



GRREAT NEWS

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Jake and Kelly Go To Doggie Day Care Try It...You'll LIKE It!

By Meg Ellacott, Contributing Writer

Well, Mom was a wreck and the kids had a blast! We had heard about doggie day care centers popping up in Northern Virginia but one had not yet come to Fair Oaks, until now. Kelly, Jake and I went to Petsmart's new PETsHOTEL and Day Care Center this fall. I'm lucky enough to work from a home-based business but wanted Jake and Kelly to indulge in this guilty pleasure once or twice a week for fun and exercise especially with the winter months coming.

As I said, dropping the kids off for the first time was a bit nerve-racking. Petsmart allows you to view the play area through a closed-circuit TV. But you can't go in the back. So I stood there for about 15 minutes trying to catch a glimpse of my kids. Initially, most dogs are shy and feel a little overwhelmed. Eventually they get into the swing of it all and have loads of fun. It's \$20 per dog per full day. Petsmart doesn't offer 1/2 day care. They do offer specialty treats during break or nap time which is a

nice touch-but it's extra. They also give you a "Pawgress Report" which I thought was cute. You can even CALL and speak to your dog in the middle of the day if you're experiencing some separation anxiety – believe it. I liked Petsmart and the friendly atmosphere; my only concern was too many dogs in one play time area. They put up to 17 dogs in about 200-300 sq. feet of space. I thought that was a bit crowded.

So I tried Dog Days Play Care in Chantilly. Like Petsmart, Dog Days offers daycare, boarding, grooming and training. It's individually owned with a mandatory interview that costs \$15. Even though it costs a bit more (daycare is \$32 vs. \$20) personally, I preferred Dog Days. It was more personalized attention with fewer dogs to the play area. Up to 12 are permitted in the area where 17 were in the same approximate area at Petsmart. Dog Days offers half

day dog care so Mom purchased a package of 10 for Kelly and Jake – this gives dogs up to 5 hours of play time which is perfect for my 5 and 6 year

**Continued on
Page 4**



GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069
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GRREAT, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization dedicated to the rescue, foster care, and placement of Golden Retrievers in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Delaware and parts of Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

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Letter From The President

By Kim Wiff, GRREAT President

It is the start of another year for GRREAT! I am humbled by those of you who in 2005 selflessly dedicated your time and resources to help GRREAT and Golden Retrievers in need. You have opened your homes, and hearts to help give Golden Retrievers a chance at a better life. You did this because of a passion and a desire to make a difference.

In 2005 you made difference for nearly 300 Golden Retrievers. Let me tell you about five of them.

I will start with Scout. He is now nearly 14 years old, and first came into GRREAT in 1994. He was returned to the rescue this summer when his family relocated to California, and felt that the move would be too much for him.

The next is Tucker. Found in a field, he didn't even get up when the animal warden came to take him to the shelter. Estimated to be between 11-13 years of age, with arthritis and other health issues, like Scout he will spend his remaining days in his foster home.

Another is Paige. Given to GRREAT because a child in the family had cancer, they were unable to provide Paige with the home and attention that she needed.

Tigger is another one that comes to mind, and brings a smile to my face. He is a "tigger" in every sense of the word! He needed bilateral hip surgery, and because of you, GRREAT was able to provide that for him, giv-

ing him the pain free and active life that all tiggers should have!

Another is a senior boy who is about ten years old and named Charlie. He was left in the parking lot of a shelter by his previous owner because they were full, and were unable to take him that day. The shelter contacted GRREAT, and he came into the rescue.

These are only five Golden Retrievers that came into GRREAT in 2005. Despite their stories being so different, each had one thing in common; they all needed GRREAT to be there for them. I am thankful that GRREAT was and is here for them. I am most thankful that for a time, they became part of our household in 2005.

I feel that being part of a rescue organization such as GRREAT embraces a respect for life. To be a part of it means sacrifice, sharing and caring enough to step outside ourselves to help a Golden Retriever in need. It involves compassion and tenderness, time and hard work. It is rewarding work. And unfortunately it can be sad and heartbreaking work. Yet knowing all of this we continue to work and strive to make a difference because we care about Golden Retrievers. So, to all of you who have changed lives in 2005, your Golden friends and I thank you! From all of the Golden Retrievers whose lives you will change in 2006, the Golden and I thank you for that too!

Thanks to Our Volunteers

GRREAT's Annual Howliday party was a smashing success due to the enormous support of our faithful volunteers!

Special thanks go out to Betsy Bake for organizing the party. She did a terrific job. Also, we'd like to give a big thank you to Schmidt Baking Company for donating rolls and bread for the party!

We also want to thank the following volunteers for their valuable help:

Pam Ambrose
Jo Bighouse
Sam Connelly
Patrick Boyd
Allison Boyd
Haley Boyd
Trish Boyd
Grace Boyd
Deb Butler
Emily Butler
Caroline Butler
Phil & Janet Hauck
Judy & Joe Niebauer
Jim & Stef Nelson
Gail Corby
BettyAnne Dukell
Jan Livingston
Mary Ginn
Marilyn Flavin
Linda Wensley
Mildred & Jenny Fink
Janet White
Darlene Hines
Brendan Shelton
Kim & Carl Wiff
Sandy Diamond
Linda Hunt
Trish Collier & grandson Andy
Judi & Bernie Fishman
Doug Brown
Scott & Kelly Daniels
Laura & Pete Schmitz (*sound system*)
Santa Claus
R.C. and Lilly Smith (*photography*)

Continued from page 1

old dogs. (Prices come down a bit with package purchase.) Visit www.dogdaysplaycare.com to learn more.

I'm so happy to have found one of these day dog day care centers in my area. They appear to be springing up everywhere. I heard that Happy Tails in Tysons is now franchising their practice in various parts of Northern Virginia. Doggie day care is here to stay – it obviously benefits boarding facilities by generating more revenue for this service, and it's especially



attractive for active pets during the winter months. Just drop them off anytime in the AM and pick them up later on in the day (they're usually open from about 7am to 8pm.) You can find more info on doggie daycare in your area by viewing www.setia.com – or search Google for dog day care or boarding. The main requirement for doggie day care is that your golden does not have aggressive tendencies toward other dogs and you need to prove all vaccinations to the doggie daycare of your choice. Try it, you'll like it! Jake and Kelly sure do! 🐾

3K Walk Raises More Than \$5200 for GRREAT

GRREAT's second 3K walk was a huge success, with about 100 people and their dogs coming out to help raise more than \$5200 for rescue.

The weather was cool but sunny as everyone donned their commemorative t-shirts 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 MaryEllen Rubenstein, Cathy Gowen, Robin Littleton Creative Memories, Giant Foods, Harma Nyhof, Jill Kurtz, Laura Luke, Shannon Stimson, dogidcollar.com, Caribou Coffee, Great Harvest Bread Company, Kim Wiff, and All Friends Pet Care were awarded.

GRREAT's own education coordinator, Sandy Diamond, was on hand with merchandise, 2006 GRREAT Calendars, and membership renewal services.



Sponsors included:

RESCUE ANGELS (\$500): Professional Mailing and Distribution Services, www.pmds.com; Minerva Information Systems, www.minervais.com; Hunter 02-204; Platinum Online, www.goplatinumonline.com

RESCUE PARTNERS \$300): Sharon S. Coale, MED, MS, CCC-SLP, Speech Pathology Associates, 301-469-8151; Regal Pet Food, www.regalpetfoods.com; Breeder's Choice Pet Foods, Inc., www.breeders-choice.com; Blue Ribbon Acres, 540-465-2364, www.blueribbondog.com; Mary Ellen Rubenstein/ Coldwell Banker, Reston VA, www.mer4homes.com; Briggles & Bott, Court Reporters, (301) 808-0730; Weber's Pet Supermarket, (703) 385-3766.

FRIENDS OF RESCUE (\$100):

"Jameson" Ward; Capitol Chocolate Fountains; Mary Ginn; Jerry Cann; Melissa Nielson and Edward Yawn; Anita, John, and Morgan Funk; Ashburn Jazzercise; Trevor 99-009, Our Heart of Rescue; All Friends Pet Care; Boomer, Scooter, and Big Red; "Jack" 03-280 and "Takota"; William Buklad.



ADOPTION REPORT

27 lucky dogs found their forever homes between October 20 and December 5, 2005—that's more than three dogs per week. Thirteen dogs were male, fourteen dogs were female. Ten dogs were under the age of two at the time of adoption, nine were between 2 and 6 years old, and eight were age seven and older, including an eleven-year-old. May all of these dogs—and their new families—enjoy the warmth of a loving home and the happiest of new years!

NAME	ID	AGE	SEX	NAME	ID	AGE	SEX
Andy	05-183	10 mo	M	Mike	05-225	11 mo	M
Brandee	05-198	7	F	Molly	05-204	11	F
Donka	05-168	7	F	Reggie	05-173	1	M
Gabi	05-169	1	F	Rocky	05-156	4	M
Ginger	05-179	5	F	Rocky	05-200	5	M
Ginger	05-188	7	F	Sadie	05-233	2	F
Heidi	05-124	6	F	Samantha	05-196	11 mo	F
Honey	05-211	6	F	Sandy	05-230	5	F
Jenny	05-192	1	F	Shadow	05-153	9	F
Josh/Zack	05-191	8 mo	M	Simon	05-199	8 mo	M
KC	05-212	8	M	Wally	05-231	2	M
Lucy Lou	05-166	1	F	Yeager	05-207	9	M
Marley	05-145	8	M	Zeus	05-214	4	M
Max	05-171	1	M				

ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

January 7, 2006

Noon – 2 p.m.

Petco

10464 Baltimore Avenue

Beltsville, Maryland

301-937-1222

Take I-495 East (Capitol Beltway) to exit 25B-A and turn right onto ramp towards Route 1 College Park/Laurel. Stay on ramp and bear right onto Route 1 North. Follow Route 1 North for approximately 1.25 miles; Petco is on the left.

February 4, 2006

Noon – 2 p.m.

Petco

10708 Lee Highway

Fairfax, VA 22030

703-352-3300

Take I-495 West [Capitol Beltway] to I-66 Manassas/Front Royal. At exit 60, turn right onto ramp towards VA-123 Fairfax/Vienna. Take ramp left onto SR-123 [Chain Bridge Rd] towards VA-123 Fairfax. Turn right onto US-29. Continue on US-29 for approximately 0.4 miles, Petco is on the right.

March 4, 2006

Noon - 2 p.m.

Petco

275 Muddy Branch Road

Gaithersburg, Maryland

301-975-9888

Take I-495 [Capitol Beltway] to I-270 Spur North toward Frederick/Rockville. Take exit #5, I-270 Local Lanes North toward Falls Road. Take exit #9A-B/I-370 onto Sam Eig Highway. Turn right on Diamondback Drive. Turn right on Muddy Branch Road. Continue on Muddy Branch Road for approximately 1.1 miles; Petco is on the right.

GRREAT assumes no responsibility for the above directions.

Please call the individual businesses listed to verify the route from your address.

New Ways to Donate to GRREAT

Do you have appreciated stock that you would like to donate to GRREAT? You are entitled to an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of appreciated securities if they have been held for at least one year, and you pay no capital gains on the transfer. If you would like more information, please contact Sandy Diamond at vp@grreat.org.

We are also now accepting donations via credit card through PayPal. You can access our Donation Center at <http://www.grreat.org/donate/index.html>. You are also able to direct your donations to one of our special funds or provide dedication or memorial information through this site.

Finally, consider leaving a bequest to GRREAT in your will. 🐾

Calendar of Events

Saturday, January 7, 2006 12-2pm

GRREAT Adoption Day
Petco - Beltsville, Maryland
10464 Baltimore Avenue
Beltsville, MD 20705

Saturday, January 28, 2006

9:30am-12:30pm

GRREAT Annual Business Meeting
Owen Brown Community Center
6800 Cradlerock Way
Columbia, MD 21045

Saturday, February 4, 2006, 12-2pm

GRREAT Adoption Day
Petco - Fairfax, Virginia
10708 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22030

Saturday, March 4, 2006 - 12-2pm

GRREAT Adoption Day
Petco - Gaithersburg, Maryland
275 Muddy Branch Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland

PVGRC Annual Awards Banquet and Silent Auction for GRREAT

Members of GRREAT are encouraged to attend

When: Saturday, March 11, 2006
6:30 p.m. Cocktails; Silent Auction Begins
7:30 p.m. Buffet

Where: Holiday Inn, College Park

Cost: \$30 per person includes
appetizers, cash bar and buffet

Reservation Deadline: March 1, 2006

Checks made out to PVGRC should be sent to Ms. Janice Benge, 6610 Orland Street, Falls Church, Virginia, 22043.

Directions to Holiday Inn College Park, Maryland (301-345-6700)

From South: Take I-95 North toward Washington, D.C. At Springfield, Virginia, I-95 joins I-495. Take I-495 toward Baltimore. Takes exit 25A (Route 1 towards Laurel). Hotel will be on left as you exit off the Beltway. Make first left turn from Route 1 into the parking lot.

From the North: Take I-95 South towards Washington, D.C. to I-495 towards College Park. Follow signs for Route 1, exit 25. Follow Exit 25 to Route 1 North (Baltimore Avenue). Follow over Beltway and through traffic light. Make first left turn after the light into the parking lot.

Silent Auction Items Needed

We need items for the Silent Auction at the PVGRC Annual Awards Banquet. We are looking for any items that would appeal to a wide range of people. While Golden Retriever and dog related items are always a big hit, other items are also welcomed. At this auction, we encourage novelty items as well. Each and every donation will be gratefully acknowledged in the "GRREAT News." We will also be glad to display your cards or flyers at the auction. All merchandise donations, or description of a service being offered can be mailed directly to our Fundraising Coordinator, Pam Ambrose, at goldenschu@aol.com, or Pam. Ambrose@montgomerycountymd.gov Thank you! 🐾

A Breed Apart: Spotlight on a GRREAT Volunteer

GRREAT Transport Extraordinaire, Bill Price

By Emily Pasterick, Contributing Writer

“The soul of a Golden.” That is how GRREAT Transport Volunteer Bill Price described to me his impression of many of the mixed-breed and purebred Golden Retrievers that he has transported from shelters over the years. The phrase prompted me to consider its description—what exactly are the attributes that define a “soul of a Golden?” Warmth, compassion, unconditional love, generosity of spirit, delight in the essence of living...well, these would be my barometers. Though I believe everyone would have their own personal criteria, I don’t believe anyone would argue that Bill Price, for the tireless, philanthropic contributions he makes to GRREAT and the world beyond, has “a soul of a Golden” towards the Golden Retrievers in his life, and a well-earned recognition by his peers as a “Breed Apart!”

As a Transport Volunteer for GRREAT for the past 5+ years, Bill is responsible for transferring GRREAT’s Golden Retrievers distances far and wide; in fact, he is the one often called upon for the rescue assignments requiring more considerable travel, and has often made roundtrip transports that clocked in at 5 to 6 hours (sometimes as long as 8-10 hours). Bill takes this responsibility seriously, with a newly-purchased 2005 Grand Cherokee “dogmobile” [fresh off the lot as of our conversation], including a special transport crate, and a ramp for the less-mobile Golden Retrievers. Most of his passengers are described as “very personable” by Bill, particularly one “soul of a Golden” mix, Josh (renamed Joey), whose

transport was made all the more remarkable by Joey’s rapid deterioration from lively, at transport beginning, to deathly ill, by transport end. Joey was diagnosed and treated for the fatal Parvo virus. Thankfully, he pulled through, and when Joey was feeling better, Bill took him back to his home for a few days pending a foster home arrangement, where, with newfound health and vigor, Joey exercised his barking cords in the middle of the night. Bill took Josh on a “please be quiet” transport around the neighborhood, ending back at home with his hand on a sleeping Joey in the passenger seat. Bill, not to be limited to just transporting Golden Retrievers in his vehicle, settled into the driver’s side for his own slumber, his hand never leaving Joey’s body.

Beyond GRREAT, Bill is also a proud Freemason and a Shriner, the latter being the largest philanthropy organization in the world. The Shriners support 22 children’s hospitals for treating children’s orthopedic needs and burned children. One day about 6 years ago, while on a tour of a Shriner hospital, Bill turned his attention towards therapy

dogs and their handlers at work across the hall. He promptly left the tour to investigate, and since then, Bill has been passionately involved in dog therapy, particularly with the Fairfax Pets on Wheels, where he is on the Board and is responsible for new member orientation and temperament testing. Bill’s own two Golden Retrievers, Casey and Cody, are therapy dogs registered through Therapy Dog International, and frequently visit nursing homes and the pediatric oncology wing of Fairfax Hospital to make a difference in the lives of both sick children and the elderly. Next month, Bill’s work with therapy dogs will take him to Baton Rouge through Hope AACR (Animal Assistance Crisis Response) to help the survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

Bill has remarkable energy and creativity, and is very succinct in his contribution of ideas and encouragement towards GRREAT. Bill is interested in writing an article for the GRREAT News about his experience with therapy dogs, and hopes that GRREAT will continue to find innovative ways to educate the Golden-loving community about the time/money/energy volunteer commitments much needed and appreciated. His compassion and commitment to both rescuing Golden Retrievers, and teaming with them to recover and enliven human spirits through canine therapy, allow Bill to make outstanding and effective contributions to GRREAT. GRREAT is so proud to spotlight Bill Price as “a breed apart!” 🐾



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Thank you for your donations...

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Roger and Joann Adkins
Phil and Jeanne Agee
Lyn and Donald Backe
Linda and Don Baier
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Julie and Craig Wright
Carol and David Yates
Unknown donor (cash)

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Bob and Carolyn Reagle with a matching donation from Microsoft Giving Campaign

John and Debbie Seifert with a matching donation from T. Rowe Price Associate Foundation.

Other Generous Donations

Dog ramps from *Althea Desmond*

Postage for GRREAT mailings from *Idalia Fernandez*

Coupons for dog food, treats, and dog biscuits from *Darlene Cheever*

DONATIONS

In Memory Of...

My daughter Susan Nah. *Dallas and Aaron Wurm*

Joseph Procaccini. *Roscoe P. Snyder Agency*

Joseph Procaccini, father of Joanne and Robert Patenaude. *Kathleen Bradley*

Our loving Amber 1994-2004. She is sorely missed. *Roland and Ele Behnke*

Madeline Hunter. God bless the Hunter family! *Jeff and Heather Zibell*

George (05-069). *Lynda and Bob Lake*

Mack Vartanian, a GRREAT dog and a special friend. *Caryl Wheeler and John Dale*

Birdie, a most special golden who will forever hold a place in our hearts. *Elizabeth and Steven Reimer*

Ginger 05-011. Even when you know their time is short it is still a shock when they go. *Diane Lanigan*

Bronte, our GRREAT dog, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on October 3rd. Bronte gave us great joy and happiness for the 5 years we were lucky enough to be her family. Thanks to GRREAT, we had a chance to love her and be loved back even more! *Patti Camper*

Hannah. *Elizabeth B. Johnson*

Simba, the beloved cat of Elyce and Jerry Milette. Please use the money where needed to benefit the GRREAT goldens. *Paula Abernethy*

Koty Moore--even though she was a lab!! *Marion Shields*

Brandy and Rudy. *Ray and Kathy Schmid*

Missy (99-105): our beloved "Red Dog," the most beautiful girl in the world. She made us laugh with a raised brow, amazed us with her stone constructions, and kept us company on countless walks. Missy was full of trust and love to the end. Now, there's a hole in our hearts and an emptiness in our lives. But we also have years of wonderful Missy memories for which we are so grateful. Thanks for bringing Missy into our lives. *Joyce and Scott Parkin and family*

Teddy. *Cynthia Martin*

Sophie. *Carolyn Cole*

Scout O'Connell, loved by his family--Todd, Peggy and Brian O'Connell. *Ann and Brian O'Connell*

Our late great buddies Bailey and Clancy. *Gail and Greg Turek*

Abby. *Kathryn and Travis Nelson*

Daisy (03-002). Hopefully this check can go to help another Golden. Thanks for all of the wonderful work that GRREAT does. *Lila Barth*

My special friend Buffy. *Nancy Hamilton*

Nugget and Samantha. *Jeff and Maurine Schuller*

Shado, a best friend of my life. I miss you forever. *Sue Jeng*

Sammy. *Al and Jean Huey*

Bandit, 1989-2001. *Donna and Ronald Ward*

Madison. *Amy Lettman*

Bailey, my first heart dog. *Diane Wolfe*

Allie (04-030), who passed away earlier this year. Wishing all of you at GRREAT a warm and wonderful holiday. *Nancy and Judd Howell*

Roy Straatman. Keep up the good work. *Darlene Cheever*

"Mack" Vartanian. *Old Dominion Animal Health Center*

Sammie Slamp of Haddon Heights NJ. *Donna and Al Baginsky*

Gold-N-Tale Peacekeeper, Gold-N-Tale Cole younger, and Gosling's No Tea Tax George (a.k.a. Keeper, Bushwhacker, and Drummer). *Barbara and Ace Oestreich*

Scarlett and Amber. *Rita Counts*

Lindy and Brie. *Nicolette Parisi and Richard Wakeling*

Alex and Rilla, two wonderful goldens. *Christine and David Shelley*

Casey, our beloved golden died on October 6th and we are having a hard time with it. He was our buddy and always there for us to ride in the car or go for a walk. He made friends here in Germany and is missed. His number was 00-112 even now writing about him brings tears to our eyes. He is waiting at the Rainbow Bridge for us we thank GRREAT for our wonderful Casey. *CMSGT Wilbert and Margaret Lawson, Germany*

TwinPond's Sharp Shooter, UD,TD,MH,MX,MXJ,WCX (Annie). *John and Charene Snyder*

Kelsey Jamison Moses. *Terry and Karen Moses*

Lucy (Swift) on the 1 year anniversary of her passing. *Susan Swift*

Cougar. *George and Laura Panagoulis*

DONATIONS

In Memory Of...

Maggie, our Golden Girl--you will be forever in our hearts. *Jean and Robert Barton*

Nossett. *Rick Hardie*

Brandy, a Golden owned by Jeffery Brown.
Dean and Alice Kabl

My Rescue Golden, Dusty. Dusty passed away two years ago, but he was a very special boy and is still missed. He used to love to play with water. He would try and catch the water from the sprinklers. He also loved to pick apples from our tree. The other kids would wait for Dusty to get an apple, they would take it from him and he would just go get another one.
Charles and Maria Johnson

In Honor Of...

Tom Ludwig's birthday celebration. *Cindy Davis*

Duffy and Devlin, a bunch of nice gentlemen.
Cheryl Brooks

Winston. On May 16, 2004 I brought Winston home from his foster home in western Virginia. It was the greatest day, and every morning for the last year and a half has begun with a smile because of the wonderful subtle grunts I hear from the other side of the bed - Sir Winston Tailwagger is doing his version of "Daddy? Are you awake yet?" Thank you GRREAT for bringing this joy to my life. I'm sorry I can't give more but I know the work you do is important. *John Schratwieser*

Chas (98-130). Please use where needed most.
Gail and Tom Koch

Lucy (05-105). It is our pleasure and very least that we could do to make a donation to such an amazing organization. We are so very blessed to have Lucy and truly can't imagine what our lives were like before she joined our family. We are so grateful for helping Lucy to find her forever loving home! *Sarah and David Denham*

Just a thank you from Bowie's (02-148) family. He's been with us almost 3½ years, and everyday is a new adventure!
Jason Newman and Angela Allevi

On behalf of Max and Lulu. Keep up the great work.
Larry and Marianne Fishman

We are celebrating Chester's 10th birthday ("Chessie" 99-195). He has brought us daily joy and has taught us much about love and trust. *Elizabeth Ross*

Jack. *Allison and Steve Hodges*

Abbey, our precious rescued Golden. *Debra Bowen*

My best friend and beautiful Golden, Amanda. *Patsy Cress*

Penny Phillips. *Cameron Randall Phillips*

Thanks for T.J. *Marian Walsh*

Tuli. *Joanne Heining*

Our sweet golden girl, Chessie (01-152)!
Ilan and Stephanie Sussan

Hudson, formerly Moose, the wonderful addition to our family who had some special needs of his own but is doing great! *David and Jennifer Bishop*

Buddy and Ralphie, our "Golden" boys.
Steve and Robin Mathews

Jack. *David and Eleanor Wells*

Copper (a.k.a. Pongo 00-278) who brings smiles to Alzheimers and dementia patients as a Pets-on-Wheels volunteer at Copper Ridge in Sykesville MD.
Andrew and Barbara Becker

UCD Mo-K's Golden Rust Cox, Rn, cgc.Rusty (98-213).
Maureen Kelley

Jazz and Sophie--what joy they bring to so many.
Lisa and Andrew Melvin

U-CDX Jack is a taz too CDX, TD, RN, CGC TDI (2 New Titles this Year!) A GRREAT Dog !!!
Debra and Bill Barrows

Bailey. *Joe and Anne Sloan*

Buddy (05-113). *James Krist*

Ren, Jewels and Maggie Sollod. *Caryn and Warren Wick*

BJ, Adam, and Lucas Mustaine.
Beverly Mustaine and Barry Wyrick

Our babies Hope and Darwin who have brought us nothing but joy. *Eric Dampousse, Nan Schramm*

Our first year with Mikey (04-142). He has brought such sweet joy to our family. *Susan Mathews*

Our Golden Retriever Murry--a GRREAT dog.
Gene and Nancy Wathen

Simile-Finale Fund

Eileen and James Hollaway

Suzanne Miller—in honor of my beloved Tuck as he fights lymphoma.

DONATIONS

For Special Reasons

In memory of our great goldens Summy, Madeline and Cassidy. And in thanks for our current GRREAT golden Bascia. *Steve and Kathryn Troch*

In memory of our Wesley, our first adoptee, who died in 2002, and in honor of Hercules, our current GRREAT adoptee, who brings us so much pleasure and challenge. *Liz and Charlie Clark*

In honor of Anna, our first GRREAT golden and our first year together. To thank GRREAT for all the hard work everyone involved does. *Mark and Sharon Baldwin*

In honor of my two current goldens, Quincy and Yeager, and in memory of all the goldens who are waiting for me at the Rainbow Bridge: Shaun, my very first golden love, who I had the privilege of knowing for 13.5 years; Rasberri (Shaun's girlfriend); Shadow and Roxy (my GRREAT "two for one special"); and my GRREAT fosters who spent too little time with me before passing on to the Rainbow Bridge: Sammie (who could never stash enough tennis balls); "a Banana" Bart (who actually peeled bananas); Magnum (my sweet giant); and Sherman (the pizza surfer). Each of these wonderful goldens have been special and unique and have enriched my life. *Linda and Al Hunt*

To cover the cost of Chloe's (05-007) vet bill. *Jan Brown*

For the veterinary expenses of Cricket (05-157). *Lois Gibson*

For all things Golden: Chessie, Taffy, Penny and Nugget. *Robin and Donald Greenfield*

GRREAT is a wonderful organization. This isn't much, but I hope it helps a little. *Fran and Donald Wesley*

From Hannah, to help with the animals displaced or lost due to Katrina or Rita. *Ann Lyons*

I am enclosing a donation check that a very kind lady, Nancy Janelle, gave me to help with Josh's medical expenses. Wednesday night his eyes turned red and started to swell rapidly so I rushed him to Anne Arundel Emergency Vet (yet again) where they gave him a shot of steroids and antihistamine and sent him home. We were getting gas in Edgewater when the lady in front of me who was putting gas in her Suburban saw him raise his little head up between the front seats of my car. She asked me if I had a puppy and I briefly told her his story. Next thing I know, she came around the back of my car handing me a blank check for \$100. I told her that he is a GRREAT dog and she said she wanted to help with his expenses. I made the check out to GRREAT and sent her a thank you note from Josh. *Joy Scrimshire*

Please use the attached donation to further your wonderful organization. We are so grateful for our GRREAT goldens and wish you all the best in a challenging year. Missy is a mix and it breaks our heart to know other mixes may not be accepted. *Bob Kenney and Mark Treadaway*

Thanks for letting us know about your immediate need for donations! Our wonderful golden, Bailey, reminds me everyday how important our furry friends are! *Sharon and Bill Coale*

For Kathi Rechsteiner's work sewing on Girl Scout badges. *From Cindy Montgomery, Nancy Silva, Diane and Daniel Berinstein, Robert and Manizhe Payton*

For Jenny's (05-192) spay. *Nancy Alexander*

For Tigger and with thanks for Kim Wiff's dedication to GRREAT. *Monica and Robert Walker*

In memory of my beloved MollyGirl and to thank you for Dix. *Kristen Erickson*

For GRREAT's Medical Fund. *Gwen Wood*

For all of the future dogs GRREAT will save. *Georgie and Joe Babler*

We have adopted from GRREAT in Nov. 2004 and want to help. *Tracy and Mike Bender*

For all the wonderful work you do and for giving us Lily, the joy of our lives. *Tammy Rosenthal*

Thanks to all of GRREAT's volunteers, particularly the Kurtz's, the Haucks and the Twinings. We are so grateful for all their time and hardwork. *Pam and Conrad O'Connell*

We hope the enclosed contribution helps a little bit to support your incredibly wonderful efforts. *Dale and Louise Gibson*

In honor of Fred and in memory of Jackson, Cooper, and Chelsea. *Courtney Matthews and Andrea Supp*

Golden hugs for all from Joe, Tracy, Blue, Diogee, Peanut, and Shorty, and our Golden angels Ambercrombie and Calloway. *Joseph and Tracey McGovern*

In honor of Toby, Maggie and Sammie and in memory of Sadie, Katie, sport and all others at the Rainbow Bridge. *Laura and Jim Horn*

To thank Janet and Marty White for Rusty and all the other dogs they have saved. *Sally and Richard Steelman*

Toward the caring of Golden Retrievers. *Linda and Dennis Didalensky*

DONATIONS

For Special Reasons

To thank GRREAT's volunteer Board and army of devoted volunteers for their tireless work. Your passion and loyalty to rescue, safe keeping, and securing loving homes for our shared heartthrobs Golden.
Diana and Doug Hellinger

Even though you weren't able to find a new home for Bailey, I appreciated Diane's and Mary's support.
Gwyn Conway

To thank GRREAT for Shadow. *Arthur and Joanne Fournier*

This donation should cover the fatty tumor removal for Fancy 05-195, scheduled at Cross Point Animal Hospital.
William Buklad

To cover Jimmy's vet bill. *Rebecca and Art Hotop*

Enclosed is a donation Nell Benton gave to me for GRREAT for taking care of her dog on Fridays, her long work day. Thanks for the wonderful work GRREAT does. We are on our third adoptee from GRREAT and our next foster will be #14. *Glen MacDonald and Dee Brown*

To thank Carl and Sara Gepp. We adopted Brody in 1998 and they were his foster parents. He is now 8 years old and we are so grateful to have him. It is because of Brody and the Gepps that we became involved in rescue.
Sandee and John O'Neill

To thank foster parents Jeanne Hostetler and Bruce Wiggett for bringing us our constant loving companion Torin (04-156). *Charles and Carole Sullivan*

To thank Al in Southern MD for fostering BD in 1994. Mickey is a GRREAT dog, just like you said. *Betsy Davis*

Miss Gracie (Ginger 05-017) has been in her forever home now for 6 months. She is beautiful and a real joy for us. Her coat is now full and very golden. My thanks to the Hutts for choosing us to have such a special golden.
Tommie O'Connell

A Merry Christmas Gift! *Joyce and Ralph Page*

In Lieu of Christmas Gifts

To: Trish Collier
From: Barbara Sanchez and David Morsberger, the family who loved and cared for my beloved Golden: they are making this gift as their Christmas present to me.
from Joseph O'Brien

To: Bob and Pat Miles
From: Mark and Patricia Hattan

To: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Martin, devoted Golden owners and Golden lovers
From: Regina Beauchene

To: My clients
From: Al and Sylvia Glaser

A few weeks ago I got an e-mail from GRREAT asking for donations to the organization. Their funds were down to a 2 week supply. I have been a GRREAT member for about 5 years. I have a dog walking business that keeps me busy every day and some weekends. I had wanted to do some volunteer work but the business takes most of my time. I retired from the government 10 years ago and started the business shortly after that. When I got that e-mail about the operating funds, I made a decision. Usually every year around Christmas I buy gifts for the dogs I walk. At this time they number 16 dogs plus my own 2 Golden. I decided that I would take the money I usually spend on these dogs and donate it to GRREAT to help them along. I also am putting out a newsletter from my business to my ten clients telling them what I was going to do and asking that they do not purchase any gifts for me, but if they are inclined to make out a check to GRREAT. I have given them the address to which the check should be mailed. I am so glad to have the opportunity to help you out for the wonderful work you do with these beautiful homeless dogs. I hope my clients will also take the opportunity to help out.

Leo's Corner

GOLDEN HEROES (\$100 - \$499)

Joseph O'Neill and Walter Atha--In remembrance of Chassidy.

Marjorie Johnson--In memory of my best friend and fellow "Golden" lover: my husband, Bob, and all of our furry friends who are with him.

Paul and Chris Umberger

Joseph and Virginia Fry--In honor of Cassandra St. Claire, our Grandpuppy Golden.

LEO'S PALS (UP TO \$99)

Allen Weggemann--Christmas donation on behalf of Patrice and John Scanlon.

Debra and William Haegele--In memory of Betsy and Oliver.

Nell Benton, Glen MacDonald and Dee Brown (see dedication note under For Special Reasons)

DONATIONS

In Memory of Harley

IN MEMORIAL - HARLEY TESTER (93-180)

Today I went to visit my friend, but he wasn't there.
Something was missing as I sniffed the air.
My friend's smell was not nearly as strong.
I knew right away that something was wrong.
The last time I saw him he looked very thin.
But he still wagged his tail when we all came in.
That day we slept together on the floor by the TV.
It was as it should be, together Harley and me.
Now his bed is missing and his bowl is gone.
Where his treat box was sitting now there is none.
"Where's my Harley?" I ask his mom and dad.
My uncertain eyes made them look sad.
But they just pat my head and walk away.
They don't understand what I want to say.
"How can I sniff him if you won't tell me now?"
I need to search and find him somehow.
I looked under the table but he wasn't there.
I looked where he slept beside the big brown chair.
I looked out the window and into the yard.
I looked everywhere I could think of, I looked very hard.
Yet the house was empty, my friend wasn't found.
"This was wrong", I thought, "he's not around".
My people said something about a bridge and a rainbow.
What they were talking about I don't really know.
They said Harley has died and gone away.
"He's in a better place now anyway."
All this talk of my friend makes me feel very sad.
The hurt that's growing inside feels really bad.
So I go lie down in his favorite spot.
I don't care if he is there or not.
My friend may have gone from his home.
But I'll always remember him and won't be alone.
This thing called death I don't understand.
It feels like the slap of a back of a hand.
But what I do know you can not take away.
The memory of my friend Harley is in my heart to stay.

--Bo (01-032) Adkins

I want to let you know of the passing of one of your alumni, Harley (93-180). For the last ten plus years Harley has been a fixture in our family. He was Ed Tester's companion until Ed passed away then Ed's daughter Bonnie became his mom. But he was not just the family's golden. He belonged to anyone that ever came to the house to visit. He was an ambassador, a door man, a beggar, a leg presser, a face washer, and a head support for your hand. But most of all he was a friend.

Our own GRREAT golden Bo (01-032) tried to teach him the pleasures of toys but he just didn't understand. That didn't stop them from becoming great friends though. Bo wrote a little something in memory of his

friend and we would like to offer a little something of our own to help others find the same pleasure in their goldens that we did. *Roger and JoAnn Adkins*

Harley, the wonderful friend of Bonnie Tester and George Myers. Harley passed away last week.
Ruth and Paul McClelland

Harley. He is gone from us physically but will remain in our hearts forever. Our hearts are aching and we miss him so much. *Bonnie Tester-Myers*

TRIBUTE TO HARLEY

Bonnie Tester-Myers

On October 20, 2005 we showed our beloved GRREAT Golden, Harley (93-180), how much we loved him by letting him cross the Rainbow Bridge. He is now pain free, frolicking around with his other friends who've gone before him and now his is with my Dad. This was by far the most difficult of decisions to make but as those who knew him know he was barely able to walk, was falling often and had other health issues.

As part of my own healing, I'd like to share with you a little story about Harley's life with our family.

I got Harley from a friend who was going thru a difficult divorce and needed to find Harley a home. She and her husband had originally adopted Harley from GRREAT (Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training).

Since my Dad had recently lost his toy Fox Terrier, Jake, I thought that perhaps Harley would make a wonderful companion for Dad. So, having only seen a picture of Harley, I decided to go ahead and pick him up from Elaine and take him to Dad. I'll never forget bringing him home. Dad and a friend were sitting on the front porch and I was late getting somewhere so I basically said "Here is Harley, here is his food, here is his leash, I gotta go.... and off I went". By the time I returned, Harley and Dad were best buds. Dad had trimmed his whiskers and eyebrows because as he put it "they were bothering Harley". From that very moment until Dad passed away, he and Harley were inseparable. Where ever Dad was, Harley was with him. Harley was by far, one of the best things that happened to Dad in his later years while he was suffering with Parkinson's disease. Dad loved Harley and Harley loved Dad.

After Dad passed away in February 2000, my husband George and I kept Harley. And, every place we went (most times) Harley was with us. He loved to be with us. I'd put a bandana around his neck and he would jump into the van and off we'd go. It didn't matter that he

continued on page 14

might have to stay in the van while we were doing whatever, he didn't care as long as he was with us. We loved Harley and Harley loved us.

In early 2001, my sister JoAnn Adkins and her husband Roger decided to get a dog and set off to do so at the GRREAT adoption day in Columbia. I brought Harley along and sure enough JoAnn had quickly and enthusiastically picked out Bo and Harley showed his agreement by sitting right next to Bo, not leaving his side. Bo and Harley spent lots of time together at JoAnn and Roger's house and although Bo tried and tried to get Harley to play, Harley never really did. And Bo understood. (Although there were rare occasions when we would catch Harley with a toy!) Bo loved Harley and Harley loved Bo.

Then in the Fall of 2001, while surfing the GRREAT website, I found Tina and had to have her. She was an older Golden, actually older than Harley, but she had such a sweet and endearing face that resembled Harley, I just knew I had to give her a home. Tina came to live with us and at first Harley seemed miffed knowing he'd have to share us with her. In time, Harley and Tina became best friends as was evident when Tina had to have surgery. We brought her home after her surgery and that night, he laid next to her, placing his front paw upon her to comfort her while she was healing. Then, suddenly on March 20th, 2003 Tina passed away. We had woke up to find her unable to stand, rushed her to the emergency vet only to find out that she suffered from hemangiosarcoma, a deadly cancer and there was no hope. Harley went with us to help Tina cross the rainbow bridge and like he had done when she was healing from her surgery, Harley lay next to Tina to say goodbye. Tina loved Harley and Harley loved Tina.

Since Tina's passing, we have devoted our time and our love just to Harley. In the past year or so he began to show signs of arthritis and general weakening. He was put on medication which helped for a very long time. More recently, it had become more and more difficult for him to walk. Harley used to sleep with us and eagerly would jump up on our bed or into the van to go for rides with us. As he started to fail, we even lowered our bed, putting the box springs/mattress right on the floor but in time he couldn't even step up on the bed. So he'd sleep on the floor in his own bed right next to us.

Harley touched and changed many people's lives in his 13½ years of life. He will never ever be forgotten, that is for sure.

Some other facts about Harley:

- Harley was very very afraid of thunderstorms and would try his best to get into the walls in order to get away from the storms.
- Harley loved to go everywhere! Just put a bandana around his neck and he was ready to go.

- Harley never met a stranger, he loved everyone he met. Anyone that met Harley, even if it was only one time, had to love him.
- He loved to lean. He'd lean on you as long as you'd pet him. If you stopped the petting, he'd give you his paw to ask you to pet him some more or he'd rest his head in the palm of your hand to say "Thank you".
- Harley loved Cheese-Its crackers and had nightly rituals eating them with George.
- Harley loved his treats and would let you know where they were. He always got a treat upon returning to the house after doing his business outside. He'd point with his nose to the treat container just in case you didn't know where the treats were located.
- Harley would ring the bells at the kitchen door to let us know he needed to go out.
- Harley was sweet.
- Harley was a gentle dog.
- Harley was smart.

We loved Harley and Harley loved us. When God created him, He threw away the mold. Harley will be missed terribly, but we are all better off for having him touch our lives.

One day we too will cross the rainbow bridge and along with Tina, our beloved Harley will be there to greet us. 🐾

Don't Let this Be Your Last Issue of GRREAT News!

If your mailing label says "RENEW NOW" in red ink, then this could be your last issue of GRREAT News. Please renew today so that you won't miss an issue or any of the other benefits of being a GRREAT member.

You can renew your membership on line at the GRREAT Member Center, http://www.grreat.org/online/mbr_center.htm or by using the form on page 19. Please be sure to include your current mailing and e-mail addresses. And, while you are renewing, please considering making a donation to support our efforts in 2006.

If your label says "Renew Now" and you have already renewed your membership, please contact membership coordinator Jill Kurtz at mail-admin@grreat.org or 703-250-3012 and let her know when and how you renewed.

You are an important part of the GRREAT family. Thank you for all that you do. 🐾

Dog Food Recipes

By Jo Bighouse

The article in the last newsletter about GRREAT dog Jake and his natural diet for allergies prompted a number of inquiries from the readership about home-prepared meals. For those of you who are interested in a healthy, homemade meal for your dog, I would like to share a few recipes. Keep in mind that a variety of fresh foods are important for good nutrition.

Before changing your dog's diet, schedule a complete physical, including blood work, to determine his overall health. Regular physicals and blood work should then be scheduled to be sure all of his nutritional needs are being met and all of his organs are working properly. Different dogs have different dietary needs and your veterinarian should be consulted for your dog's individual nutritional requirements.

RAW DIET FOR A 50 POUND DOG

From Natural Nutrition for Dogs and Cats, The Ultimate Diet by Kymthy R. Schultze

Raw meat: 3/4 to 1 cup muscle meat (plus organ meat or egg)
Raw bone: 1 turkey neck or 6 chicken necks
Veggies: 3 tablespoons pulped
Kelp/Alfalfa: 2 teaspoons
Cod Liver Oil: 1 teaspoon
Essential Fatty Acids: 2 teaspoons
Vitamin C: up to 3,000 to 6,000 mg

For those who prefer the simplicity of a pre-mix:

HOME PREPARED MEAL FOR A 25-50 POUND DOG

1 cup Sojourner Farms European Style Dog Food Mix
1/2 cup meat – lightly cooked or raw
1 1/2 cups water

Mix ingredients and place in refrigerator for at least 15 minutes.

BEEF MEAT AND RICE DIET

From Home-Prepared Dog & Cat Diets, The Healthful Alternative by Donald R. Strombeck, DVM, PhD

1/3 pound very lean beef (raw weight), cooked
2 cups rice, long-grain, cooked
2 tablespoons sardines, canned, tomato sauce
1-tablespoon vegetable (canola) oil
1/4 teaspoon salt substitute – potassium chloride
5 bone meal tablets (10-grain or equivalent)
1 multiple vitamin-mineral tablet

Provides 890 kilocalories, 44.3 grams protein, 38.1 grams fat. Supports caloric needs of a 30-pound dog.

FOX'S NATURAL CANINE STEW

From Protect Your Pet, More Shocking Facts by Ann N. Martin (Author of Food Pets Die For)

6 cups rice or barley, rolled oats, or pasta noodles (cooked)
3 cloves of garlic
Pinch of salt
1-tablespoon vegetable oil (flax seed or safflower oil)
1-tablespoon wheat germ
1-tablespoon white vinegar
1-teaspoon brewer's yeast
1-teaspoon bone meal
1-teaspoon dried kelp
2 deboned chicken backs (remove excess fat) or pieces of meat from soup bone
1 pound lean hamburger, ground lamb, or turkey

Combine all above ingredients. Add water to cover ingredients, simmer, stir, and add more water as needed until cooked. Should be thick enough to be molded into patties. Add sprinkling of raw, grated carrots, raw yams or alfalfa sprouts.

Jo Bighouse is a GRREAT member and proprietor of Midas Touch Naturally Healthy Pets, LLC in Berryville, VA. 🐾

Are You Getting Our E-mail?

Periodically, we send out e-mails to members with news about GRREAT—upcoming events, special fundraising campaigns, volunteers needed, etc. However, we are encountering problems with SPAM filters from a number of different Internet Service Providers which are identifying our notes as SPAM--and blocking them--even though our messages meet all of the requirements of the law regarding bulk e-mail (the so-called “CAN SPAM Act”).

You can help by ensuring that you have the address mail-admin@grreat.org included in your safe-sender list. Since the majority of the issues have been with AOL, we also strongly recommend that, if you want to receive GRREAT e-mails, that you provide us with a non-AOL address. In spite of our efforts to work with AOL, they often reject all of our e-mails.

If you are not currently receiving our e-mail news, you can opt-in by sending a note to mail-admin@grreat.org.

Ask Goldie

Your Questions Answered

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 would love to take my Golden for a walk – but instead, the dog takes me. When we're headed down the street, she pulls me as though she is a sled dog. How can I take control of the walking so that I don't feel that a walk around the block with my dog is a training session for the Iditarod?

Signed,

Non-Musher in Maryland

Dear Non-Musher:

A Golden Retriever's exuberance and joy in living are two of the loveliest attributes in this breed – unless you want to take a leisurely walk with an untrained, unrestrained Golden. At such times, the Golden is likely to exhibit his enthusiasm in such unappreciated behaviors as pulling you down the street. And, unlike smaller dogs, you can't count on brute strength to restrain your Golden buddy. You can, however, deal with your Golden's walking issues in the following ways:

Get the right collar. The right collar, such as a plain fabric or leather collar that either buckles or snaps, can help a dog learn to walk more politely without causing the animal any discomfort. The collar should be snug enough to not slip over your dog's head, but not so tight that it is uncomfortable for the dog. Don't use a choke chain or prong collar – they are rarely effective and can cause injury to the dog.

Get the right leash. A six-foot leather leash is your best option. Leather is more expensive than nylon, but leather is much easier on the hands – an important consideration if you are dealing with a puller. Don't use a retractable leash – the spooling action of such leashes actually encourages the dog to pull.

Bring an attention-getter. For your dog to walk nicely on the leash, he must be willing to ignore some significant distractions, such as squirrels and moving cars. The best way to counter such distractions is to shift your dog's attention to you. Tasty treats are one way to do that. Plenty of praise helps, too.

Assume the position. Place your leashed Golden on your left side, and loop the leash around your right-hand wrist. Grasp the leash just below the loop with your right hand, and also hold the leash a little lower down with your left hand.

Get moving. Start by walking just a few steps, and then asking your dog to sit. If he complies, reward with a tasty treat and lots of praise. After repeating this sequence at least a few times, your dog is likely to start sitting automatically when you stop. At this point, gradually increase the number of steps between stops until the two of you are strolling along nicely for at least for 20 to 30 steps. Slip him a treat every now and then for continued good walking manners, and provide lots of praise.

Change direction. If your dog suddenly catches sight of a squirrel or other distraction and pulls the full length of the leash, quickly turn and walk in the opposite direction. Your dog will be forced to divert his attention from the distraction back to you. Another strategy: stop completely, and don't resume your walk until the dog has stopped pulling.

Use his head. If your dog is a really stubborn puller, try using a head halter such as a Gentle Leader or Halti. This device consists of a loop of nylon webbing that encircles a dog's nose and a strap that goes behind the neck. Although it looks like a muzzle, it functions the same way a horse's bridle does. Another option is the Easy Walk Harness, made by the same company that manufactures the Gentle Leader. 🐾

GRREAT Annual Business Meeting Information

WHEN & WHERE

January 28, 2006
 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 Owen Brown Community Center
 6800 Cradlerock Way
 Columbia, MD 21045

AGENDA

- Officers Reports
- Coordinators Reports
- Summary of year's activities
- Election of Officers
- Plans for the coming year

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

Voting membership is granted to those GRREAT Members who have volunteered at least 20 hours of service during a year. Elected officers and appointed coordinators are automatically considered voting members as their positions require more than 20 hours of service annually.

For other volunteers, hours accumulated in the past or current calendar year are considered valid for voting purposes. Each member keeps track of his/her hours. The following can be used as a guide in tabulating hours. Please be prepared at the meeting to verify the hours you have volunteered prior to voting.

- Fostering one dog - 10 hours
- Fostering a second dog during the same year - 10 hours
- Attend/volunteer at a GRREAT function - 5 hours (A maximum of 4 functions to be tabulated, including adoption days, picnics, education booths, etc.)
- Transport a dog - 5 hours
- Chair an appointed committee or function - 10 hours
- Active assistant to a coordinator - 10 hours
- Home Visits - 5 hours (maximum of 4 per calendar year)



Heaven

Author Unknown

A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother-of-pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold. He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is Heaven, sir," the man answered. "Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked. "Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured, and the gate began to open. "Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked. "I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going with his dog. After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence.

As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book.

"Excuse me!" he called to the man. "Do you have any water?" "Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there, come on in." "How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog. "There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the water bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked. "This is Heaven," he answered. "Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too." "Oh, you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's hell." "Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?" "No, we're just happy that they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind."


Thanks to Our Volunteers

NOVEMBER 5TH ADOPTION DAY	DECEMBER 3RD ADOPTION DAY
TIMONIUM MARYLAND - PETCO	MANASSAS, VIRGINIA - PETCO
Scott Daniels	Bob Kurtz
Jim & Vicki Eurice	Glen MacDonald
Jim & Stephanie Nelson	Dee Brown
Dennis Garvin	Jim & Stephanie Nelson
Kathleen Thomas	Chris & Ray Evert
Lee & Kevin Broh-Kahn	Lucinda Twining
Lynn Ackert	Jacque Coley
Rhett Murphy	John Swanson & Connie Swanson
Heather Zibell	and their 2 daughters
Molly Dicken	Allison Murdock
Wayne Hunter	Heather Janborn

A Trip to the Emergency Vet

By Sandy Diamond, Education Coordinator

If your Golden retrievers are anything like mine, they usually choose to get sick at the most inopportune (and the most expensive) moments. It's rarely during regular vet working hours, but invariably on a Sunday or late at night. And, if you are anything like me, I panic because I can't find the phone number!

Below is a chart you can cut out and keep by your phone of some of the emergency clinics in the GRREAT area. It is also a good idea to actually drive to the emergency vet before you need to use it. Trying to find a vet you've never visited, and possibly driving on unfamiliar roads in the dark, can make a situation where you are already upset because your best friend is sick even more stressful. Make sure to call the clinic to let them know you are coming (and check that they are still at the same address.) 

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Poison Control 1-888-426-4435 or 1-800-548-2423

EMERGENCY VETS – MARYLAND

Animal Emergency Center
Timonium, MD (410) 252-8387

Beltway Emergency Animal Hospital
Glenn Dale, MD (301) 464-3737

Emergency Animal Hospital
Ellicott City, MD (410) 750-1177

Falls Road Emergency Animal Hospital
Baltimore, MD (410) 825-9100

Metropolitan Emergency Animal Clinic
Rockville, MD (301) 770-5225

Vet Emergency Treatment Services
Waldorf, MD (301) 638-0988

Anne Arundel Vet Emergency Clinic
Annapolis, MD (410) 224-0331

Emergency Animal Center
Hyattstown, MD (301) 831-1088

Emergency Veterinary Clinic
Catonsville, MD (410) 488-7040

Hartford Emergency Vet Service
Edgewood, MD (410) 569-0173

Reisterstown 24-Hour Vet Complex
Reisterstown, MD (410) 833-0500

Westminster Vet Animal Hospital
Westminster, MD (410) 848-3363

EMERGENCY VETS - VIRGINIA

Animal Emergency Clinic
Fredericksburg, VA (540) 371-0554

Blue Ridge Veterinary Assoc.
Purcellville, VA (540) 338-7387

South Paws Vet Specialists & Emergency
Fairfax, VA (703) 752-9100

The Emergency Vet Clinic of Fair Oaks
Fairfax, VA (703) 591-3304

Woodbridge Animal Hospital
Woodbridge, VA (703) 897-5665

Animal Emergency Hospital
Leesburg, VA (703) 777-5755

Emergency Vet Clinic of No. VA
Vienna, VA (703) 281-5121

Springfield Emergency Vet Hospital
Springfield, VA (703) 451-8900

VA-MD Veterinary Emergency Service
Alexandria, VA (703) 823-3601

EMERGENCY VETS - DC

Emergency Clinic for Animals
Washington, DC (202) 363-7300



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 *GRREAT News*.

Checks should be made payable to GRREAT.

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

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 2006 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:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please complete this form to volunteer. Return 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 (_____) _____

Work Phone (_____) _____

OK to call at work? 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:

This form can be filled out on-line at www.grreat.org.

The "Brick and Mortar" GRREAT Store is Open For Business!

We are pleased to announce that you can now shop online or in person for all of those wonderful GRREAT items. Peruse the GRREAT store at Midas Touch Naturally Healthy Pets in Berryville, Virginia for perennial favorites like the platypus dog toy, logo embroidered shirts, and hats. And new items like the plush talking bone and flashing paw print tag. Proceeds from GRREAT merchandise benefits our golden rescue efforts.

Store hours are 10-5 on Saturday and by appointment Friday and Sunday. Midas Touch Naturally Healthy Pets, LLC
2626 Shepherds Mill Rd
Berryville, VA 22611

Need more detailed directions? Call Jo at 540-955-9690 or email Jo@MidasTouchPets.com.

DIRECTIONS FROM NORTHERN VIRGINIA:

Route 7 West towards Berryville. 8 miles after Round Hill, turn right onto Route 612/Shepherds Mill Road. Midas Touch Naturally Healthy Pets is 2.7 miles on the right.



Come sniff out some great merchandise at the GRREAT Store!

DIRECTIONS FROM WINCHESTER:

Route 7 East to Route 340 towards Charles Town. Turn right onto Route 612/Shepherds Mill Road just before the West Virginia line. Midas Touch is 1.8 miles on the left.

DIRECTIONS FROM CHARLES TOWN:

Route 340 towards Berryville. Just as you enter Virginia turn left onto Route 612/Shepherds Mill Road. Midas Touch is 1.8 miles on the left.

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

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MERRIFIELD, VA
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GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue
Education and Training, Inc.