogs to GRREAT.

Simile-Finale Fund...

Stacy and John Duffy

In memory of Rusty. - *Tim White and Anna Alt-White*

...AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER

ADOPTION REPORT

The winter of 2003-2004 was full of snuggles, happiness, and warmth for 48 Golden retrievers adopted through mid-February. A total of 26 females and 22 males found their forever homes. Ten were under two years of age, 23 were between two and six years, and 15 were lucky seniors. Congratulations to the families who opened their hearts to these wonderful pets.

Statistics

Total – 48
Males – 22
Females – 26
Under age 2 – 10
Ages 2-6 – 23
Age 7 and over – 15

Name	ID	Age	Sex	Name	ID	Age	Sex
Abbey	03-240	5	F	Kelly	03-127	3	F
Annie	02-285	2	F	Maggie	03-211	9	F
Annie	03-134	3	F	Maggie	03-263	8	F
Bailey	03-243	6	M	Mollie Magee	03-257	4	F
Bandit	03-165	5	M	Nibbles	03-080	5	M
Barkley	03-237	1	M	Omar	03-249	1	M
Bear	03-131	2	M	Princess	03-087	10	F
Bella	03-132	1	F	Princess	03-259	8	F
Bo	03-275	5	M	Queenie	03-246	9	F
Bradley	03-260	1	M	Ranger	03-261	8	M
Bridget	03-283	8	F	Reenie	04-006	6	F
Casey	03-171	10	F	Riley	03-103	3	M
Casey	03-241	4	M	Riley	04-007	4	M
Chance	04-011	1	M	Sam	03-269	1	M
Clay	03-119	2	M	Sammy	03-242	8	M
Copper	03-061	3	M	Sandy	04-008	7	F
Daisy	03-228	1	F	Sasha	03-278	5	F
Daisy	03-287	1	F	Savannah	99-092	6	F
Freddie	03-053	4	M	Shadow	03-123	7	M
Genny	03-224	2	F	Shelby	04-010	8	F
Goldie	03-274	5	M	Snowy	03-227	1	F
Gracie	03-162	7	F	Suzy	03-245	9	F
Jake	03-282	2	M	Toby	03-262	8	M
Jessica	03-250	2	F	Wiggles	03-256	7 mo	F

Annual Business Meeting Highlights

On January 24, the GRREAT Board of Directors and 45 GRREAT members gathered for the annual business meeting. Each board member and coordinator gave a full report of their progress over the 2003 year. Here is some of important pieces of information shared:

- GRREAT celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2003. We have more than doubled our membership in the last ten years, with 1,201 members last year.
- Procuring rescue insurance has been difficult. The cost of new insurance will equate to \$4 per member.
- GRREAT had more than \$20,000 less income in 2003 than in 2002, due to higher vet bills and fewer donations.
- 720 applications for adoption were received in 2003, 580 of which were approved. Reasons for rejection included being out of our coverage area, having a child caretaker, or the intention to tie a dog outside.
- 305 dogs taken in (10 returned from previous years). 279 dogs were adopted. Seven were euthanized for aggression or extreme poor health.
- Even though we added 39 new foster homes, there is a serious need for new foster homes. Extended boarding placements and turning dogs down are the result of too few homes.
- The MCI project earned \$12,470 for GRREAT. These volunteers can still use donations of fare cards for our volunteers.
- The GRREAT website receives 20,000 hits per month. Hits come from as far away as Afghanistan and Zimbabwe.
- The following officers were elected: President–Kim Wiff; Vice President–Bob Kurtz; Secretary–Janet Hauck; and Treasurer–Gail Corby.

Our Beloved Valentine: The Greatest Gift

By Nancy Gasko

We were blessed in March 2003 with adopting Valentine (03-046) from GRREAT. He is a wonderful, loving 60-pound Golden that is the delight of our lives. He truly lives up to his name, because he steals your heart.

In early January 2003, my family was devastated by the sudden death of our beloved 13-year-old Golden named Bear. We knew the only thing that would ease our pain, would be to get another Golden. However, we had a long awaited European vacation planned in the spring, so we needed to wait until we got back to adopt our new dog. Knowing that we would want to get our Golden as soon as we got back from vacation, we submitted our application to GRREAT and received approval.

My husband Rick would visit the GRREAT web site from time to time. I warned him not to do this, because “you look and you will find.” And he did. When Valentine came up on the site, we immediately spotted him and he was certainly exactly what we were looking for. Before we knew it, we were calling the foster home and making plans to visit. Well, you can guess what happened next. It was love at first sight, and we became the proud new owners of Valentine.

As wonderful as it was to have found our Valentine, we now had the serious



Valentine loves his new home, furniture, and toys.

problem of what to do with him while we were on vacation. The last thing we wanted to do was further traumatize this young dog by keeping him three weeks and then turning him over to a kennel for three weeks. After spending a long weekend making many inquiries about the “best” kennels, we were delighted to learn that Doug and Marilyn Reedy (his former GRREAT foster family) had decided to take Valentine back into their home while we went away. We can't thank them enough for their generosity.

It has been a year now and I can't begin to tell you how adored our Valentine is. Suffice it to say he is my big lap dog and he loves his new home as much as we love him. Valentine is a real joy and we will be forever thankful to GRREAT for rescuing this precious Golden and letting us be apart of his life. 🐾

ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

April 3, 2004

PETCO, Noon – 2 p.m.
1929 Old Gallows Road
Vienna, VA 22182
Ph: 703.448.3401

From 495, take Rt. 7 towards Tyson's Corner. PetCo will be on the left, near the Best Buy and Borders Book Store.

May 8, 2004

PETCO, Noon – 2 p.m.
2319-D Forest Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
Ph: 410.224.8323

From Rt. 50 East, take the Aris T. Allen Blvd. exit. Then take the first exit (for Riva Road). At the first stop light, turn left. At the next stop light, turn right into the Festival at Riva Road Shopping Center. PetCo is near the Giant.

GRREAT assumes no responsibility for the above directions. Please call the individual businesses listed to verify the route from your address.

The newsletter would love to feature you Happily Ever After story! Please contact us at newsletter@grreat.org for more information.

BOOK REVIEW

116 Ways to Spoil Your Dog

By Margaret Svete

Hyperion Press (2001);

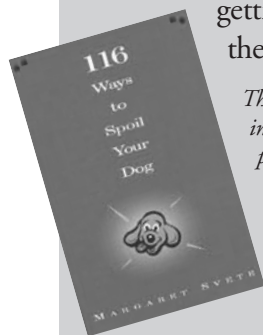
ISBN: 0786886420 ;

Paperback, 224 pages, \$12.95

As if we needed more ideas on how to pamper our beloved Fuzzbutts, along comes this playful treasure that shows you exactly how to treat your furry friend like the royalty he is. With the help of this one-stop shopping guide for doggie delights, your dog will be thoroughly pampered every day of the year. It's got everything: doggie biscotti, jewelry, designer collars, doggie dishware, canine cashmere, and more! I even learned the "correct" way to tie a bandana on a dog. There's a great chapter on toys (including stuffed toys that hold up under pressure) and a helpful chapter on the tools and toys for dogs with disabilities. Svete has researched everything you can think of, from travel tips to medical and spa services and each chapter concludes with a list of resources (URLs and phone numbers). As this book tells us, it's a dog's life, and it's

getting better all the time.

The author is donating 100% of her profits from sales of this book to animal charities across the country.



ASK GOLDIE

Dear Goldie:

My husband and I are having problems with our Golden's chewing. She is six months old. We just started leaving her out of her crate for a few hours at a time while we run errands. She was doing great for the first six weeks, but last weekend we went out for only an hour and came back to a large hole in the wall. And today I found holes in all of our socks. What can we do to help break her of this problem?

A Chewer's Family in Columbia, MD

Dear Family:

Golden puppies are very oral creatures. They use their mouths not only to eat, but also to explore their worlds and to deal with stress. And make no mistake: your pooch is still a puppy. Like other juveniles, she can handle some freedom, but only a little at a time, and only under the right conditions. Here's what you should do:

Back track. Your puppy is not ready to deal with being outside her crate and alone in the house for very long. For the present, do not let her have more than a few minutes of solitary freedom at a time.

Puppy-proof. Make sure that all hazards are beyond the reach of your golden 'child.' Get shoes and socks (ahem!) off the floor, keep clothes hampers and wastebaskets inside closets with closed doors, get all food off the counters, and

close the doors to any rooms that you don't want your dog to have access to.

Tire her out. A tired puppy is less likely to trash your house than a restless pooch is. Make sure your dog gets at least 30 minutes of strenuous exercise a day: a romp in a dog park, a backyard fetch session, a puppy play date, or time at doggie day care all do the trick. Walking's not strenuous enough, unless you're a power walker.

Keep her guessing. Your puppy may have learned to anticipate when you're leaving the house, and may be feeling anxious about your departure. To counter both her anticipation and her anxiety, vary your pre-departure routine. For example, if the last thing you do before leaving is to pick up your keys, try picking up the keys earlier and doing something else right before you go.

Keep her busy. A busy dog doesn't have time to get into mischief. A good job for the home-alone dog is to dig out some food stuffed into a Kong toy. Jam as much food as you can into a Kong, put the Kong in a bag, and freeze it for a couple of hours. Give your pooch the Kong just before you leave, and let her have at it. A giant-sized Kong can keep a puppy occupied and out of trouble for a good half-hour or so. 🐾

ABOUT SUSAN McCULLOUGH: In addition to answering our questions, Susan is the author of numerous articles and two books: *Housetraining For Dummies* (Wiley, 2002) and *Your New Dog* (Capital Books, 2003). Susan brings a unique mixture of warmth, humor, pragmatism, and expertise to animal-loving readers and her work has appeared in numerous media outlets, including *Family Circle*, *The Washington Post*, *Dogs USA*, *AKC Gazette*, *Dog World*, *Animal Fair*, *The Bark* and *Popular Dogs*. The GRREAT News would like to thank her for volunteering as the author of our behavior column, Ask Goldie, for over a year now. Her next book, *Senior Dogs For Dummies*, will be published in June 2004.



THE DOG-TOR IS IN

Your questions answered by Dr. Ronald Spikloser

This month's feature: Bad Breath

Dear Dr. Ron, I recently rescued a 2-year-old Golden mix. He appears to be in good health, but he has very bad breath I use a dog-toothpaste once every few weeks. We feed him a rice and lamb formula dog food, and don't generally give him people-food or other treats.

What could be causing this problem?

Bad breath and bad teeth usually go together. Sometimes even with brushing a dog's teeth tartar will form with bacteria and the mouth begins to smell. Sometimes the stomach is the cause of the dog's breath odor and will be related to what the dog is eating.

It's important for owners to begin brushing a dog's teeth as a puppy. Start with a finger in the mouth to get the dog used to the procedure, then graduate to gauze, and eventually to a toothbrush. There are special toothbrushes for dogs that have the correct angles and shapes for the dog's mouth. It's also important to use dog toothpaste, as it is meant to be swallowed. Human toothpaste can cause illness in dogs.

Even with good dental hygiene by a diligent owner, dental problems can develop. Many puppies have deciduous teeth that do not fall out and can cause problems later in life if not removed. Therefore an opportune time to remove these teeth is with neutering or spaying. Some dogs will still get plaque and tartar and need their teeth cleaned. Some dogs will allow you to scrape them awake but it is very difficult to get onto the inner surfaces of the teeth. Therefore it is better to let

the veterinarian do the work under anesthesia. Many times a blood workup will need to be done first as a precaution to the anesthesia. This is good to do anyway, as baseline blood work is helpful as a dog gets older. Sometimes teeth will need to be pulled. I have pulled every tooth out of a dog's mouth and not only do they eat fine but they will go back to eating hard food. Obviously, our goal is to keep as many teeth as possible and therefore, dental hygiene is important, as well as dental check-ups with physicals. Dogs in general do not get cavities but periodontal disease is common. This can lead to loose gums and eventually loose teeth and systemic infections. The bacteria in the mouth can spread to many organs in the body, especially the heart, leading to bacterial endocarditis, a dangerous inflammation of the heart.

Although dental disease is the most common cause of mouth odor, there are other causes. Kidney disease or diabetes can give the mouth an ammonia type smell. Golden Retrievers are prone to lip fold pyoderma. This is where the lips will be overlapping each other, trapping saliva and or food in them. This can lead to infections in the fold itself with a horrible smell. Some dogs have sinus infections and will get drainage that smells fetid. There can also be tumors in the mouth or elsewhere. Since there are so many other possibilities it is best to have your vet check out the pooch. The vet may want to do blood tests and or radiographs.

Any mouth procedure that can be done on a human can be done on a dog. Advanced procedures are done by a veterinary dentist. They include braces, caps, and root canals. These are expensive procedures: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. 🐾

3rd Annual GRREAT Golden Happy Tails Hour

Come: On Saturday, March 20, retail stores *Before & After* and *Paws pet boutique* will hold the 3rd Annual GRREAT Golden Happy Tails Hour from 4 - 7 p.m. at 50 Maryland Avenue and 64 State Circle in historic Annapolis, MD.

Stay: Representatives from GRREAT will be there to answer questions. There will also be a silent auction, raffle, door prizes, and other fun games. All proceeds benefit GRREAT.

Sit: Bring your 4-pawed companion and munch on treats of the human and canine kind.

Heel: Learn about Golden Retrievers, pet a few furry friends, and maybe even fill out an adoption application. Help "heal" the sadness of a homeless pet.

Directions: Follow Rt. 50 East to Annapolis. Take Exit 24, Rowe Blvd/ Bestgate Rd. Exit. Stay in right hand lane to exit onto Rowe Blvd. At second light, make a left onto Taylor Ave. Merge right onto Rt. 450. At first light, make right onto King George St. At second light, make right onto Maryland Avenue. Before & After is in second block of Maryland Avenue on right—follow balloons and signs. Paws pet boutique is just a block away. For more information, call 410.263.7075 or 410.263.8683.

A Letter to GRREAT

Dear GRREAT Personell/Heroes:

In October 2002, we lost our first Golden at 14½ years old. It was a heart wrenching experience and one that caused us much pain and sorrow. Then, in June 2003 we decided to consider a Golden rescue. We completed the application and anxiously awaited our home visit.

Fortunately, we had the most wonderful person, Donna Miller, bring her beautiful Golden Guinness, to our home shortly thereafter. She was kind enough to expedite the report for us and we were subsequently approved to adopt one of God's greatest creatures.

We were also lucky enough to find our daughter, A.K.A. Belle, which we changed slightly from Bella (03-130) and it has been a blissful experience ever since. She is the most well-behaved and loving canine. She is quite entertaining in the area of clothing. She will gently pick up articles of clothing and bring them to you while wagging her tail fiercely and grunting happily. We found this out night one at about 2 a.m. However, what we find most comical is the fact that she sleeps with one specific pair of sneakers, which she quietly "steals" each night from the closet. She starts by bringing one over to her bed and using it as a headrest and by the morning, has the second one (always a matching pair—smart dog) on the bed with its twin. To prove this, we have enclosed a picture taken after she acquired shoe #1.

During this holiday season, we give thanks for her, because you see, we did not rescue her, she truly rescued us, and for that we are eternally grateful.

*Sincerely,
Debbie Haller and Marie Donnell*



P.S. Belle has asked us to relay her best wishes to the entire GRREAT organization and has indicated that the adoption is finalized—she will keep her two humans.

PICK OF THE LITTER

Spotlight on a special dog in need of a special someone

CAMRA (03-247)

CAMRA: 7-year old, 60-pound platinum blonde golden. This beautiful girl is playful, affectionate and well socialized, thanks to her prior owners. Unfortunately, they received a military assignment outside of the country and Camra must remain behind.

She loves people, kids, and other dogs. Although she was raised in a single dog family, she has adapted very well to sharing a home with our two male dogs (our lab and Golden). She is both crate- and house-trained and barks politely one time when she wants to go out. But watch out! She is a very experienced counter surfer. She has no other bad habits that we know of, other than stealing our towels in the morning when we're in the shower. Note that we don't count sleeping in our bed as a bad habit, but if that's not your cup of tea, she listens very well and will get down immediately if asked.

We think a home with one or more dogs would be ideal for her. She walks okay on a leash, but sometimes she has her own agenda and will need to be coaxed gently to walk along with you. We take her on a few walks each day, but never too

long, because she has ligament damage to her back right leg and often walks with a limp. We are hoping that glucosamine supplement will help. Although she can usually walk up steps fine, we are thinking that a home with no or few stairs might be best for her. "Cammy," as we call her, has some other health issues too and because of this she will need to find a very special family willing to make a very serious commitment to take care of her.

Our vet has determined that her kidneys are struggling. To keep them functioning at their current level (and perhaps improve them), Camra will need to be on a special low protein diet with daily supplements from here on out. In addition, she will need subcutaneous fluids injected twice weekly. Thankfully, Camra is a wonderful patient.

Please consider Camra if you think your family can provide her with the loving and supportive environment she deserves and you are willing to provide the medical care she requires for the rest of her life. She will reward you with plenty of love and affection in return. 🐾

NEW YEAR'S EVE PUPPIES

The New Year's Eve puppies (that GRREAT agreed to intake from under a porch in late December) turned out to be anything but Golden. They were adorable though! The response to our call for volunteers to visit with and help socialize these pups was exceptional. The puppies were safely transferred to two all-breed puppy rescues in New Jersey.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Pasta for Pets

March 27, 6 – 9 p.m.
Northwest, DC

The Pasta and Bingo night to benefit the animals of The Washington Animal Rescue League will be better than ever with Chilli Amar of Mix 107.3 as the celebrity Bingo caller! For more information or to purchase tickets, call 202.726.2556.

9th annual March for the Animals to benefit the Maryland SPCA

March 28, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Baltimore, MD

It's a day of fun and festivities for you and your favorite 4-legged friend! There will be games and entertainment, like canine musical chairs, pet costume contest, smart pet tricks, canine agility, photo opportunities with the Neuter Scooter, and demonstrations by the Baltimore City Police Canine Unit and the Chesapeake Search Dogs. For more information, call 410.243.7692 or visit mdspca.org.

2004 Animal Behavior Management Alliance Conference

April 4-9
Baltimore, MD

Hosted by the National Aquarium in Baltimore and the Baltimore Zoo, the ABMA conference will focus on animal enrichment and positive reinforcement training as tools for better behavior management of animals in any setting. The keynote speaker will be Karen Pryor, founder of clicker training and author of several animal behavior books. For more information, visit www.theabma.org or e-mail Sue Hunter at shunter@aqua.org.

Art for The Animals Auction

April 17th
BlackRock Center for the Arts, DC
There will be art for all tastes and pocketbooks at this auction to benefit the Montgomery County Humane Society. If you'd like more information, please call 301.279.1969.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society's MS Walk/Pooch Parade

April 25, 3 – 5 p.m.
Annapolis, MD
Dogs are welcome to walk with their humans while raising money for a worthy cause! Contact Jennifer Lange at 410.527.1770.

Mutt Strutt

May 1, 9:30 a.m.
Reston, VA
Join us at the Reston Town Center Pet Fiesta! Bring your dog for a stroll along the W&OD trail. Registration includes continental breakfast, t-shirt, and goodie bag. There will be discounted rabies vaccines and micro-chipping, bake sale, silent auction, and more. To register or for more information, visit spanova.org.

13th annual Anne Arundel County SPCA Walk for the Animals

May 16
Annapolis, MD
Join the AACSPCA in beautiful Quiet Waters Park for a walk with or without your pet. For more information, contact Christina at 410.268.4388.

This list is for information purposes only. GRREAT does not sponsor nor endorse these events.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JEFFERSON!

Jefferson (96-108) celebrated his 10th birthday in style! In September 2003, he and his guests, Sissy and Jackson, threw a party. Jefferson's mom, Ricki Ernest, reports that she only hopes the doggie guests had as much fun as she did! There were toys and bones, a homemade Frosty Paws desert, and even a trip to the dog beach at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis. Sure sounds like a blast!



REMINDER

Keep us up-to-date on your e-mail address, so we can keep you in the loop on the latest news from GRREAT. Please send all e-mail address changes to Jill Kurtz at thekurtzes@yahoo.com. Also, if you do not currently receive e-mail updates from GRREAT and would like to, please send your e-mail address to Jill.

Foster Families Needed!

GRREAT is turning away Golden Retrievers in need of rescue because so few foster families are available at this time. If you can open your heart to a Golden in need through our foster program, please contact Tom Janczuk at 703.421.2144 or tjanczuk@earthlink.net

A Letter to GRREAT

Dear GRREAT,

I thought you might like some photos of Hope (03-058). Both of her casts have been removed and she loves the fenced yard. She's at 53 pounds, which the vet says is the right weight for her (quite a change from her arrival in March). She is truly a miracle—loving, gentle, and developing a sense of humor.

*Sincerely,
Judy Lucas*



Clearance!

2004 GRREAT Calendars are still available at www.great.org (click on the GRREAT Store link on the left hand side). The cost is just \$6, while they last.

YOU OUGHT TO BE IN "POOCH"ERS

Are you a camera-happy golden lover? Think your dog is the most photogenic around? Enter your favorite Golden photographs in the GRREAT Calendar Contest! We are now accepting entries for the 2005 Calendar, which is sold through GRREAT and given to veterinarians and shelters within our coverage area. We encourage everyone to send their best shots of their four-legged companions. Photos will be selected for the cover and for each month. A committee of GRREAT members will judge submissions using the following criteria:

- 1) overall composition (balance, centering, color and contrast between dog and its surroundings)
- 2) quality of background
- 3) sharpness & clarity
- 4) general appearance (muddy, wet, or snow-covered dogs are encouraged to enter; no glowing eyes)
- 5) seasonal appropriateness (costumes are discouraged)
- 6) variety (we want to see them all!)

2005 GRREAT Calendar Contest Rules

- 1) The deadline for submissions is May 25th, 2004, and judging will occur in early June.
- 2) We regret that we cannot accept digital photos, unless they are taken or scanned at very high resolution (a minimum of 300dpi at 9x12 inches).
- 3) All entries must be horizontal, due to the design of the calendar. Vertical pictures will not be considered.
- 4) Only GRREAT Rescue dogs are eligible. Dogs featured in the 2003 calendar (other than honorable mentions) are not eligible this year; but other GRREAT dogs in the family are.
- 5) Other pets are welcome, but please leave the humans behind the camera.
- 6) Sorry, photos cannot be returned.
- 7) Only color images are eligible. We cannot accept black and white or Polaroid images.
- 8) We reserve the right to use any images and/or stories you send us in future issues of the GRREAT News.

Send the photo(s) of your GRREAT dog, along with his GRREAT ID number, age, and a brief description of the dog's past or present life, together with the name, address, and phone number of the person submitting the entry to: GRREAT CALENDAR CONTEST, C/O PLATINUM ONLINE SERVICES, 554 N. FREDERICK AVE. #351, GAITHERSBURG, MD 20877.

A Letter to GRREAT

Dear GRREAT,

Many of you won't remember me, but I was active with GRREAT for several years before moving out of the Washington, D.C. area. In the same respect, most of you won't remember Duffy (93-081). Duffy was one of a litter, along with their mom and dad, who came into the rescue in April, 1993. Laurie Anderson picked them all up from a shelter in Maryland where the puppies had whelped just the day before. They were all dehydrated and several of the puppies did not survive, but five of them did. I was lucky enough to get Duffy.

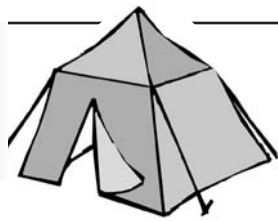
He was a typical Golden puppy for the first few months, but when he was about 8 months old, we discovered that he was fear aggressive toward other dogs. Someone even suggested that I have him euthanized then because of this tendency! I refused because he was my sweet boy and I knew he would be fine. Duffy always had his quirks, he didn't like new places, noises freaked him out (I was always home on the 4th of July) and he got car sick. I'll never forget the day I was driving out to the Roger and Sue Armstrong's house and when I arrived I had vomit icicles hanging from my truck where Duffy had thrown up and it had run out under the door!

But Duffy was special. He loved to chase tennis balls, he loved to lie in his baby pool and he loved people. When I took him to the nursing home, he would back up to people sitting in wheel chairs so they could scratch his rump. He would have them rolling backward and laughing at his antics. He used to circle when it was time to get fed. If we were a minute late feeding him, he would bark and run to the kitchen to remind us of the time. He was a clown and had a great zest for life.

I'm sure you've noticed I'm talking about Duffy in the past tense. You see, I lost my sweet boy tonight. It happened very quickly and we are still not sure what happened. I am the lucky one though. I had Duffy in my life for 10 ½ years and despite all his quirks, he added a dimension to my life that I wouldn't trade for anything. Good-bye my sweet boy. Wait at the Bridge for me. - Sheila Urquhart (Powers)



THE PUP TENT



GOLDEN CRYPTOGRAM

With assistance from PuzzleMaker.com

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
													17				13							8	

_____ R R _____ N N _____
 5 13 13 22 10 1 25 22 5 9 17 17 9 17 5 12

_____ Y _____ N _____ N _____ !
 21 22 10 24 1 3 4 10 23 23 8 22 17 24 9 17 5 12

Cryptograms are puzzles in which each letter of an original phrase has been replaced by a number, but always by the same number throughout the puzzle. To discover the hidden message, you'll have to guess what letter each number stands for. We've given you some letters to start with. Good luck!

ANSWER: GRREAT BEGINNINGS LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

VOLUNTEER CORNER

A BREED APART

Spotlight on GRREAT Volunteers

Wally and Carolyn Bishop

For Wally & Carolyn Bishop, it's a dog's life, and they love it. Finale Farm, their home located on 137 acres in Martinsburg, West Virginia, is named after their first Golden, "Monreca's Grand Finale" that they got in 1955. When you talk with them, you cannot help but become captivated by their fascinating stories of Golden Retrievers in and out of the show ring, as well as the history of the Golden that goes along with it. Carolyn and Wally bred several successful litters of Golden Retrievers, but then could never part with any of them. And, at one time they were owned by twelve of them!

In the early 1980's Carolyn and Wally realized that Golden Retrievers were becoming over bred. So they decided to stop breeding, and start rescuing; and they started by adopting seven of them! While their "true love" remains the Golden Retriever, in 1987 they became besotted with the Norfolk Terrier. At the present time they have nine of them in residence, along with their two GRREAT Golden Retrievers, Friday, and Hamish, and three other dogs.

In 1984 they established "Panhandle Action for Animals, Inc." that is still active today. They have been asked to participate on committees at the state and local level, at

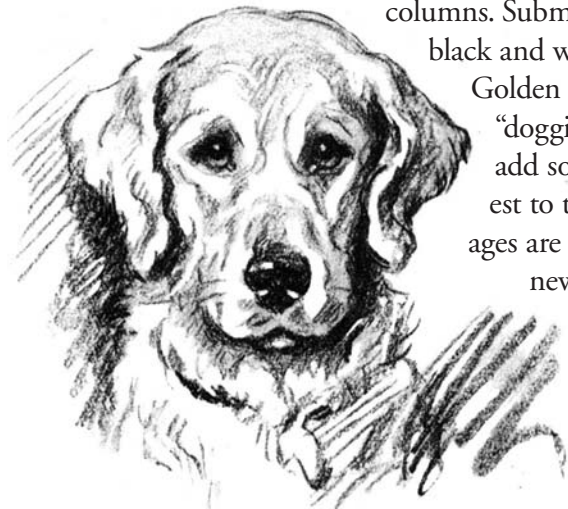
the request of elected officials. Wally and Carolyn have also accepted, cared for, and fought for victims of county cruelty cases. Because of their hard work and dedication the bill known as "The Pound Seizure Bill" in which "Class B Dealers" cannot purchase animals from state and municipal shelters, and sell them for research was passed. To date, 12 states have adopted this same bill.

Carolyn and Wally's contributions to GRREAT began 12 years ago. During this time they have transported and picked up many Golden Retrievers for the rescue. They have generously donated kennel space for GRREAT Golden Retrievers waiting for foster homes. They have also boarded some of GRREAT's "problem children" who needed a place to chill-out until an appropriate foster home could be found. They have hosted tattoo clinics, fed meals to those coming to pick up dogs, given seminars, looked for lost Golden Retrievers; and this is only the tip of the iceberg! They have truly dedicated their lives to rescue. Wally and Carolyn never ask for recognition for their hard work, which is why their contributions to GRREAT are even more significant. 🐾

The GRREAT News would like to thank Judy Lucas and Jan Skadburg for contributing this piece to the newsletter.

Calling all artists!

The GRREAT News is in need of your talent! We need simple and unique illustrations of Golden Retrievers that can be used in the place of clip art alongside feature stories and columns. Submissions should be black and white drawings of Golden Retrievers doing "doggie things" to help add some visual interest to the newsletter. All ages are welcome! Email newsletter@grreat.org for information.



THANK YOU!

Linda and Jim Mahoney are doing a wonderful job as GRREAT's mail fetchers (pun intended). Linda and Jim visit the post office box regularly and deliver the mail to me in Fairfax for processing. Sometimes their GRREAT dog Laurel (03-059) even comes along for the ride!

-Jill Kurtz

Mail & Membership Coordinator

FARE CARD DONATIONS

Don't need your leftover DC area fare cards? Donate them to MCI Center volunteers! We use them to provide transportation to and from MCI Center events. Contact Pam at pam-lori@juno.com for more information.

DEAR GRREAT HERE'S A DONATION

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT for

In honor of

In memory of

To thank

All donations are tax deductible and are gratefully acknowledged in the GRREAT News.

Thank you for your generosity.

Checks should be made payable to GRREAT.

Please mail forms with your contribution to:
GRREAT, P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

MAIL IN MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Mark here if this is an address or name change

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail Address _____

Mark as many as applicable:

I am enclosing \$30 for my 2004 membership dues.

I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation of \$_____.

I am interested in becoming a GRREAT Volunteer. (Please fill out and return Volunteer form as well).

I am interested in donating the following services

or supplies to GRREAT:

Thank you for your support!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please detach and return this form to volunteer for any of the capacities below. If you have special talents that aren't listed below, fill in the "Other" section at the bottom. Return the form to:

GRREAT
Attention: Volunteer Coordinator
P.O. Box 3069
Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Best time to call _____

Are you over age 18? Yes No

Work Phone (_____) _____

OK to call at work? Yes No

County or area you live in _____

County or area you work in _____

Other areas you visit regularly _____

Best days/hours to volunteer _____

Please indicate any area of interest.

The appropriate GRREAT Coordinator will contact you for more information.

I would like to know how I can help

_____ As a foster home for a GRREAT dog

_____ As an emergency or short-term foster home

_____ At Adoption Days

_____ At Tattoo Clinics

_____ At MCI Center Events

_____ At information booths at dog shows, community fairs, education days, etc.

_____ At Fund Raisers

_____ Transport GRREAT dogs (to/from vet, pick up at animal shelter, owner give-ups)

_____ Transport supplies, food

_____ Perform home checks prior to adoptions

_____ Provide storage space for food, supplies, crates

_____ Stamp and address newsletters and flyers

_____ Donate the following services:

Other:

GRREAT'S SECOND ANNUAL WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER & SPRING PICNIC

at the beautiful Tarara Winery in Leesburg, Virginia

GRREAT is proud to announce our second annual spring picnic and wine tasting fundraiser to benefit the rescue and re-homing of over 300 Golden Retrievers per year. This very special event will feature festival-type wine tasting for the first 300 adults who sign up. The event hosts invite you to bring your faithful canine companion(s)—leashed at all times, please—to meet old friends and new in the lovely setting of Tarara Winery.

DATE AND TIME: Saturday May 22, Noon – 4 p.m.

COST: To enjoy the wine tasting, the cost *per person* is \$25. Wine will also be available for purchase by the glass or bottle.

If you would just like to attend the event and enjoy the day, the dogs, and the winery grounds, the cost is \$10 *per family*.

Please note that GRREAT will not be providing food, but feel free to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy.

WHERE: Tarara Winery in Leesburg, VA, features the Meadow Pavilion (covered, 2100 sq. ft); a 15-acre field; open and wooded picnic areas (20 picnic tables); softball field (bring your own gloves); six miles of wooded and riverside hiking trails; volleyball court (bring your own ball); horseshoe pit; children's play area; ample field parking, water and electricity on site.



SIGN UP: Send a check for \$25 per adult wine taster to P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043, attn. Wine Tasting. If you'd prefer not to participate in the wine tasting, but want to picnic with us, please send a check for \$10 per family and let us know how many people will be attending. **New this year:** you can also sign up online and pay by credit card at www.great.org/picnic.

DIRECTIONS:

From Washington, D.C.: Take the Dulles Toll Road (267) to Leesburg. Go north on U.S. Route 15 North toward Frederick, MD and travel 8 miles to the small town of Lucketts. Turn right at light on state road 662. Proceed 3 miles until you see the entrance to the winery on the left. Follow the signs to the winery parking. Then follow the signs to the event parking.

From Frederick, MD: Drive south on U.S. Route 15 and cross the Potomac River. Drive 2 miles and turn left on state road 658. Drive approximately another 2 miles and turn left on state road 662. Proceed 1 mile until you see the entrance to the winery on the left. Follow the signs to the winery parking. Then follow the signs to the event parking.

Questions can be directed to grreatevents@great.org.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MERRIFIELD, VA
PERMIT NO. 2773

GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue
Education and Training, Inc.