



GRREAT News

July/August 1999
Volume 9, Number 4

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From the President Volunteers to the Rescue Doug Brown

In the May/June issue of *GRREAT News*, two vacant Board of Directors positions, those of President and Treasurer, were discussed. Also listed as a vacant position was that of Adoption Administrator. I am pleased to announce that both the President and Treasurer positions have been filled and the new officers have smoothly transitioned into their roles. Also filled, thanks to several volunteers, were the duties of the Adoption Administrator. GRREAT thanks the many people who came forward to offer their time and skills in response to our plea for help.

I am equally pleased to report that the nine existing board members and the two newest board members immediately began working on an updated policy to screen for actual or true aggressive behavior in Golden Retrievers being considered for intake into the Rescue.

Volunteers to the Rescue, continued on page 6

Children younger than twelve years of age are the victims of more than half the dog bites reported in this country, and children under five are the most susceptible to severe bites. Half of all dog bites occur within one block of the dog owner's property, usually to a neighbor child who is familiar with the animal. Head and neck injuries are the most common, but trunk and extremity injuries are frequent as well.

Long considered friendly and gentle, Golden Retrievers—beautiful and popular as they are—are becoming increasingly aggressive for a variety of reasons, especially over-breeding and careless breeding. When a dog nips or bites an adult or child—once or once too often—it is usually given away, often ending up at GRREAT's door, asking to be allowed into the Rescue. Many of these injuries or bites—and the accompanying anguish on the parts of both the owner and the victim—could have been avoided if the parents of the child and owners of the dog had provided them some basic training in manners and behavior.

Children must be taught from the time they can understand instructions that a dog is not a toy; it is a living being with wants and needs of its own. On the other hand, a dog must

Children and Dogs, continued on page 9

Lyme Disease was first detected in 1975 in children and adults in the area of Old Lyme, Connecticut. Once the etiologic agent had been identified, it turned out to be identical to a disease described in Sweden in 1909. In the human, the disease is characterized by arthritis, fever, weakness, headache, and muscle pain are common symptoms that are present during the acute phase of the disease. During the chronic phase of the disease, recurrent arthritis, brain symptoms, peripheral nerve involvement, myocarditis, or heart block have been reported. Lyme disease was first identified in 1983 in a dog from Long Island, New York. The presenting signs were anorexia (lack of appetite), fever, fatigue, and arthritis, similar to those in humans.

CAUSATIVE AGENT, VECTORS AND MODE OF TRANSMISSION

The disease is caused by *Borrelia (B.) burgdorferi*, a spirochete, which is carried by *Ixodes (I.)* ticks. This bacterial micro-organism has been found in many species of mammals, birds and even insects. The vector (transmitter or carrier) tick has a two-year life cycle, laying eggs that hatch into the larval stage and eventually develop into nymphs

Lyme Disease, continued on page 14

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Children and Dogs: Protecting Them From Each Other compiled by April Fritz

Lyme Disease in Dogs

Eugene E. Musselman,
DVM, PhD

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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.

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Flight of an Angel
Pam Thiess, Baltimore, MD



I remember the day that you came—
So unhappy, your eyes cast down in shame.
Why would someone give you up?
They'd had you since you were a pup.

What would your story be, sweet one?
Did your family grow tired of the doggie fun?
Or maybe you just got old and gray,
No longer moved fast, and just got in the way.

You were so scared, so unsure,
As the person that you loved left you at the door.
I called you by name, told you it would be all right;
I put my arms around your neck and held you so tight.

As time went on and I earned your trust,
Manners and training were a must.
And I know that we made quite a pair—
Another page turns in foster care.

Not every day was hearts and flowers, you know this
much is true,
But as a team we kept on trying and saw it all the way
through.
We spent much time chasing demons; consistency was
the key.
But little did I realize I needed you as much as you
needed me.

The time has come, my Golden one—look how much
you've grown.
There's a family who wants a dog to love for their
very own.
You have to move on, as another needs your space.
I know you are ready now—the wag of your tail,
that smile on your face.

I took notes and pictures, right from the start.
But the best memory I have of you is etched deeply
in my heart.
I will not say goodbye, as that is forever.
Our bond is special—I'll forget you never.
So spread your wings, my precious one, the world is
waiting for you.
Soar high, and fly, and begin your life anew.

POETRY CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of the GRREAT poetry contest celebrating foster care! Thank you to everyone who submitted poems for judging. The first prize winner, printed at left, will receive her choice of any two items from the GRREAT Dog-alog. Two entries tied for second place, and each will receive an item of their choice from GRREAT's merchandise. The honorable mention winners' poems will be printed in a later issue of this newsletter. All poems will be posted on GRREAT's web site.

Lost Angel of Gold

Laura Lee Carroll, Woodbury, NJ

Hush little one,
For in my dream I see,
A vision far too gold who
waits for me.
A loving angel so strong and
proud
Who yearns for love without
a sound.

Hush little one,
Oh don't you see,
For I am here to rescue thee.
Without a voice you tell your tale,
Through endless kisses and praise
as well.

Hush little one,
How I long to be,
As good a friend as you will to me.
You are real, you exist here and now,
it's true,
Dear angel, my home and endless love
will welcome you.

Hush Little one,
How I love you so,
More than your soul will ever know.
My life, it's here now for you, it's true:
Take it, my angel, for I would die for you.
Yes, I would; I will, it's true,
Til I find a home that welcomes you.
If not, oh dear, be mine all mine,
For ever and ever til the end of time.
Hush.



The Conversation

Ilene Glassman, Monrovia, MD



*A puppy so cute, you chose me to be
A nice pet for you; you're the owner for me.
You loved me enough to take me in,
But my fur is now dull and I'm much too thin.*

*A new pup takes time; I wanted a home.
I thought you would teach me; I can't learn on my
own.*

*Now something has changed, and you say I must go.
I'll get a new chance, a new chance to grow.*

*Whatever your reason, now we must part
I'm going to GRREAT to have a new start
For my arrival at GRREAT, I am nervous at best
I just want to be loved; I just need some rest*

*To an interim home—I guess this will do,
It's a foster home in the Golden rescue!
But...I'm afraid of your hand, I'm afraid of your touch...*

... Don't worry, sweet Golden, we love you too much.

We will not hurt you, we're here to help.

We'll be here for you so that you can get well.

As your foster home, we'll teach you to trust,

We're a foster home that loves you so much.

*A new chance at life, to be cared for and loved
To play and to fetch, and just to be hugged.*

To rescue you now, out of harm's way

And then see you happy, in a family to play

With tennis balls and squeaky toys, or chew on a bone,

Settled and wanted in your new home.

The tears in our eyes just can't be helped.

We love you, sweet Golden, take care of yourself—

But not all alone, not anymore—

The new family for you will care for you more.

The love that you give, they'll show in return.

They know where you've come from, the lessons you've learned.

To foster a dog, to help out the breed,

To foster a Golden, to fulfill a need.

A need for us both, we'll be there for you.

And you'll love us back—that's just what you do.

To foster a Rescue dog, to repay the breed,

For their love and their beauty, they're Golden indeed.

Letters to the Board of Directors

PICNIC HELPERS, THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the following folks who staffed tables, assisted with the Canine Good Citizen test, and generally worked to make the picnic such a GRREAT success. (Sincere apologies to anyone whose name we have accidentally omitted.)

Laura Schmitz,
*event-meister
extraordinaire*

Georgie Bahler
Joe Bahler
Becky Brown
Doug Brown
Heather Brown
Sam Connelly
Amanda Corby
Gail Corby
DeAnna Edge
April Fritz
Bob Fritz
Cheryl Garbett
Elizabeth
Ketz-Robinson
Maureen Kelly
Kathy Landis
Mary Ellen Lunde
Sid Morris
Deb Nizer
Skip Nizer
Elizabeth Oberdorfer
Julie Palais
Rody Prior
Leslie Sachlis
Jeanie Sampson
Jean (Jeanie's mom)
Rick Stevens
...and Marcus Fritz,
the "Friendly Dog"
in the CGC test.

To: GRREAT Board of Directors

A recent Home Visitee called to inform us that he had withdrawn his adoption application after reading the editorial in the May/June issue regarding GRREAT'S "aggressive dogs and Board resignations."

My wife, Lucy, and I joined GRREAT in September, 1997 when we adopted 8-week old Grady. Though unfamiliar with GRREAT, we quickly discovered the acronym clearly describes its functions; we are ever grateful to those folks whose unflagging efforts rescued Grady, and then kept him alive so that he could share our life.

Members of my own species are too often "abandoned,"—psychologically as well as physically—a tragedy which reverberates across generations. Those attempting to intervene in shattered human lives have long recognized positive results can only be achieved with understanding and patience. And so I unequivocally applaud those GRREAT volunteers who have given so much to help these magnificent, innocent fellow earthly inhabitants to have their fair chance.

As a member and Chairman of the City of Gaithersburg, Maryland, Animal Control Board, I see the manifestations of dog abuse monthly. I always give the dog my benefit of any doubt. The dog only wants to give love and affection; their humans often have totally other agenda.

On rereading, I found the Editorial clearly and concisely outlines an issue which obviously needs airing. Are we, also, to abandon those dogs who may react defensively to a world from which they have only known rejection? Or are we committed to Rescue? I can only vote for the latter. And I appreciate the openness and candor exhibited by Board through the Editorial.

Sincerely,
Robert H. Moore
Gaithersburg, MD

To: GRREAT Board of Directors

I have wanted to write for some time with regard to the recent concerns that have surfaced about dogs with a history of biting being accepted into the Rescue. I was relieved to read in the May/June issue of the newsletter that the Board of Directors is in agreement that no dog will be accepted into the Rescue whose history, much less reason for give-up, includes aggressive behavior and biting incidents.

As you know, many owners are less than honest when they give a dog up. Many do not tell a foster home about their dog's history of biting—even when specifically asked. Thus a foster home could inadvertently place family members and friends at risk of attack.

Such was the case when Tyler came into my home several years ago. I realize that you wanted me to euthanize Tyler right away, thus reducing the risk of further biting. It was just so difficult for a foster home to do that once the dog has been placed. Unfortunately, the owner's dishonesty made life very difficult for me and my family. My heart was broken after I put Tyler to sleep.

The reason I share this old story again is to reiterate how critical it is to stop the intake of problem dogs prior to foster care placement. The dishonest owners that give up biting dogs knowingly and don't share that information are going to put the Rescue at substantial risk, financially and legally. To knowingly take in a problematic dog would be both unfair and unsafe. I feel more secure knowing the GRREAT Board of Directors feels the same way, as the editorial in the last issue described. I have never fully recovered from losing Tyler and I wish the owners had been honest. I am glad that the Rescue would not knowingly accept a dog like him into foster care.

Sincerely,
Pat Balducci
Bel Air, MD

GRREAT NEWS BITES



Home Visit Volunteers Needed

GRREAT adoption policy requires that all applicants receive a home visit prior to being able to adopt a GRREAT dog. GRREAT has a critical need for volunteers willing to perform occasional home visits in the areas listed below. Contact Lisa Smith at (410) 766-4098 or by e-mail at LAS8893@CWIX.COM for further information, except as noted for Virginia.

Maryland: Westminster, Bowie, Bethesda, Rociville, Gaithersburg, Frederick, Baltimore City, western Maryland, southern Maryland, Prince George's County, Calvert County

Pennsylvania: all areas serviced by GRREAT

Virginia: Leesburg, Alexandria, Springfield (please contact Mary Ginn (703) 938-0074 or MCGFIN@EROLS.COM)

Please help someone along the way to realizing their Golden dream by becoming a home visit volunteer.

Call for Adoption Day Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the Adoption Day on August 8 in Bel Air, MD, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer, please call Sharon Meirose by July 25th at (410) 569-7311 or e-mail her at MEIROSE@EROLS.COM.

Foster Home Workshop

The third GRREAT Foster Home Workshop will be held Saturday, October 30, 1999. More information will be in the next issue.

GRREAT 2000 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

The judges said they had a hard time selecting the winners because there were so many good photos of GRREAT dogs to choose from! Congratulations to the families of these photogenic dogs, who will be featured in next year's calendar.

	GRREAT Dog	Owned by
Cover	Lucky (95-075)	Gwen Wood
January	Molson (98-041)	Doreen and Brad Wright
February	Rudy (96-135) and Emma	Barbara Hals and Sharon Dyke
March	Chas (98-130)	Tom and Gail Koch
April	Cassie (97-045)	Lisa Merman and Jeff Joseph
May	Max (98-178)	Doug and Becky Brown
June	Jack (96-011)	Charlotte and Charles Gilmore
July	Kody (98-181)	The Hirst family (submitted by fosters Lori Bott and Pam Briggle)
August	Casey (95-084) and Sundance (95-085)	Julie Palais and Rick Stevens
September	Treevor (99-009), Brandy and Reba	Janet Hauck
October	Edison (99-008)	Grace Wetterman
November	Tanner (97-060) and Calamity Jane (98-070)	Rick and Tammy Acton
December	Sandi (95-029)	The Boykin family

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Dakota (97-114)	Kevin Abbott and Mary Jester
Bauregard (98-093)	Kevin and Betty French
Barkley (1994)	Mary Ginn
Carter (97-132)	The Carusillo-Lockland family (submitted by Lorraine Capps)
Matt (95-090)	The Mayer family
Sandy (98-151) and Alden	Wendy Rotz and family
Max (97-171) and Gus	Jule Ann and Richard Cheslock
Kurlee (97-150)	Nancy Conrad and family
Tiger (95-158)	Dan and Kim Rolland



How would you like to

- enjoy a fun day in Lancaster County, PA
- share your enthusiasm about GRREAT
- show off your GRREAT Golden
- help make money for the "fuzz butts" we all love?

Plan to attend the

**Seven Sweets & Sours Festival
September 16-18, 1999
Intercourse, Pennsylvania**

GRREAT has been invited to participate in the annual Seven Sweets & Sours Festival at Kitchen Kettle Village located on Route 340 in the Village of Intercourse, 10 miles east of Lancaster, PA. We are looking for volunteers available to help at GRREAT's education, merchandise, and pumpkin painting tables.

Founded as a home business in 1954, Kitchen Kettle Village now has 33 food, furniture and artisans' shops surrounding the original Jam & Relish Kitchen. Kitchen Kettle Village holds six fun festivals throughout the year to support various charities and non-profit organizations. This year GRREAT was selected a recipient of funds raised at this event.

The Seven Sweets & Sours Festival is a tribute to Pennsylvania Dutch cuisine. During the festival, the Village is decorated with fall creatures, and there is food sampling of new products, recipe sharing, a quilting bee, cookie decorating, and this year pumpkin painting by and for GRREAT. Banjo Jimmy and his Sidemen will entertain, and the local volunteer fire company will hold its annual chicken barbecue. Parking is free and there is no admission charge.

This is a wonderful opportunity to spread the word on Golden Retriever Rescue, to educate the public on responsible pet care, to sell our GRREAT merchandise and to increase our membership and donations. You do not have to be a great artist, just a "GRREAT painter." If painting is not your skill, we'd love to have you help staff the education and merchandise table, talk about GRREAT's work to the festival attendees.

Dates and Times: Thursday, September 16 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Friday, September 17 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Saturday, September 18 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

GRREAT is only responsible to staff our education, merchandise and pumpkin painting tables from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm each day.

Volunteers are needed for all- or part-days to help.

Autumn and Golden Retrievers go together, so come have some GRREAT fun, bring your family (both two and four footed), and help GRREAT. Sign up with GRREAT's Volunteer Coordinator, Sharon Meirose (410) 569-7311 or email: MEIROSE@EROLS.COM For a Village brochure and schedule of festival events, call (800) 732-3538 or email KKV1@AOL.COM.

Directions from Baltimore: (approximately 1½ hours driving time)

Take I-83 North to York, PA, then Route 30 East to Lancaster, PA, then Route 340 East to Intercourse exit, about 10 miles.

The main entrance to Kitchen Kettle Village is in the center of town and well marked. Turn left into entrance off Route 340.



Volunteers to the Rescue, continued from page 1

The board has spent many hours, both collectively and individually, researching dog aggression. Board members have read books, checked websites and consulted with experts in an attempt to understand what the Rescue faces regarding the increasing problem of aggression in Golden Retrievers. A separate subcommittee was formed, led by Sam Connelly, to further research and gather data for the policy.

What evolved from the many hours of hard work by all Board members was a fair and comprehensive policy to better screen for Golden Retrievers displaying signs of true aggressive behavior. In developing this policy, the Board recognized that it has a responsibility not only to GRREAT members and the adoptive family but also to the community. Also realized is that, as a Rescue, we have a responsibility to fairly and objectively gather and evaluate as much information as possible on each Golden being considered for intake.

It is generally understood that some of the Golden Retrievers GRREAT rescues come to us with a history of abuse, neglect, abandonment, and the associated problems caused by these situations. These are the reasons for our Rescue activities. It is also understood that some of these problems can be overcome with compassion, understanding and patience. With this in mind, the GRREAT Board of Directors has taken extraordinary measures to establish a three step screening process. Although GRREAT already had a careful screening process in place, it is felt that this new three step screening process would further benefit the Rescue and the dogs we take in.

First and foremost, GRREAT will not accept any Golden for which a previous bite report has been filed with an animal control authority. The first step in the intake process will be a revised telephone interview between the intake coordinator and the giveup owners. The questions asked will not be simple yes/no scenarios, but will be

to next page

continued from previous page

phrased to probe the history and temperament of the Golden. If there is any question in the mind of the intake coordinator, a professional evaluation may be required prior to accepting the Golden into the Rescue.

Depending on the results of this process the Golden will either be rejected or will move to the next phase. If the Golden is rejected for aggression, GRREAT will send the owners an information packet consisting of various educational materials and a list of local dog trainers and animal behaviorists.

The second step in the process will be the pick-up. A GRREAT volunteer visiting a potential Golden for pick-up will use a combined evaluation checklist and questionnaire to further probe—in person and on site—the temperament of the Golden. The forms GRREAT will be using have been developed by professionals with expertise in animal behavior and training. At any point during the evaluation the GRREAT volunteer will have the option not to accept the Golden and to refer the matter to the Board for further review.

The third step will take place while the dog is in the foster home. Evaluation forms and procedures will be distributed to each foster home with instructions to look for and test specific behavioral patterns. If the dog exhibits any type of true aggressive behavior, the foster home will be required to report the incident to the Foster Home Coordinator or another designated Board member. Depending on the circumstances, the problem may be resolved, or the Golden may be picked up and transported to a GRREAT-approved kennel where an

Foster homes will also be notified if the Golden was picked up from a shelter. Shelter Golden's can make, and have made, great pets, but special care must be taken during pick-up and foster home evaluation as these Golden comes to GRREAT with limited information. As standing policy, the needs of the Golden will be matched with the experience of the foster home.

GRREAT is an ever-changing organization that faces new challenges on what sometimes seems to be a daily basis. The Board of Directors will continue striving to maintain GRREAT's highly regarded reputation within its membership and throughout the local and national rescue communities. The Board wishes to thank all the individuals, both inside and outside the organization, as well as other organizations and rescues, who have stepped forward with words of encouragement.

As always, GRREAT continues to encourage members to get more involved. As stated in the last newsletter, many Board members and core volunteers are reaching a burn out point. Please consider the rewards of accepting new responsibilities at any level. It would mean so much to the organization and to our wonderful Golden orphans (and it's not a secret that we really have a good time working together!). GRREAT has always tried to meet challenges head on, to learn from experience, and to become a better and more viable organization. Our recent situation is no different.

I also want to personally thank the GRREAT Board of Directors for pulling together and for working long and hard as a cohesive group to overcome this latest challenge.

Thank You to these individuals for their recent donations

Connie and Ben
Etheridge
Virginia Gutierrez
Donna Jobson
Kathy Johnson
Day and Diane
Kreuzburg
Chandrakarn
Manprasert
Carol Marcus
Tom and Bonnie
Mason
Ray and Freda Rever
Kate Stephansky
Mary Rose Stevens
Julia Stran
Ann Strather
Vicki, Gordon and
Ande Sumner
Betty Van Dyke
Craig and Carter
Welling

First Beanie Baby Raffle Raises \$828 for GRREAT

Congratulations to Charlene Wilcher of Joppa, MD, winner of the raffle for the first set of Beanie Babies offered by GRREAT this year. The drawing was held at the GRREAT Annual Bark-B-Que in May. Charlene, active in another animal rescue organization, bought her tickets from a co-worker (a member of GRREAT) the day before the drawing, "just to help the organization." Thank you to everyone who sold and purchased raffle tickets for the first drawing. Please see pages 16 and 17 for information about the second raffle!



In Remembrance Honey Bear

Krista Maslyn writes:

Our Golden Honey Bear died May 17th, peacefully and with us stroking her. We had just learned that she had a malignant tumor in her heart and there were no good options available other than to put her to sleep.

We'll miss her panting after playing hard and gulping great gallons of water in pure delight. We'll miss her blonde eyelashes. We'll miss her quietly sleeping at the foot of our bed at night. We'll miss her wandering over to us, wanting to be petted, and bouncing her nose up against your hand if you stopped petting her too soon.

Honey Bear, we thank you for the gentleness you graced our lives with. Honey Bear, we thank you for always being happy to see us, even if it was just five minutes ago. Honey Bear, we thank you for making our lives so much richer.



GRREAT is thankful for these thoughtful donations in memory of Honey Bear:

- Bob and Krista Maslyn
- Alan and Kyle Bell
- The Family Treatment Unit, Alexandria Division of Social Services
- Kathy and Tom Foos
- Robert and Aileen Oberlander

Personal Ad...

Mature Southern Gentleman Seeking Companion(s)

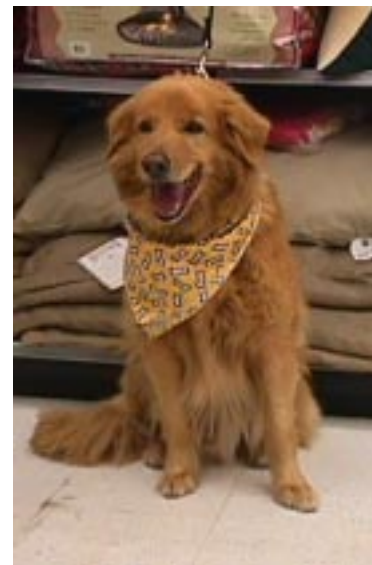
Fit, trim, laid-back and healthy senior looking for quiet times with occasional bursts of activity. Dark blond and handsome, well-groomed, with no signs of gray hair. Loves ball games, walks, travel, and the newly discovered good life. Excellent manners. "Fall in love with me and I will be your devoted companion for the rest of my days." Call 410-638-0060 and leave a message for 'Tawney.'

Sound good? Tawney is the Special Golden featured in this issue. Rescued from southern Virginia, he spent most of his life chained up in the yard or tied in a garage. He was given up because the family he had spent his life with wanted to travel. His owners said he didn't like being in the house—how wrong they were! He loves being inside with people, and his house manners are great. He's learning what it is like to be petted and talked to, to be brushed, and to play. He likes tennis balls and will bring one to you to throw, or just play with it himself.

Tawney is 60-65 pounds and medium-dark gold. The vet says he is in very good health. He knows basic obedience and walks well on a leash. He's OK with other dogs, but hasn't rendered an opinion about cats.

Oh, by the way, he's 13 years old—but not a speck of gray hair, and quite active for his age. Tawney would love to have someone make him an important part of a family and help him emerge into the good life he deserves. In return, he will be a well-mannered, laid-back and loving friend.

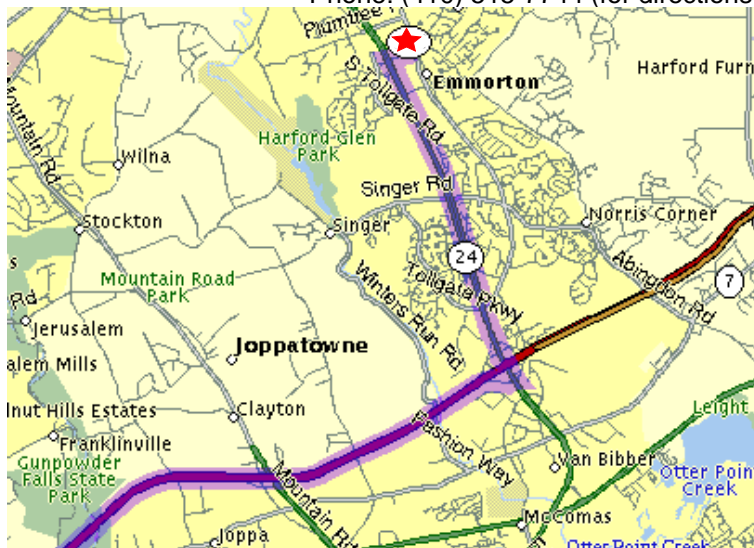
For more information about Tawney, please call Lynne Glennon at 410-638-0060.



DIRECTIONS TO AUGUST 8th ADOPTION DAY Neptunes Den

5 Bel Air South Pkwy # 1301, Bel Air, MD 21015-3801

Phone: (410) 515-7744 (for directions only)



I-95 South to Baltimore

Directions: Take I-95 North to the northeast side of Baltimore (via I-895 East, the Harbor Tunnel Throughway. From the merge of I-895 and I-95, go about 15 miles north to Exit 77A, MD 24 North (Emmorton Road). Keep left at the fork in the ramp and turn left onto MD 24 North. Go 2.4 miles and turn right onto Bel Air South Parkway. Go another 0.2 miles to Neptune's Den.

Children and Dogs, continued from page 1
be trained very early that even the smallest child in a household is higher in the pack order than it is.

WHAT TO TEACH CHILDREN

The following suggestions apply to teaching all children about dogs, whether or not they live in a pet-owning household.

- The phrase “let sleeping dogs lie” is very true. Teach a child that a dog should not be touched or bothered when it is

- sleeping
- eating
- drinking
- chewing a toy
- caring for puppies
- injured or sick

- Don’t approach an unknown dog before asking the owner whether the dog is friendly, and then approach slowly. (If possible, a savvy owner should put a large dog like a Golden in a down-stay or over on its side to allow a small child to approach.) If the unknown dog is loose, ignore it, regardless of how friendly it seems.

- Be wary: a wagging tail is not always a sign of friendliness. If the dog is barking or backing away, even if its tail is wagging, it should be left alone.

- Children (and big people too) should introduce themselves by the sniff-then-pet method. The person should stand still near the dog and hold out a closed fist palm side up (rapid palm-down movement might be thought by the dog to be a blow, and a closed fist protects the child’s fingers, just in case). After the dog accepts the person by approaching and sniffing, it is okay to begin gently stroking the dog’s back.

- If a dog reacts badly—barking, snarling, baring teeth, or stiffening its stance—back away, but do not turn and run. Fleeing from the dog can trigger the dog’s “prey-hunting” instinct.

- Be careful around the dog’s neck, face, eyes, and mouth—no pulling on the dog’s ears or tail. And give gentle hugs, only if the dog is known to tolerate hugs.

- Avoid sudden movements that could startle or frighten the dog. Screaming and running wildly in the house unnerve both people and household pets.

- Avoid staring directly into the dog’s eyes; it could be mistaken by the dog as threatening or challenging him.

- Don’t tease any dog, especially one that is chained up or high-strung.

Children and Dogs, continued on page 15



In Remembrance Liberty



Karen Gammon writes:
My friend, Denise Oliver-Bosley, loved her Rescue Golden very much. Tragically, Liberty drowned recently—he was elderly and blind and stumbled into the river. He was a world class love bug of a Golden. Please accept this donation in his memory. Thank you very much for your good works.



In Remembrance Stormy

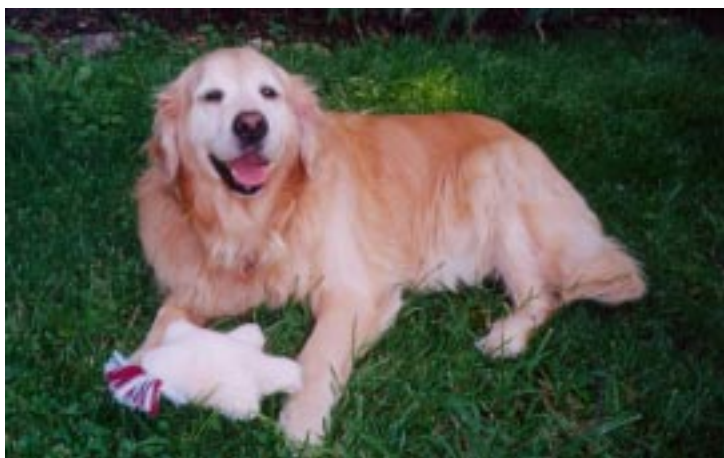


Jill D’Agostino writes:
Stormy Dumsha was a beautiful Golden that was loved and cared for by Tom, Carol, Megan and Tad Dumsha. Carol is a co-worker of mine and we always shared our funny “Golden” stories together. I know the Dumsha family will miss Stormy.



Dear
GRREAT,

We had the good fortune to be chosen to adopt Drew last June. He stole our hearts on Adoption Day and continues to do so. Drew was seven years old when we adopted him and he truly is a “Golden Oldie.” His temperament is so



calm and laid-back that he has become the darling of the neighborhood. From the little ones to the seniors, he has made friends who stop by just to visit with Drew. All are greeted by his wagging tail and are treated to a “gift” of one of the many stuffed animals he takes wherever he goes. He is so happy-go-lucky we’ve even seen his tail wagging while he sleeps. Any hesitancy we might have had about bonding with an older dog was quickly erased by the love and companionship Drew has brought to our home. —Donna Jobson and Bob Smeak

Memorial Donations were received

IN MEMORY OF...

Thank you, Mrs. Lillian Berg and PVGRC!

Mrs. Lillian Berg, widow of Joe Berg, a long time member of the Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club (PVGRC), and her family donated field equipment to PVGRC "to be used as they saw fit." PVGRC sold several items that they could not use and donated over \$300 to GRREAT with Mrs. Berg's permission. A GRREATful thank you goes to Mrs. Berg, PVGRC, and the individuals who purchased the equipment: Robert Dougherty, Rodger and Susanne Armstrong, Teresa Poetker, Marie Acton, and John LeGuyader.

The following donations are GRREAT-fully Acknowledged

Amber, dearly loved by Dawn and Ed.
—from Dawn Lowe

Baylor, the Mazich family's four-year-old Golden Retriever, which passed away recently. Baylor was part of the Mazich family and our family too. We have all taken the loss very hard and would like to donate the enclosed check in Baylor's name to help other Golden Retrievers.

—from Robert and Sheri Stewart

Sargeant (96-126), who had such an unusual smile.

—from Diane Lanigan

Saylor, who died in April. Saylor was the beloved Golden Retriever of Doug and Lorraine Capps. Thank you for all the work you do.

—from Patricia Nece

Saylor Capps, a much loved Golden Retriever. I hope that this donation will help you in your endeavors for this breed.

—from Patti and Michael Moran

Sheba, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on February 29, 1999. Sheba was a Golden Retriever/American Eskimo mix that we adopted when she was a puppy. She is greatly missed.

—from Cathie and Michael Skoog

Skruggs, a GRREAT dog loved and cared for in his "golden" years and now missed by Suzanne and Patrick Lund.

—from Keith and Jill D'Agostino

In honor of **Big Golden Boy Zachary**, CGC, CD. In three shows he got his CD. He was a rescued dog we adopted from an ad in the newspaper.

—from Cor and Leny Endlich

In honor of **GRREAT**, in acknowledgement of all your good work.

—from Susan Whitmore

Directions To Sept. 12 Adoption Day
Petco, 6394 Springfield Plaza,
Springfield, VA 22150-3431
Phone: (703) 866-0011 (for directions



Directions: From the Capital Beltway (I-495) in Virginia, take I-95 South. Take the first exit (169B) onto Old Keene Mill Road (Rte 644 West). Petco is in the Springfield Plaza Shopping Center about 1/4 mile on the right. The store is at the back of the plaza between K-Mart and the old Best store.

PICNIC GAMES WINNERS May 16, 1999

Pictures on pages 13 and 14!

CGC Certificate Recipients

Maureen Kelley and Rusty
Kim Boykin and Maggie
Cheryl Ferrone and Holly
Sam Connelly and Emilee
Mildred Funk and Goldie
Brad Bowser and Tucker
DeAnna Edge and Brandi

Tree-top Award (biggest)

Glen MacDonald's Bear

PeeWee Award (smallest)

Jaelyn Ferrone's Holly

Rascally Redhead Award (reddest)

Tie: Elizabeth Ketz-Robinson's Missy Girl
Sharon Griffing's Abby

Bodacious Blondie Award (lightest blond)

April Fritz's Marcus

Golden Baby

GRREAT's Leah

Golden Senior

Tie: Melanie Smith's Geoffrey
April Fritz's Marcus

Golden Diver Award (bobbing for tennis balls)

Becky Brown's Dudley

Children and Dogs, continued from page 9

- Should the unthinkable happen and the dog attacks, try to fill the dog's mouth with something inanimate, like a ball, stick, mitten or loose article of clothing. The child should use its arms, not just its hands, to protect its face. A child that is knocked to the ground should roll onto its stomach and protect its neck and face with its arms. Lie still so that the dog knows it is not being threatened, and the attack may subside.
- Choose doggie games carefully, avoiding ones that encourage aggression like rough-housing or tug-of-war. Every time a dog 'wins' a tug-of-war because the person gets tired of the game and stops, the dog's aggressive actions are rewarded. Safer, non-aggressive games include ball playing, hide-and seek, and even play-training.

WHAT TO TEACH THE DOG

Dog owners have a responsibility to teach their dogs proper behavior as well. Basic training, starting when the dog is a pup (if possible), is the key to good family and neighborhood relations. Here are some training suggestions to improve the dog's interactions with people large and small.

- Obedience: a dog must understand basic commands like sit, stay, down, 'leave-it' and especially 'no.' Simple obedience training will make the dog easier to control in a tense situation.
- Social boundaries: the dog must learn that the following actions are not acceptable behavior: jumping on people; grabbing toys, clothes, or body parts; chasing other animals or children (indoors or outdoors); pulling on leash; and bolting through any open door.
- Socialization with children: early and continued exposure to children's antics and noises is important so that the dog knows what to expect from small people. In addition, children in the dog's family should participate in the dog's training so that the dog realizes that the children are their masters, too. A child that practices daily obedience exercises with the dog will develop into a responsible pet owner, not someone who terrorizes animals.

- Pack order—even small children rank higher in a pack than the dog. A dog may accept a large human as pack leader, but must also accept children as pack members that can give orders to the dog.
- Acceptance of touching. This includes examinations at the vet, visiting neighborhood children, and regular grooming by the owner.
- Where to go for 'time out.' A dog needs a place where he can escape household bustle and overly friendly children. This could be a crate, a den, or other private space, and children should be told to respect the dog's privacy in that space.

Parents and owners must be ever-watchful of the interactions between children and dogs, especially young children. A child under five years of age should not be left unsupervised with any dog, no matter how gentle. And if the dog is known not to like children, visiting children must change their behavior. Responsible child- and pet-raising can work together to avoid sad consequences for both children and dogs.

For further reading

"Kids and Dogs: Safety First," by Norma Bennett Woolf. *The Dog Owner's Guide*, 1999. [HTTP://WWW.CANISMAJOR.COM/DOG/KIDSDOG1.HTML](http://www.canismajor.com/dog/kidsdog1.html)

"Kids and Dogs: A Common Sense Approach," by Vicki DeGruy. *The Dog Owner's Guide*, 1999. [HTTP://WWW.CANISMAJOR.COM/DOG/KIDSDOG2.HTML](http://www.canismajor.com/dog/kidsdog2.html)

"Teach Kids Dog Friendly Behavior," by Stacey Coling. *Woman's Day*, 3/10/98

"Protecting your Children from Dog Bites," The Health Education Center, Pittsburgh, PA, 1994. [HTTP://WWW.HIGHMARK.COM/HEALTHPLACE/DOGBITES.HTML](http://www.highmark.com/healthplace/dogbites.html)

"Children and Dog Aggression," by Steve Lindsay, *Off-Lead Magazine*, March 1998, as reprinted on the SPCA web site, [HTTP://SPCAEC.COM/BEHAVIOR/AGGRESSION.HTM](http://spcaec.com/behavior/aggression.htm)

For children: Dog Bites Dos and Don'ts Coloring Page, Humane Society of the United States. [HTTP://WWW.HSUS.ORG/PROGRAMS/COMPANION/DOGS/COLOR-PAGE.HTML](http://www.hsus.org/programs/companion/dogs/color-page.html)



**GRREAT
COOKBOOK
AVAILABLE
NOW!
Only \$10.00**

plus shipping

The GRREAT 1999 fund-raising cookbook, *Golden Favorites of GRREAT Cooks!* is the summer's hit publication. The reviews of the recipes have been, well, *GRREAT!* We're sure many will become your family's *Golden Favorites* too.

The cookbook is available by mail or at the GRREAT merchandising table at upcoming events like Adoption Days and the PVGRC specialty show.

Copies of *Golden Favorites* by mail are \$10.00 each, plus only \$2.00 shipping for your entire order. Send your orders to Sam Connelly, GRREAT Fundraising Coordinator, 1 Stone Falls Court, Baltimore, MD 21236.

Order yours today!



Leo's Corner

*The Leo Fund
for special needs dogs.*

Memo to GRREAT:

I want to lodge a complaint: printing the address of a website with Leo's pictures on it, and on the same page asking for donations to the Leo Fund is almost unfair! How could we possibly resist? We hope the enclosed helps. It was going to be less, but Clancy nudged my hand as I was writing the check!

—Neil, Connie and Clancy Schuster

Dear Leo:

On May 16, 1999 our store, "The Feed Bag," held a raffle and fund raiser for Golden Retrievers. We turned our parking lot into a carnival and there were prizes and fun for everyone. We are sending you a check for \$240 to be put toward the Leo Fund to help Golden Retrievers that need special operations.

Thanks to all of you for your good work.
—Mary and Carron McDonough

Dear GRREAT:

I want to help dogs that need special surgery.
Here's a donation to The Leo Fund.

Please send me a donation acknowledgment.

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to: The Leo Fund c/o GRREAT
P.O. Box 3069
Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

The GRREAT information table at "The Feed Bag" in May



Leo's

Golden Heroes (\$100 - \$499)

Neil, Connie and
Clancy Schuster

The Feed Bag,
Phoenix, MD

The weather was perfect as 100 adults, 14 kids, and 91 dogs spent a fun-filled day at Bull Run Regional Park at GRREAT's annual picnic in May. There were lots of contests (winners listed on page 10), and six GRREAT dogs passed their Canine Good Citizen test. Thanks to all who came to meet, greet and sniff.



Above: renewing friendships with foster dogs and their families

Below: waiting for one of the contests to begin



PIENIC
MEMORIES

GRREAT
BARK & QUE

Name	ID	Age	Sex	Name	ID	Age	Sex
Amber	99-030	6	F	McGuire	99-102	2	M
Amber	99-069	7	F	Missy	99-105	4	F
Bear	99-093	8	M	Molly	99-084	2 mo	F
Beauregard	99-089	3½	M	Nikki	99-027	1	F
Bruce	98-163	5	M	Oscar	99-103	3	M
Burley	99-074	2	M	Penny	98-210	9	F
Buster	99-024	3	M	Penny	99-080	12	F
Chelsea	99-079	2 mo	F	Peppi	99-098	4	F
Chief	99-018	2	M	Precious/Dixie	99-040	1	F
Clancy	95-143	10	M	Princess	99-022	5 mo	F
Duchess	99-045	9 mo	F	Rex	98-204	1	M
Dusty	99-094	3	M	Roscoe	99-087	2	M
Farah	99-057	9½	F	Rudy	99-066	5	M
Goldie	99-070	5½	F	Rusty	98-213	9	M
Harley	99-020	1	M	Rusty	99-028	15 mo	M
Jackson	99-062	5	M	Sage	99-064	4½	F
Jovie	99-086	5	F	Sara	98-197	5	F
Joy	99-029	2	F	Savanah	99-092	15 mo	F
Kaylo	99-011	2½	M	Simba	99-010	2	M
Keely	99-016	4 mo	F	Sundance	99-068	2	F
Kerry	99-017	3	F	Tarzan	99-065	3 mo	M
Kirby	99-059	5	M	Teddy	99-025	2	M
Kit	99-021	2	M	Tiger	99-097	5	M
Kody	98-181	4	M	Toby/Dash	99-088	4 mo	M
Leah	99-067	3 mo	F	Trika	99-076	2	F
Max	99-015	6 mo	M				

ADOPTION REPORT

For May and June

It was a busy spring for GRREAT. Forty (yes, 40!) dogs found new homes in May and June. There were ten dogs aged one year or less, and thirteen age 5 or older, including 12 year old Penny who was featured in a previous issue of *GRREAT News*. Twenty of the adoptions were females, and the other twenty were males. Also included in this list are some adoptions from earlier this year that hadn't previously been listed.

Congratulations to all and Welcome Home!



Below: Amanda Corby, winner of the young person's biscuit guess, with her prize, a hand-painted treats bin. Adult winner was Corrine Griffing.



Above: comparing notes on favorite fur faces

HOPE TO SEE YOU
AGAIN NEXT YEAR

*The raffle table was busy right up until the drawings.
Raffle winners: Linda Clark,
Laurel Leiss, Leslie Sachlis, and
John Kirby*



Lyme Disease, continued from page 1



A female deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), shown next to a dime for size comparison. Male ticks are even smaller.

Source: John VanDyk, Iowa State University Entomology, <http://ent.iastate.edu>

TICK TIPS

- Check for ticks daily during tick season. The longer a tick remains attached to a dog or a human, the greater the risk of tick-borne diseases. Look for a freckle that moves, or that wasn't there before.
- Attempting to kill a tick with a lighted cigarette, matches or kerosene is not a good idea. These materials can harm the skin and cause ticks to regurgitate their body contents back into the host, increasing the risk of disease transmission.
- Avoid using your fingers to remove a tick because of possible exposure to tick-borne human diseases.

and adults. As they grow, they must have a blood meal at each molt. The larvae feed on small mammals, particularly the white-footed mouse. This is probably where the ticks initially get the spirochete. The white-tailed deer is the preferred host for adult ticks. There are seldom sufficient spirochetes in the blood of deer to infect the tick, but they serve as important mechanical redistribution vectors for gravid ticks. The highest incidence of borreliosis coincides with increased tick activity in spring and summer.

The mode of tick transmission is unclear, but the spirochete is regurgitated into the feeding cavity on the host's skin or is present in the tick's salivary glands. Duration of tick attachment is of vital importance in transmission. Early detachment of ticks may decrease the likelihood of disease. Direct contact transmission between infected dogs has occurred experimentally via the oral route. The organism has been isolated from the urine of infected dogs and from unpasteurized cow's milk. Natural oral transmission has not been documented.

Ticks of the *Ixodes ricinus* complex are the only proven vectors of *B. burgdorferi*. The deer tick, previously named *I. dammini*, is by far the most important vector in the United States and is responsible for transmission of the spirochete in the highly endemic areas of the Northeast and upper Midwest. Recent evidence indicates that *I. dammini* and *I. scapularis* are geographic variants of a single species called *scapularis*. The juvenile stages (larva and nymph) of *I. scapularis* (northern) feed primarily on small rodents, particularly on the white-footed mouse, which is the primary mammalian reservoir of *B. burgdorferi*. The adult stage has a strong predilection for white-tailed deer. Although all three stages can be found on human beings and domestic animals, the nymphs and adults are the stages that transmit the spirochete.

SYMPTOMS IN DOGS

Clinical illness in experimentally infected dogs occurs two to five months after exposure

to the tick. The severity and propensity to develop clinical illness seems to vary inversely with the animal's age and immune status. Syndromes of fever, shifting leg lameness, anorexia, and malaise responsive to antimicrobials have been most commonly reported to occur in naturally exposed dogs with positive blood tests (seropositivity). The accuracy of diagnosis in many spontaneously diseased dogs is difficult to interpret since limb and joint symptoms (swelling, lameness, and pain) with fever and lack of appetite have been observed with equal frequency in dogs that had positive or negative blood tests. A further difficulty in using a therapeutic response to improve accuracy is that fever, joint distention and lameness may appear and then disappear spontaneously.

Polyarthritis is the best experimentally documented syndrome caused by *B. burgdorferi* in dogs. Other nonarthritic syndromes reported from spontaneously diseased dogs have been fever, lethargy, protein-losing kidney disease, rheumatoid arthritis, peripheral nerve dysfunction and cardiac arrhythmias. Less commonly, a sudden onset of severe pain in the head and neck and reluctance to move may be seen. The kidney disease that may be associated with Lyme disease apparently is more common and severe in Labradors and Golden Retrievers. The younger the dog, the more susceptible to natural or experimental infection.

DIAGNOSIS

In 1993, 8185 human cases were reported nationwide by 44 state health departments, with the Northeast US accounting for 85% of the cases. Errors in reporting could be due to underreporting, misclassification, or over-diagnosis. At the present time, Lyme borreliosis is probably over-diagnosed in human and veterinary medicine because it has become a "trendy" illness. Lissman and co-workers described the first report of Lyme disease where a febrile polyarthritic dog had *Borrelia* seroreactivity (signs of

to next page

Continued from previous page

Borrelia infection in the blood). The dog improved after antimicrobial therapy and the organism could not be isolated from joints but it was found in the blood. The first case report underwent critical scrutiny as is natural for a newly reported disease. Since that time, the diagnosis of Lyme disease has unfortunately become more of a laboratory than a clinical diagnosis. Rather than being a "test for Lyme disease," serologic (blood) testing should be viewed more appropriately as "seroreactivity to *B. burgdorferi*." A positive test reaction only means that the animal has been infected or exposed at one point in time.

Various problems have been noted with serologic testing: In non-endemic areas, a low percentage of dogs (less than 5%) will test positive by some assays. In endemic areas, seropositivity approaches 50% or greater. The effect of predictive value of serotesting will be affected by these variable prevalences. There is no standardization between antigen preparations, techniques used, and their interpretation. Matched sera has been sent to 10 commercial laboratories for antiborrelia serology. Complete agreement was found for only 53% of all samples tested. There was general agreement among a majority of the laboratories for 91% of the specimens. The ELISA tests currently use whole cell extracts with many cross-reactive proteins present in other bacteria. True seroreactivity likely gives the highest titers although cross-reactions should always be considered with any positive result. The cross reactivity between *Borrelia* and *leptospira* has been repeatedly questioned. However, all the *Leptospira* positive sera in some reports have had low levels of antibody titers to *B. burgdorferi*. There has been a report of another *Borrelia* species that infected dogs, causing a different clinical syndrome from that of Lyme disease. This new organism cross-reacted with *B. burgdorferi* causing lower titers than when the inciting antigen was used in the testing. Some of the seropositivity noted by testing probably is due to other pathogenic or

nonpathogenic *Borrelia* that exist in nature. Studies of dogs with periodontal disease in dogs presented for dental prophylaxis showed a higher level of seropositivity than clinically healthy dogs from the same hospital population. Apparently, some spirochetes found in the oral cavity will cross-react with the test for Lyme disease.

The time course of serologic testing is also important in determining whether active or past infection is responsible for seropositivity. Experimentally, infected dogs had positive titers by four to six weeks after exposure. Titers were at their highest levels by three months after exposure and lasted for at least one year. Vaccinated dogs show positive tests for months to years after vaccination. Although neutralizing antibody titers may decrease with time, enzyme immunoassay titers remain elevated for more extended periods interfering with serologic testing.

TREATMENT

There are many reports of successful recovery following institution of antimicrobial therapy in dogs diagnosed with Lyme arthritis. Clinical improvement following any therapeutic intervention should be viewed with suspicion since the limb/joint dysfunction is intermittent and often resolves after several days to weeks whether or not antimicrobials are given. Based on research information, clearance of the organism following treatment is a major difficulty and relapses may occur after the antimicrobial is discontinued. In addition to inability to clear the organism, inflammatory changes that occur in various tissues such as the joints may become self-perpetuating after the live organisms are eradicated.

Antibiotic therapy with amoxicillin at 10 mg per pound twice daily for 10 days is effective. Tetracycline at 10 mg/pound three times a day for 10 days is also effective. If tetracycline is used, often the prescribing veterinarian fails to direct that it should be given at least 30 minutes prior to a meal.

Lyme Disease, continued on page 16

Removing an Imbedded Tick

- Use tweezers, a cotton ball or cotton-tipped applicator soaked in alcohol, and gloves. Tick-removing tools are also available in pet supply stores.
- Kill the tick by applying alcohol, ether, or fingernail polish directly to the tick. Wait a few moments.
- Using the tweezers/tool, hold the tick at the point of attachment. Rock the tweezers from side to side while gently pulling out the tick.
- Try not to squeeze the tick—pressure could cause it to inject organisms back into the host.
- If the tick breaks off and the head is left in the skin, it usually will not cause problems.
- Dab alcohol on the site or otherwise disinfect it.
- Flush the tick down the toilet.

About the Author of this article

Eugene E. Musselman, DVM, PhD, is a board-certified cardiologist and internist in Richmond, Virginia. He is president of DVM Consulting, Inc., a referral and consulting practice.



**Congratulations
and Best Wishes to
Drs. Judy Bardsley
and David Redmond**

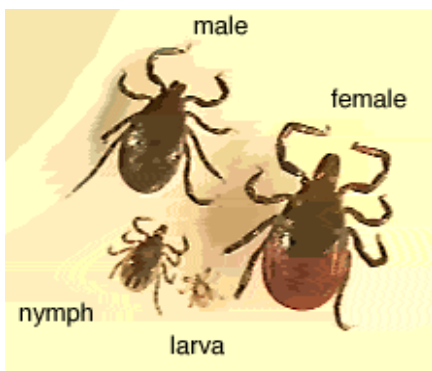
Dear GRREAT:

I want to make this donation as a wedding present in honor of Drs. Judy Bardsley and David Redmond. They mentioned to me that GRREAT is their choice of a non-profit organization. Both Judy and David are dedicated professionals in the veterinary field and this is just a small way that we can thank them for all their hard work. Please accept this donation to be used for the rescue, foster care, and placement of Golden Retrievers, wherever you see fit. Thank you for this opportunity to make the enclosed donation to your very worthy organization.

—Dotty Foote

Stages of tick development. Nymphs are the most dangerous to dogs.

Source: John VanDyk, Iowa State University Entomology, <http://ent.iastate.edu>



Second Beanie Baby Raffle to Benefit Leo Fund

Use the handy raffle ticket sheet on the next page to benefit GRREAT's Leo Fund for special needs dogs. This is the second in a series of four raffles of collector's quality Beanie Babies donated to GRREAT by Sidney Morris in memory of her beloved Ted E. Bear.

GRREAT's second Beanie Baby raffle features a collection of five bears:

- Princess (first edition)
- Curley (retired)
- Signature bear (current)
- Kicks, the soccer bear (current)
- Spangle (newly released)

The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, September 19, 1999. You need not be present to win.

The page can be copied and cut apart, or you can buy and send in the whole sheet, and we will cut them apart. The tickets are not numbered, so they must be filled in completely. (Make it easy: apply one of your stick-on return address labels to each ticket and add your phone number.)

PLEASE pay for the tickets with a check so you have a receipt for your donation. Tickets will not be accepted for the raffle without payment. Individual tickets are **\$1.00 each** or as a "pack" of **6 for \$5.00**, or (as printed in the newsletter) by the sheet of **8 tickets for only \$6.00**. Sell tickets as many tickets as you can to other Beanie Baby lovers and supporters of GRREAT.

Thanks for your participation and *Good Luck!*

Lyme Disease, continued from page 15

Calcium in the diet will inactivate the medication. Doxycycline can be used at 5 mg/pound twice daily. It too should be given 30 minutes before feeding. Doxycycline does penetrate into some tissues better than amoxicillin or tetracycline and is usually my drug of choice. If there is significant joint pain or arthritic symptoms, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs such as etodolac or carprofen can be used.

PREVENTION OF *B. BURGDORFERI* INFECTION

Prevention of *B. burgdorferi* infection in animals can be a problem. Tick collars (Preventic®) and dips may be used to control ticks on dogs and cats. Some repellents containing DEET or permethrin are marketed for veterinary use. Animal studies have shown that *B. burgdorferi*

transmission from the vector tick to its host is minimal during the first 48 hours of attachment. Thus, inspection for and prompt removal of attached ticks should be performed on companion animals that have been in tick habitat. A topical systemic preparation such as fipronil (Frontline® or Top Spot™) may be the most effective means of controlling ticks.

THE *B. BURGDORFERI* BACTERIN

There is much controversy about the use of the vaccine. The original report on its effectiveness had a flawed study design. Most veterinary teaching hospitals do not use the vaccine.

However, many of these facilities are not in endemic areas. Perhaps the major drawback is that vaccination produces a long-lasting positive blood test. One cannot then differentiate whether the positive test represents active infection or if it is due to vaccination.

On the other hand, vaccination reactions are low and apparently there is reasonable protection produced by the vaccine. It may be more appropriate to vaccinate dogs living in endemic areas or rural environments. Field dogs which would be more at risk for tick infection are also possible candidates for vaccination. It has been shown that the use of steroids increases the ability of the organism to infect a dog. Also, patients requiring immune-suppressing drugs may be considered candidates for vaccination.









Doctor Musselman graciously wrote this article especially for GRREAT News.

BEANIE BABY RAFFLE TICKETS

This page may be freely copied. Sell tickets to all your friends and Golden lovers!

Tickets \$1.00 each • 6 for \$5.00 • Sheet of 8 for \$6.00

Please make check payable to GRREAT. Send completed ticket(s) with check to:
 Beanie Baby Raffle c/o Sam Connelly, 1 Stone Falls Court, Baltimore, MD 21236.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Second Beanie Baby Raffle to Benefit GRREAT</i> Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. <i>Please fill out ticket completely.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Daytime phone (____) _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Prize is a collection of five Beanie Baby Bears: 1st Edition Princess, retired Curley, and recent Signature, Kicks, and Spangle. Drawing to be held Sunday, September 19, 1999.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Second Beanie Baby Raffle to Benefit GRREAT</i> Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. <i>Please fill out ticket completely.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Daytime phone (____) _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Prize is a collection of five Beanie Baby Bears: 1st Edition Princess, retired Curley, and recent Signature, Kicks, and Spangle. Drawing to be held Sunday, September 19, 1999.</i></p>
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To: GRREAT
From: Cjclasing

We didn't have pets growing up; therefore my experience with dogs was limited to the neighborhood Golden, Flip. In April of 1998 my husband, Ernie, gave me a Golden who we named Balthazar (a.k.a. Bailey). I couldn't decide whether I was happy with the adorable "hey, come play with me, you will like me" puppy or angry knowing that the responsibility would only add to our already busy lives. Shortly after, I realized that having Bailey relieved most of our everyday stress. With both of us working full-time, we thought it was unfair for Bailey to be alone during the day and we started searching for another Golden. We heard about GRREAT through our niece Sherry and decided to contact the organization.

In September of 1998 we attended a GRREAT Adoption Day. What a wonderful experience (although I thought the hours were too long for the Golden retrievers to be on display). One of the foster mothers explained that we were second choice to adopt their Golden but could not locate her first choice. After patiently sitting all afternoon their Golden, Sam, decided he had had enough and cried as if to tell everyone he was ready to leave. I went over and hugged him and he stopped crying. And the rest is history; we were adopted by 3½ year old Sam.

That night Sam didn't seem to want to be bothered, least of all with Bailey. He growled even if Bailey just walked by him. I was devastated. I thought, I can't give Sam back he has been through enough but on the other hand I won't allow another animal to come into the home and make Bailey uncomfortable. I was so torn that I couldn't hold back the tears. After a day or two of speaking to the foster mother and other representatives of GRREAT on how to handle the matter, everything calmed down.

Sam is wonderful with Bailey (although sometimes I think he just tolerates Bailey's activities knowing he is just a pup) and is very protective of him. Many times Bailey comes running in the house barking and stands behind Sam as if to tell Sam that something is out there and he needs to go check it out. Ernie and I laugh because we can tell Sam really doesn't want to get up from his nap but does it anyway.

We will never be able to repay GRREAT enough for providing the service that enabled us to adopt Sam. He is the most precious animal I have ever known and has been a tremendous help raising Bailey. To show my gratitude I would like to offer my time to GRREAT by applying for one of the "Help Wanted" positions in the May/June newsletter. Please let me know where I can be most useful.

The Promise

Skip Nizer

As I sit here looking down at you lying at my feet, I feel the comfort and warmth that only love and devotion can bring.

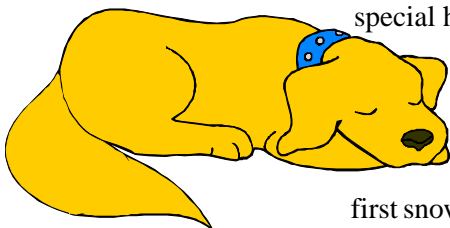
I remember the trying times, the fun times, and the quiet nap times of your puppyhood. Every day, I walk up the foyer steps and look at the wood railing that you chewed, and in my jewelry box beside my favorite tie tack is one of your baby teeth. I still have that one lonely sock that survived when you took it and its mate to your special hiding place under the bed. I wish that I had saved the first tennis ball that you shredded. I wish that I had videotaped your first retrieve.

I remember how you rolled in your first snow searching for the snowballs I threw.

The new days have turned into memories and now you have become the best "home from work" greeter there ever was.

The years, not the desire, have slowed you down a little. You wait for me to get dressed before you run to the door in the morning. Your patience at getting a taste of my dinner has improved, and our close quiet times are a little closer and last a little longer.

I know you have more years left in you and that there are more happy fun days ahead, but I just wanted to let you know that when your time ends, I will shed a tear or two and that I will never replace that chewed foyer rail. That's a promise to both of us.



**DEAR GRREAT:
HERE'S A DONATION**

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT for _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

To thank _____

All donations are tax-deductible and gratefully
acknowledged in *GRREAT News*.
Thank you for your generosity.

Mail In Membership Form

New member Renewal (Member number
from label M_____)

Name _____

Address _____

Mark here if this is an address or name change.

Phone (____) _____

E-mail address _____

Circle as many as applicable:

1. I am enclosing \$20 for my 1999 membership dues.
2. I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation of \$_____
3. I am interested in becoming a GRREAT volunteer.
(Please complete Volunteer Form at right)
4. I am interested in donating the following services or
supplies to GRREAT:

Checks should be made payable to GRREAT.

**Thank You
for your support of GRREAT**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please detach and return this form to volunteer for any of the
capacities below. If you have special talents that aren't listed
below, fill in the "Other" section at the bottom. Return form to:

GRREAT
Attention: Volunteer Coordinator
P.O. Box 3069
Falls Church, VA 22043

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Home Phone _____ Best time to call _____

Are you over age 18? Yes _____ No _____

Work Phone _____ OK to call at work? _____

County or area where you live _____

County or area where you work _____

Other areas where you visit regularly _____

Best days/hours to volunteer _____

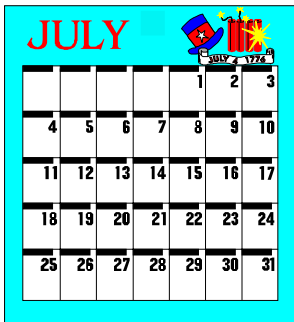
Please indicate any area of interest. The appropriate GRREAT
Coordinator will contact you for more information.

I would like to know how I can help

- _____ As a foster home for a GRREAT dog
- _____ As an emergency or short-term foster home
- _____ At Adoption Days
- _____ At Tattoo Clinics
- _____ At information booths at dog shows,
community fairs, etc.
- _____ At Fund Raisers, Pictures with Santa, etc.
- _____ Transport GRREAT dogs (to/from vet, pick-up at
animal shelter, owner give-ups)
- _____ Transport supplies, food
- _____ Perform home checks prior to adoptions
- _____ Provide storage space for food, supplies, crates
- _____ Stamp and address newsletters and flyers
- _____ Donate the following services:

- _____ Other: _____

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Sunday August 8, 1999—Noon - 2:00 pm

Adoption Day

Neptune's Den, Bel Air, MD

See page 8 for details.

Sunday, September 5, 1999

PVGRC Specialty Conformation and Obedience Match

Adelphi Manor Park, Adelphi, MD



Sunday, September 12, 1999 — Noon - 2:00 pm

Adoption Day

PETCO of Springfield

Directions on page 10.

Friday–Sunday, September 17-19, 1999

All-Breed Agility Trials

Warrenton Kennel Club Showgrounds, Rectortown, VA

Sunday, October 24, 1999 — Noon - 2:00 pm

Adoption Day

Concord Pet in Middletown, Delaware

Directions in next issue.



GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue
Education and Training, Inc.

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

703-620-6593

First Class Mail