

# Carver's Tale

by Val Lynch

Every dog has a tale, often many tales. Let me share one with you about Carver, a GRREAT senior who has a new and impactful role as a therapy dog.

Last February Carver joined the Lynch household to share our home with a senior rescue Black Lab. His GRREAT foster was a wonderful, caring young lady who nurtured Carver for six months following his rescue from a difficult situation. Carver had lost significant weight while on prozac, valium and other drugs to control his destructive behavior but his foster soon stopped the drugs and gave him frequent doses of loving attention and a healthy diet. Carver responded very well, settled down and came back to his normal weight in six months.

No sooner had we adopted and brought Carver home it was apparent that he had the spirit and energy of a dog much younger than his 12 years. Long walks, trips to the beach and helping at GRREAT events focused his energy but he had more to give. A very friendly guy, he demonstrated a particularly keen sense of connection with children, seniors and folks with disabilities. A kid magnet, his interaction with even the smallest of toddlers is patient, pleasant, warm and friendly.

At our first GRREAT event in March I asked the AKC representatives to test Carver for the Canine Good Citizen Program. I was hoping he would do well – and so he did. He passed the CGC testing with no hiccups and right then I knew Carver could make a terrific therapy dog!

Several sessions with a professional trainer helped Carver to better respond to basic commands and adapt to



**Carver with a resident of the Ginger Cove Retirement Community in Annapolis, MD**

staying close-hold while in schools, retirement homes and sheltered workshops.

Next came Therapy Dogs International medicals, evaluation and testing. Carver aced it.

In July we made our first visit to an Annapolis retirement community and he was a hit. We visit the campus every other Wednesday and have scheduled appointments with residents in the health center, assisted living and independent living. We also have access to all the community rooms and visit with various activity groups throughout the facility. The impact Carver has on these seasoned citizens can best be explained by the smiles on their faces and the sheer joy at running their fingers through fur.

*Continued on page 3*

# GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

## Board of Directors

### PRESIDENT

Barbara Bertsch Boyd  
President@great.org  
410.309.3192

### VICE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Phillippe  
VP@great.org  
315.559.3619

### SECRETARY

Kellie Bock  
Secretary@great.org  
703.477.5509

### TREASURER

Harry Sethna  
Treasurer@great.org  
703.392.7497

### INTAKE/FOSTER HOME COORDINATOR

Mary Collings  
Intake@great.org  
540.720.8588

### ADOPTION COORDINATOR

Jessie Pickard  
Adoptions@great.org  
703.620.6593

### MEDICAL COORDINATOR

Lucinda Twining  
Medical@great.org  
703.754.4379

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Carolyn Beyer  
Transmittal@great.org  
703.254.4843

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Scott Daniels  
AtLarge@great.org  
302.383.3811

**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.**

## In This Issue

Carver's Tale	1,3
GRREAT Contacts	2
Membership Renewal	3
President's Message	4-5
Murphy: A Life Well Lived	6-7
Adoptions	7
GRREAT Calendar Winner	9
Donations	9-10
GRREAT Forms	11
Calendar of Events	12



**Taylor 07-082**

## Points of Contact



### TRAINING COORDINATOR

Camille Alexander  
Training@great.org  
202.590.5311

### MERCHANDISE COORDINATOR

Jo Bighouse  
[merchandise@great.org](mailto:merchandise@great.org)  
540.931.5724

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Dianne Blackwell  
Volunteer@great.org  
703.216.2383

### FOSTER HOME APPROVAL COORDINATOR

Denise Malczewski  
BecomeAFosterHome@great.org  
540.623.5460

### POC COORDINATOR

Kathi Crouse  
kcrouse1950@verizon.net  
410.768.7798

### DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Judy Bendig  
Membership@great.com  
703-587-5712

### TRANSPORT COORDINATOR

Barbara Boyd  
transport@great.org  
410.309.3192

### FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

\*\*VACANT\*\*

### EDUCATION COORDINATOR

\*\*VACANT\*\*

### MICROCHIP COORDINATOR

Jeff Twining  
Microchips@great.org  
703.754.4379

### FOSTER HOME FINDER

Mary Collings  
Intake@great.org  
540.720.8588

### SILENT AUCTION COORDINATOR

\*\*VACANT\*\*

### GRREAT NEWS MANAGING EDITOR

Erin Ledbetter  
Newsletter@great.org  
703.620.6593

# Carver's Tale

*(Cover Story)*

In August we paid a visit to a sheltered workshop that employs disabled, autistic and otherwise challenged adults – both young and old. When word got out that a dog was looking for company in the meeting room Carver was swamped. I lost count at about 40 men and women who happily touched, spoke to and simply enjoyed being close to a dog.

This is Carver's tale but I must add that he has done a great deal for me, his therapy companion. I have met many good, kind people who love dogs and share their own dog stories and recall the wonders of living with dogs. The smiles, the stories and even the tears make their lives, and mine, so much the better for having the opportunity to share in the presence of a dog – this wonderful creature we call Carver.

The takeaway from this tale is pretty simple: senior dogs have so much to give and all they need is an opportunity. An opportunity to be a loving friend in a forever home; an opportunity to bond with a child, a senior citizen or other animal; an opportunity to be a therapy dog.



*Carver at work with the ladies and gentlemen of Opportunity Builders Inc. in Millersville, MD (above)*

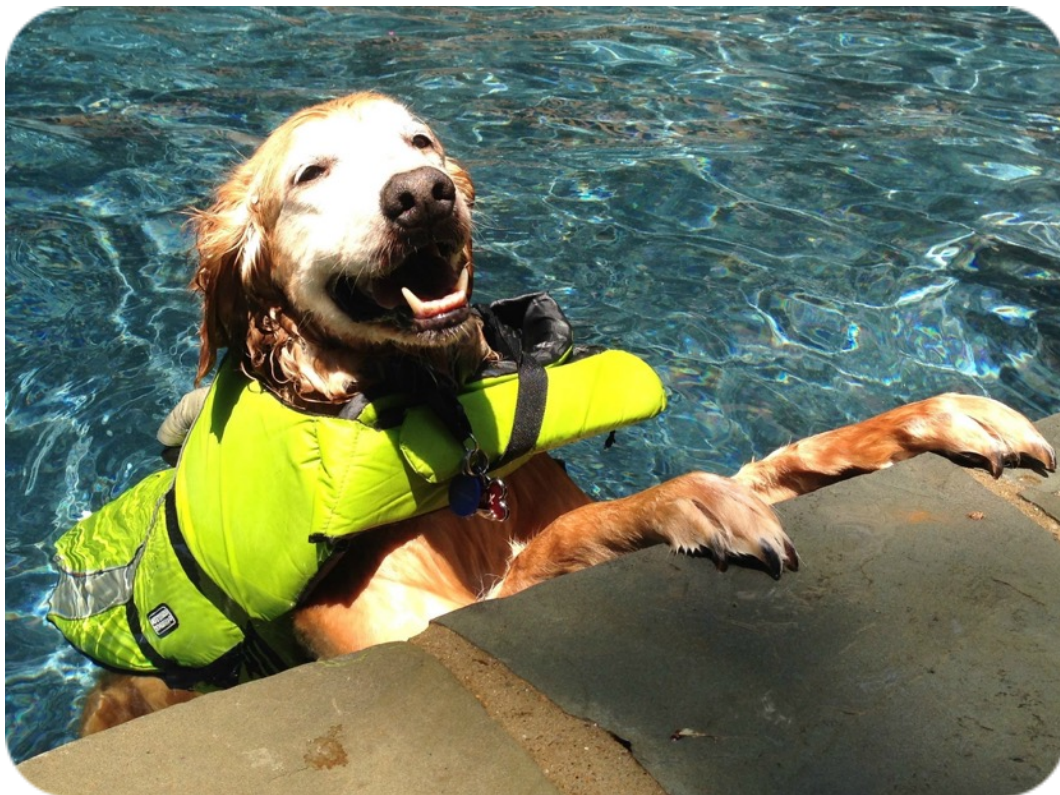
*Carver receiving his Canine Good Citizenship Award (right)*



## GRREAT 2016 Membership Renewal

Don't miss a thing! Renew your GRREAT membership for 2016. We are dependent on membership dues, donations, and fundraising to operate. Your \$40 membership dues keep the GRREAT News coming four times a year and will help save more Golden Retrievers in 2016. If you elect to "opt-out" of receiving the newsletter by mail, the \$40 is fully tax deductible. If you choose to receive the printed newsletter, \$30 is tax deductible (\$10 is the value of goods and services received). Membership also confers one vote in GRREAT elections. **For the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row, we have not increased membership dues!** Don't forget that your fur babies can also become members with a Golden Membership for \$10 each. Please support GRREAT by becoming a member at: <http://www.grreat.org/how-to-help/become-a-member>.

# President's Message



Happy New Year! This is Max (11-069), AKA Maxwell, Maxie, or Max-a-roo. Those of you who read the GRREAT News regularly might remember that a few years ago I wrote a column about my first trip to Goldstock, the camp for Golden Retrievers and their humans held over Labor Day weekend each year to raise money for Golden Retriever rescues. One of the things I wrote about then was my experience at the lake.

I was nine when I came to live with Mom. One evening she took me to an event that had several baby pools spread around the grounds. I jumped right in and laid down in every one we encountered. She knew I liked water, but she had never had an opportunity to take me swimming, so she didn't know whether or not I would like it...or if I could swim.

When we got to the lake at Goldstock, I ran right in... about 1.5 feet...and lay down to sun myself. Why exert all that energy to actually swim when you can just enjoy the cool water and the squishy sand? Eventually Mom got me into water deep enough to swim. She was holding me up, but it was still sort of scary. I kept trying to doggy paddle above the water, which made my butt sink, which made it even scarier! I went back to sunning myself!

The next year we went to Dewey's Golden Jubilee at Dewey Beach, Delaware. I ran right into the waves...

about 1.5 feet...and lay down to sun myself. Again, why exert all that energy to actually swim when you can just enjoy the cool water and the squishy sand?

Well, Mom thought maybe I would do better in a regular pool with a flotation vest. This past summer I had my first chance to try out that theory. If you have seen the 2016 GRREAT Calendar you may have noticed me as Mr. June. The picture shows me clinging desperately to the side of the pool. All I wanted to do is get out of there ASAP. I definitely did not like the whole swimming thing!

Sigh...Mom is definitely persistent. We live on a lake so she thinks I should know how to swim in case of an emergency...like I would ever go in that dirty lake! But as I said, she IS persistent. She signed me up for the GRREAT Swim Club.

We drove quite a while to get to the Middleburg Animal Swim Center, but Mom thought it was worth it because she had heard that Mr. Roger (no, not that one), works miracles getting animals to swim. The beginning was fun...a bunch of Golden Retrievers and Golden wannabes gathered on the grass outside a barn sort of building. When we finally went in, there were two pools. Mom called them a baby pool and a big pool. Every dog starts in the baby pool until Roger is confident that the dog is able to swim and to get in and out using the ramps. I wasn't at all sure that I wanted to swim in either one!

Roger fitted me with a harness and a long lead. He helped me down the ramp to the baby pool and... guess what?! I am now learning to swim. The baby pool is one lap with ramps at each end. I started out doing one lap at a time, but I can now do at least four without stopping! The only thing keeping me from graduating to the big pool is my reluctance to go down the ramp. Once I'm in, I'm doing great... as you can tell from the picture. I have three more Club sessions to go. My goal is to swim in the big pool soon.

*Continued on page 5*

# President's Message



Last week the Club met on my 14<sup>th</sup> birthday! We swam and then had doggie donuts outside in the unusually warm December sun. The humans had snacks too. It was a GRREAT celebration.

Since I am now old and wise, I have some advice for you humans. Don't be afraid to adopt an older dog. Most of the time we are already housebroken, have good house manners, will love you unconditionally and, you see, you really can teach old dogs new tricks!

*Note from Maxie's mom: I often hear that people do not want to adopt a senior dog because they may not live very long. I always tell them about my first Golden who was just thirteen weeks old when we got him. At age three he was diagnosed with cancer and at five he went to the Rainbow Bridge. Just as with people, there are no guarantees on a dog's life span. Ever since then, I have been partial to the seniors. If you are still not sure about adopting an older Golden like my Max, please consider donating in support of those we care for during their lifetime at <http://www.grreat.org/special-needs-dogs/>.*

HELLOgianni  
DOTCOM



**FAFF'S FURRY FRIENDS**  
IN-HOME BOARDING FOR YOUR PETS

We provide a loving, caring home away from home for your four-legged family member while you need to be away. Our goal is to provide a safe, comfortable atmosphere so you feel confident leaving your pet and your pet feels like they're on their own little adventure.

Faff's Furry Friends looks forward to meeting you and your furry four-legged family members!

[faffsfurryfriends.com](http://faffsfurryfriends.com)

**Stephani Locket**, Den Mother  
Located in Alexandria, VA

Local family owned and operated



**Casey Jones, Owner**  
[loudounpest@aol.com](mailto:loudounpest@aol.com)

**O: 703-779-2216**

**C: 571-528-8850**

[www.loudounlawnandpest.com](http://www.loudounlawnandpest.com)

## Our Services Include

Pest Control Programs for Termites, Bedbugs, Mice, Rats, Fleas  
Ticks, Mosquitoes, Roaches, Ants and More. . .

Wildlife Removal, Clean-up, Repair and  
Re-infestation Prevention for  
Squirrels, Raccoons, Opossums,  
Snakes, Bats, Birds and More. . .

Attic Insulation and Crawl  
Space Moisture Control



*Loudoun Lawn & Pest Management uses only EPA registered products that are SAFE for your family, pets and environment when properly applied by our CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS*

# Murphy: A Life Well-Lived!

by Brian Quinn

In early 2005 our family decided it was time for a dog. The kids, Emily, 9, and Michael, 6, were old enough. My wife, Ann Marie, and I, thought having a pet would be a good experience.

Little did we know. After doing some research, including learning about GRREAT, it was settled: a golden retriever would be just the breed. We filled out the GRREAT paperwork, passed the interview and inspection, then went about finding a dog that would fit in with us.

Through GRREAT there was a dog available named Murphy, who was described in the “bio” as a “diamond in the rough.” My mother’s maiden name was Murphy so we took this as a good sign. His “foster” parents, Chuck and Patricia, lived in Maryland. They kindly offered to bring Murphy down to our home in Northern Virginia. If everyone hit it off, Murphy would stay.

However, the interview process was NOT complete. Murphy arrived full of energy. Upon arrival, he charged upstairs and ran around the bedrooms. Then thundered down the stairs, as would happen thousands of times after, and made for our big, fenced-in yard to check it out.

Finally, Murphy came back inside and paused. He was interviewing *us* and seemed to say, “I like it here. I’ll stay. We have a deal.” Then began more than ten years of unforgettable memories of mischief, mayhem, and lots of fun.

It quickly became apparent that Murph was a table surfer; soon to be legendary. Slices of pizza, blocks of cheese, hotdogs from their rolls, sandwiches, donuts, all swiped with skill and stealth. At first, it seemed only fair to cut Murph some slack.

After all, he was essentially abandoned as a puppy, and left to wander the Pennsylvania countryside and fend for himself. After having been hit accidentally by a mini-van, the kind woman made sure that Murphy was patched up. She could not keep a dog so the veterinarian recommended GRREAT.

Everyone hit the jackpot. Yes, Murphy was spoiled. Many times he would stand before the leather couch on which he lounged and slept. “His Majesty” would not climb up unless the freshly-laundered sheet was smoothed out and tucked in. Two of us would have to drop what we were doing and attend to his demands. Then, with head slightly raised imperiously in the air, and satisfied that everything was to his liking, Murphy would jump up and settle in.

But he earned his keep. Given his rough early start, it would not be surprising if he were to be at least a little bit unpleasant. But there was not a mean bone anywhere under all that fur.

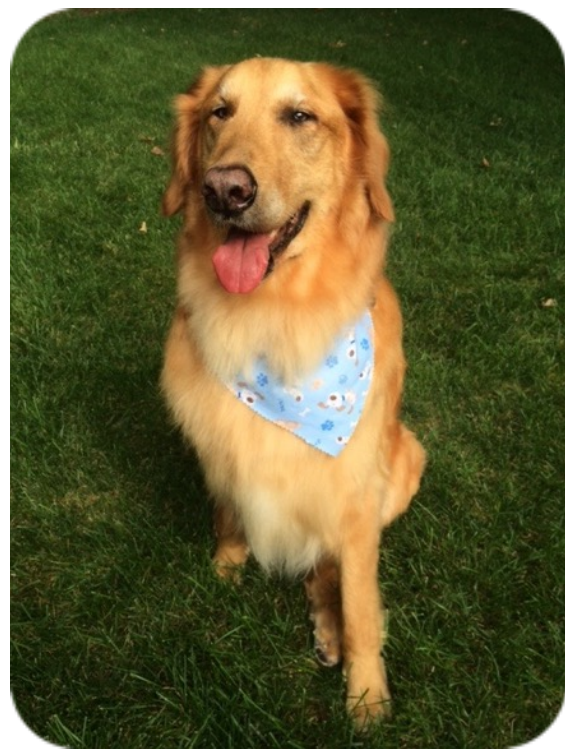
That’s not to say Murph was a pushover. He was not afraid to let us know if something was amiss: barking when a stranger appeared at the door, or if the kids were playing out in front, Murph kept watch. At first, he slept with his back against the front door, or at the top of the stairs near the bedrooms, always looking out for us.

Through the years Murph became the neighborhood’s four-legged mayor. Most knew him, after meeting him on his daily walks. He wasn’t shy about getting what he thought was his, either: going to a neighbor’s house and asking, in his own way, for a treat.

Early on summer weekend mornings he’d join me on the patio. I thought he liked my company, but it was probably more the goodies he was sure to get that brought him out. During those times, we’d talk things over, but he didn’t say much and loyally kept “secrets”.

A word about owning a dog. Only Ann Marie owned a dog before. She patiently reminded us that caring for a dog is work: cleaning up, feeding and otherwise attending to their needs is a significant responsibility. What I was not expecting was for each of us to develop such a close attachment to Murphy.

Also truly remarkable was Murphy’s sense of what was going on around him. If someone was sick or had a bad day, he seemed to realize that and would stay close by.



One episode stands out that I will never forget. A few years after Murphy's arrival, a neighbor passed away during the night at home after a short illness. We learned about his death the following morning. I took Murph for his usual walk. As was our habit, I would let him off the leash at the corner of our cul-de-sac and we'd race home.

But not today. Instead, he solemnly walked to our neighbor's home and sat there just looking at the front door. After several moments he got up, joined me, and we walked slowly home. He never did that before and never since.



By our calculation, Murphy would have been 12 years old on November 7, 2015. Earlier this year, though, we noticed a slight limp in his front left leg that gradually became worse. After tests and visits to the veterinarian, our fears were confirmed: Murphy had cancer.

The treatment options that were available were not appealing. Each one really only delayed the inevitable. As difficult a decision as it was, the best option in our mind was to keep him comfortable and let nature take its course.

Given Murphy's spirit and big heart he was an inspiration to the end. He was carried in and out of the house and up and down stairs. Neighbors came by to check on him, and to say their goodbyes.

Finally, after a particularly difficult night for him, it was time. Sadly, we had to put him down on July 13, 2015. Dr. Alt, our veterinarian, was very professional and humanely brought Murphy's suffering to an end, as we sat with and comforted our old friend.

We all think about and miss Murph every day. Although Murphy cannot be replaced, the time will come again when we reach out to GRREAT and bring another wonderful golden retriever into his or her forever home.

## ADOPTION REPORT

Name	GRREAT ID#	Age	Sex	Name	GRREAT ID#	Age	Sex
Abi	15-075	3	F	Jax	12-081	4	M
Casey	15-061	8	M	Lambert	15-035	4	M
Chance	15-046	7	M	Leo	15-081	1	M
Cider	15-045	10	F	Lucy	15-074	11m	F
Copper	15-078	3	M	Luna	15-066	11	F
Delilah	15-064	7	F	Madison	13-049	13	F
Delta	15-077	8	M	Noble	15-093	4	M
Emma	15-036	4	F	Piper	15-073	1	F
Gabe	15-071	1	M	Piper	15-073	1	F
Harley	15-079	6	M	Shiraz	15-041	7	F
Holli	15-016	4	F	Summer	15-068	5	F
Humble	12-143	16	F	Summer	15-091	5	F
Jackson	15-076	2	M	Xena	15-067	6	F

# 2016 GRREAT Calendar

## Now On Sale in the GRREAT Store

The 2016 calendar is now on sale at the GRREAT Store and at most GRREAT events. The price of the calendar is just \$12.50, and shipping is just a dollar.

Our thanks to all those who submitted photos, and congratulations to the very special Goldens who were chosen. Here are the Goldens chosen in the Winner, Honorable Mention, and Mugshot categories:

<i>Winners!</i>	
Front Cover	Shandy (02-281)
January	Mona (15-006) and Fiona
February	Marlowe (09-103)
March	GRREAT Gatsby (12-044)
April	Major (08-162) and Jack (11-019)
May	Molly (08-018)
June	Max (11-063)
July	Layla (12-121) and Hank
August	Max (06-099) and Copper (07-090)
September	Lady (11-157)
October	Buddha (13-027)
November	Rocky (05-200)
December	Herbie (13-097)
Back Cover	Fergus (15-028)

<i>Honorable Mention</i>	
	Rocky (05-200)
	Kelly (13-011)
	Jo (14-100) and Jesse
	Casey (11-025) and Marcus
	Sammy (15-040)
	Jax (08-059) and Chloe (07-155)
	Trooper (12-134)
	Henry (12-012)
	Molly (08-018)
	Marlowe 09-103
	Grace 12-029, Natty Boh 12-026, and Maggie 13-029
	Jack (11-019)
	Layla (12-121)
	Major (08-162)

<i>Mugshots</i>		
January	Tucker (12-043)	Rocky (05-200)
February	Jo (14-100)	Kelly (13-011)
March	Sammy (15-040)	Herbie (13-097)
April	Mona (15-006) and Fiona	Shandy (02-281)
May	Jesse and Jo (14-100)	
June	Kelly (13-011)	Andy (14-067), Cody, Amos (14-066)
July	Fergus (15-028)	
August	Kelly (13-011)	Amos (14-066), Andy (14-067), Cody
September	Shandy (02-281)	Kelly (13-011)
October	Mona (15-006) and Fiona	
November	Kelly (13-011)	Herbie (13-097)
December	Tucker (12-043)	Fergus (15-028)

# Thank You for Your Donations

September 1, 2015 - December 8, 2015



*\*denotes total contribution of \$100-\$499*

*\*\*denotes total contribution of \$500-\$999*

*\*\*\*denotes total contribution of \$1000 or more*

Kate and Art Chutuape  
Kate Werner  
Jesse Dillon\*  
Ed and Debra Brenner  
Jeannie and Ken Blood\*  
Paul and Chris Umberger  
Bruce and Sue Gross\*  
Cynthia and Joseph Martin

## In Memory of...

Allan Paro. -- Mary Gwen Paro\*, Robert and Bob Sandler, Matthew & Kay Zimmer, Robert Tien, Gina Stokes, Sarah Griffin, Grace Barcia, Kimberly Ryan, Lois Yates, Phyllis Thibordeaux, Deborah Hanneman, James & Deborah Knutson, Ned, Shirley, David & Brenda Strickland, Lloyd Ator\*, Mike Repass\*, Anna-Marie Montague\*, Stephanie Wilson

Dagmar Sachs' father with deepest sympathy. -- Her friends in the North Atlantic Region of MWI Veterinary Supply\*

Diana Hellinger. -- Love, Karen, Laura and Richard DeCostanza

Shooter Coyle. -- Mary Tramazzo

Diana Hellinger. -- Jenny Schnaier, Anne Fitzgerald, John & Kim Manoush, Nancy & Henry Boroyan\*

Mrs. Diana Hellinger. -- She had a great passion for dog rescue and adoption and volunteered with the Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training organization. She was a good and kind person and teacher. We will miss her. -- Joan Bannis

Susan Irons, a remarkable woman who left her friends and family way too early. -- Susan Bottomley\*

Joe Bahler. -- Linda Sollars

Murphy Bertin (Cathy and Dick Bertin). -- He was a wonderful, good boy. -- Carole Levy

Diana Hellinger who supported this organization. -- Mimi Manzembe-Dingui

Diana Hellinger, who loved golden retrievers and provided love and care for many GRREAT dogs. -- Holly Jimison\*

Andy, beloved furry companion of Tim and Joan Kirchner. -- Karen and Robert Huguley

Our sweet Jasmine ("Jazzy") (06-008) who crossed the rainbow bridge two years ago today. We hope she's chasing balls and swimming to her heart's content. -- Tracy Mulroy\*

Scooter. -- Adam Warden\*

Brandy, Rudy and Jake. -- Ray and Kathy Schmid\*

Nicholas & Geebers. -- Jane Kunze

## In Honor of...

Dagmar and Stuart Sachs who love our golden retrievers like their own and whose dedication to the breed (and all dogs) is inspiring. Thank you for over 15 years of human and canine friendship.-- Anne Hammer\*

Sweet Chloe Selden Smith. -- She passed away as she lost her battle with cancer. She was an amazing sweet beautiful girl. She was my next door neighbor and she will be missed deeply! Thank you for sheltering her as a puppy and helping her find such a good home. -- Kim Allison\*

Lillian Kraman-Roach and Dan Roach and their commitment to the well-being of all their girls (including their Goldens). -- Pilar Kraman

## To Help With Costs...

For Linus 15-069 vet bill. -- Jeff and Lucinda Twining\*

Please use for the care of Harley 15-079. Thank You. We are his former neighbors. -- Robert and Jane Schmidt, Mary Kay and Barbara Beggs

For Copper 15-078 meds. -- Art and Rebecca Hotop

## For Other Reasons...

I would like to thank Mary and all staff and volunteers! I recently had the opportunity to work with Mary in an effort to help find a foster or owner for a lab/retriever mix named Griffen. I appreciate all your help and support. Keep up all the great work. -- Martin Koslof

In loving gratitude for our departed Bailey. -- Michael Thompson

To thank you for all you do! -- Tom and Jean Klinger\*

Thanks for your GRREAT work. Thank you for Early. -- Carol and Delphine Savoy\*

*Continued on page 10*

# Donations

(Continued from page 9)

## Corporate Giving

Combined Federal Campaign\*\*\*

United Way\*

Igive.com: Earnings through July 2015\*

The Art Station

America's Charities -- Donors: Barbara and Mark Forster,  
Heather Lady

Pampered Chef -- Sponsors: Shirley & Bob Coelho\*

Mt. Airy Mattress -- In honor of David and Suzanne  
Huddleston

## Forever Friends

Memorials can be seen at:

<http://grreat.org/foreverfriends/index.htm>

## Sponsor Me!

For your permanent special needs foster Goldens. -- Helen  
Skiba-Powell and Eugene Powell\*

For Stevie, Tess, Humble, James Dean & Polo -- Trish  
Collier\*

For Molly in honor of Nancy Liebhauser and Patrick Stump  
who puppy-sat Saylor 07-082 while we were away at  
Goldstock. Saylor was spoiled with lots of love, attention,  
and swimming - her favorite things!! Thank you Nancy and  
Pat!! -- Jessie and Dan Pickard\*

For Molly in honor of Holly Rich (Madison's Foster Mom)  
who watched Molly for us while we were out of town for  
my daughter's wedding. We are very grateful that Holly was  
willing and able to come to our home with Madison and  
stay for the weekend. Molly couldn't have been in better  
hands! Thank you Holly! -- Jessie and Dan Pickard\*

For special needs dogs. -- Katie Werner

For special needs dogs in the name of Joe Bahler  
Memorial. -- Linda Sollars

For Trina 15-002. -- Danny and Patti McDonnell\*

For Trina 15-002: Dedicated to the best friends any Golden  
or human can have; Janet and Phil thanks for always being  
there. -- Amy Goldbergor

For Molly 14-023 from the Silver Whiskers, Golden Bonds  
Seminar on Sunday 10/25.\*

For special needs dogs in memory of our Shadow. -- Helen  
Skiba-Powell and Eugene Powell\*

GRREAT operates three funds for dogs with special needs. The  
Leo Fund provides surgical care, the Simile-Finale Fund  
provides holistic and alternative therapies (acupuncture, swim  
therapy, etc.), and Chief's Fund provides MRI diagnostics. To  
support these funds, make the selection on the online donation  
page [www.grreat.org/donate/donorinfo.htm](http://www.grreat.org/donate/donorinfo.htm)) or mention the fund  
in a letter with your contribution by mail. Thank you!

## Leo's Corner

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

In memory of an extremely special Golden named Bella.  
Her family and my dear friends, Patti and Michael  
Caplan, miss their sweet girl terribly. Bella was an angel  
and a therapy dog. -- Karen Beers

### Leo's Angels (\$100-499)

### Leo's Heroes (\$500 and Over)

## Chief's Fund

For Saylor and Jax. -- Ron and Linda Igou

## Simile-Finale Fund

For Saylor and Jax. -- Ron and Linda Igou

In the name of Joe Bahler Memorial. -- Linda Sollars

## GRREAT Annual Meeting January 30, 2016

The GRREAT Annual Meeting will be held  
on Saturday, January 30, 2016, noon-2:00, at  
the McLean Governmental Center, 1437  
Balls Hill Rd., McLean, VA 22101. In  
addition to annual reports from Officers and  
Coordinators, we will be voting for Vice-  
President and Secretary. The nominees for  
these offices are:

Vice-President: Jennifer Phillippe

Secretary: Kellie Bock

Please join us to learn more about GRREAT  
and enjoy meeting fellow Golden lovers.  
Light refreshments will be provided.

***Dogs are not permitted***

## 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 190, Merrifield, VA 22116

## 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 \$40 for my 2016 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 enclosing \$10 (each) for a 2016 Golden Membership(s). Please write name of dog(s).  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 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 190, Merrifield, VA 22116**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail 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, Fundraising & 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 online at**  
<http://www.grreat.org/how-to-help/volunteer-form/>

To make a donation, go to [www.grreat.org/donatesupport/](http://www.grreat.org/donatesupport/).



## **GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

P.O. Box 190  
Merrifield, VA 22116

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



**Anna 15-080**

## **GRREAT CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

There is a rescue for Golden Retrievers? This is a commonly asked question at the numerous events in which GRREAT participates. When people discover that GRREAT takes in over 100 dogs every year, you can see the shock and amazement on their faces and you can hear it in their voices. People know that Golden Retrievers are such good dogs, so they can't help but wonder "Why would anyone give up a Golden?" It is because of comments such as these that GRREAT attends events to help educate the public on the need for rescue and the Golden Retriever breed. GRREAT is always looking for and in need of committed volunteers who wish to give some of their time to attend events. For a list of upcoming events go to <http://www.grreat.org/events/>. For more information on any event, please e-mail [events@grreat.org](mailto:events@grreat.org) and if you wish to volunteer at any event, please e-mail [volunteer@grreat.org](mailto:volunteer@grreat.org).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

GRREAT Annual Meeting  
Saturday, January 30, 2016, noon-2:00  
McLean Governmental Center,  
1437 Balls Hill Rd., McLean , VA 22101

**Instead of monthly Adoption Days, GRREAT will be holding ad hoc events. Stay Tuned!**