



GRREAT News

March/April

Volume 11, Number 2

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From the President
Here's to the Best!
Dan Keppler

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GRREAT 2000 Rescue Report

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As I enter my second week as president of one of the best organizations I've yet to be involved with, I want to tell you how thankful I am to be writing this letter. As relative newcomers to GRREAT, my wife and I have enjoyed every minute of our involvement. We found out about GRREAT after picking out our beloved Sandy from a breeder in Warrenton, VA. We wanted to get more involved with the breed and came across GRREAT's website. Bob Fritz's dedication and work on the website not only attracted me to GRREAT, but has attracted thousands of others also (great job, Bob!) Five fosters and one adoption later, we were hooked. One thing is for certain, the ultimate success of GRREAT lies with its volunteers. On behalf of the entire Board to the individuals who coordinate the various functions that make GRREAT run, to the foster families, to those who donate their time at the different events, and to those who donate support in other ways, *thank you*.

As I write this letter on Feb 14th, Valentines Day, GRREAT has already taken in 43 Goldens this year. That's one *per day*. If it were not for the hard work and dedication of our foster families, Mary Ellen Lunde, and Georgie Bahler, we would not be able to help all these precious dogs. Georgie recently commented that our pool of 160 active foster families has enabled her and Mary Ellen to place the dogs with far more ease. I want to

The Best, continued on page 6

Information about GRREAT's intake, education and adoption activities was presented at the GRREAT Annual Membership Meeting in January. A total of 295 dogs were handled by GRREAT during 2000, an increase of about 15% from 1999 and the most ever rescued by GRREAT in a single year. Of the 283 new dogs taken in during 2000, more than half were males. Half of all of the dogs accepted had been neutered before they entered the Rescue. The remainder were neutered at GRREAT's expense before they were adopted out. Major medical and behavioral problems among the year 2000 dogs were: thunder/separation anxiety (13), thyroid disease (9), hip dysplasia (9), cancer (8), broken leg (5), seizures (5), and heart murmur (5). More dogs (5) were euthanized

GRREAT 2000 Rescue Report, continued on page 7

As we look forward to the approach of spring, we'd like to share a story of new beginnings whose central character is our wonderful GRREAT dog, Rollei (97-174), Mr. April in the 2001 GRREAT calendar. Since his adoption three years ago, Rollei has exhibited remarkable gifts that transcend the barriers between canines and humans.

On a glorious Saturday afternoon, I took Rollei on a leisurely stroll—a walk that turned out to be one of the most memorable occasions for us. As we headed up a tree-lined street that invites neighbors to chat with passers-by, we came upon two elderly gentlemen standing in a yard that hugged the road. The first man's eyes fell immediately on Rollei, and he eagerly moved towards us. Rollei responded, letting the man's hand smooth the fur on his head and then downward along his golden coat.

"Come on," invited the man to his friend, "pet him." But the second man stepped back, unsure what to do. "No," he stammered, "I can't...I can't."

Scars, continued on page 6

**Golden Retriever Rescue,
Education and Training, Inc.**
P.O. Box 3069
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.

2001 Officers and Advisory Board

PRESIDENT

Dan Keppler* DANIEL.KEPPLER@WCOM.COM 703-421-6597

VICE PRESIDENT

Doug Brown* DB281@AOL.COM 301-595-3344

SECRETARY and INTAKE COORDINATOR

Mary Ellen Lunde* MELUNDE@EROLS.COM 301-549-3156

TREASURER

Gail Corby* GAILDC@AOL.COM 302-378-2543

INTAKE and FOSTER HOME COORDINATOR

Georgie Bahler* GABAHLER@EROLS.COM 703-620-6698

FOSTER HOME ASSISTANT

Deanna Edge VAEDGE@AOL.COM 703-250-9009

ADOPTION COORDINATOR

Jessie Robinson* JRGOLDEN4314@HOTMAIL.COM 301-459-1711

ASSISTANT ADOPTION COORDINATOR

Tanya Horning* TPHORNING@AOL.COM 301-947-2378

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Dan Keppler (temp) DANIEL.KEPPLER@WCOM.COM 703-421-6597

EDUCATION COORDINATORS

Denise Gettier (MD) JLGETTI2@BELLATLANTIC.NET 410-969-3095

Jo Dempsey (VA) 703-327-6179

FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

Sam Connelly* ANIGRAPHIX@AOL.COM 410-256-3113

GRREAT NEWS EDITOR

April Fritz* AGFRITZ111@AOL.COM 301-330-5749

MAIL ADMINISTRATOR

Cheryl Garbett CHANNG@AOL.COM 703-448-3840

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Jane Bishop HAVAGLDNDAY@AOL.COM 301-869-6291

MERCHANDISING COORDINATOR

Jo Bighouse* MIDASTOUCHGOLDENS@STARPOWER.NET 703-777-4944

TATTOOING COORDINATOR

Scott Daniels* ESDCHEF@MSN.COM 302-368-5821

WEBMASTER

Bob Fritz GRREATWEB@GRREAT.ORG 301-330-5749

* members of the GRREAT Board of Directors

GRREAT News Bites

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR MCI CENTER CONCESSION STANDS

Here's a fun and easy way to help raise money for GRREAT just by donating your time. To date, this project has been enormously successful for GRREAT and has allowed us to earn more than \$10,000 for our general fund and our beautiful, needy dogs.

It's easy because people *want* your product, they come to you asking for it. You don't have to "sell" anything. The miracle product? Hot dogs, pretzels, nachos, beer, and burgers at a sporting event.

GRREAT has an opportunity to work a concession stand at selected sports and concert events at the MCI Center in downtown DC (easily accessible by Metro) and keep ten percent of the money the stand makes from that event. In other words, if the stand sells \$10,000 worth of products during a hockey game, GRREAT gets to keep \$1,000. One weekend night recently, 10 people working for 4½ hours on a slow Tuesday night made approximately \$600. We know more beer flows on the weekends!

Working an event takes about a 4½ to 5 hour time commitment for hockey games, less time for basketball games, and concerts vary. Generally we have to be at the MCI Center one hour before the gates open.

The indoor sports season is drawing to a close, but volunteers are still needed for Washington Capitals hockey games (and hopefully the Stanley Cup playoffs) and other events at MCI Center.

Contact Dan Keppler (703-421-6597 or daniel.keppler@wcom.com) or e-mail pam-lori@juno.com if you're interested in helping out for even one event.

Come on out, have fun,
serve some nachos and beer,
and help save some GRREAT dogs!

Canine Dental Disease Seminar

Sunday April 29, 1:30–4:00 p.m

Oriole Dog Training Club, Baltimore



*Dr. Midas says
brushing is serious business!*

Did you know? Although “dog breath” is often accepted as normal, it may be a signal of canine periodontal disease.

Dr. Ira Luskin, DVM, DAVDC Board-certified Veterinary Dentist and Oral Surgeon, will present “The Many Faces of Dental Disease,” an informational seminar on Sunday, April 29, 2001 from 1:30 to 4 pm, at the Oriole Dog Training Club in Baltimore. Registration for this event is \$10 per person, and proceeds will be donated to local Golden Rescues. All seminar participants will receive a Dental Goodie Bag valued at \$8 and loaded with products to promote optimal dental health. There will also be homemade refreshments and prizes, as well as information and merchandise tables. Directions to the seminar location are on page 18.

Space is limited, so please register early. Confirmation will be provided via email or phone. **To hold down costs, we ask that attendees provide their own seating.** For more information, please e-mail seminar@landofpuregold.com or call Jo Bighouse at 703-777-0096 to obtain a registration form. Or, visit

www.landofpuregold.org/seminar. Print out the registration form, fill it in, enclose your check, and mail it off to: Dental Seminar, 420 Wildman Street NE, Leesburg, VA 20176.

Note: although dogs are not among the invitees, a few canines will be allowed to accompany their people in order to be informally evaluated by Dr. Luskin following the presentation! If you're interested in having a dog evaluated, enclose with your registration form further details to be shared with Dr. Luskin. Persons of those dogs who are selected will be notified.

**Mark your calendar!!
Saturday, May 19, 2001**



**GRREAT's Annual
Bark-B-Que**

**Knights of Columbus facility
10142 Cherry Hill Road, College Park, MD**

Enjoy a beautiful day outdoors with dozens of other Golden Retrievers and their families. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends, your dog's foster family and our wonderful volunteers. We are in a private facility, more centrally located to our members, with more picnic tables, plenty of parking, a full shelter, playground equipment for the kids, easily accessible restrooms and other improvements. There will be games, contests and fun for all!

Plan now to attend a GRREAT day of Golden fun in the sun! Complete details in the next newsletter.



Roger Caras joins his animal friends at the Rainbow Bridge

A remembrance by
Julie Palais



Roger Caras (1928-2001)

Roger Caras Books Available from GRREAT Store

GRREAT has acquired both signed and unsigned copies of two recent books by Roger Caras, *The Bond: People and Their Animals* (November 1997) and *The New Roger Caras Treasury of Great Dog Stories* (October 1999). If you are interested in obtaining one of these keepsake books, please contact GRREAT Merchandise Coordinator Jo Bighouse.

Roger Caras, noted naturalist and advocate for animals died on Sunday, February 18, 2001 in Towson, Maryland after a brief illness. Roger (as I knew him) was a prolific author of more than 60 books on domestic animals and wildlife. The most recent of his books was just released in February and has a Golden Retriever on the front cover (*Going for the Blue: Inside the World of Show Dogs and Dog Show*; February, 2001).

As some of you remember, Mr. Caras was kind enough to volunteer his time to GRREAT last October 14, in conjunction with the Catonsville Kennel Club dog show where he spent about 2 hours signing numerous books that he had written and GRREAT was selling. (Some of these autographed copies are still for sale through the GRREAT store.)

Roger was born in 1928 in Methuen, Massachusetts and took his first job for ten cents an hour cleaning the stables of abused horses seized by the Massachusetts SPCA. Roger served the country in the U.S. Army, both during World War II and during the Korean War. Later, he was an executive in the motion picture industry.

Beginning in 1969 he hosted a radio series called "Pets and Wildlife" which was broadcast on the CBS, NBC and ABC radio networks. In 1975 he became the special correspondent for animals and the environment for the *ABC World News Tonight with Peter Jennings*, *Nightline* and *20/20*, as well as the nature and companion animal correspondent for *Good Morning America*.

In addition to his many books, Roger Caras contributed numerous magazine articles to publications such as *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *Audubon*, *Science Digest*, and *Family Circle*.

Roger Caras served for many years as the president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and was an advisor to the Walt Disney

Company in the development of their Animal Kingdom in Orlando, Florida. He was also well-known as "the Voice of Westminster," because for many years he announced the prestigious dog show held every year in New York City's Madison Square Garden.

Mr. Caras was the recipient of three honorary doctorates and many international awards and held adjunct professorships at two universities. He also sat on the boards of humane and conservation organizations worldwide.

I met Roger and his wife, Jill, last year at the Eastern Regional Specialty in Frederick, Maryland, where he announced a parade of rescued dogs. Prior to the show I had written to him asking if we could meet and if he would autograph some books that I would bring with me. He graciously agreed.

In addition to being born and growing up in Massachusetts and having a love for dogs, Roger and I had something else in common: Antarctica. Roger's first book, written in 1962 and entitled *Antarctica: Land of Frozen Time*, is the account of a trip he took to Antarctica in 1961. I too have been to Antarctica, not once but now 15 times. In fact, I just recently returned from Antarctica where during the month of January I was the National Science Foundation's Science Representative at South Pole Station.

Shortly before I left for "the ice" we had Roger and Jill for dinner with some other friends of theirs. In addition to sharing a wonderful evening of conversation, I was able to show Roger and the others some of my recent slides of Antarctica. Roger was amazed at how much things had changed in 40 years. I can only imagine what it was like when he went there in 1961!

Those wishing to honor Mr. Caras' memory can send contributions to the ASPCA, 424 East 92nd Street, New York, N.Y., 10128.

GRREAT Tips for Photographing Your Pets

Taking photos of your pets is more important than simply entering a picture contest. If your pet is ever lost or stolen, adding a current photograph to a “lost dog” flyer could make the difference in having your pet returned to you. Here are eight suggestions from professional photographers for taking good—and potentially prize-winning or lifesaving—pictures of your pets.

1. Photos taken at dog’s-eye level bring out the true beauty of the animal, without the distortion of looking down on it as humans usually do.

2. Get close. Fill the view frame with your pet, but unless you are doing a face-only shot, make sure all paws, tail and ears are also in the picture. Using a zoom lens will allow you to take a big image without crowding the dog.

3. Take lots of pictures. Skimping on film is not the way to get a “cover girl” shot—there’s a direct relationship between the number of pictures you take and the number of good ones you get.

4. Use an assistant standing behind you to attract the dog’s attention by holding a treat just outside camera range or making a loud noise to attract a dog’s attention. A dog looks particularly handsome with his ears and eyes alert.

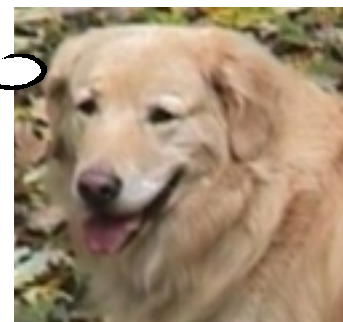
5. Keep the background clean and simple. Watch out for wires or lights or other distractions that might end up “growing out of the head” of the animal being photographed. Be aware of patterned upholstery and wallpaper and busy or cluttered surroundings.

6. Be patient. Pets get bored and tire easily, so shoot your pictures over several sessions. Break frequently for play time and start again when the dog is fresh. Patience and luck often produce better pictures than expensive camera equipment.

Photography Tips, continued on page 6

I’m ready for my close-up now, Mr. Spielberg!

LIGHTS!
CAMERA!
ACTION!
It’s time for the GRREAT 2002 Calendar Contest!



By popular demand, GRREAT will be creating a 2002 calendar featuring the most photogenic Rescue dogs in the world. Photos will be selected for the cover and for each month, plus a collage page of honorable mentions. Photos are judged by a committee of GRREAT members using the following criteria:

- composition (balance, centering, color and contrast between dog and its surroundings; top of head, paws and tail not cut off by photo)
- background (uncluttered, nothing sticking up behind the dog’s head; a simple background is best)
- sharpness (your photo will be enlarged to 9 x 13 and fuzzy pictures only look worse when enlarged)
- general appearance (no glowing eyes, but muddy, wet, or snow-covered dogs show what this breed is all about)
- appropriateness (holiday, spring, summer, fall, and winter settings and activities that maintain the dignity and beauty of the animals; costumes are discouraged)
- variety (old dogs, puppies, in action or posed, light, dark, big, little—just like the dogs we rescue)

Send the photo(s) of your GRREAT dog, with its GRREAT ID number, age, and a brief description of the dog’s past or present life, together with the name, address, and phone number of the person submitting the entry to Deb Nizer, GRREAT Rescue Calendar Photo Contest, 327 Thelma Ave, Glen Burnie, MD 21061.

Deadline for entries: June 1, 2001

Calendar Photo Contest Rules

1. Only GRREAT Rescue dogs are eligible. Dogs featured in the 2001 calendar (other than honorable mentions) are not eligible this year, but other dogs in the family are.
2. Animals only in the picture, please (no humans, although other family pets may be included).
3. Horizontal shots (picture wider than tall) are required, due to the design of the calendar. Vertical pictures will not be considered.
4. Color photographs and color digital images are eligible; Polaroid instant pictures are not. Maximum photo size is 5 x 7 inches.
5. Submitted pictures and stories are not returnable, but may be used in a future issue of the newsletter.

*Photography Tips,
continued from page 5*

7. Avoid using a flash, if possible. Go outside on a bright cloudy day or one with hazy sun. Experiment with different times of day, with varying lighting, angles and shadows. If a flash is necessary, shoot with a bounced flash or with the dog looking to the side in order to avoid the problem of glowing eyes.

8. Use ISO 200 speed film or faster to stop motion, especially if you are trying to catch your dog in action. If your dog is very light colored, close down the aperture by a half or full stop. Otherwise, the shot may accidentally be overexposed by the light reflecting off Goldie's fur.

***Rollei Welch,
a canine who
understands humans***



Scars, continued from page 1

"Oh, come on," the first man repeated. "He's a Golden Retriever—they're very gentle. Do you know about these dogs?" I looked at the second man and assured him that Rollei was extremely friendly, but I also motioned to Rollei to move away so that we could proceed on our walk.

But Rollei seemed to understand the hesitation. His big brown eyes looked up at the old man. "Go ahead," said the first man, "you can pet him—it's okay." The second man hesitated again. Rollei stood still. Then, as if in slow motion, the man moved his hand toward Rollei's head, barely touching it. Soon the old man was stroking Rollei's head very gently and brushed his hand across Rollei's fur, a slight smile spreading across his face. "You know, he is very friendly," he whispered.

He started to say something else but stopped. Then, with a sadness in his voice, he spoke very quietly but firmly. "When I was a young man, the Nazis came into my hometown. They brought the dogs in to find us. One of the German shepherds bit me." He pointed to his ankle, where a large ragged scar stretched in a semi-circle.

He turned back to Rollei and his voice rose. "This is the first time I have ever petted a dog." He took a breath, his hand still on Rollei, who by now was leaning into him. "Thank you," he said, "thank you." Somehow I know that Rollei understood.

The Best, continued from page 1

thank everyone for helping out. As many of you already know, Georgie has asked to step down from her position as foster home coordinator. Mary Ginn has graciously agreed to assume some of Georgie's previous duties, but **we are STILL looking for a new foster home coordinator to help place the dogs in the appropriate foster homes.** This is a demanding job and requires a lot of patience, not to mention a solid knowledge of Golden temperaments and needs. Georgie is not going away—she will be helping Sam Connelly with fundraising once her replacement is found. Fundraising is an important component of our organization since it enables us to obtain supplies and to support the medical needs of our Golden.

Georgie's dedication to GRREAT and her love for all dogs over the last 10 years is beyond question. I can say that I am a better person for having had the privilege to work with her.

There is not enough room to mention everyone by name who is special to me in GRREAT. Please just know that I truly respect and appreciate all the work that you do. We have a special bunch of people volunteering at GRREAT and I am thankful for the work that you do. If you are looking to get more involved with the organization and to meet new people, there is no better time to do it than the present. It doesn't matter whether you're a brand new member or if you have been a member for years. We are constantly looking for new ideas, new events to attend, and new ways to help our beloved Golden. I look forward to seeing everyone at the various events, so please feel free to come say hello.

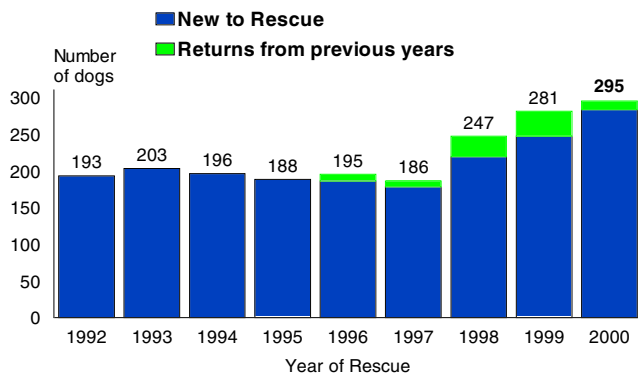
One last thing: **foster families are always needed.** If you want to foster and share your home with one of our Golden, I can promise you that you will never feel so needed, so wanted or so loved by anything in the world than by a displaced dog. After all, the reward of placing them in a new loving home is truly special.

GRREAT Rescue Report 2000 *(continued from page 1)*

for health reasons than in 1999, but fewer dogs had to be euthanized for aggression (11) than the previous year. This is most likely due to the change in GRREAT's policies about accepting dogs known to be aggressive. Fewer dogs (35) came with AKC pedigree papers than in 1999.

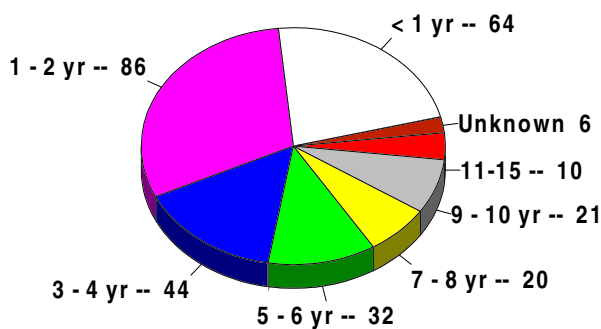
GRREAT volunteers staffed education and merchandise tables at 36 events during 2000, exclusive of MCI Center activities. This exposure to the general public resulted in an increase of over 20% in the number of adoption applications GRREAT received. GRREAT held 10 Adoption Days and sent out 10 Available Dog Lists during the year to adoption-approved families. The Board of Directors thanks all of the hundreds of volunteers who made this such a successful year.

Accepted into Rescue



The number of new dogs accepted into the Rescue during 2000 exceeded the total number rescued in 1999. Fortunately, fewer dogs from previous years were returned to GRREAT during 2000.

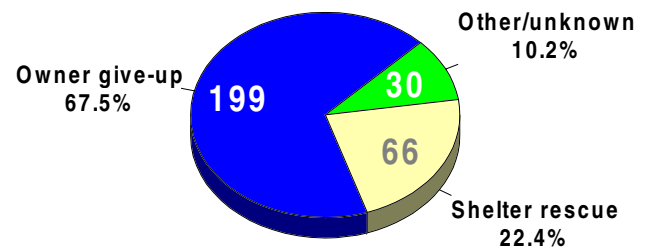
Age at Intake 2000



Includes only new rescues taken in in 2000

Over half of the dogs newly rescued in 2000 were puppies under the age of 2. These dogs are very desirable by adoptive families. On the other hand, nearly 20% of the new rescues were considered seniors (age 7 or older, up through age 15) and these dogs are much more difficult to place. Eight seniors were placed in long term foster care.

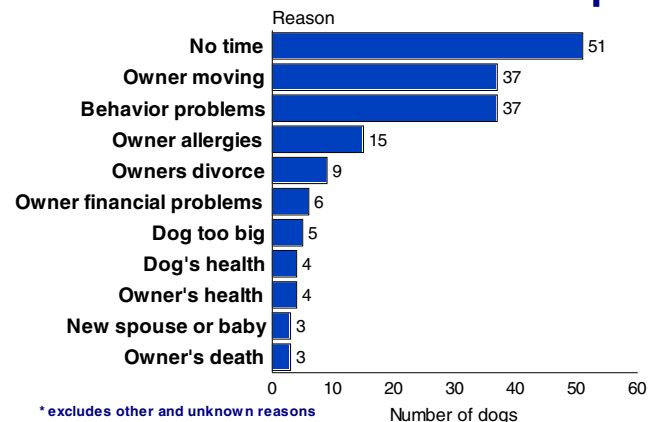
Source of Dogs 2000



Includes 283 new rescues and 12 returns

Two-thirds of the dogs taken in during 2000 were owner give-ups. About one-fourth were received from shelters, and the remainder were from various other sources. Twelve Maryland shelters contacted GRREAT about a total of 32 dogs; eleven shelters in Virginia turned over 28 dogs. Three dogs were received from West Virginia shelters, two from Pennsylvania shelters, and one from a Texas shelter.

Reasons* for Owner Give-up



Once again, the most common reason for an owner to give up a dog was lack of time, but other changes in the owner's lifestyle were also factors in turning the dog in to GRREAT. Behavior problems in the dog were the third most frequently stated reason to contact GRREAT.

Thank You
to these
individuals
for their recent
donations

Business Donors

Source Menagerie,
 Austin, Texas

JCI, INC.,
 Hillsboro, Oregon

Hunting Horn, Ltd.
 Warrenton, VA



Congratulations to
Robin Greenfield of
Jefferson, MD

Robin won the Golden
 Pendant Raffle drawn
 for Valentine's Day.

Winning the Golden
 angel dog is particularly
 poignant, because Robin
 lost her Golden Oldie,
 Penny, in December.

Paula Abernethy
 Kathy and Dmitri Adcock
 Ronald and Joan Apatoff
 Bill and Debbie Armstrong
 Carrie and Bob Arner
 Judy Beach and Joe Niebauer
 Maryanne and James Beagles
 Robert and Marcia Bergquist
 Wendy Beyer
 Sara Bogle
 Michele Brady
 Barbara Brincefield and
 James Stillwell
 Cheryl Brooks
 Paul and Judy Bruening
 Chip and Carol Clemmer
 Sharon Coale
 Louise Davidson
 Ruth Dominick
 Kathy Dyjack
 Cheryl and Stephen Ferrone
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 Jack G. Frakes
 Mary Gillett
 Martin and Staci Golden
 Judith Grant
 Gary Greenwood
 Priscilla Griffith
 Melissa Guzman
 Tara and Eric Habermann
 Mary and Michael Hahn
 Janet Hamel
 Stephen and Kristina K. Hays
 Charles and Wendy Heinz
 Diana and Doug Hellinger
 Denise Irwin
 Faye Jenkins
 Melissa Joos
 John Joy
 Paula Karpe

Lisa Kershner and Pam Brown
 Tom and Jean Klinger
 Tom and Mary Ann Kuehne
 Linda and Jim Kuhn
 Linda Kurtz (*see letter on page 9*)
 Joe and Joann Lamp
 Dawn Lowe
 Scott and Cindy Marble
 Susan McKelvey
 Beverly McWhirter
 Carol and Doug Melamed
 Sally and Kirt Meyer
 Caroline and Peter Miller
 Terrance and Karen Moses
 Barbara Oestreich
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 Nancy and Jim Ropelewski
 Jan Wolf Shapiro
 Kate Sharrock
 Gregory and Linda Sowers
 Hilary Stanhope and
 Kathi Rechsteiner
 Dinah Stevens and Hugh Spitzer
 Heather Stroup
 Kate Symonds
 Cynthia Ramsay Taylor and
 Carl Taylor
 Tevis Ann and Bill Thompson
 Jeff and Lucinda Twining
 Malcolm and Sharon Visser
 Anna Alt-White and
 John Timothy White
 Martin and Jane White
 Regina and Kenneth Wolfe

Dear GRREAT



I am the 12 year old daughter of Bob and Jill Kurtz, a foster home in Virginia. I have always wanted to do something more for GRREAT, and a few weeks ago I had my chance. I looked at my calendar and saw how much money I would be making from babysitting in the next three weeks or so. I discovered that there was nothing I wanted to spend it on, so I decided to donate it to GRREAT. What could be a better cause? I hope this money comes in handy to help GRREAT help a dog in need. I worked hard to earn this money, and now it can be put into a *wonderful* use.

—Linda Kurtz

Enclosed you will find a check for renewal of my membership to GRREAT as well as a little extra for wherever you need help the most. Please accept this donation in memory of a wonderful GRREAT Golden Oldie, Penny, whom my friend had to ‘help on her way’ in December. This donation is also in honor of KC (previously Tom, 99-218). Here is some follow-up on KC’s life after GRREAT came to his rescue.

It was December 1999 when this little character and I first met. He could not have been farther from the Golden I was looking for. I indicated on my application that I was interested in a female at least three years or older. I had recently lost my wonderful husband of 40 years, and I was still trying to cope with the emptiness. I figured the last thing I needed was a dog who was not already house-trained and somewhat settled. However, when the GRREAT representative learned that I was not working and would be at home all of the time and that I also had a wonderful fenced-in yard which was perfect for a large energetic dog, she asked me to consider a “special needs” dog GRREAT had just received.

He was estimated to be about 10-12 months old and had been tied to a tree all of his life. She thought he was house-broken

and neutered. She also told me that his name was Tom. That clinched it—my husband’s name was Thomas. I could not ignore such a coincidence. I had to go see him. Of course, I knew that the first dog I saw would take my heart, and I would go with it. And that is exactly what happened. He was so skinny and had such a frightened look in his eyes that I had to give him a chance at a good life.

Although I seriously questioned my decision for the first month or two, I am so happy I brought that little guy home with me that day. While GRREAT had been told that he was neutered and housebroken, he was neither! He was a bit wild and difficult to handle at first, but with the help of a trainer and a lot of patience, KC has become my best buddy. He now has a look of calmness in his eyes, has gained lots of self-confidence, and seems exceedingly happy about life with me and the two horses that also live here. I have been so amazed at the way KC and the horses have bonded. They have been lots of fun to watch as they interact with one another.

Thank you, GRREAT, for saving yet another wonderful companion.

—Marjorie Johnson

On December 16th, I was once again privileged to play Santa at the GRREAT Howliday Party. I don’t know exactly how many Golden I had the pleasure of meeting and being photographed with, but it was definitely GRREAT fun!

I left the party with three impressions I would like to share with you. First, the work GRREAT does is more important than ever and the leadership of GRREAT is doing an absolutely outstanding job. Second, seeing so many Golden “success stories” at the party confirms my view of the high level of commitment GRREAT members have with respect to Golden Rescue. And third, from what Santa could see, there are no GRREAT rescued Golden going to bed hungry—they all looked very well fed and very much loved by their adoptive families.

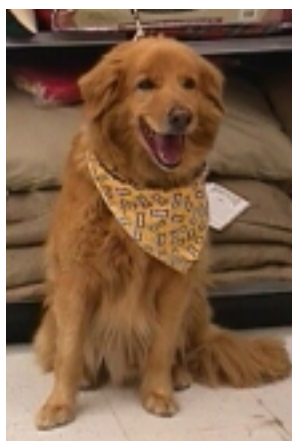
Thanks again for the opportunity to be Santa again—I’ll be back again next year.

—“Santa” Nick DeCesare

Obedience Classes Offered to Adopted Dogs

The Dog Owners’ Training Club of Maryland, Inc. invites GRREAT adoptive families to join them at the Pikesville Armory on Wednesday evenings. “Because we admire and appreciate the work your organization does, we will offer \$10 off our basic course to any of your rescue teams.” Call Judy Schreiber at 410-747-6776 for more information and tell her you adopted a rescue dog. Classes include puppy kindergarten, 9 week basic obedience, advanced basic through utility, conformation handling, click and trick, and canine good citizen. The DOTC was started in 1934 and was one of the first obedience clubs in the U.S. They are a member of the AKC and the Association of Obedience Clubs and Judges. DOTC is a non-profit organization and all work is done by volunteers.

IN REMEMBRANCE
TAWNY



Tawny, the “elderly Southern gentleman” spotlighted in the July/August 1999 issue of *GRREAT News* was approximately 13½ when he came to us and he lived an additional fourteen months. We visited him in his foster home and we loved him immediately. I am a sucker for oldies, Golden and otherwise. I knew he’d fit right in with our five-year-old adoptee Rowdy (Simba, 95-069) and our very elderly beagle Kelly.

From the moment Tawny walked into our house, he belonged. He never made any effort to escape or seemed at all ill-at-ease. He never missed a meal or seemed confused by his surroundings. He had, however, lived his life outside and he seemed to feel he belonged in the yard. From the first night, I tried to persuade him otherwise. Our battle of wills left me with very little sleep for the first month. At first, Tawny would wake me every hour or so to go outside. When he saw that I was going to wait for him, he would always come in. An hour or so later, Tawny would bark, and not willing to risk an accident, I would let him out again and wait at the door for him to come back inside. Finally I started bribing him. “If you stay in until 2 a.m.,” I’d tell him, ‘you can go out to stay.’ It got to be a game. Whatever hour I chose, he’d wake me about five minutes after the hour. It was uncanny. I began to believe he could tell time.

By the time school started in September, Tawny was sleeping in the bedroom until my alarm went off at 5 a.m. As soon as it rang, he would get up and head downstairs and I would let him out while I took a shower and got our breakfast ready. If he didn’t want to come in, he had breakfast outside. When I left for work, however, he was inside with Rowdy.

By winter the outside dog was comfortable inside. He learned his name, looked forward to walks, became more comfortable with hugs and pats and started to wag his tail (although not always at the right time). I think he knew that he was home and loved. In fact, Tawny seemed to feel that he had to run the household. He kept tabs on everyone, his humans and the ‘others,’ barking insistently if anyone was ‘out of place.’

The end came quickly. It began with a bladder infection which responded at first to antibiotics. Three weeks later, however, it became apparent that Tawny’s organs were failing. He was bleeding, and although it might have been possible to take him home for a final few days, I decided against it. I had wanted to provide Tawny with a happy old age; I didn’t want to have his last days or hours spent in pain.

Although his indomitable spirit was still intact, it was time to let him cross the “Rainbow Bridge.” We miss our Tawny Barker ...the red surface who wanted everything done his way. It’s very quiet here without him.

—Penny March



Home Check Volunteers Needed

Want to get out of the house? Spend quality time with your dog? Visit exotic locales? GRREAT can make it possible!

You and your dog can help us evaluate potential adoptive families. We are looking for home visit volunteers throughout GRREAT’s service area.

If you have a GRREAT dog, then you’ve had a home visit, so you have some idea of what is involved. What we ask is that you imagine you are interviewing these people as a prospective home for your dog. Then you fill out the home visit checklist and mail, email, or fax it to the Application Coordinator. It’s that simple!

With just a little of your time, you and your dog can help another rescued GRREAT dog find a good home!

If you can do home visits in MD, PA, or DE please contact Eric Heckman at ERIC-HECKMAN@MINDSPRING.COM or 301-762-1540

For VA, DC, or WV please contact Diane Lanigan at DIANELANIGAN@HOTMAIL.COM or 703-860-5430

(Note: If you are a currently a home visit volunteer, please send your email address to Eric and Diane to help update our files.)

We have an **urgent** need for volunteers in the following areas:

<u>In Virginia:</u>	<u>In Maryland:</u>
Ashburn	Baltimore
Falls Church	Montgomery Village
Nokesville	Olney
South Arlington	PG County
Sterling	Southern Maryland
	Towson
	Timonium
	and the Delaware beaches

Volunteer Positions Available

As the number of dogs GRREAT rescues continues to increase, we are looking for ways to become more efficient. We have identified some additional positions that we think would help share the volunteer workload. Please review these positions very carefully and ask for more information if you are interested in volunteering, since some of them require a substantial time commitment each week.

Anyone interested should contact the GRREAT President Dan Kepler. Send your e-mail to DANIEL.KEPLER@WCOM.COM. He will forward the information to the appropriate people for review.

FUNDRAISING ASSISTANTS (4) Two individuals will assist the Fundraising Coordinator in soliciting and collecting donations (sponsorship of GRREAT events, cash, items for raffles/auctions, etc.) within their geographic areas of responsibility. The position that covers Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia has been filled. We still need someone to cover Maryland and Delaware. (Each of these two positions will require about 10 to 15 hours per month)

Two other individuals (location not important) will assist the Fundraising Coordinator in researching the Internet to determine possible opportunities for soliciting support for companies or individuals. *Each of these two positions will require about 10 to 15 hours per month.*

MAIL ADMINISTRATOR

The Mail Administrator position will become available in July. This person processes mail arriving at the GRREAT post office box in Falls Church, VA, logs and forwards the correspondence to the appropriate person. Contact Cheryl Garbett or Dan Kepler for further information. Residence in northern Virginia would be helpful but is not required.

The current Foster Home Coordinator position has become too big for one person to handle. Therefore, these responsibilities are being divided into three new positions. These positions are absolutely critical to the operations of the rescue and should not be undertaken lightly. The Intake Specialist and the Home Care Specialist positions have been filled. We are currently looking for a very special volunteer:



VOLUNTEER TO COORDINATE AND APPROVE FOSTER HOMES FOR DELAWARE, MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The person who accepts this position should currently be or have been a foster home and should have a computer and basic administrative skills. Time involved is estimated at 5-10 hours weekly.

Duties include:

- Contact with prospective future foster homes
- Answering questions regarding foster homes and fostering
- Sending out foster home literature and foster home applications
- Documenting concerns and/or comments regarding applicants
- Contacting senior foster homes to conduct home visit in the same general area as the applicant.
- Providing foster homes information on on applicant and forwarding foster home visit form
- Approve/disapprove or confer with other members of the foster home team
- Assign buddies
- Providing a summary of newly approved foster home and disseminating to applicable volunteers
- Providing periodic status reports

For further information, please contact DeAnna Edge (vaedge@aol.com), Mary Ellen Lunde (melunde@erols.com) or Georgie Bahler (gabahler@erols.com).

Did You See This? Washington Area Kennel Ratings

The Winter/Spring 2001 issue of the *Washington Consumers' Checkbook* published a long feature article on kennels in the Washington metro area. The report rates local kennels based on consumer evaluations of their quality and cost. The article also covers whether you should take Goldie along with you, costs associated with in-home pet sitting and questions to ask when choosing a kennel. The *Consumer Checkbook* is available by subscription and at most local libraries. This article can also be purchased and downloaded from the web site at WWW.CHECKBOOK.ORG.

Special Donations were received

IN MEMORY OF...



UPC Symbols Sought for GRREAT Foster Dogs

Do you give your dog Nutro dog food? If so, you can help GRREAT by sending the UPC (bar code) and receipts for the products you buy. As a rescue organization, GRREAT can receive one bag of dry Nutro product free for every six we buy. Canned food is included also in this program—we can get one case of canned Nutro for every ten cases we buy. The offer excludes Nutrix, Optichoice, treats, and biscuits. GRREAT will use this bonus food to help feed the dogs in our foster homes.

Please mail UPCs and receipts to Jo Bighouse, 420 Wildman Street NE, Leesburg, VA 20176.

Bernard A. McLaughlin, Jr., who passed away on February 12, 2001. Bernard is the father of Kelly Daniels, proud owner of five Golden Retrievers and an active volunteer in your Rescue.
—Patricia and Matthew West

Bran (Naduah Colour Me Bran), owned and loved by Karen Parnell of Christchurch, New Zealand. Bran was our dog Bailey's mother. —Julie Palais and Rick Stevens

Brandy—she was a Golden Oldie who lived until age 15½. —Donna LeCompte and Thomas McConn

Brandy, sweet and much loved girl, greatly missed by Joanne, Randy, Matthew and family. —Priscilla and John Borden

Nicki Parisi's **Brie**, a sweet, dear Golden Angel —Sidney Morris

Three GRREAT dogs: **Buffy** (died in 1996), **Snacker** (died in 1997), and **Dogberry** (died in 2000). Snacker and Dogberry were from the 1988 puppy mill rescue in Virginia.
—Patricia Scahill

Casey Seate, one of the sweetest girls I've ever known. Thanks for all the loving memories.
—Lisa Ost

Chancy, my canine soul mate —Teri Enos

Chelsea, the wonderful Golden of my daughter Lynne Glennon. Chelsea lived a full life until almost 13 and we were grateful to have had her this long. —Tom Ludwig

Chessie, a very special Golden and the beloved companion of my friends Kate O'Brien and Bill Bryan and their 1½ year old son Christopher. Chessie was lost to cancer of the pericardium too soon at just nine years old. —Tricia Collier

Cormick, our dearest Golden, who died in 1999. We think of him daily, even though we've adopted three more Golden Retrievers since (Sam, Taffy and Brie). —Alan and Michele Smith

Dearman, our first GRREAT dog —Sheila Loftus

Honey (Honey's GRREAT Surprise CD, TDI, LGC) —Sharon and Nick DeCesare

Jake "the Snake" and Misty —Linda Stacy-Nichols

Jenny—she gave of love and died too young. —Patrick Neiler

Josey—may you always ride the good waves, roll in the warm sand and chase the sandpipers plenty. We miss you, Beach Girl. —Tory Hodgkins

Marcus, trusted friend of Bob and April Fritz —Vicki and Gordon Sumner

Penny—our GRREAT Golden Oldie Girl. We had a short 18 months together. Thank you Penny for giving everyone's lives so much love and happiness. Forever missing you.
—Robin Greenfield

Penny Greenfield —Judith Lumsden

Popeye, our beloved Goldie —Thomas and Donna Frankhouser

Rascal, Daisy, Wendell and TT —Don and Mona Shaw

Reilly Ray, a wonderful Golden who lost his life to cancer at the tender age of four years. I'll always miss him. —Sheila Ray

Rusty I and to thank you for Rusty II, a.k.a. Dusty —Neil and Cornelia Strawser

Sailor —Bruce and Carole Kovacs

Memorial Donations continued on next page

Two days after we adopted Casey (00-112), we were offered a job in Germany. So here we are all three, my husband and I and Casey. Casey travelled well and loved the hotel; they really cater to pets over here. Casey has made lots of friends on his daily walks and his nightmares are very infrequent now.

Please let Georgie know that the frozen block of ice in the drink bowl when traveling worked well. Looking forward to your great magazines. Anybody traveling from the organization in Germany who needs help or a bed, call us. We are about 15 miles from Frankfurt. [*Please contact newsletter editor for their address and phone.*]

—Chief Master Sergeant (Ret) W. Lawson
and M. Lawson

We have moved to Wiesbaden, Germany for three years. Please take us off your home visit and foster home list until we return to Manassas in late 2003. When we were in Germany and Spain in 1980-1990 we never saw any Golden Retrievers. People had no idea what our Golden was—most thought it was a light, fat Irish Setter. Now Golden Retrievers are everywhere. Apparently people all over are discovering what magnificent dogs they are. Our beautiful Bear can go everywhere here—stores, restaurants, etc., unlike the USA. We found a lovely home on the edge of a woods with a large fully fenced yard so all three dogs will be in doggy paradise—at least once spring arrives.

—Glen MacDonald and Dee Brown



GRREAT Dogs in Germany

Memorial Donations, continued from previous page

Our Golden, **Samantha**, who we had the pleasure of adopting from your organization five years ago. Samantha brought so much joy and laughter into our lives and we will miss her tremendously. Please include us in future newsletter mailings and information on adoptions, as we are interested in adopting another Golden within the year. —Julie Anderson and Drew Cockley

Sammy—Al's best bud—who passed away in October. —Jean and Al Huey

Sammy (98-191) —Theresa and Tom White

Sophia Fallon —Katherine Fallon

Spicewood's High-Dro Dynamic, CDX, owned by Nancy Hoffman —Nancy and Sarah MacDonald

Tawny, our elderly southern gentleman —Penny March *See letter on page 10.*

Waylon, owned by Paul Garrard, and best buddy of my pug, Millie. —Michael McLaughlin

Whiskey and Annie —Stephen and Christine Williams

Zachery, my wonderful Golden who lived only 9½ years —Joanna Thalheimer

In memory of our Golden angel, **Chammy Arey** and her best friends, **Whitey Hochard** and **Shannon Pennie**, who are all together and waiting for us at the Rainbow Bridge. **In honor of** our new great GRREAT dog, **Duke** (00-256) who's doing a wonderful job of healing our broken hearts after losing our beloved Chammy (who we believe brought us together). **And to thank Megan and Andrew Bowen** for choosing us for Duke. Thanks for knowing just what we needed! —Ken and Patty Arey

In memory of Jason (94-036) and **in honor of Brandi and Scout** (97-176) and **in honor of Sam Connelly's** artistic endeavors for GRREAT. —DeAnna and Kevin Edge

In memory of Penny and **in honor of KC** —Marjorie Johnson *See letter on page 9.*

Thanks

**Thank you to
Carpets and Floors, Inc.
and
Custom Carpet,
both of Burke, VA.**

They each generously contributed 30 carpet squares for our Howliday Party "Musical Carpet Squares" game. Of the 60 squares, only 30 were needed for the game. The unused squares were donated to Camelot Elementary School in West Springfield, VA, for use in their special needs class for hearing impaired students. Thank you again.

Attention GRREAT Partygoers: Start practicing now for our next Howliday Musical Carpet Squares game!
—DeAnna Edge

Special Donations were received IN HONOR OF...

The birth of **Gracie Bonato** on January 3, 2001 to Lisa and John Bonato and Lucky and Ginger (Goldens) —Grandma Ann Dacy

Hud, Martie and Katie Heaton —Patricia Redmond

Nicki Parisi to thank her for all her help in developing a web site for me which provides information about aids and devices for disabled dogs. (The web site address is www.disableddogs.com) —Jan Brown

Janis Brown and in memory of her dogs **Toby and Bernie** —Gregory Russell

Bettyanne Schubert Dukell —George and Greta Schubert

To thank **Dr. Julia Sturn** of Glenelg Animal Hospital and **Dr. Michelle McKenna** of Yellow Springs Vet Clinic for all they've done to help our Goldens, Zack and Koda Bear, through a difficult year. —Joanne Patenaude



*Charles and Charlotte
Gilmore write:*

Jack (96-011), the beautiful June 2000 GRREAT calendar dog with sand on his nose, died just before Christmas of liver failure. Jack had been a young problem dog; we were his third family. We were told that we may never be able to let him off-leash. The first time I let him off leash he did run, but it was right back to the house. After that, he was always free, and he never once roamed from our house. He had found his home. We were fortunate that Jack was able to spend 5 years of his short life with us. We loved him so much.

Alex (00-094) our Golden Oldie —Brenda and Mike Burlbaugh

Amber (00-227), **Kathleen, Mike and Kelsey** with love and thanks. —Ric, Avery and Debbie Uslander

Asta and Dagmar —Bob Cohen and Karen Stierman

Breezy, our adopted Golden, who brings us pleasure every day and we hope our contribution to your wonderful organization will help some other Golden find a happy home. —Dick and Judy Radt

Chessie —Bill Daisley

Gibson True Lascko —Tim Lascko and Susan Stein-Lascko

Gus the Giver and Max the Receiver —Dick and Jule Ann Cheslock

Our new **Hamlet, a.k.a. Scotty** —Constance Holcombe and Ed Bielechi

Joshua, our GRREAT dog —Brian and Lynde Knowles-Jonas

Keely (00-061) —Lane and Gene Weinzwieg

My non-GRREAT but incredible Golden **Kenai**, who survived a vicious pit bull attack. He was so lucky and I am so thankful. —Joy Levy

We still love Lucy! —John and Jacquelyn Lodmell

UCD Mok's Golden Rust, CD, CGC (Rusty, 99-213), a very special dog. —Maureen Kelley

Raleigh and Rosie —Elaine Feidelman

To thank our much loved family member "**Randy Travis**" —John and Dorothy Dean

To thank **Sam** for being my best friend —Brenda Pascal

Sandy (99-187): she's captured our hearts! —Gerald and Ziva Schuchman

SR Sawdust of Golden Oakes, UD, JH, WCX, CGC, TDI. I am very proud of Mason, rescued at age 2 ½ who is one of the oldest Golden Retrievers to achieve a Utility Dog title. She did this in September at age 10 years 11 months. —Martha Cole Glenn

Pebwin Sonyc Kismet "Marlene." —Liz McMillen

Sonyc's "B" litter —Kathy Carbone

Please accept this donation **in the name of Steve and Sallie Gnau** of Morrisville, PA
—Judith and Laurence Kleiner

On behalf of Marjorie Snyder, from Nancy and Robert Snyder, Dorothy and Bernard Ehrets, and Chance Moore

On behalf of Amber Richter —V. Sharon Pulley

This gift is given **in the name of Kathy and Ray Schmid**. —Brian Donovan

For veterinary expenses and **in honor of Amigo** (GRREAT adoptee, November 1996) and **in memory of Kate** (died March 1996) and **to thank all of you for your fine work**.
—Mary Ann McFarland and Stephen Soderberg

Please accept this donation **in honor of Jack** (formerly Sanford), our lovable new 7 month old GRREAT Golden. He is a joy to us already and he is helping us recover from the devastating loss to bone cancer this past July of our beautiful and loving Golden angel Jesse, who gave us so much love and joy for 13 years. **Many thanks to GRREAT and especially to Becky and Doug Brown** for choosing us to be Jack's new family—we loved him the moment we saw him at the November Adoption Day. —Michele and Matt Bensen

For the love and honor of all our Golden friends —Tammy Medlock

In honor of the wonderful work of GRREAT —Brad, Peggy and Bradley Goebel

To thank GRREAT for Keo —Carla Dahle

In honor of GRREAT volunteers from your friends at Coventry School for Dogs.
—Ruth Chase

For GRREAT dogs—and GRREAT people—please use for whichever fund you want. We treasure our GRREAT Golden, Hillary. —Abby Owen

To thank GRREAT for the great job. Our Golden Tyler was adopted 3/23/00 and has adjusted beautifully due to the work of your foster families. —Catherine and John Macco

To thank GRREAT for our lovable Golden, Rudi (97-175) —Conway and Martha Robinson

To thank GRREAT for Nina. —Rosalind and Stuart Walman

To thank all foster families, especially the Carryers. —Dick Wilcher

To thank Amy and Don Owen, GRREAT foster parents, for knowing that McGuire was the right dog for us. —Linda and Gordon Mansfield

This donation is made on behalf of all the wonderful work done by **Lesleigh Cook**. Lesleigh helped me with my first foster, “Bud Light” (now called Buck for the last 4 ½ years). It is hard to believe he'll soon be 10. Lesleigh is extraordinary in her efforts to rescue dogs. I was especially moved by the story of the “Campbell Soup dog.” She helped the most desperate dog reach safety in her loving arms. Keep up all the GRREAT work you do. I look forward to another year of wonderful newsletters. —Pat Balducci and Tom Sizemore

In honor of all the hard workers of GRREAT. They are very often overworked and definitely underpaid and their dedication continues to humble me. I am proud to be affiliated with such a fine group of people. —Terry Standridge

To thank Georgie Bahler for bringing Goldie (99-070) into our lives as a foster dog. Within an hour she captured my heart and I knew she had found a permanent home with us.
—Olivia McDonough

More Special Donations for special reasons

Can't Get Enough of Goldens?

*Plan to attend the 4th
annual East Coast*

GoldenFest

Saturday, May 5, 2001
11:00 am to ?
Blob's Park,
Jessup, MD

This is a party for all Golden lovers and their four-legged friends on the eastern seaboard. Many members of the golden@hobbes e-mail list attend each year. Activities include games for the dogs, fields and trails in the woods for doggy and human exercise, and plenty of good company.

Admission is \$10 per person or \$15 per family. This event is not sponsored by GRREAT, but profits will be shared by GRREAT and other local Golden Rescues.

Blob's Park is just off the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at MD 175 east (about 12 miles south of Baltimore).



Leo's Corner

*The Leo Fund
for special needs dogs.*

Golden Angels (\$500 or more)

Bob and Kathy Horowitz
and Samson

Krista Maslyn

Golden Heroes (\$100 - \$499)

Tim and Linda Daniel

Louise Davidson

Anita and John Funk

Gary Greenwood

Nancy Hamilton

Joanne Heininger

John and Trish Horwath

Dr. and Mrs. James Hayes

David and Sally Long

Rockville-Montgomery

Swim Club (Olney site)

Louis and Teri Stachowiak

Leo's Pals (up to \$99)

Brenda and Mike Burlbaugh

Bridget and Eric Cooper

Bill Daisley

Arlene Dunlop

Karen Davis

Vicki and James Eurice

Pamela Hodgkinson

Jo and Yvonne Kinkaid

Diane Lanigan

Ray McKenna

Jayne and Neil Melofchik

Don and Nancy Mitarotonda

Sue Rackham

Polly and Scott Roberts

Stuart and Dagmar Sachs

Jeff and Maurine Schuller

Jane Smith

Sharon Strike

Leslie Thornton

Tom Tucker

Patrick and Rebecca Turner

Kathleen and Jay Witkin

Diane Wolfe

**In honor of Brady (97-090) and to
thank Dr. Walker** for doing a
bilateral femoral head osteotomy on
Brady—all is going well with him.
—David and Sally Long

In honor of Dr. Kristin Terris
—Joanne Heininger

Leo Fund Donations for Special Reasons

In honor of Eric and Chis Boehm
—J.T. and Pat Catlett

**In the name of Marjory and Vince
Snyder** —Arlene Dunlop

**In honor of Carolyn Bishop, Janice
Johnson, Mary Ellen Lunde and
Marjorie Snyder** whose love of Goldens
has brought the love of two Golden Girls
into my life. —Sharon Strike

In honor of Martie Heaton's birthday on
March 7. Happy Birthday from Beck, Pat,
Greg, and Gwen.
—Patrick and Rebecca Turner

To thank GRREAT for giving us Penny
(97-039). —Vicki and James Eurice

To thank GRREAT for giving these
Goldens a chance for a healthy, happy life.
—Nancy Hamilton

In honor of our GRREAT dog, Sheela
(97-058) —Bonnie and Vernon Hill

In memory of our dear Dolly, departed in
December 2000 at age 14½
—Dr. and Mrs. James Hayes

In memory of Zeke and Zeus (for Bear's
surgery)
—Bob and Kathy Horowitz and Samson

In memory of Clay and for Bear's surgery
—Gail and Tom Koch

In honor of Bear (00-261), our recent
foster, so that his namesake can have the
surgery he needs.
—Joyce Casey and Jerry Williams

In honor of Beauregard, adopted May
1999 —Kathleen and Jay Witkin

In memory of Nugget, our first Golden
—Jeff and Maurine Schuller

**In memory of our first Golden, Truck, and
in honor of our Goldens Maggie, Samson,
Shane and Laddie.**
—Tim and Linda Daniel

More Leo Fund donations on page 18

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

Bear Update: Thank You for Your Generosity

The plea from Bear/Primo (00-268) on the GRREAT web page and in the January/February issue of *GRREAT News* brought a tremendous response from generous members, not only for Bear/Primo, but also Honey and Brandy, who were also featured in the last issue of the newsletter. The generosity of our members allowed Bear to have his surgery without depleting the Leo Fund. For more information on how Bear has done since his surgery, visit the GRREAT web site, www.great.org.

Bear, Honey and Brandy want to thank

Cheryl Babik
Sue Barefoot
Mike and Ann Brace
Dolores Buchanan
Joyce Casey and Jerry Williams
Anita Evans
Gail and Tom Koch
Bob and Kathy Horowitz and Samson
Linda and Ron Igou
Dawn and Ed Lowe
Mary Ann McFarland
and Steven Soderberg
Ralph and Joyce Page
Anne Peck
Jack and Micky Penkoske
Stephanie Sites and Curtis Dalpra
Daphna Smith
Nancy and Dave Smith
Lou and Teri Stachowiak
Andrea Supp and Courtney Matthews
Ann Wakefield
Bruce Wiggett and Jeane Hostetler
Brad and Doreen Wright

Among the notes enclosed with donations:

- Please use this to help with Bear's surgery. We really think that GRREAT is just that—great! We don't have a rescue Golden, but we do have a Golden Retriever and we do appreciate your wonderful work. Tell Bear/Primo that we are thinking of him and wishing him a speedy recovery.
- This was prompted by the heart-rending stories about Brandy, Honey and Bear in the January/February issue of *GRREAT News* (which we read cover to cover each month!) Thank you.
- It breaks my heart that such a young dog should have so many problems. I hope his surgeries are successful.



Bear/Primo post-surgery and ready to play

Dear Bear:

My name is Tahoe and I have what my Mom and Dad call 'bionic' hips! I am writing to tell you about how good you are going to feel when you get your new hips. I was a victim of terrible breeding—the breeder knowingly bred two mildly dysplastic dogs and my hips were probably like yours. I too had no socket in my right hip and very little socket in my left. I was textbook grade 4 dysplasia. Mom and Dad got my diagnosis when I was only six months old. The breeder said, 'Bring him back'...well, Mom knew what that meant. She dug in her heels and said, 'it's only money ...we'll find it somehow!'

We all went to a very nice orthopedic surgeon who said, 'I can fix it but we have to wait until you stop growing.' So we waited...four long months. During that time, everything hurt...romping was out of the question and even my favorite walks had to be cut short. Finally, the day arrived. Mom and Dad were scared but kept telling me that everything would be okay.

I don't remember the surgery but when I woke up, Dad was there to visit me and I had a brand new hip. I was so glad to see him. By the next day, I was standing up with help and very soon I was walking around. Dad came to visit me everyday on his lunch hour and by the end of my week-long stay I could go home.

I still was not allowed to run or go up the stairs. We have a deck and Dad would carry me up and down the stairs for weeks. Mom caught on quicker. You see, within a week, I could do it on my own but having Dad carry me was fun!!!

I had my surgery almost seven years ago and now I run and play with the best of them. I have a new sister, Sadie (00-059) from GRREAT. She came to live with us in March and our favorite thing in the whole world is wrestling and goobing each other. Bear, Mom said I can send you some money so you can have new hips too. Maybe next year we can meet and play at the Bark-B-Que. I'll be the big yellow guy with the red-headed sister. Good luck, Bear!!

Oh yeah, my Mom and Dad are Curtis Dalpra and Stephanie Sites. They said to tell your foster parents that everything will be okay!!

Peace,
Tahoe

GRREAT will have Education and Merchandise Tables at the following events

Gunpowder River Golden Retriever Club B/OB Specialty Match Conformation and Obedience

Saturday March 24, 2001
10:00 to 5:00

for information and directions:

[HTTP://WWW.GRGRCM.ORG](http://www.grgrcm.org)

Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club 27th Annual Independent Specialty Show, Sweepstakes and Obedience Trial

Saturday April 14, 2001
8:00 - 5:00

Rose Hill Manor
Frederick, MD
for information and directions:

[HTTP://PVGRC.ORG/ EVENTS.HTM](http://pvgrc.org/events.htm)

Old Dominion Kennel Club 116th AKC All Breed Dog Show and Obedience Trial

Saturday, April 21, 2001
Morven Park International Equestrian Center
Leesburg, VA

for information and directions:

[HTTP:// MEMBERS.AOL.COM/ KBLAIRH/SPRING01.HTML](http://members.aol.com/kblairh/spring01.html)

SEE YOU THERE!

CANINE DENTAL DISEASE SEMINAR April 29, 2001 Oriole Dog Training Club Baltimore

DIRECTIONS TO ORIOLE DOG TRAINING CLUB FROM BALTIMORE BELTWAY (I-695)

The Training Club is located at 1718 Belmont Avenue in Baltimore. Take exit 17 West (Security Boulevard). At the traffic light opposite the main entrance to Security Square Mall, turn right onto Belmont Avenue. After passing entrances (on the right) to McDonald's, Best Buys and State Police facility, turn left into the Office Park parking lot between #1718 and 1720 Belmont.

DIRECTIONS TO ORIOLE DOG TRAINING CLUB FROM I-70 (traveling from west)

Follow I-70 to the very end, crossing over the Baltimore Beltway. At the end of the highway, follow signs to Security Boulevard. Traveling west on Security Blvd, you'll pass five traffic lights before crossing under the Beltway. Two traffic signals later, you will be at the intersection of Belmont Avenue, across from the main Security Square Mall entrance. Turn right and follow the directions above.

More Leo Fund Donations

In honor of Jeff and Barney

—Polly and Scott Roberts

In honor of Morgan (a.k.a. Peaches, 98-133)

—Anita and John Funk

This donation to the Leo Fund is in memory of Jake and Shane, my two companions. Jake I lost 3½ years ago and Shane I lost suddenly to cancer three months ago. We miss you and think of you every day. There is no happiness in coming home to an empty house each day. We miss your companionship, love and understanding when we have to talk to you. You are both in our hearts and thoughts every day. Until we meet again over the rainbow bridge...

—John and Trish Horwath

For Primo/Bear's surgery and Honey's medical care

—Andrea Supp and Courtney Matthews

For heartworm treatments for Brandy

—Nancy and Dave Smith

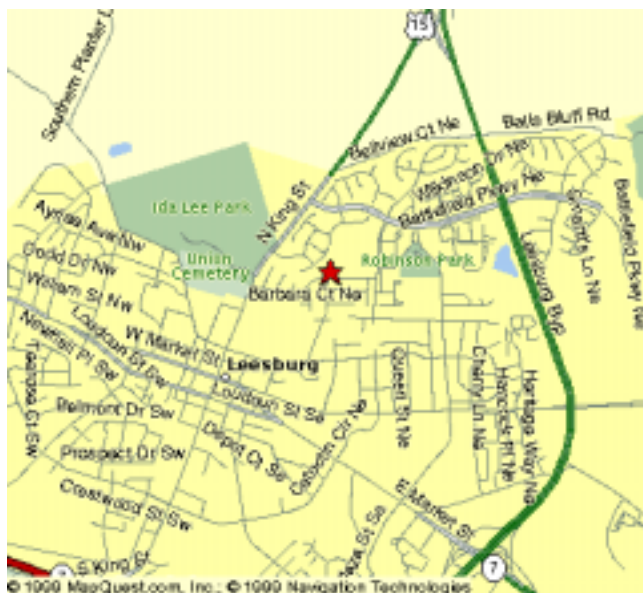
Adoption Day

Saturday, April 7, 2001 - noon until 2:00 pm

Paxton Child Development Center

420 Wildman Street NE, Leesburg, VA

(703-777-4974 for directions)



Directions to Paxton Child Development Center:

Take VA 267 west (Dulles Toll Road/Dulles Greenway) to US 15 South/VA 7 west. Merge onto Leesburg Bypass/US 15 Bypass South. Take US 15-Business exit towards Leesburg. Turn right onto South King Street/US 15 Business and go 1.4 miles north. Turn right onto Oakcrest Manor Drive NE. Paxton Child Development Center is at the corner of Oakcrest Manor Drive and Wildman Street.

**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 \$25 for my 2001 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
- _____ 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



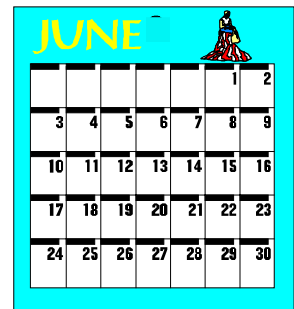
Saturday, April 7, 2001 Noon - 2:00 pm
Adoption Day
 Paxton Child Development Center, Leesburg, VA
Directions on page 18



Sunday, April 29, 2001 — 1:30 - 4:00 pm
Canine Dental Disease Seminar
 Oriole Dog Training Club, Baltimore, MD
See page 3. Directions on page 18



Saturday, May 5, 2001 Noon - 2:00 pm
Adoption Day
 Petsmart of Columbia, MD
This is the same location as the March 2001 Adoption Day.



Saturday May 19, 2001
GRREAT Annual Bark-B-Que
 Knights of Columbus facility
 College Park, MD
Details in next issue.

*Please see page 18 for additional events
 where GRREAT will be present.*

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