



GRREAT NEWS

Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc

May/June 2010

Vol. 21, No. 3

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by Sherry B. True

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What is it about Golden Retrievers that just make you want to want to be like them? Many times even before I am doing a reading with a Golden I am smiling! I have had the honor of knowing and working with Golden Retrievers and many of them have been from the GRREAT organization. Don't get me wrong I love all the breeds but there are just some, like the Goldens, that make you really look at yourself and say, "I need to lighten up and be like them."

This is how it was explained to me one day by a Golden who I was doing a session with. First he said, "We have ground rules." The number one rule I was given is that, "It's all about me (him)." The quicker we all learn that the faster we can move on to the next rule. Rule number two was that "I have to be touching you in some way so you know that I am here." Touching you is my way of making sure you are ok and you know you are safe, I will protect you; besides, it's all about me anyway! Rule number three is that "I often times need to carry things around in my mouth so please do not take it away — it's my job." Now because it is about me you can see how distressed I would be if I couldn't carry things around in my mouth. Rule number four is that "I love my family more than anything in the world and will do anything to show you that." There was a PS here from him and he said the more Goldens living together the better! They love big families and again it's all about them! And lastly, rule number five was "Just love me for who I am, I love you for who you are, let's have FUN!"

I had to laugh because that is a perfect way to be! It's the Golden way of being. Goldens are service dogs with a capital "S". Many of them thrive being caretakers in our families or even therapy dogs. They certainly are one of the more family oriented breeds.

Now I know many people who have adopted Goldens who had had some issues due to the way they were raised or not raised, but the core of a Golden is to be part of something bigger. No matter what their problems or issues they all come to us for a reason. Why do you have the Golden you have in your life? Really, sit and take a moment to ask that question. If you are quiet enough you will "hear" your answer.

I know why I have the three dogs in my life that I do, each one brings me a lesson with who they are as individuals. So whether your animal has issues or not they are with you for a reason. Goldens especially can teach us about the importance of being charming to get what you want, being active and fun-loving to stay forever young, and for being a breed with a very big heart!

Whether you are a foster parent or adopter of a Golden, know that each Golden holds a special place in their heart for their people and for the work their people do on the behalf of other Goldens. Word gets around in this family and for that you are loved by all Goldens, all over the world!

Sherry B. True is owner and service provider for Spirit Paws, alternative animal wellness services. Her services include animal communication, healthy pet consultations and Healing Touch for Animals®. For more information please visit www.spiritpaws.com.



GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, INC.

P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069
Phone: 703-620-6593 • Web site: 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 and West Virginia.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear GRREAT Members:



Ruby Dee (07-086)

This month I'd like to tell you about a very special old Golden Retriever, Ruby Dee (07-086). I'd also like to fill you in on some GRREAT summer fun in the months ahead.

Ruby Dee is my 14 year old GRREAT

dog who came to me in June 2007 from a rural shelter, after having been picked up as a stray. She had kennel cough, which within 2 days became pneumonia with a collapsed lung. She also had a stinkiness about her that no bath would help – a mouthful of rotten teeth and thick dark plaque were the cause. I was given broad-spectrum antibiotics for my little red foster girl, along with instructions on how to perform a technique called “coupage”, which involves pounding on the chest to break up congestion. Ruby Dee stayed in my home office until she was well enough to be with the other animals in the house, and during that time a very strong bond developed between us. Thankfully she slept a lot, but when she was awake, she barked for attention. I spent many hours in my office, so I accomplished a lot, but I was also forced to sleep on the not-so-comfy office couch. After 2 months of recovery, and a nearly clean bill of health, 9 of Ruby Dee's teeth were extracted, including several that were abscessed. By that time, I had adopted her and she had become my special spunky little angel.

Anyone who has met my Ruby Dee understands why she's so special. Even those who say they're not “dog-people” know there is something different about her. She is so gentle and she has a way of making whoever is petting her feel as though they are the only thing that matters in the universe, and probably at that moment it's true. The love in her eyes says she absolutely worships the person that's giving her attention. Ruby Dee's tiny stature makes her stand out from other Golden Retrievers, and definitely adds to her charm. Her weight has consistently stayed between 46-48 pounds, but her littleness is mostly because she's such a low-to-the-ground Golden.

Ruby Dee has been on my mind more than usual lately, after having a malignant tumor removed from the top of her hip a few weeks ago. But I actually feel sort of lucky about this. My sweet boy Cooper went to the Rainbow Bridge in January after being affected by what seemed like a sore neck just before Christmas, but which became an untreatable and very fast-growing malignancy on his neck that was the size of

a grapefruit within 3 weeks. As soon as I found out the far more optimistic prognosis for Ruby Dee, I felt a huge sense of relief. I have plenty of time to decide what to do next, if anything, and Ruby Dee hasn't acted one bit less than her usual happy self throughout!

There is so much more I could tell you about Ruby Dee. But I really want you to know how wonderful it is to live with an old dog. I used to think it would be so hard to have a dog for just a few years, but now I know that's just not true. Every day with my little Ruby Dee is a treasured one! If the tumor comes back in another 6-8 months, which is a worse-case scenario, it will still have been a most special experience to have had her in my life. I wouldn't trade the few years she's been with me for 10-15 years with another dog that might not have touched me as she has. I hope you get the chance to meet my little angel; she'll make you smile and feel warm and Golden all over.

Maybe you'll meet Ruby Dee at one of the fun GRREAT activities we've planned for you and your dog this summer. If you've never been to the GRREAT Bark-B-Que in Annapolis, MD, this would be the year to bring the dog and the whole family. We're having the event on Saturday May 22, so the weather should be perfect! All the food is supplied, and we'll have lots of fun doggie games. Everyone you meet there is a Golden-lover, so you'll hear lots of wonderful dog stories, and you'll have an audience of Golden lovers to listen to your dog stories, too!

On Sunday June 27, we're having a day of relaxation and fun for you and your dog in a bucolic setting at the Barrel Oak Winery in Delaplane, VA. You may bring a picnic lunch, grilling is available, and there will be wine tasting to benefit GRREAT. Again, you'll be in the company of Golden lovers!

The popular GRREAT dog wash events return this year! On Saturday July 31, you may wash your dog in Annapolis, MD or have a GRREAT volunteer do the work while you relax and watch from the coffee bar. All proceeds will go to GRREAT!

And on Saturday August 28, we're having a dog wash in Herndon, VA, along with a photographer to take a picture of your well-groomed dog. A percentage of the proceeds from the dog wash and the photography session will be donated to GRREAT!

Ruby Dee and I hope to see you and your dog this summer at as many of these fun GRREAT events as you can attend! They're all listed on the GRREAT Calendar of Events: www.grreat.org/calendar.htm

—Louise Davidson, GRREAT President

A Happy Ending

by Skip Nizer

The other day I met two Golden Retrievers; seems they were taking their family for a walk in Annapolis. Of course I had to say hi to them. The adult Golden (I can't recall their names) came from a Golden rescue



in Colorado and the five-month-old came from a rescue called GRREAT. It made my day! Both were healthy looking, happy and friendly. It was just nice to know that a group that I am associated with does good work and makes families happy.

This brings me to another very short story. Last week, I had to renew Scout's and Toby's licenses. I took the forms to the shelter and did a walk through of the kennels. I do the walk to remind me of why rescues exist, to remind me of old friends like Chester, Jessie (aka the Dude) and others that passed not only through the rescue but through our house. Of course, I also go to look for Golden Retrievers. I saw a small blonde female in a run who was brought in as a stray. She looked scared and stayed close to the gate; she did not come to me, she just stared.

I went home and told Deb about her and she promptly asked if I had done a sneaky adoption on her. I said no, I wanted to talk to her first. Deb got on the computer to check her out. First she went to the county's web site which has a link to the animal shelter. This gave her information about the dog. Then she went to the site where people could post information about lost pets. There seemed to be a match! Deb then made a phone call to the possible "lost owner" and as it should be in all stories, there was a happy ending. The lady had just returned from the shelter with her dog.

The owner had had her dog microchipped and called the shelter. A man at the shelter told her that they didn't have any Golden Retrievers, but her sister convinced her to go there and check it out anyway. This is what you need to do if you ever lose your pet. I am sure that the man wasn't aware that the dog had just come in and that they hadn't gotten around to looking for the chip. Just because you work at the shelter doesn't mean that you know all the breeds; and that if the dog is small or doesn't measure up to the breed exactly, they could be misclassified.

Lesson learned is not just to call but go to the shelter and look for yourself. None of us want to have our dog spend a night or two in the shelter when they could be home. None of us want to worry about our pet or see the family upset. NONE of us want to have someone else adopt OUR DOG!

While both Deb and I were very happy with the ending,

I think Deb was a little disappointed that we didn't have another Golden. I have a feeling that when I retire (less than a year from now) I just may have the time for another dog to break me in and train me. He may even teach me how to throw tennis balls.

Don't forget to pet your dog and don't forget how lucky you are to have such a special companion.

Dear Janet,

Our dog, Bailey, is very friendly and loves everyone who comes to our house. When the person rings our door bell he barks, but as soon as we open the door and invite the person in, he's a friendly, wagging, wiggling Golden. There is, however, one exception. When he's inside and sees the mail carrier walking up the sidewalk toward our house, he starts barking. We have a mail slot in our front door and as she's putting the mail through the slot Bailey is barking very ferociously. It's a different, more angry bark than what he does when the door bell rings. We're not usually home when she delivers the mail but we've talked to her and she says that his behavior is the same when we're not home. Why is he behaving so ferociously only toward her? R.S.

Dear R.S.,

When you are home and invite a friend or service provider inside, Bailey sees you behaving in a welcoming, friendly manner, so he accepts the person as a friend and behaves accordingly. When the mail carrier arrives and puts mail through the slot, however, Bailey has no way of knowing that she's providing you a service and that her actions will not go any further. From Bailey's perspective, when he barks at your mail carrier he's protecting your house from an uninvited stranger who is trespassing. Once she leaves your door to go to the next house, Bailey thinks that his barking has caused her to go away and that he's successfully defended your property.

Of course, the next day the mail carrier comes back and Bailey barks at her again. As the days go by Bailey becomes more and more frustrated that she has the nerve to continue to behave in the same manner even though he's told her repeatedly to stop doing so, which is why he has a different, more angry bark when he sees her coming. He's just like anyone else who has gotten tired of nagging and nagging and never getting anywhere!

Janet McMillan is the owner of Best Behaved Dogs, providing in-home obedience and behavior modification to dogs and their families. If you have a question for Janet for this column, or would like more information on her services, please contact her at janet@bestbehaveddogs.com or visit her website at www.bestbehaveddogs.com

What We Learn from Our Dogs, In Memory of Champ, Our Precious Golden Retriever

by Donna Hale

1. Life is better lived off leash exploring the wonders of the universe. Putting yourself out there exposes you to danger, heartache, and pain. Not going for it means you never really live.

2. Jumping in the lake feels great on a hot summer day. The water may be cold and startle your system for a moment, but it reminds you that you are alive and can be reinvigorated by the simplest pleasures.

3. Snuggling with those you love is the ultimate. When all is said and done, the touch of another living creature whether it is a hug, a wet kiss, or just a pat on the back reminds us that we are not alone on this earth.

4. The best thing you can do for those you cherish is to be there and to listen. Sometimes all you need is the presence of something pure and wonderful to get through almost anything.

5. It does not matter if the carpet is clean. How much of our lives do we spend cleaning the floors or vacuuming the rugs. Dogs know that this is all overrated and that well worn carpet makes a great place for napping.

6. Enjoy a little treat every day. Dogs teach us in every way that life is banquet. You are at that table only once so don't skip dessert. Savor every bite.

7. Leave your mark every chance you get. Too often we rush through life barely realizing what we are doing or experiencing. Even with a walk around the corner, dogs know it is essential to leave behind something that says I have been here.

8. It is good to chase things that matter to you. Just the sight of ball flying through the air or a stick floating in the water propels a dog with boundless energy and pure joy. They know what they love and they pursue it every day with passion and reckless abandon. If only humans chased their dreams with such intensity and determination.

9. The best things in life really are free. Dogs know that fancy houses, fast cars, and huge bank accounts mean very little compared to feeling the rain on our faces, smelling the flowers on a walk through the neighborhood, or burying your nose in a cozy blanket or a patch of grass. Happiness is measured in moments and memories and not money,

10. Our bodies are only on loan to us for a very short time and are souls live forever. I am convinced that this is why one dog year equals seven human years. Our furry creatures know that our time here comes to an end at the blinking of an eye. It is our souls that endure so be sure to nourish your spirit. Spirits are what endure.



Champ

Young Donors Club

GRREAT has established the Young Donors Club to recognize contributions from donors under the age of 18. The club honors Dr. Henry Balch, who was a surgeon and medical school professor, and a supporter of Golden Retriever rescue. Dr. Balch left a generous bequest to GRREAT upon his passing in 2008. You may learn more about the Young Donors Club at www.grreat.org/youngdonors/index.htm.

Throw Away Fido's Dog Food Bowl!

by Skye Anderson



“What? Blasphemy! Then how do I feed my dog?”

One question people often ask their dog trainer is what to feed Rover. But a more important question they should ask is

HOW to feed Rover.

I recommend “hand feeding” — that is, feeding by hand, not offering your hand as food!

Throw away Spot's dog food bowl and feed by hand, kibble (dry dog food) by kibble. This teaches Spot that all good things come from you, owner, and dole-out-er of scarce resources, such as playdates, walkies, and treats.

Measure out one meal's worth of kibble (you ARE feeding twice a day, right?), put it in a zip lock baggie, add a fingernail-sized chunk of tuna/chicken/steak/lobster (optional), close the bag, shake and set aside. Voila! In a few hours, each kibble absorbs the flavor of the tuna/chicken/steak/lobster and Fido thinks his meal is a special feast.

In the five months that I fostered Sam the Golden Retriever, I filled his food bowl only once, which was when I was in a hurry and he was exceedingly hungry. For all other meals, we usually took a walk. At each corner before crossing the street, I waited until he sat, said, “Good!” and gave him 2 to 3 pieces of kibble before we continued across the street. People out walking their dogs were fooled into believing Sam was well-trained. As I saw someone approaching who would want to pet Sam, I signaled him to sit before they got to us, gave him a kibble and gave the person kibble to give Sam — a great way to teach people and dogs how to meet each other!

Sometimes I found a nice grassy spot in the shade to sit down, where I would feed Sam in exchange for a sit, a down, a woof, a crawl, or a stay.

Sam weighed about 70 pounds and I found it best to give him 2 to 3 pieces of kibble at a time. Being the good dog mom that I am, I wanted him to chew his food thoroughly, and if I gave him only one piece at a time, he would swallow it whole instead. Feeding bite by bite also slows down the meal and improves the relationship between you and your dog.

The following presents a few fun ways to feed your dog a few kibble pieces at a time.

“Find It!”

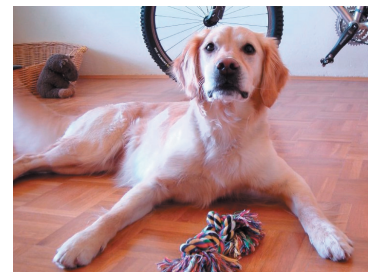
Sometimes when Sam was outside, and it was nearly time for breakfast or dinner, I would hide a few pieces of kibble under the coffee table in the living room, a few on the fourth step going upstairs, a few in the corner of the dining room, behind the door to the kitchen, on the 7th step — get the picture? Then I would let Sam in and say, “Find it!” Naturally, I had to remember all my hiding places in case I had to lead him to some. Of course, after dinner and the next day, he would go back to the same spots, hoping for free food!

“Treasure Hunt”

If we were both outside, I might take a handful of kibble and toss it in the grass — Treasure Hunt! Kids love some of these new ways to feed.

“Treat Toys”

If it's raining or snowing, you can feed using a “treat toy”, but use kibble rather than treats. One of these toys is the Buster Cube, originally from Denmark. It's a hard plastic cube with a finger-sized hole in one of the sides; this is



where you fill the kibble. Lining the hole is a cylinder that can be turned to make the hole smaller (and thus more difficult for Fido) or larger. Set the Buster Cube on the floor and watch as Fido smells the kibble and “noses” it around to get the kibble to fall out. As the cube travels along and turns over, when the side with the hole is on the “down” side, one or more pieces of kibble fall out. Fido has to work for his food, too. Disadvantage: its noisy on hardwood floors and if left out, Fido may pick up the Buster Cube and bring it to you to tell you it's time for food! Buster Cubes come in a large, 5-inch Lab/Boxer/Collie size (less than \$15) and smaller, 3-inch Chihuahua/Dachshund/Pekingese size, in either blue or red. They are dishwasher-safe. www.bustercube.com

Other Toys:

- Premier's Busy Buddy Linkables (\$8 to \$12 in different colors and shapes to link together for difficulty); Kibble Nibble (holds 2 cups, approximately \$20); Tug-a-Jug (about \$10 to \$20 for various sizes, hard plastic, appeals to all 5 senses); Twist 'n Treat (3 sizes, can also be filled with peanut butter or cream cheese); the durable Squirrel Dudes with patented Treat Meter that randomly dispenses kibble; and other great fillable toys and refillable bones. Check out their

(cont. on pg. 8)

Send Us Your Photos for the GRREAT Calendar and the Funny Faces of GRREAT Calendar

It's time to submit pictures of your GRREAT dog(s) for the 2011 GRREAT wall calendar and also for the 2011 Funny Faces of GRREAT desktop calendar.

Note that there are slight differences in the rules, so please be sure to read each set carefully.

Here are the rules for the GRREAT wall calendar:

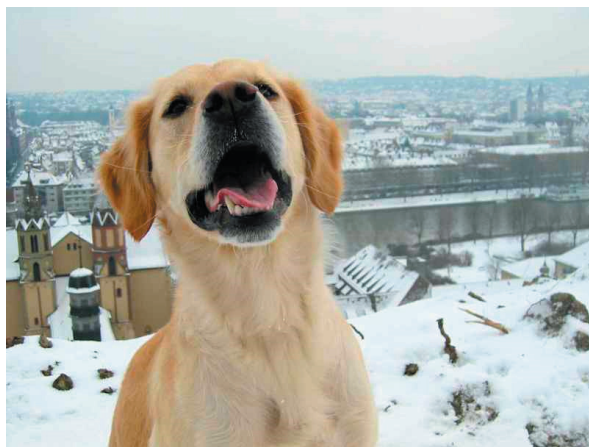
- Pictures must include a dog adopted through GRREAT; they may also include other animals, but no people.
- Dogs that were included in the 2010 GRREAT wall calendar are not eligible.
- All pictures must be horizontal due to the calendar design.
- No costumes, please.
- No “red-eye” or “dog eye.”
- Digital images are preferred; please do NOT send actual photographs, unless that is all you have.
- If you send prints, they must be at least 4x6.
- Quality is important, as the photos are enlarged.
- You may send as many pictures as you like.
- Pictures should be clear and sharp, with good color and contrast, and centered subjects.
- Include your dog's name, GRREAT number, and a brief paragraph about the dog, as well as your contact name, address, phone number, and email address.
- Please be sure to note that the picture is for the wall calendar.

Here are the rules for the Funny Faces of GRREAT desktop calendar:

- Pictures must include a dog adopted through GRREAT; other animals and people may also be included.
- Dogs that were included in the 2010 Funny Faces of GRREAT desktop calendar are not eligible.
- Digital images are preferred; please do NOT send actual photographs, unless that is all you have.
- You may send as many pictures as you like.
- Pictures should be clear and sharp, with good color and contrast, and centered subjects.
- Include your dog's name and GRREAT number, as well as your contact name, address, phone number, and email address.
- Please be sure to note that the picture is for the desktop calendar.

DEADLINE FOR PHOTO SUBMISSION IS JUNE 14, 2010

Please email your photos to President@grreat.org. If you are unable to send a digital image, please mail your picture to Louise Davidson, 307 Windover Ave. NW, Vienna VA 22180-4413.



Dangers in and Around Your Home

by Mary Collings, Intake Coordinator

Spring is in the air and for many of us, that means “Spring cleaning”. It’s time to clear out the clutter that accumulated during the Winter, throw away un-used cold medicines and other expired medications, and time to get outside to prepare and plant our gardens. It also means that our family pets may face potential dangers if we aren’t careful.

For a number of years, human medication has been #1 on the ASPCA’s list of hazards to family pets. In 2009, the ASPCA received 45,816 calls involving prescription and over-the-counter human medications that had been consumed by a family pet. Close behind that number of calls was from pet owners who used the incorrect flea/tick treatment on the wrong species. Some people think that if a particular brand works well on their dog, it will work even better on the cat, when in fact, it can be lethal for the cat.

There are a number of foods that you should never give to your pet, such as grapes, raisins, onions, avocado and chewing gum. These foods can make your pet seriously ill. “Bakers chocolate” contains theobromine, which can cause vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, and seizures. In large quantities, it can even kill your pet.

Azalea, rhododendron, lily, and schefflera are common plants found in and outside a home. Lilies are especially toxic to cats and can cause life-threatening kidney failure, even in small amounts. To keep our yards looking nice and our flowers and trees looking beautiful, we add fertilizer and other garden products such as mulch. If your pet ingests fertilizer, he could end up with severe gastric upset. If you buy mulch that contains theobromine, which gives the mulch a scent of chocolate, it could be irresistible to your dog and could be deadly for him. Coca mulch is likely to contain theobromine.

So you’ve spent some time outside and it’s time to come in and clean the inside of your house. Some household cleaning products, if inhaled or ingested by your pet, can cause serious gastrointestinal distress and irritation to the respiratory tract. Other chemicals, such as antifreeze, paint thinner, drain cleaners, and pool chemicals, also pose a danger to pets. These substances can cause gastrointestinal upset, respiratory problems, kidney problems, chemical burns, and in some cases, death.

As I was writing this article, it occurred to me that maybe I should never plant any more flowers or have any more plants, put mulch down, take any medications, dare to bring any more grapes into my home, and the best idea was that maybe I should just stop cleaning my house. As silly as that

sounds, the reality is that there are many products we all use that are potentially dangerous or lethal to our pets. However, I know that being careful and taking preventive steps are the keys to keeping my pets safe, while still being able to enjoy a garden, eating grapes, and my clean home!

If you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, you should immediately contact your vet and/or the Animal Poison Control Center’s 24-hour hotline at 888-426-4435.



(con’t. from pg. 6)

puppy colors and sizes, too at www.premier.com.

- Tricky Treat Ball by Omega Paw
- Kongs (various sizes, strengths, and colors) and Kong Stuff-a-Balls: www.kongcompany.com
- Atomic Treat Balls (about \$10) — shaped irregularly to bounce irregularly (like a football)
- Orbee-Tuff stuffable toys
- West Paws’ Zogoflex Tux
- JW Pet’s Megalast Bone for peanut butter or cream cheese is indestructible
- Talk-to-Me treat ball (hard plastic, or soft, and you can record a message to your dog!)
- Amaze-a-Ball
- Nina Ottoson food puzzles
- Several manufacturers make weighted pyramids or balls with the kibble hole near the top

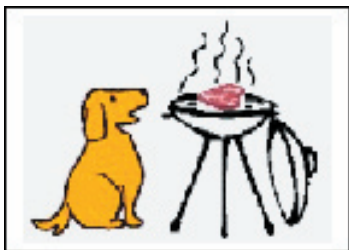
WARNINGS:

Be sure your dog cannot get his tongue stuck in a hole! And be certain there are at least two holes — one very small one, and a larger one through which you and your dog feed and the kibble comes and goes.

So, go ahead. Be brave. Throw away Fido’s dog food bowl! He’ll thank you for it!

Skye Anderson is a Pet First Aid Instructor-Trainer for the American Red Cross.

2010 GRREAT Bark-B-Que



Join GRREAT in celebrating the start of summer with our annual Bark-B-Que to be held on Saturday, May 22 at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis, MD.

Food and beverages will be provided.

Each year we hold a raffle for gift baskets and other donated items, along with the 50/50 raffle. If you can donate items for the raffle, please contact Carolyn Beyer, Event Coordinator, at events@grreat.org.

Quiet Waters Park offers an off-leash dog park for the dogs to play and an off-leash dog beach for swimming. (Currently the dog beach is closed due to erosion but we have our fingers and paws crossed it will be back open in time for the Bark-B-Que). Quiet Waters Park also has more than 6 miles of trails to walk and hike. The picnic is over at 3 pm but you are welcomed to stay until dusk.

Bark-B-Que Details:

Date: Saturday, May 22
Time: 11 am – 3 pm (park open until dusk)
Place: Quiet Waters Park
Red Maple Pavilion
600 Quiet Waters Park Rd
Annapolis, MD

Cost: \$10 per adult (age 17+) in advance; \$15 at the door. Children under 16 and dogs, of course, are free!

To save \$5 per adult go to <http://grreat.org/barkbque.htm>. If you do not wish to pay with your credit card via PayPal, you can mail a check to GRREAT (P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church VA 22043) no later than May 15th.

RSVP: Email to events@grreat.org or call 703-620-6593 (box 5). Tell us your name, # of people and # of dogs attending.

Volunteer: To volunteer (set-up, clean-up, game coordinator, merchandise, registration), contact Cheryl Andrzejewski, GRREAT Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteer@grreat.org.

Directions: From US-50 East, take exit 22/Rt.665 (or Aris T. Allen Blvd). Stay on Rt. 665 until it merges into Forest Drive. Continue straight on Forest Drive for 2 miles. Turn right at the Exxon Station onto Hillsmere Drive (you'll see a "Quiet Waters Park - Next Right" sign). The park entrance is 100 yards on the right hand side. Parking is included; just tell the gate keeper you're with GRREAT.

Tribute to Joy (9-226)



Joy (09-226) on the left, and her pup Aslan on the right

As a Foster Mom, I received a call from GRREAT on November 18, 1999, stating that a dark-haired Golden was being given up by people who had been trying, unsuccessfully, to breed her for the past three years. "Jesse" (whose name we later changed to Joy) had been so badly treated that I knew I could never find her a permanent home, so my husband, Jim, and I decided to

keep her. Because she was trembling so bad, and peeing at the slightest movement I made, I opted not to have her spayed right away, deciding to give her a month in which to get used to us. Good thing I did, because, a few weeks later I realized she was pregnant. The happy day came on January 6, 2000, when Joy gave birth to ten beautiful puppies (she was such an awesome mother to her babies)! The father had been a light Golden, so the litter was a lovely mixture of dark, light, and cinnamon-colored puppies. Aslan, the one we decided to keep, was the color of the Lion of Narnia, for whom he was named.

On January 11, 2010, we had to have our beloved Joy put to sleep . . . just one day before her 13th birthday. Less than three days later, our precious Aslan (who had been diagnosed with an inoperable tumor on January 9th) began to hemorrhage, and we let him go on January 14th.

During the ten years we had these wonderful Golden retrievers, our lives were full of puppy love and lots of laughter. What a blessing to see Joy become a smart and confident dog, over the years, and what a delight to nurture Aslan, from the time I opened his birth-sac until the time he took his last breath, ten years later. Some day the pain of these sudden losses will lessen, and only the wonderful memories will remain. Thank you, GRREAT for bringing Joy into our lives!

- Toni Johns

ADOPTION REPORT

Name	#	Age	Sex	Name	#	Age	Sex
Amber	09-243	5	F	Josie	09-199	3	F
Austen	10-027	3	M	Lainey	09-179	12	F
Bailey	07-231	3	F	Lance	10-050	8	M
BauBau	09-172	1	M	Levi	10-039	10mo	M
Baxter	10-010	8	M	Lily	10-033	2	F
Bogie	10-030	2	M	Max	10-051	3	M
Brandy	10-022	4	F	Miley	10-026	2	F
Buddy	10-040	5	M	Mischief	07-143	13	F
Cassidy	10-005	11mo	F	Molly	10-034	1	F
Dorado	10-016	13	M	Reina	10-024	5	F
Eamon	10-029	1	M	Rudy	10-053	2	M
Ginger	10-014	6	F	Sally	10-021	3	F
Ginger	10-049	1	F	Skyler	10-003	5	F
Hailey	10-011	5	F	Tanner	10-028	2	M
Hobbs	10-017	8	M	Trooper	10-035	6	M
Jack	10-002	1	M	Yule	10-020	3	M

GRREAT Adoption Days

Saturday, June 5, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 2441-F Centreville Road
 Herndon, Virginia 20171

Saturday, July 10, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 12960 Middlebrook Road #520A
 Germantown, MD 20874

Saturday, August 7 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 10800 Promenade Lane
 Manassas, VA 20102 p.m.

Saturday, September 11, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 615 Belair Road, Suite P
 Bel Air, Maryland 21014

Saturday, October 2, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 6612 Richmond Highway
 Alexandria, VA 22306

Saturday, November 6, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 2319-D Forest Drive
 Annapolis, MD 21401

Saturday, December 4, 2010 - noon until 2 p.m.
 Petco
 4167 Chelshire Station Plaza
 Dale City VA 22193

DONATIONS

Thank You for Your Donations

**denotes total contribution of \$100-\$499*

***denotes total contribution of \$500-\$999*

****denotes total contribution of \$1000 or more*

Tim and Linda Daniel

Ruth and Walter Dominick

Kevin and Diane Duvall**

Donald Gakenheimer and Pam Traxel

Lynne Glennon

Demetrio Guerrero and Sandra Rutan

Thomas and Lily Grace Hudson**

Julia and Dick Kwiatkowski

Harry Merritt and Susan Zator

Sheryle and Jeanne Robinson

Kathleen Teitel*

Frodo Thorne

Suzanne Waple

In Memory Of...

Enclosed please find a donation in memory of Mr. Roland Behnke, who passed away on January 16, 2010. Mr. Behnke was a former volunteer and foster home provider for GRREAT. He dearly loved his Golden Retrievers, Amber and Christie. Please accept this donation, in his honor, to help GRREAT continue their outstanding support to needy Golden Retrievers in our area. – Dawn and Ed Lowe*

In memory of Maureen Catherine Kelly. From Mary F. (Shea) Kiefaber, Class of '64. – Bill Kiefaber

In memory of Sequoia and in memory of Gracie. – Ellen Leckar

In Memory of Maureen Kelly. – Eileen Hoyson

In loving memory of Charles Nordstrom, beloved brother of Mary Collings, and a supporter of GRREAT and Mary's efforts to rescue Golden Retrievers. – Louise Davidson**

In memory of our beloved babies Popeye, Tucker and Tally Girl. – Thomas and Donna Frankhouser

In memory of Joy of the Lord (99-226). – Toni and James Johns* – see tribute to Joy on page 9

In memory of Victoria (Beard) Hodgkins. – Virginia Weidman*

In Memory of Beloved Jingle. – Penny Dash

In memory of Daisy (04-109), who crossed the Rainbow Bridge quite suddenly last month. She was a sweet, yet timid little girl who blossomed into a wonderful, affectionate, life-loving young lady after becoming part of our pack. She was also a true ambassador for GRREAT, accompanying us on countless home visits over the years, all ending the same: 'We just love Daisy! Can we keep her?' She will be missed. – Ralph and Jondelle Truitt and our GRREAT family: Graham, Lucy, Phoebe & Joy*

In memory of Maureen Kelley; we miss you. – Cody and the Bret Hassel family

In memory of Spenser, not a GRREAT dog but a great dog nonetheless. – Robin Graham**

This donation is in memory and honor of beloved goldens of our own and of our friends in GRREAT. We lost our Reba, the queen of our home through dozens of fosters over 10 years, to bone cancer on December 9th, 2009. She celebrated her final, joyous fling at the Howliday Party on December 6th in Frederick. The pictures of her there give us comfort. Jake went to the Rainbow Bridge on November 28th when hemangiosarcoma filled his lungs and heart. Our big, red boy had completed the 3K walk on October

31st, 2009 with GRREAT friends and fuzzi-buttis, in apparent good health. This was another GRREAT memory to sooth us in our loss. Our deepest sympathy is expressed in this donation to Linda Scher, loving and devoted long term foster of Jasper, on the loss of the beloved Jazzman who visited us frequently with his mom. Another special foster, Jake, who was a long term foster for Jan Brown succumbed to Lymphoma after a brave battle of almost a year. The care Jan provided him was just lovely. And finally, Jan and Marty White's young Beamer was stricken with bone cancer and left them far too early. We all know that we were handpicked to care for these goldens for their time on earth. We all understand that loss is part of the bargain. May our memories and joy from them hold us gently until only sweet smiles of remembrance linger. – Phil and Janet Hauck*

Today would have been my Bailey's 9th birthday. Sadly, she died in December, after surgery for osteosarcoma. We miss her every day, but especially today. Please accept this donation for your general fund to help find goldens like Bailey a forever home as loving as the one she had. – Kathy Flake*

In memory of Sandy 09-142. She brought so much love and happiness. – Marilyn Cloyd*

Please accept the enclosed donation in memory of JoAnn B. Khan. – Bob and Joanne Hammen

Enclosed is a check in fond memory of Joann Khan for GRREAT general fund. We will miss Joann. I am sure the money will be put to good use for the dogs that Joann loved so much. – Zafar and Khem Fatimi*

DONATIONS

In Memory Of... (con't.)

In memory of Teddy, my GRREAT golden. – Cynthia Martin*

This donation is in memory of our beloved Golden, Paddington Arzaga. We will forever love and miss her every day. – Trina Arzaga

In memory of Sandy Diamond's Peanut. – Greg Russell

In Memory Of Mark Ketterman

Donation in Memory of Mark Ketterman. – Jim and Mary Carol Gary

In memory of Mark Ketterman. – Bill and Betty King

In memory of Mark Ketterman. – Joseph and Mary Cook

Please accept our donation to your organization in memory of Mark Ketterman. We loved Bailey (Mark's GRREAT dog) and want to support your mission of rescue, education and training as Mark did. – Kevin, Julin, and Liam Mercer, and Lindsay Thompson

In memory of Mark Ketterman. – Margaret and Mark Nalley

In memory of Mark Ketterman. – Catherine Gurski*

Please accept this donation in memory of my cousin, Mark Ketterman. – Chris and Margaret Ketterman*

In the name of Mark Ketterman. – Stanley and Donna Ber

Please accept this contribution in memory of Mark Ketterman – Raymond and Louise Shingler*

This donation is in memory of Mark Ketterman who I know was very active in support of your cause. I never met

Bailey but saw many pictures of Mark with him and I know he loved him very much. – Maria Kopec and David Desrochers

More donations in memory of Mark noted in Simile-Finale Fund and Sponsor Me! sections

In Honor Of...

In honor of our 14 yr old Copper, a Pets on Wheels, 5 yr volunteer, and a GRREAT home visit volunteer of 8 yrs. – Andrew and Barbara Becker*

Please use our donation where it is needed most; in honor of our GRREAT Golden, Keely; 12 1/2 yrs old, fostered by Terri & Lou S. and with us now for 10 wonderful years. – Lane and Gene Weinzweig

Donation made in honor of Catherine Stewart and her beloved dog, Roscoe. Together, may many years and happy birthdays pass between you. – Sarah Lovell

In honor of Georgia and Liam, in their joining of lives, and in memory of Wheatley. We celebrate their future, we miss an old friend. – Jack Maypole*

In honor of our GRREAT Goldens - Lucy, Jessie & Brandy. – Thomas and Olivia McDonough*

In honor of Kim's Cowboy/Peyton. – Diane Lanigan

In honor of Kate and Ripley Coler and in memory of Kate's father, Greg Coler. – Gwen Mellor*

Honoring Cooper Davidson – Cooper was such a sweet and appreciative dog. He touched the hearts of anyone and everyone whom he met! We're glad to be among those to share his generous love. – Kathryn and John Rooney*

This donation is in honor of our foster family: Susan, Jim, Zach and Kaitlyn Leonard. Together we celebrate Molly's (Sunny) 2nd Anniversary of her adoption today, March 18th. With Grreat appreciation to all of the Leonards. – With love from Marcy, Ed, Andrew and Sasha Berger

In honor of Sandy, Gus, Max, and Elvis. All great furry wonderful babies of ours. – Richard and Jule Ann Cheslock

Enclosed you will find a gift donation in the name of Mr. Art Hotop. In honor of his retirement, Art's friends and colleagues at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) decided to give the gift of a donation to one of Art's favorite charities and one that he is very involved with. For many years his co-workers and friends at our Agency have enjoyed his stories about his adopted golden retrievers. To this end, we know in how much esteem Art holds the GRREAT organization. Please accept our gift in Art's name and know that while this does not represent a gift on behalf of his place of employment, it is a collection from his co-worker friends and colleagues who will always remember him fondly. His friends and colleagues hope that this gift will go towards an organization that Art cares about very much. We will miss his stories and pictures of the many wonderful dogs that GRREAT cares for and finds homes for. – Pamela Berg and friends and colleagues of Art Hotop at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency*

This is in honor of our friends' dog, Katie Sutton Witmer, who died on April 2. – Carol Cox

DONATIONS

To Help With Costs...

Donation for Stevie's daycare (08-208).
– Ruth Chase at Coventry School For
Dogs***

Donation for Stevie (08-208) to
cover ER visit on 1/11/10. – Jessie
Robinson**

Donation to cover medical expenses for
Jake (08-147) and Sandy (09-063). – Jan
Brown*

Donating the cost incurred for Soloxine
that Lady (09-112) uses. – Alan and
Mollie Dickerson

Care for Sky (10-037). Thank you so
much for being able to help Sky and
pull him to safety. I hope the enclosed
can help in some care for him. I'm
always saddened to see so many
Goldens needing help and rescues like
GRREAT are a god send to some really
great animals in need who are on a path
to loving homes. For those who are not
able to leave and end up as residents
they are loved and ensured a safe place
to live. It's not much, and I wish it was
more, but I hope the enclosed can offer
some assistance in care for Sky - Jen,
Shawn, and our Goldens Noah and
Scout. – Jennifer Morretta-Dyck*

For Other Reasons...

Donating to celebrate Roscoe and his
wonderful owner, Catherine Stewart!
– Katherine Teller

This is a donation to celebrate the
first birthday of twins, Holden and
Finnigan. Their much loved Golden,
Mattie, died a few months ago and the
family, including older brother Carson,
but particularly Mom and Dad, miss her
terribly. They have always helped dogs
in need and this seems like just what
they would want--if they could talk.
– Sarah Savage

Happy Birthday to Catherine Stewart
and Roscoe! – David Baker

Happy Birthday Catherine (and
Roscoe)! – Monica Bushman

To celebrate Catherine and Roscoe :)
– Kayli J. Green

I adopted a dog through GRREAT
in May of 2009 and she's been great!
– Ken Buterbaugh**

We want to thank everyone with
GRREAT that helped Levi (the beauti-
ful dog we found hurt and fostered
him for a time). We heard he is having
a great time in his foster home with 2
other goldens and that really blessed
our hearts! God bless you all. – Bill and
Diane Alexander

For Dorado (10-016). – Elizabeth Crane

Corporate Giving

Capital One Associates Political Fund
Match Program – to match the dona-
tion from Sharon Johnson

Education Testing Service, Employee
Match – to match the donation from
Rebecca Moran

America's Charities – on behalf of Judy
and Steve Daner*

Canine Shoppe – Keep up the great
work – Joe

Giving Express Online from American
Express – on behalf of Eileen Bennett

Network for Good – on behalf of
Sheila and Al Vertino, dedicated to
Amber

Choice Foundation – to match the
donation from Kelly and Christopher
Kane

Just Give.org – on behalf of Kim and
Don Dawson, in memory of Katie
Bond Dawson & dogs with special
needs

T. Rowe Price Association Foundation
– to match the donation from Andrew
Smith

Fannie Mae Serve Matching Gift
Donation** – to match the donation
from Christopher and Lori Summers

Employees Charity Organization of
Northrop Grumman – on behalf of
Stanley Smith and Sheri Ulrich*

Sue Armstrong for My Gold Party*
– proceeds from PVGRC Banquet

Forever Friends

Memorials can be seen at
www.grreat.org/foreverfriends/index.htm

Thanks for the happy memories Bailey.
– Jim and Elaine Soya*

Jasper (08-130) will always be remem-
bered and loved. – Alan and Mollie
Dickerson

Sponsor Me!

Special Needs Dogs can be seen at
www.grreat.org/dogs/doglist_special.htm

This is my regular monthly donation for
Charlie (08-150) and Phoebe (05-206).
– Trish Collier*

For Charlie (08-150) – Happy Birthday,
Dad! – Gregory Schwan

For Peaches (05-140). This donation is
in honor of Catherine Stewart's birth-
day and in celebration of her adoption
of Roscoe from GRREAT! – Katherine
Watson

For Brooke (08-128) and Stevie (08-
208). – Holly Rich*

We would like to make a donation for
all dogs with special needs. – Beverly
and Steven Kreisberg*

For all the Special Needs Dogs – Dale
and Jackie Stout*

Sponsor Me! (con't.)

For Tony (09-034). Celebrating Catherine and Roscoe. – Kate Aaby

For Tuscon (09-126). In loving memory of Tahoe. – Kelly Hendry

For Rocky (09-168) – Dabney Schneider

For Bailey (04-092) – Leslie Popp

To sponsor Bailey (04-092). This donation is made in memory of Mark Ketterman who passed away on March 10th from cancer. Mark had adopted his golden retriever Bailey from your organization. Recently, he had to give Bailey back to pass her on to another family as he could not care for her anymore. It was heart breaking as this was his little girl and he loved her so much. This donation is being made in Mark's memory and to help support everything he believed in. Thank you for all that you do. – Margaret Cardano

For Wally (09-152). I have donated to Wally before and hope that he is still doing well. I always keep him and his family in my prayers. – Cheryl John

For Charlie (08-150). In honor of Charmer Kurz. – Carolyn Samuel

For Tucson (09-126). In memory of JoAnn Khan, who loved Golden Retrievers – Rachel Pennig*

For Charlie (08-150). This donation is dedicated in the memory of JoAnn Khan, a very dear woman who loved her Goldens. – Cynthia Smith

For Maggie Mae (08-211) – Denise Malczewski *

Leo's Corner

GRREAT operates three funds for dogs with special needs. The Leo Fund provides surgical care, the Simile-Finale Fund provides holistic and alternative therapies (e.g., acupuncture, swim therapy, etc.), and Chief's Fund provides MRI diagnostics. To support these funds, make the selection on the online donation page (www.grreat.org/donate/donorinfo.htm) or mention the fund in a letter with your contribution by mail. Thank you!

Leo's Pals (up to \$99)

Suzanne Waple

Maria Emanski Zain

Dale and Jackie Stout*

Leo's Angels (\$100-499)

In honor of our baby girl, Dylan. A wonderful sister and love to our family. You will be with us forever. – Karen and Jonathan Adelstein*

In memory of Cassandra Saint Claire. – Joseph and Virginia Fry*

For Polar Bear and Chassidy. – Joe O'Neill and Walt Atha*

AXA Foundation – on behalf of Brenda Pascal*

Simile-Finale Fund

In honor of our baby girl, Dylan. A wonderful sister and love to our family. You will be with us forever. – Karen and Jonathan Adelstein*

In memory of Mark Ketterman – Tom Federline



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 are gratefully acknowledged in *GRREAT News*.

Checks should be made payable to GRREAT.

Please mail forms with your contribution to:

GRREAT, P.O. Box 3069, Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member

Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

Mark here if this is an address or name change

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail Address _____

Mark as many as applicable:

I am enclosing \$30 for my 2010 membership dues.

I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____.

I am interested in becoming a GRREAT Volunteer.
(Please fill out and return Volunteer form as well).

I am interested in donating the following services
or supplies to GRREAT:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please complete this form to volunteer. Return to:

GRREAT

Attention: Volunteer Coordinator

P.O. Box 3069

Falls Church, VA 22043-0069

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Cell Phone (_____) _____

Work Phone (_____) _____

OK to call at work? Yes No

Please indicate any area of interest.

The appropriate GRREAT Coordinator will contact you for more information.

_____ Become a foster home for GRREAT dogs

_____ Help at Adoption Events, Education Events,
Fundraisers & Micro Chipping Clinics

_____ Transport GRREAT dogs (to/from vet,
animal shelter, etc.)

_____ Perform home visits for potential adopters prior to
adoption

_____ Additional Information or Comments:

This form can be filled out on-line at www.grreat.org.

GRREAT Calendar of Events

There is a rescue for Golden Retrievers? This is a commonly asked question at the numerous events that GRREAT participates in. When people find out that GRREAT takes in about 250 dogs every year, you can see the shock and amazement on their faces and you can hear it in their voices. People know that Golden Retrievers are such good dogs, so they can't help but wonder "Why would anyone give up a Golden?" It is because of comments such as these that GRREAT attends events to help educate the public on the need for rescue and on the Golden Retriever breed. GRREAT is always looking for and in need of committed volunteers who wish to give some of their time to attend events. For a list of upcoming events go to www.grreat.org/calendar.htm. For more information on any event, please email events@grreat.org and if you wish to volunteer at any event, please email volunteer@grreat.org.

May

12 Select Wendy's locations from 5pm to 8pm
10% of sales will be donated to GRREAT when you mention you are from GRREAT at one of the following locations:

Annapolis, 153 Defense Highway (MD Rte. 450)
Gaithersburg, 18425 Woodfield Road
Owings Mills, 9243 Lakeside Boulevard
Arlington, 5066 Lee Highway
Fairfax, 9688 Main Street
Reston, 1701 Bracknell Drive

15 GRREAT Information and Merchandise Table
10am until 3pm
Strut Your Mut
Woodmont Ave between Bethesda Ave. & Hampden Ln.
Bethesda, Maryland

22 GRREAT Bark-B-Que

11am until 3pm
Quiet Water Park
600 Quiet Waters Park Road
Annapolis, Maryland

June

19 GRREAT information and Merchandise Table
Dogfest 2010
9am until 6pm
The Maryland State Fairgrounds
Timonium, Maryland

27 A GRREAT Day of Relaxation and Fun With Your Dog
Noon until 4pm
Barrel Oak Winery
3623 Grove Lane
Delaplane, Virginia