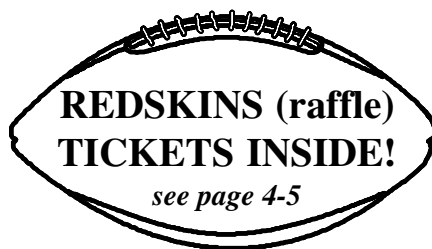




# GRREAT News



July/August 2000  
Volume 10, Number 4

Published by Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc.

*Guest Editorial*

## Where Have Things Gone So Wrong? *Sonny Brown*

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## Where There's a Will (or a Trust) There's a Way to Provide for Your Pets *Julie M. Palais*

## The Old Man *Skip Nizer*

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Since my adoptive father is the president of your organization, and since I have considerable pull with/over him, he has deferred his president's message to me. My name is Sonny and for quite some time now I have been trying to figure out just how things have gone so wrong for my kind.

I was adopted four years ago after being one of the harder cases your GRREAT organization had taken in at that point in time. I was only about 40 pounds when I came into this thing called "Rescue." To make a long story short, I had been beaten, tormented and simply led a miserable existence. The life I recall had one end of a logging chain tied around my neck and the other end tied to a log. I guess my paws, tail and head took the brunt of the beatings, because I would not let anyone touch those areas. After a few years of my adoptive parents gently touching and squeezing those areas I finally realized that no harm would come to me. Basically, my life is pretty well settled, other than the fact that I am tormented by what you call thunderstorms. Nothing

*Guest Editorial, continued on page 2*

Recently my husband and I took the big step of establishing a living trust estate plan in order to minimize legal hassles, avoid probate, and also have some say over how our assets would be disposed of in the event of our deaths. In addition to deciding how to dispose of all of our monetary assets and property, we decided to include language in the estate plan to provide for any Golden Retrievers that we owned at the time of our deaths. We also made arrangements with a neighbor who agreed to be a short-term caregiver if we were ever in a car accident or for some other reason temporarily unable to care for our dogs. In the article that follows, I would like to pass along some of what I learned in researching this issue, as well as some suggested language that you could include in your own will or trust. Of course, you should still contact a lawyer and get legal advice for your particular situation or if you have specific wishes for your pets.

*Wills and Trusts, continued on page 11*

The old man sat on the park bench feeling the chill in the air and wishing that he had worn a warmer jacket. He took the doughnut out of the bag and smelled it. It was still warm. He thought of how he and his wife used to walk down this park path on Saturday mornings to get their half dozen doughnuts for the weekend. She liked the Boston creams while he liked the glazed doughnuts. Now he walked the path alone.

As he took a bite of the doughnut, his eyes caught the stare of another set of eyes. At first he thought they were looking at him, then he realized that they were watching the doughnut. The old man moved it to the right and the eyes followed it. He moved it to the left and the eyes followed it. He moved it up and down and the eyes never left the doughnut.

The old man stopped looking at the eyes and looked at the whole creature. It was a dog. It was gold in color, but a dull gold with dirty matted hair. The body of the dog was large but thin and the face had that look of loneliness that cuts deep into both man's and beast's face. It sat there intently watching the doughnut.

*The Old Man, continued on page 8*

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Education and Training, Inc.**

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**Falls Church, VA 22043-0069**

**Phone: 703-620-6593**

**E-mail: GRREATWEB@GRREAT.ORG**

**Web site: HTTP://WWW.GRREAT.ORG**

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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*Guest Editorial, continued from page 1*

anyone can do can or will help me. I simply loose all matter of time and control, but my family continues loving me anyway, even after I have chewed and scratched through four doors. We're still working on this aspect of my life and hopefully things will change for the better.

As bad as my story is, unfortunately, there are those that are worse and I just can't figure out where things have gone so wrong. My adoptive parents don't know it, but I understand everything they talk about and am horrified by what I have heard. Take Tanner—he was the innocent bystander of a domestic argument. In order for the boyfriend to get back at his girlfriend, the boyfriend hit Tanner on the top of the head with the back of a claw hammer! Needless to say, Tanner was in bad shape when he came into the Rescue, but after a long rehabilitation period he was finally adopted to a loving family and is doing great.

And what about Sadie? This poor ol' gal came in with no fur, mange, and just about every other affliction you can imagine. Oh yeah, did I mention that she could barely walk due to her hips being defective (sorry, Sadie). She is over the mange, has most of her fur back, and has under gone hip surgery. Her fur is taking its sweet time growing back around the surgical site and she is very embarrassed by this, but she'll be O.K.

And then there is Campbell. She was a young gal up in West Virginia. It seems she lived most of her life outside. Some people saw her and tried to catch her but she was too smart for that. Somehow Campbell got a soup can stuck to the bottom of her muzzle. She couldn't eat or drink but was still on the run. Dozens of people formed groups to try and catch her, but all to no avail.

Finally, after weeks of trying she was found in an abandoned house, near death, with the soup can still on her muzzle. After weeks of rehab (half her tongue had to be removed due to the injury) by some dedicated volunteers she did recover and is now doing fine. Oh, did I mention that not one governmental agency would lend a hand to help recover her! And your taxes pay for what?

There are unfortunately many more stories—some even worse than these—but I think you get the point. But getting back to my original question of how things have gotten so bad for my kind... It never ceases to amaze me that it was your kind that decided to make us "man's best

*Guest Editorial, continued on page 9*

# GRREAT News Bites

## “Treasured Golden Bonds” Storywriting Contest

GRREAT member Rochelle Lesser, through her web site [LANDOFFPUREGOLD.COM](http://LANDOFFPUREGOLD.COM), is hosting a Golden story writing contest for both adults and young adults. There is no entry fee for the contest and the prizes are super!

Essays and stories submitted to the contest should celebrate the bond between humans and Golden, recognizing the role that Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes play in improving one’s health, independence, and quality of life. This contest is for Golden lovers only—all entrants must have a Golden Retriever or Golden mix family member or be involved in some type of relationship (past or present) with the Golden that they are writing about.

Essays and stories up to 3000 words must be submitted by e-mail, but an entry form must be completed and mailed to:  
Rochelle Lesser, School Psychologist  
Millersville Psychological Services  
1110 Benfield Boulevard  
Millersville, MD 21108

**Deadline for submission of entries is  
Noon Sunday, September 10, 2000.**

Be sure to read the official contest rules, writing topics and tips, scoring criteria, lists of judges, prizes and sponsors and obtain the entry form from

[HTTP://LANDOFFPUREGOLD.COM/CONTEST.HTM](http://LANDOFFPUREGOLD.COM/CONTEST.HTM).

GRREAT encourages everyone with the “write stuff” to enter this contest. Eligible topics for the contest include, but are not limited to, the following types of stories:

- Golden heroics or how a Golden’s influence has had a major effect on or changed someone’s life
- describing a person’s virtue in coming to the aid of or rescuing a Golden in danger or distress
- making others aware of the positive effects Golden have on family health or human development
- personal delivery of animal-assisted therapy or activities
- a Golden’s growth from rescue to becoming a service, search and rescue, or detection dog
- experiences in training a service dog

Entries will be judged by a panel of dog experts and enthusiasts on the following criteria: ideas and content, originality and community contribution, organization, use of language, punctuation and correct usage, and style.

## New GRREAT Adoption Donation Schedule

Due to ever-increasing medical costs to care for our Golden friends at point of intake, it is necessary that GRREAT increase its adoption donation effective July 1, 2000. The new donation schedule is a sliding scale based on the age of the Golden.

Less than 3 years	\$225.00
3 through 7 years	\$200.00
8 years and older	\$175.00

Before the GRREAT Board made this difficult decision, considerable research was conducted. GRREAT has taken what it believes are appropriate steps to close the gap between per-dog medical costs, averaging more than \$220 per “standard” rescue (no special surgeries) and the per-dog adoption donation (previously \$175), while remaining in line with other Golden Rescues throughout the country. GRREAT is committed to providing all the Golden entering the Rescue with the best of medical care and treatment and this necessary increase will ensure that this practice can continue into the future.

## Fairfax County’s First Off-Leash Dog Park Now Open

The Fairfax County Park Authority opened a 17,500 square foot off-leash dog park at Blake Lane Park, 10033 Blake Lane, Oakton, Virginia, on June 24, 2000. This new facility provides a fenced “recreation” area for dogs of all shapes and sizes to run, jump and play without restraint of a leash.

Establishment of this dog park necessitated a change to the Fairfax County legal code, which requires all dogs to be on leash in public spaces in the county. The project had widespread community support, led by a group called Oakton Dogs.

The off-leash area in Blake Lane Park, the first of its kind in Fairfax County, is a pilot project that may lead to the opening of more off-leash areas in the county. If you visit, please help make the dog park a success by following ALL the rules. Rules are posted at the park and can also be reviewed at [HTTP://WWW.GO.TO/OAKTONDOGS](http://WWW.GO.TO/OAKTONDOGS) or [HTTP://WWW.CO.FAIRFAX.VA.US/PARKS](http://WWW.CO.FAIRFAX.VA.US/PARKS).

# HAIL TO THE REDSKINS!

## ...and benefit GRREAT at the same time!

A generous football fan and Golden lover has made an incredible donation of football memorabilia to GRREAT. These items will be raffled on September 17th as a single prize package. All proceeds from the raffle will benefit the animals rescued by GRREAT. This could be YOUR winning season!!



The lucky raffle winner will receive the following:



**two tickets to a Redskins 2000 season game** (date to be determined) and a personal **tour of the Redskins training facility**



a regulation **football autographed by more than a dozen current Washington Redskins players**



a **Redskins cap also signed by more than a dozen Redskins players**

The next page contains eight raffle tickets. The page can be copied freely, cut apart, and tickets purchased individually for \$5.00 each, or you can send in the whole sheet with \$35.00 and we will separate them when we get them.

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 **\$5.00 each**, as a “pack” of **5 for \$20.00**, or (as printed in the newsletter) by the sheet of **8 tickets for only \$35.00**. The more you buy, the more you save! *And the more chances you have to win!!*

Tell all your Redskins fan friends about this fabulous opportunity to own Redskins memorabilia! Even if you're not a Redskins fan, every ticket you sell (or buy for yourself) will benefit the beautiful dogs we love so much. Make extra copies of the tickets and sell them to Redskins fans and supporters of GRREAT. You do not have to be a member of GRREAT to win, nor do you have to be present at the drawing. However, tickets that are not completely filled in may cause you miss out on the prize since we can only contact you if we know who and where you are. If we draw a ticket with only a name and no address or phone, we will draw again, so please make sure to tell us who you are.

Send your raffle tickets—completely filled out, please—with your check to:


Redskins Raffle c/o P. Briggie and L. Botts  
10823 Golf Course Terrace  
Mitchellville, MD 20721

**Tickets and payment must be received by Saturday, September 16, 2000 in order to be included in the drawing on September 17th.**

Good luck and thank you for supporting GRREAT!

# REDSKINS RAFFLE TICKETS

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




**Redskins Raffle to Benefit GRREAT**  
 Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc.  
**Tickets \$5.00 each • 5 for \$20.00 • Sheet of 8 for \$35.00**  
*Please fill out ticket completely.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*The winner receives two tickets to a 2000 season Redskins game, an autographed football, autographed cap, and a tour of the Redskins training facility. Mail tickets with check to Redskins Raffle c/o P. Briggie & L. Bott, 10823 Golf Course Terrace, Mitchellville, MD 20721. Drawing will be held 9/17/2000. Your check is your receipt.*




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# Special Donations were received

## IN MEMORY OF...

**Anne Doherty**, from Dottie and Marie Kilcarr

**Sarah Rhoads and Cass**, from Steven Young

**Tim Booker**, from Dale Duvall

-----  
**Blade and Buster**, from Gregory and Linda Sowers (*see Letters to GRREAT on page 7*)

**Chamois**, from Susan and Charles Henkin

**Chelsea**, Dave and Carol Imig's sweet Golden and a special friend to our family, from Ray and Kathy Schmid

**Chelsea**, from Jack and Linda Knowles

**Jason, Willie and Happy**, from Mary and Richard Gillett

**Shades**, beloved 4-legged family member of the Taylor family, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge at age 13—he will be missed. —Jill D'Agostino

**Tad Roberts**, from Ken and Rose Fabia Roberts

**Tucker Plate**, a dear friend of Doc and Max, from Edward Gross, Jr.



# Special Donations were received for the following reasons

**For Nancy and Don Mitarotonda and Brandy**, from Dominick and Eleanor Mitarotonda

**In honor of Barbara Clem** on her retirement from 31 years of veterinary service, from Chesapeake Animal Clinic

**To honor Lesleigh Cook**, from Kathleen Skeen

**In honor of the North Eastern NY Golden Retriever Club**, from Mary Falco

**To thank you for my friend Bob (98-079)**, from Faith Townsend

**For the love of Goldens** and all your wonderful work, from Dr. Jim and Ginny Hayes

**To thank GRREAT for Casey** (aka Honey 99-123), adopted in September 1999. She is a joy. Her health problems continue but you would never know it. She is a real trooper and tries to keep up with Molly, our four year old Golden. It didn't take us long to realize her limits and adjust activities accordingly. By the way, three different vets have decided she is closer to 11 or 12 than 8½ years. —Mary Jo Smith

Here's a small donation **to honor all GRREAT volunteers**. Thanks again and keep up the GRREAT job—one Golden at a time. —Ellen Ziegler Ward

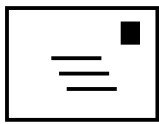
**To thank GRREAT for Jack** whom we received in January of 1999. He's great! —Michael and Mary Hahn

**To thank Clancy** for his many successful efforts at teaching us obedience and training us. —Neil and Connie Schuster

**To thank Terri Stachowiak (and Louis)** for fostering Keely (00-061) and helping us to adopt her, from Lane and Gene Weinzweig

## A GRREAT BIG Thank You

to Mary Ginn for her generous donation in memory of Ipsy to the Simile-Finale Fund for special holistic treatments.



Dear GRREAT

Please accept this donation in memory of our dogs that passed away last summer. Blade and Buster were not Golden Retrievers, but they were great dogs and beloved members of the family for 11 years.

We also want to thank GRREAT for bringing us together with the newest member of our family, Jake, whom we adopted in November. Last August we rescued a female Golden through a friend and came to love her very quickly. We decided that Daisy needed the company of another dog and pursued adopting through GRREAT.

We were looking for another small female about 3-4 years old with a moderate activity level. We attended the November Adoption Day and came away with exactly the opposite of what we were looking for. Jake (aka Bailey), was a 1 year old male with a high activity level and he weighed 95 pounds (all muscle). He laid his head on my shoulder (I told you he's smart) and won my heart in a second. Not exactly our dainty little female, but without a doubt the perfect fit for our family. Jake is loving, sweet, gentle and smart, and he adores his new sister.

Thanks to GRREAT for bringing us together with this wonderful dog. We couldn't be happier.

—Gregory and Linda Sowers

On May 7, 2000, PVGRC held its annual Veterans Day, honoring the Golden Oldies of our club. Mr. Walt Zientek of New Haven, CT, donated an autographed copy of his book *Heart Dog Diaries* for the event. We raffled the book and are donating the proceeds to GRREAT. Veterans Day was a happy time, with 19 of our old guys and gals present for the celebration. In appreciation of GRREAT's work and on behalf of all PVGRC members, here is our donation.

—Marie Acton, Vice President and Program Chairman,

Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club

Attention: Newsletter Editor—

I was reading the May/June 2000 issue of *GRREAT News*, and I noticed that you made a mistake on the Adoption Report on page 17. You listed that my sister, Amber (99-247), was adopted but you didn't list my adoption. We were adopted at the same time by the same family.

My name is Winston (99-248) and I get jealous when my four-year-old sister Amber gets more attention than me. We constantly compete for attention, sticks, biscuits, the sofa, the bed—you name it, and we compete for it!

Anyway, I just want you to know that I'm not still out there waiting to be adopted, and I'm just as cute as Amber! We've found our forever home, and we're enjoying life tremendously (especially lying around and reading the articles in *GRREAT News*).

Thanks for helping me (and my sister Ambie) to find a great home (please remember that I'm already taken, so don't let anyone else adopt me).

—Winston (Maloney)

Bailey has been with us for just over 6 months now, but I feel like he's been with us forever. He has adjusted so well and seems so at home in his 'new' home. He was a star student at obedience class—he knew the ropes and was terribly excited to be attending with fellow doggy friends.

Bailey loves to play with the boys (anything with a ball is a hit) and the boys love him dearly too. He is a favorite in the neighborhood. People can't believe he was an unwanted dog; he is so personable and well-behaved.

I have never owned a Golden before but always wanted to, and I am so glad I was able to give Bailey a home. He is part of our family now, and many thanks go to your organization for the care and information you give to make the transition smooth. We are looking forward to a great summer and hope you are too!

—Georgia, Corey and Brady Latsha (and Bailey)



Winston (right) and Amber Maloney, enjoying their new deck

Thanks

...to the following volunteers for their recent service

**Fort Hunt Animal Hospital Day 6/24/00**

- Gayle Golumbeski
- Jane Medico
- Sharon Kennedy
- Jo Bighouse
- Dan Keppler

and to **GRREAT's new adoption volunteers**—your help is very much appreciated!

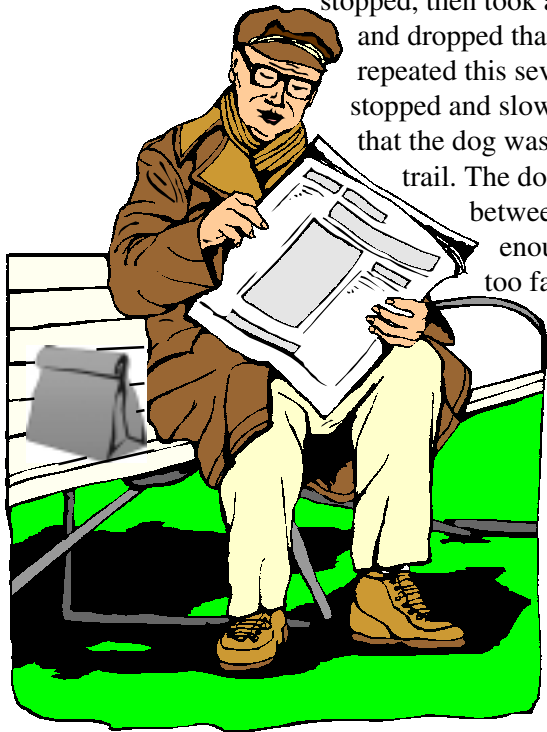
- Alan Moore
  - Eric Heckman
  - Diane Lanigan
  - Jessie Robinson
  - Marion Shields
- from Tanya Horning

**Be Careful  
Whom  
You Ask Out:  
A Little Story  
from the Internet**

My parents had not been out together in quite some time. One Saturday, as Mom was finishing the dinner dishes, my father stepped up behind her and asked, "Would you like to go out, girl?"

Not even turning around, my mother quickly replied, "Oh yes! I'd love to!"

They had a wonderful evening and it wasn't until the end of the evening that Dad finally confessed that his question had actually been directed to the family dog, laying near Mom's feet on the kitchen floor.



*The Old Man, continued from page 1*

"Well, what kind of dog are you?" he asked gently. The dog's ears perked up and his head tilted slightly to the right. The old man, in a soft voice, said "Come boy, come over here." The dog never moved with the exception of its eyes. For a split second it looked at the old man then went back to the doughnut. The old man broke the doughnut in half and tossed half of it to the dog. It landed just in front of the dog. Slowly the dog moved toward the doughnut. It sniffed it once and with a sudden lurch it grabbed the piece from the ground and swallowed it. The dog sat down and stared at the half of the doughnut that remained in the old man's hand.

"Okay," the old man said as he tossed the other half to the dog, "you win." This time the dog didn't hesitate—the piece was eaten as soon as it hit the ground. The old man called to the dog again, but still it did not come.

The old man stood and picked up his bag of doughnuts and started to walk home. Something made him stop and look back. The dog was still sitting there staring at him now. The old man reached into the bag and broke off a piece of doughnut and dropped it on the path, turned and walked about ten feet. He stopped, then took another piece of doughnut and dropped that on the path. The old man repeated this several times. Then he stopped and slowly looked back and saw that the dog was following the doughnut trail. The dog still kept some distance between them, never close enough to be touched but not too far from the next piece of doughnut on the path.

The old man continued this process of walking then dropping a piece of doughnut until he was in front of his house. He was home now, but out of doughnuts. He called to the dog again but it wouldn't come closer. The old man walked up

to his front steps and slowly climbed them, looking over his shoulder to see where the dog was. It was sitting on the sidewalk staring at him. "I guess you just want more doughnuts," the old man said. He unlocked his front door, stepped inside, and closed the door. He walked to the front window and looked out. The dog was sitting out front staring at the door. The old man watched the dog for eighteen minutes, then the dog got up and walked back up the sidewalk and onto the park path and out of sight. The old man moved slowly to the recliner and sat down. The loneliness of the house seemed even more noticeable for some reason. As it got darker, the old man's eyes started to close and he fell asleep.

He awoke in his recliner as the sun filtered through the window. This was becoming a habit with him. He walked into the kitchen and opened the cabinet and started to reach for the doughnuts then realized that there were none. He climbed the stairs and went into his bedroom. He thought to himself, I haven't slept in this bed for three nights now. Then he showered, shaved and put on clean clothes. He walked downstairs, put on his jacket, and started walking to the doughnut shop.

The young girl greeted him and asked if he wanted his usual three. The old man started to say yes then heard himself say, "No, today I want a dozen." The girl looked at him and asked if he were expecting company today. The old man said, "I'm not sure." He took his doughnuts and walked to the park bench where he again sat alone.

The old man sat on the bench that had been theirs for so many years. For a minute he thought of how it should have been. She should be here and he should be at rest. He had never thought that he would be the one who was alone, it wasn't right and it was so lonely. Suddenly his thoughts disappeared as he felt the presence of another. It was the golden dog. It was sitting across from him staring at the box of doughnuts.

*The Old Man, continued on page 9*



Guest editorialist, Sonny Brown

Guest Editorial, continued from page 2

friend.” What happened? Speaking for all of my kind, there is only one thing we ever really wanted out of this deal and that was to be LOVED. Maybe my kind is doing something wrong and we just don’t realize it. Some of us have been saved but many more of us are still out there living a life of hell. If anyone knows what my kind is doing wrong, please let me know and I will try to get the word out. And for those of you that have helped save some of my kind, THANK YOU. But don’t forget, foster homes are always needed.

A parting thought: as a dog, I am a complex creature, taken out of my element but trying desperately to conform to your wishes and likes. There are times when I do something a bit unacceptable in your mind that is perfectly normal behavior for me. Just like you, I breathe the same air, occupy the same space, and dream of things that only my kind will ever understand. Take a moment and look deep inside your Golden’s eyes. What you will see is that he or she is completely dependent on you. At the same time, you will feel the warm breath of an animal just looking for love and affection.

I know I’m preaching to the choir, but I just had to get it off my Golden chest. Thank you for your time.

Sonny (95-167)

The Old Man, continued from page 8

“You’re lonely too and still hungry,” he said in a soft voice. He opened the bag, took out a doughnut, and broke it into pieces. One by one he tossed them to the dog. The dog even caught a couple in the air.

The old man stood, took out another doughnut, and tore that one into pieces. He dropped a piece to the ground and started walking down the path toward his home, every so often dropping a piece of doughnut. There were two left in the bag when he reached his home and the dog was still behind him. He opened the side gate and placed the trash can against it to keep it open, then dropped another piece of doughnut to the ground. He continued the trail past the back porch to the other side of the house. The still hungry dog followed the trail. This allowed the old man enough room to walk over to the gate, move the trash can and close the gate. He then climbed the three steps to the porch and stood there looking at the dog.

They stared at each other for fifteen minutes or more, neither making any move away from or toward each other. The old man then went into the kitchen and came out with his wife’s favorite mixing bowl filled with water and placed it on the porch at the door sill. Leaving the door open he went into the kitchen and sat on the chair farthest away from the door and waited. Minutes passed before the dog went to the bowl of water. The dog drank from the bowl until it was empty. Then the dog stood there feeling the warm air rushing out the back door. Slowly the dog walked into the kitchen and over to the rug in front of the sink and laid down on it. The dog didn’t move as the old man walked passed him to the back door. The dog just stared as the old man picked up the empty bowl and closed the door. As the dog slowly closed his eyes and fell asleep, the old man sat down and watched. .

When the dog woke up there were pieces of doughnut and a bowl of water next to him

The Old Man, continue on page 10

## HELP WANTED!

GRREAT is looking for the following types of special volunteers.

**Short Term Foster Families** (2-7 days) to relieve our “regulars” while they take well-deserved vacations. If you’ve ever wondered about fostering, this is a good way to check it out and help GRREAT at the same time. Contact Georgie Bahler by phone at (703) 620-6698 or [GBAHLER@AOL.COM](mailto:GBAHLER@AOL.COM)

### Corporate Sponsor Volunteers

These two positions (VA/WV and DC/MD/DE) are for people who can contact and visit locally based companies during working hours to develop working relationships and seek contributions. Contact Doug Brown by phone at (301) 595-3344 or [DB281@AOL.COM](mailto:DB281@AOL.COM).

# Thank You to these individuals for their recent donations

Kay and Gary  
Aukerman

Glenn and Kimberly  
Day

Barb Dunnington  
Deborah Frey

Dale and Louise  
Gibson

Helping Hands  
Construction, Inc.,  
Haymarket, VA

Mark Henckel and  
Bruce Evatt

John and Betty  
Hlavka

Gail Koch

Ginny Miller

R. Bartley Moore

Drs. Joseph O'Neill  
and Walter Atha

Janet and C.J.  
Owen, Jr.

Barb Petr

Wendy Saylor

John and Charene  
Snyder

Laura and Andy  
Williams

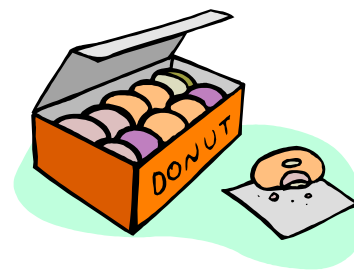
Regina Worton and  
Anne Volpe

Brad and Doreen  
Wright

*The Old Man, continued from page 9*

and an old man looking at him with a gentle smile. The dog ate and drank and then stood. It was the first time in along time that he wasn't hungry, thirsty, and cold. With slow deliberate steps the dog walked to the old man and stopped short of hand-touching distance and smelled the old man. The dog didn't smell fear. Instead, he smelled something that he knew, and that was loneliness. With one step, the dog moved forward and placed his head on the old man's lap. And with that, they also moved into each other's heart. As the old man's hand slowly and gently glided down the dog's head, a bond was sealed.

In the next few days many things happened. The dog was given a bath and brushing. A collar and leash were purchased, along with an ID tag, a food bowl (the dog kept the old man's wife's favorite mixing bowl for a water bowl), dog food and a dog bed that was placed next to the old man's chair in the living room. During the third night, the old man awoke in the dark bedroom and for a brief moment thought that his wife was lying next to him in bed. It took a few seconds to realize that it was the dog. He didn't think that his wife would mind.



At the end of the week he took the dog to the vet's office for a check up and shots and was very happy to hear that the dog was in good shape except for being a little under weight. That was being taken care of with good food every day and a share of the old man's doughnuts.

The vet looked at the old man and said, "I just to make sure that our records are correct. You named the dog Duncan, That's D-U-N-C-A-N." "No," said the old man. "It's Dunkin, D-U-N-K-I-N." The vet looked at the old man and said, "Why did you name him that?"

The old placed his hands around the dog's golden face and gently lifted it up to his until they were looking into each other's eyes, smiled, and said "That's our secret, isn't it, Dunkin?"

## Adoption Day Saturday, July 22, 2000 — Noon - 2:00 pm

**Petco of Beltsville**  
10464 Baltimore Ave,  
Beltsville, MD 20705

(301) 937-1222 (for directions only)

**Directions From the south:** Take the Capital Beltway (I-495) to Rte 1 North (Exit 25A) for 0.9 miles. Petco is on the left. **From the north:** Take I-95 South to I-495 West (stay in left lane); almost immediately take the exit marked Rte 1 College Park. Stay in the right lane and almost immediately take the exit marked 95S. From there take Rte 1 North (exit 25A). Petco is approximately 0.9 miles on the left.



**Planning for Short Term Care**

What would happen if one day you were in a car accident on the way home from work or became ill while away from home? Would someone—a neighbor or friend—know to check on your pets to let them out or feed them? We have all heard numerous stories, I am sure, of dogs or cats left alone in a house who were found after several days, famished and in need of water, because their sole caregiver did not come home, either because of sudden illness or an accident.

In order to prevent such a scenario it is important to carry a **Pet Alert/Please Help My Pets** card in your wallet or purse.

Copies of such a card are often provided when you join various animal organizations. Simply, the card should say: *If I am injured or incapacitated, please contact the following person to let them know my pets may need help.* Put the name, address and phone number of a friend, neighbor or relative whom you trust (and to whom you have spoken in advance about this) on the card with any other special instructions that you may have. See the example above, right.

It is also a good idea to select at least one alternate caregiver should your primary caregiver be unavailable or unreachable at the time of your emergency. In addition to carrying a Pet Alert card in your wallet, it is also worthwhile to post removable cards or stickers on your windows to let emergency response personnel, such as police and firefighters, know that you have pets in your house and who should be contacted if the animals have to be removed from your house should you be either injured or simply not there.

Once you have found a responsible friend or relative who agrees to serve as your animal's caregiver in the event of an emergency, speak with this person about details such as where there is a key to your house (or better yet, give them a key) and how to cover any expenses that could be incurred if they were ever called on to take care of your pets. In addition, you should discuss

Wallet size  
**PET ALERT**  
Card  
(clip and save)

<b>IMPORTANT NOTICE</b>	
<b>PLEASE HELP MY PETS</b>	
There are companion animals in my home waiting for me. If for any reason I am unable to return home to feed and care for my companion animal(s), please immediately notify the following people.	
Name: _____	Phone: _____
or Name: _____	
Phone: _____	<i>over</i>

feeding and food preferences/special diets, daily routine/exercise, name, address and phone number of your veterinarian, any daily medications, temperament and emotional needs of each animal and where care will be provided (your home, their home, or another location).

Finally, you should prepare a **Power of Attorney** document (see page 14) which gives your caregiver permission to obtain veterinary medical care for your animals and to administer prescription medicine. Your veterinarian should have a copy of this document to place in your file. Post a notice with emergency contact information inside the front and back doors of your house or in some other obvious place.

When you go on vacation, does your dog go along? Do you get a pet sitter to take care of your dog, or does Goldie go to the boarding kennel? My husband and I like to spend as much time as possible with our dogs so most of our vacations are road trips with the dogs. However, sometimes it just isn't practical or possible to take your furry kids along with you. In these cases, whoever is caring for your dogs should have the name, address and phone numbers of your short term caregiver (if it is a different person), a family contact and the name and phone number of your lawyer or executor (see below for more information). And always— even if you are going to be out of the country—provide your pet sitter with your itinerary and ways to contact you in an emergency, such as your cell phone number or the phone number of your hotel/person with whom you are staying.

Wills and Trusts, continued on page 12



At the 2000 GRREAT Picnic and Bark-B-Que in May, more than 120 2-legged and nearly 100 4-legged guests had a terrific time, thanks to all the volunteers who made the event such a success.

- Georgie Bahler
- Jo Bighouse
- Becky Brown
- Doug Brown
- Jan Brown
- Sam Connelly
- Amanda Corby
- Gail Corby
- Scott Daniels
- DeAnna Edge
- Bob Fritz
- Denise Gettier
- Art Hotop
- Linda Hunt
- Dan Keppler
- Mary Ellen Lunde
- Alan Moore
- Deb Nizer
- Skip Nizer
- Laura Schmitz
- Jan White
- Martin White

*continued from other side*

**These people have my permission to enter my home to attend to the needs of my animal(s). If my companion animals are with me at the time of my personal emergency or death, these people also have my permission to take possession of my companion animal(s) to provide for their care.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Reverse of  
wallet size  
**PET ALERT**  
Card  
(clip and save)*

**We'll See You  
at the  
Talbot Kennel  
Club Show  
August 18-19, 2000  
Tuckahoe Steam and  
Gas Association  
Showgrounds  
Easton, MD**

More than 2000 dogs of all breeds are registered for the show. Visit the GRREAT Education and Merchandise Booth at the show, or better yet, *volunteer* to staff our booth for a few hours and enjoy the beautiful eastern shore of Maryland.

**Directions to Tuckahoe Steam and Gas Association Showgrounds:** Take Route 50 East across the Bay Bridge. The showgrounds are 6.8 miles east of the junction of Rte 50 and MD Rte 404 in Easton (mile marker 58 on Route 50).

*Wills and Trusts, continued from page 11*

***Planning/Providing for Pets in Your Will or Trust***

In this article I will only briefly address the pros and cons of a will versus a trust. Your lawyer can best advise you about what type of document suits your particular situation. However, you should be aware that a **will** can only be executed upon your death and it may take several days or even longer for your will to be read. If legal disputes arise or if there are delays in the probate court, it could be many months before your estate is settled. Suffice it to say that in any documents you draw up with an attorney or other legal advisor, you should include statements about how you want your companion animals cared for in the event of your incapacity or death. There are numerous ways that you can provide for your animals. It requires some thought on your part and some advance planning.

Although you may consider your pets part of the family, the legal system regards them strictly as property. The laws in all 50 states say that a pet owner cannot leave any or part of his/her estate "outright" to an animal. Some states (Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah and Wisconsin) allow you to set up an "honorary trust" with a pet as beneficiary. These trusts are valid only as long as the pet is alive. Furthermore, the money in the trust cannot be used for the benefit of the trustee. After the pet dies, any remaining funds are distributed according to the instructions in the trust.

You can also choose to leave a reasonable sum of money to a designated caregiver and

you can request (but this is not legally binding) that the money be used for the pet's care. It goes without saying that this caregiver has to be someone that you trust, not only with your pet but also with your money. Consider also that if you leave a large sum of money to your pet, this may prompt relatives to challenge the will and the bequest for pet care may be invalidated by the courts. Your attorney can include an "in terrorem" clause in your will to reduce the chance of a challenge to the will. This clause makes it impossible for a person challenging the will to receive property under any provision of the will.

You can also write a "Letter of Instruction" to be attached to your will, but you should be aware that such a letter is a statement of preferences and may not be legally binding.

A **revocable living trust**, on the other hand, is a legal device that allows you to assign property, while you are still alive, to another party to hold and administer for the benefit of others. It is a much more flexible instrument that can provide for your pet immediately, even if you just become ill or incapacitated (as discussed above). You determine when it goes into effect and you specify a trustee to control the funds. You can have a trust in addition to a will, but if your trust is *under* the will it will also be controlled by the probate court. A trust that is separate from a will has several advantages:

- it is less likely to be contested
- it can be written to exclude the trust assets from the probate process
- it can be written so as to provide for your pet even during a long period of disability or incapacity
- it may have tax benefits if properly structured

Since one of our dogs is a GRREAT dog and it is likely that any future dogs that we adopt will be from GRREAT (except our recently acquired puppy Bailey), and since the GRREAT adoption contract requires/requests that all dogs adopted from

*Wills and Trusts, continued on page 15*

## Leo Fund Donations for Special Reasons

In memory of **Ipsy** Ginn, from Mary Ginn

In honor of **Robert and Patricia Mankin**, from Andrea and Robert Mankin

In loving memory of **Fancy**, a Collie that was a Golden at heart. To Daddy's soul mate and Linzy's best friend—we miss you!  
—The Mack and Thompson Families

This gift is to thank and acknowledge **Anita and Frank Abbruscato** for providing a caring foster home for Parker (99-212) whom we adopted on New Year's Eve, 1999. Parker is thriving, thanks to their loving concern for and care of this 10 year old fellow. —Pat and Howard Reblitz

In honor of the birthday of **Olivia McDonough**. Mrs. McDonough indicated to me that the gift of a donation to the Leo Fund is a gift that she treasures and appreciates deeply. Your organization and special funds mean a great deal to her and she fully supports your work. Thank you, from me, too!

—Judith Adrezin

To thank **GRREAT** on the second anniversary of adopting Molson (98-041).  
—Brad and Doreen Wright

To the Leo Fund from **Alex (Barker)**— thanks for saving me!



**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

Sent by Stephen and Judith Barker  
The "basic training" deposit we paid when adopting Karmen (99-222) we would like to donate to the Leo Fund. Karmen will celebrate his fifth birthday this month. He became part of the family from the very start and he and Abby, a Golden we adopted from a shelter a year ago, get along like litter-mates. We are Karmen's fourth owners; how anyone could have parted with this beautiful boy we'll never know, but we are grateful to be the ones he'll spend the rest of his days with.

—Denis and Wendy Garcia

This donation to the Leo Fund is really a legacy of love. My neighbors had a Golden Retriever named Ginger for 15 years, from puppyhood to her last day. I was lucky enough to share in the last three wonderful years. Even to her dying day, Ginger was a kind, noble, loyal friend. On her last day, I could see the pain in her face, but she still managed to wag her tail and lick my hand as she lay there. She looked almost as if she was devastated to be leaving us all alone—that was the type of companion she was.

In her memory, I decided to embark on a mission to help others of her kind. Ginger was not a rescue dog, but she had a playmate who was, and I believe that if Ginger was a human, she would have been a generous and avid philanthropist. I put posters up around my middle school requesting donations for helpless animals. It wasn't always easy to stick with it, but I remembered how patient and persistent Ginger was, so I simply rehung the posters that were torn down and ignored the rudeness of others. For three weeks, I collected donations large and small

during lunch and various school functions to help deserving dogs get a new "leash" on life.

I am sure that you can use this as you continue your brave and heroic work. Thank you for your service to the breed.

—Caroline Mitter



### Leo's Corner

*The Leo Fund  
for special needs dogs.*

**Golden Angels  
(\$500 or more)**

**June and Richard  
Downing, owners of  
Something Special  
Stafford, VA**

**Golden Heroes  
(\$100 - \$499)**

**Stephen and Judith  
Barker**

**Mary Ginn**

**Ron Glass**

**The Mack and  
Thompson Families**

**Mary Medd**

**Brad and Doreen  
Wright**

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

**Judith Adrezin**

**Patricia Dennis**

**Denis and Wendy  
Garcia**

**Andrea and Robert  
Mankin**

**Caroline Mitter**

**Kevin and Nadine  
Paley**

**Pat and Howard  
Reblitz**

**EXAMPLE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY DIRECTIVE  
TO CARE FOR COMPANION ANIMALS**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_

of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

as my agent with full authority to provide for the care of my companion animal(s), except to the extent that I state otherwise in this document, in the event that I become incapacitated, hospitalized, or because of my death.

If the person named above is for any reason unable to provide care for my companion animal(s), I hereby appoint the following as alternates:

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle and initial all that apply)

1. If I am suddenly hospitalized, or in the event of my death, I have authorized the above individual to provide for the care of my companion animal(s) in a responsible manner. I hereby authorize payment for these services from my assets in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month, and for the payment of all costs directly related to the care of these animals, including, but not limited to, food, veterinary medical care, prescription medication, and transportation.
2. In the event of my death, I have made arrangements with the following breed rescue group to assist in finding a good home for my companion animals. The animals should be kept together and adopted by a single person/family: Golden Retriever Rescue Education And Training (GRREAT), P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043

I hereby release the above named person(s) or institutions from any liability to me or my estate for actions taken as my agent in providing for the responsible care of my companion animals.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

State of: \_\_\_\_\_ County of: \_\_\_\_\_

On (date) \_\_\_\_\_ before me, \_\_\_\_\_ personally appeared, who is personally known to me, or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person whose name is subscribed to within this instrument. I also declare that \_\_\_\_\_ appears to be of sound mind and free of duress at the time of the signing of this document, and that this individual has affirmed that he/she is aware of the purpose of this document and is signing it voluntarily.

WITNESS my hand and official seal:

The following companion animals are owned by me on: (date) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (provide detailed description -species, color, age, etc.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Wills and Trusts, continued from page 12*

GRREAT be returned to GRREAT, I requested that our dogs be placed (preferably together) in a new home by GRREAT, with wording to that effect in the trust. I have sent this documentation to GRREAT for their records. An example of the wording that I have included in the section of my trust entitled: **Disposition After Death of Trustor and Trustor's Spouse** follows:

"In addition, the TRUSTOR directs that any Golden Retrievers owned by the TRUSTOR be immediately placed with **GRREAT** for adoption into a permanent home. The TRUSTOR asks that every possible effort be made to place her dogs together, should she own more than one Golden. Should it be necessary for TRUSTOR's dogs to be temporarily placed in a boarding kennel or with [NAME] of [ADDRESS] while awaiting transfer to **GRREAT**, the TRUSTOR directs that the kennel be of good quality and one recommended by **GRREAT** officials. The cost of this temporary care, including food, veterinary care, and transportation shall be at the expense of the Trust Estate as estate administration expense. At all times, the actions of the TRUSTEE and officials of **GRREAT** on behalf of TRUSTOR's dogs shall be guided by the knowledge that the quality of life of her dogs is of paramount importance to the TRUSTOR."

In addition, if you choose to leave a bequest to an organization such as **GRREAT** you can include the following, for example:

"The TRUSTEE shall distribute free of Trust \_\_\_ **PERCENT** each to the following charities: **Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training Inc.** (GRREAT), P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, Va. 22043. In the event that **Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training, Inc.**, is no longer in existence, or refuses to receive TRUSTOR's Golden Retrievers, then the TRUSTOR names the [**SOME OTHER ORGANIZATION**] to receive the share allocated to **GRREAT** under the same conditions set out in subparagraph \_\_\_ above."



In the article of the trust entitled **Incapacity of Trustor**, there is a clause which says:

"During any period in which the TRUSTOR is incapacitated, the TRUSTEE shall provide for the care of TRUSTOR's companion animals in a responsible manner. The TRUSTEE is authorized to pay all reasonable costs directly related to the care of TRUSTOR'S animals, including but not limited to food, veterinary medical care, prescription medication, transportation and boarding."

Finally, in the **Durable Power of Attorney** that is part of my estate plan, there is the following clause listed as one of the **Powers of My Attorney in Fact to Represent My Interests**:

"...to house or provide for housing, support, and maintenance of any animals or other living creatures that I may own and to contract or pay the expenses of their proper veterinary care and treatment; and if the care and maintenance of such animals shall become unreasonably expensive, transfer such animals to some person or persons willing to care for and maintain them, preferably [NAME] of [ADDRESS]."

Once you have created your will or trust documents, don't forget to give copies to the person that you have chosen to handle your affairs, as well as the person (or organizations) that have agreed to/you would like to care for your pets. They should also have information about your pet, such as medical records and information about their daily habits, diet and personality.

**For more information about wills and trusts:**

1. "How to Provide for Your Companion Animal(s) in a Personal Emergency." **United Animal Nations**, 5892A South Land Park Drive, P.O. Box 188890, Sacramento, CA 95818, (916)-429-2457.
2. "Pets are Family Too!" **Humane Society of the U.S.**, [http://www.hsus.org/programs/companion/pets\\_family.html](http://www.hsus.org/programs/companion/pets_family.html)
3. "Providing for your Pets When You No Longer Can" e-mail from Nancy Peterson, HSUS.
4. "If Something Happens to you....What Happens to Me?" by Joy Viola, Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue web page: <http://www.tiac.net/users/laytin/yankee/whatif.htm>
5. Providing for your pets: In the Event of Your Death or Hospitalization. 1994. The Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Office of Communications, 42 West 44<sup>th</sup> St., New York, N.Y. 10036-6690; 212/382-6695. Also available on the web at: <http://www.abcnyc.org/pub-rovforpet.html>.
6. "Should Death Do You Part", by Susan Thorpe-Vargas and John C. Cargill, *Dog World*, July, 1999.



*Special needs Buddy, looking for a home*

## **Buddy: You Can Make a Difference in This Dog's Life**

### **Other Lovable Goldens Available for Adoption (as of July 2, 2000)**

Here's a random sample of the many dogs currently available. Visit the GRREAT web site, [WWW.GRREAT.ORG](http://WWW.GRREAT.ORG) or Contact Tanya Horning, GRREAT Adoption Coordinator, for more complete stories on these sweeties...

**Abby** (00-058) 14 years young and showing no signs of slowing down

**Mack** (00-089) 18 weeks old, crate trained and almost housebroken

**Sadie** (00-018) 10 years old, laid back, easy to care for, with a probable food allergy

**Rodney** (00-074) Mostly-Golden on the outside, pure gold on the inside.

What we have here is a very striking looking companion, who likes long walks on the beach, will cuddle with you for hours listening to your favorite tunes, will watch your favorite movies or sports all day or all night, will never think that you have a bad hair day, will never divulge the intimate secrets you share, and will truly know that you are the best person imaginable. All of the above is just a partial description of what Buddy's new adoptive family can expect.

Buddy is a 7 year old neutered male who came into the Rescue in late 1999. His owners had gotten him as a puppy, but felt that they no longer had time to devote to him once a new human baby arrived. Right before we got him, he was basically kept outdoors all day and in the garage at night. His foster mom reports that he is housebroken, loves walks and car rides. He weighs about 83 pounds, has a medium gold coat, a nice big head and short muzzle. He is way past the chewing stage but sometimes he thinks it's appropriate to recycle stuff from the trash or check out what you have laying on the counter for dinner.

Unfortunately, Buddy has epilepsy, but it is controlled by medication. He never grew up with other dogs or cats, and while he can be around them, he would be happiest in a single pet household. Also, because he was left outside for such long periods of times, he will wander off when outside and therefore needs a fenced area. He is not afraid of thunder or loud noises.

Since most of you reading this probably already have other Goldens of your own, if you know of a canine-loving friend or neighbor who might be a good match for Buddy, please tell them about him. We will make the application process go as smoothly as possible for them, and if the space in their house and heart is Buddy-shaped, they will have found a Golden treasure like no other!!!! Contact Mary Ellen R. Lunde, 301-549-3156 or [MELUNDE@EROLS.COM](mailto:MELUNDE@EROLS.COM) for additional information.

## **Adoption Report April - June 2000**

WOW! April, May and June were busy months for foster homes and adoptive families—69 dogs found new homes this spring! Fifteen of these dogs were puppies under one year of age, 24 more were under three years old, 22 were between 3 and 7 years old, 5 were seniors, including 1 fifteen year old, and three were of unknown age. There were 40 males and 29 females in this group of lucky dogs. Have a GRREAT summer with your new families!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>SEX</u>
<b>Abby</b>	00-051	4 mo	F
<b>Afton</b>	00-102	?	M
<b>Allie</b>	00-071	1	F
<b>Amber</b>	00-041	3	F
<b>Angelina</b>	00-022	3 mo	F
<b>Bailey</b>	98-024	3	M
<b>Bailey</b>	00-100	2	F
<b>Barney</b>	00-101	3	M
<b>Bear</b>	00-017	7	M
<b>Bear</b>	00-039	3	M
<b>Benny</b>	98-025	6	M
<b>Breezy</b>	00-018	5	F
<b>Buster</b>	00-131	3½	M
<b>Casey</b>	00-112	9	M
<b>Chase</b>	98-026	?	M
<b>Cheddar</b>	00-063	5	M
<b>Chessie</b>	00-085	1	F
<b>Cleo</b>	00-130	7 mo	F
<b>Daisey</b>	00-104	3	F
<b>Dusty</b>	00-033	2½	M
<b>Einstein</b>	00-092	10 mo	M
<b>Franny</b>	00-080	4 mo	F
<b>Gadget</b>	00-012	9 mo	M
<b>Ginger</b>	99-242	4½	F
<b>Ginger</b>	00-016	1	F
<b>Goldie</b>	00-047	5	M
<b>Harley</b>	00-011	5	M
<b>Heidi</b>	00-078	2	F
<b>Honey</b>	00-042	4	F
<b>Jag</b>	00-113	1	M
<b>Jewel/Julie</b>	00-081	2½	F

## Adoption Report, continued

NAME	ID	AGE	SEX
Jonas	00-037	1½	M
Keely	00-061	2½	F
Kirby/Hamish	99-198	13 mo	M
Kodi	00-084	1	M
Largo	00-062	?	M
Logan	00-004	4	M
Lucky	00-065	1	M
Maddie	00-013	4 mo	F
Madison	00-099	2	M
Maggie	00-090	5	F
Meeka	00-123	16 mo	F
Michael	00-129	1	M
Muffin	00-082	15	F
Nick	99-232	2 mo	M
Reba	00-020	3 mo	F
Rex	00-077	1½	M
Riley	00-093	2	F
Rocky	00-083	10 mo	M
Rocky	00-096	13	M
Rusty	00-032	10	M
Rusty	00-097	12	M
Sadie	99-206	1	F
Sadie	00-059	2½	F
Sammy	00-070	5	M
Sara	00-073	3	F
Sassy	00-040	1½	F
Sassy	00-095	2	F
Shadow	00-098	2	M
Shadow	00-118	6	M
Tillie	00-066	9 mo	F
Timmy	00-124	6 mo	M
Toby	00-087	2	M
Token	00-117	4	M
Tolbert	00-023	3 mo	M
Topaz	00-031	2 mo	F
Tucker	00-030	2 mo	M
Winston	99-248	4	M
Woody	00-001	4½	M

Remember, these dogs are the lucky ones who have found homes recently. There are dozens more in foster homes looking for new families. Visit the GRREAT Web site [WWW.GRREAT.ORG](http://WWW.GRREAT.ORG) to see pictures of dogs currently available for adoption.

## 2001 GRREAT Calendar Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to the following winners of the photo contest for the 2001 "It's a GRREAT Year" Calendar.

Cover	Buck (99-186) Barth
January	Topaz (00-031) VanDerveer (fostered by the Harrell family)
February	Nutmeg (96-146), Honey (99-081), and Killian (96-036) Donnell
March	Amber (99-247) and Winston (99-248) Maloney
April	Rollei (97-174) Welch
May	Buddy (99-241) (fostered by the Skadberg family)
June	Tango (98-063) Harrell and Tarzan (99-065) Bayer (fostered by the Harrell family)
July	Aspen (99-168) Rivard
August	Grady (97-101) Moore
September	Jessie (97-040) and Prance (99-047) Downing
October	Emilee (96-144) Connelly
November	BJ (99-111) Robinson-Boonstra
December	Drew (98-071) Jobson-Smeak

## Adoption Day

Saturday, August 26, 2000

Noon - 2:00 pm

Weber's Pet Supermarket

14508g Lee Rd, Chantilly, VA 20151

(703) 631-2738 (for directions only)

**Directions:** Take the Washington Beltway (I-495) to I-66 West. Exit onto Route 50 West. Go through Chantilly and pass under Route 28. Turn left onto Lee Road, then right into the industrial area parking lot. Weber's faces out on Route 50.





## Colby's Story Bonnie Shelleman

*A newly rescued,  
frightened Colby Jack  
in July 1997*



*Colby (right) and  
Montana with their  
tennis ball collection,  
November 1999*



I do not know if you remember me but I adopted Colby (formerly known as Jack) from GRREAT in July, 1997. My name is Bonnie Shelleman and you spoke to me a few times to give me some guidance on the aggression problems we were having with Colby. We almost returned Colby because at the time it seemed like his problems were more than what we could deal with. He had a terrible fear of men and would charge after my husband and any of my four sons. He would stay in his crate when I was not with him or cower in the bathroom. And when he was with me he would not leave my side; he was very protective of me. He would try to attack my neighbor when he approached our fenced-in yard. He was always barking and showing his teeth! This was not an easy time for us. We had no idea what we were getting ourselves into when we adopted Colby. Needless to say the first year or so was a roller coaster ride but it does come to a happy ending!

I wanted to update the Rescue on Colby's remarkable recovery. When we adopted Colby he only weighed 42 pounds and his hair was very thin and dry. The hair on his head was bleached from the sun and he had a couple of surgeries to remove a tumor from his side.

Colby has come a long way! Through endless hours of training and reconditioning, behavior modification, and rewarding him for positive behavior, the loving, sweet,

beautiful Golden behind those terrified eyes has emerged. He is such a sweetheart and still my shadow! He is very smart too! Of course, he loves his tennis balls! He now weighs 75 pounds and has beautiful dark red fur. He goes on vacations with us to the Outer Banks in North Carolina. He loves car rides—he gets so excited when he knows he is going for a car ride or a walk. It's almost like he's trying to talk to us!

He is still very protective of his yard and his house but he has come a long way from the shy, cowering, fear-aggressive dog that we brought home in July of 1997!

I think back to the days when we were asking ourselves did we do the right thing by adopting Colby? His aggression was controlling our lives and we were constantly watching him when friends would visit or the neighbors would come to the fence to talk for fear that he would bite someone!

Then I got a Golden puppy whose name is Montana. Colby was very mean to Montana and played very rough! A few times I thought Colby would break Montana's neck when they "played." It took some time and patience but Colby learned what was acceptable behavior and playing. Now Colby and Montana are the best of friends!

I know we spoke a few times about returning Colby and what it would mean for Colby if he was returned. Placing an aggressive dog was not easy. I am so thankful that I decided to give Colby another chance. I made up my mind that this dog had so much love to give but he did not know how to show his love. The "breeder" that had him before abused him so severely that he did not trust people. I made Colby my priority! He deserved to have a fair chance and no matter what it took from us we were going to help him. I have never regretted my decision—Colby needed us as much as we needed him!

Thanks for letting me share our story. And thank you to your wonderful organization for seeing the potential in Colby.

**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 2000 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.

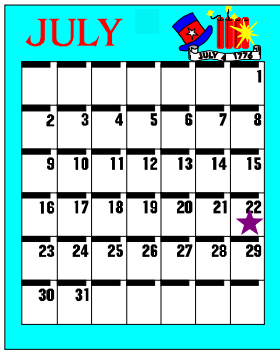
I would like to know how I can help

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

GRREAT News July/August 2000

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**



Saturday, July 22, 2000 Noon – 2:00 pm  
Adoption Day at PETCO in Beltsville, MD

*Directions on page 17*

Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19, 2000

**Talbot Kennel Club Show**

Easton, MD

*Directions on page 12*

Saturday, August 26, 2000 Noon – 2:00 pm

**Adoption Day at Weber’s Pet Supermarket**

Chantilly, VA

*Directions on page 17*



Sunday, September 17, 2000  
**Essex Day Community Fair**

Essex, MD

*Details in next issue!*

Sunday, October 1, 2000

**Old Dominion Kennel Club Fall Show**

Morven Park, Leesburg, VA


*Details in next issue!*



**Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc**

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

 703-620-6593

**GRREAT BEGINNINGS**



**LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!**

**Golden Retriever Rescue  
Education and Training, Inc.**

***First Class Mail***