Hearts of Gold

Newsletter of Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida, Inc.

Volume 3, Issue 2 — Summer 2000



MEET OUR 700TH RESCUE!

Brittany's owner was going to jail. She was about to be homeless. And she was not spayed. Thanks to quick actions on the part of several volunteers, Brittany was saved. See "To Save a Life" on Page 2.

DIAMOND BRACELET RAFFLE!

See Page 4 for details on how to win. Raffle tickets are on pages 13 & 14.

A Golden Day . . .

Annual Rescue Reunion A Grand Success

More than 300 humans and nearly 175 goldens enjoyed a wonderful spring day in Kissimmee March 25.

Rescue goldens were the star attraction, as they romped under the trees, played in the pond, ran the agility course, or just relaxed in the shade with their humans.

There is no greater reward to GRRMF volunteers than seeing all those happy faces and wagging tails. We were especially impressed with how well behaved everyone was. There were VERY few mishaps … it seemed the goldens recognized their kind and somehow knew that this day was all for them. And being golden retrievers, they basked in all the attention, for sure!



Camping out: attendee grabs some shade with his golden companions during reunion in March.

Educational sessions proved to be very popular among our owners. We had sessions on obedience training, weight control and caring for senior dogs, and a grooming table for lessons in clipping nails and trimming those unruly tufts goldens are so famous for.

GRRMF raised more than $2,200 toward the Capital Campaign to build a free-standing facility (campaign update on Page 4), and some $2,500 through golden goods sales and the great raffle.

Thanks to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to attend. And special thanks to our reunion volunteers, who worked very hard to make this year's event the best ever.

More reunion photos on Page 9.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

GRRMF goldens were a big hit at the end-of-spring-training Detroit Tigers baseball game in Lakeland, FL on April 1.

Not only were the dogs inundated with attention and affection from adults and children alike, but GRRMF raised more than $100 and made some great contacts with prospective owners.

The only problem we had was with the people who wanted to take our dogs home with them … right then and there!

Special thanks to Patty Sarano, public relations manager for the Tigers, for making arrangements and getting appropriate permissions for us to attend.

More on Educational Days on Page 2: "Sarasota Success."

GRRMF is on the web!

Check us out: http://www.grrmf.org

You'll find adoption application, info about GRRMF, links to other great sites and COLOR IMAGES of dogs up for adoption.

Let us know what you think.
E-mail us at: info@grrmf.org
Hotline Number: 407-332-2840

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President's Message

by Barbara Durham, GRRMF President

To Save a Life

What does it take to save a homeless golden's life? The ingredients required are money, foster space, many dedicated volunteers, quality veterinary care and an organized process for handling adoption screening and placement.

As GRRMF grows from year to year, we find ourselves in a predicament. While we are in the introductory phase of a capital campaign for a freestanding facility, at the same time we're faced with the dilemma of housing an increasing number of needy dogs.

Lately, we have observed an alarming trend of more and more goldens needing to come into rescue on very short notice. Just the other day, Betty Wyatt, our adoption coordinator, received a call regarding a man who was going to jail in a few hours and had to give up his unspayed golden.

It is especially important that we take unspayed females the moment the owner contacts us. If we don't, the dog may be sold or given to another party that may breed it.

We can only save these dogs if we have space to house them. While we do have a good network of foster homes, we never have enough, and it may take days -- or even weeks – to make arrangements for a dog to go into foster care.

In these situations, boarding is our only option. While this does not replace the foster family experience, it does allow us to at least get the golden into our possession. With our Internet presence, the volume of dogs coming in has skyrocketed. We are facing much higher boarding costs than last year and need to raise money for boarding on a monthly basis. We are fortunate to have resources that allow us to board dogs for around $5 a day. Therefore, the cost of boarding a dog for a month is $150. The cost of 10 boarding slots a month is $1,500. So you can see that boarding really adds to our operating costs and will quickly bankrupt our treasury if we do not make a concentrated effort to raise boarding funds. If we could raise funds for 10 boarding slots a month, we would be able to save these dogs and also reduce the burden on our adoption coordinator, who often takes in these emergencies at a moment's notice because there is simply no other place for them.

Many of your own GRRMF-adopted dogs were saved only because Betty was willing to make this sacrifice. She does it because her heart is full of compassion, but it isn't fair considering that she already works more than full time for our organization.

While $1,500 a month is a huge amount of money, how much is a golden's life worth? **It's hard to let a homeless golden be euthanized in a shelter just because we don't have $5 a day to board it. But EVERY DAY we face this awful situation.** We have to let some die because we do not have infinite resources. I hate making a choice based on money that involves the life or death of a golden – often one that is just as wonderful as our own goldens that we love and cherish. I know in my heart this could have been my Rocky, turned away because of no space. It could have been your rescue golden, too.

What would it take to help? If our members and supporters would consider donating a small amount on a monthly basis, we could help these dogs. Fosters usually pay for the cost of feeding the dogs they take in – and for no more than that amount you could foster a dog "in spirit" by making a monthly donation to GRRMF. Even $5.00 or $10.00 on a monthly basis would be a great help.

This month, I'd like to ask our supporters, who have been so generous with us in the past, to think about the possibility of helping save a life by contributing to our boarding fund. If you don't have time to volunteer for GRRMF, you can still help us in a way that directly saves lives. We would greatly appreciate your support.



I'd like you to meet our 700th rescue, Brittany. Brittany is the dog I referred to earlier. With her owner going to jail, 8-month-old Brittany would have gone to the pound had Betty Wyatt not squeezed her into her home at a moment's notice. And she would have never even made it to Betty's if dedicated volunteers Irene and Jerry Clifford hadn't picked up Brittany in Brevard County and transported her to Orlando. Many shelters do not spay before adoption – so there is a chance Brittany might have been bred and added to the overpopulation problem of golden retrievers in our state. She HAD to come into rescue.

Please help us help dogs like Brittany by supporting us with boarding help today!

— Barbara

Sarasota Success . . .

A two-day "adoptathon" at the PetsMart in Sarasota was a great success, according to GRRMF volunteer John Pfohler.

He and other volunteers spoke with hundreds of potential adopters, and John even had to run home on Sunday to print out more applications. "We only gave them to people who seemed serious, so I'm thrilled," John says.

Two potential new foster families also came forward at the educational sessions. Foster homes are vital to GRRMF, especially since we have been experiencing such a surge in goldens needing to come into the program.

Special thanks to Debbie Denis, PetsMart store manager, and her staff for allowing GRRMF to set up at their stores. "I can't say enough about how well they treat us there," John says. "It's always 'anything you want or need, just let us know.' "

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

by Patti Sarano, GRRMF Volunteer

. . . Kathy Spilker: "Doing It All"

Kathy Spilker is the winner of our 1999 Hearts of Gold Award – our highest annual award for volunteer service to Golden Retriever Rescue. Congratulations Kathy on this well-deserved honor!!!

When you first have an opportunity to speak to Kathy Spilker, this month's GRRMF Volunteer Spotlight, you hear a warm and compassionate voice that you can only imagine must be reassuring to a bewildered golden in need of rescue.

Kathy will tell you that her day is no busier than anyone else's, although her agenda that day includes rescuing at least four dogs, two in shelters and two with private owners who can no longer keep them … this after checking on two who are at a local veterinary clinic. Somehow you know that those pups will be in caring hands before the day is done.

Kathy and her husband, Greg, foster and coordinate rescue activities in the Brevard County area. Together they have "done it all," from home visits to fosters, transport and adoption. They have been involved in rescue work for over four years.



Best friends: Kathy and her golden pals. From left: Afterburner, Cosmo, Katie and Talon.

Kathy attributes her success to the teamwork and support she receives from her husband, whom she calls her "unsung hero." She proudly admits, "Greg never complains, even though he's always repairing pool screens and fencing or assisting me with transport. It literally takes two of us, as we try very hard to make sure we get on top of a situation as soon as we find out about it." Greg also accompanies Kathy on home visits to secure potential new homes for rescue goldens.

Their dedication shows even in their choice of transportation vehicles, a Chevrolet Suburban and a station wagon, both of which hold dog crates very easily, making at least that aspect of the rescue process go a bit smoother.

Kathy's love for animals has been lifelong. She graduated from Texas A&M University, became certified as an animal technician and started out training and showing Akitas in competition. She and a friend from the Breed Club of Ohio decided to co-own a golden and acquired "Pilot," who opened up the wonderful world of the golden retriever to them. Kathy worked with him in obedience and confirmation training, and Pilot earned a "Companion Dog" title.

"Our first golden introduced us to the breed," says Kathy, "but our second golden, Talon, who is my baby, made us love the breed!"

Talon is a confirmation champion with an obedience title who has earned the first leg of field work. Kathy credits Talon as her inspiration for getting into golden retriever rescue. "He is such a do-it-all dog, a perfect representation of a golden retriever," she says, her voice full of love and admiration.

After living in many different parts of the country while Greg served in the military, the Spilkers moved to Florida in 1994 and Kathy became involved with the Mid-Florida Golden Retriever Club. She realized the need for rescue and immediately offered to help. "Two days later Betty called me!" Kathy says, referring to GRRMF adoption coordinator Betty Wyatt. "A lot of us who work in rescue take our cues from Betty. She sees the need and takes the all important steps to see it through," Kathy says.

Kathy points to the growing need for additional foster homes to allow GRRMF to take in more dogs than it would ordinarily be able to manage. Fosters help acclimate the rescue dogs from what is, in most cases, a difficult situation where they can no longer be kept and bringing them to a kind, caring home where they can receive love, attention and learn to trust again until a suitable permanent home can be found.

"The whole rescue experience is incredible," Kathy reflects, "mostly because you experience so many degrees of emotional gratification along the way. Just the idea of being able to take a dog out of a sad situation and place it in a home where it will receive the love and attention it deserves makes it all worthwhile."

The most difficult rescues for Kathy and Greg are the calls received from animal shelters. "My heart goes out to those dogs, especially the older ones, mostly because I know it's hard for shelters to find homes for dogs who are over 4 years old," Kathy says. People often shy away from adopting an older golden, because they are afraid of becoming bonded and then losing their beloved pet in a few short years. "To me, the goldens who are a bit older may be the best kept secret in rescue," Kathy shares, "They transition so well to a new home and just want to give you love." The Spilkers speak from the heart about their happy experiences with older goldens. They recently fostered and loved Ginger, a senior golden who was 8 years old when she died from cancer.

"Some of Kathy's best work comes from being our liaison with Brevard County animal shelters," says Betty Wyatt. "Her opinion is highly respected, and they know that if they call Kathy, she'll make every effort to save a life." Betty adds that Kathy also is "an excellent PR person for rescue" and is regularly called upon for media interviews. "Recently, following the NBC 'Dateline' report on puppy mills, a veterinarian sought Kathy's advice on how to approach the situation and do something about it," Betty adds. Kathy estimates she has shared her life with more than 50 goldens, from breed champions to rescues. The Spilkers' own rescue boy, Cosmo, is a mixed breed rescued from a shelter four years ago. "He's my husband's pride and joy," says Kathy. "He's so much fun and very intelligent. We call him a tree hugger because he loves to chase squirrels or anything with a fuzzy tail."

Through it all, Kathy embraces the great gift of love and companionship that has been afforded her and others through volunteering with rescue activities. GRRMF extends heartfelt thanks to the special DO IT ALL team of Kathy and Greg Spilker for their boundless energy, generosity and dedication to golden retriever rescue.

♥ ♥ ♥

POISON!

Of rat poison and Haley's near-death experience

by Carol McKee

Thanksgiving is traditionally a pleasant holiday. It's a chance to visit with family, to give thanks for all the goodness in our lives. But for my husband and I, it now holds a deeper meaning – a time to reflect back on the day our 2-year-old golden retriever, Haley, nearly died.

Our trip to visit Mike's family in Tennessee started out innocently enough. Our goldens, Abbey and Haley, were having the time of their lives romping around the several acres Mike's parents own.

The Friday after Thanksgiving, my father-in-law invited us to take a tour of a recently erected barn-sized storage building on the property. As we entered the building and began looking around, I noticed Haley – always the curious one – sniffing around some boxes. When she nosed around the back side and out of my sight, I didn't give it a second thought … until she didn't come right back out.

I called to her. Nothing. I pulled on her leash. Still nothing. It suddenly dawned on me that she most likely was into something (no big surprise for those who know her), so I called more forcefully and gave the leash a good yank.

As she came back around, Mike and I both immediately noticed she had something in her mouth. Something big, green and chalky looking.

"Drop it!" we both yelled, lunging for her at the same time. Of course, seeing our sudden interest in her find, Haley, with true doggie spirit, immediately swallowed it.

About that same time, I heard Mike's dad say something about "rat poison." Without hesitation, I tackled Haley, put my hand down her throat and tried to pull the big green block out. I did get some of it, but I lost at least one large chunk as her muscles worked overtime to swallow, swallow, swallow.

The Critical Hours

As we found out later, several things were in our favor. First, we didn't hesitate. We grabbed Haley and headed out to the nearest veterinarian's office. Second, Mike's dad had kept the box the poison had come in. This allowed the vet to identify EXACTLY what chemical compound Haley had eaten.

When we got to the vet's office – probably the longest car ride of my life – the staff immediately took her to the back, where they began forcing her to swallow large amounts of hydrogen peroxide to induce vomiting. We

See Poison, continued on page 5

Capital Campaign Update

by Marcia McGovern, Capital Campaign Coordinator

Hello to all of you out there in Retrieverland. The Capital Campaign to build a much-needed freestanding facility to house goldens awaiting adoption is moving steadily forward, and we have several projects working right now.

PetsMart.com

On May 2, the PetsMart.com banner was added to our Web site. This has the potential of creating regular monthly funds for rescue to use for boarding or other medical expenses. GRRMF gets 10% of every sale PetsMart makes through our Web site. We also get $5 for every new person who enters PetsMart.com through our site and places an order. I recently ordered dog food through the site, and the price was no higher with shipping than buying it at the store. I set it up to have dog food sent monthly. The order arrived in 5 days. If you need anything from PetsMart, we urge you to buy it through the PetsMart.com banner at the bottom of the GRRMF home page to help save more beautiful goldens and help more new owners benefit from the love of a new companion.

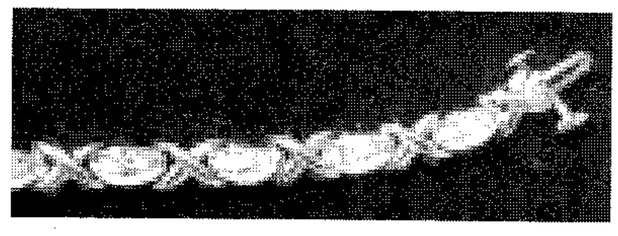
Garage Sale

On May 20th GRRMF held its first annual garage sale in Oviedo, FL. Our storage unit was packed to the ceiling with donated items from our generous supporters! The sale was a big success and we raised $1,000 for the GRRMF Capital Campaign Fund. Thanks to all who donated and volunteered to help, especially Bill Lawrence for finding us a great location, and Mr. Boston for donating the use of his land for the sale. If anyone needs a receipt for your donation, please e-mail me at capital@grrmf.org or call 407-332-2840 Mailbox #4.

Direct Mail Campaign

In the next few months we will be putting together a direct mail campaign. If any of you know of a Florida company that deals in mailing lists, we could use the information. Obviously, to raise the amount of money we need, we're going to need a very robust list along with our other projects. Please call or e-mail me with any information you have.

Diamond Bracelet Raffle



A generous member recently donated a beautiful diamond bracelet. To use it to our best advantage, we have set up a raffle. Tickets can be found on Pages 13-14, and the page can be reproduced (double sided) so members can sell tickets to acquaintances, friends, and relatives. We need the help of all members to sell 1 or 2 tickets a week to make this a success. And you can win $100 for selling the most tickets! To ensure you get proper credit, simply collect and return tickets and money, along with your name and phone number, to the address listed on the tickets.

Calling All Volunteers - Do You Have an Hour to Spare?

There are so many things we could be doing to raise money. GRRMF

See Campaign Update, continued on page 5

Poison, from page 4

had a couple of critical hours to get her to throw up before her body began digesting the poison she just ate.

But vomiting alone wouldn't be enough to rid Haley's body of the deadly "rodenticide." Mike and I were devastated when the vet told us she was going to keep her overnight. And I almost threw up myself when she told us, most certainly to make us feel better,"Try not to worry. There's a good chance she will make it through this."

It was at that precise moment I realized the full impact of my few seconds of negligence: We could lose her. Haley, only 2 years old and so full of life, might die.

All the time, Haley was showing no symptoms. She didn't much like me sticking my hand down her throat, but she enjoyed the car ride to the vet, and she was wagging her tail when the assistants took her away from me.

How It Works

When I think poison, I visualize a dramatic, wretching-and-falling-to-the-floor Shakespearean type of death. Quick and painful.

But rat poison, or at least this kind, is different. It's meant to be fully digested by the rodents. The poison takes 3 to 5 DAYS to start working, and it works by breaking down the clotting factors in the blood. Basically, for several days, the animal – rat, dog, cat, whatever – acts and feels normal. But as the poison takes effect, the animal begins to bleed internally. It's a slow, very painful and totally disgusting way to die – even for a rat.

But here's the part that makes me really angry: Nowhere on the box did the manufacturer explain how the poison worked or how dangerous it is to pets. It didn't say this, for instance: "Domestic animals will find this product appetizing. Do not place it where pets can get it. If ingested, do not wait until symptoms appear. Seek immediate medical attention."

In simple terms, if we had waited until Haley started showing symptoms, we would have lost her.

That's what happens too often, according to our regular veterinarian. Our vet is located in Apopka, Fla., which just last year experienced an outbreak of rodents due to the flooding of the old "muck farms" around Lake Apopka.

Concerned property owners were buying rat poison by the case. Hundreds of dogs and cats were poisoned during the several-month period following the outbreak. Many didn't make it.

"Usually, the pets we get in are already showing signs – bleeding from the mouth or nose, lethargic, multiple bruises all over the body, things like that. Once the poison starts to work, the animal's chances of surviving are reduced significantly," the vet told me.

The Cure

Haley was on medicine for several weeks. The antidote is a very pure form of Vitamin K, available only by prescription, which serves to counteract the anti-coagulating effects of the poison.

It was a very scary, traumatic time. And it still makes me queasy to think that in those few seconds Haley was out of my sight, a very fine line between life and death was drawn.

We were lucky. Haley has made a full recovery and, in fact, never showed signs of poisoning.

But what if we had chosen to take our little tour on Thanksgiving Day, when no veterinarians were open? Emergency vets are probably few and far between in rural Tennessee. What if I hadn't yanked on her leash right then? She could easily have eaten the poison, licked her chops and returned to my side with no evidence of her ingestion. Or what if we, like so many others, had taken the "wait-and-see" attitude, seeking medical attention only after Haley began to show signs of poisoning? Once she started bleeding, it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to reverse the process. What if my father-in-law hadn't remembered he'd put out the poison at all? Then we wouldn't have known what Haley ate and might have shrugged it off.

Obviously, it wasn't Haley's time to go. There were too many factors weighing in her favor. One thing is certain: I will never, ever buy rat poison. And I have vowed to tell everyone I can about the nature and severity of the poison.

BEWARE, fellow pet owners. This is serious killing business.

Carol McKee is a GRRMF volunteer and, along with her husband, Mike, owns two rescue goldens – Abbey and Haley. The McKees adopted Haley only a few months before the unfortunate accident occurred.

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Campaign Update, from page 4

just can't get to it all. We have a couple of projects that need to be delegated to some experienced, dedicated people.

The most important is grant requests. We have a database of grantors, but we need an experienced writer to write grant requests so we can get some of that money just waiting to be awarded to a worthy organization such as ours. There is no time limit for completion on most of them, so you can work when you can. The sooner we request this money, the sooner we will benefit from it. If you have written grants before or are an experienced writer in other capacities and want to volunteer, please contact me.

The second project is helping to put collateral together for the campaign. We can use artistic layout and writing help with this project. This would be used for the direct mail campaign as well as general fund raising.

Please consider helping with these very important projects if you have expertise in either of these areas and a little time to donate.

That's the update for this time. Thank you all for the time and energy you donated to the Silent Auction at the reunion. It was certainly a success – we raised more than $2,200 – and we will be doing it again next year. I enjoyed working with everyone who helped.

Marcia can be reached via e-mail at capital@grrmf.org.

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Hearts of Gold

by Betty Wyatt, GRRMF Adoption Coordinator

I want to thank the members of our Rescue Committee and other volunteers who did such a nice job making our rescue reunion the best ever. They worked so hard and it showed. What a wonderful act of love. We appreciate the vendors and others who provided gifts for the doggie bags, raffle and auction. We thank all who brought their precious golden ones and shared a fine day with us. It was so good to see your dogs looking wonderful – and happy, too. They are obviously well cared for and very much loved. We fosters thrive on that kind of positive feedback.

Donald Jones, Fox Channel 35 reporter, always does a terrific story, and he outdid himself this time. Donald produced a wonderful news story that aired that evening on the 10 p.m. news, with heartwarming footage of many goldens and their owners. We hope you watched it. We thank Donald and Janice for joining us with their two cuties. It was wonderful to again see Bayou, who came to GRRMF from Louisiana and was adopted by the Joneses as a companion for their golden mix, Marley. Bayou was saved from being bait for a man who was raising fighting pit bulls.

I also want to thank all who filled out their adoption followup form and mailed it to us. We plan to get back to you if you expressed problems or had questions. We will also contact people who have been too busy to mail the completed form.

We have become very well known, due in part to Internet technology. It keeps our Adoption Committee very busy trying to process applications in a timely manner. We are still a very small group doing most of the work, but we now have more people in other areas helping out. More people are fostering, but we will never really have enough. Along with increased visibility comes the downside – more dogs than we can house. We also have 10-12 dogs on the waiting list to come into rescue and then the emergencies come and push them back. Calls come from shelters about dogs ready to die, people who give us short notice about a move or child's allergy, and this month a one-hour notice about a man who had gone to jail leaving his dog behind. When a decision is made to give up a dog, they would have liked to have it out of the house yesterday. This year, to date, we have saved 90 dogs. I counted 138 dogs rescued by us for the whole year in 1999. Nine are currently being boarded. So you see, we are moving at a very fast rate. We need money for boarding and, beyond that, we need to build a home for goldens, too. The upside of this dilemma is that there is a tremendous increase in adoptions. Thirty-eight this quarter is the best yet. We thank you for your support.

Sadly, several of our dear ones passed on during the past three months. My condolences. Some called me, others wrote a note. I plan to write a column in the near future on saying goodbye to your pet. Meanwhile, if you are looking for a good book to help you work through some issues, I recommend "Preparing for the Loss of Your Pet" by Myrna Milani, 1998. I would also like to recommend a tape for children about learning to be safe with animals. It is recommended by the Humane Society of the United States and could prevent an injury. Some of the topics covered include:

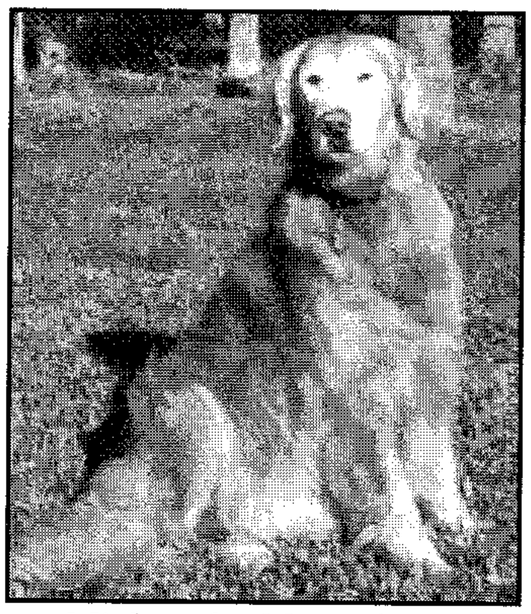
- How to handle and play with pets.
- How to read dog and cat body language.
- Warning signs every kid must know.
- What to do when a strange dog threatens.

To obtain this tape, call the Campbell Pet Company, 1-800-228-6364. The cost is $15 for one copy, or $14 each for 6 or more copies.

Have a lovely summer with your family and dogs. Please remember that we have some holidays coming and many dogs escape from their home or yard when fireworks sound. Also, the pavement is very hot and our little guys do not wear shoes. They should not be walked when the temperature is high, unless absolutely necessary. Remember, too, that they wear a fur coat. I leave mine inside in the air conditioning with plenty of toys to occupy their time, but mostly they just like to relax on the cool tile.

— Betty

alumni news, from page 10



Mickey the Magnificent

According to a recent note, "**Mickey the Magnificent**," now 10 or 11 years old, is doing well. Sporting a beautiful, fluffy coat, Mickey weighs in at a solid 64 pounds and just received a clean bill of health from his vet, even though he admits his humans spoil him terribly.

A recent note from Janice H. tells us **Sport** is doing wonderfully. His human Mom says he is sweet, well-behaved and extremely lovable and that they feel blessed to have him with them. What else could a doggie ask for?

Cheryl M. tells us **Buddy**, formerly **Dancer**, is adjusting well to his new family, including big sister Princess, age 5. He has turned out to be extremely sweet, smart and fun and has learned to swim. When he gets a little older, Cheryl plans to take him to agility classes.

Mike & Mary Prody wrote to tell us that **Henry** is a wonderful addition to their family, he's such a good dog. The Prodys wish to thank Betty Wyatt for all her help in adopting Henry; Rob and Lori Williamson, who fostered Henry and gave him great care; and Henry's friends Ringo, Gator and Elroy Williamson, who taught him good doggie manners.



Henry and Jessica, his cousin

♥ ♥ ♥

recent adoptions . . . . . .

Hoosier was taken out of a garage where he spent all of his life on a small concrete slab. He had no blankets or toys, so he would gnaw on the wood studs or look out through a 5-inch crack in the bottom of the garage door left open for air flow. Almost hairless, his feet were cracked and bleeding, he had huge callouses on his hips and shoulders, and a cyst on his leg the size of a baseball. He was badly malnourished. After weeks of TLC, surgery on his leg, teeth being scraped and feet bandaged, a playful 5-year-old emerged. He loves to catch a tennis ball and hoard toys in his bed. He loves his stuffed animals and sleeps with them. Kathy and Greg Spilker are responsible for rescuing Hoosier from the garage and fostering him. They believe that the supplement "Missing Link" is to be credited for helping Hoosier's coat come back in so shiny and thick. Lucky Hoosier now shares his home with a girl-friend golden and M. and E.K., who love him dearly despite his penchant for carrying around their shoes.

Goldie, now called **Zoey**, was rescued by Joanne Hell and fostered by J.S. who adopted this charismatic little girl.

Eliza, a cute puppy, was given up because her folks lived in an apartment and they worked full time. She had too much energy for a small space. Adopted by A.R., she has a golden buddy to keep her busy and fenced acreage to run on. She has almost learned to leave their two senior dogs alone.

Becca wandered into the yard of someone who had already adopted one of our goldens. Smart girl! Her owners were never found and the new family fostered her with no plans for adoption. It did not quite work out like that. B. and P. H. couldn't give up this little cutie and she now lives in a happy home with two more goldens, one a rescue.

Tyler, an attractive but untrained young male, was turned in by a man who was moving. Obviously neglected, Tyler was fostered by our professional fosters, Suzanne and Tony Rider, who decided to adopt him. He turned out to be a wonderful dog.

Noelle was a Christmas puppy two years ago. A man had brought her home to his wife and children as a gift. She was not what they had ordered from Santa. Following a divorce, the wife wanted no part of this energetic and untrained pup. Sally Ann Rowland fostered and trained her. Now she is a well-behaved family member of R. and M. and she continues her work in obedience classes.

Jaxon came from Animal Care and Control in Jacksonville. He was heartworm positive, not house trained, and wild as the wind. Sandy and Mike Sumner fostered Jaxon, and gave him some training. Now he has his own human family with M. and D.

Jasmine needed a new home when her family moved to a small trailer park near a busy highway. She was so frightened by all the noise that she did not want to go outside. Now she lives in a very comfortable home with a large fenced backyard. F. and S. in Jacksonville adopted Jasmine. It's like she has always lived there.

Jefferson, a beautiful and well-mannered male, came from an animal shelter and was fostered by Dennis and Robin Williams. Jefferson was adopted by D. and O. in Lakeland, who tell us he is sweet and loving. An outline of his daily activities tells us that the love is reciprocated. He plays with his boys, walks with Mom and Dad, and swims in his pool. Isn't that about as good as it gets?



Jefferson

Ginny came from an animal shelter. A cute young female, she was adopted by J. and J. who love her dearly.

Elsa, a senior of 10 years, was living in Seminole Animal Control and was heartworm positive when we were called. After heartworm treatment, she was adopted by J.J. and her canine son, Casey.



Kennedy and new family

Kaley was given up because of marital problems, long hours at work and separation anxiety. This beautiful girl was adopted by J. and L. and she gets a walk around the lake every day with J.

Kennedy was in an animal shelter when he was saved by Robin and Dennis Williams. He is sweet as can be and pretty, too. Adopted by J. and J. P., Kennedy began obedience classes in June.

Basia and **Dody** were given to rescue as a pair when a child developed allergies. Adopted by P. and P. B. and their family, these dogs think they are in heaven. They live in a spacious, loving home with a huge shaded and fenced yard. Their new family feels just as fortunate to have them now.

Flair/Sam lived in a small pen behind a garage. He was heartworm positive when he came to the animal shelter in Melbourne. Fostered by P. and D., they also adopted him, took him to obedience classes where he excelled and was such a joy in their lives. Sadly, while going on a walk, he became ill and was taken to the emergency hospital where he died from a heart condition. Our sincere condolences to the Daltons on losing the dear boy that they loved so much.

Rita was taken in by a kind-hearted inner city missionery who lived on a limited income with her time being just as sparse. Rita lasted two months with her before we were called. Rita came to us frightened and depressed. She quickly bonded with A.P. and now she is in her third home with him. A cute photo of Rita, now called **Katey**, making herself at home on the bed, leads us to believe that she is home at last.

When Kathy Spilker went to the Cocoa Humane Society to pick up another dog that she rescued the same day, the shelter worker pointed to **Cosmo** who was heartworm positive. He was small and his coat was suffering from neglect. Throughout his heartworm treatment, Kathy watched as his lovely golden spirit came through slowly but surely. Cosmo had the opportunity to reciprocate when Kathy's husband Greg was losing his mother to cancer. This little Velcro dog did what comes

continued on page 8

recent adoptions, from page 7



Gulliver

naturally for him – he became a therapy dog. Now they could not imagine life without their little squirrel-chasing, tree-hugging golden who would have lost his life if Kathy had not intervened.

Lady Pearl was just a puppy when her owner decided she was no longer wanted. Fostered by John and Carol Ross, this lively little girl was adopted by P. and M. in Riverview, Florida.

Gulliver was taken out of the animal shelter by Kathy Spilker. Laid back and well behaved, he was quickly adopted by L. and C. They cannot believe how well Gulliver listens. C says he is a "10" – and the smartest dog they've ever had. They feel blessed. Gulliver loves to roughhouse with **Monte**, his rescue brother, yet they are respectful of each other.

Ariel II is very much a perfect little lady according to new mom H.G. Kathy Spilker saved her life when she took her from the animal shelter. Now in a multiple pet household, Ariel gently plays with two dogs and two cats, and she sleeps on the bed with Mom and Dad. Life is so very good now!



Ariel

Daisy was a pitiful little thing when she came in to rescue. She should have been a small dog, but she was 20 pounds overweight. She was picked up at a home occupied by a group of young people, where she was tied to a stake in the back yard. This sad puppy never smiled, but that changed when R. and J. took her home to meet their other rescue dog, **Murphy**. Now that they are best pals, her lonely life is a thing of the past.

Paddy-Kolt, now called **Cody**, was abandoned in front of a PetsMart store tied to a light pole. A veterinarian going to work found him there. When his owner could not be located, she took him to her clinic, provided veterinary care and called us. A nice looking puppy, he was adopted by C. and C. who tell us that he likes to wrestle with their other dog.

Teddy, 8 months, was turned in because his owner has multiple sclerosis and did not have the energy or funds to care for him. Recently adopted by B.C., Teddy was a birthday gift for his wife, who accompanied him and selected Teddy. A follow-up call let us know that all is well. He likes to jump on Mom's lap and hug her neck with his front legs. They tell me that he does such cute things. His new name is **Paddington O'Bear**.

Bowman was turned in because his owner worked long hours and had little time for him. A big handsome fellow, he was fostered by Bill Holland and Susan Hallenbeck. Bowman was recently adopted by R. and N. He has a nice large pool to swim in – if he wants to. They tell me that he is very playful and comical.

Paul showed up in a rescue person's front yard and remained on her front porch for one week while a search was conducted for his owner, who never claimed him. This 96 lb. handsome fellow loved everyone he met, and we loved him, too. Adopted by B. and A.C., he has been renamed **Redford** because of his movie star good looks.

Aspen, an adorable young male, was taken from the animal shelter by Kathy Spilker. This well-behaved little fellow was in his foster home for only one day before being adopted by T.M. They looked so happy together at the rescue reunion.



Redford

Sampson is a beautiful two-year-old whose owners no longer wanted him. Now he lives with E. and P. who want him very much. Sampson is healthy and happy.

Kramer, a pitifully neglected pup, was given a wonderful temporary home with Bob and Lori Williamson. This fantastic dog with no noticeable bad habits was adopted by C. and M. of Jacksonville.

Matthew, an older dog, showed up in somebody's back yard last month. He just stayed there and went jogging with her each morning. Fostered by the Williamses and Rick Owens, he was adopted by G. and S. of Clearwater.

Fetch came from an animal shelter. This pretty boy could have champion bloodlines, and what a sweet Velcro pup he is. Fetch had no hair on his rear end and he was practically skin and bones. He left rescue still thin but heavier than he was, with a beautiful coat. We'll miss Fetch. He was adopted by K. and B. of Clearwater, where he will thrive on being the only kid.

Faith, a young female, was removed from an animal shelter with her sister **Hope**, who recently had a litter of puppies. Faith was also pregnant, but not far enough along to prevent spaying. Faith was so frightened that she shivered constantly. Sweet and loving, she won the hearts of everyone in the veterinary clinic where she recuperated. Faith was adopted by the sister of one of our veterinarians. Faith bonded quickly with the entire family, human and canine, and they love her, too. Her new name is **Maggie**.

Brady, 9 years, was given up due to a child's allergy. This handsome fellow was fostered and then adopted by the Sturms, who had previously adopted **Lucy** from us. Everyone, human and canine, welcomed this great addition to the family. During a recent trip to N.C., everyone fell in love with him.

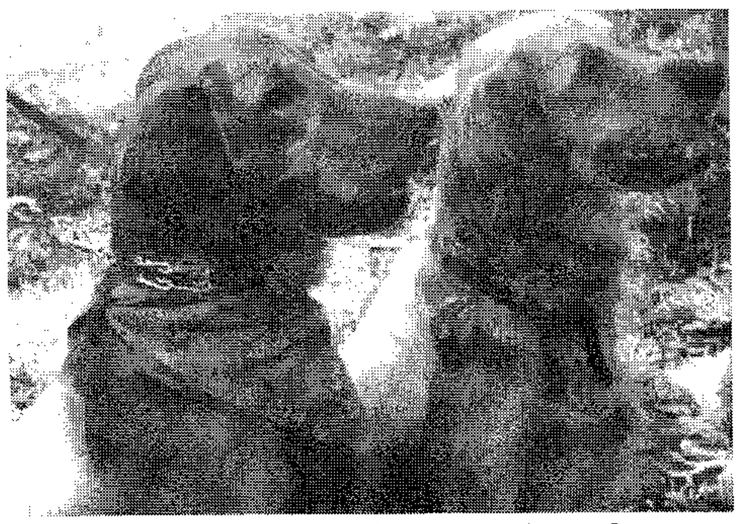


Brady (left) with Ruby and Comet

continued on page 9

recent adoptions, from page 8

Tyche, now called **Phoebe**, was turned in by a young man who was moving. Fostered by Bill Holland and Susan Hollenbeck for a short time, she was adopted by D.S., who could not be happier with her new little girl. She crawled right up on the bed, made herself at home and never looked back.



Roxi, left, and her new friend

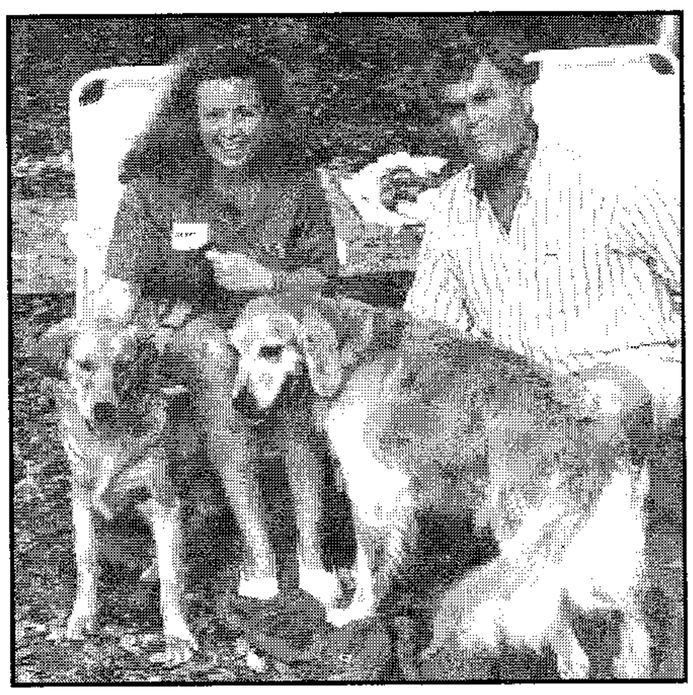
Lincoln was rescued from an animal shelter by Robin and Dennis Williams. A tall, handsome laid-back fellow, he has been adopted by L.D. She tells us that when she comes home from work every night, he dances around and squeals. He and the cat are fast friends and appear to be good for each other.

Roxie finally found her new permanent home. She was in rescue a very long time and most recently was fostered by John and Gail Pfohler, who were instrumental in teaching her basic manners and many obedience commands. Roxie, now **Roxi**, was a different dog when she was adopted by P.M., who reports she is the perfect pet. Luckily for the Pfohlers, Roxi just moved up the highway – from one couch to another! Report is she is happy and getting along well with her new canine brother. Good things come to those who wait...

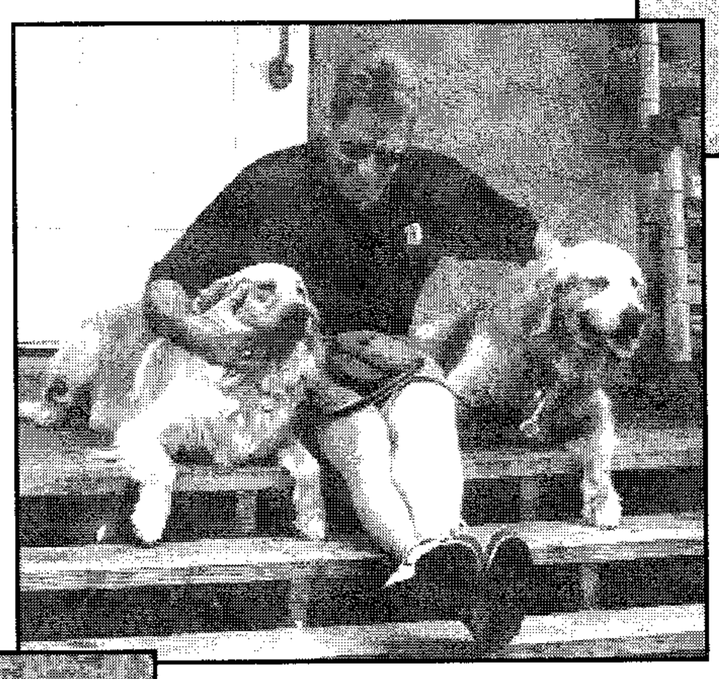
Parker, an attractive two-year-old, was found wandering the road and was almost hit by a car in the Tampa area. Rescued and fostered by Joanne Hell and Liz Waldschmidt, his owners were found. They did not want him but insisted that they be paid for him. Without hesitation, the Hells and Waldschmidts purchased Parker from his owner and then turned him in to rescue. Rick and Cindy Owens fostered him until he was adopted by T.C. Parker is very beautiful and reasonably well-behaved. He goes to obedience classes but mostly likes to socialize. He loves the neighborhood children, and T.C. tells us that he is a real cool pup.

♥ ♥ ♥

Rescue Reunion 2000 . . .



A perfect day: *Smiling GRRMF dogs and owners, top and right, enjoy a beautiful March afternoon in Kissimmee at this year's Rescue Reunion.*





Shopping, anyone? *The Golden Goods booth and raffle were popular with this year's reunion attendees and helped raise needed funds for GRRMF operations.*



Exhausted: *These two obviously are enjoying a break from swimming and ball-playing.*



Special guy: *Woody, namesake of GRRMF's "Woody Fund," shows his appreciation in true golden style. Woody is always a star attraction at our reunions. What a happy guy he is now!*

alumni news . . . . . .

Hunter, adopted as a puppy by the Frandsens, has grown into a big beautiful boy. Of all the goldens in their community, he is the tallest. Hunter did well in his obedience classes at Best Paw Forward. He is enjoying his wonderful family.

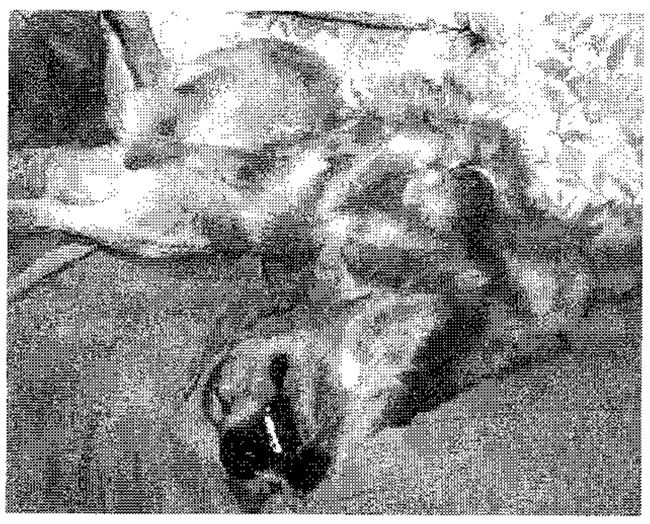


Hunter

Way to go! This month's "achievement award" goes to **Clover**, owned by Marcia M., who insists Clover taught herself this neat trick. "She's obsessed," Marcia says. "She won't quit until she gets all three tennis balls in her mouth. One or two isn't good enough." You GO GIRL!



Clover



Dakota

Tango, now called **Dakota**, has no inhibitions when it comes to snoozing on the love seat.

According to her human Mom, Patti S., **Katey** (formerly **CiCi**) has a new best friend. Every night, before 3-year-old Casey goes to sleep, it's story time. Casey & Katey snuggle together while Mom and Dad take turns reading stories. "I honestly don't know who enjoys it more!" Patti writes. The two inseparable "children" keep everyone entertained. Their favorite game is a special version of baseball with tennis balls. Casey throws the ball, Katey runs after it and then both "run the bases" together.



Casey and Katey



Prancer

According to Julie and Gary, **Prancer** is the most clever, most humorous, handsome, playful, congenial, etc. etc. You get the idea! He recently exchanged kisses with a newborn colt and he is sometimes served breakfast in bed by Daddy. He also excels in his obedience classes. Not a bad life for a dog that was left at a city dump to die.



Spenser

Zeus is so happy with Alison, he sometimes forgets about his thunderstorm phobia.

Sugar was one of our first adoptions. Her face is now white. She finds turtles on her walks and brings them home with her.

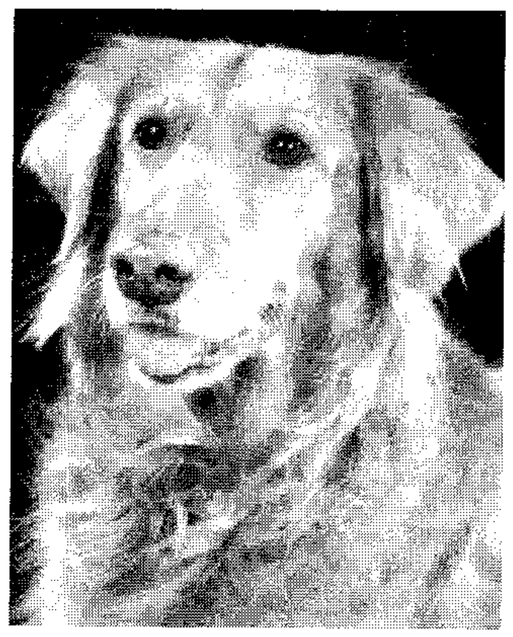
Casper's owner says he is a pistol. No more bunnies in the back yard – Casper took care of them. He is always hunting and loves to play with his sister.



Zeus and Alison

We received some photos and a nice note from **Spenser** (formerly **Baron**) and his parents, Mike and Kim H.: "From the beginning, Spenser has been a loving and well-behaved pet, endearing himself to our friends and family. He goes along with his Mom to her part-time job in a boutique and loves to greet the customers." Spenser also loves his evening play time with Dad and has worn a permanent trench in the yard from chasing tennis balls. Spenser has learned to swim and also enjoys morning walks. This photo catches him relaxing with his favorite toy – a plush puppy with a stub tail, just like his. (Spenser came into rescue with a bobbed tail.)

Adopted Valentine's Day 1999, **Lexie**, #502, reportedly is enjoying her new home with Chris & Don L. Judging from this photograph, she certainly enjoys posing for the camera! What a beautiful dog.



Lexie

continued on page 6

the rainbow bridge

Maggie Mae was rescued from a convenience store parking lot after spending the first year and a half of her life chained to a tree. The McKees put her in their car, and none of them ever looked back. Maggie died at home March 16 at age 14. Except for age-related arthritis in her hips, Maggie was healthy and happy until the day she died. True to her breed, Maggie enjoyed nothing more than going for boat rides, chasing minnows along the shore and swimming in cool water.



Maggie the Mighty Sea Dog

"To our beloved Maggie Mae:
With us for 14 years, yet not nearly long enough. Our hearts and our home echo with your presence still. We will always love you, 'Maggie the Mighty Sea Dog.' Like your human Mom and Dad, you were in your 'element' when on the water. It's just not the same without you."
Love from Mike, Carol, Abbey & Haley McKee



Ashes

*"To our **Ashes** – 11 years young and taken from us too soon."*
- Jim & Debbie Aid, Largo, Fla.

Griffin, was a stately older dog when we rescued him from Seminole County Animal Control. He was adopted by Dave and Sue Morgan. They moved to Vermont, where Griffin had fun rolling in the snow and making snow angels. The Morgans miss Griffin terribly.



Griffin in the snow

Nell, 10 years, was in an animal shelter. Fostered by Greg and Kathy Spilker, she was so sweet and part of the family. Nell died from a ruptured spleen.

Boomer was roaming the streeets during Hurricane Andrew when he was brought to us. A small male, he was adopted by Nancy Boyle, who enjoyed his company for seven years.

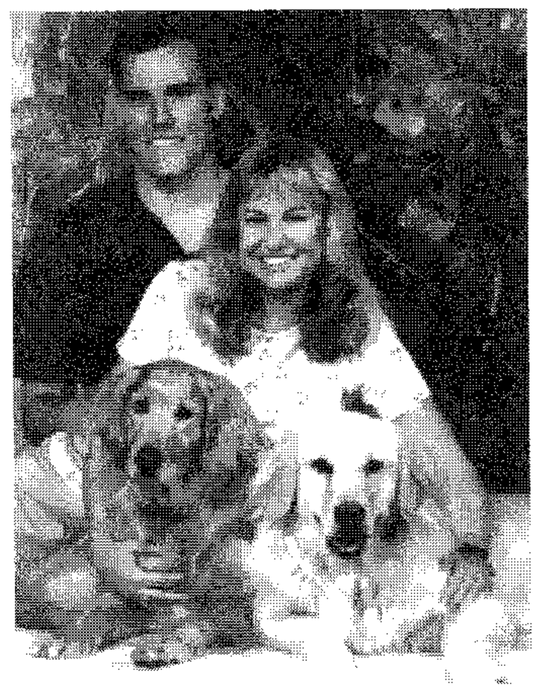
Cinco/Sunny was taken from Lake County Animal Control by Loyd Kiernan. She was a cute little female who wiggled her entire rear end while she was carrying stuffed toys in her mouth. Thanks to J. and L. for adopting her and enriching her life.

Flair/Sam was dearly loved by Don and Penny Dalton. Perhaps he had the only love he had ever known during his short life with them. Sam will meet you at the bridge.

Spenser was a direct adoption to Susan McCloud. His folks wanted to travel and he was not in their plans. Spenser fit right in with Susan and her family, and it was very painful to lose him at such a young age to cancer. He is very much missed by Susan and Bo.

Erin was purchased as a puppy by Kelly Keeler's mom. She was so sweet and looked like a little princess. Erin and Breanna loved to play together. Erin died at a very young age from a congenital kidney disease. Kelly and her family are devastated.

Gidget came from Seminole Animal Control several years ago. She developed a tumor which encased her heart and lungs. Harry Halstead writes that he thanks God for allowing his family to have Gidget in their lives. He tells us that she was a gift full of love, spirit, and fun. They miss her dearly.



Chris and Kelly Keeler with Breanna (l.) and Erin (r.)

♥ ♥ ♥

Golden Friends . . .

Donations ...

Cindy Andrews, John & Linda Berry, Linda Cohen, Laverne Cordary, Maureen Cordaro, Penny & Don Dalton, Frank & Janette Delapa, Theresa Dolle, Charles & Mary Ellen Early, Jody Faist, Karen Lord, Pam Marshall, Cheryl Maze, Thomas Miller, Morgan Family Foundation, Hilary Overstreet, Michele Pennington & G.M. Ingels, Pet Pal Rescue, Inc., Michael Prody, Leanne Rubin, Mary Schafer, Victor Schamberge, Peter & Doreen Shaw, Paul David Sperli, Carol Stransky, Mary Blanche Vehlewald, Tyler & Diane Willson, Betty Wyatt, Steven L. Young

Special Delivery: GRRMF would like to send a special thank you to the Pre-K/Kindergarten students at Central Florida Community School in Gotha, Fla., for their recent donation of $20.

As part of their Earth Day Celebration, the students earned $1 each for cleaning up the playground. According to a note from their teacher, Mrs. Roberts, "The children are aware of the need to help others. This year, the children would like to help care for a golden. They would like to help a golden in need by donating $20."

We're honored that they have chosen to honor golden retrievers in this way. Because of their donation, another golden can live the life it deserves – in a loving home, where it can get all the attention and care it needs.

In Memory Of ...

Boomer – Nancy Boyle
Chester – David & Linda Sykes
Dudley – John Massari
Kasey & Jake – David & Liz Waldschmidt
Maggie Mae – Mike, Carol, Abbey & Haley McKee
Maui Roman – Mark Georgiades
Donald Mutone – Linda Valvo
Richard "Scotty" Scott – Karen Sharp
Shannon & Erin – Kelly Jarvis
Shina – Linda Cohen
Silence – The Lee Foundation
Spenser – Susan McLeod
Teddy, Yogi & Wallace – Sharon O'Keefe
Wally – Barbara Buffington

In Honor Of ...

Brooke – Caroline Forbis
GRRMF Volunteers – Mary Klimko
LaBelles Sandy One – Robert & Grace Shappell
Dave & Nancy Lowerhouse – Barbara & Glen Paul
Ludwig – Jerry Gardner
R.E. & Zuileika – John Moore
Sassy – Stuart & Grace Longworth

Woody Fund ...

Jim & Debbie Aid, Cindy & Charles Andrews, Linda Cohen, Cyndy Columbe, A.E. & Nancy Day, Theresa Dolle, Lisa Felix, Susan & Peter Fitzgerald, Caroline Forbis, Gregory Fragoza, Sally Frazier, Hedy Greene, Lawrence & Eleanor Hauser, Lillian & Ed Howie, Nancy Jackfert, Wendy Jackson, Ed & Trisha Marquez, Pam Marshall, Michael Mercer, Amy Redpath Nolan, Karla Staker, Richard & Mary Weeks

Boarding Fund ...

Pat Mayer
Mike & Carol McKee

Sponsorships ...

Emily Baldridge, for Joe; The Canflor Group; Leigh Dotson; Patti Hatton; Tom & Dawn Kelly; Loyd J. Kiernan; Al Narcum; Laurel O'Connors; Michael Orloff; Pamela & Jerome Oxenberg; Ellen Parker; Cathy Sexton; Jim & Karen Smith; James & Judy Weiss; Robert & Lori Williamson

Thanks!

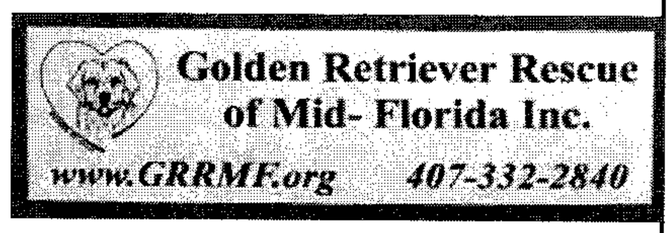
- For education days:
  In Orlando area – Marcia McGovern, Barbara Durham, Barbara Gieger, Carol McKee, Cathy Golisch, Patti & Mark Hatton, Pam Jones, Cindy Andrews, Varsha and Rashabh Das, Lila Gilbert, Ellen Schabel, Keith Hollister and Sandy Sumner.
  In Sarasota area – John and Gail Pfohler, Joe and Wendy Schulte, Kelly Jarvis, Sally Anne Rowland, Jill and Lauren Cook, George Kalbfleisch, Barbara Gusinger, Mary Anne Tradelius, Theresa Dolle and Mary and Todd Randinelli.
- For home visits: Kathy Spilker, Greg Childs, Julie Mink, Diane Makinney, Diane Simpkinson, Ann Fitzpatrick, Nancy Spears, Sheree Melhuish, Janice Hindery, Lila Gilbert, Olinda Sykes, John and Gail Pfohler, Tom and Joanne Hell, Joe and Wendy Schulte, Pat Chesley, Sandy Sumner, Barbara Durham, Cindy Andrews, Carol McKee, Cindy & Rick Owens, Kathy Salisbury, Lori & Rob Williamson, Susan Fulenwider, and Olinda Sykes.
- Special thanks to Sandy Sumner for taking on the new role of home visit coordinator. Sandy's appointment will enable GRRMF to better coordinate our home visit program and adopt out even more goldens

continued on page 15

Help Advertise Your Favorite Cause - Golden Retriever Rescue . . .

Buy an original GRRMF bumper sticker today!

High-quality magnetic vinyl bumper stickers featuring the GRRMF "Hearts of Gold" logo, name, phone number and Web site address.



Cost is only $5 each, plus shipping, as follows:

Quantity	Shipping	Total
1	$1.25	$ 6.25
2	$1.65	$11.65
3	$2.35	$17.35
4	$3.00	$23.00
5 or more	$4.00	# stickers + $4

Send check, made payable to GRRMF, along with your name and address to:

GRRMF Bumper Stickers
P.O. Box 621852, Oviedo FL 32762

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
$ Diamond Bracelet Raffle $

Diamond Bracelet appraised at $2,400
Second Prize....27" TV w/remote
Third Prize....Pair of Disney Tickets

Tickets are $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00

Name _____
Address _____
_____
Phone _____

GRRMF Raffle, P.O. Box 1449, Goldenrod, Florida 32733
All proceeds will go toward building a freestanding facility to house golden retrievers awaiting adoption through Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida.

Drawing October 29, 2000
10:00 am at the Oviedo Library

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
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Goldenrod, FL 32733

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Winners will be notified by phone.

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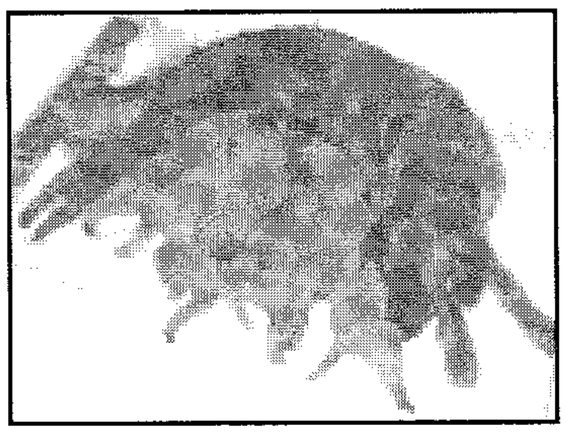
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Winners will be notified by phone.

Ticket Seller: _____

Golden Friends, from page 12

to loving homes in months – and years – to come.
- Webmaster Tim Guy for keeping our Web site – www.grrmf.org – fresh and interesting.
- Best Paw Forward
- 3J Dog Training
- K-9 Korner
- Andrea Haman of Bayer Corporation and Christa Roman of Merial Corporation for valuable veterinary supplies.
- Special thanks to Dave and Liz Waldschmidt for disrupting their Sunday afternoon to pick up a stray, bathe him and then keep him a couple days until he could be placed in a foster home. We commend the Waldschmidts for quick response in this emergency situation. And Parker, who already has found a wonderful new home, thanks you, too!
- For helping at the annual Rescue Reunion: Pam Jones, Cindy Monaco, Marcia McGovern, Lila Gilbert, Bill Lawrence, Sharon O'Keefe, Robin and Denny Scott, Deborah Brown, Kristin Anderson, Hal Avey, Ann and John Fitzpatrick, Glenda Selby, Dr. Rick Rubinstein, Sandy Guy, Wendy Jackson, Nancy Spears, Sharon and Adel Fahmy, Bruce McVae and Jerry Newhouse, Marsha and Claude Abbate.
- Donations for the reunion:
  The Doggie Door; Piglet's Pantry; Anicare Pet Supply; Comfort House; Sue Wood; Publix Supermarkets; Oviedo High School.
- Gifts of dog toys and supplies: Karen Lord; George & Patti Toms; John Massari; Barbara Paul; Claudia Ewing; Chad Terrell; Midway Animal Hospital; K. Demeter; Buzz Brown; Ellen Pavlik; Mrs. S.D. Keesler of Charlotte, NC; Krista Roman.
- We want to thank Janice & Jim Henderly for taking over in an emergency situation for one of our dogs in Port Orange and delivering him to Orlando a few days later.
- Lila Gilbert and Cyndy Coulombe for remulching our adoption coordinator's back yard.
- Cyndy Coulombe for shampooing dogs weekly.
- Garage sale volunteers: Marcia McGovern, Bud Macri, Bill Lawrence, John Fitzpatrick, Hal Avey, Cyndy Coulombe, Kerri Vorhies, Nancy Spears, Barbara Durham, Lila Gilbert.
- To the many veterinarians who help us:
  - Drs. Rick Rubinstein and William Ehlers, Tuscawilla Oaks Animal Hospital
  - Michael Schroeder, Animal Hospital of Treasure Island
  - Charles Steiner, Wickham Road Animal Hospital, Melbourne
  - Dr. Moja, Central Florida Animal Hospital, Oviedo
  - Dr. Athey, Orange City Animal Clinic
  - Dr. Rachael Beckett, Jackson Veterinary Practice, St. Augustine
  - Dr. Leland Simmons, Sand Lake Animal Clinc
  - Dr. Michael Berkenblit, Village Animal Clinic, North Palm Beach
  - Dr. Edward Griffith, Lake Jessup Animal Hospital
  - Dr. Constance DiNatale, Veterinary Acupuncture and Complementary Therapy, Winter Park, FL.
  - Outback Animal Hospital
- Special thanks to the Welhoelter family for taking on the whelping of Hope and her puppies and fostering them until they were ready for adoption. There are not words to describe how much we appreciate this! Also, thanks to Ann Rowe for helping with the birth, P.J. Lacette for equipment and advice, and to Susan Fulenwider for help with the puppies.



Hope with her puppies

- Many thanks to Theresa Dalle for donating the gorgeous diamond bracelet, which we are raffling off to raise funds for our Capital Campaign. (See "Capital Campaign Update" on page 3, and be sure to copy and sell lots of the raffle tickets on pages 13-14!)

Fosters ...

Judy Ackerman; Tammy Bradburn; Nancy Childers; Gregg Childs and Tom Eddie; Jerry & Irene Clifford; Marti Conness; Penny & Don Dalton; Barbara Durham; Linda Fike; Sally & Vann Frazier; Susan Hallenbeck and Bill Holland; John Heiden; Janice Hindery; Kelly & Chris Kieler; Dave & Nancy Loerhouse; Bruce McVae & Jeri Neuhouse; Gail Mertz; Gary & Julie Mink; Bob and Sharon O'Keefe; Rick and Cindy Owens; Janet Parker; John and Gail Pfohler; Carol and John Ross; Sally Ann Rowland; Ellen Schnabel; Rick & Coleen Sosteri; Kathy & Greg Spilker; Sandy & Mike Sumner; Dave & Liz Waldschmidt; Stephen & Vali Welhoelter; Robin & Dennis Williams; Robert & Lori Willimanson; Leah Wright.

♥ ♥ ♥

A Special Thanks . . .

This story was sent to us from Ellen Pavlik, who works at Midway Animal Hospital in Homosassa, Florida.

This is a story about Maggie, a 1-year-old golden who was bought from a pet store when she was 8 weeks old. Her owners paid $800 for her, and they named her 'Baby.'

In November 1999, Maggie was hit by a car and suffered severe damage to the motor nerve of her left front leg. In April, five months after the accident, the owners brought Maggie back to Midway with the bone and tendons exposed. At that time, they wanted to put her to sleep. Ellen Pavlik asked to have the owners sign Maggie over to her so that she could get the medical help she needed and a new home.

Midway Animal Hospital donated the needed amputation, hospitalization, spay operation and shots. Ellen found Maggie a great new home where she's very happy.

What a happy ending for a deserving little golden girl.

♥ ♥ ♥

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MANY NEW GOLDEN GOODS ITEMS!

We have added denim ball caps, denim crusher hats, tote bags, sleeveless and long-sleeved denim shirts, and polos in new colors.

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Membership Application

ALL memberships/donations are tax-deductible.

Name:_____ Address:_____

City/State/Zip_____ Phone:_____ e-mail:_____

Membership

All levels of membership include a subscription to the "Hearts of Gold" newsletter.

Please check one:

❑ General Membership $20 ❑ Voting Membership $20 (must volunteer minimum of 20 hours/year to GRRMF)

❑ Sponsorship $100 (for helping a dog in need – you receive recognition in the newsletter and a story of your dog)

❑ Gift Membership $20 for: Name_____ Address_____

Donation

❑ $____ to be used for general veterinary care for rescue dogs.

❑ $____ to the Woody Fund for care of goldens with difficult medical problems.

❑ $____ to the Capital Campaign for a home for Goldens.

❑ $____ to the Boarding Fund to help house goldens on a temporary basis until a foster home can be located.

❑ $____ for this purpose: _____

❑ $____ in memory of _____. Send acknowledgment to: _____

❑ $____ in honor of _____

Mail form to: GRRMF, P.O. Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 1-800-435-7352 within the state.
Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.