

Golden Nuggets

www.egrr.net

Official Publication of Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue

Fall 2015

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Hey! That's my ball!!



“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, 2016
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From the President's Desk _____

President's Report – Sep. 2015

Rich Randall – President, Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue

Well, this past summer has been hot, and so has Rescue, more so than earlier in the year, in taking in, training, dealing with medical issues and placing a small mid-year rush of dogs. We will see if that continues into the Fall in the last opportunities and activities for 2015.

While the total number of dogs that have been Rescued in 2015 is not perceptively growing versus prior years, the pattern and issues of senior dogs and medically-needy dogs does continue and does take up a lot of everyone's energies. We have also been dealing with initially difficult training issues, but wonderfully seem to be making good progress due to great volunteer efforts in that regard. Nonetheless, long term fosters are still with us and visits to veterinary clinics are still at front and center of the efforts. The list of medical needs goes on, as does involving several veterinary specialists as a routine for EGRR. All in addition to just seeing to general veterinary care and the updating of routine vaccinations.

Nevertheless, those who volunteer in the Rescue activities for EGRR recognize that the best thing that ever happened to many of these dogs is that they did indeed come into Rescue. There is indeed upside as these dogs who, at the end of the day, are healthier pets in their new and caring adoptive homes. So our Rescued companions must appreciate the plus to it all and do happily say in their own way a great big thanks to the volunteers. And a big thanks to all the financial donors to EGRR.

On another upside note, the EGRR Rescue 5th annual summer picnic in mid-July was well enjoyed once again by both humans and by doggies. The weather was predicted to be a scorcher, and it turned out to be exactly that!! But there was lots of shade, 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. Everyone did very well and everyone won a prize! 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 2016 Membership campaign and annual membership renewal. We most gratefully recognize all those that have kept their memberships going year after year, and Rescue and the dogs kindly ask everyone to do so again for the next calendar year!!! And - certainly - new members are most, most welcome!!

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.

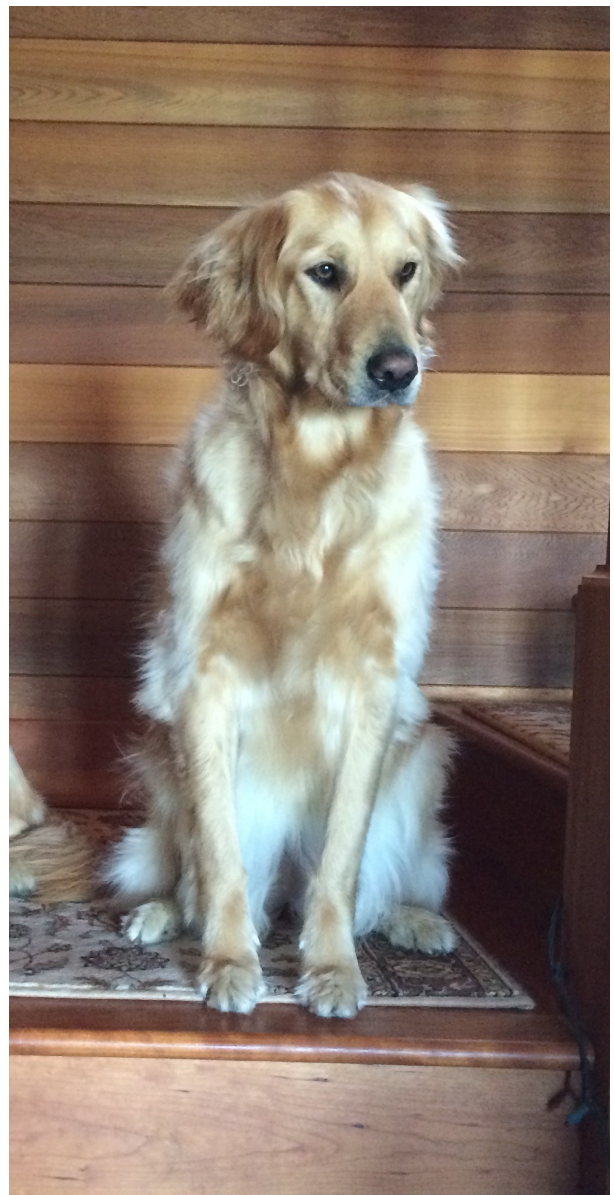
Happy Endings

The Cleo report, one year anniversary

Letter from Andy Stevenson

Thought you might like to know how things are working out with Cleo one year post adoption. As we had hoped, we brought home a (male) golden puppy in November (11/12/2015). When we adopted Cleo, we were unsure if this puppy was going to happen, but we felt that if it did, we would figure out how to cope. We were somewhat anxious about introducing a puppy into the mix so soon after adopting Cleo, concerned that she might not be well enough integrated into our family, and not well enough bonded (and schooled) to be the leader and teacher we needed her to be.

No worries! Cleo stepped right up and took the young whippersnapper in hand. I couldn't ask for a better "auntie". She has infinite patience, and has been Toby's (the boys name) personal chew toy and wrestling partner ever since he arrived, relieving us of much of the responsibility for exercise and roughhousing. The two are a delightful pair, and as he approaches 1 year old, he's beginning to assert himself, and they are becoming more "partners" as opposed to "teacher-student". " and face life shoulder to shoulder, one for all. A joy to experience, heartwarming and fulfilling. We are SO grateful.



Happy Endings

Cleo's bonding with us has been an ongoing process, slower than I expected. Things moved very quickly at first, but you could tell she was still "holding back" a little, maintaining an independence, a little reserve. Slowly, over the last year, that has faded, and I feel she is now fully committed to our pack. The puppy has been an energy sink for her, and coupled with her aging, she's entered a new phase of life, calmer, more tractable, more willing to obey, more focused on being close to us and pleasing us. The two together are a "dynamic duo" and face life shoulder

to shoulder, one for all. A joy to experience, heartwarming and fulfilling. We are SO grateful.



Toby is without a doubt the finest puppy I have ever raised. He exhibits all of the finest attributes of a golden, with none of the negatives we see so often. Cleo has had a MAJOR hand in that. They are yin and yang. She's somewhat high strung and intense, he's placid and laid back (we call him our "surfer dude"). She's manipulative, calculating, and clever, he just bulls his way ahead, sure nothing can go wrong. When she's nervous and unsure, he's placid and confident. You can almost hear him saying "just chill, girl". He's built like a wrestler, she's built like a dancer, even though they

weigh about the same. What a pair!

Once again, my heartfelt thanks to EGRR. You have restored harmony and joy to our household, and we live again in the golden light (and clouds of golden hair!).

Tips for keeping your pet safe and sane this Halloween



Halloween is so darned fun, for us humans, that is. Think about it from the perspective of your pets. The ridiculous costumes they are forced to wear, all those scary sights and sounds, the doorbell ringing over and over again. For our dogs and cats, Halloween can be downright ghoulish! Had they a say so in the matter, most of them would opt to ignore this holiday altogether! If celebration is a must in your household, consider the following tips to keep your pets safe and sane this Halloween season.

Your Pet's Physical Well Being

Guard the candy bowl! Given the opportunity, most dogs will gladly gorge on chocolate, wrappers and all. Chocolate contains theobromine a substance chemically related to caffeine and capable of causing the "cocoa jitters." The richer (darker) the chocolate, the more jittery your pup will be. Symptoms of chocolate toxicity include restlessness, irritability, increased urination, muscle tremors, and sometimes even seizures. Vomiting and diarrhea are also commonplace following chocolate ingestion. If you suspect your dog(s) has raided the candy bowl, call your family veterinarian or local emergency clinic immediately. The sooner treatment is initiated, the better the chance for a good outcome. Based on the approximate weight of your candy thief and the type and amount of chocolate ingested, you will be advised whether or not your dog needs medical attention. Likely no big deal for the Great Dane who has downed some milk chocolate kisses. For the four pound Chihuahua, however, a few ounces of bittersweet chocolate could be a lethal dose.

If you welcome trick-or-treaters to your home, your front door will be opening and closing repeatedly. This translates into many opportunities for your dog or cat to escape into the dark of night when their familiar territory has become particularly spooky. Getting lost or running out in front of a moving vehicle are potentially disastrous holiday outcomes. My advice- don't include your pets as part of your Halloween welcoming committee. Far safer to confine them behind closed doors.

Tips for keeping your pet safe and sane this Halloween

Continued from page 5

Your Pet's Emotional Well Being

Does your kitty hide under your bed every time someone new comes to your home? Does your dog's job description include barking and protecting whenever a stranger (trick-or-treaters included) arrives at your front door? Think about how these poor animals must feel on Halloween night when that doorbell rings dozens of times within just a few hours. Talk about emotional exhaustion! Consider the following options to preserve their sanity:

- Confine your pets behind closed doors, ideally in a sound-proof part of your home.
- Provide trick-or-treaters with a "help yourself" candy bowl on your front walkway.
- Board your pets elsewhere on Halloween night.
- Turn off your house lights and skip the holiday altogether. (No guarantees your house won't be egged the following day!)

Halloween costumes for pets certainly make for some giggles and terrific photo opportunities. But how do our pets really feel about being dressed in those silly outfits? I once made the mistake of hosting a Halloween pet costume contest via my [blog](#). Leave it to my wonderful readers to set me straight. They let me know in no uncertain terms that our pets prefer to dress in their "**birthday suits**" for Halloween!



There is likely nothing your dog enjoys more than accompanying you for a walk around your neighborhood. Doing so on Halloween, however, may be a downright spooky experience for your best buddy. My bottom line advice- Halloween is a holiday for humans. Let's leave our pets out of it!

Best wishes,

Nancy Kay, DVM

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Author of *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*

Author of *Your Dog's Best Health: A Dozen Reasonable Things to Expect From Your Vet*

Recipient, Leo K. Bustad Companion Animal Veterinarian of the Year Award

Recipient, American Animal Hospital Association Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award

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Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 19, 2015

Extremely hot weather and competition from many other summer events kept some people away from EGRR's Annual Picnic but those who attended had a GReat time. Because of the high temperatures, the Agility course was set up in



the shade and many dogs and canines cooled off in the Cedar River. Pot lucks always mean wonderful food and this one was no exception. It would not be a dog event without a raffle – which it had with proceeds going to EGRR.

One of the highlights of the annual picnic is the opportunity for volunteers to visit with each other. Another is the chance for foster homes to see their foster dogs thriving in their forever homes. Regardless of the reason, our annual picnic is a very special event and we are already looking forward to next year's. You can see why in these wonderful pictures.



Annual Picnic



Annual Picnic

We really appreciate the efforts of Tony and Kathy Bahnick who have chaired this event for the past 3 years. Again, they did a super job! Also thanks to Gail Miller for again organizing the agility event. She was frequently seen encouraging dogs to go through the tunnel.



Thanks also to Nick Thain for taking these great pictures, to the cooks for the delicious burgers and hot dogs, to those who donated items for the raffle, and to everyone who helped out in any way to make sure everything ran smoothly.

It is hard to imagine a better way to spend a summer afternoon than with fellow Golden Retriever lovers and their dogs!



Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of Heaven is a place called the 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.....



Ranger - Carol Giardot (2009) We had recently lost two beautiful golden retrievers and decided to rescue an older dog. We were contacted about a special needs dog named Ranger. All 140 pounds of him with a huge smile came waddling out of his foster home. Three people managed to get him into our SUV and we headed home. He could walk only about two houses and then would have to rest. Within eight months he could walk to our dog park and he instantly became everyone's project. How he loved the attention and after two years he reached a normal weight of 86 pounds. He was never completely mobile because of his impaired back legs but we don't think he noticed. The important thing was he could interact with

all of his dog and people friends and then come home to his couch. We are so grateful that he was able to spend his last days doing just that. The picture shows him at a park friend's birthday party just four days before he passed at 11 ½. Thanks to the wonderful caregivers at Evergreen Golden Rescue we had six years with our beautiful boy. We all miss you Rangie.

Rainbow Bridge



Boomer - Roger Campbell (2009) Boomer joined us shortly after my divorce while I was still trying to adapt to weekends only with my kids and an empty home during the week. When the kids were here, he treated each of them differently staying close to the one for whom that mattered and periodically making his presence known to the one who preferred that type of interaction. When I was home alone he'd sleep in my room at night. If the kids were here, he'd sleep in the hallway between us and check on each of us periodically. While I worked in the home office, Boomer laid on a bed behind me occasionally nudging me with his nose when he wanted a bit of attention. Sometimes he couldn't help himself and threw his head in the lap of whomever he was feeling closest to. We called it "getting a hug". Everyone who met him loved him on sight and the feeling was always returned. When I traveled, Boomer never lacked for volunteer caretakers. He was such an old and gentle soul. When his cancer got the best of him he gave us the signs we needed to make the tough choice without guilt or regret, but with love and sorrow. I don't know if the perfect dog exists, but if he does, for our family, it was Boomer.

Jasper - Rachelle Cutter and Dan Kelleher (2012) Three and a half years ago we contacted EGRR looking to adopt an older dog for our older dog who had just lost her sister. They suggested Jasper, a 7 1/2 year old who was with Roy and Linda at the time in foster care. Jasper has since been the light of my life. The girl dog with the boy name (we never changed it) had the biggest heart on the planet. When Copper the original older dog went to the Rainbow Bridge we signed up again at EGRR and this amazing group brought us Lily (Hazel at the time). Jasper and Lily have been inseparable since the day they met. Through trips to the park and swims on the beach, to car rides and wrestle sessions they adored each other and we adored Jasper. She was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in October 2014 and put up an amazing fight for 10 months having a wonderful quality of life until the chemo stopped working and we could do no more. Thank you EGRR for the great gift of Jasper. My life is forever enriched having had her as a daughter .



Rainbow Bridge

Rusty – Cindy Johnson (2013) I'll never know what happened to Rusty before he came to me. I only know that whatever it was, he deserved so much better. I sought him out because I wanted comfort, but sometimes the journey we plan is not the journey we end up getting. Being a partner to Rusty required me to look beyond what I wanted and to try to see the world from his point of view. Rusty didn't have perfect Golden Retriever conformation and disposition. He was long in places where he should have been short, and short in places here he should have been long. He was anxious and fearful at times when most goldens would be relaxed and content, and at times when he should have been social he would just need to crawl into a small corner and take a break from the world. But when he saw me, he would look at me with such devotion and appreciation. I knew I mattered to him more than anything in the world. He made me feel whole and important at times when the craziness of life had left me feeling exhausted and empty. We did that for each other. We miss him more than words can express and we'll carry him in our hearts forever.



Jackson – Betsy Robinson (2009) Jackson was such a welcome surprise in our lives. Having owned a Golden before, we thought we were familiar with the breed, but just like people, each has their own unique personality. When we went to meet Jackson at the EGRR foster home, he bounded out of his kennel and puddled in my lap. This was the sign it was meant to be. He was my running buddy, my husband's alarm clock and the most patient dog you could ask for. We miss him every day and I know that while we strived to make his life as happy as possible, he made ours even more so. Thanks, EGRR – the work you do is SO important. Don't forget that!

Rainbow Bridge



Jazz – Linda Steiner (2009) Over 6 years ago I volunteered to meet another volunteer at the top of Stevens Pass to pick up and foster 9 year old female named Jazz who had been rescued from the Wenatchee Humane Society. Little did I know that I would fall madly in love with this old girl! She was a very opinionated Golden who loved with her whole being and was loved beyond measure. And she had the longest and most beautiful eye lashes! A couple of years ago we moved to Dallas to be near family and Jazz handled the move amazingly well. Sadly, at over 15 years of age, although her spirit continued to be stellar, her old body just gave out and she recently crossed the bridge. I didn't know I could miss her so much.

Dewey – Barb Hale (foster Mom) Dewey arrived the end of July from the Ellensburg shelter a littler under the weather with a case of Kennel Cough. I was so taken with his easy going, sweet personality. He walked great on a leash and wanted to play with dogs he would meet. My poodle, Josey, not so much. But she adjusted and when blood tests and x-rays showed that Dewey had cancer, I knew he had found his forever home for as long as he needed which sadly, was not very long. Every dog deserves to have someone whose heart will be broken when they go to the bridge and I am honored to be that person for Dewey.



Rainbow Bridge

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

Roxy – Nordica's All That Jazz, NW2 (June 2007 - July 2015) Gayle George-Sackett I waited over a year for Roxy and when she arrived she was the most beautiful Shepherd I had ever owned. I can say that she was one of the smartest dogs and the most loyal I have had the pleasure of owning. Unfortunately she had her quirks and they were not liking other animals and not fond of people. She had health issues throughout her life. She was my constant companion for her entire life and tears are running down my cheeks as I miss her so very much. Keep chasing those balls and sticks my lovely girl.



SPECIAL TAIL WAGS!!!!

A very special tail wag goes to the all of our EGRR foster homes that do such a good job getting their fosters ready for their Forever Homes.

More tail wags go out to Kathy and Tony Bahnick and the volunteers who put together a wonderful picnic.

Our last tail wag goes to our Intake and Placement teams who spend many hours making sure that every dog is taken care of.

Where are they now???

By Sue Randall

Molly Age 4 year old intact female came into rescue due to her owners feeling unable to work with Molly having seizures. Her foster home was well able to undertake caring for her & working with our vets to establish the medication needed to control the seizures & seeing to her being spayed. Molly also managed to settle in well with the other 3 in house dogs & will remain with her new family forever.



Ginger Age 7 year old spayed female came into rescue as her family was moving & unable to take her. Ginger also did what goldens do best having a tendency to enjoy retrieving small animals, though squirrel chasing was her objective. This did not limit itself to being in a closed environment but also when on leash. Her new owner was up to the challenge & the pair are well accustomed to the inclination Ginger has.

Ellie Age seven month old spayed female was one too many dogs that her owner was allowed during a relocation by his work environment. Ellie had lots to learn & our young foster family, already owners of Luna they adopted from rescue a few years ago, were challenged by her. Luna herself is pretty high energy & she & Ellie were GReat company for one another. Ellie became a permanent family member & has apparently learned which dog gets the dog bed!



Where are they now???

continued

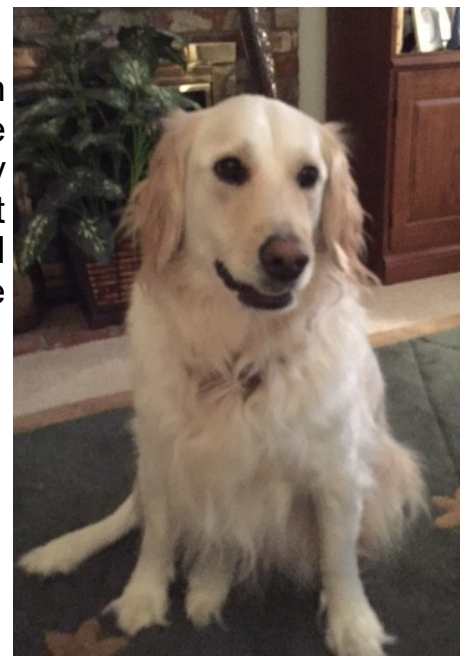
Wembley Age 2 year old spayed female was listed with rescue due to change in family situation & moving out of state. Other than needing some vetting to update vaccination needs she was adopted easily & loves her new older canine companion. Wembley is now called Bailey.

Apparently sharing the bed is OK in this house.



Sammy age 2.5 year old neutered male was listed with rescue following a change in circumstance in his home. This is a dog that was a BIG boy that was needing some rules & regulations to follow. His foster family agreed to see what they could do & it worked well for all concerned. Now Sammy is part of the permanent household & continuing to learn the ropes & follow the rules....well more than he did at first. It's a learning process that will continue.

Pua Age 5 year old Spayed female was listed with rescue as she had some medical needs that the owners were unable to accommodate. She had surgery to repair a knee injury & did well with the subsequent limited mobility that was required after the surgery and for many weeks. Her foster family has decided that she should continue to stay with them permanently.



Where are they now???

Continued



Jordan Age 7 year old spayed female came into rescue from a Boise, Idaho shelter through a volunteer who frequently visits that area. They transported Jordan to a foster home in Silverdale. Jordan is a big girl with a strong prey drive. She now has 10 fenced acres to run and chase whatever she wants plus a younger brother to play with and an older brother who ignores her. Her new Mom started Jordan in obedience class the day after she arrived and she reports that Jordan is the star of the class.

Boston Age 2.5 year old neutered male was listed with rescue as being incompatible with the other house dog & that he was rather high energy for the young child in the home. Boston became the companion of another golden in his foster home that tolerated his high energy. His foster family humans worked with him expecting that he would learn some manners & control some of his exuberance. He did need some vetting due to a rash that was treated & cleared up easily. Boston is now a permanent member of his foster home.



With the holiday season rapidly approaching, remember that you can donate to EGRR at no cost to you by using these online sites.



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EGRC Brag Box



Honorary Donations

Nancy Walker wishes her son,
Michael, a very Golden Birthday!

Memorial Donations

In memory of our sweet girl, "**Jasper**"
Rachelle Clutter and Dan Kelleher

In memory of "**Jackson**", adopted from
EGRR by my sister, Betsy Robinson
Andrea Frabotta

Remembering my girl, "**Buffi**"
John Chapman

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Thank you for your support!

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