



# GRREAT NEWS

Golden Retriever Rescue, Education and Training, Inc

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## 25 Years of Golden Rescue

*In June of 1986, a group of Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club members met in an attempt to start an organization to help Golden Retrievers in need of new homes. A few members had been rescuing Golden Retrievers on their own for several years, but because the need was far greater than they could handle, they reached out for more assistance. The response from PVGRC led to the founding of GRREAT. That was 25 years ago; so now we celebrate our long and very successful endeavor that has found loving new homes for thousands of Golden Retrievers.*

*The following article was originally published in the July/August 1997 issue of the GRREAT News and tells us how the wish to rescue Golden Retrievers in our area became a reality.*



### GRREAT History: HOW IT ALL BEGAN *by Mary Jane Shervais*

I don't know how many of you remember, or ever knew, that GRREAT (as it currently exists) is actually the second effort at establishing a rescue arm of the Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club (PVGRC). Mary Louise Gabrielle and Peggy McCurdy were the heart and soul of our first effort, which lasted slightly more than two years, as I recall. They were also, unfortunately, almost the only hard working members of that group, and were so inundated with rescue calls that their funds and their energy were soon exhausted. At that time, about 1982-83, I was serving as Secretary of PVGRC, an office I held for four years. It seems that I became the contact phone number for the club, and began to get a lot of calls about Golden Retrievers needing help.

I found myself having to be the one to turn rescue requests away because we had no operation in effect to deal with them. It became very hard to answer certain questions, such as, "What can you do for this Golden who will be euthanized if no one can help?"

Practically without realizing it, and certainly with no heroic intention on my part, I began taking in these unfortunate dogs...first one, and then dozens. I was fostering them in my home, and caring for them as needed at the hospital where I worked (and still work), and placing them in new homes.

### *The Early Years: a Small-scale Operation*

My hospital gave me an employee discount for my orphans, but even with that significant help, the financial commitment to these dogs was substantial. The emotional commitment was even more overwhelming. My friend and partner, Donna Hammond, pitched in to help foster some of the dogs, and between us, we found we were easily dealing with upwards of 30-40 dogs a year. That doesn't sound like many compared to current standards, but there was no organization behind us, and the number of rescue calls was increasing all the time.

After several years of this, with no sign of it letting up, I decided to ask for help. So, in June of 1986, I went to the summer PVGRC meeting, an outdoor event and

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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,



Have you ever wondered about the origins of the wonderful breed of dog we all love so much? The Golden Retriever is a relatively new breed, born from the dream of one man — Lord

Tweedmouth, who lived in Scotland and created the Golden Retriever in the late 1800s. Lord Tweedmouth had the desire to develop a hunting dog that was suited to the local climate, terrain, and available game. A love of the water, the ability to retrieve, and a keen sense of smell were important traits to incorporate into the profile of his ideal hunting dog. And Lord Tweedmouth wished for a dog that was also handsome, trainable, and a good companion that was well-mannered with both people and other dogs. He single-handedly developed a very specific breeding program to incorporate all these characteristics, and so he brought us the special Golden Retriever.

The history of the Golden Retriever was not actually known until the discovery of Lord Tweedmouth's stud book. In fact, up until the 1950s there was a tale of the breed's history that was popular with the public but doubted by people who were knowledgeable about sporting dogs. The story was that Sir Dudley Majoribanks, who later became Lord Tweedmouth, attended a circus in an English seaside town in 1858 and was fascinated with the performing Russian sheepdogs. According to the account, Sir Majoribanks purchased the entire lot of dogs and took them home to his Scottish estate to breed them to become what we now know as the Golden Retriever. The Golden's true origins, along with the detailed breeding that took place, became known in 1952 when Lord Tweedmouth's breeding records were discovered. The specific dogs that were part of the program were meticulously listed with no mention of any Russian sheepdogs.

Lord Tweedmouth's detailed stud book shows that two dogs, Nous (the stud dog, whose name is Gaelic for "wisdom") and Belle (the bitch), were the very start of his breeding program. Nous was a yellow wavy-coated retriever and the single yellow puppy from a litter of black wavy-coated puppies. Belle was a Tweed Water Spaniel, a now-extinct hunting breed that was a good swimmer, intelligent, and with a pleasant temperament. While all retrievers have a similar genetic origin, the Tweed Water Spaniel is a key difference in the ancestry

of the Golden and other retrievers. The mating of Nous and Belle took place in 1868 and resulted in four yellow puppies: Crocus, Ada, Cowslip and Primrose. Crocus and Ada were presented to relatives, while Cowslip and Primrose stayed with Lord Tweedmouth for his carefully planned program to create the ideal hunting dog. Ultimately, the breeding incorporated more Tweed Water Spaniels, Red Setters, and Bloodhounds. The behavioral characteristics, as well as the physical traits of the dogs chosen, were carefully considered. Lord Tweedmouth maintained the stud book of his Golden Retriever breedings from 1868 to 1890.

By the end of the 1800s, the Golden Retriever that Lord Tweedmouth had created closely resembled the breed as it's known today. The dogs were known as Golden Flat-Coats until 1911 when they were recognized as true retrievers and given the name Golden Retriever. In 1913, the Golden Retriever Club in England was established. Not surprisingly, the breed quickly became popular in England, both as a hunting dog and a companion dog.

In the 1920s, the Golden Retriever came to the United States and was recognized by the American Kennel Club in 1925. The Golden Retriever Club of America was formed in 1938, and again the breed soon became widely popular. Of course, the Golden's appeal and popularity continue today.

Little of the breeding of the Golden Retriever has changed since Lord Tweedmouth's vision was realized. While still used as a hunter, the intelligence, trainability, and pleasant disposition of the breed are traits that now make the Golden so valued as a service dog, as a search and rescue dog, and as a beloved family companion. The one shift in breeding that has occurred has been towards a different color. Initially, the preferred color was a dark gold, but today there is a preference towards a lighter blond or cream color. But we all know that from almost white to dark chestnut, the lovely Golden Retriever is a dog to be cherished.

From all of us who love the Golden Retriever breed and have loved many individual Golden Retriever dogs, we thank you Lord Tweedmouth for your gift!

— Louise Davidson, GRREAT President



picnic hosted by the Armstrongs. I took three of my latest rescue dogs — a young adult male and two puppies — and introduced the group to the fun things that Golden Retrievers can do with their people. Then, during the meeting which was held on the Armstrongs' deck, I waited for the "New Business" part of the agenda to come up. At that time, I told the club what I had been doing since the first rescue effort had folded, and asked if the club would consider giving me any help.

#### *Support from PVGRC*

I was totally unprepared for the incredible response. There were a few seconds of silence, and then Chris Zink raised her hand. "I'm really glad to hear this," she said (or words to that effect), "because one of the things I have been concerned about was that there was no avenue for rescuing Golden Retrievers in our club."

Chris and Kathy Carbone enthusiastically supported my request, and the membership unanimously voted not only to help me in my limited one woman effort, but to actually form a new group, which would have better backing from the club in order to avoid the hard lessons learned the first time.

The Armstrongs (as they so often do) volunteered their home for our first meetings. Kathy Carbone, Chris Zink, Sue Armstrong and I were the first committee, mostly by virtue of the fact that we were the ones at the first meeting.

#### *Picking a Name*

The seeds of this fantastic organization took root around Sue Armstrong's dining room table, and we set in motion the beginnings of one of the strongest organizations I have ever known, and of which I have ever been privileged to be a part for more than a decade. I remember in one of those early meetings, we were trying to come up with a name. I said something about wanting to create an acronym with Golden Retriever as part of it, and Golden Retrievers being such grrreat dogs, like Tony the Tiger says about breakfast cereal. Well, we landed on that suggestion like fleas on a dog's back (to coin a phrase), and within minutes the name Golden Retriever Rescue, Education, And Training was adopted. The name contained all of the elements that we felt were critical to the mission of our new group.

From that point on, members and friends kept coming forward to help, and we began the work of forming a sound organization. Rescue calls kept pouring in, and for the first couple of years, I was still the main coordinator. My husband was very patient through all of this, but I think he sort of lost it the night I was called out in the middle of a January snowstorm to rescue a Golden from a terrified owner whose husband was threatening to shoot the dog if I didn't get her out of the house in thirty minutes. Steve was more than mildly

concerned about this guy's stability and was afraid he would shoot me, too. (But that's a completely different story, and only one of many.)

In terms of putting an anniversary date on record for GRREAT, I have always marked that June 1986 meeting as our founding month, when PVGRC so enthusiastically and ably responded to my plea for help. As an organization, we owe a great debt to the first members of our planning team, including Kathy Carbone, Chris Zink, Pat Scahill, Carol Windsor, and Sue Armstrong (and me, too) for laying the groundwork — incorporation, constitution and bylaws, and administrative efforts — that has proven to be so strong.

The list and the deeds go on.... I couldn't begin to name them all. I hope you have found this brief history interesting; it was certainly my pleasure to write it and reminisce about how it all began. My heartfelt congratulations and thanks go to you who now run the organization that is very dear to my heart, and which I point to with pride and say (with maybe a little exaggeration, but forgive me...), "I started that group."

*Editor's note: And we thank you too, Mary Jane, for your tireless devotion to our favorite breed of dog, the GRREAT Golden Retriever. Happy Anniversary to us all!*



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# Holistic First Aid

by Pam Grasso, D.V.M., C.V.A.



As nice weather approaches, more of us will be getting outside with our pets. Whether you are just taking a walk in your neighborhood, or camping and hiking out in the wilderness, it is important to have certain essential items

available in case of an unexpected emergency. Of course, in a true emergency, most of these suggestions are to help you and your pet until you can reach your veterinarian. As a holistic veterinarian, there are a few essentials that I always have on hand when I travel with my dogs.

## *The Basic Essentials:*

- o **Thermometer:** The normal temperature for a dog or cat is 100.5° to 102.5°. If your dog's temperature goes above 106°, cool your pet slowly with cool water and call your veterinarian as soon as possible. A temperature below 99° can indicate hypothermia or shock. Warm your pet and call your veterinarian as soon as possible. Electronic thermometers for people are to be used rectally. Liquid soap or oil can be used as a lubricant, if lubricating jelly is not available.

- o **Vet wrap:** This is used for bandaging. It is difficult to reuse like an elastic Ace bandage, so I usually have both on hand.

- o **Roll gauze:** This is used under the vet wrap. It helps to absorb any blood or fluid and cushions the area being bandaged. Gauze squares are also helpful to absorb fluids and clean ears and wounds.

- o **Elastic tape:** Elastic tape, such as "elastikon," is stretchy so it is less likely to be applied too tightly. It is used to hold the bandage in place.

**\*\*Always remember, when bandaging a foot, wrap at an angle and not too tight. Wrapping straight across the leg can cause the circulation to be compromised.**

- o **Bandage scissors:** Something is needed to cut the bandage material. Bandage scissors are nice because they have one blunt end. You can remove a bandage without the danger of cutting the skin.

- o **Tourniquet:** A tourniquet may be needed if the bleeding is profuse. A piece of vet wrap can be used here. Never leave a tourniquet on for more than 20 minutes.

- o **Tweezers**

- o **Blanket/sling:** A blanket can be used to cover your pet for warmth. By holding the four corners (two people) a blanket can also be used as a stretcher to carry a large dog that cannot walk.

- o **Leash:** A leash that will give you control, other than the flex leads, is important.

- o **Muzzle:** Even the sweetest dog can become protective when injured and frightened. A piece of vet wrap or roll gauze can be tied across their muzzle to keep you from getting injured too. A leash can also be used here.

- o **Picture:** If you lose your pet, a picture may be helpful to ask people if they have seen him or her. Even the pet that never leaves your side may bolt when frightened by unexpected circumstances.

- o **Rabies Vaccine certificate:** If your pet is involved in a fight, bitten by a wild animal, or accused of biting someone, an up to date rabies vaccine certificate can help with any "red tape." Many State Parks require a copy of the rabies certificate for your dog to enter the park.

- o **Water and more water:** Sometimes, just like with people, a change of water can cause digestive disturbances, such as diarrhea or constipation. Often, when traveling, taking water from home and gradually switching to the new water can help avoid any digestive upset in those sensitive patients. Always carry water when hiking. Even a short hike can turn into hours if a wrong turn is taken. Many times streams can be dry during the summer. My younger, robust dogs carry their own water in backpacks.

- o **Natural insect repellent:** Vetri-Repel is a natural insect repellent for ticks, fleas, mosquitoes, and flies. It is made with lemongrass and cinnamon oils. A homemade bug repellent can be made with cedar oil and rose geranium oil. Use a spray bottle and put ten drops of each in a cup of water. This can be applied to your pet before going outside. Remember, dogs have noses that are much more sensitive than ours. If you are preparing your own repellent, use essential oils sparingly. Be sure to use good quality essential oils. Depending on your pets' attractiveness to ticks and the area you are in, you may want to have a back up treatment for ticks. Do not use essential oils on cats.

- o **Booties:** Backpacking with my dogs taught me a very important lesson. If you are planning on hiking more than usual, booties are highly recommended to avoid having to bandage worn paw pads on all four feet. Duct tape is great for reinforcing the bottom of booties or bandages.

## *Other Natural Treatments:*

- o **Aloe vera** is a great topical treatment for burns and scrapes, especially on the pads of the feet.

- o **Rescue Remedy** is essential for calming the human and your pet. A dropper full to the gums is effective to calm during times of stress or anxiety. This will not interfere with homeopathic remedies.

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o Nettles tincture can be effective for itching. The dose is 0.2cc for every 5 pounds of body weight every 6 hours as needed.

o Baking soda can be effective topically for bee stings.

o Green tea (brewed just like a cup of tea and then cooled) is a great topical to soothe itchy or irritated skin. Green tea also makes a great ear wash. Keep this refrigerated and brew a new batch each week as needed.

\*There are 3 essentials for diarrhea:

o Probiotics are essential to restore the normal flora balance during a bout of diarrhea. They are also wonderful for dogs that have been treated with antibiotics. Some contain *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Bifidobacterium longum*, *Enterococcus faecium*, or a combination of helpful bacteria. Yogurt with active cultures is a good source of probiotics.

o Psyllium: I use Metamucil cookies because my dogs think they are a treat. The fiber absorbs the extra liquid in the stool. This product is also useful to soften stool if your dog is constipated.

o Slippery Elm capsules: Three capsules for a large sized dog, twice a day, can help with diarrhea. This can be added to a small amount of water and given with a syringe.

\*Always make sure the gums over the canine teeth stay slippery. If they are tacky or sticky and your finger doesn't slide over the gums, your pet is dehydrated. Give fluids orally if possible. Your pet may need intravenous fluids from your veterinarian.

o Honey has wonderful antimicrobial properties. It can be used topically under a bandage for all wounds. Honey is also useful for cases of hypoglycemia seen mostly in very young animals.

o Meat tenderizer is a good product to have if you are near the beach and your dog decides to pick up a jellyfish. The enzymes break down the stinging poison. It can be used topically for feet and skin.

o Witch hazel packets are used to clean wounds.

o Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) can be used to clean a wound initially. Do not use hydrogen peroxide long term as it can delay healing. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> can also be used to induce vomiting. Call Poison Control or your veterinarian prior to inducing vomiting. Emesis may be contraindicated with the ingestion of some poisons. The number for ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center is 1-888-426-4435. Pet Poison Helpline is at 1-800-213-6680. These organizations will charge a fee, so you must have a credit card ready when you call. Mr. Yuk at 1-800-222-1222 is free, though not specifically for animals.

*GV 26*: This is an acupuncture point that everyone should be familiar with, also known as the resuscitation point. It is located on the midline in the filtrum at the intersection of the "I" below the nose. In an emergency, stimulating this point can have an epinephrine effect. In shock, this can

increase the heart rate, respiratory rate, and brain activity. Don't be afraid to be very firm, as this can save your pet's life. Any sharp object such as a needle, a pen, even a fingernail can be used here.

o Eyewash or saline solution is used to flush eyes if irritated. If the cornea appears cloudy or scratched or the eye seems very painful, see your veterinarian immediately.

o Calendula gel is a wonderful topical treatment for wound healing.

o Arnica 30c homeopathic pellets are indicated for trauma of any kind. It can be a very helpful remedy for pain and bruising. Place the pellets on the gums. In the case of an acute injury, this can be repeated every 30 minutes until relief is noted, usually after 3 treatments.

o Qi Ye Lian is an herbal pain reliever that can be used as needed. The dose is 1 tablet per 20 pounds. Generally, 3 tablets every 8-12 hours as needed for pain is sufficient for a Golden Retriever.

o Benedryl (although not holistic) is great for allergic reactions, bee stings, and itching. The dose is 1mg/pound. Start with one or two 25mg capsules and increase the dose as needed every 20 minutes or so. This may make your dog drowsy.

Hopefully this list will help you be more prepared in a simple case of a cut on the foot or an unexpected emergency. Have fun traveling with your pets and be safe.

*Pamela Grasso, DVM is a holistic veterinarian who practices in Ashburn, Virginia. She practices both traditional veterinary medicine as well as holistic medicine, including acupuncture, herbal medicine, and homeopathy*

## GRREAT Bark-B-Que

Join the fun with your dog and the rest of the family at the GRREAT Bark-B-Que! Our annual picnic is being held on Saturday May 14 from 11am to 3pm at Quiet Waters Park in Annapolis MD. Details are provided at [www.grreat.org/barkbque.htm](http://www.grreat.org/barkbque.htm).



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# Animals as a Reflection

by Sherry B True

Animals are a great reflection for us. They show us all sorts of things in life. They show us where we have been, where we are going and things we can look forward to. They reflect courage in the face of adversity; they reflect the beauty of seeing things from a simple perspective but most of all, they reflect the love we all seek.

Animals have been our gauge for centuries. The animals of the planet are generally the first to sense and experience the shifts and health issues that may be on the horizon. Canaries were used back in the beginning days of coal mining to let the miners know when there were deadly gasses of which they needed to be aware. In Egypt, they were used as oracles — creatures that carried messages from the great beyond. The Native Americans recognized and honored all animals, as to them they were utilized for all things — food, clothing, and as symbols of messages from Father Sky or Mother Earth.

For centuries now, as we have become more and more industrialized and expansive in our way of being, animals again become a reflection for us. There are the frogs that have six legs, the cat that has two heads or the conjoined calves. They tell us there is something for us to pay attention to before it is too late. With all the upheaval in the world, how prepared are you with the animals in your life? We always think it can't happen to us... it will happen to someone else, but not us.

With the oil spill off the coast of the United States, Hurricane Katrina and the tsunami, earthquake and nuclear disasters in Japan, we are shown just how quickly our lives can change. Do you have a plan to move quickly if something does happen? How will you handle things with your pets? I was surprised to read how many people left their pets behind in New Orleans and Japan. I don't know that I could do that, as they are part of my family. However, we all make decisions that we feel are right for us. So how prepared are you if something like an earthquake of massive flooding happened where you live? Take a moment to see if you and your pets are ready to move on a dime. Do you have a first aid kit handy? Do you have food and water put aside for them? How about an escape plan? It is something to think about.

You might also look into taking the Pet First Aid course offered by the American Red Cross. They have classes throughout the year in different places. Check to see if your local chapter has a class coming up and take it. It will at least give you the basic knowledge of how to handle your pet's emergency or a pet in distress. I highly recommend it!

We really do need to keep an eye on the animals of the world and how they are reacting during these uncertain times. Like the miners in the coal mines, they are a gauge for us to measure where we are headed. Pay attention to your own animals as they will always let you know what is going on. Our pets count on us to keep them safe from harm or impending

danger. Personally, I always know two hours before there are thunderstorms coming, as my dogs begin to circle and get very agitated. They are my gauge of things to come. It gives me time to prepare them and myself for the storm. Holding on to each one of them, we all pile into bed and wait for the storm to pass. Though, if need be, we are ready to follow our escape plan should the need arise.

*Sherry B True is an Animal Communicator, Certified Healing Touch for Animals Practitioner and Nutritional Counselor for Pets. Please visit [www.spiritpaws.com](http://www.spiritpaws.com) for more information.*

## Give the Dog a Bone

Allie Babcock mystery, by Leslie O'Kane, 2002

reviewed by Skye Anderson

I've been reading "outside the box." Instead of dog training and behavior books (non-fiction), I've tried to sample canine mysteries and children's dog stories. I even waded through a romance novel that purportedly had dogs and spies somewhere in its pages. I spied *Give the Dog a Bone* as I was leaving the library, so I grabbed it. Surprisingly, it was good! I read it overnight.

Many dog novels barely mention a dog. *Give the Dog a Bone* had dogs in every chapter. The main character is a dog trainer who specializes in behavior problems and calls herself a dog therapist (though the back cover refers to Allie as a canine shrink) with three dogs herself (Sage, Doppler and Pavlov — and T-Rex is a changeling Black Lab). And best of all, most of the dog references in the book concern positive reinforcement (reward-based training rather than force-based training); for 2002, that was more rare than today.

I held my breath at Allida's first session with Ken and his Golden Retriever, Maggie, when she pulled two devices out of her bag (page 29). I was dreading the choke chain and shock collar. So, imagine my delight when she pulled out a clicker and Gentle Leader head collar!

I would recommend this book for trainers to give their mystery-fan clients who can't finish a boring dog training manual. It's a quick read. Trainer and client can then discuss why Allida's gentle, dog-friendly training really works so well compared to popular TV shows.

This book has it all in Boulder, Colorado: a female sleuth-hound, a dead millionaire, trailer park bodies and bones, stolen drugs (acepromazine and Chlormalm), psychics in purple, a dead ex-wife who suddenly re-appears, separation anxiety, a neglected Akita, rambunctious JRTs, thunderphobia, desensitization, phosphorous pellets, HypnoReiki, stolen answering machines, an adversarial veterinarian — I can't wait for the movie!

# ADOPTION REPORT

Name	#	Age	Sex	Name	#	Age	Sex
Daisy	10-173	11	F	Riley	11-002	1	M
Chloe	10-178	5	F	Jake	11-023	1	M
Bear	11-014	2	M	Jake	11-028	2	M
Chloe	11-008	10	F	Rebel	11-048	5	M
Brodie	11-013	2	M	Rock	11-050	5	M
Hailey	11-015	5	F	Sam	10-142	5	M
Boise	10-107	10	M	Maggie	10-188	7	F
Lilly	11-020	1	F	Kaiser	10-215	6	M
Nick	11-022	9mo	M	Shaggy	10-223	11mo	M
Brandi	11-024	7	F	Casey	10-224	9	F
Molly	11-047	9mo	F	Tucker	10-228	7	M
Max	07-084	5	M	Star	11-004	4	F
True	10-150	8	F	Buddy	11-007	1	M
Piper	10-165	7mo	F	Ricky	11-009	2	M
Tessa	10-227	4	F				

## Baseball Blog for a Special GRREAT Dog

The beloved GRREAT dog that lived with the family of Bob and Christine McCreary for 10 years went to the Rainbow Bridge in February. Cassie 01-175 is honored in Bob's blog "Baseball by the Yard." As a former professional baseball player and a coach at the high school, college, and professional levels, Bob understands that Cassie had all the qualities of a great baseball player. You will be touched by Bob's tribute to Cassie in his blog written on February 23, 2011:

[www.baseballbytheyard.blogspot.com/2011/02/dog-and-her-ball.html](http://www.baseballbytheyard.blogspot.com/2011/02/dog-and-her-ball.html)



## Is My Dog a Wolf?

by Jenni Bidner, \$9.95, 2006, 64 pp, Lark Books  
reviewed by Skye Anderson

Is my dog a wolf? In a word, no. And anyone who continues to use outdated wolf terms like “dominant dog,” “alpha roll,” or “alpha dog” when talking about man’s best friend has not paid attention to advances in dog training or wolf observation in the past few decades.

Written by a Search and Rescue (SAR) dog handler from the upper mid-west, this book provides an antidote to the wolf myths and outdated wolf “facts” that still proliferate on TV and in fairy tales — or are spewed about by a few famous dog trainers (usually the traditional force-based trainers). The author beautifully explains the similarities and differences in dogs and wolves. For example, wolves cannot be easily trained as your family pet.

Through the centuries, dogs and wolves have evolved under different selection forces. Wolves are well adapted for pack living: they hunt cooperatively, and aunts, uncles, and teen wolves help “babysit” and train the puppies. On the other hand, dogs have been selected to live with a family of humans, to assist in hunting ducks or herding sheep or just for companionship. There are more than 300 breeds of dogs of all sizes, shapes, colors and temperaments for very different “jobs.” Wolves are happy only in the wild, while a dog likes to live in our home and considers our human family to be his pack.

When Fido chases Kitty (a real, live squeaky toy!), plays tug with you, digs in the wrong place in the backyard, chews the shoes you forgot to put in the closet, or barks at the delivery person, he is exhibiting remnants of wolf behavior. Both wolves and dogs have an excellent sense of smell and hearing, use body language including facial and tail expressions, and share the same hunting tools — their teeth. They both play-fight and sometimes, they even fight over food. But dogs bark more, although some will howl like wolves.

All these behaviors and more are explained and discussed in both photos and words. *Is My Dog a Wolf?* abounds with story-telling photos on every page. You will surely find your dog depicted somewhere in this book, if only in behavior — chewing, digging, playing fetch.

This is an excellent portrayal of the differences and similarities between dogs and wolves, for children and adults alike. Had the book also quoted Dr. L. David Mech, the foremost expert on wolves for the past 40 years, it would have been a perfect treatment. Even so, it is well worth keeping and provides much food for thought.

For more information, check out the Minnesota Wildlife Science Center at [www.wildlifesciencecenter.org](http://www.wildlifesciencecenter.org) or [www.nps.gov/yell](http://www.nps.gov/yell) to learn about the Yellowstone Wolf Project.

Dear Janet,

I have a neighbor who adopted a 10-week old mixed breed puppy, Bailey, from another rescue organization. I’m trying to help my neighbor out, while Bailey is so young, by letting him out, walking him, and playing with him a bit when she has an extra long day at work or needs to be out for a while on the weekends. Bailey is very sweet and was a bit shy with me when I first met him, but now he’s very confident and outgoing with me, as long as we’re in his house.

Bailey is now 14-weeks old and responds well to “sit” and “down” for treats and is pretty good at walking on his leash, but only inside his house. When I try to take him out for a walk on his leash, he won’t leave the front door. When I carry Bailey outside and put him down in the driveway, he just crouches down and won’t move no matter how much I pull on his leash or how many treats I’m using to coax him. I thought that if my neighbor and I each kept working with him, he’d get better; but no matter how much we try, we can’t get Bailey to walk outside. If Bailey sees a friendly person or a dog, he will scurry a short distance to the person or dog, but once he’s said “hi” to them, he won’t try to follow them when they walk away. I don’t understand why Bailey won’t walk on-leash outside when he can do it inside. ~ V.T.

Dear V.T.,

Bailey is very frightened when he’s outside. I do not know why he’s frightened, but from your description, he’s clearly very scared. Trying to make him walk with you is just adding more pressure and anxiety to what he already sees as a very nerve-racking situation. The best thing for you and your neighbor to do is to spend lots of time with Bailey outside without trying to get him to walk.

Have your neighbor buy a 20-foot long leash (not a retractable since there’s always tension on a retractable). As often as you can, hook Bailey to the long leash, and carry him, some treats, and a book to the front porch. Put Bailey on the ground a few feet in front of the porch, make sure he’s not tangled in the leash and that you have a secure hold on the leash, and sit there and enjoy your book for as long as you can. It may take several hours over a number of sessions, but Bailey will eventually move, whether by crawling forward or by standing up. As soon as he moves, tell him what a good dog he is and give him a treat. Go back to your book, but every time he moves, praise him and give him another treat. You are letting Bailey take his time getting used to being outside, while also rewarding him for doing what you want him to do. With time, Bailey will gain confidence and you can follow him around as he explores the front yard. When he’s comfortable with the yard, try using the treats to coax him to walk on the sidewalk. At this stage, it would be helpful if you could ask some other dog owners to stop by as they’re walking their dogs, and see if Bailey might follow another dog on a walk. Taking Bailey to an outdoor group obedience class will also be very helpful.

*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](mailto:janet@bestbehaveddogs.com) or visit her website at [www.bestbehaveddogs.com](http://www.bestbehaveddogs.com)*

# DONATIONS

## Thank You for Your Donations

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

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

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

Audrey and Alex Balent  
Jeff and Helene Casper  
Mike and Maureen Cippel\*  
Ruth and Walter Dominick  
Tracy Dreiband\*  
Judith Eyler\*  
Edward and Susan Glynn  
Demetrio Guerrero and  
Sandra Rutan  
Elizabeth Kaiser and Ned Scherer\*\*\*  
Joel Langert  
Shiela Loftus  
Olivia and Tom McDonough  
George and Laura Panagoulis  
Glen and Suzi Powell  
Sheryle and Jeanne Robinson  
Mary Tappan\*  
Martha VanLandingham\*  
Karen and Joe Yoho

## In Memory of...

---

I would like to make a memorial gift in memory of Kira Holland, loyal family member of Emily and Doug Holland of Ballston, VA. – Suzanne Steger

In memory of Ruby Dee. – Steve and Darlene Hines\*

In memory of Bear. – Sue and Charles Henkin\*

Donation in memory of Lucy (not a GRREAT dog). – Martha VanLandingham\*

Donation in memory of Ginger (not a GRREAT dog). – Martha VanLandingham\*

In memory of Lucy, dedicated friend of Betsy and Marshall Ellison. – Frank Mickey\*

This donation is in memory of Milo, the Cadoux family's Golden Retriever who passed away. – Monica and Mike Thomas

In memory of our sweet Golden angel Max Weber, who passed away last May. Not a day goes by that we don't think of you! Love Always and Forever, Gram, Mom, Christine and canine companions Cooper and Rosie — and Chester (adopted from GRREAT) last June, who Max never had a chance to meet. – Mary Weber\*

Recently I discovered that former co-worker of mine, Terry Richard Peasland, passed away. His family has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to your wonderful organization. Enclosed is my donation to GRREAT in memory of Terry. – Louise Traversone

We would like to make a donation in memory of our three Goldens who crossed the Rainbow Bridge in 2010: Graham (00-249), Daisy (04-109), and our Forever Foster Phoebe (05-206). – Ralph and Jondelle Truitt\*

In memory of our beloved dog Tucky (02-052). She was a wonderful dog and will be in our hearts forever. – Donald Gakenheimer and Pam Traxel\*

In memory of Tref and Jake. – Jude and Gary Biedenkapp\*

In memory of “Emma” Vaughn, my sister-in-law's dog. – Deirdre McDermott

In memory of Cassie (10-138). Most beautiful Golden Retriever. Please accept this donation for Cassie. To say I'm devastated regarding Cassie's death (Lymphoma) is the greatest understatement. She was so beautiful inside and outside. We immediately bonded and loved life to the maximum. Included is Max, my kitty cat — to see his sadness and loneliness was overwhelming. – Marilyn Cloyd\*

## In Memory of John Weis...

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In memory of John Weis, husband of Sue Weis. – Robert Shelton

In memory of John Weis. – Larry and Nita Vorisek

In Memory of John Weis, who loved his two Golden Retrievers very much! – Stacey and Phil Tearne

In memory of John Weis. – Richard and Marie Ordenam

In memory of John Weis. I knew him through the Herrington Harbour Sailing Association. He was an avid sailor, a competitive racer, and a friend. – Ted Slotwinski\*

This contribution is being made on behalf of John Weis who passed away on January 31, 2011 and loved his Golden Retrievers. – Patricia MacNaught

This donation is in the memory of John Weis. – Steve Krems\*

# DONATIONS

## **In Memory of John Weis... (con't)**

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In care of John Weis. – Michael and Joyce Riggins

Please accept our contribution to your organization in memory of John D. Weis. – Terry and Pamela Becker

Memorial of John Weiss. – Mark and Stephanie Hergenroeder\*

## **In Honor Of...**

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This gift is in honor of Kira, a wonderful dog and best friend of Emily and Doug. – Jason Schefflin

In honor of Lucy Johnson. – Laura Lee

In honor of Casey (10-224). – Joel Langert\*

In honor of Kramer. – R.C. and Lilly Smith

In honor of Trish Collier. – Nancy and Dave Smith\*

## **To Help With Costs...**

---

For the care of Brody (11-013). – Jennifer Trotta\*

In honor of Maggie (10-188) to help cover meds. – William and Mary Ryan

To cover Max's (11-005) meds. – Amanda and Dean Blankenship

Instead of being reimbursed for the obedience deposit, a donation is made for Storm (Roscoe 10-144). – Clare and Mike McQuay

Donation is for acupuncture services for Bailey, Peaches, Stevie. – Jessie Robinson\*\*\*

This donation is to assist with the vet bill for Cappuccino (10-222). – Elizabeth Swanson\*

## **For Other Reasons...**

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To thank all the GRREAT volunteers who give their time and love to our beautiful Golden companions. – James and Sharon Qualls

On behalf of Kloe (09-230). Kloe has become a very cherished member of our canine, feline and horse family. After an initial breaking in, where she would roam throughout the woods around our home whenever she managed to get free, but even on the second day at our home she returned to our (her) home before I did after I tried to chase her. Now, after some training, she is our shadow almost always behaving. It is interesting that she must have some Labrador Retriever in her for she carries the Dudley variation usually seen only in Labrador Retrievers. She has the pink on her gum line, a pink nose and yellow eyes. Suffice it to say that we think she is very special. – Steele and Patricia Lipe

Our wonderful Riley (01-003) left us for the Rainbow Bridge. We had planned to write a heartfelt, emotional tribute; but instead we just want to say – Goodbye for now Little Man! We love you and miss you terribly! – Jeff and Lucinda Twining\*\*

With sincere gratitude to Mary Collings, the Board of Directors and the many wonderful caring volunteers at GRREAT, thank you for all your efforts to take in Bella and find her a new home. – Debbie and David Wirsing\*\*

Enclosed is my check to help a little bit with the work you do. Nearly five years ago, I was fortunate to get connected with you through my veterinarian, Dr. Marguerite Adams, and for that period of time I have had the pleasure of Amber Corr's friendship and company. (Unfortunately, her brother Cody died of cancer only a year after they both arrived at my house, but I think he had that one good year, at least.) I don't need to get newsletters, and Amber has always been clear about her great reluctance —enormous reluctance — to meet other dogs. So we don't go to any GRREAT events, such as I might otherwise attend with her. But I think of your work a lot, and I am grateful, as well as a little in awe, of what you do. Thank you again for Cody and Amber. – John Corr\*

Max (09-095) is doing extremely well in his new home. He has a fairly large backyard to run in and we still give him multiple long walks each day. There is absolutely no evidence that he went through a tough few months with his heart surgeries. – James and Karen Cramer\*

With prayers for Bill Price, GRREAT Transport Volunteer. – Shawne Lampert

For the 2010 GRREAT Walk. – Potomac Valley Golden Retriever Club\*\*

## **Corporate Giving**

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IBM Employee Services Center – on behalf of Lona Gordon

IBM Employee Services Center – anonymous donor

# DONATIONS

## Corporate Giving (con't.)

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

Members Give Powered by Justgive.  
Donor – Eileen Bennett

iGive.com proceeds\*

Gifts that Give.com. Donations generated from Gifts that Give shoppers and your supporters by shopping on [www.giftsthatgive.com](http://www.giftsthatgive.com) during Nov/Dec 2010

Lisa Solomon proceeds from photo session sitting

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

Capital One Matching Program\* – to match gift from Sharon and David Johnson

AXA Foundation, for the care of senior Golden Retrievers – on behalf of Brenda Pascal\*

M&T Investment Group – on behalf of TE Connectivity\*

Fannie Mae SERVE Matching Donation\* – anonymous donor

## Forever Friends

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Memorials can be seen at [www.grreat.org/foreverfriends/index.htm](http://www.grreat.org/foreverfriends/index.htm)

For Trooper. In remembrance of my friend. – Edward Ullom

For Casey, my best friend. – Cynthia Guest\*

*GRREAT operates three funds for dogs with special needs. The Leo Fund provides surgical care, the Simile-Finale Fund provides holistic and alternative therapies (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](http://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)

In Memory of Lucy - a sweet and loving friend. – Laura Hulcher

#### Leo's Angels (\$100-499)

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

In memory of Morgan (98-133) who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on 2/2/11. She was a terrific dog and we miss her terribly. – Anita and John Funk\*

This gift is in honor of Liz McMillen's 50th Birthday. Liz is a great lover of Golden Retrievers and has a generous and compassionate heart. – Pamela Winston\*

#### Leo's Heroes (\$500 and Over)

In honor of Kodi (05-018); Kodi was 14 on Feb 4. She is amazing after 2 strokes and 5 days of being unable to stand. She is more loving than ever and enjoys her walks with sister Sassy. Everyone loves her. – Jim and Ginny Hayes\*\*

#### Chief's Fund

I have a 7-year old Golden who has suffered from epilepsy since she was 3, so I can appreciate the cost and care of dealing with this disease. – George and Nancy Metzger\*

## Sponsor Me!

---

*Special Needs Dogs can be seen at [www.grreat.org/dogs/doglist\\_special.htm](http://www.grreat.org/dogs/doglist_special.htm)*

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

For Stevie (08-208). – Dabney Schneider

For "Special Golden" – Anne Reynolds

For Belle (10-200). In memory of my first Golden, Cassie, who died of the same cancer that Belle has. – Barbara Lambird\*

For Special Needs Dogs. – Richard and Anna Dodson\*

For Gracie (10-114) and Wally (09-152). In memory of our beloved Bailey, my family's angel. – Beth Ann Grosso

For Rufus (03-199). In memory of "Nob"- Erinhills Never One Better, who we will always love and miss dearly. – John and Jennifer Smaha\*

For Peaches (05-140). In memory of Tanner (08-085) who was so very lucky to be loved by Kim and Carl Wiff. – Robin and Steve Heinecke

For Bailey (04-092), Clover (10-164), Peaches (05-140), and Stevie (08-208). – Jeff and Lucinda Twining\*

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# Get Ready to Show Off Your GRREAT Dog in the 2012 GRREAT Calendar!

It's time to submit pictures of your GRREAT dog(s) for the 2012 GRREAT wall calendar and also for the 2012 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:

- Be sure to note that the picture is for the 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 2011 GRREAT wall calendar are not eligible.
- All pictures must be horizontal due to the calendar design.
- No costumes please.
- Digital images only please.
- You may send as many pictures as you like.
- Include your dog's name, GRREAT ID number, and a brief paragraph (not to exceed 150 words) about your dog, as well as your name, phone number, and email address.

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

- Be sure to note that the picture is for the desktop calendar.
- Pictures must include a dog adopted through GRREAT; other animals and people may also be included.
- Dogs that were included in the 2011 Funny Faces of GRREAT desktop calendar are not eligible.
- Digital images only please.
- You may send as many pictures as you like.
- Include your dog's name and GRREAT ID number, as well as your name, phone number, and email address.

**DEADLINE FOR PHOTO SUBMISSION IS JUNE 19, 2011**

Please email your photos to [President@grreat.org](mailto:President@grreat.org).

The winners will be announced in the September/October GRREAT News.

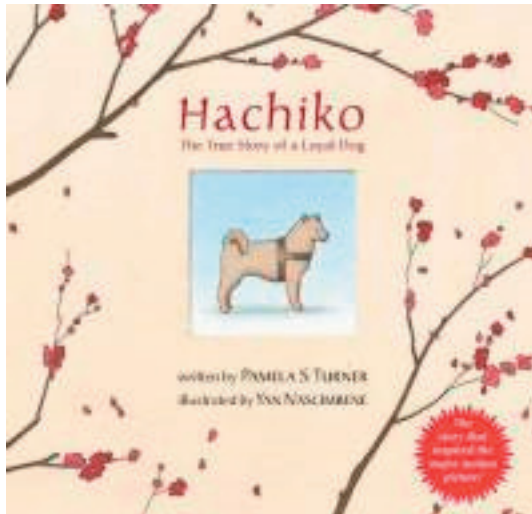


# Three Loyal Dogs – Hachi, Shep and Greyfriar’s Bobby

reviewed by Skye Anderson

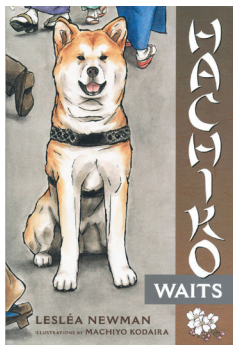
Who doesn't love a good canine loyalty love story? Here are three!

*Hachi: A Dog's Tale* (movie: 2009)/*Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog* by Pamela S. Turner (book), 2004, Houghton Mifflin, ages 4-8, 32 p, \$6.99.



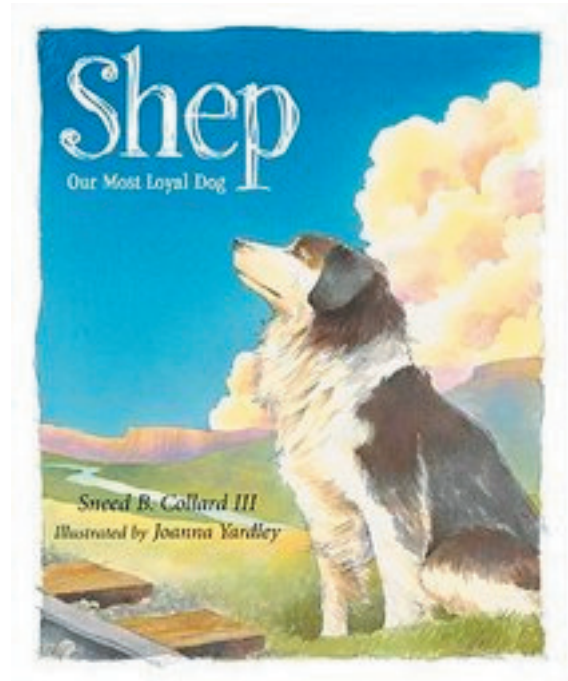
Hachi, starring Richard Gere, retells the remarkable story of a loyal, loving dog, a Shiba Inu. Each day, the dog walks his owner, a professor, to the commuter train station and each afternoon, he meets the train until one day, due to a heart attack at work, the man does not return. Hachi, however, waits for his owner's return for more than 10 years, even though the family tries to entice him home and then eventually moves away.

The book, *Hachiko*, tells the original story set in 1930's Japan by a 6-year-old boy who met Hachiko the Akita. Simple color drawings, most of them with Hachiko somewhere on the page for young readers to find, make this a lovely book to keep and to kindle conversations of canine love, loyalty, waiting, and the subsequent love and attention of a nation.



Also for children, *Hachiko Waits*, by Newman (2006), 96 pp, ages 9-12, \$6.99, Square Fish Publishing and *Hachiko: The True Story of The Royal Dogs of Japan and One Faithful Akita*, by Chrystyn (2009), 53 pp, ages 9-12, \$7.95, Phoenix Books.

*Shep: Our Most Loyal Dog*, by Sneed Collard (2006), 32 pp, ages 4-8, \$16.95, Sleeping Bear Press.



An American story of similar canine devotion began in Fort Benton, Montana, during the Depression. Shep, a sheepherding dog, lives a great life on the plains with his shepherd until the man suddenly becomes ill, dies, and his body is taken away by train. "And so began the great wait." Shep stood vigil at the train station, greeting each arriving passenger train for many years until he died. The lonesome dog's legend grew until the Great Northern Railway had to hire someone just to read Shep's mail. Like Hachi/Hachiko, a statue now stands at the Fort Benton train station to honor one dog's devotion and the love of a nation.

Also, for adults, *Shep: Forever Faithful*, by Stewart Beveridge (2005), 319 pp, \$14.95, Grove Creek Publications.



And finally, in Scotland, the story of Greyfriar's Bobby who guarded his master's grave until his end. In 1961, Walt Disney introduced us to Skye (no relation to the reviewer!) Terrier who also is honored by a statue in Edinburgh, Scotland. Check out *Greyfriars Bobby* by Eleanor Atkinson for a classical tale of this loyal pup.

## 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 \$35 for my 2011 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](http://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](http://www.grreat.org/calendar.htm). For more information on any event, please email [events@grreat.org](mailto:events@grreat.org) and if you wish to volunteer at any event, please email [volunteer@grreat.org](mailto:volunteer@grreat.org).*

### May

1 The Anne Arundel SPCA 20th  
Annual Walk for the Animals  
8am until 12pm  
Quiet Waters Park  
600 Quiet Waters Park Rd.  
Annapolis, MD 21403

7 GRREAT Adoption Day  
Noon until 2 pm  
Petco  
2319-D Forest Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21401

7 Reston Pet Fiesta  
10am until 4pm  
Reston Town Center  
Market St.  
Reston, VA

14 GRREAT Bark-B-Que  
11am until 3pm  
Quiet Waters Park  
Red Maple Pavilion  
600 Quiet Waters Park  
Annapolis, MD

### June

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

### July

9 GRREAT Adoption Day  
Noon until 2 pm  
Petco  
10060 U.S. Highway 40  
Ellicott City, MD 21042