



HEARTS OF GOLD

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

Volume 5, Issue 2

Summer 2002

Meet Stinger and Brandy – two of GRRMF's most recent "old gold" additions. At ages 11 and 9, respectively, these two have been together all their lives and are inseparable. Their foster mom calls this pair "the sweetest, most lovable dogs ever." Read their story on Page 4.



Reunion memories –

This year's Rescue Reunion was a howl! Take a look at some of the fun photos on Page 6, and start making your plans now to attend next year's event. You don't want to miss this!



His legacy lives on –

A special tribute on Page 16 to a very special golden who touched the hearts of many. Woody's memory will live on through the fund named in his honor – dedicated to helping goldens who require extensive medical care.



Angie: From Rags to Riches

Angie was purchased from a pet store for a teenager, who quickly lost interest in her. For the next three years, Angie lived alone in the back yard, an igloo-type house her only shelter.

When Adoption Coordinator Betty Wyatt went to pick her up, Angie came out of the yard crawling on her belly. She was "absolutely terrified," Betty remembers. It took two people to lift Angie into the car.

The volunteers who tried to groom her soon gave up – Angie was one big matt from head to tail. The only option was to shave her. Poor Angie, scared and shaved, had a rough beginning with GRRMF. And it was soon to get worse.

Angie's foster noticed she had a hard time walking, and an x-ray confirmed our worst fears: severe hip dysplasia, both hips.

Unfortunately, GRRMF's humble bank account can't support the thousands of dollars it costs for hip-replacement sur-



Look at me now!

Through hydrotherapy, Angie builds strength following hip surgery to correct dysplasia.

Support our Vacation Raffle to Help Secure a Facility for GRRMF!

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 with this latest raffle. We need every member to help sell tickets! We've included a page of raffle tickets on Pages 17 and 18 of this newsletter. Please feel free to copy the tickets if you need more. To request more copies, e-mail us at info@grrmf.org or call 407-332-2840 mailbox #4.

There will be a fantastic prize for the person selling the most tickets. Help us fulfill our dream of a facility! First prize is a vacation stay at the beautiful Marriott Beach Resort & Marina on Hutchinson Island in South Florida. Second prize is a 27" TV, and third prize is a lovely diamond bracelet.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE . . .

	Page
Help Light Mark's Way to a New Home	3
President's Message	3
Stinger and Brandy	4
Recent Events	4
Walking for a Cause	5
A Day to Remember: Rescue Reunion	6
Hearts of Gold	7
Recent Adoptions	8
Rainbow Bridge	15
Raffle Tickets	17
Golden Friends	19
Membership Form	Back

See Angie, page 2

Angie, from page 1

gery. Thankfully, Dr. Rubinstein of Tusawilla Oaks Veterinary Hospital agreed to perform a less-costly corrective surgery that doesn't repair the hip sockets, but does correct the painful bone-against-bone action that causes dysplastic dogs to develop arthritis and suffer from constant and increasing pain. With this surgery, paid for through "Woody's Fund," Angie will be able to lead a normal, active and – most important – pain-free life.



"One of the most endearing things about Angie is that in spite of the terrible hardships she has suffered, she still adores people more than anything," says Betty Wyatt.

Angie is a sweet and cuddly Velcro dog, who will bond strongly with her forever family. Angie needs a special family that is sensitive to her needs. She is still shy with strangers and tends to be a little skittish in new surroundings. However, we're confident that with time, patience and a lot of love, even these shadows from her past will dissolve.

With the bulk of her rehabilitation complete, Angie is looking for a family willing to continue an appropriate exercise regimen such as daily swimming to ensure her leg muscles develop fully. If you think you can handle endless love and devotion, if you want a truly constant companion, and if you have gentle hands that never tire of stroking the soft, beautiful fur of a golden, Angie is for you! ♥

For more information on hydrotherapy, call Hip Dog at 407-628-9384.

New lease on life

Angie had her surgeries over a several-month period. Each surgery is extensive, requiring, among other things, the removal of the head of the femur bone. Angie's recovery was slow, and after many months, she still had a difficult time getting up and moving around.

Enter Angie's latest "guardian angels": the caring professionals at Hip Dog Therapy, a new service in Winter Park that offers swim therapy and massage from certified pet therapists. Hip Dog generously donated their services to help Angie build strength and mobility in her back legs.

And what a turnaround we've seen... Not only is Angie improving physically every day, but her self-confidence and socialization skills are soaring! Angie has truly found a new lease on life.

Angie is a great example of "why" GRRMF exists. Without the dedication and hard work of several fosters, who took turns caring for her during her long recovery period, and many volunteers, who three times a week took Angie to hydrotherapy sessions, and without the services of Dr. Rubinstein, Dr. DiNatale for acupuncture, and Hip Dog, Angie would probably have been euthanized – a sad "solution" for many dogs with this disorder.

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
An All-Volunteer, Nonprofit 501(c) 3 Corporation
• Education • Intervention • Spay/Neuter • Adoption

P.O. Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733-1449
For info call: (407) 332-2840
E-mail: info@grrmf.org

All Donations are Tax-Deductible
Visit GRRMF on the Web: www.grrmf.org
1,078 Golden Retrievers Rescued To Date!

Volunteers Needed for Events!

Sunday, Sept. 1, **Dog Obedience Competition of Florida**, Central Florida Fairgrounds in Orlando - We need volunteers for our Golden Goods booth to raise funds! Inside, air conditioned - need folks for shifts from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 pm.

Sunday, Oct. 17 – Saturday, November 2 - **National Golden Retriever Specialty Dog Show**, Lee Vista Center in South Orlando - This is THE annual dog show for the entire country for goldens! We want to have our Golden Goods booth open 7 days from Sunday - Saturday, but this will depend on having reliable volunteers willing to help.

Friday, Nov. 1, **Parade of Rescues** at the National Specialty - Be sure to sign up! You will parade around the show ring with your golden, while everyone listens to the dog's story. It's an incredibly moving event – don't miss it! Watch our Web site for details.

E-mail us at info@grrmf.org or call 407-332-2840 mailbox #4 to volunteer.

Help Light Mark's Way to a New Home

Mark is a 3-year-old golden who was abandoned at a veterinarian's office when his owners moved.

He has come a long way while in rescue. He is a beautiful boy, and thanks to some dedicated training and TLC in foster care, he is now very well behaved. Mark will make some-



one a wonderful companion. But first, he must undergo expensive treatment to repair damage to his nasal cavity. Specialist costs alone just in diagnosing the problem have topped \$1,000.

Mark is exactly why Woody's Fund was established – to help save precious goldens with special medical needs.

Unfortunately, we've already had four such dogs this year, and the fund is depleted.

Some of the volunteers who have been involved with Mark's progress have teamed up to coordinate a special fundraiser to help pay for the surgery. We're offering two handcrafted stained-glass items – a nightlight and a sun catcher. These were designed by Sharon Sherwood exclusively for GRRMF and can be purchased ONLY through this sale.

These items were created using traditional stained-glass methods and are made of a beautiful opalescent glass that gives as much of a "fur" look as possible. No two are exactly alike, and all lead is done in a black patina. The sun catcher measures approximately 4" x 4" and the night light is approximately 4" x 5" with an on/off switch below the head study.

You can view these items in full color on our Web site: <http://www.grrmf.org/grrmf-woody-fund.html>

Sun Catcher \$18.00 + shipping & tax

Night Light \$25.00 + shipping and tax

Shipping:

\$5.15 for priority shipping, up to two items.

Include \$5.15 for each additional (up to) two items.

Tax: 7% for Florida residents.

President's Message

by Barbara Durham

So many exciting things are going on in our rescue program, and there are many opportunities to get involved.

Our west coast volunteers have been going at a frenzied pace with education, fundraising and outreach opportunities. They have been doing a fantastic job as ambassadors for rescue! If you live on the west coast and want to be involved, please let us know.

Currently, we are trying to build our volunteer base on the east coast. We are seeking volunteers to help out in education events, fundraising, publicity, home visits and other areas.

We are finding that the more exposure we have in an area through events, the more adoptions we have. GRRMF is planning to have volunteer workshops in September/October on the east and west coasts – please stay tuned to the events section of our Web site for more information.

If you are interested in helping out please call 407-332-2840 mailbox #4, e-mail volunteering@grrmf.org or fill out a volunteer application from our Web site. Thanks to all our volunteers for their support!

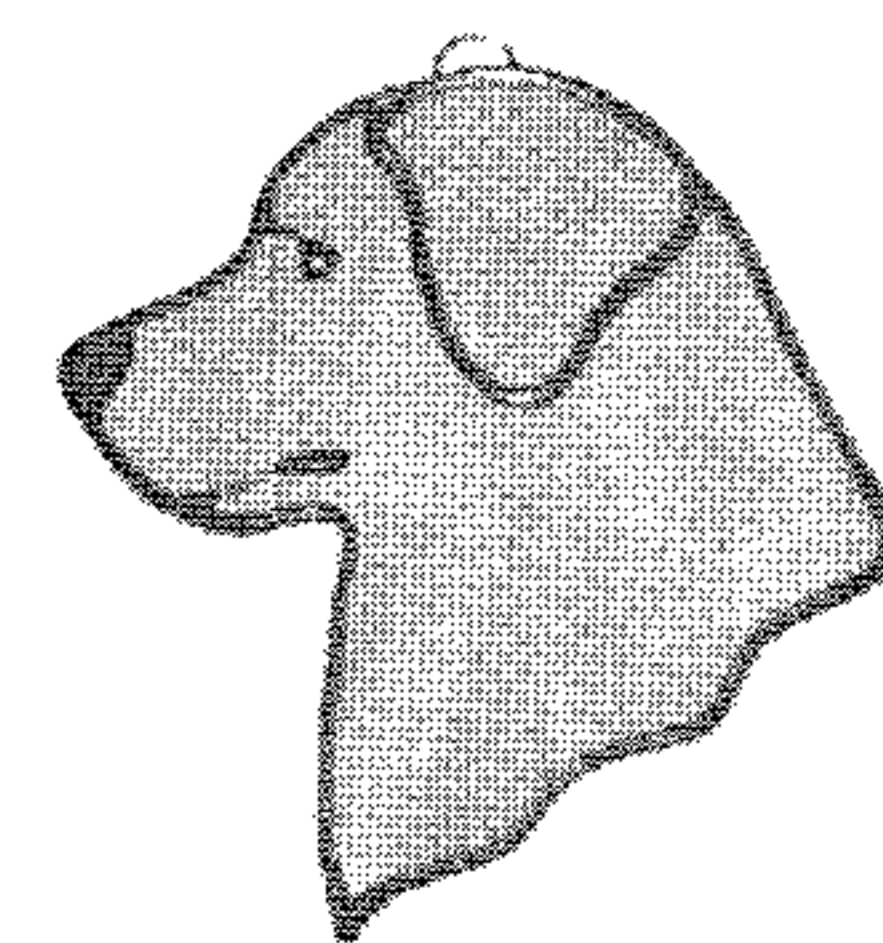
Make checks payable to GRRMF and send to: Diane Makinney, 2 Glengary Road, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

Sample orders:

Sun catcher, shipping & tax = \$24.41

Night light, shipping & tax = \$31.90

Sun catcher and night light,
shipping & tax = \$51.16



Sun Catcher

Questions? Call the Hotline: 407-332-2840 or e-mail: dmakinney@aol.com

Stinger and Brandy:

Meet Mr. & Mrs. Golden

Picture an elegant and genteel older couple: he the perfect gentleman, well-mannered and considerate, and she the demure female, regal and sophisticated.



You've just described Stinger and Brandy, two of GRRMF's most recent "old gold" additions. At ages 11 and 9, respectively, these two have been together all their lives and are inseparable. Sadly, their owners turned them in due to an embassy assignment in India.

Their foster mom calls this pair "the sweetest most lovable dogs ever." Well-mannered Stinger always lets Brandy eat first, walk first, drink first and gives up his toy to her anytime she wants it. He even cleans her coat and gives her kisses. What a wonderful husband he is!

The perfect hostess, Brandy never fails to greet visitors with a toy. She also enjoys carrying a toy on walks – you never know when you might have an opportunity to show it off, you know!

But this solid-gold pair also likes to have fun chasing tennis balls and tugging on soft toys. Both are fit as fiddles and act younger than their years. They're also quite content to just be with each other and their human companions.

Like the handsome couple they are, Stinger and Brandy cause quite a stir wherever they go. Neighbors can't help but smile and comment on how beautiful they are together. "It's like going to a restaurant with a newborn baby – everyone wants to make over them," their foster mom says.

A difficult situation

Job changes resulting in moves out of state or even out of the country are not unusual reasons for turning dogs in to rescue. However, this case does present one unusual and potentially difficult wrinkle. You see, senior goldens are harder to place – applications specifying an older dog are few and far between, let alone two at once!

GRRMF realizes it might be a long time before we find the right family, but we're committed to keeping them together – anything else would be unfair and even potentially fatal to this aged couple that have been with each other all their lives.

One day, GRRMF hopes to have a facility for goldens. In that new home, we plan on creating a very special "senior" area, where older dogs can have a comfortable place to stay indefinitely, or until they are adopted. Picture these two in their own room, sharing a soft bed, enjoying the company of each other ... until death do they part.

Of course, if someone is looking for two perfectly behaved and attractive golden retrievers, no need to wait any longer – we have just the pair for you! ♥

Recent Events

GRRMF was on hand at the May 11 grand opening of the new **Fort DeSoto Dog Park** in St. Petersburg. The new park features fully fenced off-leash areas and even a dog beach. Check out the park at: www.fortdesoto.com/pawplayground.phtml.

The gang went all out again the next weekend, May 18, for the **City of Largo's Amazing Animals event**. This was our second event for the City of Largo, the first one in April.

GRRMF was also on hand for **Dunedin's Fido Fun Walk** April 27. As always, our band of loyal volunteers had fun showing off their lovely goldens and talking to the public about GRRMF.

Thanks to West Coast volunteer participants Debbie McGhehey, Renee Perkie, Suzanne & Tony Rider, Dave & Sally Anne Rowland, Meg Newman, Renee Perkie, Emily & Velma Rowe, Andrea Davis, Julie & Gary Mink, Diane Simpkinson, Sandy Westhoff, Julie Mink, Josh Pacheco and to our newest volunteers: Carol Buczynski (adopted Frannie) and Larry & Phyllis Wojciechowski (adopted George). Welcome!

Volunteers Clean Up at Dog Wash

On June 8, GRRMF participated in a Dog Wash Fundraiser at Whole Foods Grocery in Winter Park. It was a great event, and the proceeds were split between GRRMF and

Continued next page

Recent Events, continued

Greyhound Protection League. Whole Foods provided all the resources → all we had to supply were some outstanding volunteers! Whole Foods also donated 2.5 percent of their sales on June 6 to GRRMF.

Many thanks to Laurressa Nelson, the store's marketing director, for arranging this fundraiser. Thanks to our volunteers: Kerri Vorhies, Steve Jaffe, the Hatton family, Varsha & Rashab Das, Ed Burger, Jeff Prescott, Carol Chasteen, Deb Wilson, Tammy Sabourin, Maryanne Ludy, Marie Pacheco, Sharon O'Keefe, Sandy Sumner, Susan Matlock, Pat Matthews, Jenny Middleton and Ellen Mathieson.

We encourage all of you living close to Whole Foods to patronize this wonderful store. We need to support companies that support us!

We would also like to thank Greyhound Protection League and Carla Wilson for being such a great partner in this event. We learned a lot about the abuse of greyhounds in the racing industry, and we encourage all of you to visit their website at www.greyhounds.org. Anyone who cares about our canine friends will be outraged at what these dogs endure. It is time to stop greyhound racing. They have a slogan: "Race Cars, Not Dogs!"

A Star is Born

We have a TV star among us. That's right, GRRMF's very own Suzanne Rider was featured as Tampa Bay News Channel 9's "Everyday Hero" in May.

While not overly enthused at the prospect of going "on camera," Suzanne was a trooper and gave in to promote the rescue cause, even allowing reporters to enter her home and meet some of the dogs in the program. The feature highlighted her volunteer work with GRRMF and talked about the purpose of our organization. Many people watch this news program, so it was great publicity for GRRMF.

Suzanne does a tremendous service to rescue, and this is just one more feather to add to her already full cap. Many thanks, Suzanne, for all you do!

To view the clip, visit the Bay News site at <http://www.bn9.com/extras.asp?id=hero&action=past>.

A recent **Yankee Candle Sale** coordinated by Marcia McGovern and Carol McKee netted nearly \$1,000 for GRRMF's Capital Campaign. Thanks to GRRMF members Sharon O'Keefe, Michelle Martin and others who helped at the sale.



Walking for a Cause



Out for a stroll: GRRMF's "dog walkers" Tammy Saborin and Zeus, Jenny Middleton and Annabelle, Jennifer Longman and Victory and Sandy Sumner and Daisy prepare for a Saturday morning hike.

It's Saturday morning, and a small band of people is gathering outside Adoption Coordinator Betty Wyatt's home in East Orlando.

Their purpose: Walk some energy out of GRRMF foster dogs, teach them some socialization skills and, if needed, help them learn how to walk on a leash.

The brainchild of volunteers Sandy Sumner and Jennifer Longman, the group serves a valuable role. But more than that, it's a lot of fun, and good exercise to boot.

"The benefits are tremendous," Sandy says. "We get to walk for exercise and chat with friends and fellow golden lovers. New foster dogs get a 'test drive' to see how well they do with other dogs, around bikes and rollerblades, riding in a car and swimming. The dogs get socialization, exercise and some fun outside of the house," she says.

And Betty benefits, too. Not only does she get a few minutes of peace and quiet in an otherwise hectic life, but she learns some valuable information from the volunteers. Does the new rescue walk well on a leash? How does she get along with other dogs? Is he fearful of strange noises or people? What does he do if he sees a squirrel or cat? All these things will help Betty place the dog in a home appropriate to his or her temperament and needs.

For example, the group learned something interesting about Yukon, who came to rescue in July. Unless he is lead dog, Yukon barks to be up front. Deborah Wilson, one of our walkers, ran ahead with 'her' dog, and Yukon barked and pulled like crazy to be up there with her. She eventually let

See Walking, page 16

A Day to Remember

This year's Rescue Reunion was held at a new location – Gemini Springs Park just north of Orlando. The park offered lots of shade trees, our own private picnic area and miles of nature trails to enjoy the lush, tropical scenery of this pretty natural spring.

Also new this year were doggie games – from “bobbing for bones,” to fetching competitions, the games proved to be a big hit. Who could forget the clown-dog who decided to get INSIDE the bucket of water to cool himself off before eating a few bones? While he didn't win, he gets the award for “most entertaining”!

The reunion is a high point of the year for our dedicated volunteers – it's a chance for us to see our formerly scared, neglected, untrained and wayward rescues happily interacting with their new families. We never get over the difference in these dogs as we meet them again in happier circumstances. It's always a day to remember.

To those who helped at this year's event – a very big and heartfelt golden hug from the GRRMF board. Many families traveled a great distance to be with us – we're thankful you could attend and look forward to seeing you next year! ♥



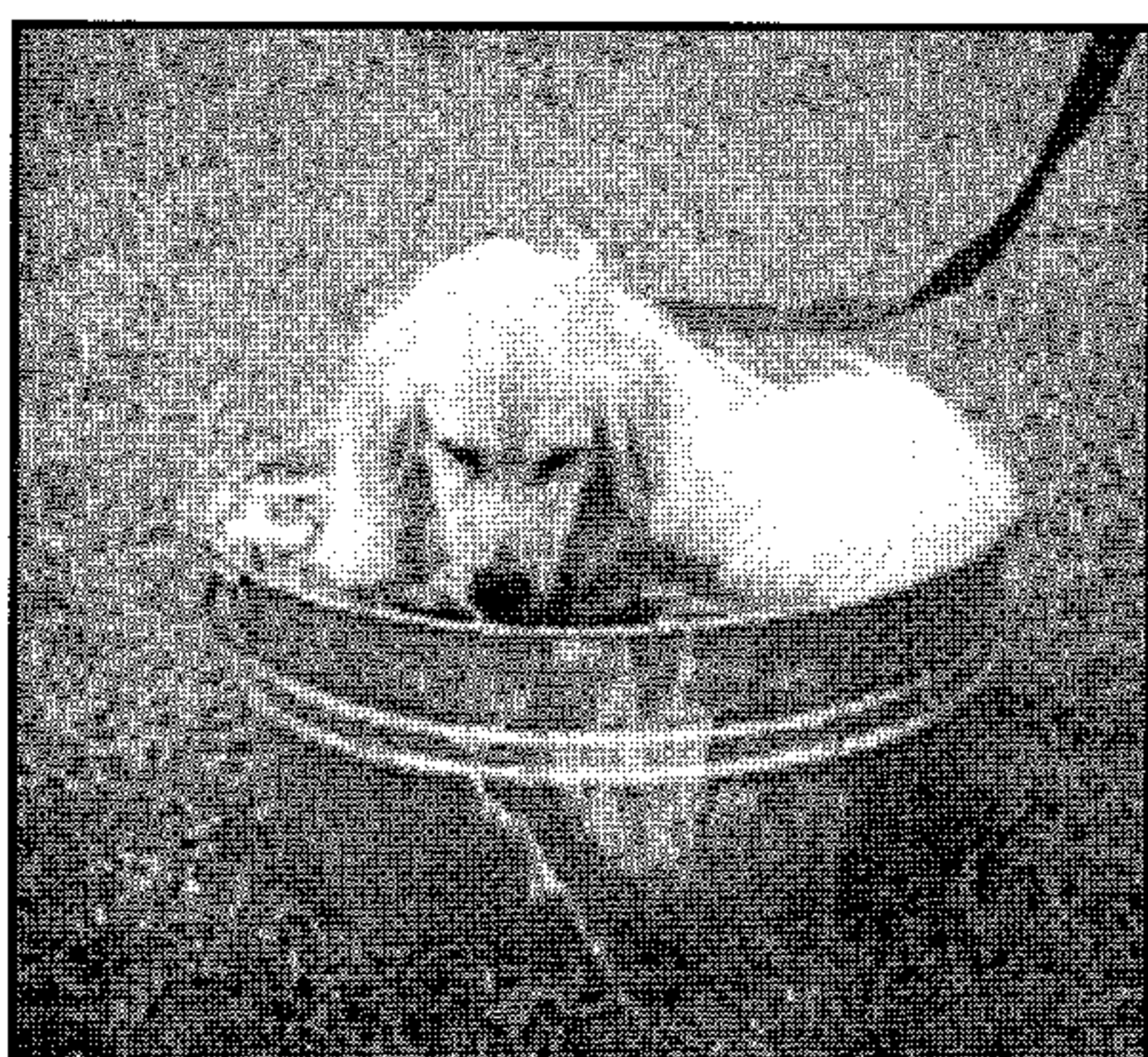
Smiles and wags: These goldens are obviously happy and healthy in their new lives!



Nice to see you again!
Adoption Coordinator Betty Wyatt greets a former rescue with a smile on her face and a warm feeling in her heart.

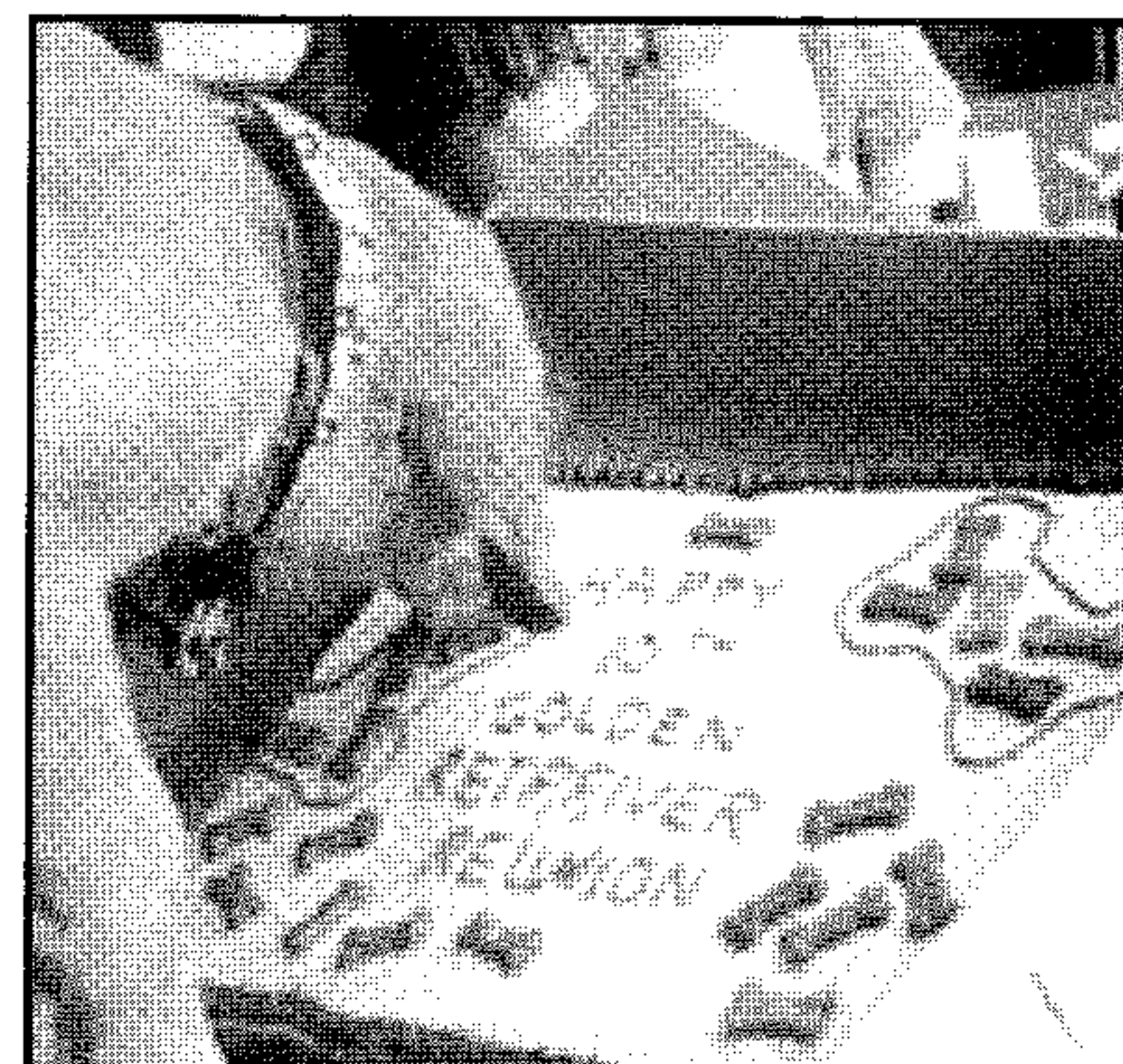


Go for it:
This golden gets a little coaching from mom in the “Bobbing for Bones” competition.



Bones?! I thought it was a pool!
This smart puppy takes a dip in the cool water, THEN eats his bones!

Mmm- liver!
Rescues enjoyed a taste of this special cake, donated by a volunteer.



Hearts of Gold

By Adoption Coordinator Betty Wyatt

As usual, the Rescue Reunion was the highlight of my year. I speak for our fosters, too, because there is nothing so wonderful as seeing a dog that we have bonded with and love very much, happy in his or her new home. I don't meet all the dogs that come through our program, but I still feel I know them, as I have followed their progress from the first phone call through to adoption. Everyone involved in the process remembers the names of our rescues, and at the reunion they get to put a face with the person and dog. We miss those who didn't make it this year, but we understand – the weather was stormy, although not where we were, and it was a long drive for some of you. We hope to see you next year!

Summer is here, which means vacation time. When you can, please leave your dog at home in air conditioning during the hot summer months. When I travel, I find a place to keep them where I know they'll be cool and safe until I return. If you do choose to travel with your dog, please remember to take along a photograph of him or her. That way, if something happens and the dog is lost, at least you'll have a photo you can use when posting signs for its return. Copies of vet records also are important.

If you don't have room for a crate, buckle the dog up in the back seat with a doggie seat belt. In an accident, dogs become projectiles. If the dog is in the front seat and the airbag deflates, he or she could be seriously injured or killed. Lastly, if you have to stop, don't roll windows down enough so the dog could escape or be stolen. A good rule of thumb when traveling with your dog: pretend it's a 2-year-old child, and take all the same precautions.

Sometimes people inquire about the newsletters/periodicals I read. If I could only subscribe to one, it would be *The Whole Dog Journal*, a monthly guide to natural dog care and training. There is no advertising, and the articles are excellent – geared toward wellness and positive training techniques. Contributing writers use a common-sense approach to everything. Letters to the editor are also good. One person wrote of a dog with seizures, and instead of giving phenobarbital, she gave her dog 1/2 tsp of dolomite in his food twice a day. Of course, this would only help if the seizures were caused by a magnesium deficiency, but it was certainly useful information. Subscriptions: PO Box 420234, Palm Coast, Fla. 32142, Phone: (800) 829-9165.

The next favorite is *Love of Animals* by Dr. Bob & Susan Goldstein. They use a holistic approach to animal care. *Love of Animals* is published by Earth Animal: (800) 211-6365. When you subscribe, you'll get a great packet of information about foods and other things. Subscription is \$39.95 a year and well worth it. In a recent letter, they wrote about tick-borne diseases and periodontal health. In another, they

reviewed some uses for Rescue Remedy – a botanical found in health food stores or on the Internet. They say it's useful in treating emergencies such as snake bites, shock/trauma, insect stings and even prior to surgery. They presented a case study about a dog in Texas who was bitten by a poisonous snake. This is a huge problem, because there is a severe nationwide shortage of anti-venom. This dog was given Rescue Remedy (10 drops for large dogs), coupled with Benadryl (50 mg for large dogs), cortisone, antibiotics and IV fluids. It recovered fully. I give Rescue Remedy to some of our rescues when a thunderstorm is moving in. It has a calming effect, and has no known side effects. It doesn't help all dogs with thunderstorm anxiety, but I've seen many benefit from its use. And if you're feeling stressed, it's not just for dogs!

Helpful hint: Does your dog constantly lick his paws until they're pink and raw? He may be allergic to grass, or he may just be bored. Regardless of the cause, try Betagen, a spray available from your veterinarian. Or, make your own by adding a little Betadine solution to a pan of water, so it is the color of weak tea, and then have your dog step in it. This should help soothe the itching. Other options are Gold Bond medicated powder or soaking in Epsom salts.

This has been a terrible summer in some respects. As you can see in this newsletter, we have rescued and adopted more dogs than ever. A lot of our recent rescues, like Mark on page 3 and Angie on page 1, have special needs, and our funds are drying up fast. We are in the process of writing grants to purchase a much-needed facility, which will help in the long run. But in the meantime, we still cannot begin to take all the goldens we're called about. For many years, I have taken in many foster dogs, but for health reasons, I am forced to cut back. Consequently, we are in dire need of foster homes. It is very painful when we have to turn away goldens, and now, because I have pulled back, we're able to save even less.

If you have never fostered a dog, please consider it. Think about how rewarding it will be to take in a dog who, without your help, would be euthanized at a shelter. Picture yourself caring for it, nursing it back to health and then realizing that because of YOU, this dog can lead a happy and healthy life. It will make you feel good about yourself for the rest of your life.

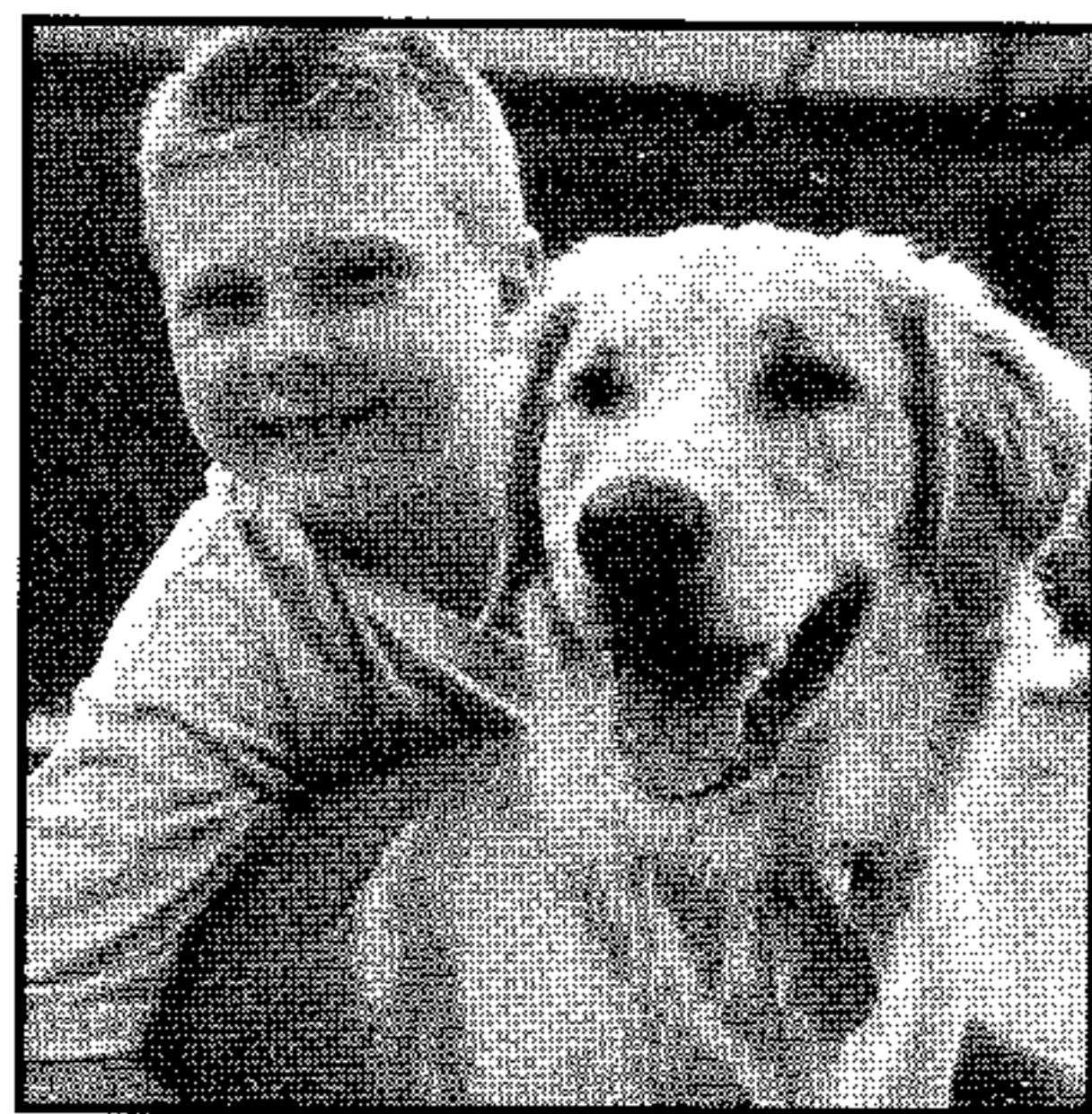
One other note: I was without a computer for three weeks, so if you e-mailed me and didn't get a response, please accept my apologies. I'm up and running now, so keep those notes and photos coming! If you haven't done so yet, please check the "Alumni" section of our Web site. We're updating it regularly now, so you're likely to see new dog write-ups each week. Thanks to our Webmaster, Tim Guy, for keeping the Web site running, and to Patti Sarano, Sandy Sumner and Carol McKee, who keep the "For Adoption" and "Alumni" pages current and interesting.

May you have a golden summer. Until next time...

– Betty
e-mail: goldensunbird@earthlink.net

recent adoptions . . .

Flair, 17 months, was turned in by a woman who said she would kill her if rescue didn't come immediately. She was a yard dog, and her "owner" was tired of her digging. That was perhaps Flair's luckiest day – except for the day she met Tom & Brooke M. and their 9-year-old son, Keith. They contacted GRRMF after losing their 12-year-old golden, Ralph. They never thought any dog could measure up to Ralph, and as a joke between them said their next dog should be named Flair – Ralph pronounced backwards. When they went to visit dogs at Betty Wyatt's house, she said, "Let me bring Flair out first." They were astounded, but knew immediately that Flair was the dog for them. Flair now spends her days chasing lizards, playing ball and making friends with everyone she meets. She also loves car rides, walks and carrots and is attending obedience classes. She doesn't care for swimming, but she does enjoy nudging Keith back into the pool when he gets out. Isn't life grand, little Flair!



Keith and Flair

by Debbie and Richard V. of St. Augustine. No more running the neighborhoods for this guy – he now has the run of his new home, and we're told he is taking full advantage of his new life as a pampered puppy.

CJ first entered our program in the mid-1990s and was adopted by a woman who couldn't say enough about how wonderful he was. A few months ago, GRRMF received a message from a rescue group in Oklahoma. The woman said they had gotten in a dog named CJ, whose owner identified him as a former Florida rescue dog. You may remember the story, "CJ's Journey," from our last newsletter.



CJ with Jeb and his new family

Thanks to many volunteers, CJ returned home in April. We're happy to report that CJ's journey has come to and end – well, at least the traveling part! CJ now lives with Deborah N., who read CJ's story in the newsletter and immediately called us. CJ shares his life with another former rescue, Jeb/Marley, and is reportedly "loving life." When not engaged in his favorite pastime as a couch potato, he enjoys playing with his new brother.



George with Larry & Phyllis

George, 4-6 years old, was a heart-worm-positive dog rescued from the dirt-floor kennels of Sarasota Animal Control. He was fostered by John & Gail Pfohler, who immediately recognized what a treasure he was and named him "Georgeous George." Larry & Phyllis W. thought so, too. They say that George causes quite a stir on walks through his new neighborhood, and they often get comments about how beautiful and well-behaved he is. Larry wrote in a recent e-mail: "George has more than

exceeded our expectations. I especially love the fact he is rescued and am very proud of his heritage. I feel more honored to have George with us than any dog from another source."



Maxwell

Maxwell, 1 year, was turned in when his owner broke up with his girlfriend and decided to move into an apartment that would not allow dogs. Maxwell was a typical puppy – "nuclear powered" – so we knew we had to find a home with some playmates that could keep up with him. We soon found a wonderful family, Mary Ann and Joe K., who were looking for a dog that could keep up with their 2-year-old canine – it was a perfect fit! Maxwell and his new buddy spend their days playing in the pool and running in the yard.

Baron, 4 years old, was turned in due to a death in his family. He was kenneled for three months before rescue was called. Special thanks to Sally Anne Rowland for bathing and de-matting this poor guy – he was a mess – and to fosters John & Gail Pfohler who helped reveal the beautiful golden

Continued next page

Recent Adoptions, continued*Baron*

that was lying underneath all that neglect. Baron now is living a life of royalty with Nancy & Ron K., who say he's "the best thing that's ever happened to us." He spends most days with a tennis ball in his mouth, and has begun swimming in the pool. His favorite way of entertaining himself is to stand on the step, let his ball go, then swim out to fetch it. Baron is also proving to be quite the student in his obedience class. Within a short period of time, he knew "watch me," "stay" and began walking better on leash.

Bisquit came to us as a 1-year-old outside dog who wanted to be an inside dog. His digging and barking were upsetting his owner, so Bisquit was turned over to GRRME. He was adopted by Michelle & Steve H. and now has all he ever wanted – a family who loves him and his very own comfortable spot ... indoors.

*Bisquit*

Koby was found on the street by two college students. They wanted to keep him but soon realized they didn't have time for a lively and Velcro golden retriever. Thankfully, they called rescue. Koby was adopted by Franklin & Nancy S. and now has all the attention he's ever wanted and everything he needs.

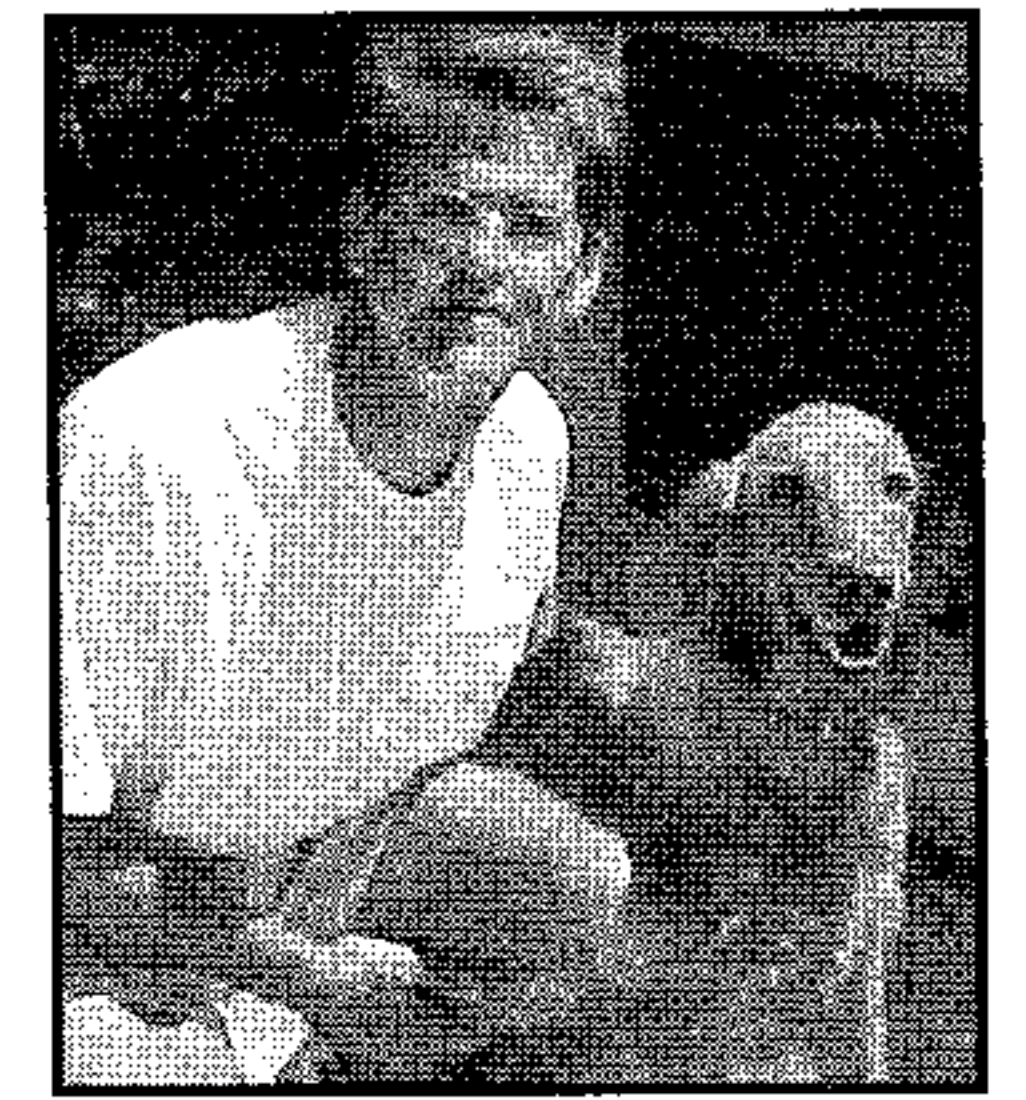
*Nikki*

Nikki was turned in by a woman whose husband didn't want the dog. It's their loss, because Nikki is as sweet as they come. She is very much loved by her new owners, Nona & Terry M., and especially enjoys her new playmates, Megan & Terry.

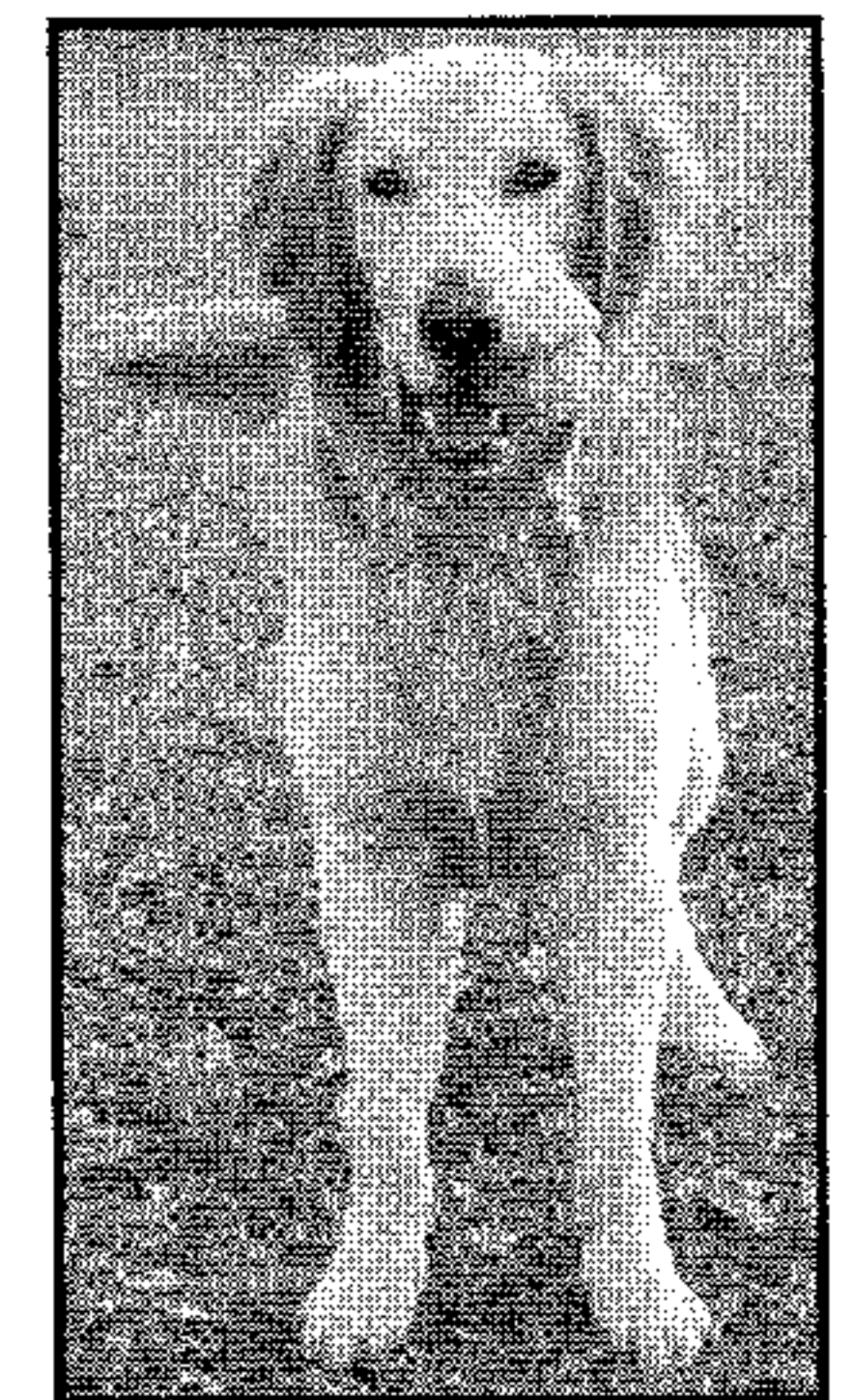
Even though she was well-behaved and tried to be a good girl, **Topaz** was no longer wanted by her family. After the novelty wore off, the kids stopped paying attention to her. Luckily, she found her

way to GRRME. Topaz was adopted by Marjorie & Kelly O., who have welcomed her as a permanent addition to their family and tell us they love her very much.

Murphy, 1-1.5 years, was given up due to a divorce. Neither person was able to keep her. She was adopted by Randy, who tells us "she is the best thing I have done in a long time – she makes my life so much more enjoyable!" Murphy is a big hit in the neighborhood, and her new dad proudly tells us she recently took second place in her obedience class. Also, Murphy is a great help when it comes to keeping Randy on a regular exercise routine, as she looks forward to her daily walks and doesn't let Randy slide.

*Murphy*

JD was scheduled to be euthanized at Animal Services when Suzanne and Tony Rider stepped in. While in foster care, JD participated in obedience classes and even earned his Canine Good Citizen certificate. JD, now **Keegan**, was adopted by Susan and Bob, who quickly realized he is one smart cookie. Keegan's favorite activities are swimming, swimming and swimming ... with a little ball-playing thrown in for good measure. He shares his new home with three canine siblings and two cats.

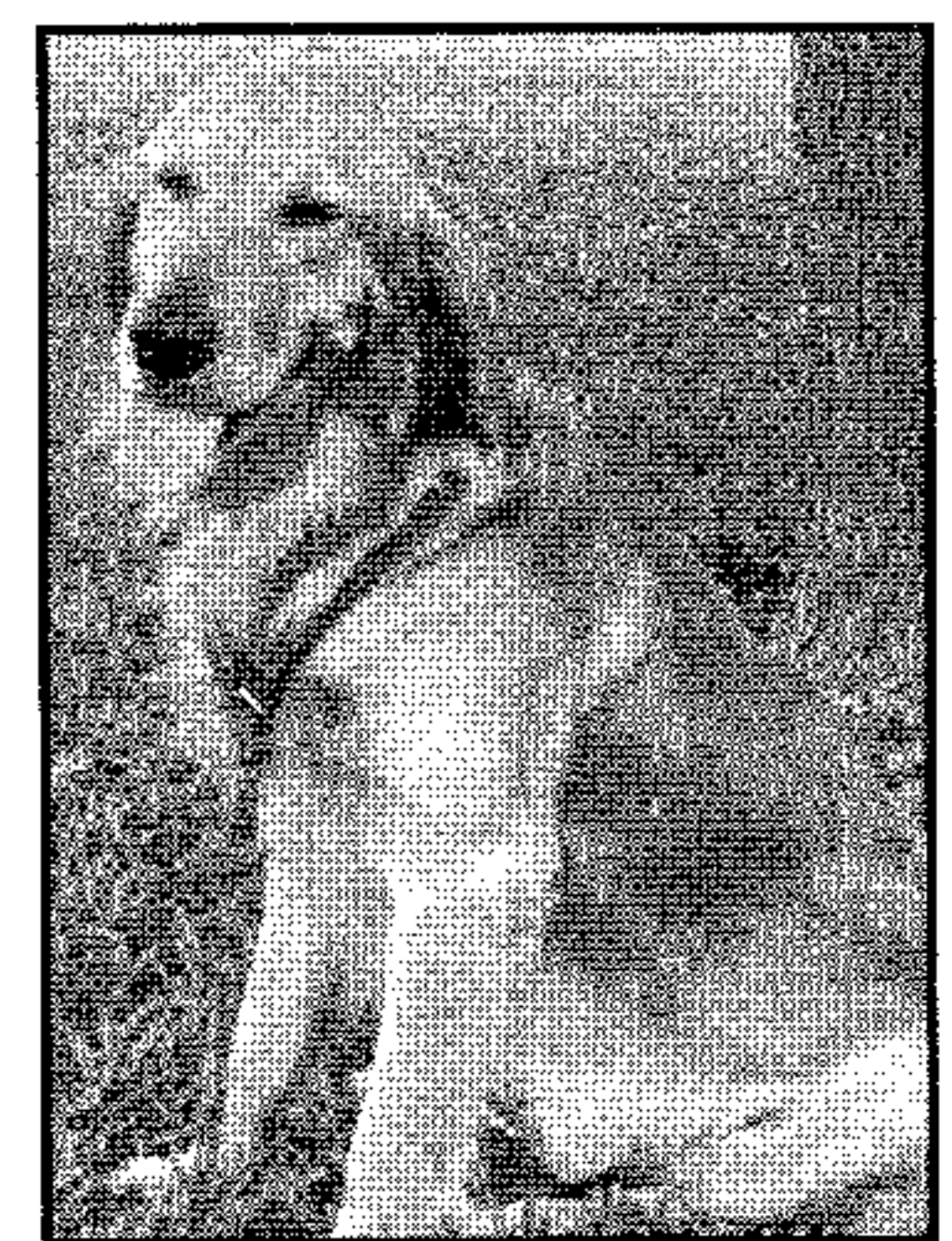
*JD/Keegan*

Redmond, 2 years old, was turned into rescue due to a military relocation. His foster parents, Matthew and Anne Marie W., realized how special he was and had a hard time giving him up. He was adopted by Ginger and Scott F. and shares his home with a tiny dachshund.

Leo, now **Whittman**, was fostered by Maggie and Tim S. while undergoing heartworm treatment. Whittman will be spending his summer in the mountains and riding in the back seat of his Volkswagen New Beetle.

Maizie was turned in with her brother, Leo, above. Mary Beth L. graciously agreed to foster Maizie while she underwent heartworm treatment. The more these two got to know each other, the more Mary Beth couldn't imagine life without Maizie, so she decided to make Maizie a permanent addition to her household. Mary Beth spends 90 percent of her day with Maizie and the other 10 percent wishing she was with her new canine companion. Maizie is on her path to becoming a therapy dog, and joins

Continued next page

*Leo/Whittman*

Recent Adoptions, continued

her mom regularly at PetsMart for education days.

Lola was found in the overnight drop box at animal services. She was fostered by Charlette B. and adopted by Mike and Karen L., who say she has fit perfectly into their lifestyle.

Clara was dropped off at animal services by her owners. She was fostered by Carol B. and her GRRMF alumna, **Frannie**. Carol thought the two ladies where such a trip together that she decided to adopt Clara, now called **Ginger**. The two new canine siblings look alike and are rarely separated. Carol can't decide who likes the pool more. What a life!



Addie

Eight-year-old **Addie** was turned in to GRRMF when her owners no longer wanted her. She was fostered by Charlette B., who said she knew the instant Addie met Sandy M., she picked the right home. Addie now owns Sandy and her mother, Marie, and enjoys weekly trips to PetsMart. Sandy says she has met her soulmate.

Mango was turned in due to an illness. She was fostered by John F. and adopted by Roger & Kathy M. Roger reports that Mango is the perfect dog and says they couldn't have found a better fit into their family. Mango has added energy to their senior goldens, and Roger says he thinks that Mango can fly as she can get to one end of the room to the other in no time at all.

Crystal was a special delivery at Christmas time by the Fed Ex man. She was neglected and had serious skin problems which cleared up in foster care with Julie and Gary Mink. She was adopted by Kimberly and Jonathon E. and their canine, Bosco. They assured us they will continue to care for Crystal's skin, and said she is doing very well in her new home.

Gabrielle was fostered by Cindy and Rick O., who did wonders with this little girl. She was adopted by Christine and Megan M., who say they are thrilled to have such a sweet girl in their family.



Gabrielle

Sonora was an owner turn-in from South Florida. Her previous owners said she was wrecking the house and

they had to crate her all the time. Her fosters, George & Laurel O., recognized that Sonora was only exhibiting behavior typical of a golden retriever puppy less than 1 year old, so they were prepared to teach her some house manners. To their surprise and delight, Sonora did not destroy one thing in their house – well, except for a few of their other rescue **Huck's** toys! They were so taken with Sonora that they decided to make her a permanent addition. Sonora never again will be crated as punishment for typical puppy behavior!

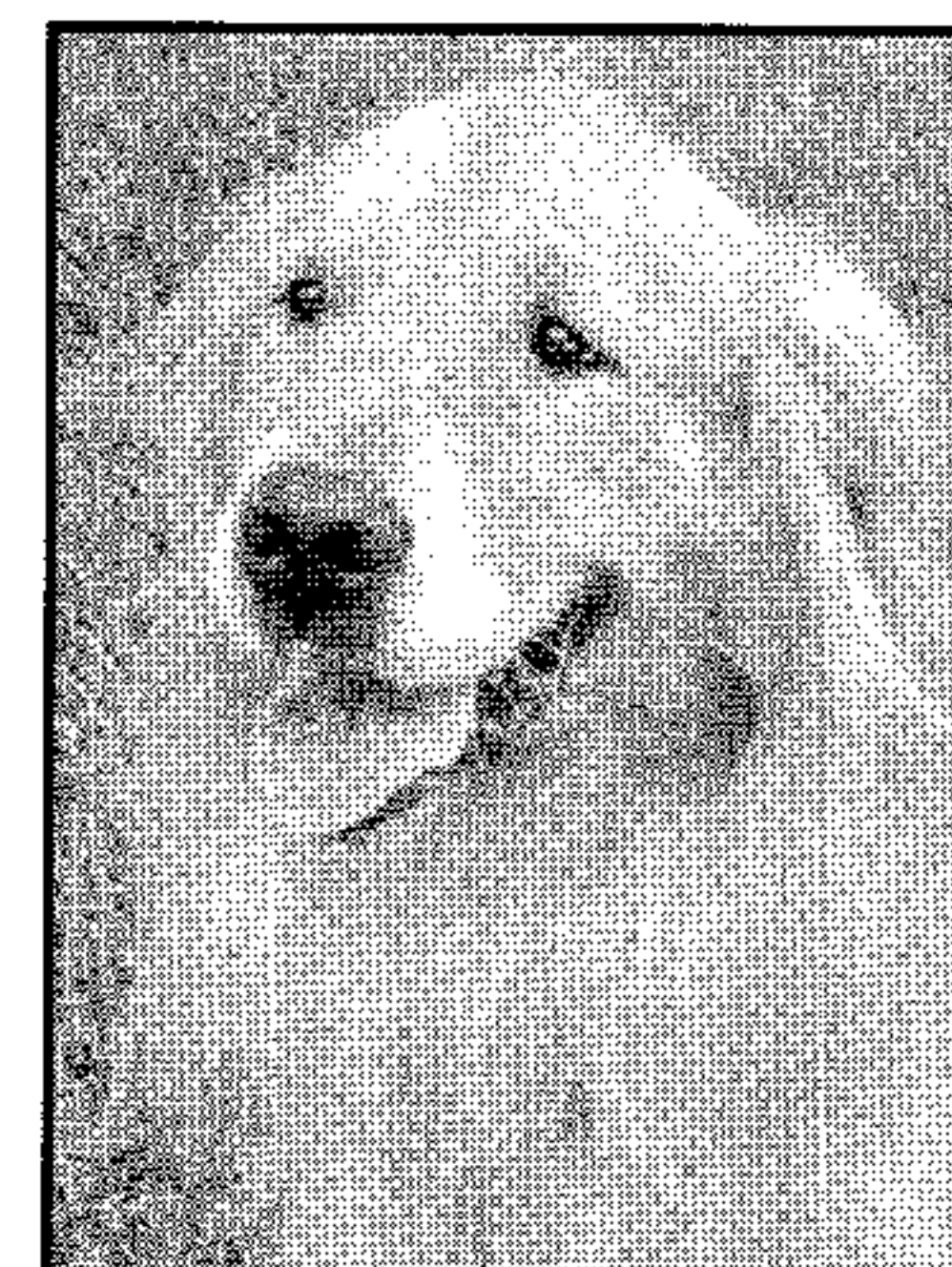
Samuel was reluctantly turned into rescue after one of his owners became ill and developed allergies. He was fostered by Pam J., who couldn't give him up after nursing him back to health from a torn cruciate ligament (knee). Samuel is about 5 years old and loves his new kitty friends and going to the dog beach.



Mariner

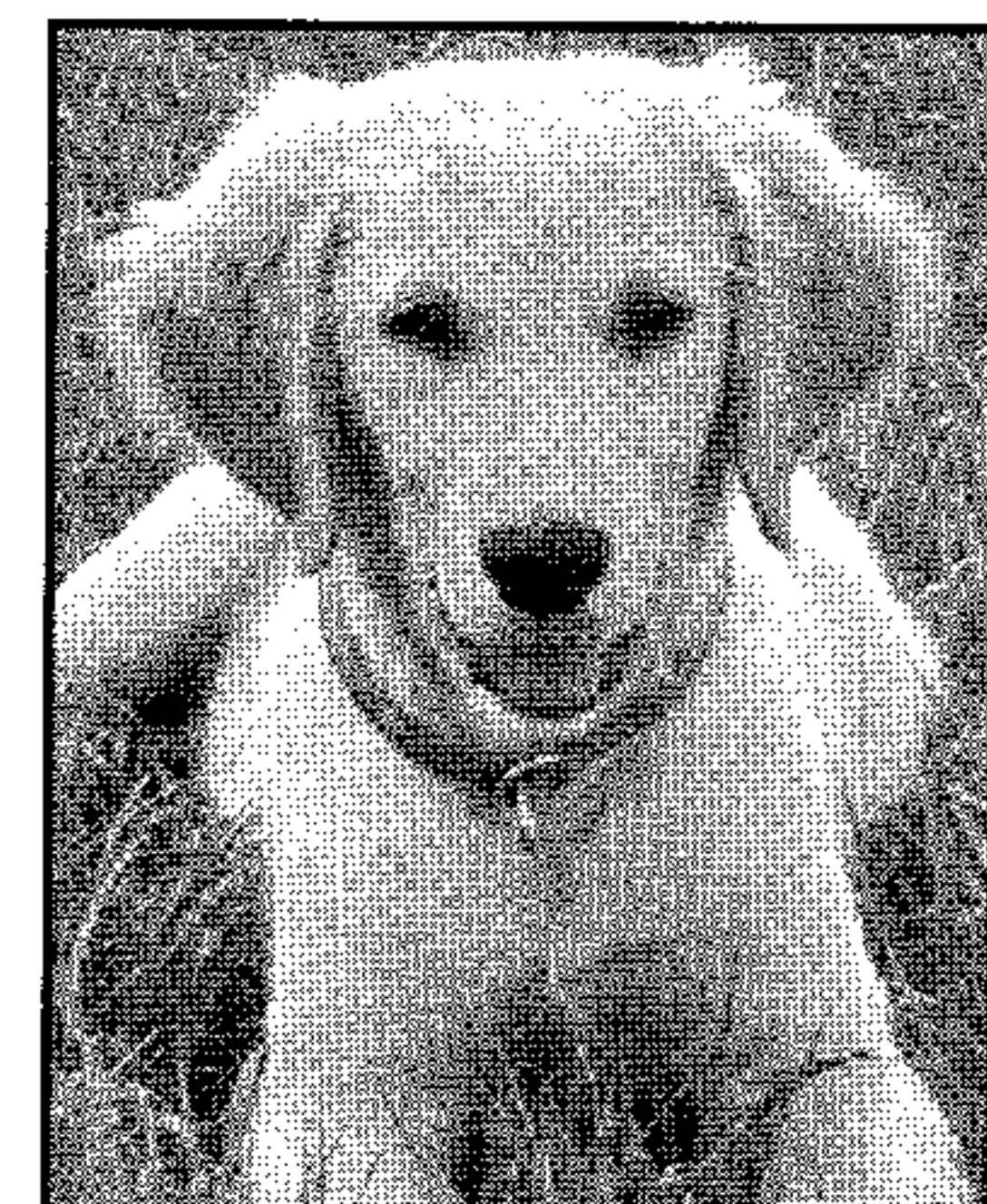
Handsome **Mariner** was rescued from animal services by a GRRMF volunteer. He was fostered by Nancy H. and adopted by the Murrays. Mariner fits in perfectly at his new home as they are all sea lovers.

Simba spent most of his days living in a garage. He was fostered and adopted by Bob and Alyce C. who now call him **Newman** because he is so handsome. Newman is an extremely lucky boy to have found his forever home with this couple who adore and cherish him.



Simba

Mojo was turned into rescue at 12 weeks of age. His owners said he was "too much puppy" for them. While in foster care with Suzanne and Tony R., Mojo attended puppy class and learned to swim in the pool. Mojo is as cute as they come and was a big hit at the annual GRRMF Rescue Reunion, where he relished giving kisses in the "puppy-kissing booth." Mojo has a lot of endearing qualities – his new human family, Barry & Kerrie S. and their young daughter, can't say enough



Mojo

Continued next page

Recent Adoptions, continued

good things about him. They are thrilled to have him in their lives and are enjoying his crazy antics each day. He sits at mom's feet while she dries her hair, then she turns the setting down and turns the blower on him. Mojo loves it and tries to purr like a kitten as he closes his eyes and enjoys the warmth. Everytime he hears the icemaker, Mojo runs to the refrigerator to watch ice fall into the glass. This friendly little guy greets everyone on his evening walks, and obviously keeps his humans laughing.

After just having a litter of puppies and suffering from hip problems, 6-year-old **Macy** was going to be euthanized at animal control when Suzanne R. stepped in. Suzanne sent three wonderful women – Leslie, Mo, and Ana – to meet Macy. They knew right away she would be perfect in their household. Macy's first day with her new family included a trip for her and her new sister, Jesse, for a day at a pet spa. What better way to start your new life than a relaxing day at the health spa?

*Macy*

Morty, a wonderful 5-year-old, was turned in when his family decided to move back north and didn't want to take him. He was the perfect match for Rick & Dottie L., who own their own business. Lucky Morty gets to go to "work" with them every day.

One-year-old **Rachel** was an attention hound, with an energy level typical of an "adolescent" golden. A lot of patience, love and training has paid off, and Rachel is fitting in nicely in her new home with Bob & Kay A. and former rescue **Celeste**.

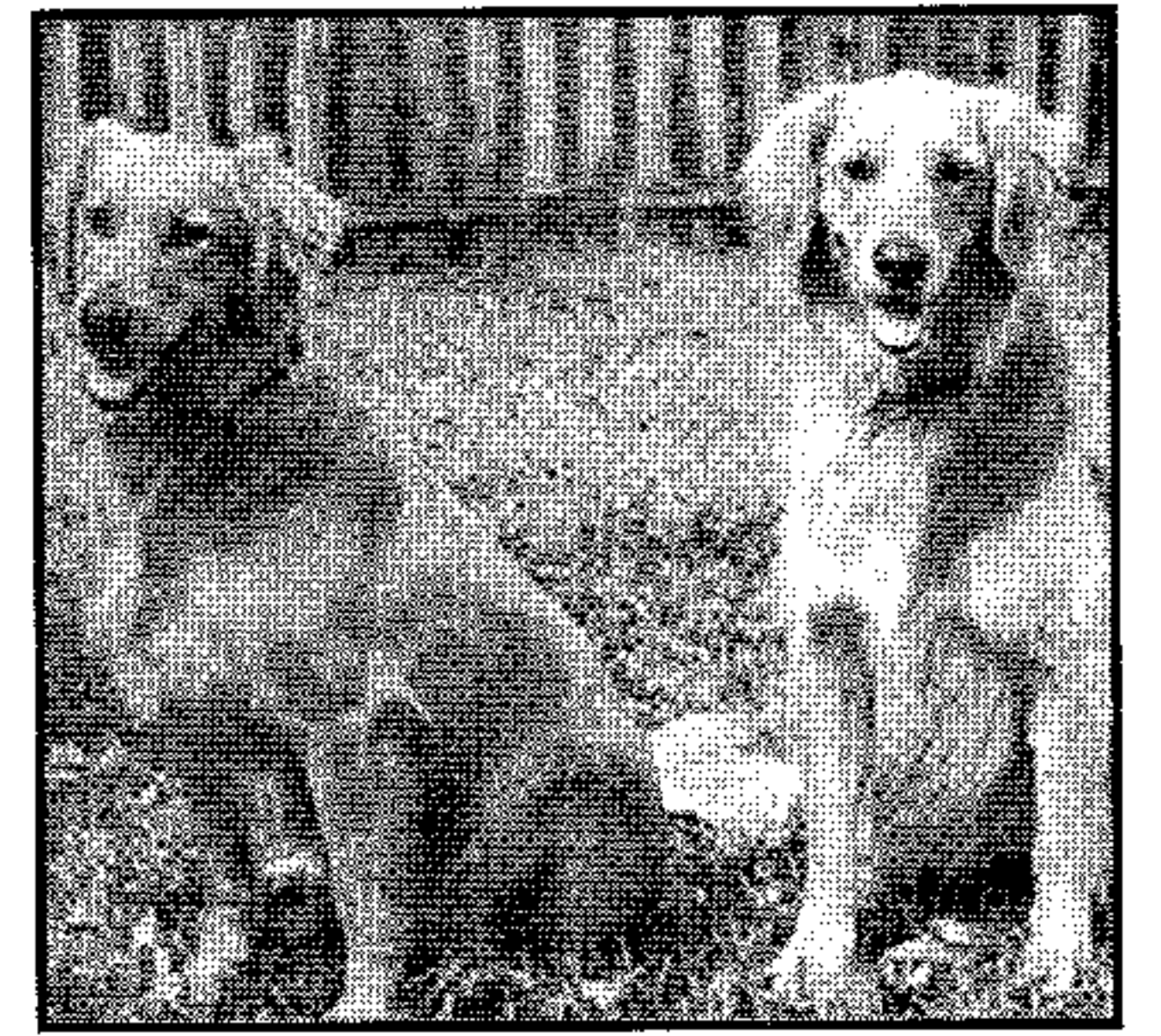
Kita landed in an east coast animal shelter with a letter from his owner saying that financial difficulties forced him to give the dog up. Amy & Gary R. love this guy, and the feeling is mutual. Kita especially loves his new fenced-in yard, where he gets to run and play with his canine sister, Honey.

*Hero and Marina*

Hero, 6 1/2 years, was given up when his owner decided to move in with her fiancé, whose lease didn't allow dogs. Joanne J. and her daughter, Marina, had shared their lives with goldens before,

but they were looking for a female. They agreed to foster Hero, to see how he got along with their Bichon mix, Coco. Hero also needed to learn some manners, and Joanne promptly signed up for obedience classes. A month passed, and when South Florida Regional Coordinator Diane Mackinney checked up on them, Joanne told her they had fallen in love with Hero's "golden charm." Hero now has a wonderful new family including his "little brother," Coco.

Lucky & Pooka, ages 3 and 2, grew up together and were very bonded to each other. They are a handsome pair, and well-behaved to boot. They were adopted by Cliff & Nancy, who think they're the lucky ones. Lucky & Pooka are very happy in their new home. They have a big basket full of toys that keeps them occupied, and their new owners love them dearly.

*Lucky and Pooka**Corey and family*

Corey, 2 years old, was in rescue for a long time. He needed someone special, who could look through the dark shadows of his past and help his golden spirit shine through. His foster mom could never figure out why no one wanted this happy and well-behaved boy. All he ever wanted was someone to love him and play ball with him on a daily basis. And he found it with Colleen and Jane from Bradenton. They fell in love with him the moment they saw him, and he with them. Corey, who could be a bit standoffish with strangers, immediately

approached them, sat down and let them pet him to their heart's content. He jumped into their car like he knew all along they were coming for him.

Zachary had a hard life before coming to GRRMF. He was picked up as a stray with a broken leg and landed in the pound, where he suffered, sick and injured, for two weeks. A volunteer happened to be at Animal Services and saw him poke his sad red head around a corner. She immediately called Adoption

*Zach and Lourdes*

Continued next page

Recent Adoptions, continued

Coordinator Betty Wyatt. There was no room for Zachary, so he had to spend more time kenneled at a veterinarian's office until foster space could be found. Unfortunately, there was nothing the vet could do to reset the leg, so it is now somewhat crooked. Zach also had a tough-to-treat skin problem on his muzzle. But none of those things bothered his new mom, Lourdes B., who fell in love as soon as she saw him. She tells us that Zach is "the sweetest, most intelligent and happiest dog in the world." He is enrolled in obedience classes, which has been a great way to channel and focus his energy. Zach loves his new feline siblings, too, and follows them around the house. Good boy, Zach!

Midas was left alone at a car lot to starve when his owner died. He was confined by the lot's fencing, but no one bothered to feed him. When the man's family came to gather his belongings, they, too, left Midas behind. By the time someone called rescue, Midas was literally skin and bones, very near death from starvation. His coat was dull and spotty, with many bare spots. He also was aloof and didn't care much for people. But Adoption Coordinator Betty Wyatt saw pure gold when she met him, and soon Midas was on the road to recovery – both physically and mentally. Midas was fostered and then adopted by Jennifer & Ron L., who couldn't imagine their lives without him once they saw his transformation from a scruffy yard dog to a beautiful, cuddly and warm golden boy. Midas went through formal training at the Oviedo Dog Training Club and has settled in nicely with his new family.



Justice and family

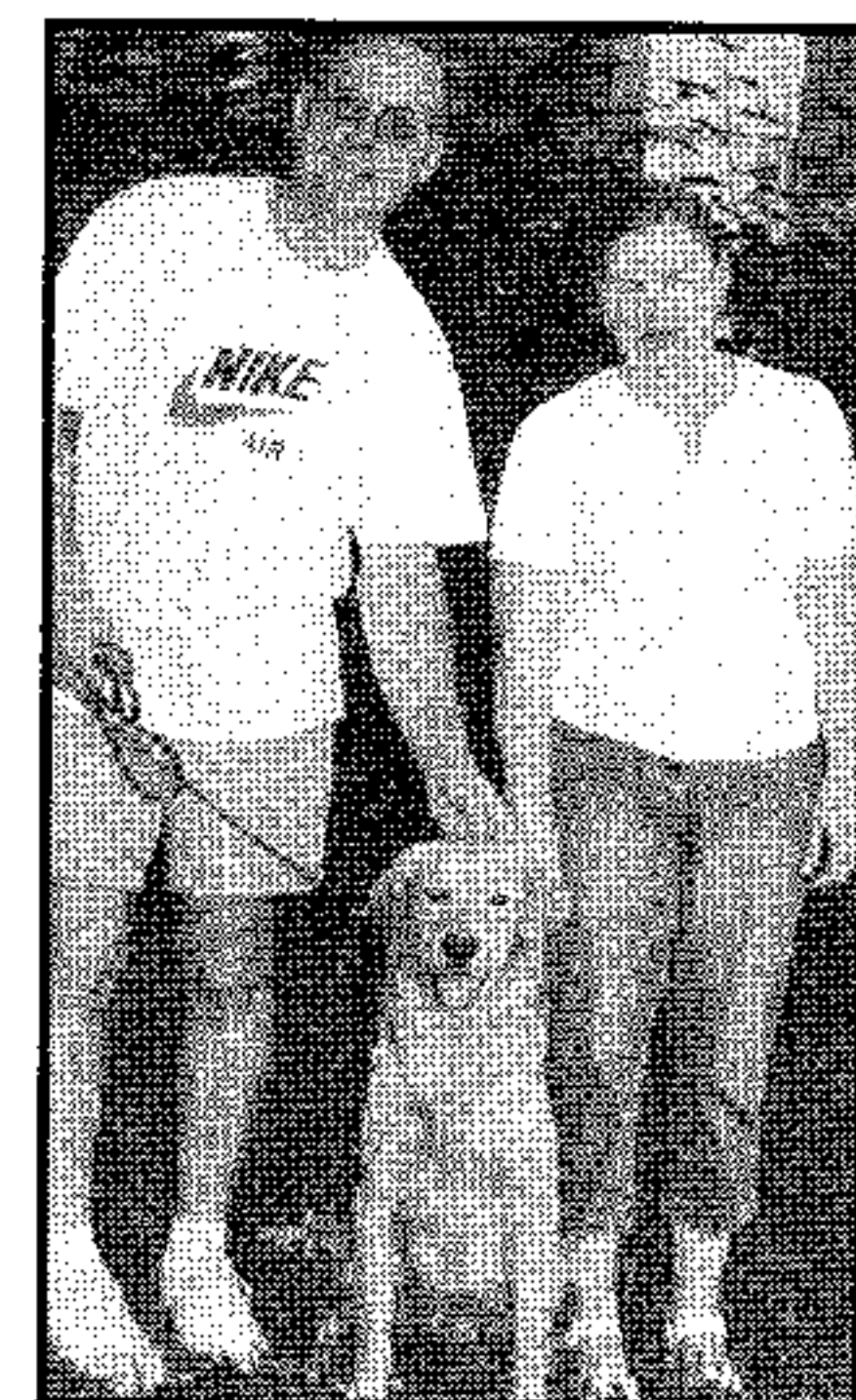
Justice is a beautiful golden who could step in to any show ring and hold his own. Unbelievably, Justice was a stray. He walked up to someone's door one day, and lucky for us, they let him in. When they were unable to locate his rightful owner, they turned him over to GRRMF. Justice was adopted by Kevin & Michelle R., who say they love him dearly.

Puppy Freddie was found abandoned in a residential neighborhood. When his owners couldn't be found, he was turned in to rescue. This is a very sweet boy who doesn't know a stranger. He is nothing but friendly to everyone he meets. He was quickly adopted by Kevin & Barbara M. who had previously adopted Fetch/Dinger. They're avid baseball fans, so Freddie is now called Slugger.

Annie is an older dog who turned up in a Gainesville animal shelter. She was heartworm positive and filthy dirty. We're thrilled to report that this little girl is happy and healthy with her new family, Nancy & Dwight S. Her new name is Jody.

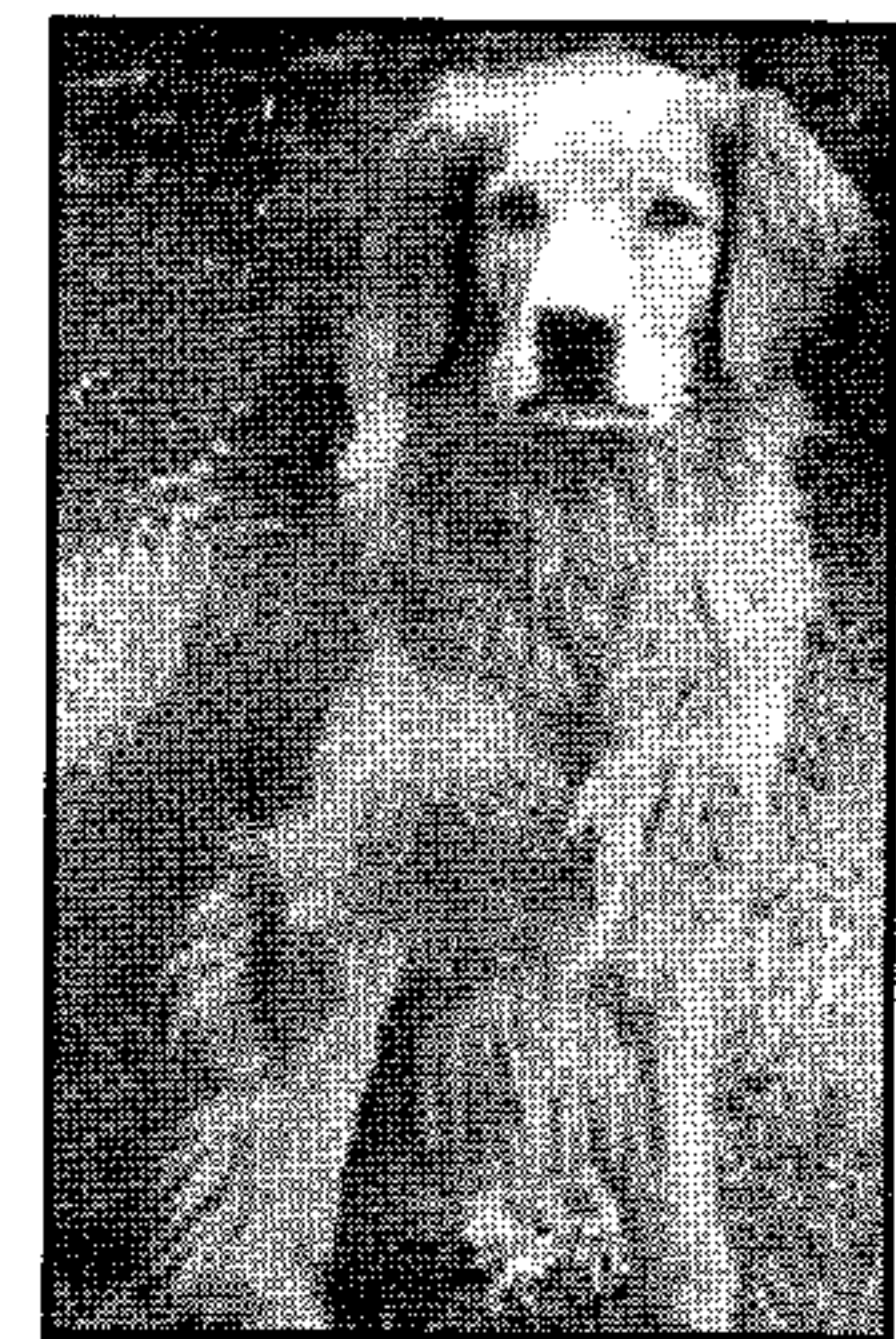
Bud, 9 months, was relinquished for a variety of reasons – several children and a boyfriend who didn't want him. This laid-back and even-tempered boy endeared himself to all who met him. He was perfect for Nancy C. and Joseph M. and their seven dogs. Bud fits right in, and is even good with their 14-year-old dog, lying beside her and gentle as can be.

When Chad's owner had to fly to South America to care for her sick father, we were given one day to pick him up. Of course, there were no fosters available, so 1-year-old Chad had to be boarded for several days. Good move on our part, as this sweet dog was soon adopted by Peggy & Jim F. They are amazed at how well-behaved he is, and Chad seems to be fitting in nicely with his new family.



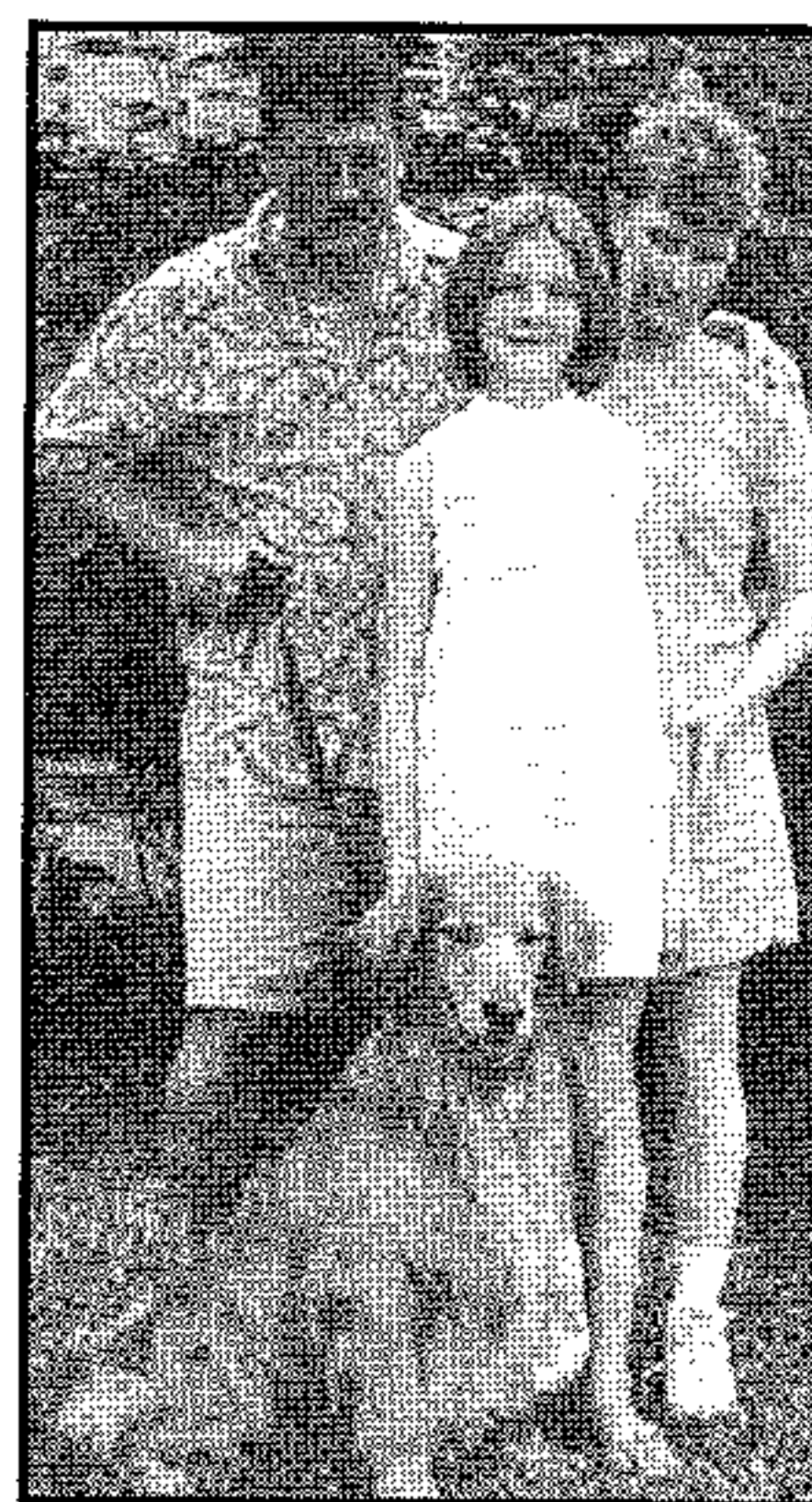
Chad and family

Maybelle, 5 years, was turned in when her family moved north. This pretty girl loves people, but isn't crazy about other dogs. Maybelle was adopted by Scott & Alyson L. to complete their family. They are very pleased with her, and she very much enjoys being the center of attention.



Maybelle

Clipper, 2.5 years, weighed in at a lofty 110 pounds. He was given up reportedly for playing too roughly with the Maltese that he shared his home with. His owner said he was a "wonderful pet who just wants to be loved." Apparently, the owner wished hard enough, because that's exactly what happened. John & Brooksie B. fostered and then adopted Clipper. John takes him for daily walks to lose weight, and Clipper is almost down to normal size. They think he's perfect.



Clipper and family

We received a call from a rescue group in the Crystal River area about a heartworm-positive 8-year-old golden in a shelter. Tammy was scheduled to be euthanized the next day.

Continued next page

Recent Adoptions, continued*Tammy & George*

Our hearts become heavy when we receive calls about seniors ... we know they'll be put down if we can't take them in. Luckily, it wasn't Tammy's time to go. She was fostered by Leah Wright, who became quite attached to Tammy. When George G. called to tell us that his beloved **Jenny**, a former rescue, had died, Betty Wyatt immediately thought of Tammy, who had completed her heartworm treatment and was now available for adoption. George is a parishioner and needed a well-behaved dog with a sweet disposition. Tammy was perfect! It was difficult for Leah to give her up, but she knew that Tammy was going to a wonderful home. George calls regularly to tell us how wonderful Tammy is. The two have already become best friends. You could say it was a match made in Heaven.

Katie, 2 years old, was given away by her original owner because of her hobby of chasing horses on the farm where she lived. Katie is clingy, sweet and loyal, and her second owner didn't keep her long – he didn't have time for such a “needy” dog. Her coat was in poor condition when Mark & Linda P. adopted her. But that was soon to change, and Katie can finally rest, knowing that she now is truly “home.” She joined her new family, including another canine companion, like she's always been there.

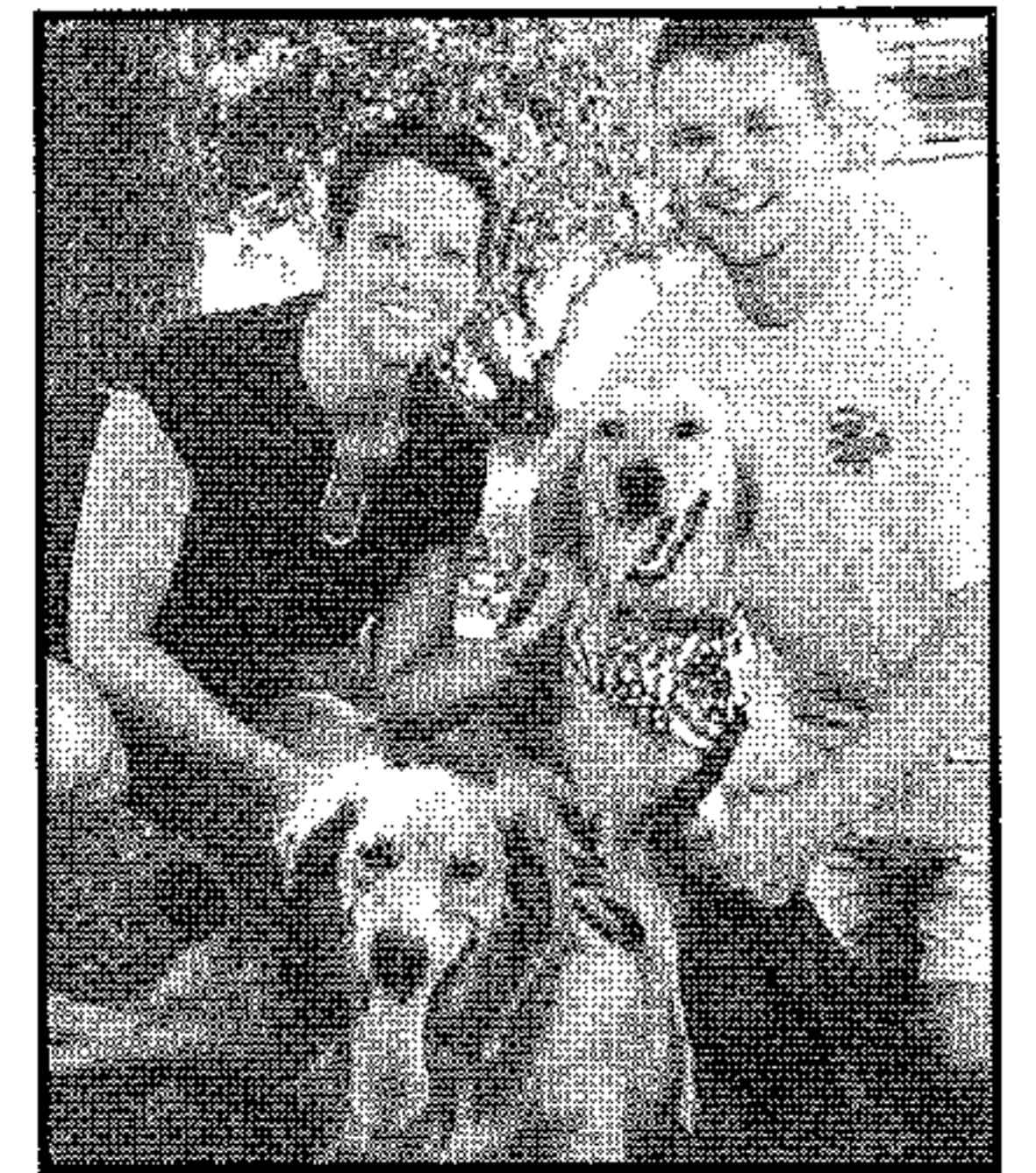
Aurora was a high-energy dog who had to live outside without even a water dish. Her wealthy owner forced her to drink out of the swimming pool. When Debbie D. went to see her, she couldn't leave her there, but took her home instead. Aurora adjusted quickly with her new mom and canine sister, Autumn, and especially enjoys her daily walks. Debbie says she learns something new every day.

Lancelot, 5 years, and **Loxley**, 7 years, were displaced due to a divorce. They were adopted by Peggy & Joe B. and never looked back. Their new humans say they're definitely “keepers” – well-behaved and handsome.

Agape was picked up as a stray by Orange County Animal Services. When her owner didn't come forward, GRRMF was called. Agape was adopted by Ani A., who tells us she is the most wonderful and sweetest dog she's ever dreamed of. When Ani met her new companion, Agape was depressed and covered with ticks. But that changed as soon as she found Ani, who now can't imagine life without Agape, her

newest and best friend. The two have become very bonded and enjoy exercising together at the parks in downtown Orlando.

Daisy came into rescue from a family who had her tied to a stake in their unfenced back yard. At only 1 year old, she wanted a lot more than that from life! She had energy to burn and found the perfect family with Beth and Jeff S. and their golden, Sunni. She has made herself part of the family from day one. She plays with her sister Sunni and chases tennis balls to her heart's content these days. That's Daisy with the scarf on. Could those canine tongues hang out any farther?

*Daisy & family*

Willard was found as a stray in the Orlando area. He was a handsome and sweet boy with no glaring faults, other than a need to channel some of his puppy energy. This is nothing new to GRRMF – people often find it easier to “get rid of” a high-energy puppy rather than spend time teaching it acceptable behavior and good house manners. Willard went to “boot camp” with John & Gail P. in Sarasota, who polished him up and soon had him behaving like a perfect gentleman. Willard found his forever home with a wonderful family, Nancy & Barry C., who previously adopted **Paddington** from us. They are amazed at how well-behaved Willard is, and how well he gets along with his new canine siblings, including a senior gal who doesn't seem to mind getting lots of kisses from her new baby brother. Good boy, Willard!

*Willard*

Annabelle, approximately 7-8 years old, was overweight and sick when she was turned in. Two lumps were removed from her mouth. Always good natured, Annabelle's love for children was obvious and she finally got two of her own when she went home with Barbara C. They love this sweet girl dearly. She is happy and healthy now and is a great companion for **Blair**, another GRRMF rescue.

*Annabelle & Barbara*Continued next page

Recent Adoptions, continued



Tanner & Marcia

Tanner was turned in due to a divorce. He was a yard dog and had terrible skin, as well as a whole colony of fleas when he went to Marcia M's house. She agreed to foster Tanner until a space opened up, just so GRRMF could get him out of the terrible situation he was in. As fate would have it, Tanner fit in great with Marcia, Bud and their two former rescues, **Rascal** and **Clover**. They decided to make it permanent and formally adopted Tanner in July. He is one lucky boy! Tanner especially enjoys his trips to the dog park, where

he's been known to entertain the crowd by wallowing in the mud puddles caused by the recent heavy rains.

Lucky Mac came from an animal shelter. He had a lump in his ear and a terrible coat, but he was a love to be around. He was fostered and then adopted by Jon & Debbie M., who couldn't bear to part with him. Lucky is truly one fortunate boy and is now in great shape.



Dreyfuss and family

Dreyfuss was a fast turnaround. What was there not to like about this near-perfect, handsome lad? His family, who had several small children, moved to a small house and Dreyfuss was sent to the barn until GRRMF could open a space. Dreyfuss was adopted by Scott & Alison C. He jumped right into the swimming pool when he arrived at his new home. He even gets along well with the family cat.

Freedom had been struck by a car before finding himself in a shelter, where he endeared himself to one of the workers. Freedom was nurtured back to health and adopted by Dan C., who took one look at him and said "you are going home with me." Freedom wagged his tail, then laid down and rolled over. After a play session, his fate was sealed. What a nice family they are!



Freedom & family

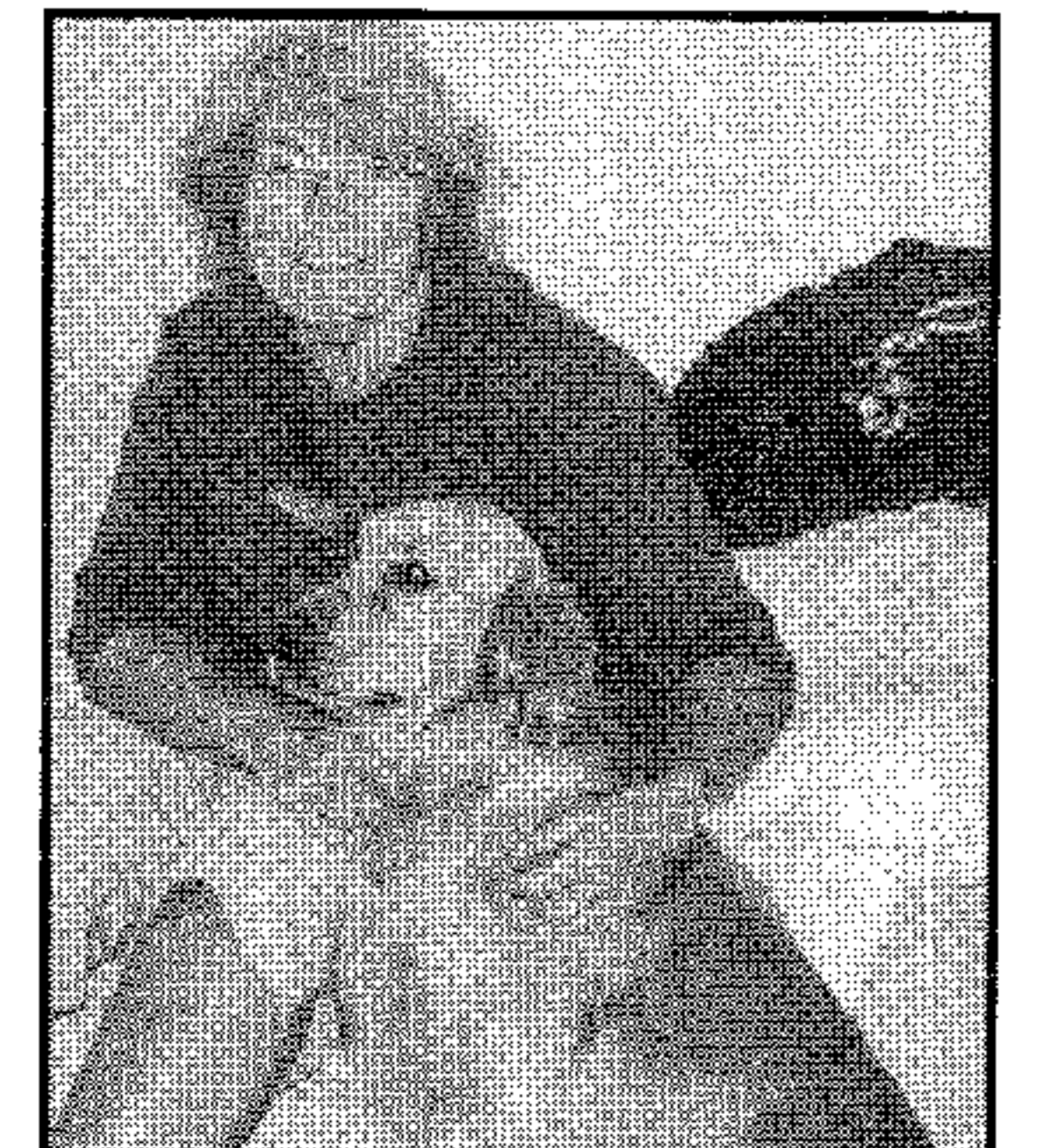
Kelli kept breaking out of the dog pen and running away until her owners gave up and took her to a shelter. This pretty girl learned some manners from two fosters and was adopted by Dave J. It was love at first sight.

All the dogs who come through GRRMF are special. But there are a few whose stories are so compelling that they will stay in our hearts forever. **Chief** is one of those. He was found swimming in the St. John's River, possibly after being thrown off a bridge. He was very thin and had numerous cuts, bruises and puncture wounds. His teeth were ground down beyond the nerve endings. In spite of his rough beginning, Chief is a quiet and friendly boy, who has no problems making friends with everyone he meets, including his new family, Bill & Laurie H. and their daughter, Traci. We're happy to report that Chief has finally found a place where he will be loved and cared for until the day he dies.



Chief & family

Angel and her pup were rescued from a backyard breeder in Melbourne. Both were covered in fleas, Angel had whip worms and hadn't been fed in three weeks. Despite her rough beginning, this sweet girl is truly heaven-sent, or so says her new mom, Gail R. Now called **Maggie**, she goes to work with Gail every day.



Angel/Maggie & Gail

Greta was turned in to the Brevard County animal shelter. The V. family agreed to foster this sweet and petite girl. She fit in so nicely, they decided to make her a permanent member of their family.

Sequoia was a senior fellow left at an animal shelter with a note on his collar that said he was a great dog. They were so right. He went to Yvonne G.'s home and was quickly accepted by both the family cat and dog. No one can figure out why Sequoia's owners would have given him up – he is perfect.

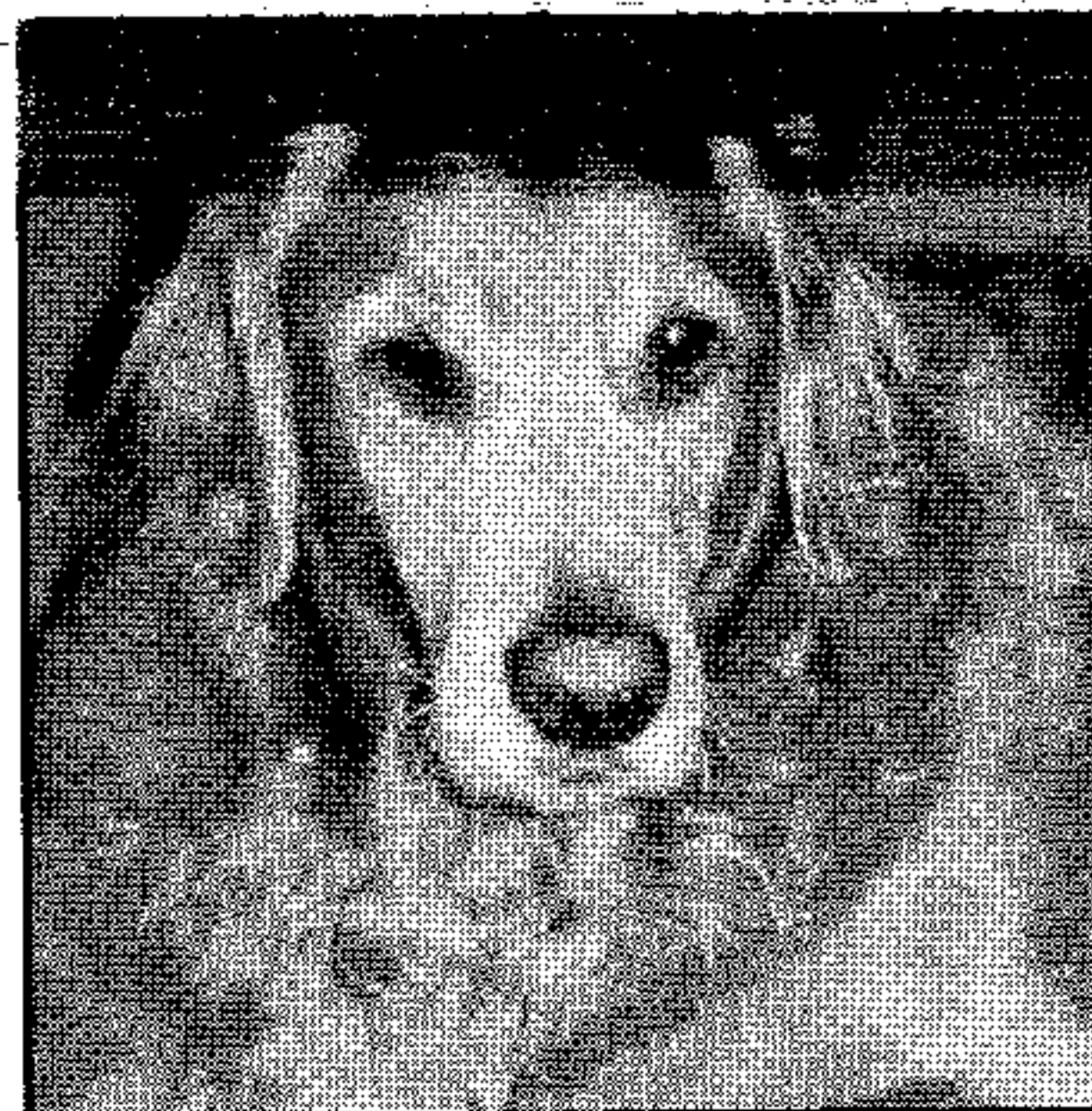


the rainbow bridge

Alex was relinquished because of a child's allergy. His fosters, Thomas and Janet Parker, fell in love with him. Alex lived a happy life with them and another former rescue, Ritz, now called Barney. All miss him terribly.

Astro came to rescue from a shelter as a middle-aged adult. He was simply gorgeous, with a personality to match, and was snapped up by Stephen and Nancy Vorhis. We remember a follow-up call soon after adoption when Nancy told us she was lying in front of the TV with Astro, now called Bailey, cuddled up in her arms. "This is heaven," she said. Bailey truly lived a heavenly life with his human family until cancer finally took him away. We know he is waiting patiently at the Bridge, so they can enjoy "heaven" all over again.

Rooster/Brewster was a beautiful, high-energy dog who was rescued from a shelter by Gary & Beverly Pyett. He was adopted by Lee Ann & John Planz, who gave him nothing but love and devotion for the rest of his life. Brewster died suddenly and tragically from fluid build-up around his heart, most likely caused by an undiscovered cancerous tumor. Brewster was around 10 years old, but as Lee Ann puts it: "10x10 years would not have been long enough."



Brewster

Dixie was a stray in an Orlando shelter. She was adopted by a family whose young son developed allergies. They gave her to a college student who lived in a small apartment, already had a dog and didn't have room to keep her. That was in 1999, and Dixie was 6-8 years old. I agreed to foster Dixie while I was waiting for my new puppy, Tanner, to arrive from the breeder. No one wanted her because she was "too old," so she was still with me when Tanner arrived. Funny thing, Dixie was the only one who would play with the new puppy. My other two, Honey and Samson, wanted nothing to do with him. Dixie fit in so well



Dixie

with all the dogs, that I couldn't NOT adopt her. She was the sweetest, most easygoing dog I have ever owned. On July 6, Dixie began having severe seizures, most likely from a brain tumor. She was sent to the Rainbow Bridge on July 7. It was both the hardest and easiest decision I've ever made. I knew I'd miss her terribly, but I also realized it was the right thing to do. She deserved to die peacefully, and I was grateful to be able to help ease her pain.

Rest easy, "Dixie-Doodles." Thank you for enriching my life. You will be sorely missed.

— Diane Makinney

JENNY: After the Rain

She came into our lives 18 months ago. She was about 10, or perhaps older. Her last months were not easy for her, having to get spayed to hopefully prevent cancer and then months of wearing a "lampshade" while treated for eye ulcers. Then, in November, the seizures began, finally controlled by medicine that had devastating side effects for her. Throughout all of this suffering, Jenny fast became the nicest, sweetest dog I have ever been privileged to know and love. Finally, on May 15 at 4:55 p.m., her life on this earth was mercifully ended as I held her in my arms, telling her over and over, "It's all right, honey, Daddy's here. We'll be together again soon." Even the vet cried for her. That morning we'd had our good-bye ceremony at home as I played and sang to her the beautiful Jeanne Cotter song:



Jenny

*After the rain comes a cool breeze
blowing softly over you.*

*After the pain may that cool breeze
always blow softly over you.*

Jenny's precious ashes rest in a beautiful mahogany box gifted to us by John and Gail Pfohler and Betty Wyatt of GRRME. On the top is a gold-framed sketch of her. On the front is a gold plaque inscribed:

*JENNY
Waiting at the "Bridge"
Rescued and loved by George Geibel.*

Continued next page

Rainbow Bridge, continued

A Tribute to Woody

His Gentle Golden Soul Lives On

Woody was saved from an abusive situation so horrible that his owner was prosecuted. He and his yardmate, Rusty, lived in a back yard the first 6 years of their lives. Both were near starvation and up to their knees in feces. Woody's face and body were covered with mange, and his ears were so badly infected he suffered the rest of his life from chronic ear infections. He was both time-consuming and expensive at a time when GRRMF's resources were literally at rock bottom.

In spite of the odds stacked against Woody, our board couldn't bear to give up the fight, and with the help of veterinarian Rick Rubinstein, Woody slowly recovered.

Dr. Rubinstein and his family were Woody's knights in shining armor. They adopted this wonderful boy, enabling him – and our organization – to live on. Woody is the namesake of GRRMF's "Woody's Fund," established for goldens who need extensive medical care.

We're saddened to report that Woody went to the Rainbow Bridge in June.

"Woody was the sweetest dog I have ever had the pleasure of meeting," Dr. Rubinstein writes. "The first day he came home, he acted like he had been there all his life. I remember, he walked over to a mirror and just stood there, staring at himself. I never knew if he was wondering 'What just happened to me?' or if he was thinking, 'Boy, am I handsome!'"

"Woody never growled even once in 6 years and always showed patience toward our other dogs. Woody's favorite toy was a blowfish, which he would hold in his mouth for hours. One day, our dachshund puppy jumped up and tore the

blowfish from Woody's mouth. He just sat there and watched her until she was done. Then he picked it back up and resumed his own playing, as if he was above it all – which I believe he was.

"I meet thousands of dogs yearly in my practice and they're all special. But I don't think I'll ever meet another dog quite like Woody."

To know Woody was to love Woody. He embodied all of what GRRMF stands for – a gentle golden soul who somehow was strong enough to overcome horrible neglect and abuse with his gentle, loving spirit intact. Over the years, Woody endeared himself to many souls – he was always a hit at the annual reunion, and many volunteers found strength in him during times of stress. Looking at that sweet face, seeing that tail wag – well, it just couldn't help but warm your heart and strengthen your spirit.

It's a blessing to know that through the fund created in his honor, Woody has and will continue to help many needy goldens who might otherwise not survive – just like himself. Woody, our wonderful survivor, your legacy lives on. We will carry you in our hearts and in our souls, until we meet again at the Bridge. We love you and will miss you very much.

May you rest in peace.



Woody



Walking, from page 5

him join her, and Yukon was in heaven to be at the head of the pack! Once his lead was established, Yukon was 'Mr. Sniffy,' calmly walking and checking out all of the smells before any other dog got up there.

This could be valuable information if Yukon finds a home with a family where he'll have other canine siblings.

Through their travels, the walkers also recruit new volunteers to foster and help out at events. "We get noticed on the trails and have an opportunity to hand out flyers about rescue," Sandy says.

During the hot summer months, the group walks the Seminole Trail, where there's lots of shade and a creek at the halfway point. When winter comes, they'll switch to nearby Blanchard Park, where it's more open and sunny.

Sandy says there is no shortage of dogs in need of walking. "We can always use walkers to help out, or even just tag along with their own dogs. The best way to increase our volunteer base is to show people how much fun rescue can be," she adds.

If you are interested in joining the "Saturday walkers," please contact Sandy: ssumner2@cfl.rr.com, or leave a message on the GRRMF Hotline: (407) 332-2840, mailbox 4.

Special thanks to our dog walkers: Deborah Wilson, Pat Matthews, Jeffrey & Donna Prescott, Hilary Overstreet, Marie Pacheco, Dale Crow, Tammy Saborin, Jenny Middleton, Jennifer Longman, Barbara Durham, Kerri Vorhies, Sandy Sumner.



\$ Vacation Raffle \$

4 Days/3 Nights at Hutchinson Island, FL Marriott
Second Prize.....27" TV w/remote
Third Prize.....Diamond Tennis Bracelet

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

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Phone: _____

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
PO Box 1449, Goldenrod, FL 32733 407-332-2840 www.grrmf.org
Drawing November 12, 2002



\$ Vacation Raffle \$

4 Days/3 Nights at Hutchinson Island, FL Marriott
Second Prize.....27" TV w/remote
Third Prize.....Diamond Tennis Bracelet

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

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Goldenrod, FL 32733

Make checks payable to GRRMF

Drawing will be held on November 12, 2002 at PetsMart, Lake Mary.
Winners will be notified by phone if not present.

Ticket Seller: _____

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

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Golden Friends . . .

Donations

Thomas Arns; Theresa Bradley; Christina Brown-Lifvendahl; Peter Burris-Meyer; Rosanne Cooke; Laverne Cordary; Don & Penny Dalton; Sheila Fowlie; George Geibel – from Jenny; The Lee Foundation; Stuart & Grace Longworth; Kevin & Barbara Massey; Carol Osburn; Jill Palladino; Mike & Mary Prody; Diane Raudenbush; Thomas Sample; Rev. Lukas Schmidt; Rick & Colleen Sosteri; Sandy Sumner; Olinda Sykes; Verney & Mary Blanch Vehlewald

In Honor Of ...

DeBra Aid – Robin Ellis
DeBra Aid – Leesa Whitcomb
Bullet – Carol Stransky
Jan Jennings – Christine MacPhail
Steven M. Lipschutz – Michelle Zardus
Maggie Mae – Tracy Frandsen
Rick & Colleen Sosteri – Deborah Kollett
Bill Thomas & Cheryl Barlow – Betty Wyatt

In Memory Of ...

Griffin – Dave & Sally Anne Rowland
Griffin – Mary Grace Lester
Griffin – Debbie McGhehey
Hawkeye – Larry & Sandra Dauby
Teddy Bear – Audrey Myers
Tyson & Shep – Peggy Litt

Woody's Fund ...

Didi & Doria Fahmy – in honor of Joey; Tracy Frandsen; Keith Hollister from Silent Auction; Bonnie Keller; Merrill Lochmaier; Kevin & Barbara Massey; Michael & Carol McKee; Thomas Sample

Sponsorships ...

Best Paw Forward; Bill & Maddie Becker; Kimberly Bruce; Mary Buzzell; Cathy Golish; Shawn Goodwin – in honor of McLeod; Bob & Patti Hatton; Jack & Pat Hayman; Bonnie Keller; Kathryn Lynch; Kevin & Barbara Massey; Thomas Miller; Gilbert Peterson; Joan Raleigh; Gary & Amy Reinhart; Herb Rogero; Jerald Rosen; Thomas Sample; Rick & Colleen Sosteri; Francis & Jay Sujansky

Capital Campaign ...

Robin Adams; Florence Babenic; Joe & Janet Clark; Kathleen Hendrickson; Kenneth Hunsader; Steve Jaffe; Ron & Carol Luteyn; Becky Stake; Richard & Virginia Withington

Boarding

Merrill Lochmaier
David & Janice Strock – in honor of Tony & Suzanne Rider

Thanks!

- We sincerely thank all our wonderful foster homes, for without the love and care they show on behalf of our goldens, we would not be able to save a single one.
- Thanks to our many volunteers for education, grooming, errands, home visits, phone calls and all the many tasks of making our program work. We appreciate all of you!!
- A very big thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Rescue Reunion a success! To the volunteers who helped set up, staff the various booths and activities and to those who made "in kind" donations for the raffle and/or silent auction – We couldn't have done it without you, and we very much look forward to your help at next year's event!
- Veterinarians who helped by donating or discounting goods and services:
 - All Creatures Animal Hospital, Lutz
 - Animal Hospital of Treasure Island, Treasure Island
 - Dr. Michael Schroeder, Animal Medical Clinic, Spring Hill
 - Dr. Rachael Beckett, Jackson Veterinary Practice, St. Augustine
 - Dr. Myburgh, Bright Cross Animal Clinic, Venice
 - Dr. Constance DiNatale, Veterinary Acupuncture, Winter Park
 - Dr. Athey, Orange City Animal Clinic, Orange City
 - Dr. Martin Neher, Palmer Ranch Animal Clinic, Sarasota
 - Dr. Rick Rubinstein, Tusawilla Oaks Animal Hospital, Oviedo
 - Dr. William Ehlers, 434 Animal Hospital, Longwood

- Dr. Charles Steiner, Wickham Road Animal Hospital, Melbourne
- Dr. Charles Gerhart, Southwest Ocala Veterinary Hospital
- Drs. Topor, Green & Buchanan Livingston Animal & Avian Hospital, Lutz
- Dr. Leland Simmons, Sand Lake Animal Clinic, Orlando
- Dr. Kristine Sands, Apopka Veterinary Clinic, Apopka
- Dr. E. J. Rackowski, Treasure Coast Animal Clinic, Vero Beach
- Dr. Michael Berkenblit, Village Animal Clinic, North Palm Beach
- Courteous Canine, Lutz, Fla., for their assistance in training rescue dogs in the Tampa area.
- Krista Roman of Merial, Nicole Prosser of Novartis and Beth Silverbert of Virbac for donation of medical supplies such as FrontLine, Advantage, heartworm preventive, heartworm treatment drugs and oral care supplies. Also to Ellen Pavlik for coordinating these donations. We really appreciate your help!
- Staffs of PetsMart, Pet Supermarket, Border's Bookstore and other businesses across the state, for letting GRRMF set up educational booths. We are grateful for all their support of our organization.

Didn't see your name? ... Due to the amount of adoptions over the past few months, we regret we were unable to list individual volunteer names in this newsletter. Please know that we very much appreciate all the hard work and dedication of our volunteers across Florida. Each and every one of you make a difference in the number of dogs we save and in the quality of the forever homes we find for them. We couldn't do it without you. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH! If you have any questions or concerns about this list, please let us know – (407) 332-2840 or e-mail our newsletter editor at 2boatrats@comcast.net.



Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida, Inc.
P.O. Box 1449
Goldenrod, FL 32733

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 310
GOLDENROD, FL 32733

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida Membership Application

Issue Date: Summer 2002

ALL memberships/donations are tax-deductible.

Name: _____ Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____ Phone: Home _____ Work _____
e-mail: _____

Membership

Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly "Hearts of Gold" newsletter and is on a calendar year basis. Memberships received after September 1 of any year automatically carry forward to the next calendar year.

Please check one:

- ☐ General Membership \$25
- ☐ Sponsorship \$100 (for helping a dog in need – you will be recognized in our newsletter and receive notification of the special GRRMF dog you are sponsoring.)
- ☐ Gift Membership \$25 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. (\$100 donation will purchase an inscribed brick to be placed at the new shelter. To order an inscribed brick, return this form with your \$100 donation or call the GRRMF Hotline: 407-332-2840, Mailbox 4.)
- ☐ \$ _____ 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.

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