



# GRREAT NEWS

Published by Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. • November/December 2004 • Volume 14, Number 5

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Letter from the President **3**

Donations **4**

Leo's Corner **5**

Happily Ever After  
Adoption Report  
Adoption Day Directions **10**

Pick of the Litter **12**

Upcoming Events  
Bone Appetit! **13**

Ask Goldie  
Annual Business Meeting **14**

The Dog-tor is In! **15**

Fostering in Retirement **16**

The Pup Tent **17**

Volunteers Corner **18**

Annual Howliday Party.

## What Every Child\* Should Know About Meeting and Greeting "Other" Dogs

By GRREAT Member Skye Anderson

You have a four-year-old daughter (Libby) and a bouncy Golden pup (Goldie). They are best friends. Goldie would never do anything purposely to hurt Little Libby. And vice versa.

Libby loves to squeal and run up to Goldie and give her a great big love-hug! And Goldie loves it too!

But Goldie is still just a pup and hasn't learned everything. And Libby is just a little girl who hasn't learned everything yet, so they must always be supervised.

Libby goes to visit a friend who has a German Shepherd Dog. She squeals and runs up to the GSD to give it a great big love-hug and what happens?

The GSD growls!

Libby is scared. She backs away and starts crying. (The worst case scenario would be if the dog snapped at Libby or bit her.)

Libby is not afraid of dogs because Goldie is so wonderful, but Libby has not yet learned that not all dogs are as wonderful and forgiving as her Goldie or merely not as used to her actions.

What would you teach Libby and how should you do it?

First of all, with kids, you can role play.

And you must do it often. Once is not enough.

Go through the following steps explaining them step by step. Then have Libby act them out with a stuffed dog and then with Goldie on a leash. Finally, do it for real.

When you refresh once a month or so, make sure Libby knows why each step is done.

### Step 1

You and Libby approach a friend with a dog on leash. (Make sure Libby understands that she should

CHILDREN AND DOGS Cont'd on page 7



\*For children of all ages, from 1-99!

# GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

**P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069**  
**Phone: 703-620-6593 • Web site: [www.grreat.org](http://www.grreat.org)**

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.

## 2004 OFFICERS AND ADVISORY BOARD

<b>PRESIDENT</b>		
Kim Wiff*	..... president@grreat.org .....	703.724.4853
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>		
Bob Kurtz*	..... vp@grreat.org .....	703.250.3012
<b>SECRETARY</b>		
Janet Hauck*	..... pjhauck@erols.com .....	410.838.5437
<b>TREASURER</b>		
Gail Corby*	..... gaildc@aol.com .....	302.378.8855
<b>FOSTER HOME COORDINATOR</b>		
Tom Janczuk	..... tjanczuk@earthlink.net .....	703.421.2144
<b>FOSTER HOME APPROVAL COORDINATORS</b>		
Susan McKelvey (DE, MD, DC)	..... smckelvey@expresshost.com .....	410.745.0134
Mary Ellen Rubenstein (VA, WV, PA)	..... mellen4@earthlink.net	
<b>INTAKE COORDINATOR</b>		
Edie Galpin*	..... zerberus57@msn.com .....	410.272.6647
<b>ADOPTION COORDINATOR</b>		
Jessie Robinson*	..... adoptions@grreat.org .....	301.577.8350
<b>VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR</b>		
Stephanie Nelson	..... stefnel57@yahoo.com .....	410.381.9456
<b>EDUCATION COORDINATORS</b>		
Pat Savary (DE, MD, DC)	..... educationmd@grreat.org	
Sandy Diamond (VA, WV, DC)	..... sandy_diamond@earthlink.net .....	703.787.6708
<b>FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR</b>		
Pam Ambrose	..... Pam.Ambrose@montgomerycountymd.gov . . . .	301.972.0457
<b>PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR</b>		
April Fritz*	..... april@fritz.org .....	301.330.5749
<b>MEMBER AT LARGE</b>		
Pam Briggie*	..... pam-lori@juno.com .....	301.808.0734
<b>MEMBERSHIP &amp; MAIL COORDINATOR</b>		
Jill Kurtz*	..... mail@grreat.org .....	703.250.3012
<b>MERCHANDISING COORDINATOR</b>		
Jo Bighouse	..... midastouchgoldens@msn.com .....	703.777.4944
<b>MICROCHIPPING COORDINATOR</b>		
Scott Daniels*	..... esdchef@msn.com .....	302.449.1227
<b>WEBMASTER</b>		
Bob Fritz	..... webmaster@grreat.org .....	301.330.5749
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>		
Beth Lacey Gill	..... newsletter@grreat.org .....	443.570.4801

\* members of the GRREAT Board of Directors

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

The other day I reflected on the six years my husband and I have been involved with GRREAT. When we adopted our first GRREAT dog, Wendy, and became volunteers, we had no idea where it would lead us. We got involved with GRREAT because we couldn't stand the thought (or believe) that a Golden Retriever would ever need to be rescued, or that someone would not want the one they owned. I am sure many of you have shared my feelings.

I have found that in Rescue there are many facets, pieces, and emotions that go along with it. I have to admit that rescue can scare me. I suppose that facing the fear is part of the job of rescue. For me, the anxiety, the stress, the worry, the attachment and loss, the relief, the dread, and the anticipation has been there with each and every dog.

Rescue has broken my heart, changed my life, and touched my soul. Facing this fear and feeling the joy and the pain is part of the job. Maybe that's the way it's supposed to be—if the work is being done right.

I have loved each and every Golden that has spent time in our home. I have always considered them "mine" (for a while, at least!) and they do more for me than anything else. Each of our foster dogs that has come with a story that, while not always unusual, somehow is as different and as unique as they are.

I started out feeling that I was giving to the fosters who shared our home. While this may be true, I have found that they gave even

more to me. I have received so much love, so much knowledge, so many challenges—both physical and mental. I know I have taken away a great deal more than I have given.

So, why do I do this? It's the incredible love and gratitude the dogs give in return; that and the happy endings. Sometimes, when I think I can't stand it anymore, I remember the joy rescue has brought to my life, and it inspires me to keep trying to help one more dog.

Also, I think of all the people I have met through GRREAT. I have met people who, through no fault of their own, have had to give up their Golden that they love deeply. I have also met people I am thankful have turned their dogs over to GRREAT. And of course, there are all the people who I have met when they adopted one of our fosters. I have developed wonderful friendships with many of them. Some have become active volunteers for GRREAT. All have become ambassadors for the breed and the rescue.

With 2004 coming to a close, reflect upon what you have given to GRREAT this year. Remember that each of you has made GRREAT an organization that I am proud to be part of. I hope that all our volunteers know how needed and appreciated your time and talents are, and that all our donors know how essential you are to providing care for rescued dogs.

GRREAT relies on YOU to make 2005 another success! Have a safe and a happy holiday season!

Kim Wiff

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

### December 4, 2004

Adoption Day  
PETCO, 12 – 2 p.m.  
Alexandria, VA

### December 12, 2004

GRREAT Howliday Party  
Frederick Fairgrounds  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Frederick, MD

### January 8, 2005

Adoption Day  
PETCO, 12 – 2 p.m.  
Gaithersburg MD

### January 22, 2005

Annual Business Meeting  
9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
TBA

For directions to Adoption Days, see page 11. For more information about the Annual Business Meeting, see page 14. For more information about the GRREAT Howliday Party, see page 20.



On sale now: GRREAT bumper stickers! Show your support with these awesome 6 x 4-inch oval stickers that look just like the popular Euro-stickers. Stickers are \$3 each and will be on sale at Adoption Days and all GRREAT events. For more information, contact Jessie Robinson via email at [adoptions@grreat.org](mailto:adoptions@grreat.org).

# DONATIONS

## *In Memory of...*

Max (95-007). - *Jean and Doug Hartman*

KC 11/84-12/97 and Maggie 7/95-8/04.  
- *Linda and Richard Harrison*



*In memory of Max, pictured above with his frog he found in our pool one summer.*

The enclosed donation is for your wonderful organization, which provided us with this absolutely wonderful loving and devoted companion. It is in memory of Max (96-183).

It is midnight and I have just spent the last hour with my Golden Max as he quietly and peacefully passed away. Max was diagnosed with a splenic hemangiosarcoma in July and had surgery to remove the tumor. We were told he might have 1-6 months left with us and that he would be back to his normal self in a week.

Within a week Max was back to normal and loving every minute we had left with him. Max was my fourth Golden and first GRREAT dog and what a special dog he was. He had more personality than my other three Golden put together. Max and the other puppies in the litter were rejected by their mom and he was given up for adoption by his owner. He was so appreciative of our love and affection, and he was so easy to love.

## *In Honor of...*

In honor of Zeke 04-131 (a Golden Edie fostered) and to thank Edie Galpin for all her help finding foster homes for Golden in Shippensburg PA and for all the support, advice, knowledge, "straight talk," humor, and friendship she has given me as a GRREAT volunteer.  
- *Beverly Mustaine*

We brought Max home from the adoption day in January of 1997, to my one-year-old Golden "Shawn." Max was unmerciful from the beginning in getting Shawn to play with him all day, but they became the best of friends.

Max was easily trained from the beginning, conquering sit, shake, down, play dead dog, and saying "please" for treats. He also rang a bell on the door to the backyard to go out to potty. Max loved his toy "babies," there wasn't a room in the house that didn't have a baby or a remnant of one. He should have been a female dog who had puppies, because he always played mom to the other dogs in our house. Our in-ground pool in the backyard was Max's; he would go for a short swim all day long each summer and go into depression when we had to close the pool up each fall.

Max had horrible hip dysplasia and seizures, but you would have never suspected this with his love of life and his display of love and affection and happy to be a part of our family. Max always had to know where I was in the house and he usually followed me from room to room. I haven't gotten over the crying stage yet, but I will. I wanted to thank you GRREAT for allowing us to adopt Max and for him being the best friend and companion any family could ask for. Thanks GRREAT.

- *Robyn and Jeff Dunn*

Please use this donation wherever it is needed most at this time. Over the past 4½ years, we have had the opportunity to foster, and learn from 17 GRREAT dogs. They have left footprints in our hearts (and a few in other places as well...) We'd like to salute each GRREAT family who has given forever homes to these special Golden Retrievers: Sahara (00-056), Connor (00-109), Louie (00-122), Madison/Sassy (01-011), Bear (01-169), Sammy (01-212), Sandy (02-034), Max (02-109), Moose (02-222), Sydney (03-069), Mac/Nash (03-007), Max/King (03-205), Lulu/Goldie (03-204), Casey/Omar (03-249), Sadie (03-276), and Joey (04-118). We are also GRREATful for our Murphy (01-060)—the foster who never left. Fostering has been a truly rewarding experience for us. We hope more families will consider fostering GRREAT dogs!

- Carol and Rory Nansel

We are sending this contribution in honor of Billy and Nancy Barham in celebration of their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. - Kay Warder

### ***Thanks for Your Donations...***

---

Elizabeth Crane  
Suzanne Murphy

### ***Other Reasons...***

---

A portion of proceeds from items she sold at Goldstock. - Sam Connelly

For Rick Paisley's birthday. - Jason Paisley

Microsoft Giving Campaign, representing a match of a donation made by Bob Reagle.

Proceeds from Kathi Rechsteiner for sewing scout badges, representing donations from R. Gold, Holly Hand, and Steven and Carol Srebnick.

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 2004, telling us that our dear friends Hilda and Colin Seftor had made a generous donation to your organization in honor of the death of our beloved Golden Retriever Askö.

We think GRREAT does a really great job and also want to send you a check for the care of all the lovely dogs. I will visit often your website and want to be updated on your activities and will look whether you can successfully find new homes for all the wonderful dogs. Good luck and many pats to all the Retrievers with you! Best regards from Germany!

- Gabriele Gaudlitz

## **LEO'S CORNER**



### ***Leo's Fund for Dogs with Special Needs...***

---

#### **Golden Heroes (\$100-\$499)**

Joseph and Carolyn Miller  
Jeanne O'Donoghue and Carl Kerby  
Joe O'Neill  
Theresa and Tom Sicheri

I would like this donation to be made in the names of Jessie Robinson and Frank and Victoria Kuzma. If not for these three wonderful Golden Retrievers, Jake and Sammy (01-086) would have had to spend the summer in a kennel.

We decided to build a new home and had an expected delivery date of September 2004. Our temporary home in an apartment would not allow for a dog over 25 lbs, not to even say two dogs. We were heartbroken to think that we would spend 3 months without Jake and Sammy. I called the first person I thought of who may know someone to help us out. Jessie Robinson. Jessie volunteered to take one of our boys; she also had a foster and two Golden Retrievers of her own. Not only did Jessie volunteer to

Continued on page 6

## LEO'S CORNER, CONT'D

take one of them, but the more difficult of the two. Jake has separation anxiety and cannot be without another canine companion. He also has issues with thunderstorms. Jessie took Jake in and gave him all the love a Golden can take, along with sharing a cozy bed at night. (A habit that Jake has brought back home with him.)

Once we were able to place Jake with Jessie, my good friends Frank and Victoria Kuzma took Sammy. Sammy has only one issue and that requires a fence. He must have a fence or he will run away.

Thank you to all three of our wonderful Golden friends for loving and caring for our boys throughout the last three months. We know how much endless energy they have. To Jake's adopted sibs, Annie, Broccoli, and Bailey, I miss you.

- Theresa, Tom, Nathan, Bruce, Jake, and Sammy  
(01-086) *Sicheri*

### Golden Angels (\$500 or more)

Krista and Bob Maslyn

### Saying Goodbye to Max: A GRREAT Golden in So Many Ways



We thought you'd want to know about our Max.

On August 27, 2004, we said goodbye to Max, our 14½-year-old GRREAT Golden, who we had adopted when he was five.

A cancer tumor on his upper jaw, first diagnosed at the end of March, eventually began to limit his oxygen intake in his nasal cavity, but we were blessed with several months of Max eating, sleeping, and walking well before the tumor suddenly began to threaten his energy. With the help of Alexandria Animal Hospital, we gave

him our last act of love by escorting him to die peacefully, without suffering. Still, it was painful for us to watch him slip away. As we stroked his soft fur, I heard myself whisper: "He's going."

Max in his prime would prance swiftly around the block, ever in search of a surprise apple. He loved to run for the kong. And he dove into water like it was his next meal. In June 2003, he had a larynx operation that allowed him to breathe better but unfortunately eliminated his ability to bark. We mourned that, but his spunk remained.

Max's full name was Maxwell Valentine, and never was there a more appropriate second name, because he was sweet and loving and always just wanted to be where you were. Every time we would walk him around Old Town Alexandria, people of all ages would smile when they saw him and often stop to greet him and he'd be their new best friend.

Krista does GRREAT home adoption visits and when she did one, she would always bring Max, if only to get his opinion and see how the prospective new owners might care for a Golden.

Imagine our pride when Max was Mr. November and Mr. June on past GRREAT calendars. Those memories now blend with the photos we have of Max on his trip to Florida, to Cape Hatteras, and to other beach places, and to so many family gatherings. There are the photos of Max plopped, smiling, grinning ear to ear, in a bed of flowers; Max with our beloved first female Golden, Honey Bear, in the park—the two of them striking great poses; and Max with our newest GRREAT Golden female, Abbey.

And so, Max, we thank you for loving us back so much. We thank you Max for always leaping up on your feet to greet us with your wagging tail and bright smile when we came home, even when you got older and getting up took more gymnastics than not. We thank you for every time and especially the last time you buried your head in us, seeking our comfort and love, which we were always happy to give. We thank you Max for the face lick that you reserved for only a few.

Max now re joins his harem of Golden friends (yes, he was partial to the fair sex), such as Honey Bear, Chrissie and others. Max filled our lives with love...to the max. Goodbye, Max.

- Krista and Bob Maslyn

never approach a dog who is not with its owner on a leash.) Libby asks the owner if she can pet the dog. The owner will say something like, "Sure, if it's OK with Rover." Rover will be sitting down (polite manners for greeting) at this point.

### Step 2

Libby then asks the dog by holding out her hand in the shape of a relaxed fist. This allows the dog to sniff Libby at his own rate of comfort and doesn't expose fingers that might be mistaken for hot dogs (especially right after lunch).

### Step 3

If Rover wants to be petted, he will wag his tail or move his head closer to Libby and look at her and get excited and happy and smiley. Then, with slow movements, Libby can open her fist and reach out to stroke (not pat) him, on his chest. We don't

encourage patting a dog on his head because all Fido sees is a hand coming over its eyes and disappearing out of its range of vision and he does not know what the "other" person is about to do. Stroking the chest is less threatening to a dog who may not be used to the touch of this "other" person. Then Libby can talk to the dog and gradually moved her hand to the dog's back or shoulders to scratch or move her hand to the ears or top of the head to stroke and voila! Two immediate lifelong friends!

### Remember: When greeting any "other" dog:

1. Ask the human if you can pet the dog.
2. If the human says it's OK, then ask the dog.
3. If the dog says it's OK, stroke the dog on its chest until it gets used to you. 🐾

## DOG CARE EXCHANGE

Do you answer yes to any of the following questions?

- Does the look your dog gives you when you drop him off for boarding make you cry?
- Have you stopped taking vacations because you can't bear to board your dog?
- Do you feel like you have to take out a second mortgage to afford boarding?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, then consider the Dog Care Exchange. This is a network of GRREAT members who are interested in exchanging dog-sitting time with each other so they don't have to board their dogs. If you are interested in joining or would like information, e-mail Sandy Diamond at [sandy.diamond@earthlink.net](mailto:sandy.diamond@earthlink.net).

## 2005 GRREAT CALENDARS ARE NOW ON SALE!

To order for a 2005 GRREAT Calendar, visit the online store! Check out [www.grreat.org](http://www.grreat.org) and click on the "The GRREAT Store" button on the left hand side. Then click "the online store" link in the center of the page.

You'll also find t-shirts, sweat-shirts, books, gifts, toys, and more! Of course, 100% of the proceeds will be used to continue GRREAT's rescue efforts to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome Golden Retrievers in need.

And check back often, as we add items daily!



### Golden Opportunity!

The GRREAT News is looking for talented individuals to assist with all aspects of the newsletter! 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](mailto:newsletter@grreat.org).

---

# A GREAT BOARDING EXPERIENCE!

by GRREAT Member Skye Anderson

Hiring a pet sitter is not the answer and you've decided not to take your animals on vacation with you (maybe you need a vacation from your pets!). Maybe your house is up for sale or you are packing to move out or just moving in. A boarding kennel may be the solution!

The more than 9,000 boarding kennels in the United States and Canada come in all sizes and shapes—some are affiliated with veterinary clinics or hospitals, some are co-located with breeding kennels, some are stand-alones with maybe a small pet boutique on the premises, while others may be located in homes. Whatever the flavor, you are looking for a facility where your pet will be safe, well cared for, and content, so that you can enjoy your own vacation.

## How to Find Kennels

The best way to find a good kennel is to ask other pet owners not only for kennels they would take their pets to again, but also those they wouldn't want to return to and why not.

Ask your vet (and dog trainer) – they may have brochures or business cards in their office. However, that may not always be an endorsement. It may be merely because the kennel took the time to drop information off. And not all professionals feel comfortable recommending other professionals.

Another place to look is in the phone book, classifieds, or local pet publications, as well as on the Internet. An excellent source since 1977 has been the American Boarding Kennels Association ([www.abka.org](http://www.abka.org)) for a wealth of information as well as a directory of 1,800 member kennels (64 in Maryland and 1 in Hanover, PA), many of which have their own web pages (this could be a godsend if you are visiting your cousins and your dog

doesn't get along with their cat and gerbil and rabbits and parrot and...).

You might also want to contact the Better Business Bureau to find out if any local kennels have received complaints.

## What to Look For in a Kennel

List the characteristics important to you, such as how far away is the kennel, what are their prices and hours, what other services are available (your vacation may be a great time to get Rover bathed and groomed or Kitty re-vaccinated or maybe even neutered!). Primarily you want your pet to be safe, comfortable, and content. You want the facility to be clean and to employ only competent, caring staff.

Some of the following questions may be important to your pet's well being:

**Safety:** Are there solid dividers between any two pets' exercise areas? sleeping areas? Is the surface non-slippery? Are smoke detectors and fire extinguishers present? If the outside exercise area is fenced, is it high enough for jumpers and impervious enough to diggers who may want to search for their "missing" family? Is more than one dog walked at a time?

**Staff:** What training has the staff received to detect illness and injury? Are they comfortable around animals? Competent? Concerned and caring? What is their knowledge level or education and training?

**Daily Routine:** Is water available at all times? How many walks or play times will your pet receive? Will he be fed twice a day like at home? How often are the animals checked during the day, night, and on weekends? How does the weekend routine differ from the weekday routine? Is someone on the premises at night? If not, how long are the animals left alone—8 hours, 12 hours?

**Health:** What immunizations are required? Will medication be given and is there a charge? Do

Cont'd on page 9





you have to supply the medication? Is a vet on the premises or can your vet be used if needed? (You may have to sign a statement that you will pay up to a certain amount for veterinary care if you cannot be contacted.) How does the kennel control fleas and ticks? (Some kennels affiliated with a veterinary practice require an exam by a staff vet prior to boarding.)

**Comfort:** Can you bring your pet's own food, toys, blanket? What bedding is provided? How well ventilated, how well lit is the facility? Is the facility heated and air-conditioned? Will your dog have enough time outside and enough room to run—or maybe he is on exercise-restrictions that the kennel needs to know about. Do cats have large enough enclosures and are their enclosures “roofed?”

### **What to Ask a Kennel You are Seriously Considering**

Go ahead and ask for references, knowing that references are generally positive. Perhaps the kennel has a “thank-you letter” scrapbook from repeat customers. Can you visit the animal enclosures? Can you board your pet for a two-hour trial? How is a day measured? (Some kennels charge an extra day for pick-ups after checkout time.) What is the daily (weekly) rate? Do they have a special family rate for more than one animal? Will the kennel be open when you return or will you have to return to an animal-empty house for a day? Is the facility open on Sunday for pre-paid pick-ups? Or only for a couple of hours? Can a neighbor pick up your pet? What are the payment arrangements? What credit cards do they accept? Must payment be made in advance? Are reservations needed? What is the cancellation policy?

### **What to Tell the Kennel About Your Pet**

Is Kitty on special medication? Is Rover dog-aggressive or fearful of men or thunder? When confronted with these situations, what is his reaction?

Now you have picked out a kennel and it is time to make reservations. Is a deposit required?

How far in advance? (Don't forget how busy the kennel may be at holiday or vacation time.)

### **The First Time**

When you bring your pet in for his stay, do it well before closing, especially the first time. A handler will probably come out to the waiting area to pick up your animal. This is not the time for tearful bye-byes – you don't want your pet to be concerned but to think that a stay at the kennel is a vacation for him too.

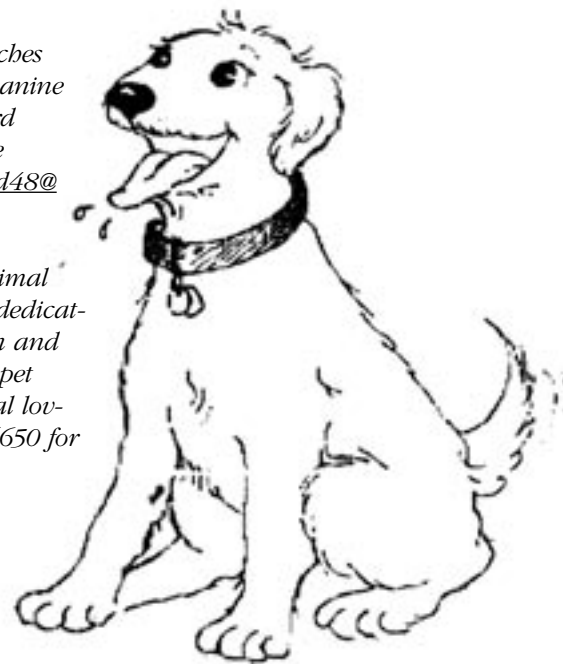
When picking Rover or Kitty up, do so without a lot of fanfare. Ask the kennel about his stay, about any problems. Let him get used to the smells at home on his own time. If he is very excited, don't feed him for a couple of hours.

Oh, and, by the way, enjoy your vacation. By doing your homework and checking out the alternatives, you have ensured that Rover/Kitty will! 🐾

*More about the American Boarding Kennels Association: Accreditation has been awarded to 120 member kennels that submitted details about their policies and procedures, and passed a 200-point inspection. Accredited kennels participate in continuing education and comply with the ABKA code of ethics. (The ethics committee investigates every complaint.) The ABKA also has a three-level certification program for staff with oral and written examinations.*

*About the Author: Skye Anderson teaches Pet First Aid and canine massage in Howard County. She can be reached at [skyebird48@hotmail.com](mailto:skyebird48@hotmail.com).*

*Reprinted from Animal ChatterMagazine, dedicated to the education and joys of responsible pet owners and animal lovers. Call 410-635-6650 for more information.*



# ...AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER

## Beau Excels!

Dear GRREAT,  
 Just wanted to brag on our GRREAT Golden, Beau (02-082). He took the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test in August and passed. We belong to the Dulles Gateway Obedience Training Club and have been working both our Goldens for a while. I'm hoping to continue with Beau and work him toward a Companion Dog degree (CD). He's come a long way from the day we adopted him, but we know we have a long way to go. Thank you for all that you do for GRREAT.  
 - Milan and Jean Shepherd

## Headed to an Adoption Day? Show Support Along the Way!

Maryland drivers can now show support for GRREAT just by hitting the open road! For more information on how to obtain Maryland GRREAT license plates, please contact the program coordinator, Teri Stachowiak, at [lwstack@adelphia.net](mailto:lwstack@adelphia.net).



## ADOPTION REPORT

	Name	ID	Age	Sex
<b>Our statistics for this group:</b>	April	04-130	7	F
	Bart	96-142	9	M
	Carlie	02-153	2	F
	Ginger	04-128	5	F
	Holly	04-085	4	F
	Jake	04-071	9 mo	M
	Joey	04-118	1	M
	Marley	04-105	7	M
	Mosby	04-057	3	M
	Peaches Del Oro	04-129	8	F
	Polo	02-231	5	M
	Samson	04-107	10	M
	Shiloh	04-126	7	M
	Twilight	04-116	5	M

September 2 –  
 October 10, 2004

Males: 9  
 Females: 5  
 Under age 2: 2  
 Ages 2 – 6: 6  
 Age 7 and over: 6  
 Total: 14

## ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

### December 4, 2004

PETCO, Noon – 2 p.m.  
 6612 Richmond Highway  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22306  
 Ph: 703.660.1300

From I-95 in Virginia, take exit 1B towards Richmond. Take the US-1 exit (#177) towards Mt. Vernon Highway. Stay left. Merge onto US-1 South towards Fort Belvoir. After about 2½ miles, turn right onto Richmond Highway. PetCo is ½ mile on the right.

### January 8, 2005

PETCO, Noon – 2 p.m.  
 275 Muddy Branch Road  
 Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878  
 Ph: 301.975.9888

From the local lanes of I-270, take the Sam Eig Hwy/I-370 West exit

9B for 0.3 miles. Turn right on Diamondback Drive and go 0.4 miles to its end. Turn right on Muddy Branch Road and go 1.1 miles. PetCo is on the right side of the street in the Festival at Muddy Branch shopping center. The store is toward the right end of the shopping center.

### February 5, 2005

PETCO, Noon – 2 p.m.  
 Tyson's Corner  
 1929 Old Gallows Road  
 Vienna, Virginia 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.

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

# Happy Endings 3K Walkathon Thank You!

GRREAT's first annual 3K walk was a huge success, with about 100 people and their dogs coming out to help raise nearly \$5,000 for rescue. The weather was sunny but brisk as everyone donned his commemorative t-shirt and gathered at the starting area behind event host Weber's Pet Supermarket. Coffee donated by Caribou Coffee helped keep everyone warm. The walk was a pretty fall stroll through City of Fairfax streets and park areas.

Walkers returned to cake and refreshments. Door prizes from Outback Steakhouse, MaryEllen Rubenstein, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Ritz Camera, Deena Caruso Healthy Food for Pets, Cathy Gowen, Paula Clements Creative Memories, Giant Foods, Caring Hands Animal Hospital, Red Dog Café, Anna's Ark Doggie Day Care, Harma Nyhof, and All Friends Pet Care were awarded.

Thanks to everyone who participated and to our wonderful sponsors, listed below.

## Rescue Angels (\$500)



Weber's Pet Supermarket



Minerva Information Systems



Potomac Valley Golden  
Retriever Club, [www.pvgrc.org](http://www.pvgrc.org)

The Coventry School, Inc.  
for Dogs and Their People

## Rescue Partners (\$300)

Sharon S. Coale, MED, MS,  
CCC-SLP, Speech Pathology  
Associates, 301-469-8151  
Andy Arnold, State Farm  
Insurance, 703-978-4700,  
[www.andyarnoldinsurance.com](http://www.andyarnoldinsurance.com)  
Regal Pet Food,  
[www.regalpetfoods.com](http://www.regalpetfoods.com)  
Breeder's Choice Pet Foods, Inc.,  
[www.breeders-choice.com](http://www.breeders-choice.com)



Blue Ribbon Acres, 540-465-  
2364, [www.blueribbondog.com](http://www.blueribbondog.com)

## Friends of Rescue (\$100)

Midas Touch Naturally Healthy  
Pets, LLC  
"Emma"  
"Jameson" Ward  
Coldwell Banker Residential  
Brokerage, Great Falls, VA  
Smokey Hollow BBQ Company  
Capitol Chocolate Fountains  
"Hunter" (02-204)  
Louis and Theresa Stachowiak

## 3k Walk T-shirts Still Available!

It's not too late to support the Happy Endings 3k Walk effort by purchasing an event t-shirt. Limited quantities of shirts in sizes M-XXL are available for \$8 (includes shipping) or \$5 if picked up in Fairfax or at the Alexandria, VA Adoption Day on December 4. To purchase a shirt, e-mail event organizer Linda Kurtz at [mail@grreat.org](mailto:mail@grreat.org). She'll provide the exact sizes available as well as payment instructions.

## Thank You Linda Kurtz!

All of those who enjoyed GRREAT's very first 3K Walk, would like to thank Linda Kurtz and her family support team who worked very hard to plan and arrange the whole event! Everyone who attended had a wonderful time because of Linda's well-planned coordination of the entire walk! Thank you, Linda, for your energy, time, enthusiasm, and especially giving up a place in Honors Band to be the Chairperson, and organize the 3K Walk! We all appreciate it!

## GRREAT Auctions on eBay!

GRREAT has auctions on eBay to help raise needed funds to help our furry friends. If you have any items you'd like to donate for auction, please contact [grreatauctions@grreat.org](mailto:grreatauctions@grreat.org) to arrange a pickup.

## GOLDEN QUOTATION

"Goldens take your heart, and cherish it. They walk with it, and sleep with it, and they will never let it out of their sight. And when it's their time, they will take a little piece of it with them to remember you by and leave a piece for you to remember them by."

- *Author Unknown*

## Auction Items Needed!

GRREAT is in need of items for its Silent Auction at the Annual Howliday Party. We need holiday items, certificates for services, tickets to events, and Golden novelty items. We prefer mailable items, unless they can be brought to the party. All donations should be received by December 4, 2004. Anyone wishing to donate an item should contact Pam Ambrose at [Goldenschu@aol.com](mailto:Goldenschu@aol.com) or Kim Wiff at [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org).

## PICK OF THE LITTER

*Spotlight on a special dog in need of a special someone*

**CHLOE (04-158):** I'd like to tell you about Chloe. She has just come into GRREAT, and is eight months old. You are probably asking, "Why would anyone give up an eight month old puppy?" Well, let me tell you. Chloe was the very first Golden Retriever for a family with young children. They adored her.

A few months ago, Chloe began limping. A visit to an orthopedist revealed that Chloe was born with bilateral hip dysplasia, and will need surgery on both of her hips. As you know, hip surgeries are very expensive, and Chloe's family did not have the resources to pay for them. They truly wanted her to have the best life possible. So, they made the painful, and unselfish decision to give Chloe to GRREAT, so that she would be able to have the needed surgeries.

We've had Chloe examined by an orthopedic surgeon, and he concurs with the first doctor's diagnosis, that surgery needs to be done on both hips. Customarily when two hip surgeries are needed, surgery is performed on one hip, and the second hip surgery is done a few weeks later. However, our orthopedist has decided that because of the atrophied mus-



**Chloe is the pick of the litter!**

cles in her hips, and because Chloe doesn't get around that well, surgery on both hips will be done at once. By doing this, we will be able to start her rehabilitation, which will include swim-therapy, at the same time.

Chloe's surgeries will be paid for from donations to the Leo Fund. Donations that have been made to the Simile Finale Fund, which pays for alternative treatment for GRREAT dogs, will be used for her swim therapy.

We will be posting periodic updates on Chloe's recovery from surgery on [www.grreat.org](http://www.grreat.org), so be sure to check there in a few weeks to see how she's doing.

If you're interested in providing Chloe with a forever home, please contact Kim Wiff at [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 34th Annual Scottish Christmas Parade

December 4, 2004

10:30 am

Alexandria, VA

Represent GRREAT and Golden Retrievers in the parade and participate alongside over 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and drum bands, Scottish dancers, re-enactment groups, Scottie dog groups, dignitaries and Santa Claus! The route follows the Cobblestone streets of Old Town Alexandria (beginning at the corner of Wilkes and South Pitt Streets and ending at The Campagna Center). For more information, visit [www.campagnacenter.org/scw04schedule.htm](http://www.campagnacenter.org/scw04schedule.htm) or contact Kim Wiff at [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org).

### Doggie Happy Hours

Every Tuesday and Thursday

5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Holiday Inn Select

480 King Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 549-6080 x801

Come meet many furry friends for enjoyable evenings featuring complimentary hors d'oeuvres and happy hour specials. Gourmet biscuits and water are served for all the dogs.

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

## RENEW NOW FOR 2005!

Be sure to not miss out on a thing—renew your membership now so that we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of so many Golden friends. Membership dues are \$30 per year per family and include a subscription to the GRREAT News. Use the handy form on page 19 and the enclosed donation envelope and mail it and your check to GRREAT. Thanks for your support!

## AVAILABLE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a way to help GRREAT? We are always in need of volunteers who can:

- Conduct home visits
- Transport a dog
- Check out reports of Golden Retrievers at shelters
- Staff an education table at a local event
- Help with mailings
- Help at microchipping clinics
- Help at a concession stand at MCI Center events

*If you can volunteer in any capacity, please send Stef Nelson an e-mail at [volunteer@grreat.org](mailto:volunteer@grreat.org).*

### Special Thanks to WalMart Foundation

GRREAT has received a \$250 donation from WalMart Foundation to support our efforts to rescue Golden Retrievers. The application for the donation was submitted through the Burke, Virginia store. Many thanks to WalMart for their generous support!

Do you know of an organization that makes donations or grants to rescue? Please send the necessary contact information to Membership Coordinator Jill Kurtz at [mail@grreat.org](mailto:mail@grreat.org).

# ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

All members are encouraged to attend this year's annual business meeting. Find out how GRREAT operates. Hear about our 2004 accomplishments and weigh in on our 2005 plans. Participate in the election of GRREAT officers (You must be present to vote.)

If you plan to attend the meeting, please RSVP to [grreatevents@grreat.org](mailto:grreatevents@grreat.org) so that we can plan for beverages and munchies.

DATE: January 22, 2005

TIME: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

LOCATION: TBA

## Meeting Agenda

- Officer and coordinator reports
- Election of Officers—*Proposed Slate:* (Nominations will also be taken from the floor.)
  - President*  
Kim Wiff
  - Vice President*  
Sandy Diamond
  - Secretary*  
Janet Hauck
  - Treasurer*  
Gail Corby
- Reports of 2004 activities
- Plans for 2005 fundraising

# ASK GOLDIE

Featuring your questions answered by Susan McCullough, Author,  
*Housetraining For Dummies* (Wiley); *Your New Dog* (Capital Books) and *Senior Dogs For Dummies* (Wiley)

*Dear Goldie,*  
*I've read that playing tug-of-war teaches your dog to be aggressive. My Golden and I play this game all the time, and he doesn't seem to be aggressive; does it only affect certain dogs?*  
*Signed, Tugger's Mom in Virginia*

Dear Mom,  
For a long time, trainers and animal behaviorists did advise owners not to play tug-of-war with their dogs. As you've noted, these experts feared that tugging sessions could trigger aggressive behavior in the animal. Today, though, experts are revising their stance on tugging—up to a point.

Many dogs, such as your Golden, are amiable, even-tempered and able to enjoy a tugfest without morphing into Cujo-like behavior. In fact, some trainers believe that tugging can actually help shy or timid dogs gain confidence. Tug-of-war may also help in training dogs that compete in sports such as agility or obedience. In addition, tug-of-war is often used to train search-and-rescue dogs. That said, tugging isn't good for every dog. A pooch that has shown aggressiveness in the past, or even a dog that tends to be bossy, isn't a good candidate for a tugfest.

Here are some ways to make tug-of-war safe and fun for both you and your Golden:

**Know your dog.** A shy or playful pooch is a good candidate for

regular tug sessions, but a pushy or aggressive dog is not.

**Know yourself.** The human tugger should be able to control her dog's behavior. Trainers suggest not playing tug if you can't control the dog's other exuberant behaviors, such as jumping up or pulling on the leash while walking.

**Send a signal.** Research shows that telling your dog that it's playtime keeps a tug session from getting too intense. For example, you can show your dog the tug toy and then put it on the ground for him to grab. You can also teach a verbal cue, such as "go get your toy."

**Make him ask.** If your dog brings you a tug toy, make him ask to play politely. Many owners have their dogs sit before they start a tugging session.

**Teach to release.** Most trainers recommend that owners be able to end the tug game by teaching their dogs to release the tug toy when told. Start by saying a word such as "out," and then offer a treat. If the dog drops the item, give him the goodie. Once your dog understands that "out" means to drop the toy, you can ease off on the treats.

*Be sure to check out author Susan McCullough's Web site, [www.susanmc.com](http://www.susanmc.com). Among photos of her pal Allie, you can view her new book: *Senior Dogs For Dummies*, which features the stories of two GRREAT dogs, GRREAT volunteer Edie Galpin and GRREAT vet volunteer Dr. Ronald Spikloser!*

# THE DOG-TOR IS IN

Your questions answered by Dr. Ronald Spikloser

***My dog has tested positive for Lyme disease for the second time, even after being vaccinated.***

***What does this mean?***

The most common symptom of Lyme disease in dogs is limping. Any limping dog that comes into my office gets

tested for Lyme disease. I use a 3-way test that also tests for heart worm and ehrlichiosis. Even if a dog has been vaccinated for Lyme disease, the test is accurate. Many labs run a test that cannot differentiate between a natural reaction and a vaccine reaction.

When a vaccinated (or unknown) dog tests positive, another test must be done. Even the 3-in-1 test does not mean a dog has active Lyme disease. Some veterinarians will treat all positive dogs because it can become a chronic and life threatening disease and there is still a lot we do not know about this illness. A positive test only actually indicates exposure, not disease.

Unfortunately, the vaccine for Lyme disease is not 100% effective. The human vaccine has been taken off the market. I treat all positive dogs for eight weeks with the antibiotic doxycycline. Many vets are comfortable with a 4-week regimen. So if a test is positive after a dog has been vaccinated it depends on the test done as to whether it is really even a posi-

tive test and not a response to the vaccine. It is also a current debate about whether to vaccinate dogs that have had the disease. Lyme disease is a relatively new illness and we still have a lot to learn about it.

***I've seen ads for pet insurance. Do these companies work just like human health insurance? Are they worth it?***

Health insurance for animals is available and it is helpful. It will usually pay part of the cost of certain problems but this will vary greatly with the company and then type of coverage picked by the dog's owner. As with any insurance policy, the purchaser is betting their animal is going to be sick and the insurer is betting the animal will be healthy. The best way to approach this is to talk to different companies and compare products to one another. It is also helpful to talk to current customers about their experiences with their company.

***My vet has prescribed Clomicalm for my dog's anxiety. Are there any side effects I should worry about?***

Clomicalm needs to be used in conjunction with behavior modification to have the greatest affect. The potential side effects are vomiting, diarrhea, sedation, and possibly dry mouth. Because it is a certain type of drug there can be interactions with other drugs and your vet should be made aware of any drugs that your dog has been on within 2 weeks of starting clomicalm. In my experience it is a well received drug.

## Lyme Disease in Dogs: Signs to Look Out For

Most canine patients admitted with signs of limping (usually one foreleg), lymph node swelling in the affected limb, and a temperature of 103° (101 to 102.5° is normal) are Lyme positive.

The limping usually progresses over three to four days from mild and barely noticeable to complete disuse of the painful leg. Once the dog starts to be affected by the bacteria, Lyme Disease can progress from a mild discomfort to the stage where a dog will be in such joint and muscle pain it will refuse to move; it is not uncommon for an owner to have to carry a sick dog into the animal hospital. In addition to joint damage, the bacteria can affect the dog's heart muscle and nerve tissue.

If the disease is diagnosed in time, treatment can cure the dog before permanent joint or nerve damage occurs. Certain antibiotics, such as the Tetracyclines, are very helpful in eliminating the disease.

### GOT A QUESTION FOR DR. RON?

E-mail it to [newsletter@grreat.org](mailto:newsletter@grreat.org) and we will answer it in a future column in the GRREAT News!

## Letter from the Managing Editor

Hi Folks,

It is with deep regret that I must step back from the GRREAT News.

I have enjoyed working on the newsletter and will miss it immensely. I'd like to extend my sincerest gratitude to everyone who has helped out over the past two years. All of you have made my job much easier. Extra special thanks go to the amazing April Fritz and the ever-supportive Kim Wiff—both of whom have taught me so much.

Truly,  
Beth Lacey Gill ☺

### WANTED

Managing Editor of  
GRREAT News

Requirements:

- Familiarity with and access to page layout software (InDesign or Quark Xpress)
- Solid writing and editing skills
- Ability to communicate with the board, members, and volunteers
- Approximately 10 hours per month

Anyone interested should contact Kim Wiff at [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org).

## Fostering in Retirement— the Pleasures and Perks

By GRREAT Secretary Janet Hauck

- Life is a “roller coaster” once again!
- You and your significant other bond more closely as you smile in unison at the progress and difference you have made.
- No more gym dues—dog walking is an active sport that is integral to fostering.
- Cuddling takes on new meaning.
- Counting the number of dogs you've fostered; not idle days.
- Learning incredible statistics, valuable medical knowledge, first aid, new vocabulary, and how to be “the head of the pack!”
- Sniffing is understood as a scientific term, with vast nuances.
- Dexterity is a by-product of learning how to ambulate in a house full of Golden bodies. Life takes on more meaning because you are “giving” meaning.
- Discipline—ahhh...that word.... It is intertwined in a dog-savvy household.
- It's consistent and flexible; kind and firm; and, most of all, dependable.
- Forgetting about your aches and pains because, #1, they are fewer with activity and #2, you are more worried about your Golden foster than yourself.
- Everyone needs a leash: so they don't go off the “deep end!”
- Your memory improves with routines, meds, vet appointments, meal, and bathroom schedules.
- Your old whiny friends will wonder where you are.
- Your kids will wonder where you are...but be delighted with your newfound dedication.
- Your camera will itch to capture precious moments.
- Your blood pressure will drop, a side effect of leisurely petting and interaction with your fosters.
- Socializing with dog lovers who share your avocation.
- The simple joys in life are modeled for you by your fosters. They teach a powerful lesson in their small pleasures.
- Your house will be cleaner, because you will vacuum more often and change filters frequently.
- Perfecting nurturing makes you feel very warm inside.
- Wardrobe simplification: Golden colors and easy-wash duds.
- The joy in “giving” will take on a “life of its own” when you match your foster to its forever home.

Sounds like a deal you can't pass up? You are right! And IF you seem very dedicated /obsessed, you just might be tapped to fill a leadership position in the organization...who could ask for more?



## Home Holiday Hazards

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, it's time for some friendly reminders about poisonous plants, dangerous foods, electrical cords, antifreeze, and other holiday health hazards. New plants/trees are brought into the home, packages containing all kinds of interesting things are delivered, candies and other goodies abound, and owners are distracted by all the activity. Keep in mind the following tips to ensure the safety of the pets in our families:

- \* Certain plants such as Mistletoe berries, and the leaves, stem and flowers of the Poinsettia can be dangerous to pets. Be sure to keep these plants well out of the reach of animals in your home, or consider using artificial versions. Christmas trees (firs, cedars, pines) contain volatile oils that can cause vomiting and diarrhea; needles can cause irritation to the mouth and stomach.
- \* Foods and drinks such as alcoholic beverages, seeds and pits from many fruits, chocolate, macadamia nuts, walnuts, coffee, tea, salt, onions, and other foods can be harmful to pets.
- \* Never feed pets leftovers from the dinner table. Items such as chicken bones can easily shatter and choke cats and dogs.
- \* Decorations such as tinsel, glass ornaments, potpourri, and garlands can easily attract pets, but are dangerous choking hazards. Electric decorations such as stringed lights can give your pets a shock should they chew on the wires. Keep decorations out of their reach.
- \* The unusual commotion of the holiday season can be stressful on animals as well as humans. Put your pets in a quiet room or quiet area of the house when guests are visiting.
- \* When traveling with your pets, make sure they are properly secured and don't fly them in the cargo area on airplanes unless absolutely necessary.

This list is by no means all-inclusive, but hopefully it will help you make your home a safer place during the holidays. And remember, just because your Golden is normally a "good dog" doesn't mean that he won't succumb to temptation and get into something harmful. For more information about home holiday hazards, visit the Humane Society's Web site at [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org).

**Don't forget about the Howliday Party on December 12! See page 20 for more info.**

Remember that, in most cases, the severity of the problem caused by a holiday hazard will depend on the amount ingested and the size and age of the dog. When in doubt, call your veterinarian or Poison Control Center for further information.

In an emergency, call:  
ASPCA Animal Poison Control  
888-4ANI-HELP  
888-426-4435

**Happy Holidays  
from your friends  
at GRREAT!**

To all of our fosters, volunteers, members, adoptive families, supporters, friends and Golden's: We wish you all a safe and memorable holiday season full of joy. See you next year!



---

# Thank You!

## Adoption Day Volunteers

Linda and John Bowlin

Jane Caverly

Pam Hodgkinson and  
Summer

Shelley Hunsberger

Amy Krebs and Lassie

Diane Lanigan

Mary Ellen Rubenstein

Brenna Rubenstein

Connie and John Swanson

Kathy Thomas

## Rockville-Fallsgrove

### Happy Hour Volunteers

Marie Bertin

Heather Manatos

Kate Nelson and their  
Goldens

Debbie Uslander

## Walk for Paws at Lake Elkhorn Volunteers

Nancy Alexander

Besty Bake

Kelly Bean

Debbie Brent

Pat Savary

---

## STAY IN TOUCH WITH GRREAT THROUGH E-MAIL!

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](mailto: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.

# Pet First Aid

By GRREAT Member Skye Anderson

Do you know what to do if your dog bloats out? Can you do cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on him or bandage a cut paw? What is first aid, anyway?

The American Red Cross offers a 4-hour course in pet first aid and defines it as the immediate, temporary care of a sick or injured pet until the pet can be transported to a veterinarian—without injuring yourself or causing further injury to the pet. Immediate so as to not let his condition worsen. Temporary because the pet should then be seen by a vet even if he seems to have recovered from the choking incident, e.g., because there may be damage to his windpipe (trachea). Without injuring yourself (what good could you do if you were bitten?) or further injuring the animal (remember, first do no harm).

What is normal?

To be able to determine if our pet is sick, we must first know what is normal. What is his usual TPR (temperature, pulse, respiration)?

A dog's temperature is higher than ours: from 100.2–102.8F. Anything over 104 or under 100 should be considered an emergency. Ask your vet to teach you how to take your dog's temperature.

You can take your dog's pulse (heart rate) by placing him on his right side. Bend his left leg and where the elbow touches his chest (about the 5th rib), place 2 or 3 fingers and start counting. Don't use your thumb because it has a pulse of its own. The pulse may be more difficult to find on older or obese dogs (another good reason for dieting!). If you are still having trouble, try the inner thigh (femoral vessel) or just below the wrist or ankle. For a dog less than 30 pounds, the average pulse lies between 100 and 160. For dogs weighing over 30 pounds, the range is 60-100 and for puppies, it is 120-150. Be advised that it is not unusual for the pulse to speed up or slow down in dogs.

The respiration rate (rate of breathing) is generally 10-30 breaths per second though a dog may pant up to 200 pants per minute.

Get to know your dog!

*Skye Anderson is a volunteer instructor of Pet First Aid classes for the American Red Cross in Maryland, [www.redcross-cmd.org](http://www.redcross-cmd.org). She can be reached at [skyebird48@hotmail.com](mailto:skyebird48@hotmail.com).*

## 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 2005 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 Microchip 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)

\_\_\_\_\_ Perform home checks prior to adoptions

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide storage space for food, supplies, crates

\_\_\_\_\_ Stamp and address newsletters and flyers

\_\_\_\_\_ Donate the following services:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 2004 Annual Howliday Party!

This year's Howliday Party will take place at the Frederick Fairgrounds building on Sunday, December 12, 2004. Pictures can be taken with Santa (for a minimal donation), and of course, we will have the usual canine costume parade and games. A silent auction will also take place during the party to benefit GRREAT!

**Doggie Gift Exchange:** Please bring a loosely wrapped "gift" appropriate for a dog and under \$5 for EACH of your dogs that participates in the exchange. Gifts will be placed in a pile, and each dog bringing a gift will have a chance to retrieve a gift!

**Pot Luck Dinner:** The GRREAT Board will provide the turkey, ham, bread, rolls, condiments, chips, tableware, and hot and cold beverages—but everything else will be Pot Luck!

Families are asked to bring a side dish (casseroles, warm vegetables), munchies (pretzels/chips, dips, cut veggies), salad (pasta, green or fruit), or dessert (you know what they are!) to share in proportion to the size of your family (no need to feed 30!), as indicated below. If your last name begins with:

A - F    munchies        M - R    dessert  
G - L    side dish\*        S - Z    cold salad

**To RSVP:** Please send an e-mail to [grreatevents@grreat.org](mailto:grreatevents@grreat.org) or call (703) 620-6593 and leave a message in box 5 after November 29. Let us know your name and how many people and dogs will attend.

**Directions:** *From Washington, DC:* 270 North to 70 East towards Baltimore. Right onto South Street. Right onto Franklin. Fairgrounds are straight ahead. *From Baltimore:* 695 South to 70 West. Take exit 56. Go 7 blocks. Fairgrounds are straight ahead.

## PARTY DETAILS

DATE: December 12    TIME: 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: Frederick Fairground  
797 E. Patrick Street #12  
Frederick, MD 21731

COST: \$10 per person or  
\$20 per family

\* If your dish is to be served warm, please bring the appropriate heating device, serving utensils, and extension cord.

\*\*This cost defrays the expense of renting the facility.



© Dietrich Leis Stock Photography

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.  
P.O. Box 3069  
Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

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

GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue  
Education and Training, Inc.