



GRREAT NEWS

Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc

November/December 2010

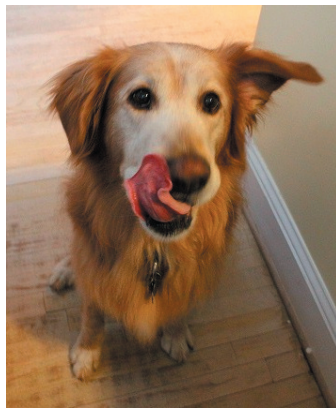
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Pick of the Litter

by Alexis Inch



Stanley (10-061) is an adorable, sweet-tempered, gentle guy. He is a medium sized dog, about 60 lbs. He is strong, healthy, full of energy and so, so smart! Stanley is hoping to find that special family who he can love as much as they love him — and this dog has a lot of love to give.

Stanley came to us with a totally unknown background, but his foster mom thinks that he was an outdoor dog that finally escaped his backyard and was caught by animal control before he could return home. In the last six months, Stanley has transformed from being utterly untrained to having lovely house manners and is a truly enjoyable companion.

He knows his basics (sit, stay, down) and has even learned a few tricks. He does have a strong visual prey drive — he wants to chase and herd anything that moves quickly (deer, joggers and bikes), so he can not be trusted to be an off-leash dog. He's escaped from his foster family's fully fenced backyard when the deer became too tempting to resist. We'd love to find him a home that has a wood fence that would remove the triggers that set off his need to chase. However, that is an ideal and not a requirement.

His foster family calls Stanley "solar powered" because when the sun is up he is go, go, go. But once the sun sets, Stanley puts himself to bed or is content to snooze on the couch while his foster family watches television. Stanley loves going for walks every day and can easily walk for two to three miles. He

has very nice leash manners with his Gentle Leader on, making it easy for anyone to walk him. His foster mom, who works from home, reports that Stanley starts tap dancing around her desk about noon to head out for his daily jaunt. When she heads out to run errands, Stanley "guards" the house from his bed. He is absolutely perfect in the house and has not had one accident since learning the difference between inside and outside. He goes for car rides every day and is an excellent passenger who is fascinated with watching the cars around him. He's never had a problem with motion sickness.

Although Stanley is rock solid in the house, he does have some issues meeting other dogs. He is a little rude/forward in his approach when meeting new dogs; he uses the "in your face" technique, which doesn't go over very well with many dogs and has gotten his nose chomped a few times. This is something that can be worked on, and Stanley can be taught to be more polite. He currently lives with a Toy Poodle and gets along great with her; he is very gentle and tolerant of her attentions.

Stanley is a one-of-a-kind dog who has captured his foster family's heart with his sweet nature and his funny ways. He sleeps with all four feet in the air. He makes "growly" noises when he's having fun. He bounces around chasing his tail and after he catches it, he'll run off at top speed (usually making those "growly" noises again).

If you are looking for a dog who is sweet and funny and smart — and who loves having his chin and cheeks scratched — Stanley could be your guy. To meet Stanley, or to just find out more about him, please contact our Adoption Coordinator, Jessie Robinson, at adoptions@grreat.org.

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 -

As we approach the holiday season, and my favorite holiday of the year, Thanksgiving, I'm feeling grateful for so much in my life. I'm especially thankful for GRREAT. Because of GRREAT, I share my life with four wonderful Golden Retrievers, and because of GRREAT, I'm able to be part of finding new loving homes for so many Golden Retrievers every year.

My 2 little Golden girls, Penny (07-204) and Ruby Dee (07-086), were both rescued from shelters. Penny was found in a rural Virginia shelter by a GRREAT volunteer, and Ruby Dee was a sick old girl that GRREAT picked up from another rural Virginia shelter just in time to treat her grave illness. GRREAT provided the hip surgery my boy Teddy (10-038) needed for pain he was experiencing due to hip dysplasia. And Kate, while not a GRREAT dog, was given the chance for a happy life because of GRREAT. Kate had become depressed languishing in a boarding facility because an all-breed rescue could not find a foster home to care for her. GRREAT was contacted, and Kate became a courtesy posting on our website. I scooped up this sweet beautiful girl, who suffers from kidney disease that's actually quite manageable. I am so thankful to GRREAT for giving her the opportunity to be shown on our site.

Buddy (09-204) is a very special dog who comes to mind when I think of how GRREAT has helped so many Golden Retrievers that would otherwise not have the chance for the happy and healthy lives they so deserve. I'd like to share with you the next few chapters of his story. Buddy is the diabetic dog from Serbia who was featured on the cover of the January/February 2010 issue of the GRREAT News: www.grreat.org/Newsletters/grreat110.pdf. His intriguing tale began a year ago when GRREAT received an email on October 1, 2009 from the U.S. Embassy in Serbia. The subject of the email was "Probably One of Your More Unusual Requests for Help," and the sender of the email asked if GRREAT could find a home for a 7-month old diabetic Golden pup.

Three weeks later, Buddy flew to Dulles Airport where he was met by a GRREAT volunteer, and he began his journey to his loving forever home. After a complete medical exam and an adjustment to the type and dosage of his insulin, Buddy made his way to his wonderful foster family, who had experience in dealing with diabetes in dogs. Buddy was lovingly cared for until his forever family was found nine months later, in August 2010. It was love at first sight for Buddy, his new Mom and Dad, and his canine sister, Meggie. His new family needed a lot of love to help heal from the hurt they were feeling at the

loss of their beloved Barney just a little more than a month before Buddy's arrival. And the healing began immediately.

Buddy and Meggie started playing together right away and continue to do so all day, every day! Buddy's new family is with him all the time, and they are experienced in dealing with diabetes, so we know he's continuing to get the best care possible. Buddy is a talker, and every day he tells his new family how happy he is; he also told his foster Mom and Dad on their recent visit to his new home just how happy he was to see them and how thankful he was to them for giving him the start to his wonderful new life. Buddy will be taking frequent RV trips with his forever family, and he has already gone on two trips to Florida. Thank you GRREAT for giving this sick little pup from Serbia such a wonderful life!

From my Golden gang and all the other Golden Retrievers that GRREAT rescues every year, thank you so much to all our volunteers and financial supporters! I wish you and all your family members a blessed and happy holiday season.

—Louise Davidson, GRREAT President



Meggie and Buddy (09-204)

Service Animals

Intelligent, Even Tempered, Reliable, Loyal and Otherwise Incredible, Golden Retrievers embody . . .

by Robert Moore



In 2006 Washington state resident Michael Assenberg claimed his snakes were “service animals,” under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) providing comfort to mitigate his depression.

Despite supporting letters from his doctor, the court found that Mr. Assenberg’s snakes could be barred by the public housing authority where he resided. The problem was species-related — not the snakes’ species, but Mr. Assenberg’s. The decision was being based upon Mr. Assenberg’s refusal to comply with the housing authority’s reasonable requests: 1) that he declare his snakes were non poisonous; and 2) that whenever he transported his snakes about the community, they be in cages.

Enacted in 1990, the ADA affords protection against discrimination to Americans with disabilities similar to protections provided by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against discrimination based on race, religion, sex or national origin. The law presently defines a “service animal” as any guide dog, signal dog, **or other animal** individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability. Animals — dogs, cats, snakes, horses, elephants, etc. — meeting this definition, are considered service animals.

A service animal’s functions include, but are not limited to: assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision; alerting deaf or hearing impaired individuals to the presence of people or sounds; providing non-violent protection or rescue work; pulling a wheelchair; assisting an individual during a seizure; alerting individuals to the presence of allergens; retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone; providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities; and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

Title III of the ADA applies to public accommodations, including businesses that serve the public, such as restaurants, retail establishments, offices of service providers, taxicab services and hotels. Title II governs public entities including state and local government, any department, agency, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, any commuter authority and certain other quasi or hybrid state/local entities.

Essentially the ADA requires covered concerns to allow

people with disabilities to bring their service animals onto business premises in whatever areas customers are generally allowed. In 2004, the court found that the California Center for the Arts could not refuse to allow a patron with quadriplegia to attend music performances with her service dog because the dog had previously barked during intermission of two concerts. Interestingly, the opinion held that the service animal, though having previously made disruptive noise, could not be excluded “if the noise was intended to serve as a means of communication for the benefit of the disabled owner, or if the behavior would otherwise be acceptable to the Center if engaged by humans.”

To ban a service animal, the burden is squarely upon the entity to show, for example, that allowing the animal would fundamentally alter the nature of the entity’s goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations (this might be a successful argument to exclude an elephant from the corner Starbucks), or that health and safety would be jeopardized by the service animal’s presence. “No pets” policies and similar posted rules do not apply to service animals, which are not considered “pets” in this context.

The Definition Of “Service Animal” Has Changed

On July 23, 2010, Attorney General Eric Holder signed final regulations revising ADA regulations, including an amended definition of “service animal.” In February, 2011, only dogs will fit the definition of a “service animal.” Other species, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of the new definition.

In summary, after February, 2011:

1. Only dogs will be recognized as service animals.
2. Service animals are required to be leashed or harnessed except when performing work or tasks where such tethering would interfere with the dog’s ability to perform.
3. Service animals are exempt from breed bans as well as size and weight limitations. and
4. Businesses are generally required to accommodate the use of miniature horses under specific conditions, even though miniature horses are not service animals.

. . . the Consummate Image of a “Service Animal.”

*A factsheet on these changes is available at:
www.ada.gov/regs2010/factsheets/title3_factsheet.html*

The Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) provides publications and other technical assistance on the basic requirements of the ADA.

Remembering Max



My best friend went to the Rainbow Bridge today. You knew him as 95-125 ... I knew him as Max ... my golfing retriever. We were blessed when we met him at a GRREAT Adoption Day in Annapolis in October 1996.

Our lives were forever filled when we brought home Max. Max began his new life as my dog, and my wife and I as his humans, in Alexandria, VA. I was in the Air Force; we did not know how often we would move, but we would. Shortly after we welcomed Max into our home, I got orders to Dyess AFB in Abilene, TX. Max traveled so well, halfway across our country.

One Texas afternoon would change our lives together. I love to play golf and I would hit sand wedges in a field outside my backyard every day. Max would bark and bark, like he knew what I was doing. So one day, I let him out of the fenced yard; he ran quickly to the golf balls and tried to put them all in his mouth. As I approached, he ran to the area where I had hit the golf balls from. I hit the balls to him and he retrieved them like a mother hen! As he saw me head toward him, he ran to the spot I would hit the balls to. I could not stop his enthusiasm - he loved chasing his golf balls!

We would move seven more times before I retired from the Air Force after 33 years of service. Max chased golf balls at each assignment. We hit balls in Illinois, Virginia, back to Illinois, New Jersey, Greece and Alabama before we made our home in Falls Church. Max was a wonderful golfing partner and a stellar fore-caddy. I rarely lost a ball because Max was always near, ready to pounce. I think he got that from his feline brother and sister.

As Max grew older, he lost his sight, but never his enthusiasm. His nose replaced his eyes and he was happy. I traveled a lot in the Air Force, but Max was always there when I returned, with a big hug and a wagging tail. He always wanted to please, and I think the only thing he loved more than golf was a belly rub and a nap with Dad, Mom and/or our female cat.

Max was the joy in our lives; he was truly our best friend and the greatest dog I have ever owned or known. He loved us unconditionally, no matter how many

times we moved. He loved to travel and reveled in the times when he could put his head out the car window.

We were blessed to have Max. I know he is resting comfortably and awaiting the time when we will chase golf balls together. He is on the driving range with a golf tee in his mouth - fore!

Please accept this donation to the Leo Fund on behalf of Maxwell Murphy, 95-125. He would want other Golden Retrievers to have the opportunity for a healthy life with their humans.

Thank you to GRREAT for introducing us to Max - we look forward to a new adoption soon.

- JJ and Leigh Jackson
Mevin, Max's cat brother,
and Athena, his cat sister

Have You Renewed Your GRREAT Membership?

Your GRREAT membership is critical to the rescue, medical care, and adoption of approximately 250 Golden Retrievers yearly. Membership entitles you to the GRREAT Newsletter, mailed bimonthly, as well as invitations to GRREAT functions, such as the GRREAT Bark-B-Que and 3K Walk, and notices of upcoming local events and other items of interest. If you renew your membership for 2011 before December 31st the fee remains \$30; the 2011 dues will increase January 1st to \$35. Remember, your GRREAT membership is effective for the full calendar year.

You may renew your membership by mail or online. To renew by mail simply clip and complete the membership renewal form found in this newsletter. Mail the form and a check for membership dues to: GRREAT, PO Box 3069, Falls Church VA 22043-0069. To renew online please visit the GRREAT Membership Center at www.grreat.org/membership/mbr_center.htm.

If you have any questions, please contact Shawne Lampert, Membership Coordinator at membership@grreat.org. We thank you for your past participation and hope that you will continue to be an active member of our GRREAT family in 2011!

Goldstock 2010

by Georgie Babler



On my way home from Lakewood, PA and Camp Goldstock, I tried to put together words to tell you what Goldstock is about. What I came up with was a jumble of people, events, dogs, and memories. I guess I'll start from the beginning of this year's event.

I hadn't gone the last two years, but previously had been to Camp Goldstock since 2000. In previous years, I had gone with my husband Joe. We

had come in with our trailer and had stayed in a cabin, albeit with our own private room, but this year, Joe couldn't go. So at the last minute, I contacted some friends I knew were going and asked if I could room with them. That is the way with Goldstock, you can request to be with friends or a private room. You can read, laze around, and go to the lake with your dogs, or you can be busy all day and well into the night with fun activities and seminars.

Back to this year, I was excited about seeing old friends and meeting new ones and went through the "golden" stuff I had collected over the past two years to come up with things to donate to rescue. Because you see, that is what Goldstock is all about—raising money for golden rescue. I packed my Memory foam topper, my bedding and all of the needs for my dogs and I set out the Friday morning before Labor Day weekend. It takes me about 5 ½ hours to drive up Interstate 81 and through Scranton, PA and head east to where Camp Goldstock is held. During the summer it is a camp for boys and girls called Camp Weequahic, but Labor Day Weekend, golden fur abounds!

It was a beautiful day and I arrived before lunch and unpacked. I picked up my golf cart, which I had made arrangements to rent earlier, and had lunch with my friends. The rescue booths were open after lunch, so off to do some shopping and to buy raffle tickets for the many baskets of goodies and the quilt. I also bought 50/50 tickets. I skipped the Super Dog Agility Course—knowing from the schedule that it was being run again tomorrow at the Geriatrics cabin. (Yes. People name their cabins for fun.)

After some more unpacking and letting the dogs swim in the lake, it was time for dinner and the Costume Contest. It was super heroes theme this 2010 Goldstock, and many interesting costumes. One rescue was selling piña colodas and other alcoholic beverages and a good time was had by all. Then some more shopping, and bed.

My cabin mates had brought a coffee maker, so each day

was started by my favorite beverage and then to breakfast. There is always a variety of food – a yogurt and fresh fruit bar each morning, scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon or sausage, hot and cold cereal, and beverages. Did I mention Alan, the baker? Well, Alan always has some really good pastries and cookies and brownies and I could go on and on.

Saturday: FACEBOOK @ Goldstock seminar, Canine Good Citizen Testing, Therapy Dog Testing, PETUCATION/massage for your dog, Super Dog certification, (this was a hoot, your dog had to rescue a drowning baby and get you out of a burning building) and then lunch. Whew!!

Lunch was salad bar, homemade tomato soup, grilled cheese with or without bacon and tomato, fresh fruit, pastries and more. At this point I will stop telling you about the food, as I could spend a lot of words and space on all of it, but there was always a choice of good stuff and this is not what the weekend is about.

The afternoon activities: the Silent Auction started, another PETUCATION/T-Touch massage therapy with a DVD and instruction., Recognition of Seniors (Goldens older than 9 years and their stories), then the Rescue Parade of Goldens (who were "rescued"). The Super Dog Agility Course was open again. By then it was dinner time followed by the Live Auction! Rescues attending save their really good stuff for this—paintings, clocks, beaded purses, a 2 week stay at a house in England, and the list goes on. There is very spirited bidding on the items and one of the rescues sold libations to enliven the event. The end of Saturday!!! Whew!!

Sunday starts out with breakfast, but off to running start with Super Dog Olympics beginning right afterwards. How can I explain this event?

One Righteous Retriever, where dogs retrieve their favorite toy or object and are timed; Super Sitter where all of the dogs entered sit-stay in a large circle and are distracted by other dogs, toys thrown, treats thrown, and just crazy people running by them. Last one sitting wins (bribes are welcome to drive away the distractions); Sassy Walk where dogs and their owners (some with costumes for the occasion) strut their stuff in front of an audience and judges. Bribes are expected by the





judges to get “style points.” Remember, all of the money goes to rescue—my Bella (who sported pink angel wings and a Tu-Tu) won!! Yay!! Next came the water events, the only events where “dead

green Presidents: aren't a factor) LOL!

Super Swimmer, where dogs were sent in heats to save a baby and bring back to land—fastest swimmer wins; Super Dock Diver, where dogs dive off of the dock (measurements are made by some really chilly judges in the water with a tape measure. There weretwo dogs tied at 21 feet and had a dive-off between them.

All of the individual events had medals awarded for the first 3 finishers, but all of the events were added up and an overall winner was declared and announced at dinner that night.

Lunch and then it was time for the Dog House Dancers/freestyle demo and workshop, PETUCATION/First Aid for your dog, PETUCATION/ Clicker Training, a Field Demo (with real, not-so-live birds), PETUCATION/Raw Diet right for your dog?, and the end of the Silent Auction.

Dinner and then the Candle Ceremony. This event is a moving tribute to all of the friends, Two and Four-legged, who need our prayers and those who have left us in the last year. (If you have someone you want to remember in this ceremony, you send a picture prior to the event and it will be included in a slide show and booklet). There is a quiet time after all of the candles have been lit in the ceremony for you to light your own candle and time for quiet reflection.

Monday. Labor Day, the only event that is scheduled is the Pajama Breakfast—for those who want to, there is some spirited competition to see who can come up with the most outlandish PJ's .

For those who can stay awhile, it is just free time to chat and swim dogs and pack up and do some last minute SHOPPING!!! Did I forget to say that you will find almost ANYTHING with a Golden Retriever on it that is made. A lot of the rescues have special T-shirts and other apparel made just for the event.

I always come home with such peace after weekend with friends and all of the Goldens peacefully coexisting, that I am refreshed for another year. I hope that I have conveyed the spirit and feeling of Goldstock and encourage you to come next year. GRREAT didn't have enough volunteers this year to attend, but I hope they will be back next year at this event—they were missed.

Holiday Shopping to Benefit GRREAT

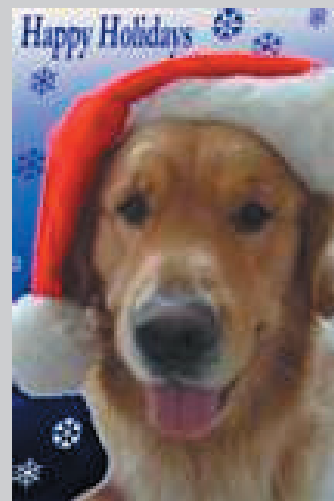
Now that the holiday season is just around the corner, it's time to start shopping for your friends and family members. And what could be an easier way to shop than to do it online? Did you know that you can easily help GRREAT obtain more funding by shopping online? Purchases made at nearly 750 stores, many of which are very well-known, can result in donations automatically being made to GRREAT. All you have to do is register at iGive.com, shop at the participating stores, and a percentage of the purchase price is automatically donated directly to GRREAT, at no extra cost to you!

To register, you'll need to access iGive.com through the GRREAT Shopping Mall on the GRREAT web site: www.grreat.org/mall.htm. Just click on the iGive.com icon and GRREAT will automatically be designated as the recipient of a portion of the sales from your shopping purchases.

After you've registered, you can bookmark the list of iGive.com stores and then you can go directly to the store listing whenever you want to do your online shopping.

Among the more than 700 stores available through iGive.com are: 1-800-Flowers, Amazon, Avon, BestBuy, Brookstone, Chico's, Cooking.com, Drs. Foster & Smith, eBay, Gap, Godiva Chocolatier, Harry & David, Home Depot, Hickory Farms, JC Penney, Macy's, Maidenform, Nordstrom, OfficeMax, Omaha Steaks, Orvis, Patagonia, PC Connection, Perfumania, PetsMart, REI, Spiegel, Sports Authority, Toys R Us, and many, many more.

If we all do our holiday shopping through iGive, a significant source of funds can be generated for our Goldens without anyone having to dip into their own personal funds. Now that should help to make for a happy holiday season for us all!



2010 Howliday Party

Kick off your Holiday Season by attending this year's Howliday Party, which will take place at the Frederick County Fairgrounds on Sunday, December 5, 2010 from 11am until 2:30pm. A party is always a good way to have a fun, relaxed time while enjoying the company of good friends and your best four-legged friends. Pictures with Santa, 50/50 raffle, doggie gift exchange, a silent auction, and GRREAT merchandise guarantee a good time will be had by all.

The party will be a POTLUCK. The GRREAT Board will provide the main dishes such as meat and the sides.

Families are asked to bring snacks (chips and dip, cheese and crackers, vegetable tray), beverages (cans of soda and bottled water), or desserts (cookies, cakes, pastries) to share.

If your last name begins with the following, please bring:

A-G beverages H-O snacks P-Z desserts

DOGGIE GIFT EXCHANGE: Each of your dog(s) can "pick a gift", if he/she brings a loosely wrapped doggie prize, under \$5. Gifts are placed on the floor, and each dog bringing a gift will have a chance to retrieve one.

RVSP: Please send an email to events@grreat.org or call (703)620-6593 and leave a message in Box 5. We need to know your name, number of people and number of dogs attending.

VOLUNTEER: As always, in order for our events to be as successful as they are, we need your help by volunteering a portion of the time. No one will be stuck at a table the entire time. If you wish to volunteer, please email volunteer@grreat.org.

We hope that you and your best friends can join us for the holiday celebration!



Items Needed for the Silent Auction at the Howliday Party

A Silent Auction will be held throughout this year's Howliday Party which will be held on December 5, 2010.

We are looking for any items such as toys and/or general dog products, as well as gift baskets, gift certificates or cards, and handcrafted items from talented artists. Because we can combine items together into baskets, no donation is too small!

Please contact our silent auction coordinator Lona Gordon (VA) at adopted2goldens@gmail.com or Robin Heinecke (MD) at rjlh24@aol.com to coordinate the drop off of your donated item(s). We'll need them by Sunday, November 28th, unless you plan to bring the items to the Party.

Thank you for your GRREAT support!

2011 Board Nominations

Nominations are being accepted for positions on the GRREAT Board of Directors for 2011. Positions are filled every other year by vote of the membership, and are staggered. This year's positions are President and Treasurer.

- You may nominate yourself or another GRREAT member in good standing.
- If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please contact the individual to get his or her consent before submitting the nomination.
- You may make nominations for one or more of these positions but you may not nominate the same person for more than one role.
- All nominations must be received by November 30.
- No nominations will be taken from the floor during the annual meeting.
- Please return your nomination(s) to elections@grreat.org

In early January a list of nominees will be e-mailed to all members as well as details regarding the voting process.

Loving the Bond!

by Sherry B True

Have you ever thought about why we are so crazy about our pets? According to the folks who follow the pet industry, we spend more than \$48 billion dollars a year on our pets. This includes food, toys, grooming, day care, supplements, medicines, pet insurance and vet visits! It looks like it could be the list of our needs or our children's needs. Those of us old enough, remember when the dog or the cat was not an inclusive part of the family; sure we had pets, but that is just what they were, pets. They had their life and we had ours and somehow we existed separately yet together. Some were never allowed in the house or just got leftovers as a steady diet. It wasn't that they weren't loved because they were, just not like a true family member. Now, however, they are part of our family and rightfully so. For many of us, they are our life; it is what we live for. It is a positive change for not only them, but for us too.

When did that change happen? How did that change happen? It is my belief that as our world gets crazier, we look for some semblance of order, peace and love. We find it in our animals if we allow our hearts to be open. Animals are pure and innocent. Even for our children today, their innocence so often times is lost early on in their life. Our animal companions help to bring that innocence back to us. They remind us of the ability to feel love even if we don't feel it anywhere else in our lives. They don't judge us or try to tell us how to live our lives. If we fail on any given day, they are there to say, "I still love you!" Look in those eyes and what do you see? Love! Along with, "Can I get that extra treat now?"

What is it about animals that can make grown people be reduced to mush when they see a puppy or a kitten? Even hardened criminals can soften when around animals. We are drawn to them through love. Those of us who do rescue or fostering know what a little bit of love and kindness can do for one damaged soul. Many times, we can turn them around to be a loving being again. But I have to ask you then, who has opened whose heart up to love?

Our animal companions have become just that — companions. They are the relationships we often can't find or have with another human. That is why when they leave us, it is so devastating. The one being that loved us unconditionally is no longer there in the physical, yet will always be there in the spiritual realms of our lives until it is our turn to return home. Yes, they will be waiting for us.

I always say my animals make me a better person and for that I will always be grateful. I love the bond we have created. So, look at what your dog(s) have brought into your lives, how they have made you a better person because of them. The blessings are endless if we really take a look.

Sherry B. True is an Animal Communicator and Healing Touch for Animals certified practitioner in the Maryland area. Please visit her website for more information on her services at www.spiritpaws.com.

Dear Janet,

We adopted our now 7-year old Golden Retriever, Mandy, when she was around 2 years old. She's been a wonderful family dog until recently when her behavior started to change. Mandy has always enjoyed her food and when we fed her, she'd eat steadily until all the food in her bowl was gone. She was comfortable having us near her while she was eating, and while eating would look up curiously if she heard a noise or saw one of us moving around. Now, nothing can distract her from bolting her food down as fast as she can and her body tenses up if we're too close to her when she's eating. Mandy did not used to beg when we were cooking or eating our own food, but would lie down in the room where we were. If we accidentally dropped a bit of food she would amble over to investigate it as it was lying on the floor, and she'd eat it if it was something she liked. Lately, she's started sitting right next to us whenever we're eating or cooking. If we do drop anything, she pounces on it and swallows it as quickly as she can.

Mandy used to love going for walks and playing ball. But now sometimes when we get out her leash or ball, she doesn't seem interested. When she does go for walks, she's not walking as briskly as she used to and she won't play ball for very long. In the evenings when we were relaxing, she used to go over to her toy box and get out a squeaky toy to chew on. We haven't seen her do this in a while, except if there's a rawhide chew in the box. Mandy has always had a rawhide chew or two in her toy box and would sometimes pick one out to chew on, but she'd never chew on it for a long time, and if we tried to take it away from her or picked up a squeaky toy for her to play with instead, she never had a problem letting go of the rawhide. She has now become more protective over her rawhide chews. As when she's eating her food, it seems as if she's determined to chew the rawhide until it's gone and lets nothing distract her from that goal. If we get close to her when she's chewing on a rawhide, she tenses up and she's growled at us on several occasions when we've tried to take it away from her. She's not tried to bite us, but it's scary behavior and not like the Mandy we know and love. What can you suggest? ~D.H.

Dear D.H.,

Please take Mandy to your veterinarian for a thorough check-up. It is fairly unusual for a previously well-adjusted 7-year old dog to begin displaying aggression toward her family, so her change in behavior may be caused by a medical problem. During Mandy's visit, ask your veterinarian to check her thyroid levels. Hypothyroidism (low levels of thyroid hormone) is fairly common in Golden Retrievers, especially older spayed females. The thyroid gland helps to regulate metabolism and often when a dog's thyroid levels are low, she will become less active than she used to be. A low thyroid level is also sometimes associated with behavioral changes such as those you describe. If your veterinarian finds that Mandy is in good physical health, contact a trainer who can come to your home to work with you and Mandy.

ADOPTION REPORT

Name	#	Age	Sex	Name	#	Age	Sex
Kaleb	06-137	8	M	Penny	10-130	8	F
Buddy	09-204	1	M	Crosby	10-132	9mo	M
Simba	10-025	6	M	Cassie	10-138	8	F
Roxie	10-052	1	F	Sonic	10-139	2	M
Jameson	10-070	3	M	Bella	10-063	7	F
Gracie	10-075	7	F	Millie	10-106	8	F
Echo	10-123	3	M	Blitzen	10-121	4	M
Skipper	10-135	1	M	Bogey	10-124	9	M
Copper	10-113	4	M	Rocky	10-116	5	M
Gracie	10-117	1	F	Jake	10-136	2	M
Hudson	10-118	11	M	Roscoe	10-144	2	M
Libby	10-119	7	F	Henry	10-149	4	M
Sebastian	10-120	5	M	Dusty	06-072	7	M
Buddy	10-129	10mo	M	Rusty	10-125	7	M

Companies Will Match Your Donation to GRREAT!

Did you know that your employer might match your donation to GRREAT? The list of companies that will do this are listed on our website: www.grreat.org/donate/matching_gift_list.pdf. To request a matching gift, just fill out the form on your corporate web site or request a form from your Human Resources department, then send the completed form together with your contribution to:

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

We'll complete the form and provide any documentation needed to secure the matching contribution.

If your employer isn't listed, please contact your Human Resources department; we may have simply failed to include your company. If that's the case, please send an email to treasurer@grreat.org, with "Matching Gift" in the subject line, and tell us the name of your company so that we can update our list.

Thank you so much for supporting GRREAT!

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*

Jeff and Helene Casper

Madeline and Jessica Dubelier – We raised this money by having a cupcake stand.

Kevin and Diane Duvall**

Bob and April Fritz

Demetrio Guerrero and Sandra Rutan

Charles and Denise Jenkins

Jennifer Justice

Lloyd and Dolores Karpiak

Mark and Laura Karpiak

Mary Marchak and Melanie Menefee*

Karen Mitchell

Sheryle and Jeanne Robinson

Richard and Susan Stakem

Paulette and David Zee

In Memory Of...

In memory of Sam. – Bill and Nina Malone, and Alex Malone

In memory of the precious Golden of Bill and Betsy Bake: Peyton and Lucy. – Phil and Janet Hauck*

Please accept this donation in memory of Dan Furmanek. He died July 30. His wife Barbara and Dan loved their Golden Retrievers. – Al and Sylvia Glaser

In memory of “Tinker” Truby, A Great Lady with the heart & spirit of a puppy. – David and Paulette Zee

In memory of Nala Weinstein, a beautiful, spunky 15 1/2 year old Golden who found the best home ever on her third try. We love and miss you. Zoe, Wade, Sammi (08-095), Buddy (09-110) and our Topper, who is also at the Rainbow Bridge. – Wade Robert and Zoe Cohen*

In memory of Keo who crossed The Rainbow Bridge on July 26, 2010 at the golden age of 14 ½. He is missed!! – Carla McQuay*

In memory of Cindy and Vince, our GRREAT dogs who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge. – Nancy and Dave Smith*

We would like to make a donation in memory of our rescued Golden. She came to us via the Haucks and her name was Cinnie. Wishing you all continued success. – Susan Greenberg

In memory of Stonetales Whisper of Jesse “Whisper”. – Barbara and Ace Oestreich*

In memory of Comet (07-105). Enclosed you will find a donation in memory of Comet (07-105) who sadly crossed the ‘rainbow bridge’ in August. As Comet’s foster parents we remember bringing home a very scared boy who did not wish to leave the safety of our tiled kitchen, because his original home would not allow him on the carpeting. After about a month he initiated his first play, he tossed a kitchen towel in the air. Coaxing him to the carpeted family room took another month and was very short-lived as he retreated to the safety of the tiled kitchen, the place he knew he was safe. While it appeared at times he wanted to play with our dogs, I believed he was overwhelmed by the three of them and was too afraid to run and play. Enter Joe & Yvonne Kincaid and Jason. The day Comet met Jason they took off in the yard running and playing and as foster

parents our hearts sang. It was so good to see him happy, to see Comet being a dog! Although his time with you was short-lived you truly gave him the very best years of his life!!! We are so thankful for wonderful families like yours who adopt these wonderful Golden. Comet was a wonderful, curly-coated, fluffy boy who would snatch paper from your hand in the blink of an eye and could down any glass of Chardonnay within reach just about as fast! He will surely be missed!! – Diane and John Hein

In Memory Of Tom Ludwig

Please accept this donation in memory of Tom Ludwig. – Art and Barbara McIlravy*

The faculty and staff of Kingsville Elementary School are making this donation on behalf of Mr. Tom (Pops) Ludwig, who recently passed away. Mr. Ludwig was the father of one of our faculty members, Ms. Lynne Glennon, who lovingly fosters Golden. Lynne brought her Golden, Clarke, to visit her father in his final days. Lynne told us that her father seemed to light up when he saw Clarke.

In memory of G. Thomas Ludwig, Father of Lynne Glennon. – Thomas Ludwig and Marianne Ludwig*

Please accept this donation in memory of G. Thomas Ludwig. – Ann Noell

Please accept this donation in memory and honor of George Thomas Ludwig, “Tom” to his friends. Your organization was always very dear to his heart. You may let his daughter, Lynne Glennon, know of this donation. She has been an active member of GRREAT for many years. – Sandra and Edward Evans

DONATIONS

This donation (to the Leo Fund) is in memory of Tom Ludwig, father of Lynne Glennon, who passed away on September 9th. Tom loved all dogs but especially Golden Retrievers. He had the pleasure of adopting Annie from SEVA GRREAT, and lived with her for 10 years. – Lynne Glennon***

In Honor Of...

In honor of Red, the dear and special boy who lived in happiness with Nicky Parisi and Richard Wakeling. – Phil and Janet Hauck*

This donation is in honor of Oakley (formerly Sam) 09-237. We adopted him in January and my daughter Anna showed him in the county fair pet show last month. She chose to donate her winnings to GRREAT and also wanted to share her script from the show. – Valentin and Debra Sapcariu for Anna Sapcariu – see “A Special Young Donor” article and picture on page 14.

In honor of Sadie, adopted on 9/8/01, who is recovering from TPLO surgery. – Dawn and Marshall Bowen**

In honor of Devlin & Duffy. Two handsome fellows! – Cheryl Brooks

To Help With Costs...

For vet expenses for Gracie (10-075). – Tim and Linda Daniel**

Vet bills for Stella (10-060). – Shawne Lampert*

For Sam’s surgery – Brenda Cave

Enclosed is a check for the 3 Golden Pups that Carey is trying to place in foster to adoption. – Ronald Yucas*

Would like to submit cost of vet care on Sandy (09-063) as a donation. – Jan Brown*

Paid the shelter fee for Kenny at WHS/DCAC Shelter. – Bill Price

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 Corner

Leo’s Pals (up to \$99)

Adrienne and Eric Gingras

Kristina Robinson

In memory of Callie. – Robin Forster and Jennifer Utz

Leo’s Angels (\$100-499)

Tom Ludwig*

J.J. and Leigh Jackson* – see dedication on page 5

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

In memory of Miles. – Daniel A. Viglione**

Leo’s Heros (\$500 and Over)

This donation is in memory of Tom Ludwig, father of Lynne Glennon, who passed away on September 9th. Tom loved all dogs but especially Golden Retrievers. He had the pleasure of adopting Annie from SEVA GRREAT, and lived with her for 10 years. – Lynne Glennon***

Simile-Finale Fund

Adrienne and Eric Gingras

Chief’s Fund

Adrienne and Eric Gingras

For Other Reasons...

For Pumpkin. Just a note to let you all know that we are loving Pumpkin. She is a wonderful animal and she has bonded with her house mates, Lucy (11yr golden - also rescued) and Mitzi and Nigil (both cat rescues) not to mention myself and my husband. While we live most of the year in Potomac - we are currently at our summer home on Cape Cod. Here the dogs have a fenced in area of approx 3/4 of an acre to run in and explore. Pumpkin is a sweet and loving Golden & we are unable to imagine any family

letting her disappear from their lives. At any rate - many thanks for all you do for Goldens. Please let her foster family know how much we treasure her. – Nancy and John Landon*

Donation dedicated to the Parker Family and Maddie and Casey, two brave, beautiful Golden girls. – Amy Lamoureux Riella*

All those who help care for the Goldens. – Stella and Rick Rineer

For Gracie – Tim and Linda Daniel**

For Other Reasons

(cont'd.)...

This donation is a wedding gift for Alison Schmauch and Ilya Somin on behalf of Allison Giordano and Jonathan Ginsberg. – Jonathan Ginsberg and Allison Giordano

In recognition of Betsy T. Davis and her retirement. From her staff in the Youth Programs Division, Office of Citizen Exchanges, U.S. Department of State. – Hannah Pierson-Compeau*

For Gracie. – Catherine Campbell*

Members Give – on behalf of Eileen Bennett

Pet-O-Bed, David and Diana Guy – proceeds from sale of products credited to GRREAT

The Diana Valderrama Living Trust* – Please accept this donation in honor of Diane Lanigan.

Corporate Giving

Members Give Powered By Justgive – anonymous donor

Tails to Scales Pet Care LLC* – In loving memory of Morgan Gray from those of us here at Tails to Scales Pet Care who fell in love with him over the years. His daily belly rubs, rolled eyes at having to end his comfy naps, and wagging tail on walks will be missed.

Laughterpieces, Chris Federson and Kathy Lawler – We, at LaughterPieces, have a program in which we donate to various animal care organizations a portion of the purchase of Art Pieces from a line of original paintings we produce then sell at Art Fairs. So now we add GRREAT to what we anticipate will become a long list of donation recipients.

Dunlap & Partners Engineers, P.C. – Memorial Donation for Herbert Judson 'Jud' Pugh

JustGive – on behalf of Elaine Zacheis and Joe Hawaka

Pediatric Health Care – for Special Needs Dog Gracie (10-114).

Forever Friends

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

For Ebbitt (07-048). – Emile Danco

In memory of Morgan (05-006). – Steven Gray*

Sponsor Me!

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

For Beeker (09-026), Brooke (08-128), Stevie (08-208), and Gracie (10-114). – Holly Rich*

For special needs dog Beeker (09-026). – Catherine Campbell*

For special needs dog Peaches (05-140). In memory to Comet Kinkaid, an exceptional Golden who loved walks in the park, his back yard, car rides and serving as doggy doorman to his younger brother Jason. Comet believed that two sharp barks was the key to efficient Golden Retriever household management especially if his “watch” indicated that the human element had failed to keep to his established schedule! Comet loved treats and paper anything! He was truly a Grreat Dog. Comet (07-105) died 8/13/2010. – Jean Mansavage and Blair Semple*

For Charlie (08-150) and Stevie (08-208). – Trish Collier

Special Needs dog Bailey (04-092). – Barry Stopfel

For Stevie (08-208). – Dabney Schneider

For Brooke (08-128)! This donation is in honor of my Cody who is also bat-

ting cancer. Brooke's story sounds very much like Cody's. – Renee Scott* – see Cody's picture on page 14

For Gracie (10-114). – Pediatric Health Care

For Peaches (05-140). – Liz Alfaro

For Wally (09-152). In memory of Miles. – Daniel A. Viglione**

Dog Walk Sponsors

Friend of Rescue (\$100 - \$299)

Jeannie and Ken Blood*

Susan and Richard Bottomley*

Lois and Rick Briggs*

Nancy Bromberg*

Compusearch Software Systems*

Michael and Elizabeth Damitz*

Kim and Don Dawson*

Christina Dzingala*

John Gano*

Lona Gordon*

GRREAT A-Team*

Phil and Janet Hauck*

Jazzercise*

Heather and Kip Lady*

Dawn and Ed Lowe*

Tom Ludwig*

Mary Laura Luke*

Daphne and Norm Magnuson*

Robert and Bernadette McDonald*

Wade Robert and Zoe Cohen*

Gay Schonbrunn*

Harry Sethna and Sarah Navia*

SouthPaws Ophthalmology*

SPLUNK, INC. > log is my co-pilot*

Sport Automotive*

Carol and John Starzmann*

Donations, cont'd.

Bob Taylor*

Carol Taylor*

Linda and Craig Wensley*

Rescue Partner (\$300-\$499)

William Buklad*

Catoctin Veterinary Clinic*

Sharon Coale, Speech Pathology Associates*

Dog Days Playcare*

Fun and Friends Child Development Center*

Rebecca Hotop – Custom Decorative Painting*

Mike and Debra Keatley*

Shira Modell and Louise Hansen*

Lake Litho Printing*

Michael Miles and Lois Lerner*

Randi Sidgmore*

Jim Wilmoth*

Norman and Elizabeth Wright*

Yoho Electrical Services*

Rescue Angel (\$500 and over)

Barrel Oak Winery**

Bradley and Johna Bolinger**

Sherry and Richard Carson**

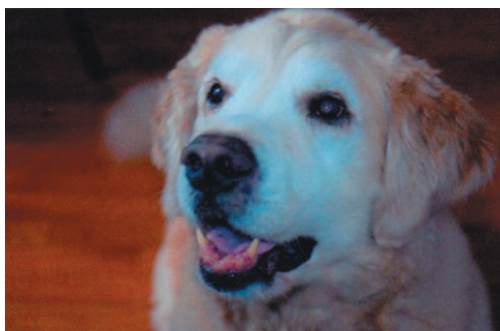
Louise Davidson**

ND Associates, LLC**

The Sundance Collection***

Niangi.com donated the 3K Walk t-shirt design

Weber's Pet Supermarket donated the use of their parking lot and store



Cody

A Special Young Donor

GRREAT received a special donation in September from Anna Sapcarin, whose family adopted Oakley (09-237) in January of this year. Anna donated her winnings from showing Oakley at the local county fair pet show in August. Thank you so much Anna! We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity so much, and the rescued Golden are all especially grateful to you! Following is Anna's winning script, submitted at the fair.

A Rescued Dog is a GRREAT Dog



Anna Sapcarin and her Golden Retriever, Oakley (09-237)

HOWDY!! My name is Anna and my dog, Oakley, is a Golden Retriever from Oklahoma. Oakley was given up to the Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue in Oklahoma last fall. The Sooner Rescue had too many dogs to place so they sent some Golden Retrievers across the country to GRREAT, a local Golden rescue. GRREAT stands for Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training. They rescue Golden Retrievers and place them in foster families until they find the dog's a "forever home". One of GRREAT's goals is to educate people about the Golden Retriever breed, training a dog, responsibilities of dog ownership, and the rewards of adopting a rescued dog. GRREAT started in 1983 and now rescues and places more than 250 Golden Retrievers a year. Oakley and the other dogs had a LONG ride in a truck from Oklahoma to Virginia. Oakley then joined our family in January 2010 just before his first birthday! Oakley and I thought that since he's from Oklahoma and there are cowgirls there, that we should dress as a cowgirl and a horse. Although Oakley is almost as big as a miniature horse, I would never really ride him! Like most horses, Golden Retrievers are intelligent, friendly and easily trained. Golden Retrievers are people dogs and if you have one in your life, you will know that you are the center of their world!

Well, me and Oakley better get going, but if you're thinking about a dog, try looking at a rescue or your local shelter. For more information about GRREAT, go to www.GRREAT.org. Oakley and I wish you all a GRREAT day at the Fair!

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 2011 membership dues, if paid no later than 12/31/2010.

I am enclosing \$35 for my 2011 membership dues, if paid after 12/31/2010.

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.

November

6 Home 4 the Holidays
11am until 4pm
Reston Town Center
Reston, Virginia

6 GRREAT Adoption Day
noon until 2pm
Petco
2319-D Forest Drive
Annapolis, Maryland

December

4 40th Scottish Christmas Walk
Begins at 11am
Corner of Wilkes St./South Saint
Asaph St.
Old Town Alexandria, VA

4 GRREAT Adoption Day
noon until 2pm
Petco
4167 Chelshire Station Plaza
Dale City, Virginia 22193

5 GRREAT's Howliday Party
11am until 2:30pm
Frederick County Fairgrounds
797 E. Patrick St. Bldg #12
Frederick, Maryland