



GRREAT News

September/October 2002

Volume 12, Number 5

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From the President GRREAT's Intake Process Dan Keppler

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I was sitting at work writing my President's letter when my e-mail icon started to blink. It was another of Mary Ellen Lunde's e-mails letting us know what is happening with intake. The statistics she provided were simply amazing.

So far this year (early September) we have taken in 188 dogs (176 newbies and 12 GRREAT returns with ID numbers other than 2002). That is an average of 5.5 dogs each and every week. In one week in August, we took in 16 (yes, 16) dogs. We have an additional 4 assigned to foster homes scheduled to come in this upcoming weekend and another additional 6 that we're working on. The rest of the e-mail went on to thank many of the volunteers who make this all possible.

To give you an idea about the dogs I have provided their ages and the reason for give up. I have learned not to judge the reasons given by the former owners, but do appreciate the fact that these dogs are now in GRREAT and will be treated with the utmost care and love.

- *2 year FS [female spayed]- Sold old house, new house not finished, have to live in apartment for 4 months; gave dog to friend to keep for 4 months and friend turned it into shelter after one day. Shelter called owner and owner said they could not reclaim Chloe.*

From the President, continued on page 10

Meet Buddy and his family, the Barkers. Buddy is a beautiful Golden boy. Mom, Dad, Junior and Sissy don't even want to remember what life without Buddy was like. They look forward to his enthusiastic greetings every day, playing ball, walks, snuggle times and even his mischief.

During an appointment, their vet asked the Barkers if they would like to have Buddy microchipped, explaining that he could implant a rice-grain sized microchip just under the skin on Buddy's shoulder. This chip is coded with a unique registration number that can assist in reuniting Buddy with his family if he ever gets lost. The procedure is no more painful than any vaccination, just a shot with a slightly bigger needle. Mrs. Barker paid about \$15.00 to have their Buddy-boy chipped. Since Buddy was adopted from a rescue, he also had a tattoo and a personal ID tag. The Barkers thought *nothing can go wrong anymore now!*

As it happened, one day Buddy got very scared and ran off. Those long legs on his muscular body covered an incredible distance in just a short time. The Barkers were frantic looking for their beloved Buddy. They put up flyers with Buddy's picture, reported him missing with the police dept, the sheriff's office, local vets, shelters, animal control, newspapers, radio stations, grocery stores, post offices, mail boxes and everywhere else they could think of. Days passed, but no word of Buddy reached them. Meantime, a few counties over, Buddy had been captured and sat in his little run at the shelter, wondering what happened. Unfortunately, this shelter didn't have a scanner yet, the instrument needed to locate and read a microchip. They also didn't look for his tattoo – he's a big, hairy dog and might not take kindly to being rolled around by strangers

Chipping, continued on page 6

**Golden Retriever Rescue,
Education and Training, Inc.**
P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069
Phone: 703-620-6593
Web site: [HTTP://WWW.GRREAT.ORG](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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GRREAT News Bites



We all know that Golden Retrievers are the party planners of the doggie world—GRREAT now needs a human with the same skills! This is a new volunteer position.

The Special Events Coordinator plans social activities for GRREAT members and their fuzzy friends. Annual events for which the Special Events Coordinator is the leader (some jobs can be delegated to other volunteers) include the

- Volunteer Appreciation Picnic (September/October)
- Bark-B-Que (May)
- Howliday Party (December)

Additional events may be added if there is interest among GRREAT members and the special events coordinator is willing!

The Special Events Coordinator locates and reserves suitable locations, makes food/refreshment arrangements, plans activities and lines up volunteers for the event. Time commitment averages 1 hour per week, with more time needed when events are near.

If you are interested, please contact Jill Kurtz at 703-250-3012 or thekurtzes@yahoo.com.



**Mark Your Calendar Now
for GRREAT's
Annual Howliday Party**

**Saturday
December 7, 2002
Montgomery County (MD)
Fairgrounds**

**Pot Luck Dinner
for 2-legged Attendees**

Instant Pictures with Santa Paws

Canine Costume Parade

Pets 'n' People Games

Doggie Gift Exchange

**GRREAT Merchandise Table
details in the next issue
of GRREAT News!**

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.

**Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
Saturday, October 26, 2002**

**11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Paxton Child Development Center
420 Wildman Street NE
Leesburg, VA
(703-777-4974 for directions)**

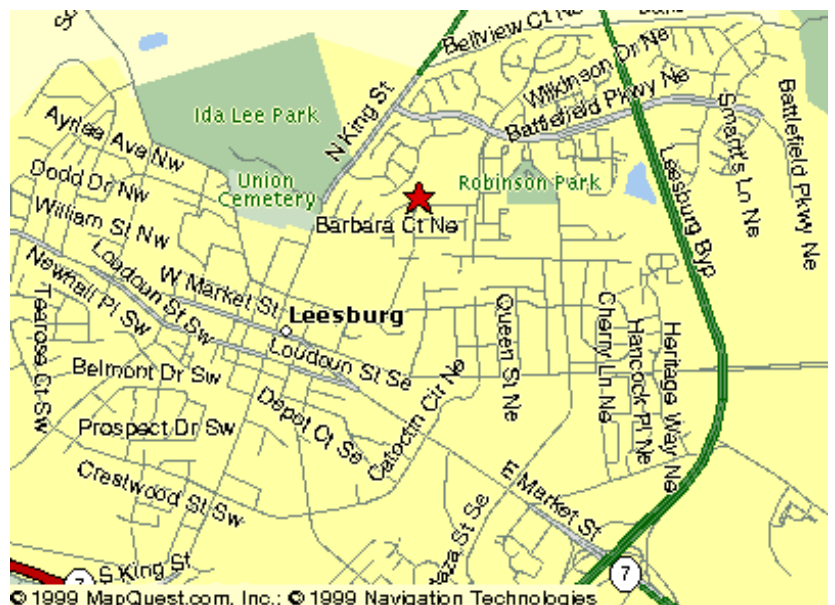
Join us on October 26th to celebrate GRREAT's wonderful volunteers and all our Golden Retrievers. This event is open to all members, volunteers, foster families, and adoptive families. This is a GRREAT opportunity for adopted dogs to revisit their foster families! The picnic will be held at the Paxton Child Development Center, 420 Wildman Street NE, Leesburg, VA, from 11:00 am to 3:00 p.m. There is a small zoo for the kids (peacocks, donkeys, horses, birds, goats), and a large fenced area where the dogs can run off-leash! Additional two-legged and four-legged activities are also planned.

This is a celebration of our volunteers, so the cost is FREE, the food and beverages are FREE (hot dogs and hamburgers; soda, water and juice). Donations are of course welcomed and gratefully accepted.

So that we can have enough food on hand for everyone, please call the GRREAT phone number, 703-620-6593, and leave a message in Box 51 stating how many people and how many dogs will be attending.









A special event this year will be a "giant blowout clearance sale of GRREAT merchandise to reduce inventory." Get the picture? Bring your checkbook or cash and a large vehicle to take home all your goodies! We don't want anything left!

Mark your calendar for this GRREAT event! See you there!



QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS

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

 <p style="text-align: center;">Quilt Raffle to Benefit GRREAT Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. Tickets \$5.00 each <i>Please fill out ticket completely.</i></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>Daytime phone (____) _____</p> <p><small><i>The winner receives a queen size 84" x 84" handmade quilt in a pinwheel design called "Smiles and Cuddles." Mail tickets with check to Quilt Raffle c/o Georgie Bahler, 2537 Oakhampton Place, Oak Hill, VA 20171. Drawing will be held 12/7/2002. Your check is your receipt.</i></small></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Quilt Raffle to Benefit GRREAT Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc. Tickets \$5.00 each <i>Please fill out ticket completely.</i></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>Daytime phone (____) _____</p> <p><small><i>The winner receives a queen size 84" x 84" handmade quilt in a pinwheel design called "Smiles and Cuddles." Mail tickets with check to Quilt Raffle c/o Georgie Bahler, 2537 Oakhampton Place, Oak Hill, VA 20171. Drawing will be held 12/7/2002. Your check is your receipt.</i></small></p>
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quilt raffle

to benefit GRREAT

This newsletter's single ink printing process simply can't do justice to the gorgeous colors in this queen size 84" x 84" quilt. Please visit the GRREAT website www.grreat.org/ to see this fabulous quilt in all its colors—patches of solid and printed fabrics in reds, pinks, blues, yellows, oranges, and magentas surrounded by a blue and purple border. This is more than just a quilt to keep you warm this winter, it is a true work of art. Whether you use it as a bedspread or display it proudly as a wall hanging, it will bring you joy for years to come.

Named "Smiles and Cuddles" and donated to GRREAT by its creator, Deborah Lamb-Mechanick, this quilt reflects the happiness that came to her family with the adoption from GRREAT of Wookie (02-026) and the Golden Retriever breed's special smiles, full body wags, and joy for life.

The happy pinwheel design was inspired by a quilt designed by Patricia Hess which appeared in the June 2001 Quilters Newsletter. GRREAT volunteer Deborah Lamb-Mechanick devoted over 100 hours to this completely handmade quilt comprised of thousands of tiny stitches.

The quilt will be displayed at various GRREAT events this fall at which tickets can be purchased. The raffle drawing will take place at the GRREAT Howlday



Smiles and Cuddles quilt by Deborah Lamb-Mechanick

Party on December 7, 2002. The lucky winner need not be present to win.

Each raffle ticket is \$5.00. We have printed a page of raffle tickets in this issue. Additional tickets can be downloaded from www.grreat.org.

Tickets are not numbered so please fill out each one completely (suggestion: use a small stick-on return address label and add your phone number). Tickets that are not completely filled out may cause you to miss out, since we can only contact you if we know who you are. If we draw a ticket with only a name and no address or phone, we will draw again. You can bring your tickets and check to a GRREAT event through December 7th, or you can mail your ticket(s) and a check payable to GRREAT to:

Quilt Raffle c/o Georgie Bahler
2537 Oakhampton Place
Oak Hill, VA 20171

Tickets

\$5 each

Drawing

12/7/02

*GOOD
LUCK!*

When You're the Retriever

What To Do If Your Dog Gets Lost

We hope that your beloved Golden never gets lost, but it can happen to even the most home-oriented animal. Here are some useful suggestions to help you and your fur-face be reunited.

1. Anticipate that the worst can—and does—happen. Have more than one method to identify your dog, including a tattoo, tags, and microchipping. Have pictures ready. GRREAT requires that its dogs be tattooed. In addition to an engraved plastic or metal pet ID tag with the owner's name and address and the rabies tag, keep the GRREAT tag on the dog's collar, because the GRREAT tag includes our 24/7 emergency phone number. The benefits and disadvantages of microchipping are discussed in this issue. A current photo can be extremely useful for posters and flyers and missing animal websites.

2. Should the worst happen, act quickly. As soon as you realize your pet is lost, canvass the area calling your pet's name, and shaking a box of her favorite food or treats. Animals often recognize the sound of your car, so drive slowly around the neighborhood. Also stop

continued on page 7

Chipping, continued from page 1
searching his body for this tattoo. Though Buddy would have enjoyed the belly rub, the folks at the shelter didn't know that. And, he had lost the ID tag on his collar somewhere along his way. It seemed that his days were numbered...

While Buddy and the Barkers are purely fictional, the scenario unfortunately isn't. Today's identification options, which can assist in reuniting pet and owner, are available in various levels of sophistication. First, there's the good old tag on the collar. Its value is established beyond question or doubt – so long as it actually stays on the collar and the collar stays on the dog. Then, there's the tattoo. Almost all tattoos are registered with the National Dog Registry (NDR) which maintains a hotline 24 hours a day/7 days a week at 1-800-637-3647. But not everyone looks for tattoos any longer for such reasons as: the tattoo is covered by fur, the dog doesn't permit looking for it, we didn't know dogs could be tattooed, and so forth.

Modern technology has brought us the microchip. Currently, two large brand names, Avid and HomeAgain, pretty much share the market. Avid maintains their own PETtrac database, which can be reached at 1-800-336-AVID and HomeAgain works through the AKC's CAR (Companion Animal Recovery) database at 1-800-252-7894. They are about equal in price for the initial implant (roughly \$15-20, depending on the vet), and they are equal in the quality of their recovery service.

So why did Buddy sit in the shelter? Simple. Microchip technology is a wonderful tool when it works. Unfortunately, in this writer's opinion, the system has not matured enough to be very effective yet. Too few shelters and vets have scanners available, and even if they have one, they don't routinely scan the incoming pets yet. Microchips can migrate in the dog's body, particularly in heavily muscled dogs. That means that one day they could be located and read during a scan, the next day

the chip could move behind a denser mass and would not read. The manufacturers charge steep prices for good scanners; few are available at low or no cost to shelters or non-profit organizations. Veterinarians have to buy their own, and at around \$300 minimum investment for a low-end universal scanner, that's quite a price tag.

This is how a microchip works: The manufacturer codes the chip with its unique registration number. This numbered chip is sold to the implanter (normally a vet) and is entered into manufacturer's database with this vet's information. Unless the veterinarian keeps a record that is accessible by the number on the chip, the trail of this chip ends right there if the owner of the implanted pet doesn't complete the registration. Many pet owners assume that the implant fee automatically includes and completes the registration. It does not. Every vet will hand them a registration certificate – which they must fill out, include with another check in the amount of \$15.00, and mail to the respective database. Any chip is basically useless unless this registration is completed, because no vet this writer contacted keeps such chip-specific records. They do enter the implant and chip information on the patient's file but have no way to access this information based on the code number of the chip alone. All vets referred to the tracking systems of the chip manufacturers.

The point of our fictional Buddy's story is that he has the best chances possible of being reunited with his family because of his multiple methods of identification. Although he lost the ID tag from his collar, the visible tattoo would be found sooner or later and the NDR will call his folks within minutes of when they are notified. Or, if someone thinks to check him for his microchip, provided they have a scanner – assuming the Barkers completed the registration process of the chip – it'll be no more than a few minutes after notification before his family knows where he is and can go claim their furry boy for a happy reunion.

Thanks

Dog Care Course Volunteers GWU's Summer Youth Program

Education—GRREAT's middle name—was the goal for six GRREAT volunteers during the hot month of July. The six volunteers noted below (and their canine companions) developed and implemented a two week course on Dog Care for the George Washington University Summer Youth Program. During the course, children in grades three through eight explored the following topics: information about GRREAT, general information about dogs, safety, obedience training, grooming, health care and emergencies, pet therapy, rescue dogs and pet sitting.

The highlights of the course were the wonderful dogs who gave of themselves as only dogs can. While being brushed and petted by numerous hands, and being called and given instructions by many different voices, they responded with loving eyes and by rolling over for one more scratch on the belly. Even if the children do not remember any of the factual information presented, they will remember the love which was given to them by our furry friends. That experience will change their lives and help form the foundation for healthy and happy relationships with animals in the future.

A BIG THANK YOU to these two-legged GRREAT Volunteers:

Sheila Cohen
Laurie Collins
Dan Keppler
Karen Loss
Barbara Prince
Sharon Robinson-Boonstra

AND their four-legged helpers:

Irish, Tori, Sandy, Maddie,
Murphey and Abby

In his early days, my Golden drove me crazy! Always into something, and inviting me to be part of his games, and his world. Now that he's gone, I hear owners sometimes grumble about those things that, more than anything, I would like to have the chance to do all over again with him.

Before you say, "leave me alone," "go lay down," "I can't play with you now," or "please go away," remember that someday they will.

You'll straighten your home, all neat and tidy. Dog toys all put away, water spots cleaned off the wooden floors, and smudges washed off the window. And, you'll say, "I want it to stay this way," and it will.

You'll prepare a dinner fit for company with no worries of a counter-surfer, or a stray dog-hair getting into your food. You'll be able to enjoy your meal without those brown eyes watching you take each bite. And you'll think, "this is so quiet, relaxing, and peaceful." But you'll be eating it alone.

Just think, a sock without a hole chewed in it. No sheets to protect the couch. No more gates to stumble over, or crates to arrange a room around.

Imagine wearing an outfit with no dog hair clinging to it. No dog-sitter or kennel for vacation. No more trips to the vet. No more dog walks on a cold rainy night, and no muddy paws to clean up. No more sharing your bed or snack.

Think about it. No one watching for you out the window to come home. No happy greeting at the door. No one to help you forget your problems, or to tell them to. No more sloppy wet kisses on the face, fun in the snow, or at the beach. No one who thinks you are the center of the universe. No one who loves you unconditionally.

Now there's only the memory of a voice shouting, "Leave me alone," "go lay down," "I can't play with you now," "please go away." And the silence, because they did.

When They're Gone...

*submitted by
an anonymous GRREAT
member and reprinted
with permission*

Continued from page 6
to talk with people you see. Just before and right after dark are especially good times to look. Be aware that your dog could be almost anywhere. Exploring dogs have travelled as much as 20 miles in a single day. Do not limit your search to your neighborhood only.

3. Make "Lost Pet" signs, and post them in visible places near where the animal was lost. Getting the flyers up quickly is more important than making them pretty—hand-written signs are fine. A recent picture of the animal is very helpful. Hand them out to people, including vets and stores in your area, and gradually widen the area where you post the flyers.

4. Check local shelters in person every day for your pet. You will recognize your pet more easily than shelter staff reading a description.

5. Place a "Lost Pet" ad in the paper, and check the "Found Pet" ads daily.

6. Don't give up—with diligence, there is an excellent chance you will find your pet.



At the dock waiting for playtime at Goldstock

Julie Palais also hauled a lot of the stuff up and back, including tables and display units we were unable to use in the merchandise area, and even got her picture in a special edition of the Philadelphia Enquirer.

Phil Hauck helped me schlepp auction items up and down the steep hills a dozen times in his vehicle.

Pam and Lori were there to help at the silent auction as well as other times.

Goldstock 2002 — Fun and Funds for GRREAT

Georgie Bahler

Goldstock 2002, held Labor Day weekend at Camp Weequahic, was a great success. One weekend a year, Golden Retrievers and their families are invited to this children's summer camp near Lakewood, PA. The purpose of the weekend is to raise funds for Golden Retriever Rescue across the US. This year there were representatives from 26 different rescues, some as far away as CA. Gail Lustig, camp owner, offers rescue organizations the opportunity to raise funds through merchandise tables, a silent auction, and a live auction. Dozens of doggie-related activities—dog olympics, costume contest, field training demos, seminars and lectures—were run all weekend long, in addition to swims in the lake and lots of tennis ball chasing. We all had fun and helped raise more than \$3000 for GRREAT while doing it.

Everyone who attended from GRREAT took a shift or two at the merchandise table so the work wasn't too much on any one person. I was blessed to have such a cadre of willing workers. I would like to give a GRREAT pat on the back to the following people:

Kim Wiff hauled most of the stuff up to Goldstock (and had a flat tire on the way), and then hauled some of it back to Leesburg and unloaded it all by herself.

Kim Wiff (front), Pam Briggie (left), Lori Bott, Sara Cook, and four-legged campers in front of the GRREAT cabin at Goldstock

The crew that helped at the table were: Becky and George Stanley; Julie Palais; Kim Wiff; Janet and Phil Hauck; Michele Snyder; Sam Connelly; Lisa Cook and her daughters, Sara and Marisa; Stacy Martin-Duffy; Elisabeth Crane; and Tami and Keith Rolfeff; Lori Bott and Pam Briggie.

A good time was had by all. If you would like to see pictures of the facilities and some of the activities, please visit my photo albums. You will have to join this site (at no charge) to see the pictures.

<http://www.ofoto.com/>

[l.jsp?m=15150070203.45341447503&n=2004673717](http://www.ofoto.com/l.jsp?m=15150070203.45341447503&n=2004673717)

<http://www.ofoto.com/>

[l.jsp?m=15150070203.68161747503&n=1767002167](http://www.ofoto.com/l.jsp?m=15150070203.68161747503&n=1767002167)

Hope to see you at Goldstock next year!





No experience necessary!!

**GRREAT
Concession Stand Activities
Expand to
Patriot Center and
MCI Center
for Fall and Winter**



More Volunteers Needed For MCI Center

For more than two years, GRREAT volunteers have had the opportunity to work a concession stand at selected events at the MCI Center and keep 10 percent of the money the stand makes for that event. It's sales of a different kind—people want your product, they come to you asking for it. You don't have to "sell" anything. And you don't need any experience. It's even *fun!*

If you have ever poured a beer or soda and handed it to someone, you have enough experience to help GRREAT in this activity. If you have ever handed someone a hot dog, burger, pretzel or bag of peanuts, you have enough experience to help. Come on down!

Each event takes 4.5 to 5 hour time commitment for hockey games (less for basketball games), but the rewards that come back to GRREAT both financially and in opportunities to educate the public are substantial.

Because our volunteers are prompt, friendly, and reliable, we have earned the respect of the MCI Center concessions managers and we are offered more opportunities than many other organizations to raise money at events other than hockey and basketball games. However, many of our current volunteers are on the verge of burnout, and more GRREAT volunteers are needed to maintain our level of staffing for future events.

Volunteering for even one event a month will help share the load and raise money for GRREAT. Volunteer buddies or couples are welcome to participate—the more the merrier! Please contact Lori Bott at PAM-LORI@JUNO.COM if you're interested. She'll let you know the upcoming schedule and other details.

New Concession Opportunity at Patriot Center

Because of the reputation our volunteers have for reliability and friendliness, GRREAT has been offered the opportunity to work concession stands at George Mason University's Patriot Center for concerts, sporting events, and special events. Although the stands and crowds are smaller than MCI Center, this is a good opportunity for people who are interested in helping GRREAT but for logistical or other reasons cannot make it to downtown D.C. The Patriot Center is conveniently located for all of our Northern Virginia volunteers on the Fairfax campus of George Mason University, six miles west of the Capital Beltway, just off Braddock Road, Route 620.

Concession stands are operated for GMU games and other events such as Disney on Ice, Sesame Street, Barney, and the Ringling Brothers circus. For each event, we need 4-6 people age 15 and above to run the stands. Some stands have fryers and may require some cooking. Beer is not sold for basketball games, nor for some concerts and events.

Tom Rigsbee will be organizing and running the Patriot Center concession activities, so if you are interested in helping out and being on the Patriot Center volunteer mailing list, let him know. Contact Tom at AIRCAVRIGO@AOL.COM and he will provide further information about dates and events.

Either of these volunteer activities are opportunities to break out of the doldrums of your daily life and enjoy doing something completely different. Learn a new skill like pulling a beer tap! So come on out, serve some pretzels and beer, meet some of the other GRREAT people, and help save some GRREAT dogs!

JOIN THE PARADE! Paraders Wanted (2- and 4-legged)

Woodstock, Virginia (population 3500), the fourth oldest incorporated town in Virginia, is celebrating its 250th Anniversary during 2002. Woodstock is in Shenandoah County, about 1¼ hours west of Vienna/Fairfax.

Over the weekend of September 28-29, 2002, there will be a variety of festivities that include a Grand Feature Parade on Saturday, September 28 at 2:30 pm. **GRREAT members and their dogs have been invited to walk in this parade.**

Think about taking a drive "out west" to walk in Woodstock on what is expected to be a beautiful day in September.

To volunteer, contact Dan Keppler, daniel.keppler@wcom.com.

From the President, continued from page 1

- *7 month male - Too busy. Don't spend enough time with dog - feel bad he is confined 8-10 hours a day.*
- *8-12 month UNM [unneutered male]-- "Devil Dog" - Keeps getting out of yard*
- *14 year old - Moving - says dog is in relatively good health with some hip problems*
- *12 yr old - Got new puppy, don't want Jenny to teach pup "bad" habits about storm anxiety. Also Jenny doesn't act like pup's Mom, isn't overjoyed at puppy antics, so therefore she's not acceptable anymore and has been banned into the pen in the back yard. Jenny snarls at puppy when it comes close to the fence to Jenny's pen*
- *Two brothers, 11 yr old - On July 4th they found the two in the middle of the road. Samson was lying there and Tobin was standing over him, not budging from his brother's side. After clarifying the origin of the dogs, the rescuers were permitted to remove them and take them for medical care. As it was a holiday, the vet they spoke with suggested the dogs be taken into an air conditioned environment and brought back on a regular day. Both dogs perked up in the cooled house and were subsequently taken for medical care.*

All these dogs are in foster care and I am happy to say the two brothers are in a foster-to-adopt situation.

My goal here is to keep you up to date on the Intake side of our rescue. If you would like to consider being a foster family please go out to our site [HTTP://WWW.GRREAT.ORG/FOSTER.HTM](http://www.grreat.org/foster.htm) and take the foster home quiz, or maybe you have adopted before and are looking for another dog. Please check on us, the GRREAT house is full of dogs looking for homes!

After a very hot, relatively low profile summer, we are entering a season in which a number of GRREAT events are planned. We invite you to join us for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic in October as well as our educational tables at various other events. And plan to attend our Holiday Party on the first Saturday in December—it's the doggie social event of the year!

October 1 begins our annual membership drive. Dues for 2003 remain at \$25—a real bargain when you think about the wealth of information GRREAT provides through its web site, newsletter, education tables at events, brochures, and of course our knowledgeable volunteers.

Unfortunately, this is also the time of year when the last kid goes off to school, and the family dog suddenly turns out to be a nuisance for the empty-nesters. The loyal pet ends up in an animal shelter or hopefully comes to GRREAT and can begin a new life as a loved member of another family. If you hear of a Golden in such a sad situation, please ask the family that is considering giving up the dog to call the GRREAT hotline to discuss the circumstances.

As always thanks to all our members and volunteers. With out all of you none of our work is possible.

MOVING?

Don't miss out on GRREAT News. Please provide us your new address and we'll make sure you don't miss an issue.

Send your updated address information to Jill Kurtz at thekurtzes@yahoo.com or PO Box 3069, Falls Church VA 22043. Don't forget to let us know about phone number and e-mail address changes too.

Janet and Martin White write

On July 31st, we had to make the ultimate decision concerning our 18½ year old cat, Chuter, whose quality of life was not what he deserved. He had started to show his age, but he never lost his spirit.

Before he passed, he asked us to send GRREAT a donation in his honor once he was gone. We were quite honored that he chose GRREAT and after a few quiet moments and his favorite chin rubs he finally admitted he really was a Golden Retriever in a cat costume. We had known that all along.

So, in honor of our beloved Chuter, who welcomed and patiently accepted many foster dogs into his house over the last four years, enclosed is our donation. We hope it will help with one of the canine Golden's.

Bruce and Lynn Spates write

This donation is in memory of Chuter, a cat who thought he was a Golden Retriever. His people, Janet and Marty White, made a painful but empathetic decision to relieve Chuter of his misery in his old age and ill health.

He will be missed by his human friends and his canine friends—a house full of Golden's and one tiny Yorkie. We know you will be able to help a 'brother' or 'sister' in some small way with this token.

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT **to thank Cathy Carbone** for her generosity.
—James and Gloria Baer

To thank all GRREAT volunteers at the MCI Center. —Amy Mina
(Amy is a player on the Divas softball team that shares duties at the GRREAT booth at the MCI Center.)

In honor of Rusty 01-133 and Corky 02-008. —Sherry and Richard Carson

In honor of Bailey (01-246). —Rick and Carolyn York

In honor of Buddy—who brings joy to our lives. —Lee and Sylvia Mabie

In honor of Dusty. —Jonathan Gordon

I'd like to make a donation to GRREAT. We support **all the wonderful work you do.**
Thank you! Please include us on your e-mail list for volunteer activities.
—Kate and Arthur Chutuape

Enclosed please find our delayed delivery of Daisy's (01-240) Dog Training completion certificate. Daisy is now a (usually) well-behaved Golden. Please keep the deposit on her training class requirement as a donation and **thank you for all the hard work everyone at GRREAT does, especially Terry and Lou [Stachowiak]**, Daisy's fosters.
—Jeffrey Eckhaus and Carolyn Ralicki

Please find my membership application as well as a donation check. My family was most fortunate to have a wonderful Golden, Alex, in our lives for almost 11 years. Now that I have retired, and because of the impact that Alex had on our lives, I look forward to providing support to GRREAT. Looking forward to helping as needed. —Maxine Stump



Special Donations for special reasons

**Thank You
to these
individuals
for their recent
donations**

**Jane and Thomas
Aylward**

**Jan Brown, Julie
and Craig Wright**
(see letter this page)

**Jeffrey Eckhaus and
Carolyn Ralicki**

Susan Ann Gabovitz

**Toni and James
Johns**

Bob and Pat Miles

**Dr. Bradley Neer
and Largo Veteri-
nary Hospital**

**Alexander and
Heather Sherman**

Maxine Stump

**Jonathan Tarlin and
Vanessa Mitchell**

**Wags to Wishes
Outreach Commit-
tee** *(see letter this
page)*

**Doreen and Brad
Wright**

**Dear
GRREAT**



On behalf of Comptroller William Donald Schaefer, the employees of the Maryland State Comptroller's Office, and the Comptroller's Wags To Wishes Outreach Committee, we wish to thank you for helping to make our inaugural Animal Fair, held on May 23rd, a big success.

We received many wonderful comments from the employees about your organization, as well as the other groups and the demonstrations that were held. We hope that you enjoyed being here as much as everyone enjoyed meeting you and learning about your organization's activities and needs.

Enclosed please find a donation from all of us with our thanks and appreciation for all your efforts on behalf of GRREAT. We look forward to a bigger and better Animal Fair next year and we certainly would welcome your participation.

Again, thank you and best wishes to you and your organization.

Yours truly,
Vern Shird and Nancy Strott, Co-Chairs
Wags to Wishes Outreach Committee

The other evening my husband, Marty, and I took four Goldens (1 foster, 2 adoptees and 1 previous foster for whom we're puppy-sitting) shopping to their favorite store, PetsMart. As GRREAT volunteers, we constantly keep our eyes open for Golden lovers (i.e., potential volunteers).

We met the most amazing young man during our shopping adventure. His name is Anson Nesbitt; he's almost 12 years old and I think it's safe to say he loves animals. We learned that he also has a Golden. I spoke at length with his mother, Stephanie, who also seems to have been bitten by the animal 'bug.'

Anson spent a great deal of time on the floor with our four-legged family and listened as I gave his mother basic GRREAT information. Basic information turned into more detailed information as more and more interest was shown. Anson asked about what he could do to help and if there was a cost to join GRREAT. I explained about the \$25 membership fee and Anson told me he was going to save up his money until he had enough to join.

I can't put into words how genuine Anson was when he said he was going to save his money. In today's world with so many young people wrapped up in themselves, it was pure joy to see one so willing to help our wonderful Goldens.

So, in honor of all the wonderful Golden Fuzzy-Butts Marty and I have fostered—especially our current beloved Fozzy-Bear—we are honored to pay for Anson's initial GRREAT membership. Stephanie is extremely supportive of her son and I think our new member will soon become a new volunteer. I bet we might even get 2 volunteers out of the deal!

As always, it is a great honor to be associated with such a terrific organization.
—Janet and Martin White

Enclosed is a donation to GRREAT. This very generous amount was given to me by Julie and Craig Wright for dogsitting their furkids Nikko (01-091) and Brandy (01-092), two previous fosters of mine. Julie and Craig, along with their daughters Michaela and Sara have made a wonderful home for Nikko and Brandy.

We felt the best use of the money was to send it to GRREAT so you could continue to help more furfaces.

Thanks for all you do!

—Jan Brown

Rusty has adjusted very well to our family and is quite the character. Alert, attentive, curious, and just a little bit naughty at times, he is a "love sponge" and seeks attention every chance he gets! He's a charmer!

—Anne and Doug Durans

<u>Name</u>	<u>ID #</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>
Abbey	02-005	3	F
Alex	02-141	8	M
Angel	02-108	4	F
Augie	02-154	14	M
Bailey	02-144	1	F
Baxter	02-171	8mo	M
Ben	02-122	2	M
Blake	02-069	3mo	M
Buddy	02-090	3	M
Buster	02-048	5	M
Carston	02-099	11	M
Chelsea	02-072	4mo	F
Chloe	02-176	1	F
Chloe	02-071	3mo	F
Cody	01-253	1	M
Copper	01-226	2	M
Copper	02-135	4	M
Cory	02-128	4	M
Cougar	01-136	9	M
Cynnamin	02-151	8	F
Daisy	02-126	7	F
Dax	02-155	3	M
Drew	02-136	5	M
Easy	02-062	1	M
Foster	02-129	10	M

<u>Name</u>	<u>ID #</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>
Gunther	02-070	4mo	M
Honey Bear	01-244	1	F
Jake	01-243	2	M
Jake	02-007	2	M
Jessie	02-115	6	F
Kelsi	02-075	3mo	F
Kess	02-097	3	F
Maddie	02-040	2	F
Maisie	02-073	3mo	F
Max	02-110	5mo	M
Monroe	02-078	3	M
Otis	02-076	3mo	M
Rapunzel	02-131	7	F
Rookie	02-125	2	M
Sadie	99-064	6	F
Sam	02-140	6	M
Satch	02-120	10	M
Shadow	02-175	10mo	M
Shadow	02-133	2	M
Skylar	02-116	8mo	F
Sonny/Brady	02-169	3	M
Sugar	02-103	4	F
Tazz	02-113	3	M
Tracker	02-017	3	M
Ty	02-143	2	M

Adoption Report

July 4 to
September 12, 2002

Fifty — yes, 50! — Golden Retrievers found new homes between July 4th and September 12. In this remarkable number, 11 were under a year old and four were age 10 or over. Several were adopted by their foster families.

Our statistics on this group: 18 females and 32 males; 24 were age 2 or under; 9 were age 7 or older, and 17 dogs between age 2 and 7.

Congratulations to all!

Where's the GRREAT Merchandise Catalog?

GRREAT's annual ~~Cat~~ Dog-a-Log, which in previous years appeared in the September/October issue of GRREAT News, is not included this year for a couple of reasons. First, to save postage so that valuable funds go directly for the Golden Retrievers, we changed our mailing procedures to the non-profit organization rate. This rate does not permit direct sales mailings such as the Dog-a-

Log. Second, our merchandising process is in the middle of a major restructuring, with a new merchandise coordinator and new inventory. You will be receiving your 2003 Dog-a-Log as a separate mailing in November in plenty of time to place and receive your order before Christmas. Thanks for your patience and for your continuing support of GRREAT!

Special Donations were received

In memory of Jack Punches, killed at the Pentagon on 9/11. Also, here is the adoption fee for Sally (02-118) on behalf of his widow, Janice Punches, who fostered Sally and then adopted her. —Jeff and Maurine Schuller

In loving memory of a dear friend, Sally Cox who passed away suddenly on July 5th following surgery. She adored her Golden named Simba, and I could not think of a better way to honor her memory and her love of the Golden Retrievers of this world. I am sending this check to help with the rescue work all of you volunteers do for our Golden Retrievers. Thanks for the GRREAT work you are doing. —Karen Kirts

IN MEMORY OF...

Oakley, who passed away 1 April 2002. He had been a GRREAT foster dog with the Zuchs family. He was a lovely dog in every way. I feel so lucky to have had him almost seven years. —Becky Burgee

Laurie Anderson's dogs, **Tally, Rugby, and Stoney**, who died this spring. —Lisa Crofton, DVM

Doozer the Great. Please accept this donation in honor of Doozer, a 6 year old Golden who gave his owners, Judith and Allan, much love and joy. —David and Paulette Zee

A beloved Golden Retriever, **Doozer** who was euthanized last June 27, owned and loved by my nephew and niece, Allan Zee and Judith Chambliss of Portland, Oregon. Thank you. —Tom Taube.

Chester. —Melissa and Jeff Dwyer

Stonehill's "C.J." of Sugarbush. —Barbara and Ace Oestreich

Our friends, Shira Modell and Louise Hansen, recently suffered the death of their beloved friend and golden retriever, **Murphy**. We would like to make a donation in memory of Murphy. —Michael Ostheimer and Stacy Feuer

Jake, a Golden Retriever who was the beloved friend of Donna Mistretta —Ellen Hutchins (*see also Leo Fund donations*)

Quissett, a Golden who died in August, 2002. His parents are Andrew and Kristie Sims of Alexandria VA. Thank you for all that your group does. —Molly and Bruce Artman

**GRREAT 2003
Calendars
Available
Soon
Only \$10**

The 2003 calendar is at the printer and should be available in October. Check the GRREAT website www.grreat.org for an announcement of availability and ordering information.

Ongoing Gifts grreatfully acknowledged

Agilent Technologies Employee Giving Campaign matching gift for Wayne Hunter

Source Menagerie, for web referrals

United Way of Central Maryland for donations given in the 2001 campaign
Donors are **Debra Schaum, Sandra Melago, and Patricia Perszyk**

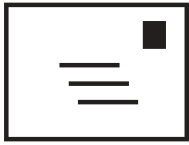
United Way of the National Capital Area for 2001 campaign donations
Donors are **Pam Ambrose, Becky Brown, Deborah McKenna, Pam O'Connell, and Heidi Waugh, Nancy Butler, Kim and Don Dawson, Jo Ann Stracke**

JCI Inc, Animal Den Web Site Commission

iGive.com from their web site

PipeVine, Inc for donations received through **Networkforgood.org**

Royalty income from **Oxyfresh Worldwide**



Dear
GRREAT,

I send you a small donation in honor of our “Golden Rascal Tanner” CGC CD that we adopted in January 1999 (98-212). He was only 8½ months old and had no manners. I send you his picture of how he is now. In a show, he earned a CD. In the last show, the steward gave him a special prize, and he never let it go. We are very proud of him. I hope you can use the money where you need it the most.

—Leny and Cornelius Endlich

In February 2000, I was a rescued from a bad place. You took me in and cared for me and put me in a wonderful foster home with the Skinners and after several months my foster parents found me a great home with the Igou’s.

At first, life was easy. My new brother was 13 years old and loved to lay on the couch which I got used to real quick and was “lovin’ life” with lots of love, food, water, exercise, and toys. Unfortunately my brother went to the Rainbow Bridge this past September...I really missed him ...so mom and dad decided I should have another brother.



Tanner Endlich, proud of his new Companion Dog title

After searching for the right brother, they decided on a little fella. He came to live with us December 23, 2001, and his name is Tucker. Oh brother, we went from retirement home to romper room!! He was alright but it took some time to get used to him. After only six months, he had to have hip surgery (TPO) because he had hip dysplasia. Dr. Walker fixed one hip that wasn’t as bad as the other hip. He’s doing fine now and healing nicely.

In the meantime, mom had signed him up for puppy agility class and obviously he couldn’t go, so I went in his place. Remember now, I am six years old not six months, but I did wonderful. I can go tunnel better than anyone in my class. I graduated and am going on to a real agility class. In the meantime, I have earned my CGC and have visited my first nursing home. As you can see, everyone loves me. Linda and Ron, my mom and dad, tell everyone “I am a perfect best friend.” And as for my little brother, I love him now too.

Thank you all for caring.
Much love,
Honey Bee (00-042) (Igou)

Honey Bee Igou happily emerging from the agility tunnel





Leo's Corner
The Leo Fund
for special needs dogs.

Golden Heroes
(\$100 - \$499)

Accounting staff at
Lincoln General
Insurance Company

Karen Baghamian

Dr. and Mrs.
James Hayes

Donna Mistretta and
John Fisher

Dr. Joseph O'Neill

Doreen and Brad
Wright

Leo's Pals
(up to \$99)

Barbara Taber

Dear GRREAT:

I want to help dogs needing special surgery with this Leo Fund donation.

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

Notes to Leo

In memory of Chaos the Golden Retriever. —Karen Baghamian

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Andrzejewski and in memory of their beloved dog Blondie. Thank you. —The Accounting staff at Lincoln General Insurance Company

In memory of Sam and Mac—two beautiful Golden boys. —Barbara Taber

Please accept this donation in memory of my "Forever" Golden Jake who died in July. This beautiful 10 year old survived 26 months with lymphoma and was still chasing ground-hogs the day before he passed. Ah...the lessons he taught me! I miss you, pup. —Donna Mistretta and John Fisher

See you there!

Howard County Walk for Paws
Saturday, October 12, 2002 — 11:00 - 2:00 (rain or shine)
Lake Elkhorn, Columbia, MD

As one of the rescues Howard County (MD) Animal Control has approved to remove animals from its shelter, GRREAT will have an education table at the Howard County Walk for Paws in Columbia, MD on October 12. The event will take place rain or shine. Participation is free!

Walk For Paws is a day to celebrate companion animals and the important role they play in enriching our lives. Attractions at the Walk will include events provided by Ruth Chase and Coventry School such as agility, flyball, and obedience. There will also be education tables and animal-related vendors.

Last year was the first event of this type, and several hundred walkers and many rescue groups participated.

Water and disposable bowls will be available for pets; lunch for humans will be sold.

Whether you are participating in the Walk or just stopping by, we hope you can join us. Look for the GRREAT education table and say hello!

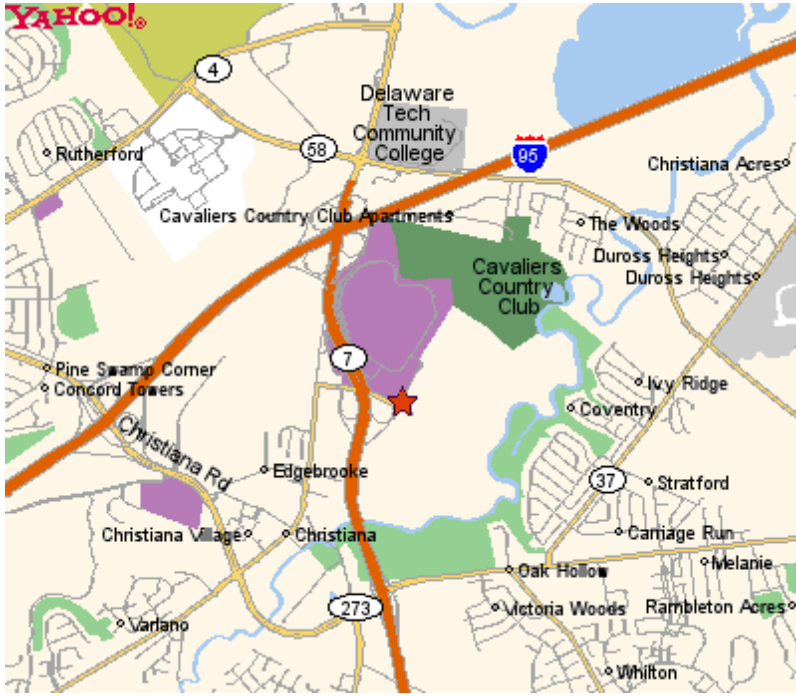
Directions: from Interstate 95, take exit for Rt 32 West to Columbia. Take Broken Land Pkwy exit, pass Snowden River Pkwy; Lake is on right.

From Route 29, take Broken Land Pkwy exit, bear right toward Owen Brown; Lake is on left.

Parking is free, approximately 1/8 mile from the event on the other side of Broken Land Pkwy with access through an underground walkway.

October Woofers Two-fer!! Upcoming Adoption Days

For driving directions from other areas, visit the GRREAT Calendar at www.grreat.org/calendar.htm and click on the map icon.



Saturday, October 5, 2002
Noon - 2:00 pm
PETCO
Christiana Center
200 Center Blvd
Newark, Delaware
302-894-0290 for directions only

Directions from the merge of I-895 and I-95 on the northeast side of Baltimore:
 Drive about 56 miles to Exit 4 in Delaware (DE 1/DE 7). Merge onto DE 1/DE 7 for a half mile, then take Exit 164 (cloverleaf) and turn right on Old Baltimore Pike/DE 7. Continue for 0.2 miles and turn left onto Center Blvd.



Saturday, October 19, 2002
Noon - 2:00 pm
Ana's Ark
Doggie Care Center
601 Dover Road, Suite #5
Rockville, MD
301-738-6781 for directions only

Editor's note: these directions may not be the shortest route, but they have the fewest turns.

From the Washington Beltway, I-495, take I-270 north to MD route 28 East. Follow the signs for MD 28 (street names change several times) through the city of Rockville. Go past MD 355 (Rockville Pike) about 1.4 miles. Turn left onto East Gude Drive and go 0.9 miles. Turn left onto Dover Road and go one block.

November Adoption Day

For driving directions from other areas, visit the GRREAT Calendar at www.grreat.org/calendar.htm and click on the map icon.



Saturday, November 2, 2002

Noon - 2:00 pm

PetCo

**6612 Richmond Hwy
Alexandria, VA 22306**

703-660-1300 for directions only

Directions:

From the south side of the Washington Beltway (I-495) just west of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, take US Route 1 south approximately two miles. PetCo is on the right.



E-MAIL TO GRREAT

All of us involved with Operation Remembering Our Own would like to thank you for your donation. Because of the nationwide generosity of Golden lovers like you, twelve Golden Retrievers were rescued from puppy mill life.

Your donation helped rescue three adult Golden Retrievers, Sara (age 8), Phoenix (age 6), and Maria (age 3). Both Phoenix and Maria were heartworm positive and have been treated by the rescue groups who kindly opened their hearts and pocketbooks to these dogs. Moe, Ian, Timmy, Zack (Connor), Curly, Samson (Pauly), Larry, Moses, and Riley, are young males four and six months of age. Most of them are typical Golden acting pups but a couple are extremely shy.

Thanks to the generosity of fellow rescue groups, all of these dogs are in foster care or

have been placed with their forever families. These Golden Retrievers will have nice homes with grassy yards instead of gravel runs and wire cages. They will be safe from the elements year around, they will have families who love them instead of owners who use them, they will have good vet care for the rest of their lives, and they will no longer contribute to the over population of our beloved breed. All of this because you decided to get involved!

Thank you again for being a part of Operation Remembering Our Own!

Sincerely,
Cheryl Barlow
Vice President
Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc.
Oklahoma

**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

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 2003 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 MCI center events
- _____ At information booths at dog shows, community fairs, education days, 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, September 28, 2002

Grand Parade

Woodstock, VA

Details on page 10.

Saturday, October 12, 2002

Walk for Paws

Columbia, MD

Details on page 16.

Saturday, October 26, 2002

Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

Leesburg, VA

Details on page 3.

Adoption Days

Saturday, October 5, 2002 — Noon - 2:00

PETCO of Newark, DE

Saturday, October 19, 2002 — Noon - 2:00

Ana's Ark Doggie Day Care, Rockville, MD

Saturday, November 2, 2002 — Noon - 2:00

PETCO on Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA

Maps and directions on page 17-18.



Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc.

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

☎ 703-620-6593

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

GRREAT BEGINNINGS



LEAD TO HAPPY ENDINGS!

Golden Retriever Rescue
Education and Training, Inc.