

Golden Nuggets

www.egrr.net

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SEASON'S GREETINGS



“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
May 14, 2016
September 14, 2016
December 14, 2016

From the President's Desk _____

President's Report – Dec. 2015

Rich Randall – President, Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue

We are about to close for the Rescue efforts for Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue (EGRR) in 2015, which has seen about 25 dogs in the various stages of Rescue. The recent intake of a couple or three very young dogs seems more and more the anomaly than the rule. The intake more broadly this year is roughly comparable to the ongoing year-to-year pattern. And that is toward an increasing emphasis on senior dogs or medically-needy dogs or both.

Examples of such 2015 intakes are a 10 year old male who had his ear pinna surgically removed for a localized cancer and then underwent electro-chemotherapy to clean up the margins, a 4 old female who had her left rear leg and part of her pelvis surgically removed for a malignant tumor, or a 7 year old male who has been in foster care for 8 months now to deal with multiple matters including severe allergies, ear infections, pigmentary uveitis and issue with cholesterol. Therefore, the veterinary expense outlay for 2015 is well on track to considerably exceed that of 2014. To put that into perspective, 2014 veterinary expenses were previously a significant jump to an all-time cost high for a calendar year. There also continues to be substantial pressure and strain on EGRR's foster home situation with many of these senior and needy dogs holding longer-term places in our more experienced foster homes.

However, on the "glass is half full" plus side, a number of very lucky dogs have successfully been placed in forever homes. And this is due to everyone who has volunteered in the Rescue activities for EGRR during 2015 and to those who supported EGRR through donations and kind words.

A reminder that the 2016 Membership renewal period is now upon us.

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 calendar year 2016!!! Please also consider offering services as a short-term foster home for those quick turn around younger and healthy dogs!!!!

Have a great upcoming Holiday period and certainly all the very Best Wishes for the coming New Year! Keep your pets safe and away from possibly tantalizing things that abound and do not mix well with health of dogs – examples being chocolate treats, holly and poinsettia plants, snow globes containing ethylene glycol (antifreeze), light strings!!!

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

Hailey

By Nichelle Hilton



Hailey came to us last March, rescued off the streets of Camano Island. She was 8 years old, had a tumor on her tail and bad dermatitis which made her lose her hair on the backside! But from the first pictures that were sent to us, we knew she was ours!

We have previously adopted two other rescues through EGRR over the years, both loved, both missed!

Hailey was at a foster home and from the time we (as in her little sister, a teacup Pom named Dolly and I) met her, we were family. Dolly took one look and said, "let's go be friends!"

We worried a bit about how Hailey would manage our stairs and react to our cats and our chickens and to living inside after she'd lived so long on the street. But none of that mattered as she walked in the door that first day and knew she was home. It was like she had always been here and now she always will be! She protects the chickens, snuggles with her kitten and has no more health problems after the successful surgery on her tail!

She is has been fully immersed in our family since day one with daily walks, a family vacation and trips to the park. I believe she's happy and loves her new life.

We couldn't have asked for a better rescue!



A Different Happy Endings

By Rachelle Clutter

We are a Golden Retriever family and an EGRR family. We raised 2 Golden Retrievers from puppies until they had to go to the Rainbow Bridge. Then we adopted 2 Golden Retriever rescues (Jasper & Lily) from EGRR and after a few years lost Jasper to the Rainbow Bridge. We were left with one lonely Golden Lily and it was time for a new sister.

We applied for the EGRR wait list and waited a bit but I thought maybe this time I would look elsewhere as well. And lo and behold the faces that looked back at me from every rescue site I visited just tugged at my heart. And there were so many, so very many out there all shapes and sizes and colors with eyes just pleading to be loved. One day I came across a dog that was a special needs dog (history of abuse, fear). I just kept going back to the website over and over I don't know why. I swear that my angel Jasper guided me to this rescue site and this dog.

So we filled out the application, were interviewed by several people, met the dog from afar as she would not come near us and decided that adopting this dog fit the values of Golden rescue parents. So Lucy came to be in our home. She has short hair, no "feathers" and no fluffy tail so it is strange to us. But the joy she has when she plays fetch or plays with her stuffed toys is pure "golden". It will be a long, difficult road for us but Lucy is making huge strides already and oh does she love her "sister" Lily.

It was a big decision to go with a mixed breed dog. And I admit when I see a beautiful Golden Retriever out there it tugs a little at my heart. But when I'm lying on the floor cuddling with Lucy and she knows she is safe and loved versus her previous life, I know we did the right thing. Every dog has a "golden" heart.

Rachelle, Dan, Lily and Lucy



Copper Miller

2002-2015

Copper was adopted from EGRR in 2005 by then King County Deputy Mel Miller to train in narcotics detection. During the six years they worked together, Copper excelled in his job becoming the most requested Narcotics Detector Dog in the region. He assisted several federal agencies, Seattle Police Department, the State Patrol and several other local police agencies and narcotics task forces. He located more contraband and evidence than any other dog in the history of the King County Sheriff's Department and was responsible for more than 600 felony arrests over the course of his career. And Copper never met a ball or toy that he didn't like!!

Copper received several awards during his outstanding career. Copper was named the K-9 of the year for King County in both 2006 and 2007. In 2007, he was awarded the GRACE Award for law enforcement which was presented at the National Golden Retriever Specialty held that year in Snohomish, WA. In 2011, he was awarded honorable mention for the American Kennel Club's ACE Award in the field of Law Enforcement.

What makes Copper's story even more special is that he had Laryngeal Paralysis so he was, in essence, a special needs dog. Mel was advised by one vet that Copper should not work but fortunately, Mel listened to his own vet who agreed that Copper "needed" to work to be happy and together they successfully managed Copper's condition.

Copper is unique from another standpoint – he was the first dog placed by EGRR after we became an independently functioning non-profit organization. Copper was our standard bearer and a wonderful example of the greatness that lurks inside each EGRR dog. He will be greatly missed by us all but none more than Mel, his wife Gail, and their three EGRR Goldens Milo, Jack and Molly.



Holiday Pet Dangers



We all know the usual warnings for humans at the holidays (“all things in moderation”, drinking and driving, etc) and this is no time of year to forget the special needs of our pets. Especially if this the first Holiday that your dog has been with you, do not assume you know what his/her behavior will be.

DANGER: Stress

WHY: Dogs thrive on routine and human attention. During Holidays, both decrease.

REMEDY: Keep routines regular (meals, going to bed, getting up, walks, yard time). Give Rover a place to escape from guests and the usual turmoil. Don’t think you are being unkind in creating some distance between Rover and guests, merriment, etc. Watch for changes in behavior and bowl and bowel patterns.

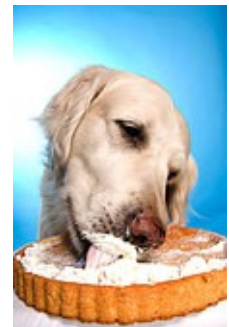
DANGER: Holiday Tree

WHY: Dogs eat things including tree decorations, knock things over, and chew electrical cords. Tinsel is particularly dangerous.

REMEDY: If your dog eats things you might label “inappropriate” - and remember that stress leads to new and different behaviors - create a dog-free zone around your tree. Use gating if necessary and this is cheaper than surgery. And more than one male dog has considered the tree his personal tree as though it were in the yard – this doesn’t endear the dog to his people.

DANGER: People food.

WHY: Some guests think its OK to feed the dog. Some dogs think its OK to take human food from the table (well, maybe not Ok but he can get away with it). Vomiting, diarrhea and pancreatitis can result. It’s no time for a trip to the veterinarian and a possible in hospital stay. Toxic foods: chocolate, raisins, some nuts, garlic, onion and artificial sweetener.



REMEDY: Confine the dog in a quiet area. If your dog is mingling, even a small note on your table saying, “Do not feed Fido” can help your guests know that you mean it. (Consider not inviting guests next year that just don’t get the idea.).

Holiday Pet Dangers

Continued from page 6

DANGER: Candles.

WHY: Candles cause fires and dogs knock over candles.

REMEDY: Place Menorahs and other holiday candles above reach. Extinguish as soon as possible and appropriate.



DANGER: Packages and gifts.

WHY: Paper, string, ribbon, staples, plastic tape all can cause intestinal blockage. Packages may contain toxic and dangerous items. And a ruined gift doesn't improve your holiday mood.

REMEDY: Unless your dog is 100% reliable, keep the dog, tree and gifts apart. Gate or otherwise confine if necessary.

DANGER: Toxic plants.

WHY: Many of the most popular Holiday plants, if eaten, can lead to gastrointestinal irritation, cardiac problems or even death. This includes Poinsettia, Hemlock, Ivy, Christmas cactus, Lilies, and Mistletoe.

REMEDY: Avoid or place high and out of reach. Remember that even dropped leaves, stems and berries can mean danger for your dog



DANGER: Open doors and gates.

WHY: Some dogs bolt out doors and gates if given the chance. Remember that stress leads to behaviors you may not usually see.

REMEDY: Place your dog in his crate or a quiet room during the coming and leaving of guests. Make sure your dog is wearing a collar and ID tag. Don't forget the delivery person at your door and the opportunity that provides for your dog to bolt out the door.

DANGER: People who don't like dogs as you do.

WHY: It's hard for a reader of this Newsletter to know why. But you've invited Joe and Rita to your home to show them a good time. You know that they are not as dog-loving as you are. While they may not put your dog in danger, they may not be as conscious as you of what danger Fido can get into. And the dog hair on new black slacks can be annoying to some.



Time to Renew Your EGRR Membership for 2016

By Gloria Kaczmariski, EGRR Membership chair

Top Three Reasons to be Involved with Rescue and How You Benefit from It

1. Be Part of the Solution – Making a difference in your community Everyone has at least one skill that is helpful in rescue. Let's make this world a more humane place for all living creatures - four paws at a time.
2. Get Your Warm Fuzzies -You know that warm feeling that sweeps through you when your dog wags its tail at you? Imagine the warm fuzzy feeling you will get when you know you are helping homeless Golden Retrievers who are recovering from serious illness, injury, abuse, or just simply need a new family to call their own.
3. Keep Good Company - You will make new friends - not just four legged ones. Working side by side with people who share similar interests is enjoyable and can forge lifelong friendships. On top of giving back to the community, helping dogs in need, making new friends, and feeling satisfied, being involved with rescue is simply said It's good for you.

Studies have shown that volunteering provides physical and mental rewards such as the following:

- ✎ Reduces stress: Experts report that when you focus on someone other than yourself, it interrupts usual tension-producing patterns.
- ✎ Makes you healthier: Moods and emotions like optimism, joy, and caring for others can strengthen the immune system.

Annual individual membership is only \$10.00. Did you know that your dog can be a member too? This has been a VERY popular membership.

So join or renew now - it is very easy. Here is a direct link to the membership page: <https://www.egrr.net/membership-application> and fill out a membership form if you're a new member or if you are renewing, send an e-mail. You can pay for your membership on line via Paypal or send a check to:

Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue P.O. Box 3088 Renton, WA. 98056

There are 4 types of memberships available and it is only \$10 each person, dog, etc:

Full membership is for those who actively want to participate and vote at meetings

Supporting membership is for those who purely wish to express their support

Supporting membership S-G for the savvy Golden Retriever who supports EGRR

Supporting membership S-O for other dog, cat, mouse...who doesn't want to be left out

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.....



Jack (2014) Nancy Black

Our time with sweet Jack was much too short but he brought my family much joy, love and laughter and was best buddies with our black lab Sasha. We lost Jack very suddenly about a month ago from complications arising from prolonged seizure activity that drug intervention could not stop. Even in his last moments he tried to soothe my tears and his best buddies whimper. Thank you EGRR for giving us the

opportunity to adopt Jack and enjoy his company for the 14 months we had him in our lives. In loving memory of a sweet little guy.

Rainbow Bridge



Sarah (2012) Ross and Annie Horton

From the moment we had our first walk with Sarah in Seattle to the ride home to Whidbey Island to all of our walks and rides to town to all of her idiosyncrasies, she was such a wonderful girl. A big lumbering quiet and sensible golden girl. If a Golden Retriever had been cast in 'Peter Pan' as the dog Nana, it would have been Sarah. She could look at anyone who was behaving badly as well as any mother of a naughty child ever could. The only silly thing she did was to sleep on her back

and snore. And that only once in a while when she thought no one was looking. That also gave rise to the nickname 'Sarah-Bearah'. Thank you to everyone at Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue for allowing us to share in Sarah's last years. We lost a great friend and we miss her terribly.

Zeus (2014) Jean Thies, Laura Keim and Golden brother, Will.

Zeus was our Woobie Master Extraordinaire! Our sweetest memories are of Zeus curled up with and surrounded by his soft toys. He loved everyone and his presence would light up a room. He lived his all too short life with exuberance and delight inspite of being in a body that was far older than his years. With reluctance and broken hearts, we escorted him to the Rainbow Bridge on October 24, 2015. "Enjoy your wings, dear Zeus-er!" We all love you!!



Rainbow Bridge

Copper (2005) Mel Miller

In May of 2005, after losing my working partner, Narcotics Detector Dog Tex, I set out to find a dog who had the drive and the nose to do the work and hopefully fill the void left in my heart. EGRR referred me to a young male "with a raspy bark" who definitely had the potential but also, as it turned out, Laryngeal Paralysis. With the help of Dr. Kent Thomazin, Copper's symptoms were well managed and he became the most successful narcotics detector dog in history for King County.

Copper and I retired in 2011 sharing our home with several other rescued Golden Retrievers and foster dogs. He spent his retirement years in comfort sniffing out the tennis balls lost by his siblings.

Copper's true age is unknown but he was likely at least 13 at the time of his passing. Though Copper far exceeded the success I had hoped for back in 2005, he left a far greater void in my heart that can never be filled.



Rusty (2013) Julie, John and Matthew Mascavage

We just lost Rusty this December to nose cancer after having him only two and a half years. Picked up as a stray in Silverdale, he became a very sick dog with pneumonia and landed with EGRR. A few months of TLC at the home of the Kiesler's was all he needed to make him adoptable. After our prior rescue Golden, Candy,

he had some big shoes to fill, but luckily Rusty had very big paws! He came with perfect manners and was one of the calmest dogs you'd ever meet. He loved to greet people and most everyone giving him a treat remarked on how gently he took it from their hand. We had lots of fun working on his ball skills as he'd never learned to play ball! Although we got the best of his senior years, it never seems long enough.

Rainbow Bridge

Joey (2005) Carol Brown and Lindsey Pomeroy

Joey, who was 9 months old when we adopted him from EGRR, was a fun-loving boy whose favorite food as a puppy was wood porch railings.

He loved to run, hike, swim and play in the snow. His favorite inside entertainment was dancing and “singing” and he had a full repertoire! After we moved to the Chicago area and got involved with As Good As Gold GR Rescue, Joey showed himself to be a wonderful brother to multiple foster sisters. Joey was always a puppy at heart and he is missed every day by the Brown/Pomeroy family.



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.



Apollo – Ann-Marie Burandt

Apollo, my beautiful gentle giant, was kind to all he knew and a great role model to the many dogs that came into our home. My golden, Daisy, and all of the fosters that we have known are better dogs for knowing him. He especially liked the little dogs—puppies or old - he literally let them walk all over him. He had 3 full time siblings-Daisy, Tess and Teddie. They all came to us under socialized and unsure of themselves. They are all now great dogs –in large part because of him. He will be greatly missed.



Where are they now???

By Sue Randall

Gus Age approx. 8 to 10 year old intact male

was found by a person as a stray. Despite every effort to find the owner he was not claimed. He was vetted & helped for approx. 3 months, during which time he was very sick and it was thought that he might not survive. He did recover and rescue was asked to foster and place Gus. With the help of appropriate medications and being neutered he became a very active & GReat dog. He is now in a loving home that is working with him suspecting he may be deaf.



Sadie Age 4 years old Spayed female came into rescue around the beginning of September. Rescue was contacted by a vet that rescue is familiar with who asked if rescue could help. Sadie's owner had to re-home Sadie. The dog also needed vetting regarding a tumor on her rear thigh. After extensive investigation and being seen by a specialist it became apparent that Sadie's leg should be amputated due to a malignant tumor that was extensive. Extensive surgery that included removing part of Sadie's pelvis was done at the end of September. Her foster home playmate Henrietta, also a Golden, must have told the family Sadie had to stay!



It's so wonderful that Sadie is so very comfortable with having just 3 legs now. Also knowing there are some very dedicated owners out there! Santa has already given Henrietta her gift; it is Sadie as her permanent playmate and companion. I suppose their humans are happy too.



Seattle Kennel Club Dog Show

Saturday & Sunday, March 12 & 13, 2016

CenturyLink Field Event Center, Seattle

We have a combined educational booth with the Evergreen Golden Retriever Club and we will soon be looking for volunteers.

EGRR Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 1, 2016

Kennydale Memorial Hall, Renton (same location as last several years)

** We understand that there is an intent for the annual Pigmentary Uveitis (PU) eye screening clinic to be held again in 2016, probably in the Spring but the date has yet to be decided.

Canine Flu

Concerned about the canine influenza that reached epidemic proportions last spring in Chicago and wondering if you should get your dog vaccinated for it? Here is an good article about it from the New York Times that you might find interesting.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/15/health/canine-flu-has-dog-owners-wondering-if-fido-needs-a-vaccine.html>

There is also information about the flu on the CDC Website. Thank you to Cindy Alexander, DVM at Hadlock Veterinary Clinic for investigating the topic and bringing this article to our attention.



General Donations

Inwon Cummings

Rick and Rhonda Comfort

Darlene Fanus

Ann Wilson

Jennifer Anglin

Candace BelAir

Marv Wolfson

Ann-Marie Burandt

EGRC members who donated when renewing their 2015 membership

The Golden Retriever Foundation

Sandra and Michael Briggs

Howard Jacobs through CFD

Howard Stephan through CFD

Valerie Pearl-Hanrahan through CFD

Dianne O'Brien

Greg Smith

Grant Eaton

Ashwini Talasila

Mark Frabotta

Sue and Del Berg



"Charlie" Hargraves and Santa

Honorary Donations

Tom and Karen Jones supporting **"Sadie"** through her surgery and after

Mary Ann Peters thinking of **"Sadie"**

Julianne Hartman Cutts thanking EGRR volunteers for their help with **"Gus"**

Stan Sidor in honor of Dave and June Akizuki in appreciation for all the times they watched **Sammie**

Memorial Donations

In memory of my special EGRR girl, **"Jazz"**.
Linda Steiner

In memory of our **"Tucker"**, adopted from GRCGLAR
Harry and Carol Mackin

Missing my sweet EGRR boy, **"Rusty"**
Tira Villanueva

In memory of **"Sierra"**
Robert Calkins through CFD

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

In memory of **"Copper"** Miller
Kathryn and Greg Smith

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!

EGRR is a 501(c)3 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:

Evergreen Golden Retriever Rescue
PO Box 3088