

Golden Nuggets

www.egrr.net

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ENJOYING SUMMER'S BOUNTY



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



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From the President's Desk



Thank you all who attended our annual picnic on Sunday, and especially all of the volunteers who helped to make the picnic a success as we couldn't do it without you:

Katie Weissenfels, Gloria Kaczmarski and Donna Day for helping with setup;

Scott and Michelle Harvey for getting (almost) everyone checked in;

Conrad Gehrmann for helping with the raffle tickets, as well as all of you who donated the very nice raffle items, which raised \$170 for EGRR;

Elizabeth Thompson and Gail Miller for clean-up – thank you also Gail for setting up the agility course and all the other support you provided for the picnic;

Our chefs – John Chapman, Mark Kaczmarski and Vicki Smith;

Maddy Wiley for coordinating the picnic volunteers;

Kathy Bahnick for purchasing the food and gathering all the other items provided by EGRR, and making sure everything ran smoothly.

We had a smaller, but engaging group of at least 27 people and 17 dogs. One of the GReatest rewards in rescue is having the opportunity to see and hear the progress that the Goldens who entered rescue and have been adopted (or long-term fosters) have made. Knowing about the conditions these dogs were in when they entered rescue and seeing the tremendous strides their adopters and foster homes have helped them make is what rescue is all about.

And speaking about giving Goldens in need an opportunity for a better life, I'd like to give a GReat thank you to Nancy Kiesler, who has been spearheading our research into opportunities to bring Goldens into EGRR from overseas with established rescue organizations. You may have heard of the "Turkey Dog" rescue efforts where several rescue groups in the US have been working with rescue organizations in Turkey to bring Goldens who have been abandoned into the US for adoption.

From the President's Desk



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In Turkey, having a Golden is considered a status symbol, which makes Golden Retrievers very popular but inevitably leads to many Golden Retrievers being surrendered or released, where they are generally set loose on the streets and countryside. Thanks to the very dedicated Turkish rescue organizations, over 1,000 Golden Retrievers have successfully been brought in from Turkey to US rescue groups. Unfortunately for us, logistics and the well-being of the dogs being transported from Turkey are not conducive to bringing them into Seattle.

A similar situation, but perhaps lesser known also exists in China, where owning a Golden is also a status symbol, however, the abandoned Golden Retrievers have somewhat more dire circumstances as in certain parts of the country dogs are collected for human consumption. Fortunately, as in Turkey, there are dedicated groups in China rescuing these Golden Retrievers and working with US rescue organizations to bring these dogs to the US to provide them the better life that these dogs deserve.

Nancy has been in contact with rescue groups in the US who have been working with the Chinese rescue organizations, including Gold Bond Rescue of Oregon, who have already received several Golden Retrievers from China, and are sharing their experiences with us. Logistics for transporting these Golden Retrievers are also more favorable for EGRR, as the Golden Retrievers are flown into Vancouver BC through Air Canada. Another benefit for us is that the Golden Retrievers from China can be transported one or two at a time, versus 18 to 36 at a time for the dogs from Turkey, which is much more conducive for EGRR receiving dogs from China while still maintaining our foster and other capabilities to accept and care for local Golden Retrievers in need.

If we move forward and pending Board approval there will be many volunteer opportunities, from fostering and transport, to perhaps less gratifying, but just as crucial opportunities, such as cleaning portable dog kennels. We will certainly send out calls for volunteers, but if you are interested in helping with these efforts, please let me know.

Tony Bahnick

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

Jojo, Cooper and Max

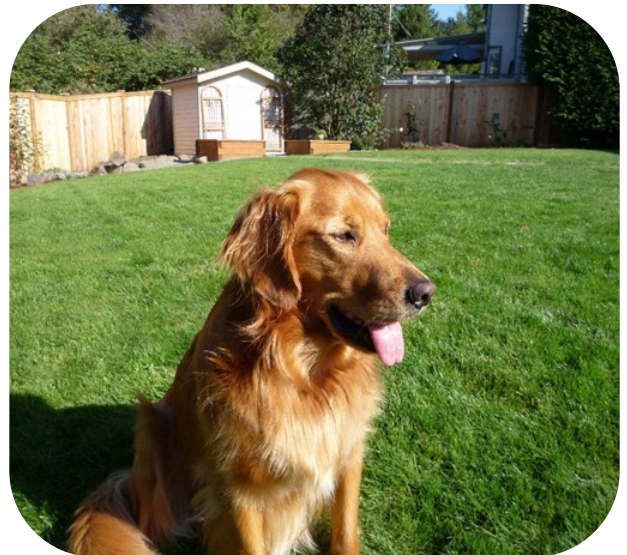
By Sue Berg

When Nancy asked me to write a bit for Happy Endings, my first thought was to really think about how life with Golden Retrievers has changed the Berg family! The smiles on a Golden face are just so darn endearing!

Our first addition was JoJo (Josie) approximately six years ago. Our daughter had moved to Australia and reunited with her two Golden Retrievers, Lucy and Ricky, who had been with us for about two years. I was a mess! What to do, a house without a crazy Golden! Never! Somehow, I contacted Golden Retriever Rescue and there was a four-year old female that had managed to be returned twice. Now does she look like a problem?

Off I went to meet Jo. She was sweet and loved her tennis balls. She still loves those tennis balls, although she does not jump so high to catch them now, being a senior citizen at this point. Roy and Linda Talbot had fostered her twice and had no idea why someone would not love her instantly. Not being so certain how Molly, our Husky mix, might react to another lady in the house, I said that I would have to see how the two girls reacted to each other. Another visit and low and behold, they could have cared less, so Jo would join our family! Yippee!

Leaving Molly at home, Del and I picked Jo up and she joined our pack. It took a brief while to acclimate but she was ours and we could not imagine why anyone would have returned her to EGGR.

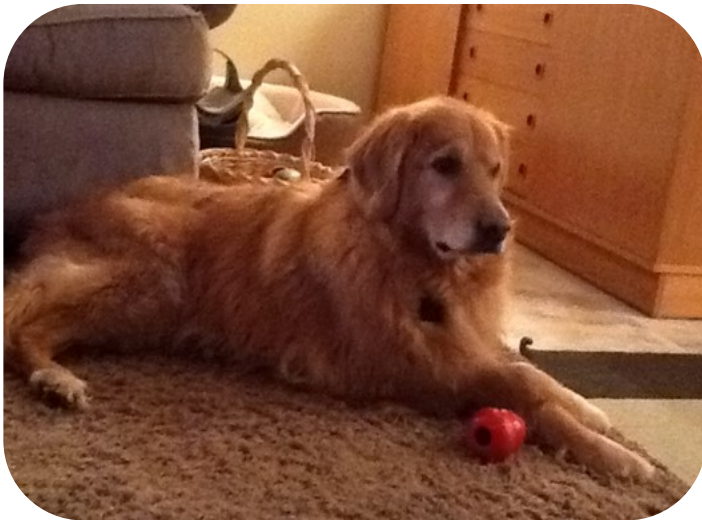


Happy Endings

Jojo, Cooper and Max

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Our second addition was Cooper. He first joined us as a foster when the Randalls were traveling overseas for a long period of time and needed a place for Cooper to recuperate after ACL surgery. He was a big boy and approximately 10 years old and an absolute love. This picture was taken after he returned from his aqua therapy session. So regal and dignified!



Another ACL surgery, followed by recovery, and we became a failed foster family. Coop adopted us and we adopted him. We were so lucky to have him join Molly and Jo. Shortly after Coop came to us we lost Molly and then Jo and Coop were best buddies. He loved his meals (always barking at meal time, and no, we did not work on changing the habit) and treats and taking walks in the neighborhood. He even joined Jo at aqua therapy twice a week working to keep his muscles in

shape since he had so much atrophy with those neglected ACLs.

Sadly, two years after joining our family, Coop succumbed to hemangiosarcoma. He was with us one day and gone the next. I still cry when thinking about him. He was one in a million!

Not having a friend, Jo's face suddenly began getting gray. She needed a friend! Well, a few months after losing Cooper, EGRR needed a place for a seven-year old male who was coming to Rescue. He had severe separation anxiety and was being relinquished by a family that had adopted him from a Puyallup rescue approximately nine months prior to EGRR. He was a mess! Skinny, to say the least, and with severe diarrhea. Nancy Kiesler and Sue Randall knew we might be willing to foster, so Max came to our house. He and Jo had a couple of territorial issues but then decided they could tolerate each other.

Happy Endings

Jojo, Cooper and Max

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Once again, we failed as fosters! Max officially joined our pack last fall. He has gained 24 pounds, yes, he was skin and bones having lost 24 pounds between the two rescue organizations. He is now taking allergy shots and is not scratching incessantly, has seen an internist so that his digestive issues are under control, and had three very weird lumps removed (one of which was malignant but they got it all, we hope). He loves his toys and manages to have them in every room in the house. His silliness has helped Jo recover from losing Coop so he is frequently told that Cooper sent him to all of us.



As you can see in this photo, Jo and Max have decided that this is their home. The picture was taken not too long after Max joined us.

He had chewed furniture and walls so we tried the crate when we had to leave for short periods of time. With the hope that some of his anxiety was gone, the crate went away and he and Jo now guard the inside of the house. They are happy babies and we are happy pet parents. We cannot even imagine not having them in our lives

2017 Annual Picnic

By Nancy Kiesler

Is this for the kids
or the dogs?



Despite cool and cloudy weather and the threat of rain, which most agreed was preferential to the 90 degree+ weather of the past 3 years, those who attended the picnic had a most enjoyable time.

Big winner at the raffle was Gail Miller who won 2 large dog beds. Now the question is will these entice the Miller canines off of Mel's recliner?!!

Hey, They are
taking our picture.
Look at the camera!



Sniff, Sniff, Sniff



2017 Annual Picnic

Thanks go out to Tony and Kathy Bahnick for again chairing the picnic and to everyone who helped in any way. It was truly a joy to see our dogs so happy and settled with their wonderful forever families!

I set the bar low so she can jump it.

I know he has a Treat!!!



Hey, leave my tail alone so I can get through this tunnel!!



2017 Annual Picnic

You want me to go
where???



I may be old but I
can still jump!




Say "cookie"!!



Pyometra Is A Veterinary Emergency

Editor's note: Why on earth would we include an article about a condition that exists only in intact females? Because recently, a foster dog underwent emergency spay surgery for Pyometra. Thanks to the vigilance of her foster parents, Jean Thies and Laura Keim, Callie survived and is now doing well. Perhaps someday knowledge of this condition will result in one of us convincing a neighbor or friend to take their dog to the vet immediately.



When a middle-aged intact female dog comes into the clinic with complaints from her owner that she has been depressed and lethargic, one of the first concerns that likely pops into the veterinarian's mind is a potential pyometra.

"A pyometra is a uterine infection, and it is a true veterinary emergency," say Dr. Gary Brummet, the veterinarian who leads the primary care service at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana.

What Causes Pyometras?

Pyometras develop as a result of hormonal changes that take place in the reproductive tract during the normal hormonal cycle of a female. After an estrus (often referred to as "heat"), a hormone called progesterone remains elevated to assist the uterine lining in thickening in preparation for a potential pregnancy. Sometimes, if there are multiple cycles that persist without a pregnancy, the uterine lining can continue to thicken and secrete fluids, creating an environment that allows bacteria to grow quite well.

"Often pyometras become evident two to three months after the dog's last heat cycle," says Dr. Brummet.

Pyometras are categorized as "open" or "closed". In an open pyometra, infectious material leaks from the uterus; owners may notice a bloody, yellow, or cream-colored discharge on their dog's fur near the uterine opening or on their bedding. A closed pyometra means that all infectious material is trapped inside the uterus and builds up.

Symptoms of Pyometras?

Pyometras are most often found in dogs of any breed between the age of 6 and 10, and may be more common in dogs that never had puppies. They do not occur in spayed animals, since a spay surgery involves removing the uterus.

"Along with appearing fatigued and depressed, dogs may stop eating, spike fever, have an abdomen that is distended and painful to touch, and urinate and drink more frequently," says Dr. Brummet.

Pyometra Is A Veterinary Emergency

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Bacteria may release toxins that alter kidney function and impair the kidney's ability to manage and retain fluid. This can cause the increase urine production that is often seen, and in turn the increased drinking may be the dog's attempt to compensate for the loss of fluid.

If a pup is showing any of these signs, she should be taken to the veterinarian immediately. There is a risk of sepsis with an untreated pyometra. Sepsis is when bacteria from an infection gets into the blood and thus is spread throughout the body via the circulatory system.

Diagnosis and Treatment of Pyometras

Your veterinarian may elect to do blood work, take a radiograph (X-ray) and/or perform an ultrasound to diagnose the pyometra. Pyometras are most often treated by surgical removal of the uterus.

"Surgery for removing a uterus that has pyometra is much more risky than a spay. The uterine wall will be fragile, and there is a chance that it could rupture and introduce infectious material into the dog's abdomen during the procedure," explains Dr. Brummet.

The only sure way to prevent this emergency is to spay the dog.

"The risk of a pyometra is one of the factors owners need to weigh when making the decision to spay or leave the female intact," says Dr. Brummet.

Author: Hanna Beers.

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<http://vetmed.illinois.edu/petcolumns/>



Callie recovering from surgery

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.....

Koda – Diane Baker (2014)

Koda passed on April 24, 2017, following a very short illness. He was 13-1/2. I adopted him in Dec. 2014, at age 11 and he was absolutely my best dog ever! He minded my every command, would never leave my side and, we later discovered, was trained for hand signals. I think he never knew about play and had been either a service dog or never around children/playing. He loved having toys – didn't know what to do with them at first but soon developed a love of his monthly Bark Box! The photo is of him excitedly awaiting my brother to get home and take him for a walk. I had him for 2-1/2 wonderful years and will always be grateful to your organization for contacting me about taking him.



Rainbow Bridge

Brody – Scott Whitbeck (2009)



Brody was the best companion and loyal buddy that anyone could ever hope for. He experienced exciting trips throughout the west coast, got lots of petting and affection from adults and kids everywhere he went. He delighted in swimming in rivers and the Southern California ocean, taking great joy from diving into the waves and retrieving sticks from the surf. He thrived on hikes into the Cascades, pretty much dragging me up the hillsides with all his doggy energy, all while insisting on carrying the biggest sticks he could possibly get in his jaws. I was fortunate to have met Brody through your wonderful organization. Thank you for leading me to him and for all your assistance as I learned how to take great care of my special dog buddy. True to breed, Brody was always kind and gentle, loved everybody, and provided frequent comic relief with his innocent goofiness. I will miss him and think about him always.

Kona – Krista and Steve Wessel (2009)

After Kona died, a friend said that she thought every family has a dog who is “the one,” the dog who stands out from the rest. Kona was definitely “the one” for us. We adopted him at three and he quickly showed us that, inside, he was gentle and loving but, outside, he often jumped the fence to run or just terrorize the neighborhood cats. When all else failed, we installed an electric fence that showed him where home was. Over the next 9½ years his smarts and desire to learn made life with this dog so wonderful. He learned our names, how to walk off leash, slow down for us to clip on the leash when he saw a cat and so much more. He was right there to supervise every hole we dug and examine every tide pool rock we peeked under. And we could only marvel as he worked a room of men at the homeless shelter, moving from one to the next – not one inappropriate sniff or lick – just ears back, calm, respectful and responsive, sharing the love. We are so grateful to EGRR for making it possible for us to experience “the one”. Thank you!



Rainbow Bridge



Mister— Shirene Peterson

We saw Mister available for adoption and knew he had to be part of our family. He had never been a farm dog but took to the role immediately.

Our goat herd became “his goats”. He would spend hours lying next to their pen or the pasture vigilantly keeping watch over his boys. Mister and our barn cat Brawny became best friends and always cuddled up together.

Mister was such a good boy – he loved everyone and insisted all visitors pet him. We were honored to have Mister as a part of our lives for the last few years. His departure has left a huge whole. We will miss him.

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

Rosie – Regina Carretta

I had to say goodbye to my Rosie girl....she had lymph node cancer and was in a lot of pain....she communicated that she was ready...so lucky to have a friend go with us, and the wonderful, compassionate vets, to say goodbye to this sweet golden....a loving ending for her life, that started out pretty rough. She loved visitors, to roll on her back on lush green grass, to nose to nose greetings with other dogs, like Mabel, on her daily walks. I always pictured Rosie and Mabel (with those old fashioned names) meeting for a cup of tea and gossiping! Rosie would gather her animals, leash, and balls and keep them close on her doggie bed. She was a sweet spirit, a

reason for rescuing dogs, who have been mistreated. Her wonderful foster mom, Kathleen Howlett from Golden Bond GR Rescue, helped her start her new life to wellness and love, 2 1/2 years ago.



Where are they now???

By Sue Randall



Kula: Age 10 months, a spayed female

Was released to rescue by her owner. Unfortunately the combination being with the other dog already in the home proved to present some issues and confrontations happened. She is now named Taz and in a home where she is an only dog getting individual attention & learning some manners.

Bree; Age 9 years old, a spayed female

was released by a shelter to rescue. She had some significant ear problems and subsequent surgery to one ear. She was a trooper though it all & always showed her temperament to be delightful. During her stay with rescue for more than a year she easily adjusted to the new environment & people in her life at different foster homes. Her adoption is so



well received knowing she will be a happy dog in her forever home.

Where are they now???

By Sue Randall



Lucky is a 2 year old neutered male that came into rescue due to a family relocation and with inability by them to continue to keep him once relocated. The family asked rescue to help relocate Lucky for them.

He is a young exuberant dog that is now in a new home with owners very familiar with dog behavior. There is substantial acreage where he can burn off some of his energy, yet be given the required guidance from savvy owners.

Gail Miller skillfully walking their 3 plus 2 fosters



General Donations

General Donations

Thomas Byers

Kathy Rall

Gena Lovell

Sandy and Marilyn Hargraves

Marv Wolfson

Ann Mosley

Carol Mackin

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Pawsitive Steps Dog Training

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Ginger Simons for Kula's surgery

Elizabeth Hextal for Kula's surgery

Kathryn Warren for Kula's surgery



Honorary Donations

Richard and Karen Minutoli
In appreciation for **June Akizuki's** kindness

Memorial Donations

Pat and Toby Jordan
In loving memory of their EGRR girl,
"Mindy"

John Chapman
In memory of his sweet girl,
"Buffi"

Diane Baker
In memory of her EGRR boy,
"Koda"

Beverly Abbott
In memory of sweet
"Mindy" Jordan

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.

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:

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