



GRREAT NEWS

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Belle: My Amazing Story

By Lesleigh Cook

My name is Belle. They tell me I am a miracle dog and that my nickname, Belle, is short for Campbell, as in the soup.

This part of my story begins when, somehow, somewhere, for some reason, I became lost in the hills of West Virginia. Maybe I was traveling with my family when I was just a pup, maybe I got caught up in the river in Harpers Ferry—so long ago and so very fuzzy to me—I just can't remember.

All I know is that I was “running at large”, as humans say, in the hills for a very long time. During the day, I would run down the hill and play with another dog but never would get close to any houses. I would dine on people's garbage and food that was thrown out to me. People would chase me off their land waving rakes and brooms and yelling at me to go away.

I noticed one day that there was a cage with food in it nestled in the tall grass near the house where my doggie playmate lived. I could smell human scent and knew better than to go inside the cage. It was there for over a month but I was just too smart for the humans, and I never did enter the threatening cage. Then one day while I was licking an empty Campbell soup can with the lid still attached, my tongue got trapped and the can ended up inside my mouth—it was wedged! I

didn't know what to do, for the more I pulled, the worse my tongue got stuck, and it hurt. My “now mom” tells the story that the can was stuck there for one day shy of three weeks. The lady who was watching me from the house and whose dog I played with, saw me as I licked the inside of the soup can. For almost three weeks I could only lay down in an artesian well and let the water trickle into my mouth. I was getting very tired and weak when I found an



old abandoned house with an open front door; I went inside and climbed the very steep stairs to the attic. That is how I came to rest in that very old abandoned house.

I was sleeping all curled up with the hideous can stuck in my mouth,

imbedded in both the roof and lower jaw of my mouth with the lid still cutting into my tongue when I woke to a clatter down stairs, smelled “human” scent, and then heard the door to the attic close. I was drifting in and out—starving, thirsty, spent, and couldn't open my eyes. All of a sudden, there was more noise, then human scent was very close. I heard a human noise and then something hit the attic floor (a rabies pole?) as the human footsteps drew closer to me—I was frozen and could not move. I was lifted up and carried down the steep stairs to the outside and laid down on the grass. It was starting to turn cold and I shivered in the grass.

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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

“I couldn’t do that. I would keep them all!” That is the response of many people when asked if they would consider becoming a foster home for GRREAT.

Acting as a foster home can be a difficult job at times. But the rewards far outweigh the difficulties. And, believe it or not, most of us do get past the point of wanting to keep them all. It may be hard to give up some of them, but there are many reasons we do. First and foremost, once you get used to being a foster home, you realize the goal is to find the BEST home for the Golden. As much as we may have grown to love them, our home is not always the best home. They may be attached to us, but maybe the Golden would do better in a more (or less) active household. Maybe they would prefer to be an only dog. Maybe they would not do so well having a parade of new foster dogs coming through the home. Another, more practical reason that many of us don’t keep our foster dogs is financial – adding another mouth to feed and paying for vet costs can become quite expensive. Finding someone to dog-sit (or paying for boarding) can be difficult. Cleaning up the hair and “dog waste” can be another reason not to keep them all. And there is a limit to how many dogs you can share your bed with. Finally, there is the reason many of us got involved in GRREAT in the first place – seeing the joy and love a new family feels when they adopt your

foster dog – the feeling we all experienced when we adopted our first Golden from GRREAT.

Most foster homes do adopt one or more of their foster dogs at some point (we call ourselves Foster Failures.) And some feel that they cannot continue to foster after adopting. Others move out of the area, take on demanding jobs or have family situations change. Because of this, we are always in need of new foster homes. If even a quarter of our adopters would agree to foster one dog a year, it would be a huge help. And I think you would enjoy it. Our foster homes learn a lot about dog behavior, medical issues and the joy of seeing a shy, unsure or ill dog blossom into a happy, outgoing and healthy Golden ready to find his new forever family. We have a team of experienced volunteers to assist you. And don’t forget – if there wasn’t someone in the past who was willing to take these foster dogs into their home, you wouldn’t have your furry best friend!

Please consider becoming a foster home. The only requirement is a love of Golden Retrievers – we will help you with the rest. For more information, please contact our Foster Home Approval Coordinator, Denise Malczewski at fosterasst_md@grreat.org or view our FAQs at www.grreat.org/foster.htm 🐾

Washington Glory

On July 21st, the Washington Glory, our area’s Women’s National Pro Fastpitch (NPF) team, hosted a GRREAT Tail Gate at their game versus the Philadelphia Force. Team owner Paul Wilson and his wife Katy have a Golden Retriever, and are excited to support GRREAT. This was the inaugural season for the Glory, and their mascot, Gloria the Golden Retriever. The Glory took the league championship and went on to win the Cowles Cup and the 2007 NPF National Title. Five members of the team have been named to the All-NPF team. We look forward to more GRREAT Tail Gates next year 🐾



Time for Goodbye

By Sherry B. True

As an animal communicator I often receive calls from a pet's person asking me to assist them in finding out what an animal wishes for their final days. These are tough visits to make and yet there is much peace and contentment that comes from them. Our animal companions are usually waiting on us to catch up with them in their decision to transition.

Some people romanticize the animals passing by picturing the animal quietly passing in their sleep. By doing that we won't have to make the decision to put them to sleep and live with the guilt of endless questions like "did I do the right thing," "did I do it at the right time" or "am I being selfish". It would be great if that was how it happens, but many times the animal is in great pain and is suffering waiting for the end. Although we often wish our pet would have a natural death and die on its own, euthanasia can be the biggest gift you can give your pet.

It is never up to me as a communicator to tell someone to consider euthanasia. What I can do is convey the thoughts of the animal and their wishes. It is totally up to the animal's caretaker to decide what is best for them and their pet.

The word euthanasia conjures all kinds of thoughts and feelings. It is an emotionally charged word. The word itself comes from the Greek words "eu" meaning "well" and "thanatos" meaning death. Literally it means an "easy death" or "way of dying".

Euthanasia is not a word to fear but embrace as it gives us an opportunity to give our companion something we as humans can not give each other, "a well death" or "easy passing". Unfortunately, because we are a fear based society that chooses not to address the issues of death, we are afraid of death instead of understanding it and embracing it as a part of life. Our animals may not understand the concept of death but they also do not fear it as we do. We have the ability of understanding death and yet we often chose not to even acknowledge it as a part of life.

Our animal companions these days are often our best friend, our closest confidant or even a surrogate child. With this human-animal bond, our decision making can become clouded when it comes to euthanasia. Our pets, more often than not, are not going outlive us, but that comes with the territory of opening our hearts to them.

We often have a "knowing" that we need to make a decision but everyone has their own level of comfortability around deciding when to "put your pet to sleep". Many times you can just see it in your pet's eyes. It is a direct line to our heart and we "know".

Sometimes the decision is made for us when a pet is injured so badly nothing is going to repair the damage, or if their behavior is such that people are in danger of being injured due to the animal's behaviors. We have an easier time with the decision of opting for euthanasia because the reality of these two situations is clear.

Because everyone and every situation is unique to that relationship, there is really no right or wrong answer. What is right for me may not be right for you. You need to look at where your level of comfortability is around the issue of euthanasia. The time for choosing euthanasia is when you feel emotionally comfortable with the decision to assist your pet in crossing over. Euthanasia needs to be chosen from the heart not the head.

Now, when I say you need to be emotionally ready to let go in order to assist your pet I don't mean that you take your time in coming to a that conclusion. The focus needs to shift from you and your feelings to your animal and its quality of life. This is the one time in their lives that they look to us to do the right thing for them. We as guardians are in a unique position to assist in giving them the gift of euthanasia at a time when they need us the most. You must put your pet's needs before your own when it comes to euthanasia.

If there are other family members involved in the decision this can make things a little more complex. If someone is having a hard time with the decision, then sit and talk with them about their feelings, especially if there are children involved. By learning healthy coping skills as children later losses in life do not have to be as devastating. Take a look at what you and your family's belief systems are around death and dying. When talking to young children about the process be careful in using the words "putting to sleep"

Continued on page 15

ADOPTION REPORT

We Need Your Email

From the period of July 6 through August 22, 41 Golden Retrievers found their forever home. It was a young group, with 17 dogs age 2 or under, but 5 dogs age 10 or more also found homes. Congratulations to all the dogs and their new people!

Name	#	Age	Sex	Name	#	Age	Sex
Bailey	06-164	6	M	Larry	06-162	7	M
Bella	07-102	4	F	Layla	07-103	2	F
Billion	07-011	5	M	Lexy	07-052	6mo	F
Biscuit	07-093	2	M	Logan	06-206	13	M
Bodie	07-100	8	M	Lola	07-112	5	F
Buttercup	06-196	4	F	Lucky	07-073	7	M
Carmen	07-087	3	F	Lucy	00-021	7	F
Chewey	07-089	4	M	Lucy	07-079	1	F
Cholly	06-143	2	M	Manny	07-085	13	M
Clara	07-042	10	F	Milo	07-088	4	M
Cooper	07-090	7mo	M	Oscar	07-072	5	M
Ebbitt	07-048	7	M	Remy	06-171	8	F
Edie	07-054	6	F	Roxy	07-075	5	F
Eli	07-094	1	M	Scooter	07-114	11mo	M
Ella	07-049	1	F	Sheba	06-182	1	F
Frito	07-066	2	M	Spunky	07-104	13	M
Honey	07-097	1	F	Taylor	07-091	1	M
Joey	07-134	3	F	Terry	07-108	1	M
Juliet	07-074	7	F	Tiko	07-098	1	M
Karl	07-092	1	M	Wally	07-123	1	M
Kasey	07-067	11	F				

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.

ADOPTION DAY DIRECTIONS

Saturday, October 6, 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, November 3, 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, December 1, 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.

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

Accupuncture

By Pam Grasso, DVM

WHAT IS ACUPUNCTURE?

Acupuncture is a system of medicine that is over 4000 years old. According to Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) philosophy, disease is the result of an imbalance of energy in the body. Acupuncture is believed to balance this energy, and thereby assist the body to heal disease. In TCM, this energy is referred to as Qi or Chi (pronounced Chee). When the body's Qi is excessive, deficient, or not flowing properly, disease results. Acupuncture is used to balance the Qi and restore health. The Qi of the body flows in energy channels or meridians throughout the body. Most acupuncture points are located along these meridians. The acupuncturist uses very fine, sterile needles to stimulate these specific points.

HOW DOES ACUPUNCTURE WORK?

Although acupuncture is a system of medicine that has persisted for thousands of years, western medicine and many of our western-trained minds have a need to know how and why it works. Many studies have been performed in an attempt to explain this. Since each treatment is specific for the individual, the double-blind system of experimental studies often doesn't apply. The idea of "one drug for one disease" is not appropriate for many holistic medicine theories. Regardless, many studies have been done that indicate that acupuncture releases long acting endorphins, the natural pain relievers in the body. Many acupuncture points are located in areas of concentrated nerve systems and a number of neurochemicals are released by their stimulation by needles. Therefore, acupuncture can stimulate nerves, relieve muscle spasms, increase blood circulation, and release hormones, such as endorphins (for pain control) and cortisol (a natural steroid).

WHO AND WHAT IS IT FOR?

Acupuncture is useful in so many disease conditions. Most of us think of the geriatric patient with arthritis as the patient for acupuncture. Of course, acupuncture is indicated for every instance of pain. Hip dysplasia and cruciate injuries respond very well to acupuncture. In addition to musculoskeletal problems, acupuncture can also be effective for seizures, skin conditions, such as lick granulomas, allergies, gastrointestinal problems, kidney failure, liver disease, Lyme disease, and emotional and behavioral issues. Acupuncture can be very effective for the athletic dog to prevent injury. For the geriatric patient with a weak hind end, deteriorating eyesight, diminished hearing, joint stiffness and a weakened immune system, acupuncture is wonderful. Although you never want to treat a tumor directly,

many cancer patients can be supported by acupuncture. Acupuncture and herbal therapies can significantly improve their well-being and quality of life.

WHAT IS A TYPICAL TREATMENT LIKE?

Each acupuncture treatment is tailored specifically for that animal at that particular time. A TCM physical exam tells the acupuncturist where to place the needles to treat each patient individually. Acupuncture treats the whole patient, not just an organ or area of arthritis. Needles are placed in specific points and usually left in for 10 – 30 minutes depending on the desired effect. Most dogs will relax and may even fall asleep during the treatment. Most Golden Retrievers that I have treated don't even notice the needles as they are inserted. Older dogs may be very sleepy and relaxed for 24 hours after treatment. This is most often followed by a noticeable improvement in the dog's condition. In chronic conditions, several treatments may be required to see a significant improvement. It is important to be patient with acupuncture, especially when the condition has been present a long time. For example, a geriatric patient being treated for arthritis may take 4 to 6 weekly treatments to see the desired effect. Each treatment adds to the effect of those done before. After a while, biweekly or monthly maintenance treatments may be all that is needed to keep the patient comfortable.

CONCLUSION

Acupuncture has become more common within veterinary medicine as a treatment for many health problems. Often acupuncture is used when conventional medicines are not tolerated or don't get sufficient results. In my opinion, acupuncture should be the first course of action for your pet. This is a very safe and effective form of treatment for many of your pets' ailments. Acupuncture can be used with conventional medicines and, occasionally, the dosage of these medicines can be reduced after several acupuncture treatments. Often a combination of acupuncture and herbal treatments is used. Always be sure that your acupuncturist is a veterinarian and is certified or has had proper training by an accredited organization. Some good websites for locating a veterinary acupuncturist are: www.IVAS.org, www.AAVA.org, and www.AHVMA.org. TCM combined with proper nutrition is so important in keeping your pet happy and healthy.

Pam Grasso, MS, DVM, CVA, offers Western veterinary medicine as well as acupuncture, herbal medicine and homeopathy at Ashburn Farm Veterinary Hospital in Ashburn, VA. www.ashburnfarmvet.com (703-726-8784)

On Dogs

By Skip Nizer

Just a personal thought before I begin my article on Dogs, People and the Planet Venus.

Everybody is up in arms over dog fighting. That's great. So what have you done? I will tell you what I did (and yes, I know that people are innocent until proven guilty). I read, I reacted by writing and maybe I will be proven wrong, but some sponsors know that I am tired of hearing about off-the-field violence, drugs etc.

I turned on my computer and typed a few short E-Mail messages to NFL (National Football League - not to be confused with the National Felony League) sponsors. You know, the ones that advertise and help pay the players salaries. It goes like this; game revenue can't cover the cost that teams have so TV & radio rights play a big part. TV & radio can afford to pay for the rights because sponsors want you to buy their products.

How many sponsors can you name that you see during time outs? Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Budweiser, Burger King, Nike, Coors and Lord knows how many others.

I wrote to some and got a very nice reply from Budweiser. I just told them that when they become a sponsor their name is associated with the game and players and that I can change channels and brands. The response was not a form letter and it made me feel good about them. They took the time to read it and to reply to one person.

If you are not aware of the aspects of dog fighting please continue to read but I must tell you that it maybe upsetting.

I never dealt with a lot of dog fighting cases but the few I was involved in were enough.

When I think about them I can still see a large, light brown male Pit with a few spots of white around his eyes. He stood facing to my left in a crate that was chest high to me in the back room of a shelter. He just stood there, his only movement was hard breaths and his right rear leg was shaking. His eyes were unfocused as he stared at the blank wall. There were puncture wounds around his left eye and his eye didn't seem to fit in the socket correctly. I counted 7 major gashes on his body. Then I heard the sound. Plop, plop, a slow and steady plop, plop. It was blood coming from a wound on the far side of his neck. Then I heard a splat. It was blood building up in his nose. They became a rhythm -- plop, plop, plop, plop, splat.

I felt sorry for him - he must have been the loser. Then I looked down to the crate under him. The real loser was a black shadow lying in the crate, fighting for each breath. I didn't want to look any more. They were both the loser.

After photographs were taken, perhaps the only kind hand that they ever felt helped them cross over the bridge to find peace.

How does dog fighting affect you? A lot more than you think.

Small dogs (usually stolen) are placed in a pit with the fighting dog in order to allow him to train for speed and agility. The small dogs won't be able to hurt the fighter. It is usually best if the fighter has been denied food for a few days. No matter what the outcome is, it will be the last fight for the small one.

Large dogs will also be used. Depending what the trainer wants, the large dog will be placed in the pit in one of two ways: either with all legs working or with them broken, and always with its mouth duct taped shut so it can't hurt the fighter. Legs working so it moves offers different targets and has body weight to fight. Legs broken for easy attacks, weight to push around and no clawing damage to the fighter. Long or thick coats help the fighter to get used to biting thru hair.


Leave your dogs outside alone much??

One more aspect -- cats or cating. A few years ago, outside of a wealthy area there was an old white shingled house. All the windows and exits were boarded up except for one door with a very good lock. Cats would be taken to this house and tossed inside. Then a very hungry dog would be released in the house. Someone would return in a few days to get the dog.

It affects us in more ways than just the bad guys down the street. It can affect our dogs and cats. A lot of lost cats and dogs aren't really lost, they are taken. Be careful with your pets.

Guess this turned out to be my article. I am sorry if it upset you, and if it did be thankful that you weren't with me that day.

P.S. Hey Budweiser, how about just one commercial with a Golden on the wagon?

Make your voice heard -- contact sponsors, legislators and animal rights organizations about animal cruelty. Additional information is available at www.hsus.org and www.asPCA.org 

Smelling My Elbows

By Liz Hauck

1993: A stifling summer day, and I was furious. My big black dog, Dutch, sat on the hot sidewalk on a busy street while I bellowed at him. I'd been working him way too long, though I didn't know it - making him do sits and stays from several feet away. He kept rolling over onto one hip. I stomped back and jerked him back upright, like I'd been taught; stalked off and turned to face him.

And then he did it.

Yawned, and licked his lips, looked away, wouldn't meet my eyes for anything. Yawned again, gave a shake, and resumed his seat.

I was as offended as if he'd given me the finger. I clearly remember the white-hot anger I felt. I grabbed at his leash and hauled him home, thinking such ugly things about his rotten attitude.

1998: Another summer day. I stood at the back of an auditorium, listening to a speaker on canine behavior, my eyes filled with tears. The lecturer had just described some of the common ways dogs respond to stress. She described every gesture Dutchie had shown that day in the searing heat, five years before. The image of my good dog sending message after message to tell me I was upsetting the whole social order with my crazy, aggressive behavior still hurts my heart and spirit. He was begging me to calm down, in his own way.

Did I mention he was still holding that stay, in the face of terrible threats and confusion? What a beautiful, kind dog. He was a wonderful friend and I interpreted his gestures as if they'd been made by a human. Dogs and humans are so different in their behavior that I am still awed, almost twenty years into my study of our relationship with these amazing animals, at how they've managed to survive us. I miss him still.

Every domestic dog deserves to be understood as the complex, vibrant canine he or she is. We humans must accept that we're living with animals with drives and behaviors that are very different from ours. In many cases, our primate behaviors are completely opposed to

behaviors that are acceptable in polite dog society. For example, as primates we are hard-wired to approach one another frontally; in this culture, for one, we expect individuals to make prolonged eye contact and to reach out and grasp one another with their hands. We show teeth as a greeting, and often make full-body contact very early in our social relationships. Yawning, looking away, pretending to ignore, licking our lips, shaking ourselves, approaching slowly or failing to approach are usually considered extremely rude behaviors. We vocalize constantly and when we are aroused we grab.

In polite dog society, those last behaviors usually indicate great care for the relationship. One very rarely puts one's feet on another. Eye contact is made with extreme care, as is any display of teeth. Yawning indicates stress; so does averting the gaze. Pretending to graze, slowing his approach towards you as you jump up and down yelling, making a slow, wide arc around a strange dog or dogs, are all ways your dog may be showing you he is trying to take care of business. Odds are he is not "stubborn" or disobeying you; in fact he is almost certainly showing you that he is all too aware of you and your mood - and what may well look, to him, like your extreme display of aggression. Trust me, I've been there: hollering, stomping my foot, leaning forward, maybe a little foam at the corner of my mouth...

Take the time to learn as much as you can about behavior and body language in dogs. The payoff will be enormous. You will be able to communicate so much more clearly and as a result your relationship will deepen in amazing ways.

Play around in front of the mirror for a minute. Make an interested face. Now make a skeptical face. Warm. Cold. See how easy it is to completely change what your face is saying, by making incredibly tiny changes in the muscles around your eyes or mouth? You can change a loving welcome into a sneer with almost no movement. And that is just your face, just in a moment, without saying a word. Imagine your whole body speaking to a careful observer with every muscle movement.

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Pet Massage

By Jo Bighouse

Your pets can benefit both physically and emotionally from a massage. Massage increases blood flow, reduces muscle atrophy, calms an anxious animal, and strengthens the bond between a pet and his caregiver. Hands-on work also allows for close inspection of the animal's coat and skin condition, which can alert you to subtle changes that may be an early indication of illness.

Before beginning a massage, choose a quiet area where you and your pet will be comfortable. This should be a relaxing and balancing experience so it is important not to force your pet to submit if he is not willing. Your body language, words, and thoughts should exude calmness so your pet knows this will be a pleasant and beneficial experience. If your pet is anxious about the massage you can begin with a passive touch. Slowly place your hands on the shoulder area and allow them to rest there for a minute. Then slowly move both hands to the back area and allow them to rest for another minute. Continue this technique until your pet appears comfortable with your touch. For a formerly abused or mistreated pet you may need to limit the massage sessions to only passive touch until he becomes comfortable.

Begin with the feet and paws, and then move to the abdomen, torso, spine, neck, head and ears. Gently rub each toe, move to the paw and then up the leg. One hand should always remain on the pet while you are moving to different areas of his body. From the leg, gently massage the abdominal area using only light pressure to protect the internal organs. The large muscles of the torso, neck and head can be massaged with strokes from your palm and fingers or small circular patterns with your fingertips. When massaging the spine avoid running your fingers directly over the spinal column. Gentle pressure from a thumb placed on each side of the spine works well. End the massage with long gentle strokes from head to tail.


I have found that massage is invaluable when working with formerly abused rescue animals. My foster dog Brandy was terrified of any quick movement by a person and literally shook when touched. Massage taught her to trust and to no longer fear a person's hands. Although she never showed the exuberant affection

of my other goldens, she did touch her nose to my face at the end of each massage session as if to say, "thank you." Massage has allowed Barney the donkey to enjoy the touch of a person and to accept his hoof trimmings. When he became part of my family 21 years ago he was terrified of people – especially men. His first massages were only on his neck and shoulders but he eventually allowed me to touch all parts of his body. These days he not only allows massages – he shows me where he would like me to work. Perhaps he's a bit spoiled.

For more in-depth information on massage techniques and sequence I recommend:

Videos and DVD's – Bodywork for Dogs by Lynn Vaughn and Deborah Jones; Hands On Equine Massage Therapy, A Natural Approach by Linda A. Hansen; Intuitive Touch With Horses by Lynn Vaughan and Deborah Jones.

Books – Balance Your Dog, Canine Massage by C. Sue Furman; The Healing Touch by Michael Fox.

Jo Bighouse is the co-owner of the Midas Touch Health Food Store in Berryville. She is a member of the Organic Trade Association, Flower Essence Society, Association of Pet Dog Trainers, and Animal Wellness Society. www.midastouchpets.com 540-955-9690 

Howliday Party Auction Items Needed

GRREAT is looking for donations for its annual Howliday Party Silent Auction. Holiday and dog themed items are a plus and do very well, but other items are accepted as well. If you would like to donate, please contact Pam Ambrose at Pam.Ambrose@montgomerycountymd.gov or 301-865-9535.

Items can be mailed to:
Pam Ambrose
6873 Woodrise Rd
New Market, MD 21774

DONATIONS

Thank you for your donations

Andy Baker
Dawn & Marshall Bowen
Donna Bowman
Dee Brown
Kate & Art Chutuape
Elizabeth Crane
Natasha Creaser
Louise Davidson
Kevin & Diane Duwall
James Hall
Gregory Hilleary
Mary Ellen Hilleary
Jennifer Kendz
Anne Levin
Jennifer Lewis
Anna & Philip McGuiney
Judi & David Medwedeff
Arlene Otzel
Beverly Porter
Holly Rich
Sandra Rutan
Kathy Salek
Faye Seebafer
Rick Stevens & Julie Palais
Roy Vincent

In Memory Of...

On Tuesday, July 3, 2007 the beloved Matriarch of our tribe passed on to new and better pastures. I'm thinking she got tired of being bothered! Sadie (00-108) came to us in 2000, already a senior citizen at 11 years old and passed on at a ripe old age of 18. As time went on and her health did not deteriorate, we really thought Sadie was heading for an all time record...she was up and about and eating well until 24 hours before she died. Sadie was our Greta Garbo Golden.....She preferred to be left alone and in her own space...and as you would for a demanding great-grandmother...we honored all her wishes...Sadie was top dog. Sadie was preceded in death by her littermate Harrison, whom we also had. Harrison looked absolutely stunning right up until his passing at 15.5 yrs from a hemangiosarcoma. Sadie is survived by one 16 y/o, one 14 y/o, three 13 y/o's, one 12 y/o and two 10.5 y/o's. So far, no one has stepped up to take her place. – Diane Lanigan

In memory of Scout, Kim and Carl Wiff's foster. – Sandy Diamond

In loving memory of Jessica and Nina. We will miss you always...Emma and Sadie and Lake – David Walman

In memory of Maggie (-2006), fostered/adopted by Rene Sollod. – Anne Wilson

In memory of Sally, beloved friend of Bill and Sherry Peterson – Janet & Joe Schaefer

In memory of Diane Lanigan's Sadie, who went to the Rainbow Bridge at 18 years of age – Sandy Diamond

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT for use where most needed. In memory of Joss, my home visit "buddy", who crossed the rainbow bridge on March 22nd. – Neal & Judy McKinley

The enclosed donation is in memory of Bo Adkins. Bo was a special dog, who recently lost his battle with bone cancer. He lived with Jo & Roger Adkins. – Ruth & Paul McClelland

This is in honor of my Teddy bear, my first truly 5-star dog. Teddy was a good friend and real hard to lose. – Diane Lanigan

Once again I am sending a contribution in memory of a beloved golden, Houston, beloved golden of Judy Temperley. Houston was a rescue dog so certainly has a connection to you group. – Linda & Joe Wald

In memory of Katie, Gwennie, and Cassie, my sweet, gentle girlfriends – Carol Taylor

In memory of Lee Berenholtz, a true lover of Golden. – Jo-Ann & Ahsan Khan

In memory of Diane Lanigan's Teddy and Sadie – Sharon McIlraith

In memory of "Ranger" Grandinetti - a great, big happy Golden that died today. – Margaret & Robert Henry

Please accept this donation in memory of Tasha (04-027), loved by Rick and Nancy Hughes and Janet and Phil Hauck, her foster parents. – Janet & Phil Hauck

For the good things you do. In memory of Bo – Roger and Joann Adkins

Please accept this donation in Memory of JoAnn and Roger Adkins beloved Golden, Bo. Gone but not forgotten. – George Myers & Bonnie Tester

In memory of Teddy Lanigan. Teddy was such a wonderful, loving, happy dog. He couldn't seem to get close enough to you, and he gave the best hugs – he will be deeply missed. – Sandy Diamond

In memory of Trixie Koontz, beloved golden of author Dean Koontz. She contracted an aggressive form of cancer and a tumor had formed in her heart. On June 30th while in her favorite spot at her home, she was quietly and gently sent to the Rainbow Bridge by her vet. Her sweet golden face graced the cover of many of Mr. Koontz' books. She will be missed by her many fans! – Jeff & Lucinda Twining

We wish to make a donation in memory of our dear friend Cassandra Fry (better known as Casey) who had just started to teach our pup Maxwell (not a GRREAT Golden but a great Golden)all of the tricks of the trade. – Joanne Pinette

In memory of Murphy - died July 29th, 2007. Beloved pet of Greg, Barbara and Allie Binford – Patrick French

In memory of Brandy, who gave my family and I 14 wonderful years. We will miss you very much. – Brian & Nikki Dalglish

In memory of Bo Adkins, a wonderful Golden Retriever who just lost his battle with cancer. – Beth Bohac

In memory of my golden Zaily. I miss ya.- Adam Blevins

In Honor Of...

In honor of and thanks to Kate Kennedy. – Melissa & Leonard Schultz

Doug and I have worked at nonprofits and know firsthand how invaluable committed, reliable, and passionate volunteers are. Tens of thousands of GRREAT dogs have been given a second—and sometimes more—chance to live a quality life. Without the dedication of people like Jessie and Mary C., to name just two, these loving Golden would become unbearably sad statistics. It is with gratitude and affection that we honor the noble GRREAT volunteers with our donation. – Diane & Doug Hellinger

DONATIONS

For Amber (07-111) – Malcolm & Tracie Gunter

In honor of Denny and Melinda Garvin. Thank you for taking such good care of Parker while I was on vacation. It was so nice not to have to worry about her. – Sandy Diamond

To thank GRREAT for all your good work. – Greg & Linda Sowers

In honor of Patricia Collier – Anonymous

To David & Susie Morgan, in honor of your new life together. – Janis Hennessey

In honor of Drake, Kacey, Sunshine, Buddy, and Spicey – the fosters who have brought so much joy and love into our lives. And in memory of Dillion and Cody, the goldens who started it all. – Robert Eisenhauer & Nancy Forest

In honor of my dad, Larry Lewis – Stephanie Payne

This donation is in grateful acknowledgement of all the thoughtful and kind things Robin Moon did for me as part of my retirement from the Navy. – Robert Mitchell

In honor of Rudi and to thank all of you for the great work you are doing. – Conway & Martha Robinson

In honor of Amber – Sheila & Al Vertino

Please accept this donation as an enormous thank you to Jessie Robinson for her endless hours of selfless dedication to all GRREAT dogs. – Elizabeth Reimer

In honor of Molson & Max. Our two GRREAT goldens. Can't imagine our lives without them. – Walter Grabowski & Robin Hoesch

This donation is being made because of your Intake Volunteer Mary, and how wonderful she is. She immediately responded when I notified her about a golden in her area in need, I was touched when she even emailed me back to let me know the end result. – Christi Mellon

Celebrating the wedding of Caroline Taylor Whaley and Lorne Belden. – Nelson & Susan Helm

This donation is in honor of my best friend and love, Neal Leyendecker. – Elena Bush

Thanks to Susan Shimko for helping to find lost dog. – John Haynes

Gus and I thank you for the "Golden" book sent for our wedding. It was so thoughtful of you to honor our special day, particularly since our Goldens and GRREAT are so important to our lives together. Thanks again for your generosity! Please accept this donation in honor of our Golden boys, Cal & Benny, who bring us so much happiness, and to the GRREAT Board for generously supporting its volunteers. – Gus Pedrozo & Emily Pasterick

Please accept the enclosed check as a donation from Gunpowder River Golden Retriever Club. We commend the work that you do, and feel a very strong connection to your organization. – Gunpowder Golden Retriever Club

Corporate Giving

American Charities – on behalf of Steve Daner

Wellpoint Associate Giving Campaign – on behalf of Renee Miller

CSC Employee Giving Campaign – on behalf of Kim & Don Dawson

Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program – on behalf of Julie Anderson

Simile-Finale Fund

In honor of Callie Brincefield Stillwell – Cynthia Craig

In dedication of my beautiful Golden boy, Hunter, whom we lost to cancer on March 30, 2007 at age 5. We miss him so much. – Rosemary Menesses

I am making this donation in honor of my first foster dog, Sunny (06-194). He came to me last October and later that week I was told that he didn't have much time left as he had liver cancer. Well, I was SO lucky and Sunny lived until July 23. In that short amount of time he brought me, my other Golden, Molly, and my parents so much joy! He was 100 lbs of pure love!

Even at 10, he was very playful and became very attached to me and his "girlfriend." His favorite toy was his gorilla that made noise! I will never forget Sunny's always smiling eyes and his great snuggles! We all miss him terribly. I would like my donation to go to the SIMILE-FINALE FUND as Sunny benefited greatly from my holistic vet that I took him to. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be with Sunny even if it was a short time. – Jennifer Murray

This donation is provided in memory of my beloved forever friend name Chance, a 9 year old golden who left us much too soon. – Lisa Walsh

In loving memory of Lucy Harmon, the sweetest Golden I ever met. – Kathryn Kelchner

For Medical Reasons

My friend sent me an email when Jannus (07-015) first entered GRREAT because our dog had just died. I felt an instant connection to him (I'm Polish, too). But we aren't ready to adopt another dog yet. Please use this money to help defray Jannus' medical expenses. – Patricia Buziak

For Apollo (07-109) – Sandy Diamond

For Axel (07-137) and Finn (07-138) – Sara Bell Pasquini

To be used to help with Annie's (07-111) vet bills – Gay Schonbrunn

For Barqs (07-121) – Mary Collings

For Sweet Pea (07-119) – Denise & Jeff Irwin

For Peaches – J. Heather Elliott

For Colby -- the dog who needs the hip surgery – F. P. Rothenhoefer

For Peaches – Catherine Powell

For Jannus (07-015) – Eileen Bennett

DONATIONS

Leo's Corner

LEO'S PALS (UP TO \$99)

Robert Dobroski

GOLDEN ANGELS (\$100-\$499)

Dedicated to Sunshine and Cherry. - Natasha Creaser

GOLDEN HEROES (\$500 AND ABOVE)

Jeane O'Donoghue

Jim & Ginny Hayes

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

In memory of Argus-waiting for Ken & Jeanne Blood at the Rainbow Bridge.
– Jeff & Lucinda Twining

This donation is given in memory of some very dear pets that were much loved members of our families. They enriched our daily lives and will be missed forever. Misty and Shiloh, of the Melgaard family. Maggie, of the Skeen family. We are pleased to be able to make a special donation this year to a few select animal rescue groups. The reason that the funds are available is because another animal rescue group did not fulfill our wishes for the specific use of the funds. We were compelled to seek the return of those funds so that they could be used to help animals in the manner specified by our donation letter. In the past we have felt your organization has fulfilled our wishes and hope that you will continue to have high standards for your important animal work. Please carefully consider our respect for use of this donation. We request that those funds be used for any of the following purposes: **Special surgeries or medical needs for an animal that would not otherwise be helped. **Low cost spay-neuter assistance. Thank you for the care and concern you show for the many animals that need our help. – Kathleen & Kerry Skeen

Microsoft Giving Campaign – on behalf of Bob & Carolyn Reagle

Cookie

We thought the folks a GRREAT and Carla Nammack-Wenger at Country Club Kennels might be interested in this picture. Cookie was a 'hard to adopt' GRREAT dog labeled aggressive towards other dogs. My wife, Irene, and I had seen Cookie on the website. When we were approved to adopt we immediately asked about Cookie (she was not on the list we were sent.) Because of her 'aggression' (I like to say she has a forceful personality) she had been alone in a kennel for some months and we very much wanted to see if we couldn't change that. I wouldn't like living by myself in a kennel and assumed she didn't either.

Before Cookie could come home with us she first went to stay at Country Club Kennels. There Carla worked with Cookie to make it easier for us to bring her home. I thought then and still now think that if ever I had to leave my dogs anywhere it would be at Country Club Kennels.

We tried very hard to work with Cookie hoping only that she could at least 'get along' with her own kind so as to enjoy the world in a little fuller way. We tried to take every opportunity to expose her to other dogs. GRREAT walks and the 'Pool Party'! Ah, the 'Pool Party'. Little did we know? Imagine my consternation when I opened the sliding barn door and there were dozens of rollicking Golden Retrievers off leash! Splashing and running and generally having a GRREAT time. Poor Cookie, we stayed about 45 minutes. With the skills I have now learned it's possible she could have run loose too; but I kept her on leash. But it was a good experience for her, Irene and me.

Cookie has been home with us now for a year and some months. A short time back we decided Cookie had progressed enough that it was just possible we could provide a home

to another 4-legged fellow, named Kodi. Being the cautious type we went back to Country Club Kennels and Carla worked with both Cookie and Kodi. More importantly, she worked with me so that I could know something about what to expect and how to handle myself. Thank you Carla for showing me those 'skills' mentioned above, such as they are. You provided us with the confidence to proceed.

As you can see Cookie now 'gets along' with other dogs. The picture is in our backyard. It's staged obviously, but it's honest in the essentials. Cookie is still a dominant dog. And every now and again Cookie feels it necessary to demonstrate that to Kodi.



But it's not in an overtly aggressive manner; just a social statement. And when she does, we take the opportunity to remind Cookie that, in fact, we are the rulers of this kingdom although she is a welcome and valued subject. For his part Kodi accepts his lot in life as being subordinate to a dog half his size.

We get some interesting looks from humans during our walks, especially when I have them both on the same side. It works best with Cookie, 65 lbs, on the outside, and Kodi, 120 lbs, inside next to me. I'm working with both dogs on re-call. Neither dog can heel off-leash but that's our goal for both.

Thanks again to Carla and all the folks at GRREAT.

John & Irene Brown 🐾

Reading this Article May Save Your Dog's Life!

By Joy Scrimshire, Education Coordinator

Many of us have heard the term “bloat” and perhaps some of us (as I did before researching this article) think, “Oh, yes, I know what that is and basically what causes it, so no problem.” Wrong! I discovered that one of the things I do for my dogs - feeding from raised bowls - is the third most important factor in causation of bloat and increases a dog's risk of bloat by a factor of 110% (according to a recent Purdue University Study.) I personally ditched three raised feeders immediately after reading about this study. That having been said, it is not GRREAT's intention to replace the advice or guidance of your veterinarian or other pet care professionals and we are sharing this as an aid to gain information, encourage your own research and assist in questions you may pose to your veterinarian about this serious health problem.

Bloat is the second leading killer of dogs, after cancer according to the references listed below. Bloat occurs most frequently in deep-chested dogs, such as German Shepherds, Great Danes, Dobermans, St. Bernards and Weimaraners. However, bloat can occur in any dog and is more common in large dogs. Golden Retrievers are included in the list of breeds most at risk after the ones mentioned above.

The technical name for bloat is “Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus” (GDV). Bloating of the stomach is often related to swallowed air (although food and fluid can also be present). It usually happens when there's an abnormal accumulation of air, fluid, and/or foam in the stomach (gastric dilatation). Stress can be a significant contributing factor. Bloat can occur with or without “volvulus” (twisting). As the stomach swells, it may rotate 90° to 360°, twisting between its fixed attachments at the esophagus (food tube) and at the duodenum (the upper intestine). The twisting stomach traps air, food, and water in the stomach. The bloated stomach obstructs veins in the abdomen, leading to low blood pressure, shock, and damage to internal organs. The combined effect can quickly kill a dog.

The Purdue University Study shines much light on this perplexing disease. They found that certain factors increased the incidence of GDV.

- The first and most important factor was age. The older the dog was, the more commonly they develop GDV.
- The second most common factor was having a relative that had developed GDV. This shows that genetics plays a part in the disease.
- The third factor was feeding the dog in a raised food bowl. Raising the food bowl is often suggested in large breeds that have trouble swallowing. So there may be some linkage between esophageal problems and GDV.
- There was a 2.7-fold increase in the risk of GDV in dogs that ate dry dog food that contained fat as it's most common or first ingredient.
- The risk of GDV increased 4.2-fold in dogs that ate dry foods containing citric acid when the food was moistened prior to feeding. Citric acid in the stomach is conducive to gas formation.
- Speed of eating – if a dog is a “greedy” eater and weighs between 49 and 100 pounds, steps should be taken to slow down how fast the dog eats. When a dog gulps food, he ingests air with the food. Air ingestion causes gas that may, in turn, cause the dog to bloat.
- Exercise before and especially after eating. (Two to three hours before and especially after eating).
- Feeding one meal a day.

Choosing your dog's diet is probably the most important thing you can do to prevent gastric dilatation/volvulus bloat and torsion. Dry foods containing meat meal with bone among the first four ingredients significantly decreased GDV risk (53.0%).

Typical symptoms include:

- Attempts to vomit (usually unsuccessful); may occur every 5-30 minutes
- Significant anxiety and restlessness
- Evidence of abdominal pain (whining and tenderness in the stomach area)
- Cold/pale mouth membranes
- Heavy salivating or drooling
- Unproductive attempts to defecate
- Pacing – may refuse to lie down or even sit down
- Seeking a hiding place
- Rapid breathing/panting

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Fourth Annual GRREAT 3K Walk

Planning is underway for the 4th Annual GRREAT Beginnings Lead to Happy Endings 3K Walk. This walk is a crucial fundraiser, with all of the proceeds going directly to the rescue. This year's walk will be held on November 10 at Weber's Pet Supermarket in Fairfax, VA, beginning at 10 a.m.

With an increase in the number of dogs coming into the rescue along with rising veterinary care costs we need your help! GRREAT is in need of sponsors to help raise money. We are looking for sponsors on several levels:

Rescue Angel: for \$500, the sponsor will have their logo and name on the walk t-shirt (given to every walker), and may set up a table at the event to raise awareness of their services or products.

Rescue Partner: for \$300, the sponsor's name and/or logo will be carried on the walk t-shirt.

Friend of Rescue: for \$100, the sponsor's name will be listed on the back of the walk t-shirt

All sponsors will be named on the event flier, in GRREAT News, on our web site, and in all other publicity for this event.

GRREAT is also looking for items that can be awarded to walkers as door prizes.

To become a sponsor or to donate a door prize, please send an e-mail to the event coordinator Carolyn Beyer at Ligirlva@aol.com.

Registration for the walk is \$12 before November 1 and \$15 afterwards. Please look on the web site, www.grreat.org, for more information as the walk gets closer.

GRREAT BEGINNINGS LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS 3K WALK REGISTRATION FORM

All proceeds benefit Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. (GRREAT).

DATE AND LOCATION:

Saturday, November 10, 2007 10 a.m.

Weber's Pet Supermarket

11021 Lee Highway, Fairfax

703-385-3766

NAME: _____

PHONE OR E-MAIL (in case we need to contact you about your registration): _____

T-SHIRT SIZE: Small Medium Large X-Large 2X-Large

Please circle one. Adult sizes.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$12.00 (by Nov. 1) or \$15.00 (after Nov. 1)

Please make all checks payable to: GRREAT

WAIVER: Registrants and their accompanying family members, friends, and pets participating in the GRREAT Beginnings Lead to Happy Endings 3K Walk to be held in Fairfax, Virginia on Saturday, November 10, 2007 hereby assume full responsibility for the risk of bodily injury, death, or property damage, and hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue the City of Fairfax, Weber's Pet Supermarket, GRREAT, or their respective successors, assignees, officers, employees, and agents for any and all loss or damage therefore on account of injury to person or property, whether caused by negligence, breach of contract otherwise arising out of or resulting from any act of omission, while traveling to or participating in the 2007 GRREAT Beginnings 3K Walk.

I have read and agree to the above waiver.

Signature

Please mail registration to: GRREAT
PO Box 3069
Falls Church VA 22043-0069

Ask Janet


DEAR JANET, How do I get my Golden to stop jumping on guests when they come into my home? –A.R.

DEAR A.R., Most Golden Retrievers are very friendly and enjoy giving a warm welcome to your guests but they don't understand that their version of "welcome" isn't welcome to us.

The first step in retraining this behavior occurs before your guest arrives. When you invite your guest to your home tell him/her that you have a Golden and to please ignore the dog for a few minutes after entering your home. This will help your Golden to settle down more quickly. If you have guests who in the past have enjoyed working your dog up into a canine tornado in the entryway be especially firm with them as it is not fair to your dog if a guest is encouraging a behavior that you are simultaneously trying to discourage. Once your Golden has settled down then tell your guests that they can now pet your dog. This step will help your dog to see that the key to getting attention from the guests is to calm down.

Next, teach your dog a positive behavior that he/she can do at the door instead of jumping. Many Golden Retrievers are very oral and toy focused and will not jump on a guest if they have a toy in their mouths. If this describes your dog, whenever there is a guest at your door tell your dog to go get a toy or if your dog does not know how to do this, put a toy in his/her mouth. Praise your dog for holding the toy and he/she will learn to get attention from you and the guest for holding the toy instead of jumping.

If your dog is not interested in holding a toy, work on teaching your dog a solid sit-stay in the entryway. Start training when there is not a guest present and reward your dog for staying. Gradually increase the duration of the sit-stay and the distractions occurring while your dog is staying. When you feel that your dog is ready, tell him/her to sit-stay while you invite your guest in and reward your dog for being good!

Janet McMillan, owner of Best Behaved Dogs, has been training dogs since 1996. She provides in-home obedience training and behavior modification to dogs and their families in Fairfax County, Arlington County, Alexandria, South Riding and Washington, D.C. You can reach Best Behaved Dogs at 703-931-8521 or www.bestbehavedogs.com. 


Continued from page 4

your pet. You don't want to have them associate sleep with dying.

Spiritually I believe our animal companions know no difference between this earth plane and the heavenly plane they exist on when they are no longer with us. Animals are, in fact, more aware of spiritual, holy or sacred energy than the average human being. To them they just exist in a difference space while here or on the other side. When they come here to be with us on the earth plane they leave behind those who are sad to see them leave. We here are happy to have them with us and when they are ready to go back home we are the ones that are sad. We need to honor death for what it is, a passing of spirit on into another realm, another form of existence.

I had one client whose dog had led a privileged life and one with great adventure. The dog was slowly wasting away and 3 vets couldn't pinpoint what the cause was. I was called in to find out what the animal wanted to do, more tests and invasive procedures or was he ready to go? As I communicated with him he showed me all the wonderful things he had accomplished in his lifetime. He loved his owner immensely and wanted him to know he wanted to pass with dignity and not with all the extra lifesaving techniques that were out there. He had a full life and was grateful for everything he had, especially his best buddy, his owner. In conveying the message the man felt a sense of relief in that he now felt in his heart he was going to do the right thing for his beloved pet. He would honor his dog for all that he had given him over the years.

For me these spiritual beings are the closest thing to God. We have much to learn about unconditional love and what that word really means. Anything or any being that keeps the heart open to love of the great divine should be honored and cherished. In the act of choosing euthanasia for our companions we are exercising an act of unconditional love for them. No matter how long or how short of a time they have been with us celebrate the life that has brought so much to you and has asked so little.

Sherry B. True is an animal communicator in the Baltimore, MD area. Please visit her website for more information on her services at www.spiritpaws.com. 

Food for Thought

By Jo Bighouse

The safety of dog and cat food continues to be a concern for many pet owners. A home made meal allows pet owners to have some control of the ingredients but making a balanced diet that meets all of an animal's nutritional needs can be difficult without adequate knowledge. For those who would like to feed their pets a homemade meal without researching animal nutrition, there are some good "ready to prepare and serve" choices on the market.

Amixx is a fresh meat supplement made in Vancouver, British Columbia. It is designed to be mixed with raw or cooked fresh meat and balances out the calcium to phosphorous ratio while providing the required vitamins and minerals. Ammix for cats contains parsley, cranberries, raw sesame seeds, catnip, shiitake mushrooms, sea kelp and salmon oil. The dog version contains banana, carrot, cranberries, parsley, raw sesame seeds, shiitake mushrooms, rosemary, sage, sea kelp and salmon oil. The supplement is mixed with fresh meat according to package directions to prepare a complete and balanced meal.

Sojourner Farms is a family-owned company in Minnesota that has been making Sojos products since 1985. Their Sojos Cat Food Mix contains rolled oats, rye flakes, yellow corn meal, barley flakes, ground pecans, red wheat flakes, dried kelp, buttermilk powder, marjoram leaf and parsley leaf. Sojos Dog Food Mix contains rolled oats, rye flakes, barley flakes, ground pecans, natural calcium carbonate, dried kelp, parsley

leaf, carob powder and nettles leaf. The mix is combined with raw or lightly cooked meat, vegetables and water and soaked for 15 minutes. They also offer Europa which is a grain free dog food mix containing sweet potato, carrot, broccoli, celery, apple, whole egg, flax meal, parsley leaf, calcium carbonate, carob powder, kelp, alfalfa, ginger root and garlic. Europa is mixed with meat and water to make a complete meal.

The Honest Kitchen offers both a complete meal with dehydrated meat and a pre-mix. Their products are made in a human food facility in San Diego, California. The dehydrated raw cat food, Prowl, is hydrated with warm water before serving and contains hormone-free chicken, eggs, potatoes, yams, flaxseed, zucchini, spinach, honey, cranberries, rosemary, vitamins and minerals. For dogs they offer Force which is a chicken based dehydrated meal; Embark, a turkey based dehydrated meal; Verve, a premix to which meat is added; and Preference, a grain-free pre-mix.

Unprocessed food is the best choice for our dogs and cats. Using a premix makes it possible to provide real food without risking a nutritional imbalance.

Jo Bighouse is the co-owner of the Midas Touch Health Food Store in Berryville. She is a member of the Organic Trade Association, Flower Essence Society, Association of Pet Dog Trainers, and Animal Wellness Society. Contact her through her web site at MidasTouchHealth.com. 🐾

Honorary GRREAT dog, Cody, went to the Rainbow Bridge on Jan. 23, 2007. Cody was a dear friend of Steve Cheney and George Toll, and could be found accompanying them to many GRREAT events. He was recognized by his seasonal outfits and his quest for food – with a treat in hand you were his best friend. Cody will be missed!



More Fun with Your Golden: Hunting and Tracking Events

By Bob Kurtz, PVGRC President

The Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club (PVGRC) has a number of interesting events on the way that showcase the abilities of Golden Retrievers. I encourage you to come to one or more of these events to see what PVGRC members and their dogs are up to.

Fall is the traditional time of year for retriever hunt tests, my favorite activity and the reason I originally got involved with PVGRC. PVGRC has two events to offer you the chance to see our beloved Golden Retrievers do what the breed was made for – retrieve! On Saturday, September 15, we'll hold our Working Certificate/Working Certificate Excellent (WC/WCX) test in Monrovia, MD. To qualify for the WC title, a Golden must successfully complete a double retrieve on land, remembering the location of two birds and bringing them each back, and two single retrieves in water. To qualify for the WCX title, a Golden must complete an exceptionally challenging triple retrieve on land as well as a difficult double retrieve in water. This is quite the test of a Golden's innate skills and training, and is a lot of fun to watch.

Our second event is the annual AKC Hunt Test, held in Cheltenham MD on October 20 and 21. Golden Retrievers and other retriever breeds will attempt to qualify for the AKC titles of Junior Hunter, Senior Hunter, and Master Hunter. The required work ranges from a set of land and water single retrieves in Junior Hunter up to

Master Hunter's complex triple or quadruple retrieves and sophisticated "blind" retrieves, where the dog must follow the handler's voice, hand, and whistle directions. Watching these highly talented, highly trained dogs is nothing short of amazing!

On Sunday, November 11, PVGRC will hold its annual Tracking Test. You've probably seen your Golden perform amazing feats with its nose, sniffing out that one bread crumb under the couch, or stopping to examine a spot in the yard where a rabbit or squirrel passed hours before. The Golden Retriever has Bloodhound as one of its foundation breeds, so it's no surprise that these versatile dogs can be quite successful in tracking! In the Tracking Dog (TD) test, the dog must follow a 30-minute to two-hour old scent trail for a distance of 440 to 500 yards, including several changes of direction. The more complex Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) test requires the dog to follow an 800 to 1000 yard track that is 3 to 5 hours old, and which has numerous distracting cross-tracks. Again, it requires a combination of outstanding inbred abilities and extensive training to succeed.

If you're interested in watching Golden Retrievers doing some of the things they do best or better yet, getting involved in these activities yourself, consider coming out to see some of these events. If you'd like more information about these events, or about any other events that PVGRC holds for Golden Retrievers, send me an email at president@pvgrc.org or look at PVGRC's web site at www.pvgrc.org. I hope to see you sometime soon! 🐾

Renew Your Membership Now for 2008

It is time to renew your GRREAT membership for 2008.

We rely on membership dues, donations, and fundraising to operate. Your \$30 membership dues keeps this newsletter coming to your mailbox every two months and will help us save more Golden Retrievers in 2008.

To renew, please visit our online membership center at http://www.grreat.org/online/mbr_center.htm

Or, simply clip and complete the membership renewal form on page 23 of this newsletter. Be sure to include your current mailing and e-mail addresses. Mail the form along with a check for \$30 (payable to GRREAT) to: GRREAT, PO Box 3069, Falls Church VA 22043.

If you have any questions about your membership status, please send a note to Jill Kurtz, membership coordinator at memberships@grreat.org or at the mailing address above.

We hope that you will continue to be a part of our GRREAT family!

Volunteers should be members and members should be volunteers! 🐾

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I could feel a pair of leather gloved hands push into my mouth and push the metal lid up off of my tongue. Then, as the human pulled the can with both hands, I was relieved of the pressure in my mouth and felt the warm blood trickle down out of my mouth.

I was again lifted up and placed into the back of a moving vehicle—my mouth wide open because I couldn't close it. I started to wail, as had my ancestral wolves—a howling, wailing, and mournful sound. I think the humans up front in the truck were wailing too. We traveled very fast arriving at a very strange large building—I found out later that it was where the human, who rescued me, worked. I was carried into the big building and was stuck with needles and all kinds of things that frightened me, but I was so weak that I did not object. My tongue was slashed and bleeding, I smelled terrible, and had a fierce infection oozing from every part of my body.

Everyone in the large building was kind to me and after a week, I started to heal. I lost part of my tongue but continued to gain weight on my skeleton body and grew stronger everyday. No human had ever been so kind and taken such good care of me.

Soon, it was time for me to go to a foster home. When the foster people came to get me, the person who rescued me cried a lot. While at the foster home, I ran away once but returned because I got hungry. Then, one cold January night, I was shipped down to a very busy town where some people lived with 2 very loud boys. I was very frightened and as they were trying to get me into the house, the leash came off and I bolted. Free at last!! I ran until I found a place to hide. There were some woods and lots of leaves and a creek where I could drink water. I lived in the woods for a week, sneaking out to find food wherever I could. No one seemed to be looking for me, so I just kept quiet, wandering in a large circle looking for shelter and food.

One day, I smelled her and heard shouting in the woods--there she was again!!!--The same person who had rescued me from the old abandoned house so far away from this place. This time, though, she had a dog with her!! She walked and walked, calling out, "Belle, Belle!! Where are you? Come girl—I know you're there!" I would lurk in the woods, watching from the underbrush. Everyday for a week this person came with a dog, walking, sitting, calling out, and sometimes just sitting and crying. But she was smart! She discovered where I had been walking, sleeping and even eating. Then it happened —another cage—only this time it looked like a den with leaves all over it and lots of good smelling food inside. But I did not go into the

cage—another dog, a raccoon and a cat did though! I was way too smart for that cage.

Days and days went by, the nights were so cold and the days were so long. I was weary and hungry and so frightened. One night very late, I was so hungry that the temptation of the good smelling food was too much for me. I sneaked into that cage and SLAM!!! I was trapped! I saw lights flash and heard human voices. There was a commotion and someone came and peered into the cage. Time passed, I was dragged in the cage up to the house and put on the porch—so scared. They left me there alone in the dark.

After a while, I smelled her again—my rescuer! I remember, once again, being dragged in the cage into the house. I was then lifted from the cage that had trapped me and put into another cage inside a truck and we started moving again. We traveled for a long time and finally came to a stop—it was very dark outside. She got me out of the truck and carried me into the house. The door shut behind me and I was amongst a pack of dogs—goldens mostly. I was carried upstairs and laid on a bed—I was terrified and shaking so badly. My rescuer lay next to me holding me very tightly—I finally fell asleep next to her with the smell of all of the other friendly dogs wafting into my nostrils.

The next day I was taken back to that large building where I was poked and prodded again and again. I guess they figured I was okay because they finally left me alone to sleep.

Living in a real house was difficult for me at first with all of the strange noises and sounds. Closing of doors and running water would startle me and I would run upstairs and jump on the bed—my safe place.

For the next three very long and tedious months, my rescuer wouldn't let me outside without being tied to her at her waist with a long rope. I think she was afraid that I would find a hole in her fencing and run away again! She started letting me run freely with that long rope trailing behind me and then, one day, she let me go without the rope. And you know what? When she called me, I ran back to her because I knew there would be some good treat hiding in her hand somewhere.

I knew I had found my "forever" home and there was no point in running off somewhere else. I went to work with my rescuer everyday along with 2 or 3 other dogs. We had a grand time together. Everything was going pretty well until I got hold of one of her old kitties walking across the yard. My survival mode kicked in and got the better of me. My rescuer wasn't too happy about that but I think she understood why I did it. Enough said.

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One day sometime later, all of the furniture and “stuff” in the house started to disappear—I heard the word “moving”. And “move” we did, to a new house far away with lots more land to run on. I was becoming very sociable even though certain men scared me as did people who wore hats. I was becoming a real golden retriever!!

Eventually, I heard I was going to “class”. It was very scary at first—more new sounds and lots of people and other dogs. But it was fun and my rescuer was very proud of me—I could tell. The instructor was pretty cool and paid extra attention to me. I did so well, that I got to go to another class after the first one. The second class was a little more demanding but, nevertheless, I had fun and learned that everything new doesn’t have to be scary. We had a test after the second class and I did very well—my rescuer was so proud of me that she started to cry and said that I had passed my “CGC” whatever that is!!

My rescuer says that I have come a “long way” and that I have taught her a lot. I just know that I am very, very happy and have been living a good life since I have been at Golden Meadow. My buddy, Treasure, is pretty cool. Babe is the boss of everyone but I can fool her sometimes. Sugar is, well, she’s a beagle so what do you expect?? Then there is old Chelsea—she’s fun too, and very sweet, even if she is a bit slower than the rest of us. I miss the goldens that were here when I arrived and have gone on to Rainbow Bridge. But I know that one day, we will all be there together and my rescuer/master will be with us all. Until then, I know I will have a soft place to sleep, lots of food, and great friends to play with.

My greatest gratitude to Golden Retriever Rescue Education And Training because without them, I would just be another “lost dog” statistic.

Most Fondly,

Belle 

Mind Games Dogs Play With Their People

Draw attention to your human. When out for a walk, always make sure to poop in front of onlookers. Take your time and make sure everyone watches. This works particularly well if your human has forgotten a plastic bag.

Wake up 20 minutes before the alarm is set to go off, and make your human take you outside. As soon as you get back in, go right back to sleep. Humans will rarely be able to go back to sleep, and this will drive them nuts!

Make your humans be patient. When going outside to pee, sniff around the entire yard before finding the right spot, while your human waits.

Make your own rules. Don’t always bring the tennis ball back when playing fetch - make your human chase you once in awhile.

After getting a bath, DON’T LET THEM TOWEL YOU DRY! Instead, run to their bed, jump up and dry yourself off on the sheets. The two best times to do this are right before they go to bed or right after they have changed the sheets.

When your human comes home, act like a criminal. Put your ears back, your tail between your legs and your chin down, and act like you’ve done something really bad. Then, watch as your human frantically searches the house to find what you’ve done.

Let your human teach you a new trick, and learn it perfectly. Then, when they ask you to show one of their friends the trick, stare at them blankly and pretend you have no idea what they are talking about.

Volunteers Needed

GRREAT needs volunteers to help with the following positions. For more information or to apply, please go to www.grreat.org/voluntr.htm.

Foster Home Coordinator
Foster Home Finder
POC
Foster Homes

Education Assistants
Fundraising Committee
Home Visit Volunteers
Writers for Newsletter

Getting Started in Field Training

By Mark Maisel

When I was first asked to write this column, my mind went in a hundred directions. There are so many things that I wanted to share that I thought might help people that are new to the world of field training that the column could have gone on for pages on pages. I decided to touch on several areas where I have overcome obstacles and breakthroughs that stick out in my mind.

When we brought Jazz who is 4 years old now, home, it was with the intent to have a great pet that would make a nice addition to the family. There was no plan to enter any type of dog sports, since we didn't even know they existed. Then there was the infamous day that we spent at Pam Stirling's house to get the litter back together, and we got our first taste of field training. Pam was our breeder and to this day, a great friend and training partner. It was all over after that! Being able to spend time with our dog, having fun, and learning together, seemed the perfect picture. Little did I know how much of our lives would be invested from that point on.

The only regret I have is that we didn't get started sooner. I didn't start working with Jazz until we had her for about 9 months. I know now that I lost one of the most important times that you have with your dog to start training.....NOW!!! People ask me when they should start training their dog. Start doing fun little things as soon as your new roomie settles in. Let them explore, meet the cat, realize that the big screen TV isn't going to eat them, and begin incorporating little lessons into daily routines immediately. You also have to learn some things. First, you have to be able to put aside your pride and inhibitions, and not be afraid to look like a total idiot when working with your new friend. I am a pretty big guy, and it took a while for my neighbors to get used to seeing me in the back yard jumping up and down, talking in a high voice, rolling around in the grass, and generally acting like a total fool as I encouraged Jazz, and later Quinn, to get through drills. Leave your pre-disposed opinions at the door and be prepared to constantly adjust methods, and continue learning.

Another question people ask is how much to train? You don't have to do regimented drills constantly to teach your dog basic skills and how to be a good family member. Timing is everything. For instance, as your new pup squats to get rid of the little bit of water it drank while it played in its water dish, your praise of "GOOD EMPTY!!!" in a high pitched positive tone will eventually pay off on that bitter cold night when

you are anxious to get back inside in your pajamas. I always keep treats strategically placed through the house, so I can reward a "gift" immediately. I consider gifts little acts that your dog does on the spur of the moment that accomplishes something you might have had to spend time training. Recently, we were working with one of the newer puppies in our group and when he returned with the bumper, instead of spitting it at the line, he held it, turned, and sat beside the handler. I immediately stopped everything and went nuts because he had offered a "gift". He gave the handler an opportunity to praise the hold. Since that day, he has gotten big party praise for that, and his hold has consistently gotten more consistent. For those of you that are not yet field savvy, a "hold" is when the dog keeps the object retrieved in its mouth until the handler commands it to be released. This is part of the retrieving rules needed to pass some tests. There are so many little things that you can do with your new dog to get then started in the right direction that we could probably write a book on them. The key is to keep it fun, give tons of praise, and always leave them wanting more.

Most of my training with Jazz has been through trial and error. I am lucky that Jazz is so forgiving; she has tolerated mistakes I have made as we progressed together. PVGRC has made such a difference for us, offering a lot of help and valuable resources! 🐾

FIELD TERMINOLOGY

Hold: The act of a dog holding an object until the handler gives a command to release.

Off Line: A dog being controlled without a leash or line connected to them.

The Line: A designated actual or imaginary boundary that is used to designate where a dog starts and finishes their retrieve at.

Steady: A dog that does not leave the line until told to by the handler is "steady."

Break: The act of a dog leaving the line before the handler gives the dog a command to retrieve or leave the line

Cast: The act of directing a dog in directions using hand signals.

Back: Command used when casting which means for the dog to go further away from the handler.

Bumper: An oblong rubber type object that is thrown or propelled by a machine through the air for the dog to retrieve.

The Collar Tag – Your Dog’s Most Effective Identification Tool

by Bob Kurtz, GRREAT Microchipping Coordinator

Usually I use this space to talk to you about GRREAT’s microchip dog identification program. This month, however, I’d like to talk about the most effective dog identification system in existence – the simple collar tag.

Your dog’s tag should have your name, address and telephone number. You may wish to consider listing a cell phone instead of your home phone to make it easier to reach you if your dog is lost away from home. Engraved plastic or metal tags are best, since the information remains easy to read for a long period of time. Tags of this type are available from many sources, and can even be made in a minute or two at many larger pet stores such as PetsMart and PetCo. The cost is usually just a few dollars.

Some owners prefer to have their dog’s ID tag riveted to the collar instead of attaching them by the usual split ring or S-hook. These tags have the advantage that they can’t easily break off, however they may be more difficult to see particularly on a dog with a long coat. Others have identifying information embroidered directly on the collar to avoid the possibility of losing a tag. Embroidered collars and leashes are readily available from www.dogidcollar.com and other sources.

For GRREAT dogs, another important source of identification is the GRREAT tag. Naturally the GRREAT tag isn’t meant to replace your own identification, but rather to supplement it. Wearing a GRREAT ID tag is one of the contractual requirements for adopting a GRREAT dog, but more importantly, it’s an important service that GRREAT can provide to you and your dog. We monitor the phone number engraved on the GRREAT tag 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you are unreachable or away from home, we are still there to help recover your dog safely. GRREAT typically gets several lost dog calls every month. Within minutes of a phone call, GRREAT volunteers contact the caller and begin the process of identifying your dog and getting him or her back home. On a few occasions, we’ve been able to reach the owner and let them know their dog has been recovered before they’ve even known it was lost! When owners couldn’t be contacted, GRREAT volunteers have picked up recovered dogs to ensure their safety until they were returned home. For this system to work, you will need to keep your contact information up to date with GRREAT.

We understand that collars get changed, split rings and S-hooks break, and tags get lost. If you need a new GRREAT tag, just call us at (703)620-6593 or contact me directly at microchips@grreat.org. I’ll get a new tag mailed out to you right away! 🐾

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If you believe your dog is experiencing bloat, please get your dog to a veterinarian immediately! Bloat can kill in less than an hour, so time is of the essence. Make sure to keep the phone number and directions to an emergency vet handy. And perhaps most importantly, know your dog well so you’ll know when your dog just isn’t acting normally.

Please refer to the sources from which this data was gathered for more detailed information:

Bloat, the Mother of All Emergencies
http://www.marvistavet.com/html/body_bloat.html

Gastric Dilatation, Volvulus (GDV), Bloat and Torsion
<http://www.2ndchance.info/bloat.htm>

Canine Gastric Dilation – Volvulus /Bloat, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, Non-dietary risk factors for gastric dilation-volvulus in large and giant breed dogs, Lawrence T. Glickman, VMD, DrPH; Nita W. Glickman, MS, MPH; Diana B. Schellenberg, MS; Malathi Raghavan, DVM, MS
<http://www.vet.purdue.edu/epi/update2.htm> 🐾

GRREAT Calendars Now On Sale

2008 GRREAT Calendars are now on sale for \$12. Pick yours up at one of our GRREAT Education events (see our event calendar), at an Adoption Day or at our new GRREAT Online Store. They make wonderful gifts and all profits go to support the rescue!



Cruisin' the High Seas with Your Pup

By Meg Ellacott, Contributing Writer

Imagine sailing trans-Atlantic on the grandest most magnificent ocean liner ever built. Now imagine taking that trip with your well-loved golden at your side. It's become one of my new life dreams...to take this trip with my Jake and Kelly. So come dream along with me:

They say cruising on Cunard's Queen Mary 2 will make ordinary travelers feel like royalty for a week or two. With 13 spacious decks on which to relax and unwind, the Queen Mary 2 boasts opulent public areas, extravagant dining rooms, ballrooms, theatres, lounges and even the only Planetarium at sea.

With all this luxury surrounding you most passengers are unaware that high up on a discreet corner of deck 12 exists a kennel with ample space for 12 dogs and cats. The QM2 is the only ship in the world to carry pets. The ship's kennel is used by passengers for different reasons: Many are relocating, taking long vacations, or commuting between their homes in the U.S. and Europe. There are a number of Pet Travel laws that you'll need to follow but primarily you'll need to make sure your dog has been: Micro-chipped; vaccinated against rabies; satisfactory blood tested; issued with an official PETS certificate; treated against ticks and tapeworm.

So consider a cruise on this luxury ocean liner and share the fun and excitement with your golden. It's not cheap but well worth it if you plan your European adventures with your adopt-ee. The price range is \$500 to \$1000 – there's a dog walk and play room for your dogs so you visit them – they (unfortunately) can't go to the various public areas with you. So whether it's taking a leisurely stroll on the dog walk deck or just lounging in your deck chair...you can bring your golden to Europe with you for the trip of a lifetime.

Check out: <http://www.cunard.com> 

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Dogs do it too. A dog's face and body are incredibly expressive of mood, for want of a better word, and intent. Dogs in nature tend towards extreme silence, but they communicate worlds in their movements.

Some of the best time and money you'll ever spend on your own and your dog's behalf will be in reading any of the following top titles for better understanding your dog's behavior. They're all available from many sources including one of my favorites, www.dogwise.com (a great resource for "all things dog"!):

On Talking Terms with Dogs: Calming Signals, by Turid Rugaas


I'm still waiting to hear of a better little book than this one for giving a fast, clean lesson in how to see and interpret many of the physical messages our dogs give. There's a companion video; production quality is so-so but it can help illustrate many of the behaviors your dog shows.

The Other End of the Leash, by Patricia McConnell, PhD

If I were king of the world, everyone would have to read this book too. Readable, well illustrated and full of information that you can use right away, McConnell earned her place as one of the top experts in canine behavior in the country.

Culture Clash, by Jean Donaldson

Donaldson's book is a great ride (and sometimes rant) through her rich experience as a trainer and behaviorist. The book will enhance your understanding of canine behavior, the role of conditioning, socialization, how to resolve conflicts and other behavior questions.

Liz Hauck owns Drop the Leash, providing positive and practical training for pets and people. Liz has studied dogs and their people for nearly twenty years and has taught since 1999. Visit www.droptheleash.net or phone 410-800-7069 for resources, questions, comments. 

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 2008 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.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2007

GRREAT Dog Swim
Northern Virginia Animal Swim Center
Middleburg, VA
See the GRREAT Calendar for more information

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007 9:00am – 5:00pm

Chip 'N Dip
Get your dogs washed and/or microchipped
Whole Foods, Annapolis, MD
www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/annapolis/

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007 10:00am – 3:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
Pets On Wheels Dog-a-Thon
Oregon Ridge Park
Cockeysville, MD
<http://www.petsonwheels.org/dog-a-thon2007.htm>

Sunday, October 7, 2007 12:00pm – 3:00pm

Fredericksburg Dog Festival
Visit the GRREAT booth, join the parade and participate in pet contests.
Hurkamp Park
Downtown Fredericksburg, VA

Sunday, October 7, 2007 10:00am – 5:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
Alexandria Scottish Heritage Fair
Ft. Ward Park
Alexandria, VA
www.scotfair.org/

Saturday, October 20, 2007 10:00am – 3:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
Prince William SPCA Pet Adopt-a-Thon & Great Pumpkin Dog Walk
Prince William County Fairgrounds
Manassas, VA
www.pwspca.org/

Saturday, October 20, 2007 10:00am – 3:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
Fidos For Freedom Fall Stroll & Roll
Lake Elkhorn, Columbia, MD
www.fidosforfreedom.org

Saturday, October 27, 2007 11:00am – 4:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
2007 Barcstoberfest
Patterson Park
Baltimore, MD
www.baltimoreanimalshelter.org/barcstoberfest/2007/default.php

Saturday, October 27, 2007 11:00am – 3:00pm

Visit the GRREAT booth at:
Howl-O-Ween Barkin' Bash
Quiet Waters Park
Annapolis, MD
<http://www.barkinbash.com>

Saturday, November 10, 2007 10:00am

GRREAT 4th Annual 3k Dog Walk
Weber's Pet Supermarket
11021 Lee Highway, Fairfax VA
703-385-3766
Application included in this newsletter, or at www.grreat.org

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.
