



GRREAT NEWS

Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. • March/April 2007 • Vol. 18, No. 2

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Second Chances

Reflections on fostering and uncovering the power to change lives

By Emily Pasterick, Contributing Writer

Maybe you have a GRREAT Golden; maybe you have a few; maybe you are bolstering yourself for the adoption plunge. In any case, if you are reading this newsletter, you have an interest in supporting the rescue and “re-homing” of our dear Golden companions and you already know

there are a number of volunteering outlets for demonstrating this support. Maybe you conduct home visits, maybe you attend Adoption Days or education fairs, and maybe you simply scan the Available Dogs list on the website every so often or shed a tear at a sad article in the newsletter. All of these show support.

But maybe you can do more.

And by that, I mean not that you should do more. I mean that, believe it or not at the moment, you hold the potential to Do More. Once you really absorb this realization, it can be an extraordinarily powerful sensation, and once harnessed, can even trans-

late to an insatiable need to continually challenge that Do More power within the constraints of time and responsibilities. In time, you may even recognize that what you originally thought was overwhelming Do More effort, was proven to be disproportionate to the goodness and reward that resulted.



Fostering a Golden into a new life both inspires and is inspired by the Do More energy.

Although I have fostered myself on occasion, I am still evolving

and grappling with the Do More, as perhaps many of you also are, and hence, my fostering efforts have come nowhere near those of some of our champion foster homes. Interested in tapping into the “mystery” of the Do More, I invited some reflections from two longtime fosters, Kim Wiff and Susan McKelvey. Kim and Susan have full lives – jobs, children, grandchildren, and dogs, of course. Yet they are hardly ever without a GRREAT Golden foster. I initially intended to simply solicit some “memorable experiences”

Continued on page 17

GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

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

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Letter From The President

By Sandy Diamond, GRREAT President

As GRREAT continues on into another year, I feel very honored to have been elected to lead the rescue. With more than 20 years of presidents that have come before me, I have some very big shoes to fill. And I cannot do it without you – our members, supporters and volunteers.

When I adopted my first dog, Boomer, from GRREAT in 2001, I never imagined I would be in this position. I was so happy and thankful to have adopted Boomer; I wanted to give back to the organization that allowed me to share my life with this wonderful dog. And in addition to dogs that have come into my home over the past several years, wonderful people have also come into my life as a result of volunteering.

Becoming more involved in an organization such as GRREAT brings you into contact with people and situations you would never have had the opportunity to experience otherwise. Think about all the neighbors you have met while on walks with your Golden. (Of course, I don't always know them by their name, but rather as Hannah's mom, or Lucy's dad.) When you are a foster home and are walking multiple Golden's at once, all the neighbors recognize you! And, although they might only know you as "the dog lady," most cannot resist stopping to chat and pet your dogs. These encounters will expand as you become more involved in GRREAT.

When you talk to active volunteers, you frequently hear the comment that they get back much more than they give, no matter how many hours they put in. You hear about the joy of seeing a scared foster Golden turn into a happy, confident dog going to their forever home. You hear about how much fun they had working at an education event. You hear how rewarding it is to see a Golden who came into the rescue with severe hip dysplasia running and jumping after surgery. You hear how humbling it is witness the love and dignity a discarded senior Golden displays when you provide them with a warm bed, good food and love. The list goes on.

I want to thank those of you who have been volunteering, and ask those of you who aren't to consider giving some of your time to GRREAT. It may be helping at an adoption day or education event, becoming a transport volunteer or foster home, or a coordinator or board member. In addition to helping the dogs, you will have the opportunity to meet interesting people and learn much more about dogs. You may be surprised where it leads you – perhaps you will be president one day! 🐾

Adoption Day Volunteers

NOVEMBER 4, 2006

BOWIE, MD

Kathy Thomas
Greg Russell
Felicia Barlow
Al Rudmann
John Burke
Lisa Burke
Kellee Lockwood
Kathryn Eszeki
Clinton Brown

DECEMBER 2, 2006

MANASSAS, VA

Lucinda Twining
Kathy Thomas
Jeff Twining
Glen MacDonald
Dee Brown
Duncan Pregnall
Al Rudmann
Idalia Fernandez
Rebecca Hotop
Eva Jack
Robin Highberg
Karsten Highberg

JANUARY 6, 2007

GERMANTOWN, MD

Kathy Thomas
Al Rudmann
Jan White
Elizabeth Knutsen
Wayne Hunter
Kathleen Doyle
Sara Howlett
Marisa Cook
Kayla Whisman

FEBRUARY 3, 2007

HERNDON, VA

Lucinda Twining
Marion Shields
Jeff Twining
Susan Swift
Wilma Sargent
Chris Sargent
Judith Daner
Sherry Abramson
Mr. Abramson
Andrea Peterson
Pete Peterson
Janette Siebs
Andrew Lebreque
Duncan Pregnall

Annual Business Meeting Highlights

On January 27, the GRREAT Board of Directors and many GRREAT members attended the annual business meeting. Board members and coordinators gave reports of their progress in 2006. Here are some of the highlights from the meeting:

A total of 244 dogs were accepted into the rescue, including 13 dogs returned from previous years. The percentage of owner give-ups continued to increase compared to shelter rescues and strays. Sixteen dogs came in as multiples (two or more dogs given up by the same family.)

Moving became in the number one reason for owner give-ups, followed by no time and the behavior of the dog. GRREAT had professional behavior evaluations completed on fifteen dogs this year. We are continuing to see an increase in this problem.

Donations were down 27% in 2006 from 2005, although our expenses remained steady. Veterinary costs continue to be our greatest expense. We had 25 dogs that came in with orthopedic problems, and most had surgery. Three dogs were hit by cars, and one was severely injured by another dog.

For more details on our 2006 statistics, please go to GRREAT Statistics at www.grreat.org.

2006 HIGHLIGHTS

- 231 Dogs accepted into the rescue
- 13 Dogs returned from previous years
- 221 Total number of dogs adopted
- 94 Number of active foster homes
- 11 Dogs named Buddy accepted into the rescue
- 3 Number of dogs named after beer
- 553 Adoption applications received

A Travel Magazine for You and Your Dog

A synopsis by contributing writer, Meg Ellacott

Has anyone ever heard of FIDO Friendly, the travel magazine for you and your dog? This is a fun publication packed with travel information and tips for you and your GRREAT friend(s). It's a bi-monthly magazine and travel directory with the tag line of "Leave No Dog Behind." Check it out at www.fidofriendly.com.

The last issue of FIDO FRIENDLY had articles on The Dog Whisperer, two Scottie dogs on a Euro Adventure and dog friendly airlines that offer the "Best Care in the Air." One of the articles is about booking a Fido-Friendly hotel and says to call and ask questions before booking a room that says "dogs allowed." You may find out it means "dogs allowed in a crate OUTSIDE." The article then offers tips to help in the decision making process. I found this particularly interesting since I had no idea this could happen – I thought dog friendly meant just that...the dog gets to stay in the hotel room with you! Writers also discuss canine social therapy programs in one particular hospital, which is a subject close to my heart as Kelly, my GRREAT dog is a Pet Partners Therapy Dog at Fairfax Hospital.

So go to www.fidofriendly.com – for \$15.00 a year, you'll get all the news that's fit to print about having fun traveling with your pals and even finding pet-friendly apartments. This is a good resource for those of us hooked on our Golden's! 🐾



ADOPTION REPORT

Thanks!

During the period of December 17, 2006 through February 16, 2007 37 Golden Retrievers found their forever homes. They were 17 dogs age 2 or under adopted and 12 age 7 or older. Congratulations to all the dogs and their new families!homes!

Name	#	Age	Sex	Name	#	Age	Sex
Abby	05-246	1	F	Katie	06-203	6	F
Amber	06-190	8	F	Keifer	06-118	8	M
Baby	06-226	2	F	Kodiak	06-187	1	M
Bailey	06-061	9	F	Maverick	06-170	7	M
Ben	06-221	10	M	Pooh Bear	06-216	9	F
Brandy	07-005	2	F	Precious	06-154	6	F
Bruno	06-231	3	M	Princess	06-211	1	F
Bud	06-228	8	M	Rockey	06-227	1	M
Buddy	06-152	8	M	Rosie	06-201	2	F
Buddy	06-208	9mo	M	Sabrina	06-176	7	F
Buddy	06-219	7	M	Sadie	06-191	5	F
Buddy	07-013	2	M	Sandi	06-181	1	F
Butter	06-174	2	M	Sandy	07-002	6	F
Chloe	06-124	9mo	F	Sparky	06-222	9	M
Dillon	07-010	2	M	Summer	06-217	9mo	F
Duffy	06-077	4	F	Whitey	06-168	9	M
Duke	07-006	1	M	Zeus	05-255	1	M
Goldy	05-009	5	M	Zoe	06-224	1	F
Gus	06-212	5	M				

Thank you to the following people who volunteered at the GRREAT booth at the World of Pets Expo in January:

Lois Briggs
 Daniel Broh-Kahn
 Kevin Broh-Kahn
 Lee Broh-Kahn
 Rebekah Broh-Kahn
 Laurie Collins
 Sandy Diamond
 Julie Eberly
 Jim Eurice
 Vicki Eurice
 Liz Haransky
 Janet Hauck
 Phil Hauck
 Jessie Robinson
 Al Rudmann
 Joy Scrimshire
 Ed Underhill
 Gene Weinzweig
 Lane Weinzweig
 Janet White

ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

Saturday, March 31, 2007

Noon - 2pm

Petco
 6612 Richmond Highway
 Alexandria, Virginia
 703-660-1300

Take I-95 South toward Baltimore. Take exit #52 onto MD-295 South toward BWI Airport. Take exit #1B onto I-95 South toward Richmond. Take exit #177B-A onto US-1 South toward Fort Belvoir. Go 2.4 miles and turn right on Richmond Highway. Go 0.1 miles and Petco will be on the right.

Saturday, May 5, 2007

Noon - 2pm

Petco
 2319-D Forest Drive
 Annapolis, MD 21401
 410-224-8323

Take I-495 (Capitol Beltway) to VA-620 W / Braddock Road West exit- Exit 54A. Turn Left onto VA-638 South/Rolling Road. Make a U-Turn at Traford Lane onto VA-638 North/ Rolling Road.

Saturday, June 2, 2007

Noon - 2pm

Petco
 9230-B Old Keene Mill Road
 Burke, Virginia
 703-455-2007

Take I-95 South to I-495 West toward Silver Spring. Take exit #57A onto I-95 South toward Richmond. Take ramp onto Old Keene Mill Road[VA-644] - go 5.1 miles and Petco will be on the right.

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

A Holistic Approach to Seizures

By Dr. Pam Grasso

Seizures are a common disorder of all breeds, but seem to be more prevalent in certain purebred dogs – including the Golden Retriever. Seizures have been connected with a variety of causes. Some studies have indicated a genetic link that makes certain breeds and lines more susceptible. Some seizures are caused by brain tumors, while others are a reaction to vaccinations or a symptom of disease. Most seizure patients are placed in a category called “epilepsy”, where the cause is often unknown.

Many dogs show symptoms prior to having a seizure, ranging from minutes to days before. Anxiety, restlessness, or an increased reluctance to leave your side are just a few of the common behaviors. Physically, your dog’s head and ears may become warmer and panting is noticeably increased. This is referred to as the pre-ictal phase. Sometimes there is a timing to the seizures, occurring at the same time of day, during a change of seasons, or just after eating.

The nature of the seizure itself can vary greatly, ranging from the tonic-clonic unconscious seizures (those we usually think of as a seizure) to behavioral seizures. Sometimes the jerking motion starts in the head and moves down the body. Sometimes one side of the body seems to be effected first. During a seizure, a dog might drool, vomit, pass urine, and/or have a bowel movement. In behavioral seizures, the dog can seem awake and aware, but anxious, as if they are frightened by something. They may bite at the air (called fly biting), race around the room for no apparent reason, or hide in a dark corner.

Some dogs have particular symptoms after the seizure, such as drowsiness, excessive thirst or hunger, dropping food from their mouths, temporary blindness, or not recognizing their people. Most are “normal” within 30 minutes after a seizure. This is called the post-ictal phase.

Whether or not you prefer a holistic approach, modern diagnostics are always helpful. When a seizure is first seen, routine blood work should be done to determine any other causes, other than “epilepsy”. The liver values and electrolyte imbalances should be monitored and evaluated. A Lyme test should also be performed, as this disease may cause seizures and is becoming more and more prevalent. In extreme cases, an MRI may be indicated to rule out a brain tumor, especially in older animals. If the seizures are continuous, it is important that the dog doesn’t become overheated. When muscles are tense for a prolonged period, the body temperature can raise to dangerous levels. If you are able to monitor your pet’s temperature during or after a seizure, it should remain below 103 F.

While the Western medical approach to managing seizures is often effective, conventional medications are not without side effects. Phenobarbital, a barbiturate, can have effects on the liver and blood work must be monitored on a consistent basis. This medication often makes the dogs drowsy and “drunk” initially. The dog’s personality and energy level is greatly affected; this may not be apparent until the dog is weaned off of the medication and suddenly, they have more energy. Potassium bromide is another common treatment option. Behavioral changes are likely-- such as chewing on objects previously ignored or other undesirable activities described as “reverting back to puppyhood”. This medication also requires consistent blood monitoring. The newer “designer” anti-seizure medications that are used still need more study to determine their long term effects on the body. There are dogs that do not respond to conventional treatments.

As a holistic veterinarian, I treat many seizure patients. As each dog is different, a thorough intake analysis, physical exam, and history are crucial in determining the best approach. In almost all cases, I prefer to try to wean patients off of conventional medications and use holistic options instead. Many of my patients can be treated simply by changing their diet. The choice of foods is often based on allergy testing. Applying mild pressure to the eyes or other specific points on the body can often keep a seizure from occurring or minimize the intensity. Some dogs can be treated with acupuncture alone, Chinese herbs, or a combination of both. Some have been treated successfully with only a few doses of a homeopathic remedy. Not only are these alternatives a healthier approach to managing seizures, but I found them to be as successful, if not more, than simply medicating. For those patients already on medication, we are usually able to reduce their doses or wean off of the medicines completely.

For the dog diagnosed with epilepsy, many safe and natural alternatives exist to treat your pet. Paying close attention to all of the details and keeping a log (including symptoms pre-seizure, during the seizure, after the seizure, diet, when your dog was vaccinated, when the seizures started, when they occur) can help you and your holistic veterinarian determine the best approach in treating your best friend.

Dr. Pam Grasso, MS, DVM, CVA, practices at Ashburn Farm Animal Hospital (www.ashburnfarmvet.com), in Ashburn, VA. She is a Western and Holistic veterinarian practicing traditional medicine as well as acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine, and Homeopathy.

Get Ready for Spring

By Joy Scrimshire, Education Coordinator

Hooray, SPRING is upon us – almost anyway!!! Now is the time to start planning the fun activities we are going to do outside with our Golden Retrievers in the warm spring air. From hikes along the Potomac looking at the gorgeous Cherry Blossoms to the forsythia, daffodils, azaleas and yes, the green leaves on the trees again, all are a perfect background against which we can enjoy the outdoors with our Golden Retrievers once again.

Let's all remember to get our Golden Retrievers (as well as ourselves) in shape and ready to enjoy these outdoor activities. If your special Golden Retriever has not been on heartworm preventative during the winter months, now is the time to get a heartworm blood test and start your best friend on monthly preventatives again. It's also a good idea to start giving our guys (and gals) flea and tick preventatives so that these pesky creatures don't get a hold on our special friends.

So take a look around, get everyone ready for Spring and plan all of those outdoor activities – hikes in the woods, outdoor obedience trials, agility trials and don't forget the hunting dog training days and trials. If you've never ventured out to see any of these activities, make plans to do it this year. Check out our web site as well as the Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club (www.PVGRC.org) web site to find schedules of upcoming events where you can get an idea of what these trials are all about and maybe decide to start training your Golden/s in these fun activities and participate in the trials too. 🐾

Simon

by Rebekah Ginsburg

In December 2005, my family adopted a Golden from GRREAT. His name is Simon and he doesn't have a tail. He was found wandering in West Virginia. We love him, so here is the story of Simon.

I held my breath as we rode home in the car. We had just looked at Simon, a dog from GRREAT. Many other people had wanted the dog. I hoped that we'd get him. When we got home, my brother Daniel turned on his racing game. I helped him. Daniel chose the nickname Simon "for luck." We waited as we "drove" the cars on the game. Then the phone rang. I paused the game. Mum answered. We got Simon! I jumped up and down, shouting. It was a dream come true.

When Simon's foster mother dropped him off, the adults talked for a while. Daniel and I played with Simon. Then the foster mom left. For the next 24 hours, Simon watched out the window. He seemed sad. Finally he calmed down and understood that he was our puppy.

After Simon calmed down, we got an invisible fence. He gets shocked if he tries to get out. He is so fast; he escaped before the fence could shock him! We had the fence made stronger. He doesn't escape anymore. We also enrolled him in obedience classes. He's still not very obedient, but he knows sit, lie down, shake, and heel.

Simon loves to steal our stuff. Most of my stuffed animals have been stolen by him. The other things that he likes to steal are our clothes. Once, he tried to steal a sock that was half on my foot! Another time, he pulled a scarf off my shoulders (it wasn't around my neck.)

We say that Simon's the cutest dog on Earth. You may disagree, and that's OK. We love him, so I wrote this story from my eyes, a nine-year-old's eyes.



DONATIONS

Thank you for your donations

Barbara & Dave Abernethy
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Ronald & Judith Wilgenbusch
Jim Wilmoth
Katie Wirth
Linda & Robert Young

DONATIONS

In Honor Of...

Our GRREAT Golden Girl, Bascia.
– Steve & Kathryn Troch

Devlin & Duffy, two big galoots! – Cheryl Brooks

Al Glaser, to thank the best ball player ever! – Catherine, Max & Murphy Bertin

Jameson (AKA Brandy), and to thank GRREAT for all you do and to continue doing GRREAT work. – Deb Ward

Morgan (98-133). – Anita & John Funk

In honor and memory of Angel Girl (97-120) and Gracie (05-017). – Tommie O'Connell

Pal (06-197) and Buttercup (06-196).
– Nancy Tunney

Linda Hunt. – Matthew & Elaine McAuliffe

Sandy Diamond, for all the work and love she gives to Goldens. – Gail Larson

Enclosed are donations from my retirement party. They are given in honor of my retirement in recognition of all the joy that rescued Goldens have brought to my life through GRREAT. – Linda Hunt, Kitty Scott, Anne Rapoza, Betty & Phillip Brown and Dorothy Hunt

Boome, the Jennings family's Golden of 6 years. – Scott Jennings

Al & Jean Huey, Mickey's foster family in 1993. Mickey crossed the Rainbow Bridge on Oct. 14, 2006 – a GRREAT dog and friend. – Betsy Davis

In honor of our family's Goldens – Joss, Cosmo, Shayna and Griffy. – Neal & Judy McKinley

Al Glaser. – Barry & Yolander Weller

Bailey. – Michael & Julie Vanasse

Amber. – Sheila & Al Vertino

Dusty. – Jonathan Gordon

Coleen & Rory Fisher. – Paula Eichenbrenner

For Hope & Darwin. – Gay Schonbrunn

Diane Lanigan, for her unending love of senior Goldens. – Susanne Lazanov

Rusty. – Jonathan Gordon

The Heaton family – Hud, Martie, Kate and the most important members, Bear and Prizm (the Goldens.) – Rebecca Turner

Mr. and Mrs. Warden and Max. – Laura Harty

Lynda Lake, from her friends at A1XN, on the occasion of her retirement from federal service. We wish her continued success with her work with GRREAT, which she will continue after she leaves federal employment. – A1AX Staff

Linda Hunt, who is retiring after 34 years at MCPS! – Anne Rapoza

Our GRREAT dog Copper, who shares his tricks and great disposition with Alzheimer's patients at Copper Ridge. – Andrew & Barbara Becker

Home Visit Volunteers. – Greg & Linda Souers

Ben & Bailey. – Carole & Richard Jefferson

Jessie Robinson, for the very special person she is plus all that she does for GRREAT. – Trish Collier

Shadow, Tasha and Toby. – Nancy & Richard Hughes

In honor of our troops. – Tim White & Anna Alt-White

Rose & Winston, two wonderful Goldens. – Elaine Feidelman

Sierra (03-174). – Patricia & James Kermes

My Golden, Casey. – Shiela Ramsey

Emily's (05-099) 8th birthday. She brings me endless joy. – Susan Swift

Our sweet Sparky. – Barbara & Robert Osgood

Amber (99-030). – Jim Eddinger & Shiela Loftus

Our GRREAT Brady, who always keeps us laughing. – Joe & Judy Niebauer

Our GRREAT dogs Nittany, Syndey and Shadow. – Matt & Heather Hiserman

In honor of our retirement. – Bob & Lynda Lake

In recognition of all the hard work and dedication of the GRREAT board members, coordinators and volunteers in 2006 – especially retiring long-time Board members Kim Wiff, Gail Corby and Scott Daniels. – Bob & April Fritz

Homer & Missy, who delight us every day. – Tony & Barbara Nastus

Jessie (06-060) who came into our lives as a foster and became a permanent member of our family in April. – Olivia & Tom McDonough

Sadie. – Dawn & Marshall Bowen

Rebecca and Art Hotop, the best foster parents and volunteers. – Jeremiah & Yvonne Eames

In honor of a devoted Golden love, Cameron Phillips, on her birthday. – Sara Hutchinson

Cameron Randall Phillips. – George & Dorothy Hutchinson

In honor of the GRREAT board members past and present. Thank you for all your hard work for our best friends. – Nancy & Ray Jones

To honor the birthday of a friend, Virginia Fry, who is a fan of your organization and Goldens in general! – Kathy & John Langdon

DONATIONS

In Memory Of...

Christine Styer-Sloane, sister of Jay & Martha Sluyter. – Paul & Chris Umberger

Dixie Lou, our precious girl who passed away in October. – John & Kristen Glowacki

Our wonderful Gus, who left us on Oct. 16, 2006. We are still crying and missing this sweet boy. – Richard & Jule Ann Cheslock

All our goldens who have cross over the Rainbow Bridge. – Barbara & Ace Oestreich

Our Golden, Tawni and our Yellow Lab, Buffy. – Nancy Hamilton

Conner. He was a grand old man and we miss him, especially his beautiful white face. – Robin & Donald Greenfield

Heidi, who was our beautiful Golden that died in 2002 and is still missed! – Arthur & Joanne Fournier

Jenny Brandy (98-206). – Patrick Neiler

Karmen (99-222), who died suddenly in September. He was my gentle giant – the best. – Denis & Wendy Garcia

Casey. – Norman & Elizabeth Wright

Barnry, Copper & Travler. – Charles & Gillian Heagy

Punk & Maddie – two golden-hearted dogs. – Barbara Dunnington

Mack Forster. – Robin Forster & Jennifer Utz

Jesse, my 15-year-old Cocker Spaniel who died in June and my 9 ½-year-old Golden, Maddy, who died very suddenly in September. My remaining golden Jake, who is 4, and I were incredibly lonely and sad. But fortunately we have adopted a 2-year-old Golden, Carly, who fit right into our little family the very first day. I truly believe she was sent to us by Maddy & Jesse. – Barbara Wienckowski

Nicholas & Geebers. – Jane Kunze

Zeb & Gus. – Gary & Irene Masters

Penny (00-234). – Patricia & Bill Keilholtz

My sweet, beautiful boy, Tuckahoe. – Suzanne Miller

Ipish Martin. – Animal Clinical Investigation

Brandy, who was fostered by Rene Sollod and adopted by Gloria Garcia. – Anne Wilson

To Linda Shepherd in memory of Tucker. – Deborah Loehrer

Montana & Rocky, the Goldens that broke us in to the wonderful ways of this breed. – Tim & Kathie Huffman

Martha Koval, who passed on December 22, 2006. – Rosemary McArthur

Georgia. – Patricia Kennedy

Jan Brown's Chloe, who left for the Rainbow Bridge on Dec. 26, 2006. Chloe was 16.5 but, despite age-related health problems, she maintained a good spirit and managed to keep up with her extended family of Cassie, Bear and, until she left for the bridge herself just a month before, Callie. Chloe was a beautiful girl who will be greatly missed, but who is certainly bringing the happiness of reunion to those who have gone before her. – Greg Russell

Best Dog In The World, Boomer. Boomer passed away last January of lymphoma, and a year later I think of him and miss him every day. He accompanied me to education events and was an excellent ambassador for GRREAT. He was a favorite of the neighborhood and everyone was his friend. Even those who were afraid of dogs learned that the 100-pound ball of fur racing full speed at them would stop before knocking them over. I don't think there was anyone who met Boomer who didn't fall in love with him. Boomer, I miss you and will see you one day at the bridge. – Sandy & Ken Diamond

Ben. – Janice and Dennis Biennas

Sadie, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on May 26. – Jane Smith

Rosie, who went from eating twigs and pine needles as a stray to steak and veggies at Chez Lanigan. Also, in memory of Dudley who was never taught to do right, which wasn't his fault. – Diane Lanigan

Maddie Hunter, our granddaughter. – Kathy & Wayne Hunter

Driver. – Al and Teresa Blumberg

Rose, my beloved Lab-Setter mix with a heart that was all Golden, and Dakota (06-069), my sweet walking buddy. – Louise Davidson

In memory of our beloved Tucker and Popeye and to thank Dee Brown, a great foster mom. – Thomas & Donna Frankhouser

Megan, Tyler and Tuck. – Sue and David Barefoot

Our Golden boy, Teak. – Gary Kanner

In memory of our GRREAT boy, Rudy – Emma's big brother and my Delta Society pet partner. We all miss him dearly. At 8 ½ years old, Emma is tolerating our newest Golden addition, 9-month-old Nick who is quickly growing into a big sweet boy and training to follow Rudy's pet therapy footsteps. – Barbara Hals & Sharon Dyke

Brandy, a special girl adopted and loved by Gloria Garcia. – Melinda Costa

Jewels and Maggie, two precious girls who crossed the Rainbow Bridge in October and December of 2006. Both were adopted and dearly loved by Rene Sollod. – Melinda Costa

My sweet Brandy (02-269). She is desperately missed. Thank you to foster mom Rene Sollod, for bringing her to me. – Gloria Garcia

Holly (98-155), who we miss in our lives with each passing day. – Cheryl & Stephen Ferrone

DONATIONS

Sweet Maggie Mae (03-088) and thanks-giving to GRREAT for allowing us to share 3-1/2 years with Maggie, a precious gift. – Leslie & Jackie Sachlis

Mrs. Martha V. Koval. – Delphine Koval

My beautiful Amanda – I miss you every day. – Patsy Cress

Casey. He wasn't a GRREAT dog, but he was a well-loved member of our family and a beautiful Golden guy. – John & Irene Brown

Reilly, a smiling GRREAT dog who loved life and those who loved him, and in honor of Claire (98-173) who gives us love and laughter every day. She is such a blessing and a joy. – Ernest & Iscella Wittich

In loving memory of Max & Hayden. – Caryl & Chuck Smith, Matt, Sarah, Drew, Kristen, Todd, Abigail and Kramer

My dear Rosie, who had to leave us on Thursday morning, Feb. 1, 2007. She was a gentle, loving and happy girl who made me smile every day of her 13-1/2 years. – Jennifer Davis

Enclosed is a donation to thank GRREAT for all the wonderful things you do to rescue the best breed on earth, the Golden Retriever, and place these beautiful, gentle dogs in forever homes! We are sending this to you in memory of our beloved first Golden, Luigi, who was with us for almost 13 years. He passed 6 years ago in March and still to this day, I cannot think or talk of him without tearing up. I must have cried daily for a whole month after he died. The hardest part was coming home, unlocking the front door and walking into an empty house. There was no wet nose, no wagging tail or goofy "smile" behind the door to welcome me home. Five years ago my children gave me an 8-week-old Golden puppy for my birthday. Besides being drop-dead gorgeous, Tobie aka "The Love Muffin" is a very, very sweet and loving big guy. Then in Feb. 2006 we adopted Redd from GRREAT and we thank God every day that we did. My husband and I truly consider these boys "gifts" in our lives. They couldn't be more different in personality yet they are inseparable buddies, truly

joined at the hip! Adopting Redd was the best thing we ever did. Besides giving Tobie a real companion, Redd has helped him shed a few pounds because of all the playing they do together. While we will always having a special place in our hearts for Luigi because he was our first Golden, Tobie and Redd have brought us non-stop laughter and incredible joy once again! To all the great and GRREAT Golden out there, we love ya! – Nori & Howard Heuberger

Murphy (01-123), beloved Golden of Michael and Christie Couture. Murphy was our first foster dog and introduced us to the joy of opening our home and hearts to Golden looking for a better life. – Jay & Tonia Goodwin

Elvis, who passed away this week. He was the companion animal and good friend to Marion Lynders, who has worked with GRREAT and adopted him from there. – David Smallwood, Karen Lenz and Margaret Smallwood

Jack Lowe, who found Ed and Dawn Lowe through your wonderful organization. Not only was he lucky to have found such wonderful people and a very happy home, but Ed and Dawn also found a loving and sweet Golden Retriever. He gave many people happy times! He will be greatly missed by all of us. – Jodi & Allen Berndt

Rene Sollod's sweet Jewels and Maggie who both passed away in the last two months. The loss of one sweet Golden is unbearable, but to lose two in two months is unimaginable. May Rene find another Golden friend soon. – Gloria Garcia and Maggie Mae

Chelsea, beloved Golden of Toby and Laura Twining. – Jeff & Lucinda Twining

Leo's Corner

GOLDEN ANGELS (\$500 AND MORE)

For Chassidy and Polar Bear. – Joe O'Neill & Walt Atha

Jeanne O'Donoghue

Microsoft Giving Campaign – on behalf of Bob & Carolyn Reagle

GOLDEN HEROES (\$100 - \$499)

Bill & Geri Guwang

Brenda Pascal

In memory of Barney Parisi, a GRREAT dog who faced his medical challenges and medication with courage, a piece of cheese and a wagging tail. – Nicolette Parisi & Richard Wakeling

LEO'S PALS (\$99 AND UNDER)

In honor of Shadow and in memory of Sandy. – John Powell

In honor of Eric & Chris Boehm. – J.T. & Pat Catlett

Tamara Mills

In honor of Marion & Jeffrey Shields. – Gail Solomon

In dedication of our GRREAT dog Keyser, who every day provides us with so much joy. – Erin O'Connor

Jo & Yvonne Kincaid

Adam Steinbock & Jennifer Sentz

Martin & Janet White

In memory of our loving and faithful Golden Payton, who gave us 13 years of joy. – Jan & Tim Ambrose

In honor of Chester Pillsbury Bentrup, a true GRREAT friend, who turned 16 on Christmas Day 2006. – Nancy & John Bentrup

Louis & Teri Stachowiak

In memory of Kathleen Dorsch's Golden Retriever, Buzz. – Shannon Smith

In memory of Truck, Maggie, Shane, Phoenix, Sally & Spirit. – Tim & Linda Daniel

In memory of Mandi Meirose. – Lindalee & Joseph Wald

DONATIONS

For Special Reasons

To thank GRREAT for the two loves of my life – Jack and Daisy – they bring so much joy to my life. – Michele Petrillo

For the area of greatest need. – Joyce & Scott Parkin

For wherever it's needed most. – Lane & Gene Weinzweig

For continuing your loving and caring work with Golden, and to thank GRREAT for Keo. – Carla Dahle

In support of your activities with Golden. We adopted our Shadow from GRREAT via Art and Rebecca Hotop in December of 2002. He is the best Christmas present ever! GRREAT had funded two hip surgeries for him. He is a fantastic member of our family and has brought much joy to our lives. Keep up the wonderful work! – Edythe & Stephen Alexander/The Alexander Foundation

For someone who needs help with medical bills. – Alan & Emiko Alborn

Support to all programs. – L. Clay & Janis Beall, III

A Christmas donation in the name of Janet & Nick Kaplan. – Mike Kaplan

To thank Dr. Walker of Blue Ridge Veterinary Associates for his Christmas gift to GRREAT of performing hip surgery on Kumo (06-225), and for everything else he does for GRREAT. – Rick Stevens & Julie Palais

Sunshine Moses is continuing his adventures and living in Death Valley, CA for the winter. He will start traveling again in April. – Terry & Karen Moses

We've loved all our GRREAT dogs and all our GRREAT fosters. We are so thankful for all of the wonderful volunteers who make this organization work! – Rebecca & Art Hotop

For Peaches. – Jeannie Blood

For Jannus – Eileen Bennett

To thank GRREAT for 5 years of our GRREAT dog Summer. – Pamela Hodgkinson

Merry Christmas to everyone at GRREAT. This is my second Christmas with my forever family. Thanks to Harry and Sara and Bronte, my foster family, for finding me a perfect match. I love it here. I hope this donation can help another Golden find their forever family. Love, Comet. – Dorothy & Ernest Helmick

Happy Holidays to our four legged friends. – Daniel & Aldona Debold

We are pleased once again to be able to support your outstanding and untiring rescue efforts. Thank you for caring and for taking the necessary action to help all of those animals in need. – Kathleen & Kerry Skeen

To be used towards veterinary costs for Janet and other GRREAT foster dogs. Thank you for your dedication. – Rick Manville

Thanks for everything you do to help all of our Golden in need. – Ralph & Jondelle Truitt

Please use towards the care of Peaches. – Carol Blackwell

For all the GRREAT work you do for Golden! – Nancy & Dave Smith

Keep up the good work finding homes for all those wonderful Golden! – Phil & Jeanne Agee

Thank you for our precious Maverick (05-128). He has brought a lot of love and joy to our lives. Also, in memory of two other wonderful Golden, Alex and Rilla, who are waiting on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge. – Christine & David Shelley

This donation is for Peaches. Her story touched my heart. – Leigh Fisher

To thank Jane for bringing Finley (AKA Duke 07-006) into our family! – Adam Bengston & Lisa Conley

To thank all my Transport Volunteers. – Vicki & James Eurice

For Peaches. – Gail Fazio

The enclosed check is to contribute to the cost of care for Peaches. I read about her on your website and was really touched. It has been almost one year since I lost my beloved Golden, Cassie, to cancer and I have been visiting your site to share in the love for these wonderful creatures that you so clearly embody. I have been trying to figure out if I was ready for another Golden (other dogs are great too, but after you have had a Golden...) and reading about your dogs has made it clear to me that I am not yet there. In any case, I hope to be able to contribute further in the near future. – Marshall Schy

To GRREAT for any medical bills that need some extra love required. – Lisa & Andrew Melvin

Corporate Giving

Grateful Pets

From your Helping Udders link. – Mikel Miller

Pedigree Adoption Drive

Aussie Petmobile - A donation via our new customers, Anna & Philip McGuiney.

Aetna Foundation – on behalf of Lauri & David Silberstein

CSC Employee Campaign – on behalf of Kim Dawson

American Gas Association – on behalf of Douglas Allen

Employees Charity Organization of Northrop Grumman – on behalf of Stanley Smith & Sheri Ulrich

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund – on behalf of Jennifer & Robert Cruise

Kenille Davies, Worchester County Humane Society – for helping all the beautiful Golden in your care. Thank you so much for helping my shelter with our beautiful Golden, Max.

Better Behavior Now

Copyright 2007 Liz Hauck

Step 1 – Work for Food

All dogs need to do doggy work – sleep, socialize with the group, romp, collect and leave information around the territory, and find food. In this series, you'll get easy ways to provide environmental enrichment for peak mental and physical health for your dog. A natural result will be to improve your value and interest to your dog, strengthen your relationship and deepen the attachment in an organic way.

Dogs in nature spend much of their time awake in foraging for food. Contrary to popular belief, they're rarely hunting big game. Instead, they are searching for easy-to-get sources of proteins and fats - carcasses, eggs, dead or dying things, grubs, poop, for example. They chase, catch, bite, chew, sniff, dig, bury, shake, gut.

Dogs who work for their food are proven to have fewer behavior problems.

Providing rewarding puzzles and variety for your dog is a crucial way to strengthen your value as a leader for your dog. Follow these simple steps to replicate foraging behaviors for your dog:

1. Get rid of the food bowl!
2. Feed at least 2 times each day.
3. Divide food among at least 3 objects per meal

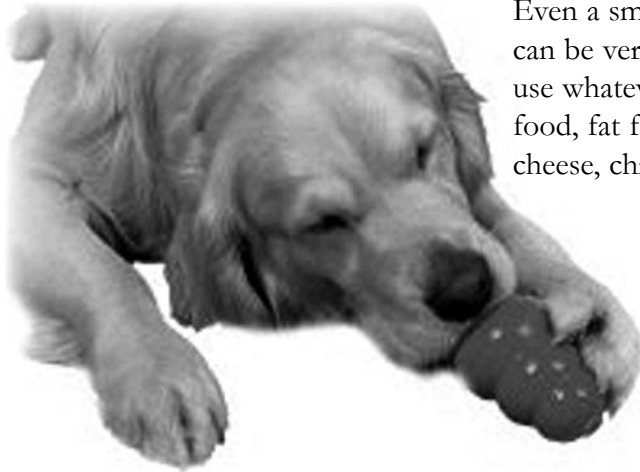
Kong, Busy Ball, Molecuball, Treats Ball, hollow marrow bone, empty peanut butter jar – anything you can stuff food into that you know your dog can handle

4. Add a small amount of something different to each object to create variety – you'll have to learn what your dog likes enough to work for!

5. Hand your dog his objects and let him work it out.

Help him at first – make it easy and wonderful, with extra-delicious bits, and show him how to push it around to get the food out.

6. Alternatively, if it works for you and your dog toss his kibble around in a safe place – backyard, patio (in my house, the basement) and let him search it out.



Even a small amount of food variety can be very exciting for most dogs. We use whatever is handy - wet dog or cat food, fat free sour cream, fat free yogurt, cheese, chicken, hamburger, leftovers, gravy, cream of chicken soup. Most days, I mix wet and dry food together into a sort of crunchy meatloaf mixture, and stuff that into twelve different objects. Each dog gets three objects. It takes less than

five minutes to prep, and it's awfully quiet around here for a good half hour at least!

If you have more than one dog, and have any concern that they might fuss or fight over the objects, start with objects that will seem less valuable at first – a paper bag, small cardboard box, twist of newspaper. Or separate the dogs for mealtimes, and take the objects up once the dogs have finished.

Your dog's brain will be thrilled to have all that variety and interesting work to do. Dogs may show calmer behaviors in just a day or two. Give it time – weeks, months or the rest of his life. Providing these interesting, important meals for your dog will help to make you very, very interesting to your dog.

Next time: Sniffing and Pee-Mail

Visit www.droptheleash.net or call 410-800-7069 with your questions or comments. I'd love to hear from you! 🐾

Massage Isn't Just for People!

By Sherry B. True

Who doesn't love a good massage? When you hear the word "massage", guaranteed your animal companion isn't the first one that comes to mind. You probably picture yourself at an expensive spa, spending lots of money, living the life of luxury and receiving the "feel-good" benefits after a good massage!

Just as holistic medicine is not yet formally recognized by the medical community as a viable treatment adjunct, the benefits of alternative medicine are not being fully recognized by the veterinary community either. Slowly however, things are beginning to change for both people and animals in this regard.

Thankfully today as a society and as caregivers we are discovering the value of preventive holistic healthcare for us and our animal companions by recognizing the importance of working with the mind, body and spirit together. Massage is a natural contribution to a fit, happy and healthy life for you and your animal companion. Animals of all ages benefit from a good massage. You do not need to wait until an animal is in pain or discomfort to benefit from a good massage. It is a great addition to preventive health care for your pet.

For many of us it is no longer considered a luxury for our animal companions to benefit from a whole host of holistic alternatives like massage, acupuncture, acupressure, aromatherapy or homeopathy.

There are many benefits to animal massage. All of the benefits are the same benefits we as humans experience such as an increased overall sense of wellness, a general sense of calming and reduction of stress, increased flexibility and movement, pain reduction or relief of pain. Decreased recovery time from surgery or trauma, increased circulation of the blood, lymphatic and nervous systems, removal of toxins from the body and its organs are also of the potential benefits of massage.

During their lifetimes almost all animal companions will experience some bumps, bruises, injuries, or serious trauma. Sometimes, however, after such injuries are treated and healed by a veterinarian, your animal companion may continue to experience some painful residual effects. This is a good example of when massage can be used to compliment the veterinary care being given.

As a certified canine massage therapist it brings me joy to see the relaxation, peacefulness and sometimes playfulness an animal exhibits after receiving a massage. Often times I have had dogs fall off to sleep as I work on them. Others however become energized by having tight muscles or joints loosened.


Each animal is different and each responds differently to a massage. Old age happens to the best of us and our animal companions get there sooner than we do. Massage can help alleviate the pain older animals have with arthritis or stiff joints. There are many natural approaches to help relieve pain including nutritional supplements, acupuncture as well as massage.

Not just for muscles anymore, therapeutic massage therapy can also effectively and naturally help alleviate many physiological problems an animal might be experiencing. The act of touch alone can often times produce emotional healing or a sense of wellbeing for an animal companion.

Despite the many positive aspects of massage, there are some situations in which it may not be an appropriate treatment. Animals suffering from fever, shock, infection, open wounds, rashes, lumps and immune disease typically do not benefit from massage and taking the time to perform a massage will delay much needed veterinary care.

All throughout history, massage has been used routinely on animals as part of healing and conditioning programs, to help increase the aid in recovery from injury, to provide relief from soreness and pain and to calm and relax our animal companions who lived and worked alongside us. In the areas of racing or showing of animals, massage is often times used on a daily basis to keep the animal healthy and relaxed.

Alternative holistic health care provides animals with additional resources for overall good health and a happy life.

Sherry B. True, CMT is owner and service provider for Spirit Paws, alternative animal wellness services. Her services include animal communication, pet massage, animal blessings and Healing Touch for Animals®. For more information please visit www.spiritpaws.com or call 410-254-0478. 

Corporate Gift: Sundance Travel

Annapolis residents Katie (05-071), Sundance and “Momdog” Nancy Howell (pictured) woke up one fall day with a GRREAT idea. Why not get some cool, “Go Navy Beat Army” bandanas for the dogs? Oh no, there aren’t any being sold in town! So the three of us decided that we should make some up and contacted our local promotional products vendor (Resource One International), who quickly produced 600 high quality blue and gold logo bandanas for the 1st Navy home game.

With Sundance dressed in a customized, attention getting doggie saddlebag (designed and made by our friend Jr Hwa Simon), Katie adding her extra “golden” presence (and sporting a bandana of course), my helpful husband (wearing a large sandwich board promoting the fundraiser for GRREAT), and I set out to the enthusiastic and wonderfully generous crowds at the Navy tailgate parties and in front of our neighborhood market. Our favorite Annapolis pet store (Paws on State Circle) and dog washers extraordinaire (Muddy Paws), also lent a huge hand by displaying the bandanas and promoting the GRREAT fundraiser in their stores.



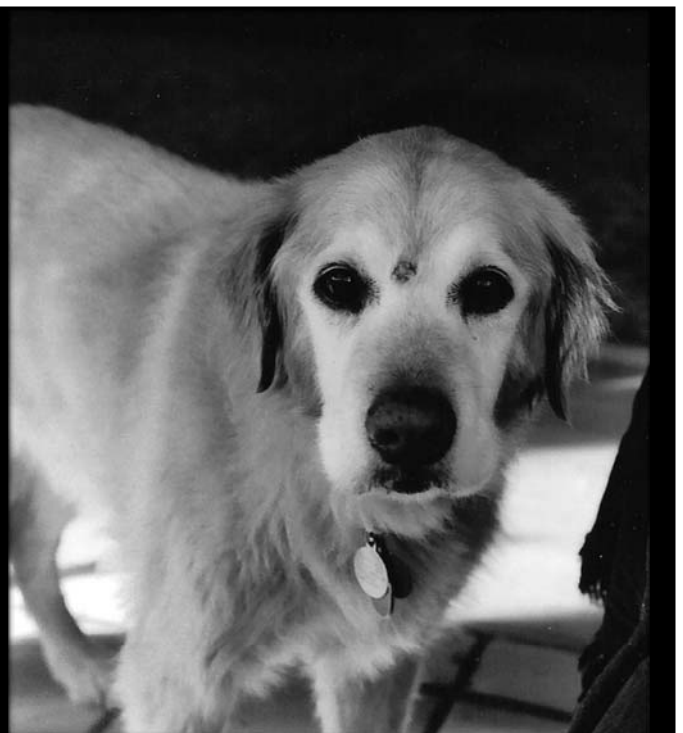
The result? In only a few tailgates, all 600 bandanas were sold and additional donations received, which meant that after covering our production costs, we were able to collect \$1604 for GRREAT. This was wildly fun, heartwarming, and simple and we extend our warmest thanks to everyone in the community who helped achieve this wonderful outcome! Any GRREAT supporter that has a local athletic rivalry is encouraged to try this to raise money for our wonderful organization.

PS: Sundance Travel is a full service agency specializing in travel arrangements for families with pets. 🐾

Dear GRREAT,

Sadly, I write to inform you that my dear, sweet Sam has left me to go that special place that all good dogs go. I adopted Samson (04-107) from GRREAT in 2004. He was 10 years, 9 months old at the time. There cannot be another dog to compare; Sam was a wonderful spirit who has graced my home and heart these past two years. He has left a huge hole, and it will be some time to pull in the edges and make the hole smaller. Sam lies in my backyard. To keep him company, I have buried with him the ashes of three other beloved dogs who departed this planet some years ago. Somehow it seems fitting to have them together.

**Sincerely,
Dolli Walsh**



PVGRC Offers Ways to Have Fun with your Golden

By Bob Kurtz, PVGRC President

As the new President of the Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club, I'd like to introduce you to the club. The PVGRC is GRREAT's sister organization, with a focus on different aspects of the Golden Retriever breed. As a GRREAT member, you already know about the fun, friendly temperament of our beloved Golden Retrievers. PVGRC can show you new ways to have fun with the breed!

Are you interested in seeing some of the best of the breed in competition? PVGRC's Specialty Show will be on Saturday, April 14 at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, MD.

Have you been working in obedience with your Golden? Do you feel ready to show off your achievements? The Specialty on April 14 also offers a

Golden-only obedience competition, including the new obedience rally event. (Pre-registration is required.)

Other events this spring include PVGRC's agility competition on June 23 and 24 and a Working Certificate field test on Sunday, April 15.

These are the highlights for this coming spring, but that's not all that PVGRC has to offer! Later in the year will be a second agility trial, two more field events, and a tracking test. In addition, the club runs training events throughout the year – recent training opportunities include an introduction to tracking, a series of classes in show handling, and field training days.

Check out the PVGRC website at <http://www.pvgrc.org> and see what we're all about. You can also send me an e-mail at president@pvgrc.org. I'd love to hear from you.

BELLA (05-067) was approximately 4 months old when she was picked up on the side of the highway in West Virginia. With the help of SIX GRREAT volunteers, Bella made her way from the shelter to her foster home. She is now queen of her castle in the Wilk household, where she lives with two young boys, two cats, a guinea pig and two fish tanks.



ZOE ESTRADA (05-243) was given up to GRREAT at 11 months of age when her family wasn't able to care for her any longer. Now, she works days with her mom and goes just about everywhere with her new family. She has learned to pick up cans and put them in the recycling bin! She loves to go on runs, hikes and play with other dogs.

Continued from page 1

throughout their fostering tenure, and discovered that these were not so easily distinguished; rather, it was the fostering experience as a whole that distinguished itself as the driving force in their fostering involvement (Do More?....).

Kim has been fostering since 2000, helping approximately 40 Golden Retrievers find their second chance. To Kim, fostering does not necessarily need to involve more effort than would otherwise be put forth into the care of a current dog. Leveraging the amazing adaptability of Golden Retrievers, she simply acquaints a foster with the routines she already has established, and her foster dogs fall in line. In fact, information provided to her about the dog's previous meal

and bathroom routines goes out the window; after all, second chances demand new beginnings. Although Kim herself has undoubtedly gained extensive "on the job" knowledge of how to rehabilitate her fosters, contrary to what might be a preconceived assumption, Kim says that foster homes are not expected to be dog behaviorists and novice veterinarians capable of turning around a Golden from problematic to Westminster-worthy. Instead, fosters are just asked to provide the basics - care, love, and an interest in preparing a Golden to bring out the best in both canine and family to the extent possible. Provided the adoptive home has the same goal, Golden Retrievers have a way of taking care of the rest for us.

Susan has fostered approximately 25 dogs, and offers a montage of reflections when asked to describe her experience:

"My love to all of our foster dogs – to Baron (who stayed), and Comet (who became our Grand-dog), to Sidney, Chessie, April, Carmel, Donka, Moses, Duke, Chance, Otis, Murphy, Sony, and all the Bears, Buddys, and Princesses...they came into our home sad and confused, some afraid, many unhealthy and dirty, all stressed. They each left a month or more later, healthy, happy, and able to begin a new life in a forever home. While they were with us, we gave them our time, love, food, hours of petting, walking and playing, and the confidence

and skills they would need to move ahead with their lives. They gave us far more. The joy of seeing these gentle golden giants blossom and thrive, and then move on with bright eyes, wagging tails and heads held high makes fostering all worthwhile."

It's been said that "We all have big chances in our lives that are more or less a second chance." Foster homes, through the collective energy of GRREAT rescue, provide for Golden Retrievers a second chance at a new life, but it can also be argued that Golden Retrievers provide for us that same chance – to Do More. We all deserve a second chance to be more than who we are, to do more. Consider fostering as your chance to uncover your Do More spirit and realize your potential through GRREAT Golden rescue. 🐾



Check It Out!

The Presidential Pet Museum has recently moved to Annapolis, Maryland. It houses and highlights past and present White House pets, including President Gerald Ford's Golden Retriever, Liberty. There is a lot of interesting trivia at the museum, as well as on the website. Check it out... www.presidentialpetmuseum.com.

DIY: Dog Steps

Here is a quick, easy and inexpensive way to make steps that allow your dog to get in and out of the car or up on the bed. Many dogs will not use a ramp, and lifting a Golden doesn't work for most of us. The steps are bulky, but are very lightweight. Instructions are for a two-step Dog Step, with each step being 8 inches tall. Adjust as needed for more steps, higher or lower steps, etc. (you may need additional panels.) All materials can be found at a larger Home Depot.

Materials:

2 Styrofoam insulation panels, 2-inches thick x 2 feet wide x 8 feet long

Spray adhesive (make sure it can be used on Styrofoam)

Box cutter

Tape measure

Marker

Carpet remnant (if desired)

Measure, mark and cut each panel into four pieces – two pieces of each panel will be 33 inches long and two pieces will be 16 inches long. There will be four pieces of each size when you are done.

Assemble the four 33 inch pieces on top of one another, using spray adhesive to stick them together. Place a heavy object on top for several hours to completely dry. Do the same thing with the four 16 inch pieces. When they are dry, line up one end of the 16 inch block on top of the 33 inch block and glue together to make the steps. Again, place a heavy object on top and let dry overnight. If desired, cover the steps with lightweight carpet (this is not necessary, but it may increase the life of your steps.) Total cost of the project is \$40-\$50.



We Need Your E-mail Address

The most cost-effective way for us to stay in touch with you is by e-mail. We use your e-mail address to send you periodic updates and other messages from the rescue.

Please help us keep our records accurate. Send any e-mail updates to mail-admin@grreat.org. We do not share e-mail (or mailing) addresses with any other organizations.

Please note that we have ongoing problems reaching AOL e-mail addresses. Although we comply with anti-SPAM laws, AOL routinely refuses to deliver our messages.

Simile-Finale Fund Donations

In honor of Joy Scrimshire, for all the work she does for Golden.
– Katie Price

In loving memory of my two wonderful GRREAT dogs, Jewel and Maggie. When I adopted them into my family they lit up my life and have left a deep void in my heart. May they both be running and happily playing over the Rainbow Bridge. – Rene Sollod

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 2007 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.

_____ Become a foster home for GRREAT dogs

_____ Help at Adoption Events, Education Events,
Fundraisers & Micro Chipping Clinics

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

_____ Perform home visits for potential adopters prior to
adoption

_____ Additional Information or Comments:

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

GRREAT Calendar Contest

Get out those pictures of your GRREAT golden – it's time to submit them for the 2008 GRREAT Calendar!

Entries are now being accepted for the 2008 GRREAT Calendar. The calendar is sold through GRREAT and given to shelters and veterinarians within our coverage area. We encourage everyone to send in the best pictures of their Golden canine companions. Thirteen photos will be selected, one for the cover and one for each month of the year. A committee of GRREAT members will judge submissions using the following criteria:

- Overall composition – we look for balance, centering, color and contrast between the dog and its surroundings.
- Quality of background – we look for an attractive background, and the dog should be the focus of the photo.
- Sharpness and clarity – no fuzzy or blurry pictures.
- General appearance of the dog.
- Seasonal shots (however, no costumes, please)
- Variety - we want to see them all!

2007 GRREAT CALENDAR CONTEST RULES

1. The deadline for submission is June 8, 2007, and judging will occur in early June.
2. Only GRREAT dogs are eligible. Dogs featured in the 2007 calendar (other than honorable mentions) are

not eligible this year, but other GRREAT dogs in the family are.

3. All entries must be horizontal due to the design of the calendar. Vertical pictures will not be considered.
4. Color film photos or digital photos taken at a high resolution (3 mega pixel camera or higher) may be submitted. No black and white or Polaroid pictures will be accepted. We WILL accept CDs and DVDs this year.
5. Other pets may be in the pictures, but no humans, please.
6. We reserve the right to use any images and/or stories you send us in future issues of the GRREAT newsletter. Sorry, but photos cannot be returned.

We are also looking for those silly or goofy pictures of your GRREAT golden, for a special project. Please send those in as well.

Send the photo(s) of your GRREAT dog along with his GRREAT ID number, age and a brief description of his past or present life, along with the name, address, phone number and e-mail address of the person submitting the entry to: SANDY DIAMOND, GRREAT CALENDAR CONTEST, PO BOX 5162, HERNDON, VA 20172.

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

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GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue
Education and Training, Inc.
