



# GRREAT NEWS

Published by Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. • March/April 2005 • Volume 15, No. 2

## The E in GRREAT

By Sandy Diamond, GRREAT Vice President and Education Coordinator

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Letter from the President	3
Adoption Report	
Adoption day Directions	5
Ask Goldie	6
Donations	7-9, 16
Annual Business Meeting	
Highlights	10
The DOG-TOR Is In	12
Book Suggestions	13
PVGRC to Host National Specialty	14
2006 Calendar Contest Information	15
Volunteer Recognition	16
Sunshine's RV Adventure, Part 2	17
Donation, Renewal, and Volunteer Forms	19
No Vacancy: Foster Homes Needed	20

We are all familiar with the first three letters of our name: Golden Retriever Rescue. But what do the other letters mean? They stand for Education And Training. We are getting into the busy time of the year for education events, so I thought I would let our members know a little bit more about what this means.



Getting the word out about GRREAT to new volunteers, adopters and give-up families is an ongoing effort. Our website plays a big roll in this, especially with the advent of the search engine. Another way we get the word out is by getting in front of the public by attending various events.

GRREAT is invited to set up a table or booth at many different events. Most of these events are dog- or animal-related and other rescue groups are there. All of them are a lot of fun and very rewarding

A typical event starts out with a call for help. Our Volunteer Coordinator, Stef Nelson, sends out an e-mail to members who have indicated they are interested in helping out at events. We wouldn't be able to attend without their help!

At the event, we have fliers on hand that include information on the rescue, information on the breed, adoption applications, volunteer information, sample

newsletters, and information on puppy mills. We often have a supply of GRREAT items for sale. We also will put out a donation jar and sometimes we will highlight a dog in need of support from the Leo Fund.

On the morning of the event, we load up the car with the literature, merchandise and the dogs (did I mention we get to show off our GRREAT dogs at most events?) and head on out. It's usually a scramble to get everything set up in time, and the volunteers are always a lifesaver.

Then the fun begins! We talk to people all day about the rescue, about our dogs and ways they can help. We educate them on the reasons dogs come into the rescue. Many people are unaware of the varying quality of dog food. We hand out membership, volunteer and adoption applications and tell people about the need for

EDUCATION Cont'd on page 4

# 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.

## 2005 OFFICERS AND ADVISORY BOARD

### **PRESIDENT**

Kim Wiff\* ..... [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org) ..... 703.724.4853

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Sandy Diamond\* ..... [vp@grreat.org](mailto:vp@grreat.org) ..... 703.787.6708

### **SECRETARY**

Janet Hauck\* ..... [secretary@grreat.org](mailto:secretary@grreat.org) ..... 410.838.5437

### **TREASURER**

Gail Corby\* ..... [treasurer@grreat.org](mailto:treasurer@grreat.org) ..... 302.378.8855

### **FOSTER HOME & INTAKE COORDINATOR**

Edie Galpin\* ..... [intake@grreat.org](mailto:intake@grreat.org) ..... 410.272.6647

### **FOSTER HOME APPROVAL COORDINATORS**

Susan McKelvey (DE, MD, DC) ..... [smckelvey@expresshost.com](mailto:smckelvey@expresshost.com) ..... 410.745.0134

Kim Wiff (VA, WV, PA) ..... [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org) ..... 703.724.4853

### **ADOPTION COORDINATOR**

Jessie Robinson\* ..... [adoptions@grreat.org](mailto:adoptions@grreat.org) ..... 301.577.8350

### **VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Stephanie Nelson\* ..... [volunteer@grreat.org](mailto:volunteer@grreat.org) ..... 410.381.9456

### **EDUCATION COORDINATORS**

Pat Savary (DE, MD, DC) ..... [educationmd@grreat.org](mailto:educationmd@grreat.org)

Sandy Diamond (VA, WV, DC) ..... [educationva@grreat.org](mailto:educationva@grreat.org) ..... 703.787.6708

### **FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR**

Pam Ambrose ..... [fundraising@grreat.org](mailto:fundraising@grreat.org) ..... 301.972.0457

### **PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR**

April Fritz\* ..... [april@fritz.org](mailto:april@fritz.org) ..... 301.330.5749

### **MEMBER AT LARGE**

Pam Briggles\* ..... [atlarge@grreat.org](mailto:atlarge@grreat.org) ..... 301.808.0734

### **MEMBERSHIP & MAIL COORDINATOR**

Jill Kurtz ..... [mail-admin@grreat.org](mailto:mail-admin@grreat.org) ..... 703.250.3012

### **MERCHANDISING COORDINATOR**

Jo Bighouse ..... [midastouchgoldens@msn.com](mailto:midastouchgoldens@msn.com) ..... 540.955.2003

### **MICROCHIPPING COORDINATOR**

Scott Daniels\* ..... [microchips@grreat.org](mailto:microchips@grreat.org) ..... 302.449.1227

### **EVENTS COORDINATOR**

Allison Ward\* ..... [events@grreat.org](mailto:events@grreat.org) ..... 410.381.0102

### **WEBMASTER**

Bob Fritz ..... [webmaster@grreat.org](mailto:webmaster@grreat.org) ..... 301.330.5749

### **NEWSLETTER**

Jill Kurtz ..... [newsletter@grreat.org](mailto:newsletter@grreat.org)

\* members of the GRREAT Board of Directors

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by **Kim Wiff, GRREAT President**

I'd like to tell you about our new foster dog that we've named Mason. He came into GRREAT as a stray from a local shelter. Despite being a "lost boy," he has all the characteristics of a Golden that has been cared for throughout his life. He loves going for walks, a bite of whatever you may be eating, and like many Golden retrievers, he adores tennis balls. With an ever present smile, Mason is affectionate and follows us all over the house. Mason gets along very well with our five GRREAT dogs, and doesn't even mind the cat! He doesn't chew anything inappropriate, jump on people, or get on the furniture. Doesn't he sound wonderful? To us, he is. I recently took Mason to an adoption day in hopes of meeting his new forever family. However, he was overlooked by those families who attended. Why you might ask? Well, it's because Mason is about 10 years old; too old to be considered for adoption by some families.

Many of the applicants that come to GRREAT are hoping to adopt a young Golden Retriever—one who is vital and active and has a whole lifetime in front of him. When my husband and I applied to adopt from GRREAT, we were no exception. We hoped to adopt a young female Golden as a companion to our then three year old Golden named Tod. And this was exactly what we adopted. At that time, I would never have considered any dog over the age of eight. However, a couple of years later my opinion and feelings about senior Golden retrievers all changed.

I used to think...that an older dog that had been turned over to GRREAT must have problems or it would not be part of the rescue. Senior Golden retrievers, like their young counterparts, come into the rescue for every reason imaginable. Many of them have spent their lifetime with just one family and have had a lifetime of training to go along with that. Yes, there are some that have behavior concerns. However, it is not too often that you will find a senior dog that isn't housebroken, chews up your slippers, or counter surfs.

I used to think...that a senior Golden would have more medical needs. To some extent this is true. An older dog will perhaps need more medical "supervision" such as a senior blood panel every year. In my experience with Golden retrievers young and old, I have found that there is no health guarantee for a dog of any age. Hip and knee problems, along with skin and ear ailments—and even cancer—can and do affect all Golden retrievers regardless of age.

I used to think...that a senior Golden won't bond to me like a young Golden will. It is true that an older dog doesn't bond as a young one does—an older Golden usually bonds with its new family more than a younger one does. Dogs in particular who have experienced a difficult past or a loss have been known to form new and stronger bonds with their new families. These Golden retrievers have found someone to love them, and they have no intention of letting go!

MESSAGE Cont'd on page 4

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 2, 2005**  
Adoption Day  
PETCO, 12 – 2 p.m.  
Herndon, VA

**May 7, 2005**  
Adoption Day  
PETCO, 12 – 2 p.m.  
Bel Air, MD

**June 4, 2005**  
Adoption Day  
Weber's, 12 – 2 p.m.  
Chantilly, VA

**June 12, 2005**  
Bark-B-Que  
Quiet Waters Park  
Annapolis, MD  
For directions to Adoption Days,  
see page 5.



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).

## 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 questions above, 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 [vp@grreat.org](mailto:vp@grreat.org).

### MESSAGE Continued from page 3

I used to think...they won't be around for very long, and it'll be too hard to lose them. This is what I hear from people the most as a reason to not consider adopting a senior Golden. Those families who adopt older Golden are truly the most unselfish of rescuers. I know that it is not easy to open your heart and home to a dog that you know may not be with you for very long. I recently received an e-mail from Diane and Mark Anderson, who adopted Casey, (01-088) at the age of seven. This is what Diane has to say about adopting a senior Golden:

*“I can say with all sincerity that adopting a senior dog has many rewards. They are loyal, faithful and grateful. It would not have mattered to me if we had him (Casey) one year or 10 years... this dog has brought us so much joy. Yes, he is slowing down.. a little.. and yes, he is a little whiter but this guy is just a ball of love... he is the last thing I see when I leave the house and the first thing I see looking out the window for me when I come home.”*

Those of you who have had the joy and privilege having a senior Golden in your home, know and understand what Diane is saying. For those of



you who have not yet experienced the honor of having a senior Golden in your home, I hope you will perhaps consider taking a leap of faith, and adopting a senior Golden. For whatever time this golden will have left, they will give you so much happiness and love.

You will find that after just a short time, people watching you with them, will never know that the two of you hadn't always been together. Whatever time you are allowed to have with your senior Golden, will be time that you will always treasure.

You will never look back with pangs of regret. Like me, and others, you will want the chance to do it all over again. 🐾

### EDUCATION Continued from page 1

foster homes. We talk about the adoption process. And our dogs (who get no attention at home) get scratched and petted all day long.

In addition to the organized events, there are many volunteers who set up tables and hand out literature at events in their communities. Pat and I are always available to get you the information you need if you want to do this. And if you know of an event we should attend, please e-mail me at [vp@grreat.org](mailto:vp@grreat.org).

To be added to the list to help out at one of these events, either complete the volunteer form on the last page of the newsletter or e-mail [mail@grreat.org](mailto:mail@grreat.org) with your preferences. Don't forget to check the GRREAT calendar!

P.S. Did you know that our President, Kim Wiff, learned of GRREAT through an education table at an Old Dominion Kennel Club event? 🐾

# ADOPTION REPORT

Name	ID	Age	Sex	Name	ID	Age	Sex
Alex	04-183	2	M	Morgan	05-006	8	M
Amber	04-168	3	F	Murphy	05-003	1	M
Buddy	04-186	8	M	Nevada	05-038	1	M
Buddy	05-013	1	M	Nina	04-191	1	F
Buddy	05-016	2	M	Peaches	04-127	9	F
Cassidy	04-177	9	F	Pharoah	04-138	2	M
Chloe	04-158	1	F	Quentin	03-186	2	M
Cooper	05-008	10 mo	M	Reba	03-144	9	F
Daisy	05-010	2	F	Rocky	04-175	4	M
Danny	04-194	1	M	Rocky	05-002	2	M
Dolli	98-085	12	F	Rosie	04-189	7	F
Fred	04-083	4	M	Rudi	03-229	3	F
General	04-135	10	M	Shamrock	03-273	9	M
Hannah	01-161	8	F	Shayna	04-143	1	F
Jack/Zeke	04-131	2	M	Shelby	05-005	8	F
KC	04-192	4	F	Shelby	05-035	4	F
Kodi	05-018	8	F	Skippy/Rusty	04-190	2	M
Lucky	04-167	8 mo	M	Sparky	04-182	3	M
Lucy	00-267	7	F	Teddy	04-053	9	M
Madison	04-187	8	F	TJ	04-171	1	M
Maggie	05-015	8	F	Torin	04-156	9	M
Maxie	03-028	2	F	Walker	04-184	10 mo	M
Mitzi	03-098	4	F	Willie	04-193	8	M

The first few months of 2005 were very good to 46 dogs.

Many of these were long-term foster dogs who were adopted by the families caring for them, including a twelve year old and a ten year old.

Of the 46 dogs adopted between January 1 and March 15, 25 were male and 21 were female. Eleven were under two years of age, seventeen were between two and six, and a remarkable eighteen dogs were age seven or over.

Congratulations to these lucky dogs and their even luckier forever families!

## ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

**May 7, 2005**  
Noon – 2 p.m.

PETCO  
615 Belair Rd, Suite P  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
Ph: 410-420-6754

From I-95, take exit 77A for Route 24 North. Turn left onto Route 1. Tollgate Plaza is on your left. PETCO is near the TGIFridays Restaurant.

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

**June 4, 2005**  
Noon – 2 p.m.

Weber's Pet Supermarket  
10458-G Lee Rd  
Chantilly, VA 20151  
Ph: 703-631-2738

From Rt. 495 (Capitol Beltway), take Exit I-66 West. Take exit from Rt. 50 West. Travel approximately 5 miles. Cross Rt. 28. Turn left at light onto Lee Rd. Weber's is in the light industrial plaza on the right.

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

Maryland drivers can 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).



## THE GRREAT STORE

A selection of excellent dog training books that have been recommended by the Association of Pet Dog Trainers are now available at the GRREAT on-line store.

You will find books from renowned authors such as Jean Donaldson, Ian Dunbar, Patricia McConnell, and Turid Rugaas.

And for the younger members of GRREAT, we have added a nice selection of children's books.

Stop by our store by following the link on the GRREAT web site to check out the new books and the many wonderful toy and gifts.



# ASK GOLDIE

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

Dear Goldie:

I love everything about my Golden Retriever except for the fact that he jumps on anyone and everyone he meets. He's a big dog and very strong, so if you're not prepared for him to jump, he literally can knock you over. How can I stop him from doing this?

Signed,  
Golden Rocket's Mom in Maryland

Dear Mom,

Puppies are so cute when they jump up to score a kiss or a goodie from you, aren't they? They are so irresistible that one can't help but give in to their airborne entreaties -- which is exactly what most people do. Other people like to develop their pups' pogo stick skills by holding a toy aloft for the puppy to jump up for. If the pup reaches the toy, they let him keep it. Either way, all is well -- unless that puppy grows up to be a big dog like a Golden Retriever. At that point, the jumping is not irresistible at all, and that Golden's people wonder desperately how to break their dog of the habit.

What those people don't realize is that they taught their dog that jumping is not only OK, but actually a good thing to do. Every time their Golden puppy decided to channel Michael Jordan, they'd reward him by letting him have that kiss, by giving him that treat, or by letting him grab that toy. Not surprisingly, the Golden has concluded that heading skyward is the quickest route to getting what he wants.

And so, to break the jumping habit, a Golden's people need to take away that reason for jumping. They have to show their dog that jumping no longer will result in a kiss, a cookie, a toy or any attention at all.

How does one do this? Simple: when your rocket dog takes off, just turn around and walk away from him. Ignore him. Give him absolutely no attention at all.

Now, you may have heard about other ways to cure your Golden Jumping Jack Flash of his airborne maneuvers. There's the old knee-in-the-chest routine; the grabbing-his-front-paws-and-holding-them routine, and the stepping-on-the-leash-so-he-can't-jump routine. If you're sufficiently well coordinated to perform any of these maneuvers, you can probably stop your dog in mid-leap. However, you won't be dealing with the root cause of his behavior: his desire for rewards and attention from you. If you respond to his jumping with these old-fashioned jumping repellents, you're still giving him attention. You're still rewarding his behavior, even if that reward is different from what his take-offs and landings used to bring him.

It'll take awhile, but if you and the rest of your family ignore his leaps each and every time he performs them, your Golden rocket dog will eventually realize that getting in your face gets him absolutely nowhere.

But once he's got four back on the floor, show him that staying on land is the best place to stay. Call him to you, and give him some luvvin' and a tasty treat. That way you both win. You don't get knocked over, and he gets what he craves: attention from you, his beloved human. 🐾

---

## In Memory Of...

---

Robert C. Sommer, who passed away with his loving dog of 17 years by his side. - *Amy Keating*

Virginia "Ginny" Rees who lost her life in a tragic accident. She was a wonderful person and really loved all kinds of animals. - *Darrell and Diana Weldon*

Tina – our first foster – what a sweet girl!  
- *Tom and Jean Klinger*

Charlie Girl, on behalf of Dr. Bruce Rashbaum and Mr. Chuck Dalby. If this donation could help a dog find a home as full of love as Charlie had with Dr. Rosenbaum and Mr. Dalby, it would be a lucky dog and a worthy use of the donation. - *Tina Conway DVM*

Humphrey (03-215). - *Margaret Yates*

Teddy. - *Cynthia Martin*

Fletch Daniels (02-163), as requested in lieu of Christmas gifts by Scott Daniels and his family. - *Mary Temple*

GG Bean. - *Lynne Young*



My "Law Firm" of Cagny (2004), Murphy (2003), and Harrison (2005) has moved to new quarters across the Rainbow Bridge. Harrison did all my home visits for 12 years. He was quite the diplomat even at 15.5!

- *Diane Lanigan*

Playful, mischievous, affectionate Molly. Sadly missed.  
- *Peter and Barbara Manchester*

Sunny Collier, beloved dog of Patricia Collier.  
- *Nancy and Dave Smith*

Our golden "Buddy." - *Pam and Conrad O'Connell*

Our beloved golden Teddy Bear "Big Golden Boy Zachary CDX 7-21-98 – 1-12-05." He was not from GRREAT. We adopted him when he was 4 years old. He was a mess and overweight. In Oct. 04, he started to limp. Went to the vet and found out he had bone cancer, left rear leg. Well, that was a big hit for us. They put him on rimadyl. That helped, but in Jan. he was crying. So, that was it. I am not over his loss. His leg was very swollen and I still see it. He is now over the Rainbow Bridge.  
- *Leny and Cor Endlich*

Allie. She was with us for a short time but touched out lives forever. - *Amy and Brent Lenz*

---

## Corporate Donations. . .

---

Americas Charities from an unnamed Lockheed Martin donor.

USA Today Employee Giving Campaign, anonymous donor.

Microsoft Giving Campaign, match of donation from Bob and Carolyn Reagle.

Network for Good

"Spring Johnson" - *Janet O'May*

"Jenny" - *Carol Howell*

PETCO Foundation, donations from employees, customers and vendors under the "Tree of Hope 2004" program. The nation-wide fundraiser, which ran from November 21 through December 24, encouraged pet lovers to donate to animal welfare causes. Each donor received a cardstock ornament to be

# DONATIONS

signed and displayed in PETCO or taken home as a reminder of their generosity.

## In Honor Of. . .

---

Kim Wiff and her ability to hang onto the big rescue picture, while staying patient, understanding and compassionate when all too often we volunteers temporarily forget we are the small part in the big rescue wheel. I appreciate her ability to smile during the temporary trials of “damned if you do and damned if you don’t.” Her “grace under fire” and sense of humor helps us all to get out of the way of ourselves to help the golden retrievers we love. God Bless you Kim and thank you for all your effort and hard work by forging ahead as president of GRREAT. - *L Sidney Morris*

Judy McKinley, Jeff and Lucinda Twining, and most of all Lynne Glennon for bringin Shayna into our lives. - *Amanda and Robin Lindquist*

Montana and Bailey. - *Barbara and Dave Abernethy*

Tia Maria, who has brought so much joy and love to our lives. - *John Liddi*

Dusty. - *Jonathan Gordon*

U-CDX Jack is a Taz Too CDX TD CGC--two titles this year! - *Debra and Bill Barrows*

Dr Nancy Ruth and Dr Amy Holstein of All Paws Veterinary Center in Upper Marlboro for their excellent and compassionate care of my beloved Charlie during his final days. Although Charlie was a mixed Borzoi, he had many Golden and GRREAT friends and would want you to keep up the good work. - *Greg Russell*

## Similie Finale Fund. . .

---

*Trish Collier*

This check is marked specially for the Similie Finale Fund, earmarked for Jessie Robinson’s neurologically challenged foster dog Bailey’s physical therapy.

I met Bailey recently and was smitten with him, his happy unawareness that he even has a problem and his valiant cheerful normalcy.

This may be a little help with his water therapy.

## For Other Reasons. . .

---

Donation for Roxie Rabinowitz. - *Randy Rabinowitz*

Donation of obedience deposit.  
- *Christopher Brown and Jennifer Harper*

To thank Edie for all she does and also for our boy Max 04-031. - *Vicki and James Eurice*

For Ben. - *Sid and MaryJo Burkot*

For Chloe’s expenses. - *Olivia McDonough*

To help the new mom and pups.  
- *Elizabeth and Thomas Parbuoni*

Please accept this donation for all the wonderful work you do. Brooks is the best dog we’ve ever had!  
- *Debra and Greg Schaum*

## For Pete. . .

---

*Courtney and Nick Breul*

*Ann Lyons*

*Bonnie and Tom Somers*



The Silent Auction at the PVGRC Awards Banquet on Saturday March 12 was a “GRREAT” success! We made \$2,697 at the event. Pam Ambrose did a fantastic job of putting it together, and it is even more amazing that she did it in the middle of a move.



# DONATIONS

## The Leo Fund. . .

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

*Anne and Richard Peck*

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

*Barbara and Robert Dickman*

*Joe O'Neill*

*Tommie O'Connell*

In memory of Angel Girl 97-120 died 12-04.

I have just read about Chloe on the computer. I am so glad she is doing so well. I miss my golden Angel Girl who left me in Dec 04. This gift is in her memory. Thank you for all of the love you give to Golden. I am waiting for a new Golden to come live with me.

*Jim and Ginny Hayes*

In memory of our dear beautiful Lacey whom we lost suddenly Jan. 3, 2005.

### Leo's Pals (up to \$99)

Ellen and Gary Kasnett

Terry and Karen Moses

Robin Forster and Jennifer Utz

### Cash Donations from Adoption Day

*These donations were due in VERY large part to the efforts of a 9 year old volunteer, Sarah Schryer. Her parents, Sue and Bill, manned our info table with their adopted dog Shelby 04-117 but it was Sarah who made sure that folks knew about our fund, and made sure to pass out the brochures, and encouraged folks to drop in their spare change.*

*She was observed several times by our Team Leader of the day, Lucinda Twining, talking with passers-by about the need to raise funds for dogs that needed extra help like surgeries.*

*Sarah was an absolutely phenomenal young volunteer and truthfully, we wouldn't have pulled in these donations without her.*

*Chris Evert*

For Sophie and to help Chloe who we hope does as well as Sophie did after surgery.

*Debbie and Dan Gardecki*

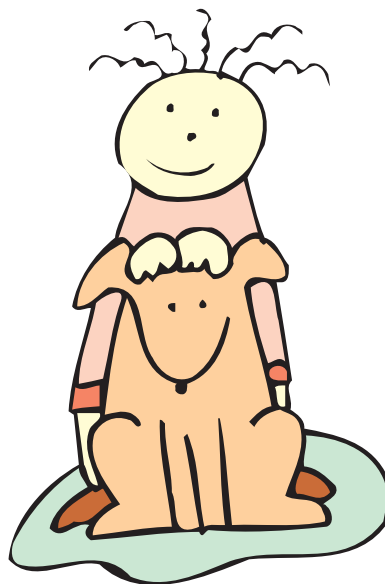
We are sending you a copy of Jordan's Obedience Training Certificate. We adopted Jordan at the end of August 2004. She has brought so much joy to our family. She is such a gentle and loving dog. After our Golden, Levi, came down with cancer and had to be put to sleep, we never imagined another dog could touch our lives as he did.

Jordan has become such an important part of our family, and goes everywhere with us. We couldn't imagine not having her in our lives. Although, we will never forget Levi and he will always be in our hearts, Jordan has been able to fill the void that was left in our family and in our hearts when we lost him.

Thank you so much, GRREAT, for all that you do for the Golden in need and the families that need them. We realize what a great organization GRREAT is, and we are truly touched by the stories of those dogs that benefit from the Leo Fund. Therefore, please put our obedience deposit into the Leo Fund. Hopefully, it will help, in some way, to give a new life to a Golden who is suffering and in need of surgery.

We hope you will continue for a very long time with the good work that you do.

The Gardecki's--Dan, Debbie, Samantha Sabrina and Stephanie



# Annual Business Meeting Highlights

By April Fritz, GRREAT Publications Coordinator

On January 29, the GRREAT Board of Directors and GRREAT members gathered in Columbia, Maryland for the annual business meeting. Each board member and coordinator gave a full report of their progress over the 2004 year.

In 2004. . .

- 197 dogs were accepted into the rescue
- 17 dogs were returned from previous years
- Total intake for 2004 was 214 dogs

More 2004 Facts. . .

Total dogs adopted	239
Adoption applications received	575
Adoption Day events	12
Available dog lists mailed	12
GRREAT web site "hits" per month	20,000
Percent of dogs with AKC papers	17.8%
Total foster homes	108
Homes fostering more than 1 dog	56
Most dogs fostered by one family	8
Dogs microchipped April – Dec.	68 %

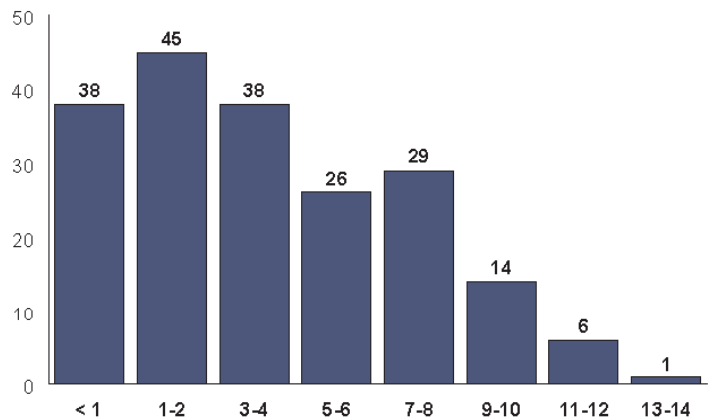
The charts on this page and page 11 highlight additional information presented.

---

The number of dogs accepted into the Rescue was down from previous years, primarily because mixed breeds had to be turned away due to the lack of available foster homes. Fewer dogs taken in combined with fewer applications for adoptions meant that the number of dogs adopted was also lower for 2004.

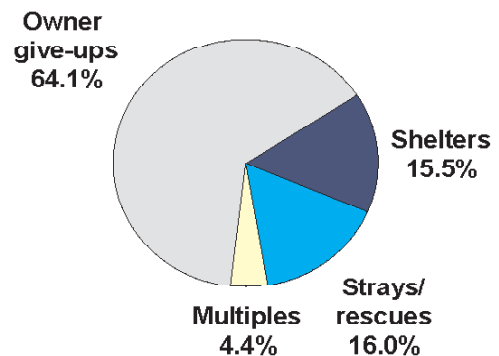
---

## Dogs Accepted Into Rescue by Age



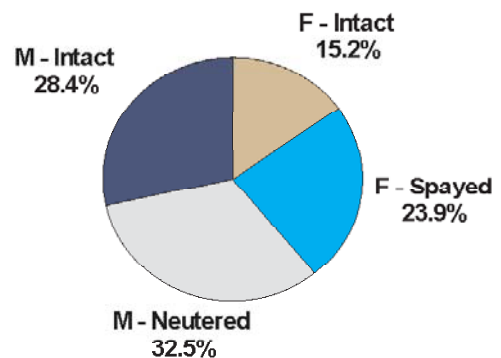
Of the 197 new dogs taken in during 2004, over 60% were under the age of four. Seniors (age 7 and over) represented about 25% of the new intakes.

## Source of New Dogs



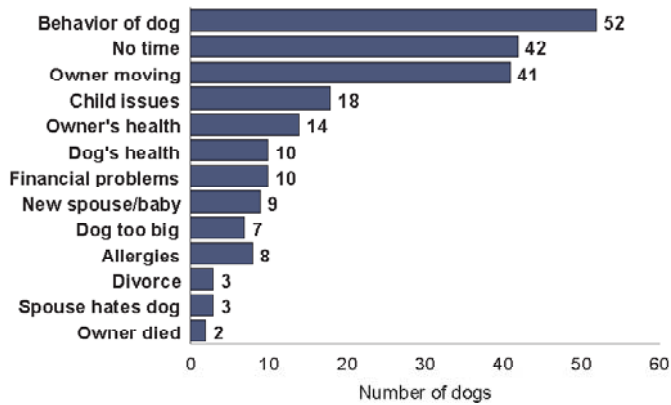
Almost two-thirds of GRREAT dogs in 2004 were owner give-ups. The remaining third were strays or dogs turned over to shelters or other rescue organizations.

## Accepted Into Rescue by Gender



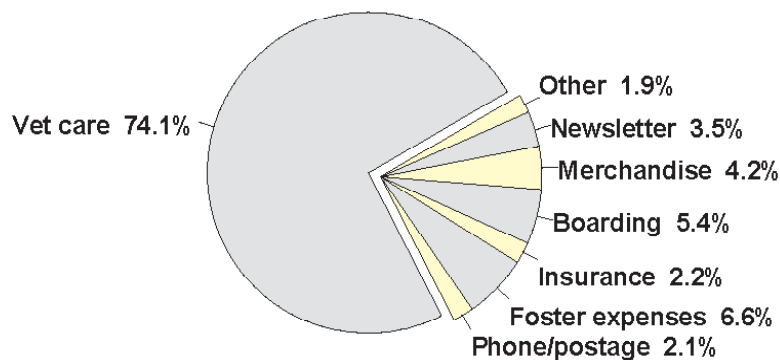
Male dogs represented over 60% of the new intakes. More than half (56%) of all the dogs accepted into the Rescue had been neutered or spayed. All dogs are neutered or spayed prior to adoption.

## Reason for Owner Give-Ups



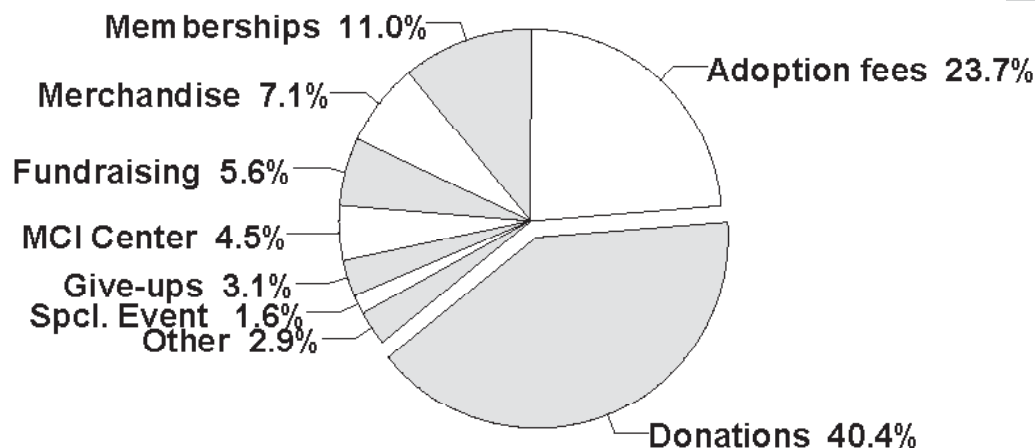
For the first time this year, the dog's behavior was the most common reason for the give-up. "Lack of time," a perennial complaint, was second on the list.

## Expenses 2004



A breakout of GRREAT's income and expenses shows how critical donations and fundraising are to the success of the rescue. Veterinary care for the dogs continues to be the overwhelming expense for the organization. Boarding costs could be reduced if more foster homes were available. Foster home expenses include food and medications, but all foster homes and coordinators volunteer their time—no one in the organization is paid for their time.

## Income Sources 2004



## Medical Problems on Intake

79 had ear or skin allergies and/or infections

53 had "strong" behaviors

51 were overweight or underweight

29 had tick borne illnesses

27 had hip or joint issues

25 had "shy" behaviors

12 had seizures

11 were heartworm positive

9 had thyroid issues

8 had cancer

7 had thunderstorm and/or separation anxiety

---

# The DOG-TOR Is In

Your questions answered by Dr. Ronald Spikloser



Dear Dr. Ron,

My dog just turned 13. She had surgery for a torn ligament on her right rear knee 2 months ago. I think this problem has made her right hip dysplasia much worse. Before it had been mild. Now she doesn't weight bear on her right leg until she walks. When she walks her limping is pronounced and I hear creaking as she walks. I think the creaking is coming from her hip rather than her knee. Is hip dysplasia treatable at all? Is 13 too late for any kind of surgery? Are there any experts in the D.C. area for this?

Hip dysplasia is a degenerative arthritis of the hip. It is chronic and progressive. The onset of the clinical signs is usually slow and in the beginning sporadic. If the dog has a bad case of hip dysplasia it can start showing signs at a young age. In other animals it may not show itself till they are much older. It is considered a cold lameness, which means when the animal first starts moving in the morning it is stiff and as it moves the joints warm up and the animal walks and feels better.

The diagnosis is made with radiographs. The two main types of x-rays are the Penn HIP versus OFA certification. The goal of any treatment is first of all to decrease the pain of the arthritic joint and to make life as comfortable as possible. It is important for most animals to lose weight. I have seen animals over the years that are on arthritis hip medicine and when they become ill for whatever reason and lose a lot of weight they do not need the arthritis medicine. So a decrease in weight is important. Also it is important not to push the animal with exercise. Some activity is good but most dogs will follow their owner for a longer time than is feasible and be sore and painful later. They are loyal to a fault.

There are many medicines on the market for arthritis and hip dysplasia in dogs, as well as many nutraceuticals. Let your veterinarian decide which is best for your dog. The medicine that works in one dog may not work in another. A lot of this is trial and error.

In the case just mentioned the surgery on the knee did not make the hip dysplasia worse but probably because of

the knee weakness the hip problem that already existed became evident. Hip dysplasia develops clinically, as stated, over a period of time. The cracking as the dog walks could be from the hip or the knee although normally it is the knee that clicks.

There is an excellent specialty hospital in Gaithersburg, Maryland—VCA Veterinary Referral Associates—where they have many specialists and advanced equipment. The phone number is 301-340-3224. There are usually orthopedic specialists now in most larger cities as well as other veterinary specialties. My dog goes in for a cardiac ultrasound two times per year to check out her heart murmur. There are veterinarians that are specialists in surgery, internal medicine, and pretty much any others that you can think of with people.

Arthritis has always been a problem in older dogs, but because of improved medical care animals are living longer and developing more serious walking problems. I always test limping animals for Lyme disease as it is prevalent in the mid-Atlantic region as well as many other parts of the country. It is a simple blood test that many veterinarians can run in-house. The most common sign of Lyme disease is limping in animals and it can certainly exacerbate any arthritic problem. Therefore, any dog young or old that limps, I would recommend testing for Lyme disease. 🐾

---

# Book Suggestions

By GRREAT Member Harma Nyhoff

This is an overview of some recently published dog-related books:

## General Dog Books

*Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior* by Temple Grandin with Catherine Johnson. This book has received much attention in the dog world as well as in the general media. It describes a truly unique perspective on animals and their thinking.

Despite having autism, Dr. Grandin has a PhD in Animal Science and she is an Associate Professor at Colorado State University. She describes how similar people with autism are to animals with regard to the way they think and perceive the world around them. As an example, both people with autism and animals have an extreme attention to detail, resulting in the inability to generalize.

In addition, she compares animals to “Autistic Savants with special forms of genius that normal people do not possess and sometimes cannot even see.” It is a fascinating book if you want to learn more about the origin of some of your animal’s behavior as well as understand that the worst thing that you can do to an animal is make it feel afraid.

On a completely different note, there is *Unbelievably Good Deals and Great Adventures That You Absolutely Can’t Get Unless You’re A Dog* by Darlene Arden.

The title explains the subject matter well. It’s a fun book to browse and look for ideas and suggestions ranging anywhere from finding an artist to paint/ photograph your dog(s) to where and how to travel with your dogs, including camps, as well as lists of the many publications available to dog owners and many, many more ideas.

*The Dogs of Bedlam Farm* by Jon Katz. You may be familiar with Jon’s previous book “A Dog Year.” This book is about the next chapter in his life when he exchanges the mountain top cabin for a 42 acre farm. He now has Border Collies and he ends-up with a flock of sheep so that the dogs may herd.

In addition, he ends up with two donkeys. Jon spends a very difficult winter on the farm and the book is a real page turner due to his dramatic experiences. This is a great book for anyone struggling with a “difficult” dog, as Jon did. A turning point for him was when he received this advice: “If you want to have a better dog, you will just have to be a better human.”

## Training Books

Since we have been fostering a (non-GRREAT) dog with fear issues I’ve been reading a lot on this subject. In a new book that has come highly recommended, *Click to Calm* by Emma Parsons, the author uses clicker training and positive reinforcement to deal with all types of aggression. The author was taken by surprise when she (a trainer and canine behavior consultant) realized that her own dog (a Golden Retriever!) was aggressive toward other dogs. She went to work and developed strategies to calm, alter and reshape his reactive displays. This is a very clear “how-to” book with step-by-step instructions.

Another highly recommended book that deals with this same subject is *Bringing Light to Shadow - A Dog Trainer’s Diary* by Pamela Dennison. I haven’t read this book yet but it is next on my list.

A word of warning. Please do not believe that these books provide a “quick fix”. These issues are difficult and require long-term commitment and management.

I’ve learned so much by joining the Yahoo Group “CS DogBook Review.” This is an online discussion group with the added benefit of the author joining the discussion. A variety of books is discussed, so there is something for everyone. You can join the group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CSDogBookReview/>

Another group is “DogRead.” You can find this group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DogRead/>

Sit, Stay, READ! 🐾

---

# Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club to Host GRCA National Specialty

By GRREAT and PVGRC Member Martha Cole Glenn

The Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club (PVGRC) is hosting the Golden Retriever Club of America's (GRCA) National Specialty in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Friday, September 23 through Saturday October 1, 2005. A very exciting event for participants and spectators alike, the Specialty is held every year in the Eastern, Central or Western United States. We expect 2000 people and their Golden.



Golden (SR Sawdust of Golden Oaks UD, JH, WCX, CGC, TDI), and spend most of my time out in fields trying to get that Master Hunter title with the little one (SR Sandhau's Suspend the Rules CD, SH, WCX, CGC).

Most of the competition is serious. But, there is always a humorous side. Wait until you see

Team Obedience – probably on Friday, September 30 – with teams of four dogs and handlers dressed in costumes doing an obedience routine!

What fun it will be to see nothing but our beloved Golden Retrievers show everyone why it is so special to have one – or two – or three – or more! Throughout the week, they will be competing in hunt tests, a field trial, tracking, agility, conformation, obedience and rally. In addition there will be seminars, several “banquets” (only two not casual), a Parade of Titleholders and the Rescue Parade being coordinated by Gail Corby of GRREAT.

The venue for this year's National, which is the culmination of four years of intensive planning and work, is so very special because it will be held in beautiful and historic Gettysburg and the surrounding countryside. The host hotel is the Eisenhower Inn and Conference Center. Most of the events (except field and tracking) will be held outside on the grounds surrounding the Center or indoors in the All-Star Complex, a short walk from the hotel. PVGRC's Bob Crowley and Sue Armstrong are coordinating the event.

I want to emphasize that you don't have to be a participant to enjoy yourself. Just watching the competition can give you lots of wonderful ideas of things to do together with your dog(s). I joined PVGRC in 1989 and did nothing with the club until I went to the National Specialty hosted by the club in 1990. Going to the Specialty got me hooked. I subsequently entered obedience competition with my first Golden who came from the woods (Stafford Golden Glenn CD), got really serious with my next rescued

Some of you will be helping with the Rescue Dog Parade, which my oldest one (now 15) has been in twice. I can't tell you how wonderful it is to parade around that ring with your very special rescued dog, as everyone applauds. This event (held during the lunch break on Thursday, September 29) is one of the most special. Thank you so much for helping to make 2005 the best Rescue Parade ever!

Others in GRREAT will be working at the GRREAT booth, selling items and telling everyone about GRREAT's spectacular work in rescue. (You know we are one of the best, don't you!)

Altogether there will be over 50 vendors. In addition, PVGRC will be selling wonderful merchandise with the National logo on it. And, we will be having daily raffles and weekly silent auctions to raise funds to offset the cost of the National.

We sincerely hope that a lot of GRREAT members will be able to come up for a day – or several – and (if you are not competing) watch some of the events.

I can't end without a “pitch” for much needed help. We would be eternally grateful if you have some time to help us out. One of the easiest things to do would be to help with our daily raffles. All you have to do is stand behind a table and sell raffle tickets. You could also help staff one of the events. We really need all the volunteers we can get. Call me at (703-532-9447) if you have a couple of hours available.

PVGRC Cont'd on page 18

# 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 GRREAT Golden photographs in the GRREAT Calendar Contest!

We are now accepting entries for the 2006 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 and 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

## Calendar Contest Rules

- 1) The deadline for submissions is May 31st, 2005.
- 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). We will accept photos taken from a 3 megapixel camera or greater.



- 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 2005 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 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

## Mark Your Calendar

### Saturday, May 7

Noon - 2 p.m.  
GRREAT Adoption Day  
Bel Air MD  
See page 5 for details.

### Saturday, May 14

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
GRREAT education table  
Bulldog Rescue Doggie  
Play Day  
Oregon Ridge Park  
13401 Beaver Dam Rd.  
Cockeysville, MD

### Sunday, May 22

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
GRREAT education table  
Howard County Pet  
Expo  
Schooley Mill Park  
12975 Hall Shop Rd.  
Highland, MD

### Saturday, June 4

Noon - 2 p.m.  
GRREAT Adoption Day  
Chantilly VA  
See page 5 for details.

### Sunday, June 12

GRREAT Bark-B-Que  
Quiet Waters Park  
Annapolis, MD  
Look for details in the next issue of GRREAT News.

### Saturday, July 9

Noon- 2 p.m.  
GRREAT Adoption Day  
Ana's Ark Doggie Day  
Care  
7300 Westmore Rd.  
Rockville, MD

## Thank You for Your Donations...

Ronald and Joan Apatoff  
Lee and Daniel Broh-Kahn  
Margaret Carpentier  
Sherry and Richard Carson  
Greg Carter and  
Jennifer Key  
Carolyn Cole  
Elizabeth Crane  
Jeffrey and Carolyn  
Eckhaus  
Heather Gaetano  
Karen Gaulin  
Jay and Tonia Goodwin  
Michael and Tammy  
Griffith  
Bill and Geri Guwang  
Stephen and Kristina Hays  
Joanne Heining  
Dale Johnson  
Gary Kanner  
Paula Karpe  
Jill Leukhardt  
Kelly and Jim Martin  
Daniel Joseph McDonnell  
James and Marlene McGuirl  
Nancy Porter  
Jennifer Sabo  
Margaret Selden  
Ed Underhill  
John Wallingford  
Chuck and June Wilmot  
Linda Wilson

# Thanks to Our Terrific Volunteers



GRREAT is fortunate to have many volunteers who help at adoption days and other events. Many thanks to all of you for all you do!

### February Adoption Day, Tyson's Corner VA

*Lucinda and Jeff Twining, Bob Miles, Dan Mensing, Kathy Thomas, Chris Grob, Jenny O'Brien, Sue, Eric, and Sarah Shryer, Linda and John Bowlin, Emily Pasterick, Marie Bertin, Diane Lanigan, Nancy Butler, Lauri Presnell, Judy McKinley and Carla Baglione.*

### February Frederick for the Hu- mane Society Pick a Pet

*Marty and Janet White  
Marilyn Reedy  
Carol Gaskins*

### March Adoption Day, Beltsville MD

*Jim and Vicky Eurice, Linda Hunt, David and Lauri Silberstein, Kathy Thomas, Wayne Hunter, Penny March, Denise and Bill Snyers, Dawn and Angela Mrba, Roberta Dorn, Monica Thomas, BJ Schmitt, and Barbara Boyd.*

## So, Rover Won't Take His Medicine?

By GRREAT Member Skye Anderson

You've tried everything and Rover just won't swallow his pills! You even hide them in his food but he eats the food and leaves the pill!

What to do?

Get the medicine compounded!


A compounding pharmacist can reformulate a medication into something you can actually get into your pupster: liquids, enemas and suppositories, ear and eye drops, ointments, injections, dusting powders, ointments, creams, transdermal gels, sprays, capsules.

Brutus will take one pill but not four?

A compounder may be able to combine medications.

Maybe Fido would prefer a tuna-flavored pill, or a beef-flavored liquid. How about chicken or liver?

Not all pharmacies have the necessary chemicals or equipment to compound medications. One pharmacy that does is Kaye's Epic Pharmacy at 6913 Belair Road in Baltimore, Maryland. They even ship all over the country by UPS! [www.kayespharmacy.com](http://www.kayespharmacy.com) 1-800-673-8277.

Don't let Goldy go without her medication just because she doesn't like it. Compound her medicine, not  our problems. Ask your vet about it!





---

## Sunshine's RV Adventure, Part 2

By GRREAT Dog Sunshine Moses; Edited by Karen and Terry Moses

*Sunshine Moses (GRREAT 98-011) is a full time RV'er temporarily living in California. Part I of his story ran in the January/February issue of GRREAT News. Here, the adventures continue.*

### Part II

It's really weird when you drive your home for five or six hours a day pull into a place to spend the night and then move onto the next place the following day. Everything takes place inside the motor home. However, there are advantages to this type of living. Everywhere we go, I get to meet new people, see new things and get new smells. I sit at the front and look out the wraparound window, go to the back to nap, have a snack, or just do nothing. What a wonderful life for a Golden. We started our travels with my humans thinking they were making the decisions. I didn't have the heart to tell them that I was making the decisions as to when and where we were making the stops. I would go to the door and give them the Golden look and they would stop. Here are just a few of the places and things I have been able to do since I started this adventure.

Our first day out was a disaster! We wanted to leave at 8 a.m., an early start. Well, we left at 10 a.m.. My master drove about four miles to the moving company so we could have the RV checked for weight distribution. This is human talk and I don't understand it, but go along with what they say. We found out we had a flat tire and it took us until 2 p.m. to have it checked and given the "go ahead." We went for a few more miles and got trapped in a traffic jam from an accident. We finally got out of Prince William County in time for dinner. They decided not to stop for an additional three hours. Guess who ate a late dinner? Again!!

North Carolina was OK if you enjoy rain and more rain. It rained the entire time I was there. My Mistress has a nice family but they didn't spend much time with me and there was no place to run and play. The exception was Victoria—now there was a nice person. She would talk to me and rub me for hours. I didn't mind leaving North Carolina but sure would like to have taken Victoria along as a pet.

We moved on to Pennsylvania and that was some real fun. My master would take me to an open field and let me run and play and the place was loaded with bunnies and ducks. Didn't get to chase any but man, was it a fun place. I wanted to visit the chocolate factory but he told me no chocolate for dogs and therefore no visit.

We moved on to Massachusetts to see an old town called Old Sturbridge. It was nice seeing all of the old buildings like the blacksmith shop, candle shop, farms, and other things. I decided that I would not have wanted to live there in the 1830's since dogs stayed outside and ate scraps; I already lived that life. We made some more stops in the northeast before moving on to Canada.

We did have some excitement in Maine when my master almost rolled over the motor home with me inside. He didn't do it on purpose but sure generated some excitement. Seems the humans that built the road in the campground didn't pack the road down and when he drove over the road the motor home started to sink on one side. We got back on the road but are still talking about that one.

As we traveled across Canada, I got to see all kinds of wonderful things like moose, deer, skunks, bears, bunnies, and an ancestor called a wolf. There were millions and millions of trees, but I just didn't have time to visit each one.

We stayed a few days in a place called Thunder Bay. Boy, was that place really named correctly. You know how Golden's don't like storms and this place had its share of storms. I was glad to leave even though there were plenty of open spaces to run and play.

We passed through Minnesota and South Dakota to get to Wyoming. Now there is a place for Golden's. Meeting my two cousins, Nitro and Sassy, running and playing with no fences or leash. Nitro would bring me bones and one time he brought me a big horn from a longhorn steer to chew on. Every time the humans took it away Nitro would bring it back.

SUNSHINE Cont'd on page 18

I met two types of really big dogs. My humans call them horses and pigs. Both were friendly and would rub noses. The horse dog would cry for my human and me to come out every morning for breakfast and face rubs. I got to stay there for an entire month and, according to my humans, I was becoming a country dog. My humans took me to the groomer to end that smell.

Well, it was on the road again and this time to California via Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. As we crossed the continental divide we ran into some 65-mile an hour cross winds. I heard this tremendous snap and my human was going to the side of the road and trying to get stopped. The awning on the side of the motor home had come undone and was blowing in the wind. My master had to climb on the roof of the coach and was trying to get the awning rolled back under the cover while my mistress was trying to hold the awning from blowing away from the motor home. I of course was barking instructions and lending barks of encouragement.

We finally got everything corrected, but boy were they scared. I let each of them rub me until they got calmed down and we could get back on the road. The rest of the trip was uneventful except for the California traffic. It was just like being back in Northern Virginia.

We finally arrived at our destination. Some destination. It hadn't rained for 197 days, everything was brown and the temperature was over 100 degrees.

I was not sure I was going to like this until I met Budgie. While he's only part Golden, he's enough that I can relate to him. After all, I am full blooded and had papers. We get along well and have some good times sniffing for the ground squirrels and looking at the deer. There is supposed to be some bobcats here and we did see the mountain lion so the place can't be all bad. I met some of those horses and have a favorite named Rooster. He's big and Golden in color. He must be some sort of an off-breed of a Golden Retriever.

Next year around April we are heading for Alaska for the summer. There should be all kinds of adventures for a GRREAT Golden. If I have time I'll try to write some of them down and share them with you. 🐾

The following is a schedule of all the events at this year's GRCA National Specialty.

You can go to the PVGRC web site ([www.pvgrc.org](http://www.pvgrc.org)) and click on National Specialty to check out merchandise and monitor the plans for all activities. There you will also find an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a suite at the hotel, lovely jewelry by Ida Marino and Virginia Perry Gardiner, and a lovely stained glass logo of the event.

Following is a brief schedule. Check the web site for details and updates:

**Friday September 23:**

Hunt Test

**Saturday, September 24:**

Hunt Test, Tracking Trial

**Sunday, September 25:**

WC/WCX, Agility

**Monday, September 26:**

Field Trial, Agility, Welcome Picnic by the Lake

**Tuesday, September 27:**

Field Trial, Conformation Sweepstakes, Seminar, Parade of Titleholders

**Wednesday, September 28:**

Field Trial, Conformation, Obedience, Field Trial Banquet

**Thursday, September 29:**

Conformation, Obedience, Rescue Parade, Golden Retriever Foundation Gala

**Friday, September 30:**

Conformation, Obedience, Rally, GRCA Annual Meeting

**Saturday, October 1:**

Conformation (culminating with Best in Show), Junior Showmanship, Awards Banquet

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 complete this form to volunteer. 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 (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

OK to call at work?  Yes  No

Are you over age 18?  Yes  No

**Please indicate any area of interest.**

The appropriate GRREAT Coordinator will contact you for more information.

\_\_\_\_\_ Be a foster home for a GRREAT dog

\_\_\_\_\_ Help at adoption days

\_\_\_\_\_ Help at microchip clinics

\_\_\_\_\_ Help at GRREAT booth at dog shows, fairs, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ Help operate a concession stand at MCI Center/RFK Stadium/other events to benefit GRREAT

\_\_\_\_\_ Help at fund raisers

\_\_\_\_\_ Transport GRREAT dogs (to/from vet, animal shelter, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Perform home visits prior to adoption

\_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate an activity or event

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional information or comments:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**This form can be filled out on-line at [www.grreat.org](http://www.grreat.org).**

# No Vacancy: Foster Homes Needed

We have more dogs looking for homes than we have room in the Rescue. You can help by becoming a foster home.

GRREAT needs foster homes who can provide temporary homes for rescued dogs (over 300 every year). Over a three-week period, each Golden Golden is evaluated and cared for medically, its behavior and temperament are assessed and then the foster family can match this dog with the right adoptive family from the hundred or so approved applicants that we have.

GRREAT pays for all pre-approved medical expenses, provides a leash, a collar, and heartworm preventative. GRREAT will gladly work closely with you should any questions arise. If for some reason the foster dog just doesn't seem to be able to acclimate to your home, we will move the foster dog. You are not stuck with a dog, nor do you have to take a dog if the timing is not good for you.

If you would like to be part of the solution to the problem of the thousands of dogs that are killed in this country every week because of lack of homes, this may be the answer for you! Take our foster home quiz.

## Thinking About Becoming a Foster Home?

Take a quiz with us. T or F

- 1. You love your dogs (past and/or present.)
- 2. You worry about unwanted dogs.
- 3. You provide a better than average life for your dogs (past and/or present.)
- 4. Eating an occasional dog hair during meals is not a big thing.
- 5. You love talking about your dogs.
- 6. You enjoy training your dogs.
- 7. Watching a homeless dog go to a new adopted family makes you cry.
- 8. Muddy paws and faces makes you smile.
- 9. You have at least two framed pictures of your dogs.
- 10. You take your dogs on vacation with you.

If you score 7 or more "True" answers, you are absolutely ready to open your heart and home to a GRREAT foster dog. Contact your area's GRREAT representative now:

- \* Kim Wiff (VA, WV and PA), [president@grreat.org](mailto:president@grreat.org)
- \* Susan McKelvey (DC, DE and MD), [susan@susanmckelvey.com](mailto:susan@susanmckelvey.com)

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue  
Education and Training, Inc.

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