

Golden Nuggets

www.egrr.net

Official Publication of Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue

Fall 2014

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Bella's New Trick



“Saving one dog will not change the world, but, surely for that one dog the world will change forever.” - Unknown



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February 14, 2015
May 14, 2015
August 14, 2015

From the President's Desk _____

President's Report - September 2014

Rich Randall - President, Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue

We seem to be heading out of our hot summer weather as we move into the Fall and toward the last opportunities and activities for 2014. And so it is with Rescue efforts for Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue (EGRR) this year.

While the total number of dogs that have been Rescued is not perceptively growing, the issues of senior dogs and medically-needy dogs do seem at times to tax everyone's energies. This pattern continues that of the last several years. We have performed multiple surgeries, multiple tests to unearth stubborn medical issues, and have had sudden surprises of medically-unexpected events. Therefore, visits to veterinary clinics are still at front and center of the efforts. Rescue has dealt with removal of growths on tails, injured teeth pulled, cancer, very severe allergies, terrible whole body skin conditions that flout diagnosis, very harshly injured joints, eye surgeries, and the list goes on. Involving several veterinary specialists is also becoming routine for EGRR. All in addition to just seeing to general veterinary care and updating of routine vaccinations.

Through it all, those who volunteer in the Rescue activities for EGRR keep a positive attitude as they realize that the best thing that ever happened to many of these dogs is that they did indeed come into Rescue. And the Rescued dogs surely, at the end of the day as healthier pooches in their new and caring adoptive homes, must appreciate the plus to it all and do happily say in their own way a great big thanks to the volunteers and all the financial donors to EGRR. So there is indeed upside!!!

On another upside note, the EGRR Rescue annual summer picnic in mid-July was well attended once again by both humans and by doggies. While the weather was predicted to be a scorcher, it turned out just to be, well, hot!! Lots to eat, lots of good socializing. And an agility course set up by Gail Miller as in past years for folks and dogs to try their hand. A highlight of the picnic was a Freestyle demonstration courtesy of Sharon Colvin. Thanks to all those who donated their time and energy to organize and volunteer at the picnic, in particular Kathy and Tony Bahnick the event chairpersons!!

A quick note as we head toward Autumn is that the time will soon be upon us for the 2015 Membership campaign and annual membership renewal. It is wonderful to think of all those that have kept their memberships going year after year, and we kindly ask everyone to do so again for the next calendar year!!!

The primary focus of Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue (EGRR) is on rescuing Golden Retrievers in need. Driven by our belief in responsible pet ownership, we are dedicated to ensuring for dogs such as these a future of care and affection

RESCUE PICNIC 2014

Fun for All!!

Overcast skies greeted the humans and dogs who attended EGRR's 4th Annual Picnic on July 13th and this proved to be a benefit as it tempered the unseasonably hot weather we had been experiencing. Neither heat nor cloudy skies could temper the enthusiasm of the 60+ human and 30+ canine attendees, however, because it is always so much fun to get together with fellow Golden Retriever owners, adopters and EGRR volunteers. The picnic was expertly organized again this year by co-chairs, Kathy and Tony Bahnick. Upon arriving, each dog was given a cute bandana made and donated by Dorothy Lennard. The original plan was that the bandanas would go only to EGRR dogs so that they would stand out but clearly everyone wanted one!

The burgers and hot dogs were superbly cooked by our team of "chef's", Nick Thain, John Endicott and Allan Kiesler. The selection of side dishes and desserts made choosing a challenge and there simply was not enough room on the plate to try even a little of everything. Even with the clouds in the sky it was quite warm so dog activities were kept to a minimum for everyone's well being. Wet dogs were visible everywhere thanks to the proximity of the river and the hoses provided for that purpose.

Sharon Colvin and her talented Golden, Blaze, performed a delightful freestyle demo which was a bit hit. Gail Miller organized the agility equipment so that attendees could try their paw at it if they wanted to although most people chose to relax in the shade and catch up with their friends. There was a very nice raffle which people generously supported. Several reunions occurred between adopted dogs and their foster home and each one was a highlight on a day that had many highlights. Sincere appreciation to all of the volunteers who helped at the picnic. Thanks to the photographic skills of Max Porpylev and Alexa Lyutenko, you can see for yourself what a good time everyone had. We hope to see you there next year!



RESCUE PICNIC 2014



RESCUE PICNIC 2014



The Dog who would be Mayor

Jack was 3 years old when his previous owners relinquished him to GRRR after he was diagnosed as diabetic. We took him into our home 3 months later.

Yes, learning to interpret and regulate his glucose levels and giving him twice daily insulin injections was initially intimidating. But Jack's mellow acceptance of the procedure (as soon as he smells the glucose monitor he lies down and offers a paw for the pin prick), and sheer repetition quickly rendered it to be a non-event.

Caring for Jack became a little more complicated in February of 2013 when he developed glaucoma due to Golden Retriever Uveitis and had to have his eyes removed. But you can't keep a good dog down.



We own a shop in Eastsound on Orcas Island and Jack comes to work every day in his role as official greeter. He has been on the job for six years and has quite a few fans who make a point to come and see him when they are in town. So even though he could no longer see them, he was still diligent in his role as greeter.

Since 2009, Children's House, a local children's early education center, has staged an annual fundraiser by nominating five local pets to run for honorary mayor of Eastsound. It is a spirited six week campaign from Memorial Day to July 4th weekend when the winner is announced. Ballot boxes are set up in various stores around town and each vote is \$1.

We have been approached each year and asked if Jack is running, but always resisted having him throw his collar in the ring as campaigning requires participation in a couple of parades (this town is nuts for parades- we have about eleven of them each year) with many other critters present and Jack has an aversion to dogs. This seemed like a recipe for trouble and the prudent thing was to have him sit out the elections.

However, this spring we were approached by a board member from Children's House who said, "I know you always decline, but I truly think Jack should run this year. He can lead the pet parade and avoid contact with other dogs and ride in my convertible in the July 4th parade." "Who were we to deny the will of the public?"

So-we initiated a campaign emphasizing Jack as "a blind visionary for Eastsound" and he began the competition against 3 other dogs and an aged cat. In addition to the ballot boxes, online votes were accepted and those would be immediately tallied on the Children's House website. We dedicated one side of the advertising sandwich board outside our shop to publicizing the candidate ("Back Jack") and the response was heartening. We also ordered 700 elastic wristbands promoting Jack and soon folks were sporting them all over town. It was a kick to walk Jack through town and have people show us their wristbands.

Jack jumped out to an early lead, no doubt helped by his daily presence in town. He made three appearances at the weekly Farmers' Market and garnered many votes there. Late in the campaign, someone gave \$300 to another candidate. That put Jack in second place for a day or two, but he rallied and went back in the lead.

July 5th was the final day of the election. Jack and Jill rode in a convertible while I walked the parade route with my donation can, collecting votes and distributing wristbands. At noon, Jack was still in the lead as the online voting closed. There were two hours left to campaign but no updates would be given until the announcement of the winner.

Jack walked from the store to the Village Green, collecting votes along the way. At 2:00 PM the results were announced and Jack had accumulated over 2600 votes. The second place dog garnered 1600 votes, so there was no question that Jack was the run-away favorite.

There was a brief ceremony whereupon the outgoing mayor presented Jack with a key to the town along with a bandana emblazoned with 'Mayor'.

Since the election, not a day goes by that we are in town and at least one person greets him as "Mayor". In addition to the public accolades, Jack is entitled to a monthly column in the local newspaper and has already commented on civic issues such as overflowing trash cans and drivers rolling through a stop sign in town while talking on their cell phones.

What struck us most about the campaign was how many people approached Jack (and still do), saying "I have/had a Golden at home. Aren't they the best?"

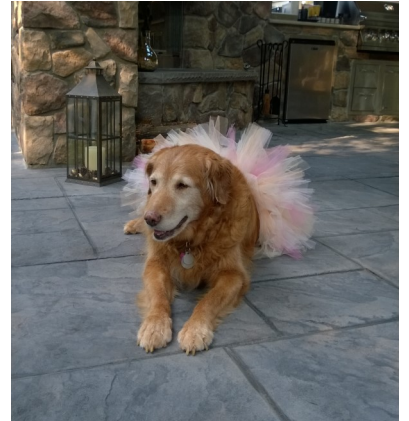


Yes, he receives a lot of sympathy for being blind, but his sweet disposition is what first attracts people to him and was probably the key to his becoming mayor. So while Jack won the election as an individual, it was also a proud victory for all Golden Retrievers.

By Rodger Curtis

Happy Endings

Sometimes our happy endings are also wonderful new beginnings as you will see by the following report from Pam Schmidt. First a bit of history – Sophie came to us as Shelby and had lived her entire life as a farm dog in eastern Washington. She had rarely been to the vet and as a result, was in foster care for over 8 months while we worked to get her ear infection and allergies under control. Pam has continued the process and Sophie is now a happy, healthy girl enjoying the life that she so deserves.



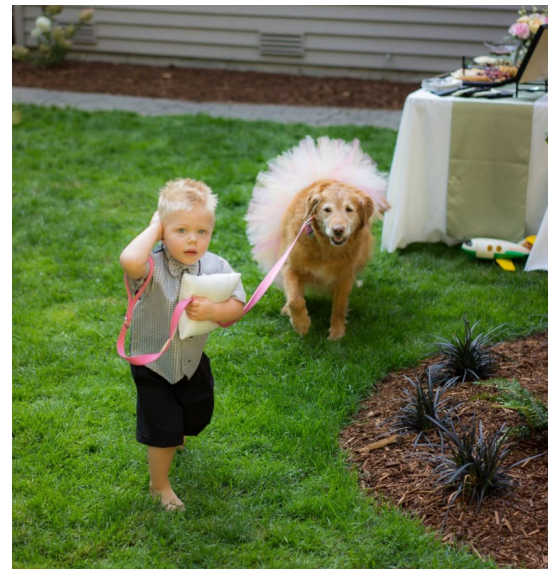
Pam sent us the following:

Our wedding was just perfect in every way and Miss Sophie was quite the hit with everyone. Here are some pictures as Parker walked her towards the ceremony. Everyone had a good laugh when she got half way there and decided to just sit down. We had around 45 family members and friends attend and Sophie just hung out making friends with everyone. Her favorite place was 'guarding' the appetizer table. Everyone commented on what a sweet and behaved girl she is.



The Wedding Party

Sophie and Parker



Guarding the appetizers

Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of Heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food and water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who are hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by

The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they miss someone very special to them; who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. The bright eyes are intent; the eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to break away from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster. YOU have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face: your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart. Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together.....



Penelope (2003) Rob and Amber Mullineaux - She was the most precious, patient and loving dog we have ever owned. She blessed our lives since the day we brought her home in December of 2003, when she was a mere 3 months old. She enjoyed playing with our children and with her "brother" Ozzy. She was an absolute joy, and it was a tough decision, but warranted due to her kidney failure. She will always be remembered. Thank you for all that you continue to do with reusing, fostering and adoption.

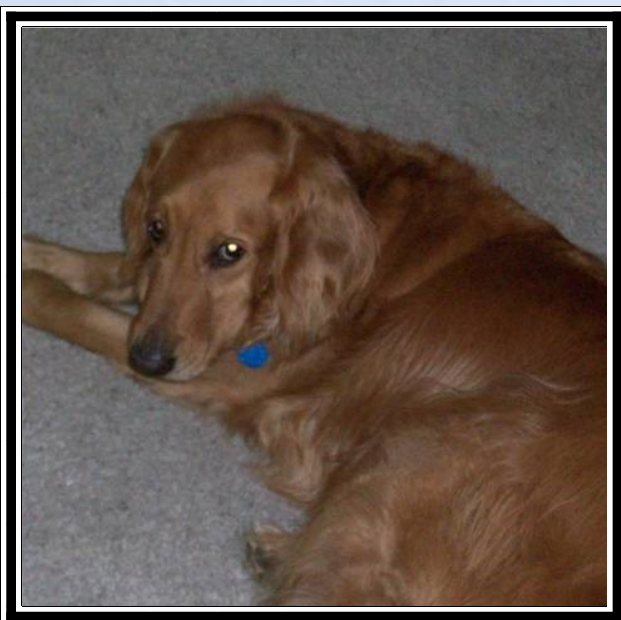


Rainbow Bridge



Gracie (2014) Regina Coretta - Gracie was my sweet girl for only a month she loved to play in the yard chasing her toys, walks on Lake Washington, snuggling with everyone who came to visit.... ..Molly was her best friend, an older golden, and she still looks for Gracie when she comes over... Gracie taught Molly how to play again - Molly visits and goes to Gracie's toy basket pulls out the Kong and demands to play in the yard...this was a gift that Gracie gave Molly in the short time they were friends...I wanted more time with her, but she reinforced for me how important it is to welcome older goldens into your heart, your home even if for only a short time...Gracie found her forever home....

Molly (2011) Annabelle Fitts - Molly came into my life in March, 2011 and I had a wonderful 3+ years with a very sweet little girl. My thanks to Cathy Green for being a wonderful foster home and caring so much for her. Molly had forgotten how to play until my friend and neighbor adopted Gracie in July from EGRR. The girls quickly became best friends and enjoyed playing together. Sadly, Gracie died less than a month later and Molly missed her a lot but they are now playing together at the Rainbow Bridge.

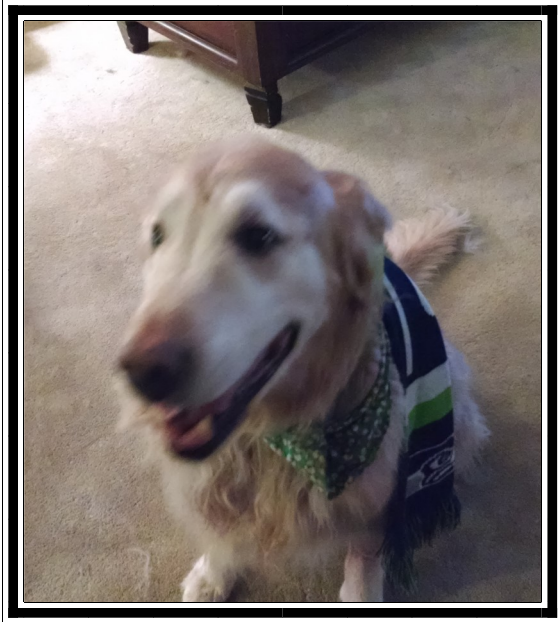


Sadie (2002): Sandy and Marilyn Hargraves - Sadie loved everyone but was exceptional with small children and toddlers. I used to walk her when the elementary bus would drop the children off in the afternoon. It was the best thing for everyone. She would get down on all fours and wait patiently as 5 or 6 kids would pet her. Then she would roll over on her back so they could rub her tummy. She was very affectionate and loving and we miss her so much.



Rainbow Bridge

Though not an EGRR dog, the following dog was owned and loved by one of our volunteers and is therefore part of the EGRR family.+



Jonas – Vicky and Greg Smith: Beloved dog of Vicky and Greg Smith, buddy to Ginger, Star and Daisy. Adopted from the Thurston County shelter during the 2012 Snowmageddon snow storm. He spent the first 3 days at our house wondering why we just didn't turn on the lights. Jonas' favorite dog trips were the Ranch in eastern Washington where he could chase gophers, chew on antlers and play in the springs and pond. He loved the beach, the dog park and hanging out with his people. We miss his long pointy nose, waggy tail and warm heart.



Where are they now???

By Sue Randall

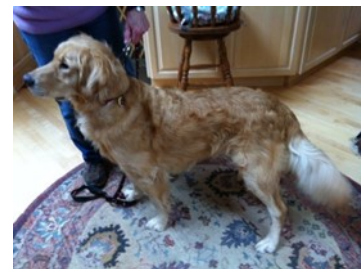
Jake Age 7 years old neutered M came into rescue being placed by his family that adopted him from a shelter 2 years previously. This family had 2 young children that grew to 4 with the addition of 2 babies in 10 months. He then went to the extended family that bred small breed dogs. Jake did not appreciate this activity & did growl,. Now he is with a couple who have another adult Golden to interact with & he's a very happy camper.



Lady Age 4 year old spayed F came to Seattle from Taiwan. There, through a rescue organization who 'save' dogs off the street, they get vetting needed & are then shipped to rescue organizations that are able to offer help. She is a very sweet Golden that adjusted well in her foster home despite presumably the new language & goodness knows what else. She was placed with a caring family that had other Golden retrievers in the past.



Tucker Age 18 month neutered M is now in his fourth. Two were shelters & the owner relinquishing him to rescue had him for 5 months only. He is an energetic guy needing lots of training & was indeed placed by rescue to be trained as a drug detection dog. Unfortunately his place was then superseded by another dog. Now we all hope the young couple that adopted him will work on his manners & find enough to do to satisfy his activity level while toning down his enthusiasm to an appropriate level. He's a delightful...BIG boy. Wishing them all well as they challenge each other.



Shyanne Age approx. 3 year old spayed F was released by her young family who found her to be too energetic. She certainly lacked training & was high energy. She was considered as a dog possible for service dog training briefly. Now her very savvy owner that had Golden retrievers previously will see to her behavior modification, as he has done with his previous Golden retrievers. No photo for her...sorry!

Where are they now???

Continued



Charlie Age 2 years old Neutered M was placed in rescue by owners that decided they were unable to give him enough attention. Both worked as well as having 2 young children & Charlie was crated for the long work days. Now Charlie has the undivided attention of his new family with "dad" retired & home with him all day.

Tucker age seven months old intact M Tuckers owner reluctantly knew he was unable to continue to work with Tucker. A change in his work load made him realize Tucker needed more attention. There was no contract involved with the breeder of this dog & we were able to place him easily. He is now with a family that have owned Golden Retrievers before. They live in the city but have a beach house where Tucker will have lots of playtime in the sand & sea. Lucky boy!!

Sorry, no photo for this guy!

Help Wanted!!!

EGRR is looking for a new Editor for the Golden Nuggets. This is a great job and requires working just 4 times a year. The articles are written and photographs submitted by EGRR members and the Editor is responsible for assembling the information into the news letter format.

EGRR will supply you with Microsoft Word and Publisher and I will be happy to give all the training and support you would need.

If you are interested please drop me an email at:

Allan Kiesler
goldenak@aol.com





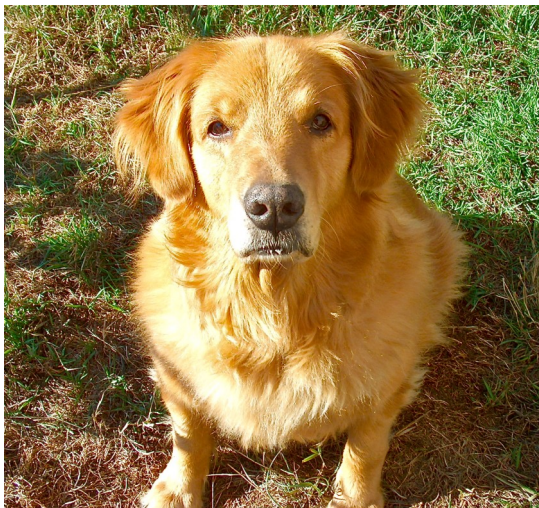
SPECIAL TAIL WAGS!!!!

Thank You Gayle!!

Gayle George-Sackett has served as editor of the Golden Nuggets for the past 7 ½ years. She started our newsletter off on the right foot and helped it to grow to where it is today. Gayle is stepping down to take a well earned break and travel and we just wanted her to know how much we appreciate her efforts. Thank you, Gayle, and “happy trails to you!”



Remember Lady, the dog from Taiwan. She came to us shaved with a Lion Cut.



Look how beautiful she is today

General Donations

Thomas and Patricia Johnson
Nancy Maxson
Grants from GRF's April Fund
EGRC members brag box
Marv Wolfson
Thomas Byers
Hale Dog Doors

Memorial Donations

Katie and Donald Miller in memory of Ruth Kauffman

Theresa Giloi in memory of Brian Alkire's "Abbie" and "Henry"

Kim Millhollin and family in memory of "Molly" Flores

John Chapman in memory of his special girl "Buffie"



Donations given via I-Give, Just Give, GR Foundation, Benevity or United Way of King County are very much appreciated but they arrive without donor information which means we are unable to thank or acknowledge your generosity.

Thank you for your support!



Zeus in the therapy pool

EGRR is a 501c3 organization. Donations are tax deductible so please consider helping us in our efforts. If your employer will match your donation, consider EGRR in your charitable giving.

**Send a check, payable to EGRR to:
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