



GRREAT News

November/December 2002

Volume 12, Number 6

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

From the President What I Am Grreatful For Dan Keppler

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22 Pet Safety Tips to Make the Holidays Happy

Reprinted from the
November/December 1999
GRREAT News

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I want to start out by wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season. This is the time of year when we get together with our loved ones to share all the wonderful memories of the years gone by. One tradition that many families participate in is to let everyone know what they are grateful for. As I look back over my two years as president of GRREAT, I realize that I have many things to be grateful for. As a result of the incredible work of GRREAT members and volunteers, we have had the opportunity to create wonderful memories for more than 600 adoptive families over the past two years. That number is well over 2000 when you go back to the beginnings of GRREAT.

- ❁ I am grateful for all the foster families who open their homes time and time again to these dogs. So many times they put their own plans on hold to help these dogs adjust and eventually find a new family.
- ❁ I am grateful for all the families who have opened their homes to the "special needs" dogs. I have sent out quite a few e-mails this year looking for special homes and I am always overwhelmed by the incredible response.
- ❁ I am grateful for all our volunteers who drive hundreds and hundreds of miles to pick up and transport dogs from place to place. With your support we have been able to save dogs from areas we were never able to cover before.

From the President, continued on page 6

As the season of feasting and festivities approaches, it is important to remember that, as part of your family, your pet will be caught up in the holidays as well—hopefully for the better rather than for the worse. We repeat this list of holiday pet safety tips every few years in this newsletter as a reminder that many of the things we might otherwise overlook in the excitement of the holidays can be potentially dangerous to your dog. We at GRREAT want you and your pets to have a safe and happy holiday!

FOOD

- ❁ Keep the dog out of the kitchen. Don't give in to your dog and feed it table scraps. Be firm with guests and tell them not to slip your dog any human treats.
- ❁ If you simply can't resist that "I'm starving" look, add a few canine treats instead, but cut back on the dog's main meal if it gets lots of extra treats.
- ❁ Under no conditions should anyone give a dog alcohol to drink because they think "it's cute." Alcohol is toxic to dogs, even in small amounts.
- ❁ Dogs can become ill from drinking and eating rich foods—desserts, gravies, and meats—that are not in their usual diet. Specifically, avoid fatty foods, foods high in sodium (salt), and any brittle, spiky bones from the table. Stay with their usual food.
- ❁ Uncooked meat, poultry, and fish can contain disease-causing bacteria, both for pets and humans. Handle raw foods carefully, and don't feed them to Fur Face.

Pet Safety Tips, continued on page 12

**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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

MCI Center Concessions

GRREAT volunteers are into their third season of staffing concession stands at selected events at the MCI Center during hockey and basketball games and other events. GRREAT retains 10 percent of the money the stand makes for that event.

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. You don't have to "sell" anything.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! 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 (about 4-5 hours per event) will help share the load and raise money for GRREAT. Volunteer buddies or couples are welcome to participate—the more the merrier!

So come on down! Please contact Lori Bott at PAM-LORI@JUNO.COM if you're interested. She'll let you know the upcoming schedule and other details.

GRREAT News Editor

Wanted: creative Golden lover to continue the editorial tradition of *GRREAT News*. The editor compiles information on donations, letters to GRREAT, articles and pictures submitted by members, announcements of upcoming events, and occasional original articles to create six issues per year. Each issue is a mix of news, humor, health information and stories. Enthusiasm is more important than desktop publishing or writing skills. For more information, please contact April Fritz at NEWSLETTER@GRREAT.ORG or 301-330-5749, or Dan Keppler at PRESIDENT@GRREAT.ORG.

GRREAT's 8th Annual

HOWLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 7, 2002

11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Building 2, Montgomery County Agricultural Center

16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, MD

(map and directions on page 6)

Cost: \$10.00 per person

\$20.00 per family



Our indoor location has plenty of room for tables, doggie games, visiting the raffle and merchandise tables, Santa's visit (and pictures), and just sitting and watching all those beautiful dogs. Outside, there is lots of space for parking and walking four-legged guests. The pet costume parade tradition continues this year! Last year over 150 dogs and their people had a wonderful time at the best winter party on the planet! Plan now to attend!

Reservations and prepayment are not necessary for this event. However, to plan for beverages, treats, main course, goodie bags, and table settings, we need an estimated nose count (wet and dry). Please let us know how many people and how many dogs will be attending. Call the GRREAT voice mail (703) 620-6593 and leave a message in box 5, or e-mail a message to GRREATEVENTS@GRREAT.ORG (Please do not leave messages in both places.)

Events Schedule and Approximate Times

Chinese Raffle starts at 11:00; drawing at 2:00

Pictures with Santa Paws 11:00 - 1:30

Potluck dinner for 2-legged attendees 11:30 - 1:30

Canine Costume Parade 12:30

Pets 'n' People Games 1:00 - 2:30

Doggie Gift Exchange starts at 2:00

Drawing for Quilt Raffle at 2:00

Ongoing Events

GRREAT merchandise available!

Treats and gifts for 4-legged attendees

Please note: The party building has a concrete floor. If your dog is prone to hip problems or sensitive to the cold, please make sure Goldie's toenails are trimmed and bring a rug for him/her to lie on.



About the Pot Luck Dinner

The party will be an indoor picnic. GRREAT will provide the main dishes (turkey and ham), bread and rolls, condiments, chips, tableware, and hot and cold beverages.

Families are asked to bring a side dish (casseroles, warm vegetables), munchies (pretzels/chips, dips, cut veggies), salad (pasta, green or fruit) or dessert (you know what they are!) to share *in proportion to the size of your family* (no need to feed 30!), as indicated below.

If your last name

starts with

A - F

G - L

M - R

S - Z

Please bring a

cold salad

dessert

side dish*

munchies

*if dish is to be served warm, please bring the appropriate heating device and serving utensils. Extension cords will be available.









About the Doggie Gift Exchange

For **each** of your dogs that participates in the gift exchange, bring a loosely wrapped "gift" **under \$5.00** appropriate for a dog. Gifts will be placed in a pile, and each dog bringing a gift will have a chance to retrieve a gift!

Join us for the social event of the season!

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. Over 100 hours of work were devoted 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 Howliday Party on December 7, 2002. The lucky winner need not be present to win.

GOOD LUCK!



Smiles and Cuddles quilt by Deborah Lamb-Mechanick

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

If you mail your tickets, please make sure they arrive by Friday, December 6.

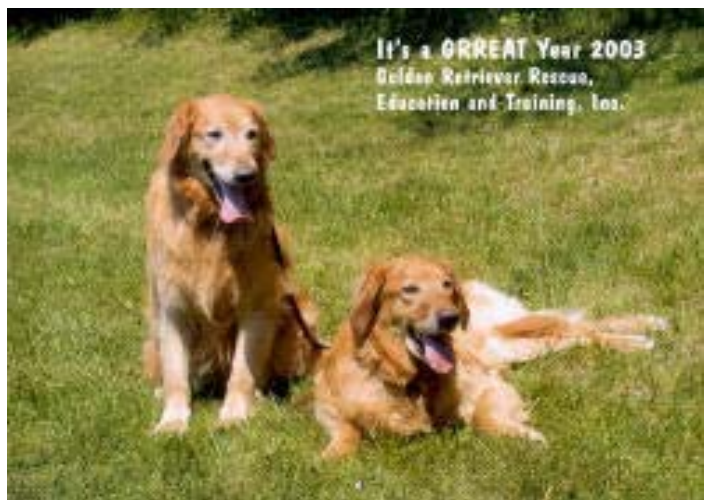
*Tickets
\$5 each
Drawing
12/7/02
at the
Howliday
Party*

From the President, continued from page 1

- ❖ I am grateful for all the Vets and animal shelters that support GRREAT with their services. Without their help we would not be able to provide all the care necessary to help these dogs
- ❖ I am grateful to all the volunteers who attend the various events in which GRREAT is involved each year and to all the people who help at Adoption Days.
- ❖ I am grateful for all the members of the Board and all the people who hold positions within GRREAT. Those of you who have had the opportunity to work with these people realize the incredible job that they do on a daily basis.

Our favorite event is coming up in a few days—the annual GRREAT Howliday Party. If you are new to GRREAT, this is not to be missed! Please see page 3 for information on the best party of the year. We'll see you there!

I can't say often enough that GRREAT is an incredible organization of volunteers and supporters. However, to maintain the level of care provided to these precious Golden Retrievers, it takes a tremendous amount of money and time. Please remember GRREAT during this holiday season with a charitable contribution and/or make yourself a New Year's resolution to get more involved with volunteering in 2003.

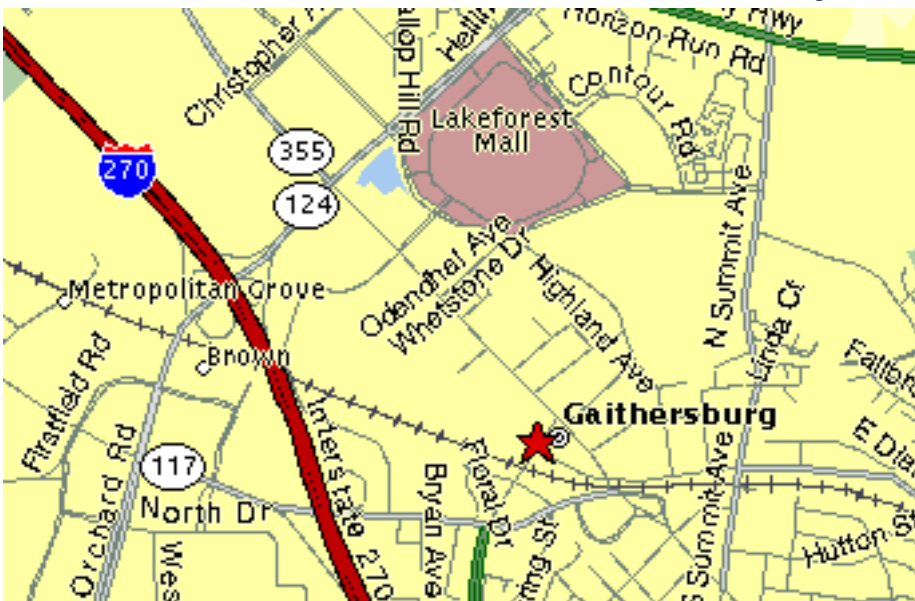


GRREAT 2003 Calendar Available Now! Only \$10.00!

The 2003 GRREAT Calendar features thirteen color photographs of dogs GRREAT has rescued, rehabilitated and re-homed. The calendar celebrates 20 years of Golden Rescue in the mid-Atlantic. These large 11³/₄ by 9 inch calendars are printed on heavy glossy paper for a year's worth of every day use. The calendar also includes a page of Honorable Mention photos, information about GRREAT, a history of GRREAT events, and plenty of writing space for plans and appointments. This is the perfect stocking stuffer for your Golden-loving friends.

Calendars are available through the GRREAT web site (www.great.org), at all GRREAT events, and from the GRREAT Merchandise Coordinator, Brenda Burlbaugh, BBURLBAUGH@AOL.COM or 410-263-8368.

Plan to attend the GRREAT Howliday Party December 7, 2002



Directions to Montgomery County Agricultural Center: From the north-west side of the Washington Beltway (I-495), take I-270 north to Exit 11 (Montgomery Village/Fairgrounds). At the next light make a right onto Route 355 South; go through the lights at Perry Parkway and Odenhal Road. Make a right at the next light, which is Chestnut Street. Go through the traffic light and take the next right behind the Standard Supplies building. If you cross the railroad tracks, you have gone too far. Continue behind the Standard Supplies building and pull into the circle in front of the white block building to unload, but please park behind Building 2.

Dear Santa,

Hey Santa, help me out here. Sorry I haven't written to you before—guess I've been saving up. Well, this year I've got a big list, but I've been good.

All I want for Christmas is:

- 📁 One self-cleaning kitchen floor. (You know the kind—push a button and a shiny new surface emerges — minus the pawprints).
- 📁 Carpeting that doesn't bear the scars of the recent housebreaking conflict.
- 📁 Dogsafe pantyhose. Just once I'd like to get out the door without screaming "Off! Off! PANTYHOSE!!!"
- 📁 A cold winter followed by a dry spring Please, Santa, no more mud!!!
- 📁 An end to rawhide fights. How can I use the stuff as a cheap doggie babysitter if they are noisier *with* rawhide than without?
- 📁 Considerate dog owners who leash their pets so I can move freely about the neighborhood with the furkids without being circled by yapping small dogs or menaced by ominously large dogs of unknown character.
- 📁 An automatic hair detangler with a special Booda Bone goo setting.
- 📁 Doggie sweaters that fit—ones that do not "grow" once on the dog covering tails and creating a major irritation or shrink causing the poor dogs to look like sausages ready to pop.
- 📁 An uninterrupted night's sleep—one without the puppy sobbing to get up at 4 a.m. to play, or the old dog's bladder giving out at 2 a.m. or the rescue dog returning something she ate at 5 a.m.



- 📁 A full time "yard guard" to fill holes, scoop poop, repair dog damage, keep order, and gather up the soft toys left outside and scrape off the earthworms off them before they come back into the house.
- 📁 A seamstress to mend all the disemboweled dog toys piling up in the closet awaiting repair.
- 📁 A lifetime supply of free vet care (or at least some sort of "frequent flier" discount).
- 📁 Massive acts of love, kindness and sanity. I want everyone who loves dogs to do something nice for a local shelter or rescue, like take in treats or food, volunteer to walk a dog, cuddle a puppy — whatever.
- 📁 All pet owners to spay or neuter their pets so overworked shelter staffs and rescue groups can concentrate on the millions of homeless pets already in need. I want every lost pet to find their way home. I want every abused, neglected or abandoned pet to find a loving new home.

Oh, I know it's a tall order Santa, but they say miracles happen at Christmastime...

Oh, and could you please send an elf to take Duncan to puppy school?

Love,
A Dogmama

Christmas Wishes for Dog Owners

from showdog.com, the web site for Show Dog Magazine

Adoption Day Schedule

Here are the dates and locations for Adoption Days from January to May 2003:

11 January 2003
(second Saturday)

PETCO
1929 Old Gallows Rd
Vienna, VA 22182

8 February 2003
(second Saturday)

PETCO
10060 US Hwy 40 &
Bethany, Suite G-150
Ellicott City, MD 21042

8 March 2003
(second Saturday)

PETCO
2441-F Centreville Rd
Herndon, VA 20171

5 April 2003
(first Saturday)

PETCO
615 Bel Air Rd, Suite P
Bel Air, MD 21014

3 May 2003
(first Saturday)

PETCO
4167 Cheshire Station
Plaza
Dale City, VA 22193

In Remembrance
Christee



*Christee Mumaugh,
swimmer and ball
chaser extraordinaire*

Dan and Cheri Mumaugh write via e-mail:

Christee of Poquoson — a Great, GRREAT Friend — Goes to the Rainbow Bridge

Hello from a former member of GRREAT. We have never met. My name is Dan Mumaugh and my wife's name is Cheri.

We were GRREAT members during the time we lived in Hampton (1992 -1994). I was assigned to Langley Air Force Base. As members of GRREAT, we fostered Jason, Christee, Blaze, Big Red, Molly, Disney Anne and Tucson. We adopted Christee who was born 24 July 1992.

We thought you would like to know that after ten wonderful fun-filled and lively years Christee (the best swimmer I've ever seen) went to her appointment at the Rainbow Bridge today. She succumbed to cancer after a very brave effort.

When we adopted her, she was a dumpy little 11 month old who was pitifully out of shape as she had been confined to a back porch for months on end once it was determined that, while she was bred to be a truly champion retriever gun dog, she was absolutely frightened stiff of guns — thus her "back porch" status before her original owner (an avid bird hunter) surrender her to GRREAT. She was the offspring of "Brandy Wine of Tuckertown" and "Mary's Bonnie Kay Wildfire" — her parents from a Poquoson kennel. She was even AKC registered. Her GRREAT number was/is 212V and as you probably know, the number (along with a small heart) was tattooed on her right rear leg.

Christee was the second Rescue Golden we fostered and the first one we adopted. My Air Force career precluded any more Rescue organization involvement (we moved four times in six years) after we left Hampton. However, we did manage to pick up a Border Collie in San Antonio and a big boy Goldie in Colorado Springs before we retired to Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Once Christee left Hampton with us and her sisters Bailey (a mixed breed—still with us), and Barnum (our first ever Goldie whom we

Mark Your Calendar for the

GRREAT

Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, January 25, 2003

9:30 a.m. to 2:00 pm

Knights of Columbus Center
10142 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD

Meeting Schedule

9:30 Get Acquainted Session

10:00 Business Meeting

Agenda

- Officers and Coordinators Reports
- Election of Officers
- Reports of 2002 activities
- Plans for the coming year's educational and fundraising activities

All members are encouraged to attend.

You must be present to vote.

For the slate of officers, a description of voting eligibility and directions to the meeting, visit www.grreat.org.

found in a Wichita shelter—deceased from kidney failure in 1998), she got to live in Montgomery, Alabama; San Antonio, Texas; Enid, Oklahoma; Colorado Springs, Colorado; and finally Eureka Springs. She was the top swimmer in every neighborhood, and no dog ever born could beat her to a thrown tennis ball!!

Cheri and I are now members of GRRRR (Golden Recovery Retrieving Retrievers Rescue — www.goldenrecovery.org) and have continued in the tradition we learned as members of GRREAT. We have six dogs (four Gold Ones plus Bailey and our Border Collie, Ebony) and currently have "Timber," an eight month old foster boy.

Cheri and I would consider it a wonderful tribute to Christee if you would share with all your GRREAT members the fact that one of GRREAT's Goldies, Christee, brought much joy and love into our lives and had / has many furry friends left behind that will miss her as much as Cheri and I do, and will continue to. I have attached a picture of the wonderful Christee of Poquoson who this afternoon is no doubt swimming at full speed in the Golden pond just the other side of the Rainbow Bridge. You go, Christee!!



Emma's Peanut Butter Doggie Biscotti

Editor's Note: Our guest chef-author for the holidays is Emma, a Bassett-American, who with her thumb friend Eva, has a cooking for pets web site at www.families-first.com.



What you need:

- 2½ cups whole-wheat flour
- 2½ cups unbleached all purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup oil
- 1 cup crunchy peanut butter
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- water
- 1 cup carob chips (optional, but I think they're yummy, and they're safe for dogs!)

What you do:

1. Combine the flours and baking soda in a bowl and stir with a whisk. Add egg, oil, peanut butter, and vanilla and stir with a wooden spoon until lumpy. (Yum!) Add carob chips. Slowly add cold water 1 teaspoon at a time until a stiff dough forms. Do not over mix. After that, lick the wooden spoon clean!
2. Form dough into logs 2 inches in diameter. Place on lightly greased baking sheets and flatten logs to 1 inch high and about 6 to 7 inches long. (Have a human help you with the measurements.)
3. Bake at 325° Fahrenheit for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and cool for 20 minutes. Always be careful with heat! You can burn your paws. So always have a friend handy! (Preferably a human because they have thumbs!)
4. With a serrated knife, cut logs into ½-inch slices. (Have a human do that part.) Return slices to cookie sheet and bake at 325° Fahrenheit for 20 minutes, or until golden.
5. Cool and store in airtight tins or plastic bags—if I don't eat them all first!

Wilson is Looking for his Forever Home

Are your heart and home open for this special needs dog?



As we enter this season of joy and light, GRREAT is hoping to find one special family that has a place in their home and hearts for Golden named Wilson. Wilson is an approximately 5-year-old red neutered male, about 60 pounds. He was found as a stray by the Newark, Delaware, SPCA. His current foster mom reports that he is housebroken, gets along fine with other dogs (mostly ignores them) and cats. A fenced yard would be nice but is not a necessity.

What makes Wilson such a special dog is that he has a condition called masticatory muscular myositis. It is a genetic defect that prevents the buildup of a certain type of protein and causes wasting and deterioration of some of the facial muscles. Our neurologist sees about two cases of this every month. Other breeds are generally more prone to it, but Golden Retrievers do get it on occasion. It manifests itself on the dog's head where there are sunken areas instead of muscles. Right now it is most pronounced on Wilson behind his eyes. Other than that and some graying on his muzzle, Wilson looks and acts like any other typical healthy small red Golden male!

Our neurologist has said that there is nothing that can be done about this except to try to encourage him to chew as much as possible to keep what muscles there are in good tone. Wilson was also seen by a holistic vet who recommended some immune booster supplements (vitamins C and E, COQ10, and grapeseed extract) as well as acupuncture on an occasional basis. Wilson responded very well to his first acupuncture session. With a lot of chewing, Wilson can be expected to live out the normal life span of a Golden.

If you—or someone you know—has been waiting for a dog that truly needs someone special, please contact Mary Ellen R. Lunde, GRREAT Secretary, Foster Home and Intake Coordinator, melunde@att.net, 301-549-3156. She will be glad to answer any questions you have and put you in touch with the current foster mom if you would like to hear a firsthand account of wonderful Wilson.

**Special
Donations
were received
IN HONOR OF
GRREAT
Members and
Volunteers...**

Happy Birthday Rick Paisley

Please accept this donation as a birthday present for my boyfriend, Rick Paisley, and in honor of our two wonderful golden kids: the wise and sensitive Jake and our breath-takingly beautiful wild girl Abby. Thanks so much for all that you do for this wonderful breed! —Julie Von Vorys

We would like send the enclosed donations to celebrate the 50th birthday of our dear friend Rick Paisley whose love for Goldens has enriched his life.

—Catherine McIsaac
Jason Paisley
Karl and Barbara Von Vorys

Mary Ellen Williams

In honor of Mrs. Mary Ellen Williams of Hillside Golden Retrievers, for her kindness in allowing my wife and I to adopt one of her adult Golden Retrievers.

—Charles and Linda Davis

To thank GRREAT. We love Nigel!

—Margaret and Buz Bonifant

To thank all you wonderful volunteers at GRREAT. —Nancy and Dave Smith

In honor of Riley and Shiloh, our Golden family! —Jeff and Lucinda Twining

In honor of Ben.

—Janice and Dennis Biennas

The enclosed check is **donated from the sale of cards** depicting the beauty of Goldens. I made them and they were bought by family and friends. I am hopeful that they will continue to sell and earn more bucks for GRREAT! —Janet Hauck

A very generous check was received from George Washington University **in honor of all the volunteers** who participated in GWU's Summer Youth Program Dog Care Course.

Patricia Kennedy

Enclosed is a donation which is given in honor of one of your supporters, Patricia Kennedy. Ashgrove Adventure Summer Day Program is a Girl Scout Camp that takes place at Camp Crowell in Oakton, VA, and serves approximately 400 campers for two weeks each summer. Patty Kennedy volunteered to share her talents with our campers one day. She talked about her book *Golden Lessons of Life*, and brought her dog Otis with her to camp. Needless to say, Otis was a hit with the children, and Patty was wonderfully received as well. Your organization is a favorite of Patty's.

The money may be used in whatever way your organization deems appropriate. We celebrate your efforts and wish you continued success.

—Darlene Dickerson
Ashgrove Adventure Program Director

— REMINDER —

**It's
Membership
Renewal Time**

Please check your mailing label for this issue. If it shows "Expires 12/31/02" in the upper right corner, your GRREAT membership expires with this issue. Membership dues are still only \$25 per year and include a subscription to GRREAT News.

Dues are payable now through January 31, 2003, after which time membership will be forfeited.

This is also the time to consider making a tax-deductible donation to GRREAT. Use the handy form on page 19, and mail it and your check to GRREAT's post office box in the addressed envelope included in this issue.

Tuck a note in the envelope about your pride and joy—and maybe a picture—we love to hear from you!

**Special
Donations
for special
reasons**

Dear GRREAT

Thank you very much for working with us and helping us to find our new Golden Retriever. We are thoroughly enjoying him; his presence in our home is all consuming! Truly!

Our college age children were thrilled to learn of the addition to our home. Our son left school immediately and drove an hour and a half to meet him. While "Shadow" is a fine name we all agreed that a new beginning required a new name. Hours later we decided on "Cooper". So we now are the proud family of "Cooper Cappadona."

The pain and the sadness of losing our Molly last February are slowly subsiding. She will never be forgotten, we adored her, and the love she gave to us made us realize the importance of opening our home and our hearts to another Golden.

Cooper is a character. We are pleased with the many joys...and challenges...that he brings. We now remember, with great fondness, the early years of Molly...some 13 years ago. That Golden personality that is both endearing and infuriating! There are no idle hands in our home; we are dog proofing, dog walking, ball throwing, poop scooping, laughing, and loving. We are very fortunate.

Enclosed please find the verification from our veterinarian that Cooper is, in fact, a happy healthy guy.

—Maureen and Peter Cappadona

Enclosed please find Maggie's (02-333) dog training completion certificate. Maggie still behaves when she wants to, but our trainer introduced us to a gentle leader and when she's on the gentle leader, she's a perfect companion. Please keep the deposit for her training requirement as a donation. Thank you for all of your hard work and to Marti and Hap who took such good care of Maggie.

—Sidney Brown and Louis Plummer



Bar Mitzvah Congratulations

My name is Avery Uslander and me and my parents adopted Amber, a GRREAT dog in November 2000. She was #227 and she and my Mum, Debbie Uslander, now do home visits together.

On December 14th of this year I will be celebrating my Bar Mitzvah. Part of my preparation involves doing a "Mitzvah," meaning a good deed. I decided to collect supplies for GRREAT dogs in foster care. I have already collected a good supply of towels and other good stuff. I was lucky enough to receive some generous financial donations. Since I am sure GRREAT could use the money now, I am enclosing the two checks that I have received and also a gift card for PetCo merchandise. Please use the money where it is most needed.

I am very happy to be able to give something back to GRREAT. We love our Amber very much and I hope my contributions will help other dogs.

—Avery Uslander

Thanks

...to the volunteers who staffed the education table at the Seven Sweets and Sours Festival in Lancaster, PA, and especially to L. Sidney Morris, who organized the pumpkin painting as a fundraiser to benefit GRREAT. She also donated some hand painted slates to GRREAT.

Thank You to these individuals for their recent donations

Ed Bielecki and
Connie Holcombe

Norm and
Gail Bleakley

Walter and
Dolores Buchanan

Kathy Dyjack

David and
Linda Engelman

Judith Eycler
and Dudley

Eugene and
Margaret Gainor

Sue Harrison

James and
Alexandra Hartz

Janet Hauck
please see note on page 10

June Hurtgen

Michael and
Janene Kalb

Ellen and
Gary Kasnett

Charles and
Janel Olden

Richard and
Judy Radt

Milan and
Jean Shepherd

Tom Tucker

Seasonal Plants Poisonous to Dogs



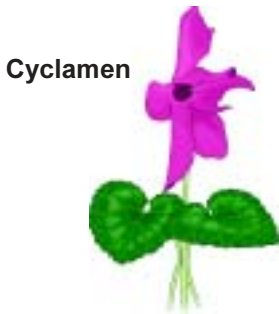
Holly



Mistletoe



Poinsettia



Cyclamen



Azalea



Amaryllis

Pet Safety Tips, continued from page 1

- ⚠ Remember that the dog's powerful nose can smell chocolate inside layers of wrapping paper when a human can't, so if you suspect a gift of chocolate, put it up out of the dog's reach.
- ⚠ Turkey meat is not easily digestible and turkey bones are dangerous. Tie up garbage tightly and remove it as soon as possible so that dogs are not tempted to look for bones and food in the trash. Lots of other things in the garbage can cause trouble too: plastic wrap, 6-pack rings, string and ribbons.

DECORATIONS

- ⚠ Train your dog to stay away from the tree. Some dogs will be tempted to lie beneath it, but it's not safe. With a sweep of the tail, a dog can break ornaments and get mouth or paw cuts or swallow small pieces.
- ⚠ Tinsel and ornaments, particularly glass ornaments, can be attractive to pets, but once ingested, pieces can cause obstruction or intestinal damage.
- ⚠ Popcorn and cranberries on a string are irresistible and dangerous. (It's the string, not necessarily the popcorn or cranberries, that is hazardous.) Think about placing a fence or pen around your tree rather than around your pet. Don't hang candy canes or gingerbread where your dog can reach them.
- ⚠ Keep all decorations and electrical cords out of your dog's reach. If you see your dog chomping on an electrical cord, pull the plug from the socket immediately—even before you try to get the cord out of the dog's mouth. You or your dog might accidentally break the wire and be shocked.

- ⚠ Poisonous seasonal plants include mistletoe, holly, cyclamen, amaryllis, azalea, and the leaves of the poinsettia (see pictures at left). Keep all of these out of your dog's reach.

GUESTS

- ⚠ Monitor how your dog interacts with your guests (especially children). Create a quiet, secluded place where Fur Face can get away from all the excitement. Remember too that paws and tails are more susceptible than usual to being stepped on when there are extra people in the house.
- ⚠ Guests who aren't used to having pets in the house can accidentally leave a door open, allowing your pet to take off down the street. Make sure that your dog has an up-to-date identification tag, especially if you are visiting in an unfamiliar area.
- ⚠ Guests are wonderful to have around, but don't neglect your pets for the sake of the visitors. Build plenty of quality time with your dog into your holiday schedule. Your dog will appreciate it, and you will benefit from a few moments of relaxation as well.

STAYING WARM

- ⚠ A senior dog can benefit from a pet heating pad inserted in his dog bed. Think about putting a sweater on the animal if it is really frail or sensitive to the cold.
- ⚠ Lying too close to a heat source, such as a fireplace or portable heater, can severely burn a pet who just wants to stay warm. Put a barrier like a fireplace screen between the heat source and the pet, and never leave your pet alone in a room where there is an open flame.
- ⚠ An animal that spends a lot of time outdoors needs extra calories in the winter to keep its body temperature regulated. Increase the amount of dog food it receives in cold weather.

OUTDOORS

- ⚠ Antifreeze is a major hazard to dogs. They are attracted by its smell and sweet taste, but even a few licks can be lethal. Call your veterinarian or an

Pet Safety Tips, continue on page 18

<u>Name</u>	<u>ID #</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ID #</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>
Abbey	02-149	5 mo	F	Olivia	02-180	10 mo	F
Bailey	02-168	3	M	Pixie	02-194	5	F
Bean	01-266	5	M	Rebel	02-208	8 mo	M
Beemer	02-202	7	F	Remington	01-231	8	M
BJ	02-232	5	M	Remmy	02-178	10 mo	M
Bowie	02-148	10 mo	M	Robin	02-160	7	F
Bronte	02-198	3	F	Sabrina	02-226	4	F
Cali	02-191	1	F	Sadie	02-158	1	F
Cody	02-206	6	M	Sadie	02-181	1	F
Cory	02-152	8	M	Sampson	02-166	11	M
Dallas	02-041	4	M	Sandy	02-142	4	M
Ginger	02-056	1	F	Sarah	02-123	8	F
Gonzo	02-157	2	M	Scratch	02-192	5	M
Harry Jack	02-091	6 mo	M	Shadow	02-186	6	M
Howie	02-165	7 mo	M	Shadow	02-195	4	M
Jeffy	02-223	4 mo	M	Shadow	95-027	8	M
Joe	02-174	9 mo	M	Sierra	02-146	2	F
Josie	02-139	8	F	Sophie	02-170	3	F
Kaemis	01-166	7	F	Spirit	01-230	10	F
Mandy	02-183	1	F	Tanner	02-156	1	M
Maverick	02-199	2	M	Tobin	02-167	11	M
Max	02-109	3	M	Toby	02-162	1	M
Nala	02-201	8	F	Zoe/Belle	02-164	2	F
Nugget	02-193	1	F				

Adoption Report

September 13 to
November 11, 2002

There are happy holidays ahead for 47 dogs and their lucky families — they found each other between mid-September and mid-November. In this remarkable number, nine were under a year old and three were age 10 or over, including a pair of 11 year old brothers found in the middle of a busy street who were adopted by the same family. Several were adopted by their foster families.

Our statistics on this group: 21 females and 26 males; 21 were age 2 or under; 12 were age 7 or older, and 14 dogs between age 2 and 7.

Congratulations and Happy Holidays to all!

Where's the GRREAT Merchandise Catalog?

GRREAT's annual Dog-a-Log, which in previous years appeared in GRREAT News, will not be mailed to members this year. This decision was made at a recent Board of Directors meeting. Our merchandising process has been restructured and we have a new merchandise coordinator. There is not enough of our new inventory in place to warrant a mailing. In addition, our non-profit organization postage rate does not permit direct sales mailings such as the Dog-a-Log. **However, a list of available merchandise and ordering instructions are available on the GRREAT website, www.grreat.org. Thank you for your understanding and your continued support of GRREAT.**

From Cheryl Babik:

I would like to thank Nicki Parisi and Henna, the great distraction dog, and Bob Kurtz, the separation handler, for helping at the CGC test, in addition to the wonderful "crowd" of volunteers. We had eight dogs enter and pass the test:

Linda and Jimbo
Elaine and Sky
Mildred and Goldie
Nancy and Macgyver
Pat and Taz
Richard and Billy the Kid-"Kid"
Linda and Mattie
Stacy and Tracker

Great job everyone!

New Canine Good Citizens

Belated congratulations to these dogs and their people. The Canine Good Citizen test was held at this year's GRREAT picnic, but due to an oversight on the newsletter editor's part, the names were not published earlier.

Special Donations were received

IN MEMORY OF...

Moosie Partridge, who crossed over the Rainbow Bridge on August 27, 2002. He was such a special Golden, a goofy guy with great dignity. He was much loved by his Mom, Cindy Partridge of Colorado Springs, CO, his furry family, and all his favorite Aunties. He will be deeply missed. —Laura Schmitz

Pansie, whom we knew only briefly (we dog-sat her for 10 days). She was a sweetie and we are saddened by her passing. Thanks to Renee, her foster parent. Thanks also for GRREAT support and her medical care. —Bill and Geri Guwang

Editor's note: Pansie died from acute medical problems while in foster care.

Rusty, our beautiful, precious Golden Retriever puppy. Please accept this donation to further the rescue work of GRREAT. Rusty died on September 24, 2002, at the age of 7 months and three weeks. The amount represents one dollar for every day of his short but extremely happy life. May these funds help other Golden Retrievers give and receive the love that we shared with Rusty. —Denise and Ray Malczewski

Luke—a golden labrador who lived to the ripe old age of 18 years. Beloved dog of Rodney and Angie Pryor. —Rick Stevens and Julie Palais



Ongoing Gifts grreatfully acknowledged

United Way of Central Maryland for donations given in the 2001 campaign

iGive.com from their web site

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

Royalty income from **Oxyfresh Worldwide**

Rochelle Lesser and landofpuregold.com (donations resulting from the Golden Greetings photo cards contributions program)



In Remembrance Scoobie

Robin Graham writes:

It is with the deepest sadness that I write to tell you that my sweet, beautiful, GRREAT dog Scoobie crossed to the Rainbow Bridge October 19, 2002.

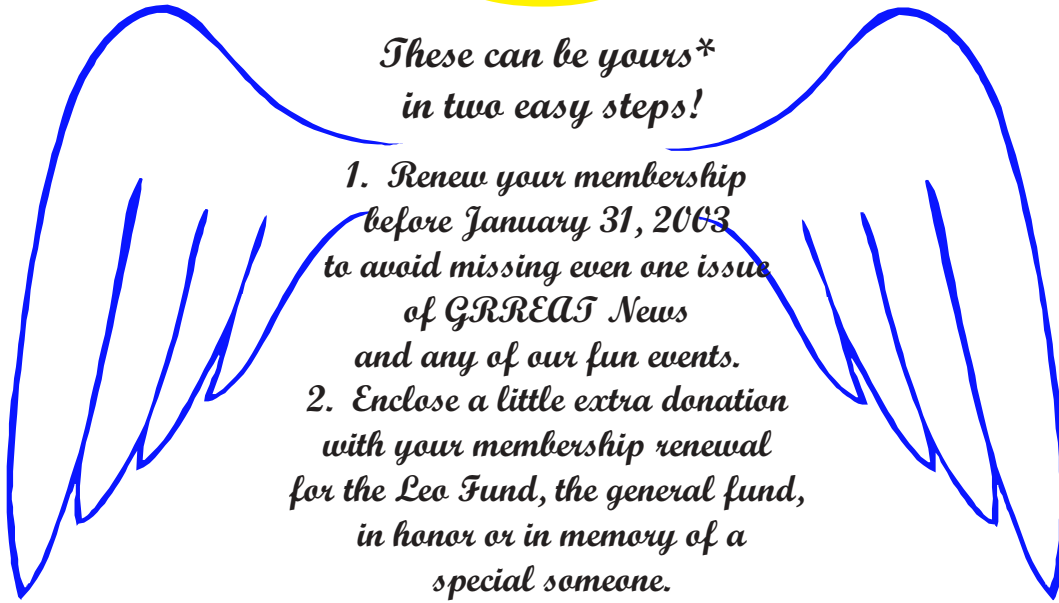
He received a working diagnosis of hemangiosarcoma the previous Monday, and by Saturday, he was too weak to stand without help. His breathing was labored, and his eyes kept running as if he were crying. A very gentle vet, her assistant, and I were all with him, touching his soft fur and telling him how much he was loved when he left us.

He was the Golden light of my life for only 365 days. He was my first dog, and I don't think there could have been a better match made by GRREAT.

I loved to watch him sleep. He looked like a big Golden angel, and no matter how bad a day I was having, he always made me feel happy and peaceful. Not that he wasn't a Golden angel when he was awake. He was a perfect gentleman, very tidy and well behaved. The only thing he ever destroyed was a hot pink feather boa, and I like to think that this was simply an aesthetic decision on his part.

He was the best friend and companion I can imagine. I cherish every day I had with him and have no regrets that I adopted him as a senior, only that we didn't have more time together.

Scoobie, you are dearly missed.



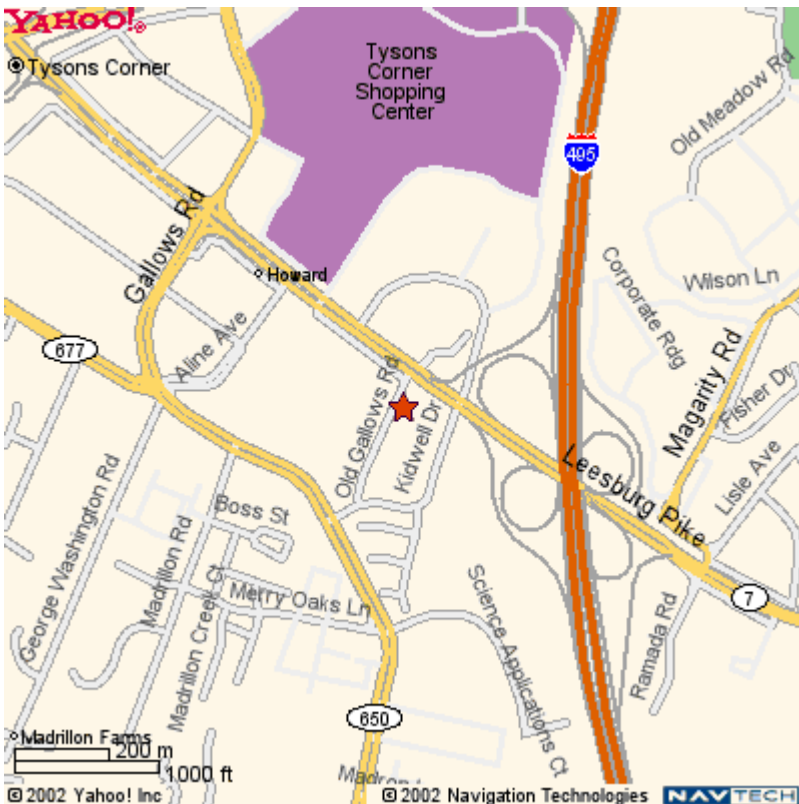
These can be yours
in two easy steps!*

- 1. Renew your membership before January 31, 2003 to avoid missing even one issue of GRREAT News and any of our fun events.*
- 2. Enclose a little extra donation with your membership renewal for the Leo Fund, the general fund, in honor or in memory of a special someone.*

**sorry, no gift wrapping available*

January 2003 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, January 11, 2003

Noon until 2 pm

Note: this is the SECOND Saturday in January

PETCO

1929 Old Gallows Rd
Vienna, VA 22182

Directions to the Tyson's Corner/Vienna PETCO: From the Capital Beltway (I-495) in northern Virginia, take Route 7 WEST. At the end of the ramp, immediately move over to the left lane. At the first light, make a U-turn and go EAST on Route 7. At the next light turn right on Old Gallows Road (gas station on the corner). Make a left into the first driveway. PETCO is at the end of the drive facing Route 7.



Leo's Corner

*The Leo Fund
for special needs dogs.*

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

**Anna's Ark Doggie
Day Care, Rockville**

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

Mary Grumbine

Dr. Joseph O'Neill

**Gwen Wood
and John Fernstrom**

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

**Norvall and
Rebecca Streett**

**Constance and
Merhle Young**



*Party dog
Clifford Streett*

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

I am writing to you on behalf of my GRREAT dog Clifford 02-064. I adopted him from GRREAT this past summer, and he is a GRREAT big joy to my life! I am happy to report that, although Clifford had to recuperate from numerous infections due to his poor care before being rescued, he is now a happy, healthy Golden. He beams his gorgeous Golden smile in appreciation for GRREAT's care and efforts on his behalf.

I recently held an adoption party for him and invited my guests to bring their respective dogs to play and celebrate with Clifford in his back yard. They had a fabulous time—six dogs showed up for the event and played nonstop for two hours! Clifford had a party hangover the next day. The party décor theme was "Scooby Doo," and all dogs received a Scooby Doo snack treat bag as a party favor. In lieu of gifts for Clifford, two party guests, Diane Streett and Connie Young, have generously made donations to GRREAT in honor of Clifford's adoption.

They, like myself, are so grateful for all that GRREAT and its rescue volunteers have done for dogs like Clifford and all that

GRREAT continues to do. Please apply the donations to the Leo Fund as that seems to be in need of donations for rescue Golden retrievers with hip dysplasia in need of specialized surgery. I know Clifford would approve of as many surgeries for his fellow Golden retrievers as the fund can allow!

—Stacey Streett

In memory of our beloved Lucky
(95-075), the 'Best Dog Ever.' Thank you GRREAT.

—Gwen Wood and John Fernstrom

In honor of all the love and joy our Golden retrievers have shared with us.

—Mary Grumbine

Please use the enclosed check to **continue your valuable and worthwhile efforts through the Leo Fund.** This check is a percentage of gross earnings from my doggie day care for the month of September. I have posted information about GRREAT in my office. We offer a free day to adopted dogs. I speak often to my clients about the life changing service you provide. May this check assist in some small way in the saving of a discarded dog. God Bless you.

—Anneliese Johnson,
Anna's Ark Doggie Day Care

Editor's Note: And thank you also, Anneliese, for hosting the October 19 GRREAT Adoption Day.

I will address myself mostly to the rules for sleeping with two dogs. For the few who have already mastered this technique, I will later add a cat, although I urge beginners to leave the cat out.

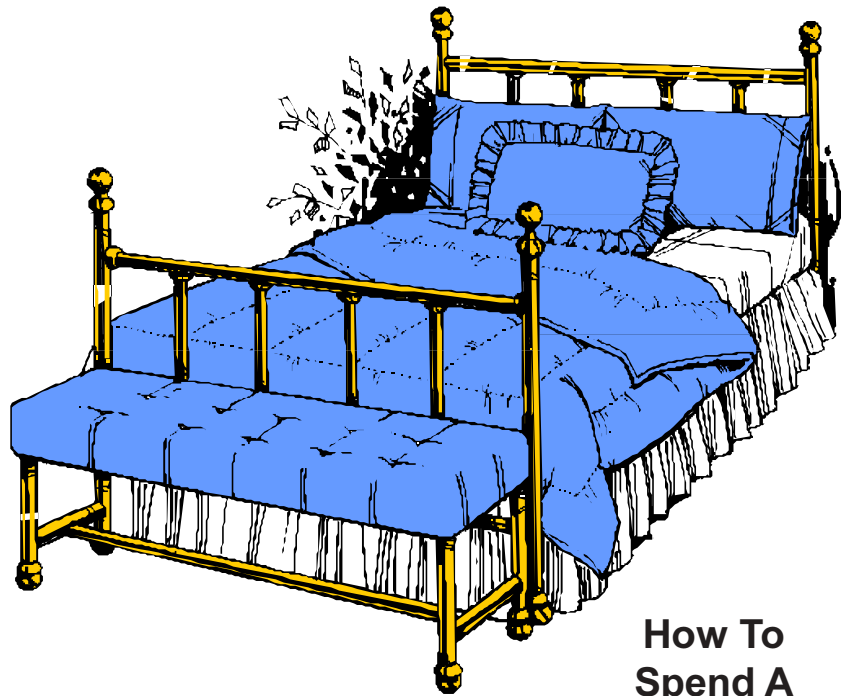
To achieve any sort of success, certain arbitrary conditions must be assumed, the first one being that you must have a king-sized bed. There is no point in lying down in anything smaller. While the size of the breed of dog is not important (people who sleep with dogs know that before the night is over everybody collects into a pile), the condition of the dogs may be. Very thin dogs, for example, are lumpier.

I have selected the two-dog minimum because, as we shall see, it is the only way to stay in bed at all. The key word here is *leverage*. All dogs spend the night pressed tightly against their human bedfellows, but no two dogs ever sleep on the same side. This is, in part, an expression of the "Let Sleeping Dogs Lie Principle." It is also to create leverage.

Because the human being is always in the middle, held tightly in place by the dogs and by his blanket (which the dogs are sleeping on top of), restlessness and recurring cramps are difficult to handle. Here is the tip: When you first lie down, *and before the dogs settle against each side of you*, spread your legs three inches apart. Stiffen and hold out *no matter how great the pressure!*

When the time comes to turn over, bring the legs together quickly under the now slightly slackened blanket and revolve *before the dogs wake up*. As soon as you have assumed a new position, allow for those crucial three inches again; otherwise, you're a mummy for the rest of the night.

Never spread the legs more than three inches! A dog's favorite place to sleep is in the hollow created by legs too widely spread, and once settled, he and you are frozen into position until morning. (There is a way out of this trap, but it is difficult to describe without slides).



How To Spend A Two-dog Night

*Bev Ryba
"the voice of
experience"*

from the Internet

Dogs who prefer to sleep on their backs *must be given space three times the height of the dog at the shoulder*. Dogs who like pillows may be accommodated if you sleep on your side with the legs scissored so that each dog has an ankle for a chin rest. Above all, *beware of curling!* When the curl is reversed, both dogs are dislocated, resulting in low growls on both sides of you.

When you are ready to add a cat, position is all important. All cats prefer to sleep in hollows, but *no cat will sleep on the same side as a dog*. (Remember, you have only two sides). *You must therefore become a triangle!* Do this by assuming a horizontal diver's crouch, thereby creating not only three more-or-less exclusive sides but two hollows as well. With one dog at your front and the other against your back, the cat can curl into the hollow at the back of your bent knees, separated from both dogs. All will then sleep soundly.

This entire technique still needs a lot of refinement. A method that deals with early morning scratching needs to be developed, and the problem of pretending to sleep while being closely scrutinized by various animals needs to be solved.

Editor's note: The term "# dog night" refers to sleeping with dogs on cold nights. In Australia, the aborigine tribes of several regions slept outside all year. As the temperatures got colder, the tribesmen would sleep with a dog to keep warm. In colder weather, they would huddle with two dogs and on especially cold nights these nomadic people needed three dogs (dingoes, actually) to keep from freezing.

December Adoption Day

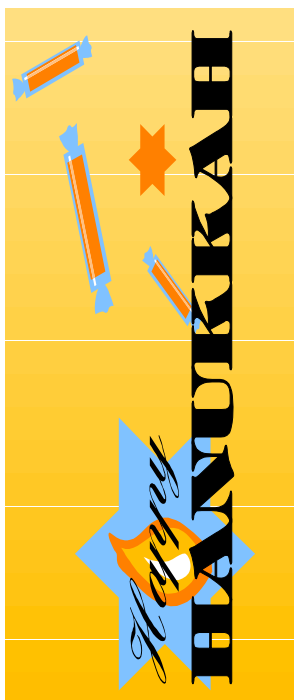
For driving directions from other areas, visit the GRREAT Calendar at www.grreat.org/calendar.htm and click on the map icon.



Saturday, December 14, 2002
Noon until 2 pm
PETCO
915 Washington Blvd South, #83
Laurel, Maryland

Directions to Laurel PetCo:

From I-95 between Washington and Baltimore, take Route 198 exit east toward Laurel. Continue to the intersection with Route 1 (Washington Blvd) and turn right (Route 1 South). PETCO is about 1/4 mile on the right in the Laurel Center Mall across from IHOP.



Pet Safety Tips, continued from page 12

animal poison control center immediately if you suspect your dog has ingested antifreeze. Dispose of antifreeze promptly and place any drainage buckets that you do not discard up and away from your pets—even the residual fluid in the bucket can be harmful. Monitor the driveway or garage for any drips or radiator leaks and clean them up right away.

- ❗ If you and your pet spend much time outdoors in the winter, be observant for “ice balls,” compressed snow that refreezes into ice crystals that lodge between the pads of your dog’s paws. Dogs tend to chew or lick away irritating ice balls, and this can be hazardous if you live in an area that clears side walks and streets with de-icers and calcium salts. Too much salt can make

your pet sick. Instead, bring the dog inside, melt the ice with warm moist cloths, and wash the paws to remove chemical residue.

- ❗ Even if the sidewalk salt is not ingested, it may irritate the dog’s footpads. Keep toe hair trimmed so that it does not attract and keep salty iceballs.
- ❗ Even in the winter, don’t leave your pet in the car too long. Just as she can become hyperthermic and ill in the summer, in cold weather a dog can develop hypothermia which might lead to illness and even death. Leaving a dog in a closed car with the engine running is an invitation to possible carbon monoxide poisoning and other disasters.

**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, December 7, 2002

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

GRREAT Howliday Party

Montgomery County Agricultural Fairgrounds

Information on page 3, directions on page 6

Saturday, December 14, 2002 - Noon - 2:00 pm

Adoption Day

PETCO

915 Washington Blvd South, #83, Laurel, MD

Map and directions on page 18

301-490-7452 for directions only

Saturday, January 11, 2003 - Noon - 2:00 pm

Adoption Day

PETCO

1929 Old Gallows Rd, Vienna, VA 22182

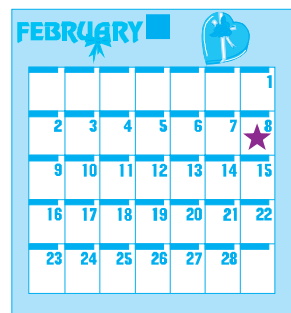
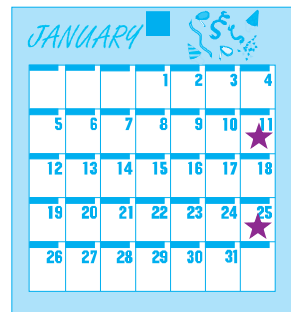
Map and directions on page 15

703-448-3401 for directions only

Saturday, January 25, 2003

GRREAT Annual Business Meeting

Details in next issue or visit www.grreat.org.



Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc.

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

 **703-620-6593**

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*Happy Holidays
from GRREAT*