

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw

Volume VII Number 1

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2014 Spring Break-out!

Up until March 2014, these four beautiful dogs lived miserable lives in a Midwest puppy mill with little positive human contact. AGR was proud to be the rescue organizations able to support the efforts of the Golden Retriever Puppy Mill Rescue Team in acquiring a total of nine dogs at auction. We then traveled to Oklahoma to bring these four back to their loving new homes. It was sometimes a hard adjustment for both the dogs and their families, as puppy mill dogs usually have some emotional and physical problems. Bubba, now Oshie, had an ear hematoma, was infested with ticks and contracted tick fever. Luck did not suffer permanent ill effects and is now healthy and loving his new home and pool. Kathy, now Katy, has a heart murmur, is thriving in a new home where the family has lots of experience rehabilitating puppy mill dogs. Lamar, now Connor, who was initially terrified of people, is now a happy dog on his own leather sofa and pool. Tripp, now Bentley, was initially terrified of people.

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|-------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | - | | | 6 |
| 8 | | | | | 13 |
| 15 | | | | | Spring |
| 22 | 23 | | | | 27 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | |
| Palm Sunday | | | | | |

Mark Your AGR Calendars!
March 15 from 11-3

PAWS at the PARK!
Annual Membership Meeting
Family Picnic & Fun Day

Papago Park, Tempe
(corner of College/Curry west of Scottsdale Rd)

Details and registration form inside this issue
and available on the AGR Website

PAWS at the PARK!
Annual Membership Meeting
Family Picnic & Fun Day



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

COLUMNS

President’s Message: *Wags and Woofs* 3 - 4
 Director of Activities 4
 Director of Dog Care – *Paws Forward* 4 - 5
 Director of Information Management – *The Information Highway* 5 - 6
 Human Resources Director – *The Human Connection* 6 - 9
 Health and Safety – *Lumps and Bumps* 9 - 10
 Service Paws – *Fake Service Dogs* 11
 Financial Report for Year 2014 19
The Financial Picture 22

FEATURES

Magic Moments 12 - 18
Diamonds in the Ruff 19 - 20
Over the Rainbow 21
Golden Hearts (Donors) 37 - 39

HERE AND THERE – Events from October 13, 2014 through January 11, 2015

Paws & Pasta Dinner 23 - 24
PACC 911 Adopt-a-Thon on 11-15-14 24 - 25
PACC 911 Adopt-a-Thon on 11-29-14 25
Holiday Pet Festival 25 - 27
 Holiday Gift Wrapping Extravaganza 27 - 33
 Meet-and-Greets 34 - 36
 At Pet Club 34
 At Petco 34 - 35
 At PetSmart 35 - 36

MISCELLANEOUS

Editor’s Assistants’ Notes 3
 Major Upcoming Events 4
A Touch of Gold 2015 Calendar 11
Notice to AGR Adopters 18
 Special Thanks 20, 22
 Book Review: *The Mountaintop School for Dogs* 22

Webmasters Dana Haywood and Dana Craig Haywood

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for this issue.

Proofreading before publication is essential. For that daunting task, I thank Jude Fulghum, Teri Guilbault, Connie McCabe, Larry Orwig and Liz Tataseo

Cover Design by Connie McCabe – thanks!

Masthead photo is of **14-049 Sierra Walker**, age 14, looking adorable with paws crossed

The dog in the photo in the box at top of page 34 is **14-100 Layla**

Editor’s Note: Any personal opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those held by *Arizona Golden Rescue*. THE GOLDEN PAW is published quarterly by *Arizona Golden Rescue* and printed by *AZ Correctional Industries*, Perryville, AZ. Members receive it automatically, but nonmembers may subscribe for \$16 per year.

Editor's Assistants' Notes



Dolly, Mufasa, Duffy and Troy Orwig

Our mom told us that the theme for this issue is “looking ahead”, but being contrary as we sometimes are, we would like take a look back briefly. We had such a fabulous time during the holidays! All that meeting and greeting at the various events we attended was so much fun – people petting us, loving on us, giving us treats and putting money in our Donation Vests to help new rescues – what could be better than that? We met a lot of new canine friends, too, especially at the Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble* gift wrap event. During the day, 54 canines brought 91 humans to help at our gift wrapping tables or just to take us for walks throughout the mall area. **Duffy** was even reunited with both of his brothers over the holidays. **Murphy** came to Tempe Marketplace with his housemate **Gus** and his human mom and dad, and **Barklay** came to visit us at our home for a week over Christmas. It was great fun for all of us, but especially for **Duffy**.

Now, looking ahead... There are two terrific events coming up that we hope you will attend. First is the *Parada Del Sol*, which is on Valentine's Day this year, so our theme for the Parade is “Goldens Are All Heart!” Our mom is making bandannas from Valentine's fabric for all the dogs who come, so be sure to let her know if you can attend. The parade route is different from that in previous years, going from north at Drinkwater Blvd/Camelback Rd, then south on Scottsdale Rd to Indian School Rd, then east and north again to Brown St where the Trails End event takes place and where we will have a booth. The route is shorter than the south-to-north route they have used in the past, only about 1½ miles. So get your walking shoes on and start practicing your prance!

The other great event is our Annual Meeting with BBQ lunch, *Paws At The Park*. This year is an east-side year, so we will be at **Papago Park**, Tempe (corner of College Ave/Curry Rd, just west of Scottsdale Rd north of the 202 freeway). Our thanks to Jackie and Dave Engelhardt for securing the park for us and paying the reservation fee in memory of their rescued girl **Sage**, who went to the Bridge in December. The date is **Sunday, March 15**, and the event goes from **11 AM to 3 PM**. For \$8 each, you get a full

lunch – hamburgers or hotdogs, beans, coleslaw, chips, dessert and beverage. We will have a raffle, and all our merchandise will be available for purchase. There will be a Rainbow Bridge ceremony to acknowledge dogs that have passed away, a ceremony to recognize dogs that have been adopted since March 2014, and a Parade of Rescue that we can all participate in. In past years, over 100 dogs have attended this event with their families. We hope you can come this year! Please fill out the enclosed registration form and send it in no later than March 7th. You can also register online. We need an accurate count of potential attendees, so that we can be sure to have enough food for everyone.

Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net



After our best-ever holiday season, we are on to new things. There is no weekend before the end of March when we are not scheduled for something, and on many of those weekends both Saturday and Sunday are booked with an event. Please consider attending at least once. We have proven time and again that the more dogs we have with us at an event, the more donations we get. If you do not have a name tag, let me know at least a week ahead of an event you plan to attend and I will be sure to make one for you – we like the public to know with whom they are speaking when they ask questions about our organization and also that you are a *bona fide* representative of *Arizona Golden Rescue*.

The *AGR* Board members have voted to change the title of the Director's position that has been vacant for almost a year. *Director of Operations* seemed to be an intimidating title for someone to assume, as it implied (to some) work that was far beyond the actual scope of the job. The new title is *Director of Activities*. It is really the same job it has always been, but we are hoping that this is a more “user-friendly” title. The position involves the scheduling of events, which are usually fundraisers, seeing to it that every event has a chairman, and overseeing the events to be sure they get done. The *Director of Activities* is not obligated to attend each and every event, nor is there an obligation to chair any in particular, although the *Director* may opt to do that. During any month, at least one inquiry will come in from some group trying to get *AGR* to attend an event. It will be up to the *Director of Activities* to decide (with Board input) if *AGR* is going to participate and, if so, to secure the details, make sure the event organizers have the proper paperwork and sometimes a fee from us, and then inform the membership by asking Dana Haywood to release a message about the event. The *Director of Activities* will be encouraged to come up with new fundraising events, as well. The *Director of Activities* will also be responsible for writing a quarterly column for this newsletter and making sure that any-

one who chairs an event submits their event write-ups and photos, too. Board meeting attendance would be mandatory. However, we schedule these meetings only 4-6 times a year and at a time that is convenient for all – we usually do a dinner meeting at one of our homes on a week night.

It is not a difficult job – for almost a year, I have been doing it as well as several other jobs (President, Newsletter Editor, and Merchandise Manager; I also do home evaluations and transports). But I am tired, and I would like to hand this job over to someone else. Will you please consider it?

I have had several inquiries about a *Casino Night* event for 2015. As of now, none is scheduled. In October 2014, I made the initial inquiries about rental fees for the facility and the games. I was informed that although *Arizona Nights* would charge us the same fee for the games as in 2014, the *Fresh From The Kitchen* facility fee would be double what we paid per person and we would have to guarantee an attendance of 75 (we had only 62 attend last year). Since we would have to raise the price of admission and reduce the amount of chips given with the registration fee in order to end up with similar profit, we made the decision not to do it. If anyone knows of a reasonable-size facility in a fairly central location that would not charge us a rental fee (or only a nominal one) and where we might bring in our own food (to keep the event cost down), please contact me.

If anyone has any ideas for another fairly major fundraiser (we cleared almost \$6,000 last year with our *Mardi Gras Casino*), please contact me.

Director of Activities
???

**Will
someone, or
perhaps a couple,
please take
this position?**

Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.
~ Vince Lombardi

MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, February 7, 10 AM - 3 PM **PACC 911**
Adopt-a-Thon at Anthem Community Park;
set-up at 8:30 AM

Friday, February 13, 10 AM - 5 PM Gift Wrapping for
Valentine’s Day at Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble**

Saturday, February 14, 9 AM - 5 PM *Parada Del Sol*
and *Trails End*, Scottsdale; *Trails End* set-up at 6:30 AM

Saturday, February 21, 10 AM - 3 PM **PACC 911**
Adopt-a-Thon at Earnhardt, Chandler (7300 W. Orchid
Lane); set-up at 8:30 AM

Saturday, March 7, 10 AM - 3 PM, PACC 911 Adopt-a-Thon
at Highlands Church, Scottsdale (9050 E. Pinnacle
Peak Rd); set-up at 8:30 AM

Sunday, March 15, 11 AM - 3 PM **AGR’s** Annual Meeting
and BBQ, **Papago Park**, Tempe; set-up at 8:30 AM

Saturday, April 18, 10 AM - 6 PM *Phoenix Pet Expo* at
WestWorld in Scottsdale; initial set-up Friday 1 PM;
set-up finish at 8:30 AM on Saturday

Regular Meet-and-Greets at various **Pet Club**, **Petco**
and **PetSmart** stores; check website calendar for dates,
times and locations: www.arizonagoldenrescue.org

Paws Forward
By Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care
suevallie@cox.net



Looking Ahead

Organizations, like businesses – and careers – will not be successful unless we know where we are going and how we want to get there. **AGR** is no exception.

In order to see where we want to go, we need to look at where we have been. Incorporating in 2009, **AGR** was organized around the principle of wanting to help all Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes that come into our care and find them the best forever homes. While it sounds like a relatively simple task, to be done well, it is not. It takes understanding what we can about the incoming dog, learning what we can about the applicants and their families, and making the best match of the two. **AGR** is about getting available dogs, having good veterinary care and making good

matches between home and hound.

Unlike other Golden Retriever Rescues operating in the state, we do take mixes, including some that appear to be in “witness protection” but truly show a Golden heart. As a result, we have occasionally guessed wrong, especially with puppies. Taking mixes means that, among others, we accept Goldendoodles, which are varying percentages of Golden Retriever and Poodle. Even when we think we are taking in a purebred Golden, we have been surprised. There is a delightful story of what appeared to be a purebred Golden identified while lying in a kennel at a shelter. When someone went to pick him up, they learned that he didn’t stand up very far, as his legs were only about eight inches long. Hmmm, some Bassett or Corgi, perchance? We have had at least two of these height-challenged “Goldens”, and they have made loving additions to their families. Another example is a dog we rescued from a reservation down south. She looked like others of the Golden/Border Collie-type mix that we had rescued in the past. Out of curiosity, her adopter recently had her DNA tested. Turns out, she does not have a drop of Golden blood in her! Who knew? We certainly did not, but she now has a terrific and safe home and will never again be used for target practice. (Yes, the vet found a shotgun bullet inside the dog and removed it when he spayed her; the dog now wears the bullet as a collar decoration.)

We also have partnered with out-of-state rescue groups to bring in dogs from areas that have more dogs than adopters. This practice can be continued and possibly expanded.

Needed during the next five years are more veterinarians on board to work with us. We especially need practices in the more geographically remote areas, so FWITAs will not have to travel great distances to get the vetting completed. We need to identify vets that someone trusts with their own dogs and who are willing to work with us with possible discounts. With any luck, we will be bringing in new business for these vets, as adopters have a positive experience with them and they are in their neighborhood.

AGR has an excellent selling point: we pay our bills promptly, and we can and will provide referrals to our current vets for confirmation. Several of our vets bill us once a month; others keep our credit card on file and automatically charge it any time an **AGR** foster dog comes into their practice. If necessary, we will pay for a dog’s treatment when the dog leaves the clinic, just as a private citizen would be expected to do. This is not the case with all Rescues, which makes it harder for those who are more fiscally responsible.

Finding excellent homes that can meet a specific dog’s needs is a tricky operation. Just as all dogs do not meet everyone’s needs, all homes, while they can be good ones, are not right for every dog. Key to learning about a prospective home is the home evaluation process. Home Evaluators are the people who go to an applicant’s home to meet the family, see the home and get a sense of what

type of dog would fit best.

For instance, a frail person would not be a good match for an exuberant young dog, but some people request just what they probably should not have. Some dogs need quiet, so placing them in a young family with high-energy children would not be good for the dog. From just the online applications, we cannot discern these attributes.

We have a number of excellent Home Evaluators currently providing appropriate feedback so that the Placement Team has a good picture of a prospective family. What we have not always had is consistency. We need an accurate picture of the family and the home. To help attain the needed consistency, we are currently developing a Handbook for Home Evaluators. Over the next year we will be conducting training sessions so everyone evaluates the same thing in the same way. These process improvements will also make it easier to bring more people on board, as Evaluators are needed especially in outlying parts of our ever-expanding Metro area.

Hopefully, those of you reading this column can see a place where you can help us continue our mission. Come join us. You have gotten a new friend from us; help us get the next dog and family together.

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>The Information Highway</i> |  |
| By Dana Haywood, Director of Information Management | |
| dana.haywood@arizonagoldenrescue.org | |


The first five years of Arizona Golden Rescue’s existence have been marked by growth and change. We have come so far in the way we do things, from everything being done by downloading a form and mailing it in to filling it out online and submitting it. We have also created different options for online payment.

What is forecast for the next five years? As far as the IT portion of our operation, we have to be very diligent with the security of everything we do online. We have had a firewall on our website and database for several years and are always updating it; that will continue into the future. We have the responsibility to keep everyone’s information safe. We are always changing the website in response to new advances in technology and also to suit our needs.

Besides handling the IT portion of our organization, I am the Transport Manager and also host several Meet-and-Greets every month. In the beginning of our organization, we had a definite group of members that we could count on for every event and need of the group. Over the last five years, for one reason or another we have lost some of this help. Some members have had to stop because of health reasons, while others have moved away.

We who remain active are aging, and we sometimes find we are hard-pressed to keep up with the everyday demands of the organization. We need help from some of the new members who have adopted a dog and joined our group. Besides help for set-ups and manning of events, we also need fresh ideas for fundraising. We could repeat the same events each year, but they may become boring or exceed the range of the budget we have to allocate for them while allowing the cost to remain reasonable.

No matter what happens to those of us who take care of the everyday activities of the group, **AGR** needs to be prepared to continue, as there will always be Golden Retrievers out there who will need saving. We need individuals ready to step in and help. This can be as simple as attending a Meet-and-Greet, or more involved as in volunteering to take a position of responsibility within the organization.

 There are also other ways that you can support the organization even if you are unable to take part in many events. **GoodShop** is spotlighting **Arizona Golden Rescue**; you will see their new logo on our website. For those of you who shop online, you can go through our link to almost any store that you already shop in online, but by going through **GoodShop**, **AGR** will get a percentage of your purchase without it costing you anything extra. You can also find coupons for many of these stores that you would not get by going to the particular stores without going through **GoodShop**. **Goodshop** is a win-win situation – a win for you with the coupons you may get, and a win for **AGR** with a percentage of the sale.

Another great program that provides money for **AGR** without any work from us is the **Fry's Community Partners** program. If you shop at a **Fry's** store (**Fry's Food & Drug**, **Fry's Marketplace**, **Fry's Signature**) you can link your VIP card to **AGR** and quarterly we get a check from **Fry's**. This does not affect your VIP Points or gas rewards, but it sure helps **AGR**. During the last quarter before the new sign-up period, 109 families were supporting us through this program. Unfortunately, we now have only about 80 families, primarily because everyone needed to re-sign up last September and many did not. The last check we received from **Fry's** before they asked people to re-register was for \$826.18. The 2014-2015 first-quarter check we recently received was for \$762.70, still a very nice amount, but we can do better. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would renew, and if you are one of our many new adopters you will link your VIP Cards to **AGR**. Once you have signed up – it will literally take only a minute of your time – please ask your friends, neighbors and co-workers to sign up, too. There is no program requirement for the VIP card holder to be an **AGR** member. Instructions for sign-up are on the home page of our website.



The Human Connection

By Connie McCabe,
Human Resources Director

photocraf@aol.com

“It’s all about the dogs.”

We say that a lot, because that is why we are all part of this wonderful group. You would not be reading this if it were not for your love for the dogs. But as much as that is true, it takes a lot of hard work from a lot of people to keep this organization, and therefore the dogs, alive and thriving.

So, since this is the “Human Connection” column, in every issue I am going to continue to mention a few interesting facts and stories about some of the people you think you know. Hopefully you will learn something new about them and gain more insight into how they got here. I have been going in order of membership number, beginning at “one” and featuring several members in every column. You may notice that there are some missing member numbers. I know there are a lot of people who really just wanted to adopt a dog and have no interest in participating in **AGR** activities. I will respect the privacy of those who prefer not to be active and just concentrate on those who are, or have been, most active in the organization.

In the November 2014 issue, I highlighted Angela Palumbo, Don and Carol Thompson, Bob and Kathi Youhas, and Katie Donahue. In August 2014, I covered Larry Jessup, Joyce Johnston, Sheila Joyce and Dave and Nancy Kimmel. In May 2014, we learned some things about Anne Kowalski, Tony Cotner, and Teri and Jeff Guilbault. In February 2014, I featured Susan Parker, Michele Wehry and Mark Hill, and Teryl Hall and daughter Trystan Schuff. Previous issues have featured Deb and Larry Orwig, Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle, and Liz Tataseo (August 2013); Debbie and Rick Ball, Nick Dodson and Connie McCabe, and Joyce Hubler (November 2013). If you did not get these issues and you want to learn about these members, you can download the issues from our website if you use Firefox or Google Chrome as your browser.

Let’s meet Cara Holland and Jack Craven who share number 32F



Cara was born on June 15, 1957, and grew up mostly in Denver, CO, with her younger brother and three older sisters. Her dad was a college professor and her mom a PhD candidate. Both parents emphasized critical thinking. There was no TV while she was growing up so they had to talk to each other, especially about current events and books. Her brother had some develop-

mental delays and sought the companionship of dogs instead of people. His favorite breed was the Golden Retriever, so they had a Golden/Coonhound mix and a Golden/Great Pyrenees. The dogs saved her brother's life – they were his only real friends and Cara has never forgotten that.

Jack was born in Pittsburgh on June 15th, 1953, and grew up in Bradford, PA, with a brother and sister. His dad had served in the Navy in WWII and then worked for the IRS for 10 years. After that he joined Zippo manufacturing and lived in Bradford for 25 years. After retiring, Jack's parents moved to Arizona in 1982 to be near his sister and family. His dad passed away in 1992, but his mother remained strong and active until she passed away last year at the age of 97.

Cara played sports in middle school and high school (softball, basketball, track, judo) and was one of the first women in the Colorado region to achieve a high level in judo. In high school she was trained by a Japanese judo champion who only spoke Japanese. So, she was forced to learn a little of the Japanese language, like "I need to go to the bathroom and if you don't let me off the mat, it will not be pretty" and other expressions of necessity. Majoring in Japanese and Japanese History at *Duke*, she graduated *cum laude* in 1980. For 3 years, Cara got to spend 6 weeks each summer in Japan as part of the Japan-America Student Conference. She then went to graduate school at the *University of Denver* and graduated first in her class in 1983 to receive her MBA with emphasis in statistics and operations research.

Jack was also athletic growing up. He played both football and basketball in high school, in addition to running track. Unfortunately, he broke his wrist during gym class in his junior year and had to forego both football and basketball for the rest of the year. So, Jack put more emphasis on track and worked hard on getting in shape. During his senior year, he was All-District in football and the Pennsylvania State AA champion in the 220-yard dash. After high school, Jack applied to the *United States Military Academy* at West Point, NY, and received an appointment to the Class of 1975. While there, he was a member of the varsity track team for the entire four years and captain of the Indoor and Outdoor teams his senior year. He was commissioned as an infantry officer, and after graduating from the Infantry Officer's Basic Course and both the U.S. Army Airborne and Ranger Schools, began his first assignment at Ft. Lewis, WA, with the 9th Infantry Division. He served four years at Ft. Lewis, then decided to leave the service in 1980 after five years of active duty. It was a tough decision after nine years of military life, but he has never looked back. Later on, he served another four years in the Army Reserves.

Jack and Cara's paths crossed when she went to work for *Citicorp* in Denver, running their credit analysis department. She was promoted to VP soon thereafter, becoming one of the youngest VP's at *Citicorp*. Just for fun, she also taught statistics at a local uni-

versity. They met when Jack joined *Citicorp* in 1984 after getting his MBA. In 1986 he went to work for *Bank of America* in California and they began a long distance relationship, which kept the airlines in business until he returned to Denver in 1989. In 1991 they were both hired by the *First Bank System* (now *USBank*) in MN and were married there in 1992, but only after Jack agreed to learn the game of hockey, which Cara loved. In 1997, Cara went out on her own as a consultant in the same area that she worked in at the bank – process design/efficiency – plus she managed many enterprise-wide projects for a variety of clients.

They lived in MN for seven years and then came to Paradise Valley, where Jack headed up a newly minted, NASDAQ-listed company for two years. It was there in 2000 that *Carmen* came into their lives from *RAGofAZ*, along with Aunt Connie and Uncle Nick, who had been fostering her for many months and had given up hope that she would ever be adopted. *Carmen* could leap 6-foot walls with ease, and didn't hesitate to jump through windows if she wanted to be on the other side. That did not scare off Jack and Cara, who embraced the challenge and somehow managed to keep her safe no matter where they lived. *Carmen* is Jack's first pet ever. What she has meant to him is not easy for him to put into words, but she definitely changed their lives. She will be 16 in June, and we will celebrate her birthday on the same birthdate that Jack, Cara and Aunt Connie all share, June 15.

At one point, Jack and Cara decided to move back east. There, Jack joined *Textron*, a large conglomerate headquartered in RI, and Cara continued with her successful consulting career. Later on, an offer for Jack to become COO of a growing mid-west bank in Ohio looked attractive, and they moved there in 2004. However, they really missed Phoenix, so they returned here in 2006. Jack joined a fast-growing company in the financial services industry that grew from 30 to 230 employees in the time he was there until the owner decided to retire and close the company. After that, he became the Managing Director for Strategic Services for a banking consulting firm in Scottsdale. He did not relish all of the travel, so he decided to do something different. Now Jack is running a medical communications company. Cara has curtailed her client work significantly and will retire "officially" in 2015.

Since adopting *Carmen*, they have also adopted four Rottweillers, three of which have passed away. Cara suffered a lot of injuries from a motorcycle accident and has given up riding a Harley but keeps busy doing volunteer work for *Rotten Rottie Rescue* and *Arizona Golden Rescue*. She and Jack support, attend and volunteer for the Golf Tournament, Santa Photos and other events. Cara also does volunteer work with seniors through a local non-profit agency called *Duet*. They serve homebound individuals free of charge (mostly seniors) – take them to medical appointments, take them out, do grocery shopping for them, etc. Cara definitely plans on keeping her brain active by continuing to participate in online and onsite Oxford courses. She plans to travel for sure, volunteer

for rescue groups, and keep **Carmen** in the manner to which she has become accustomed – completely and utterly spoiled! – and to watch a lot of hockey! Cara believes that there is no failure in doing, just failure in not trying, AND that worry is wasteful – take a nap instead. After retiring someday, Jack will play more golf and read more military history, especially about the American Revolution and George Washington.

Next up is Judy Petitto, number 33F



Judy keeps very busy on the Intake team, carefully interviewing and counseling people who want to surrender their dogs and making sure that we get all of the information possible. She also participates in eastside Meet-and-Greets and other events.

In Judy's own words, *Born in Cleveland, Ohio, one thing you learn is loyalty. How else can you explain that I'm still a die-hard Cleveland Browns fan after suffering through all these years? My brother had moved to Arizona many years before my sister and I came out to visit in February of 1980. Well, needless to say it was 80 degrees and we were heading back to a blizzard. We decided then and there to move to Arizona as soon as possible. So in 1981 we packed up the family – husband (no longer), daughter, sister and two Irish Setters. I went to work for Motorola and recently retired after 30 years of service.*

*After losing my two Setters, one to cancer and one to old age, I took a trip to the eastside shelter and a Golden Retriever stole my heart. I visited her every day during the three-day waiting period and was first in line to adopt her. We named her **Honey** and we had her for 12 years. After a six-month period of grieving I started to look for a Golden puppy. I wanted to raise a Golden. I looked into Rescue at **RAGofAZ** and became a member, but like many people I just couldn't wait and purchased a puppy from a breeder in New River. That is my **SandiJoy** and she is now 10 years old. In the meantime **AGR** was born, and I became a member and filled out that I was interested in volunteering for Intake. Well, Michele Wehry called me and the rest is history. I now know how important Rescue is to our Goldens and our world. Through Intake, I have experienced much joy along with some sadness, too. There have been many happy tears sprinkled in with heartbreak, but never any regrets for all **AGR** has done. Which leads me back to that Cleveland loyalty. I'm now a die-hard fan of Rescue and Goldens and my life has gone to the dogs. That is, the Cleveland Dawgs and the Golden Retriever.*

Let's meet Bill and Linda Atkinson, who share the number 34F

One Christmas several years ago, Bill and Linda Atkinson passed by a **Barnes & Noble** gift wrapping event and that was the beginning of a many-year love affair with **Arizona Golden Res-**



cue. They have since rescued two Goldens, **Sam** and **Thunder** (in photo). With **AGR**, they have volunteered and attended many parades and events.

Bill was born in Chicago, IL, and on every return visit points out his elementary school, hospital where he was born, etc. He has a stepdaughter living there now and a son attending Northwestern, and his love affair continues with the Chicago Cubs. He attended **Kalamazoo College** and **Oberlin College**. Bill was a high school math and biology teacher before joining the **Upjohn** pharmaceutical company. He had a 30-year career there doing clinical research and facilitating approval of their new drugs. Bill has three sons by a prior marriage and three grandchildren. The boys live in Tucson, Milwaukee, and Indianapolis. He enjoys dog training with **Thunder** and singing karaoke several times a week.

Linda was born in Kalamazoo, MI and attended **Western Michigan University**. She also worked at **Upjohn** (where she and Bill met) in the Agricultural Division and Quality Assurance. She has two daughters, who live in North Carolina and Chicago, and six grandchildren. Post-retirement, she worked as a Membership Director for two country clubs in the area. She presently works part-time at **Sam's Club**. Linda enjoys tennis, reading, gardening, and playing the piano.

Bill and Linda met at **Upjohn** in Kalamazoo, MI, and were married in 1979. After retirement, they moved to a summer home on Lake Michigan in Suttons Bay, MI (25 years) and to a winter home in Sun City. Just last year they became year-round Arizona residents. When they rescued their first Golden they were asked if they had a pool; they asked if Lake Michigan counted and **Sam** swam almost every day in the summer. After **Sam** passed away in 2014, they adopted young **Thunder** from **AGR**.

Now on to team Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström, number 38F



Mike, Hannah, Cynthia and Bailey

Cynthia and Mike moved to Phoenix in the 1970s, each from a different state in the Midwest. They met more than 20 years later, in, of all places, their veterinarian's office – apropos for these two dog-lovers. At the time, Mike had two German Shepherds and Cynthia had her second Golden, **Chelsea**. As time went on, they decided to share their life together, and Mike's German Shepherds had each passed. He quickly learned the value of a Golden Retriever, as everyone wanted to pet, speak to or cuddle **Chelsea** when he took her for walks.

It was a chance conversation prompted by a greeting card with a Golden Retriever smiling on the cover posted in a co-worker's cubicle that opened Cynthia's eyes about dog rescue. By this time **Chelsea** was eight years old and the thought of losing their only 4-legged family member was unbearable. Enter *Rescue A Golden of Arizona* – it was 2002.

They interviewed two Golden retrievers through *RAGofAZ*, but neither was quite the right fit, and then came #3, **Duke**. **Duke** was a darling 19-month-old Golden who was fostered on a horse ranch in the West Valley. His smiling face, happy tail and go-with-the-flow attitude were infectious, and they knew they had found their next family member. **Chelsea** got to meet **Duke** too; she was non-committal. This dog lived on a horse ranch and had no impact on her life. Ha! A few days later Mike and Cynthia went back to the horse ranch to pick up **Duke**, returning to **Chelsea's** home with "that dog." They renamed him **Morgan**, and **Chelsea** grew to love him like they did. Turned out he was a "talker" and elicited many smiles with his vocalizations.

Morgan brought his own verve into the family, including a love for everyone he met. It was the first *Hearts of Gold*, a wine tasting and auction that *RAG* sponsored, when he made a very lasting impact on Mike and Cynthia. New to *Hearts of Gold*, they were eager to support the organization and did so in a big way by purchasing an available week in Cabo at a member's timeshare. They loved Cabo on their initial visit and purchased a time share of their own. Ten years later they are still enjoying the impact **Morgan** had on their lives: his wonderful personality will always stand out in their minds and they have their beautiful timeshare in Cabo.

After five years and five trips to Cabo, **Chelsea** passed, and life with just one Golden became unbearable. Within a few months, **Bailey** entered their lives, an 18-month-old also adopted from *RAG*. **Bailey** is still part of the fabric of their lives, just turning 9 years old. His infectious *joie de vivre* is felt by everyone at Meet-and-Greets. As a true Golden-boy, he will happily lean on someone he really likes, and dollars just seem to jump into his donation vest! Throughout the next several years, life was very good for **Morgan** and **Bailey**. In fact, they fostered a sister named **Tag**. **Tag** was a Golden that her mom had brought to AZ from Kosovo. **Tag** shared **Morgan** and **Bailey's** home while her mom worked overseas.

Several years passed and so did **Morgan** – a heartbreaking day, though **Bailey** and **Tag** still had one another. When **Tag** returned to her mom, who now lives in Colorado, Mike and Cynthia's home was again too quiet – only one Golden.

Welcome their first *AGR* rescue, **Rosebud**, age 19 months (November 2012). **Rosebud**, now **Hannah**, is a petite girl with a sweet smile, who recently was certified as a Therapy Dog. She loves meeting people and dogs, swimming, and tormenting her brother **Bailey**. **Hannah** and **Bailey** both enjoy Meet-and-Greets and gift

wrapping at *Barnes & Noble* – they even own their own *AGR* donation vests (Deb will make one for your dog for a price). About six months after **Hannah** was adopted, a beautiful senior boy, **Apollo**, appeared on the *AGR* website. Mike and Cynthia wanted to give him a wonderful life for his remaining golden years. Unfortunately, those golden years were weeks. Living his last seven weeks as a very loved boy named **Paolo**, named for architect Paolo Soleri, he then went to the Bridge. **Paolo** was one of *AGR's* *Diamonds in the Ruff*. He was ailing, and *AGR* did an incredible job of providing comfort in his final weeks. He made such an impression on their hearts and the hearts of his foster family, Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson – all were present when he passed.

Mike and Cynthia are proud members of *AGR* and speak of the organization often to friends and colleagues. In fact, Cynthia was responsible for bringing in *AGR's* first two rescues, **09-001 Aspen** and **09-002 Goldie**, because people knew she was involved in *Arizona Golden Rescue*. It is amazing how one small greeting card with a Golden Retriever on the front could make such a difference in the lives of so many.



Lumps and Bumps: No problem, or very big problem?

Most dogs, including Golden retrievers, get lumps as they age, but younger dogs are not an exception. Most of these lumps are benign cysts, lipomas (fatty tumors) or granulomas, but some are much more serious. It is recommended that a new mass, or one that has suddenly changed in size, be evaluated by a vet and, if deemed necessary, a needle aspiration should be performed to determine the type of cells present.

There are benign masses that should be removed before they lead to ulcerations of the skin or interfere with sight or movement: warts, follicular or sebaceous cysts, benign histiocytomas (often found on young dogs), sebaceous adenomas if they are ulcerated, large lipomas and basal cell tumors that can become malignant.¹

One lump that looks like many of the ones just mentioned is a malignant tumor which can be treated quickly and without long-lasting issues if found early. However, left to grow and spread it can affect internal organs and lead to death. These are mast cell tumors. They are one of the most common skin tumors in dogs and often look like harmless cysts, histiocytomas or lick granulomas.

According to the *National Canine Cancer Foundation*, *mast cells are cells that occur in the skin and other tissues, like the intestines and respiratory tract. They are also an integral part of the*

immune system. They consist of large amounts of histamine, heparin, and proteolytic enzymes (enzymes which break down protein). These have a toxic effect on foreign invaders, like parasites, and are released when the mast cell is triggered by the immune system. A mast cell tumor results from these mast cells. When histamine, heparin, and enzymes are damaged by some external invasion, they pose health hazards. Large amounts of these substances are released into the body and usually have adverse effects on heart rate, blood pressure, and other body functions.

Several **AGR** members have had dogs with mast cell tumors and, fortunately, have been able to catch them early and have them removed. Mast cell tumors can return, so vigilance is necessary for any new lump. Unfortunately, a dog surrendered to **AGR** in December had large, untreated mast cell tumors that were beyond anyone's treatment capabilities. The dog had to be euthanized.

According to **North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine**, treatments for mast cell tumors that are beyond minimally invasive (tumors) involve *Diagnostic tests... recommended to ensure there is no obvious evidence of spread to other places in the body. These tests include:*

- Complete blood count (CBC)
- Serum biochemistry panel
- Urinalysis (U/A)
- Lymph node aspiration cytology
- Abdominal sonogram

If metastasis has occurred, current protocol involves a combination of prednisone, vinblastine, and CCNU, the three drugs with demonstrated effectiveness against mast cell tumors. Chemotherapy can also be used alone if surgery and radiation therapy are not performed.

Sad but true is this statement from an article by Rhonda Hovan in *Understanding Cancer in Golden Retrievers*²: *Let's get started with some data of how cancer affects our breed. Approximately 60% of all Goldens will die from cancer. By gender, it's 57% of females and 66% of males. Human cancer is also skewed slightly toward males, so it's not surprising that dogs are too. For comparison, the rate of cancer in Goldens is just slightly less than double the rate of cancer in all dogs, which is estimated to be about one in three (and which actually is about the same as in humans). But even though our cancer rate is nearly double the all-breed average, it's important to keep in mind that the average lifespan of the breed is still within the same 10-11-year range as in all breeds.*

While the above information may seem disheartening, many Goldens live long, healthy lives only surrendering to illness (yes, often cancer) in their old age. It is when cancer hits young dogs in the prime of their lives that we ask, why is this happening? And it is why it is important to always check over your dog for lumps,

bumps or any small injury that might not be healing quickly and get them evaluated by a vet.

¹ WebMD (webmd.com/dogs/dog-papillomas-lipomas-cysts-basal-cell-tumors):

Papillomatosis

The term papillomatosis is used to describe a benign tumor on the surface of the skin. A virus, known as the papillomavirus, causes the growth. The general appearance is wart-like, raised, with the central surface having an open pore if the wart is inverted.

Sebaceous Cysts

Sebaceous cysts are common surface tumors found anywhere on the body. These cysts begin when dry secretions block hair follicles, causing an accumulation of hair and sebum (a cheesy material), and the subsequent formation of a cyst.

Lipomas

A lipoma is a benign growth made up of mature fat cells interlaced with fibrous connective tissue. Lipomas are common in overweight dogs, especially females. A lipoma can be recognized by its oblong or round appearance and smooth, soft, fatlike consistency.

Histiocytomas

Histiocytomas are rapidly growing tumors found in dogs 1 to 3 years of age. They occur anywhere on the body. These benign tumors are dome-shaped, raised, hairless surface growths that are not painful.

Sebaceous Adenomas

Sebaceous adenomas arise from the oil-producing sebaceous glands in the skin. They are not dangerous.

Basal Cell Tumors

This is a common tumor usually found on the head and neck in dogs over 7 years of age. It appears as a firm, solitary nodule with distinct borders that set it apart from the surrounding skin.

² Rhonda Hovan has been a breeder/owner/handler of Golden Retrievers under the "Faera" prefix for over 30 years, producing more than 60 Champions. As a health and genetics writer, she has won the *Veterinary Information Network Health Education Award* and the *Eukanuba Canine Health Award*. Rhonda is the Research Facilitator for the **Golden Retriever Club of America**, founded the *Starlight Fund* at the **AKC Canine Health Foundation** to support Golden Retriever health research, serves on the Advisory Board of the **National Canine Cancer Foundation**, and is an Emeritus Director of the **Orthopedic Foundation for Animals**. She wrote the article, originally published in *Golden Retriever News*, to help answer some common questions from breeders and owners, such as "Why did my dog get cancer?" and "What can I do to help my dog avoid cancer?" She is a frequent speaker on topics of canine health, and lives in Akron, Ohio, with five Goldens and two rescued raccoons. Excerpt from the article was reprinted with permission from the author.



Service Paws

By Wendy Enos

wendyenos@cox.net



In the November issue, you joined me in saying goodbye to my service dog, **Sophie**, who passed away in August. Now, allow me to introduce you to **Cubby**. **Cubby** and I have been in training together as a team since February 2014. We are out of the classroom now and, as soon as he passes his public access test, we will be out in public together, gaining experience leading up to his certification test. He is one awesome dog!

Fake Service Dogs

It happens thousands of times every day in the U.S. People sneak their pet dogs into restaurants, stores, airplanes, and other businesses with the simple phrase, "He's my service dog." According to the United States Department of Justice, the only inquiries a manager or employee may make are, "Is this dog required because of a disability?" and "What is the dog trained to do for you?" No proof of training or certification, and no vest, harness, or ID tag is required.

It is a federal crime to fraudulently pose as a person with a disability or to pass off one's untrained pet as a service dog. So why do people do it? Because they can.

You, the public, have little choice other than to accept a dog as a service dog, because you are not allowed to demand proof. So how can you know which is a genuine service dog and which is not? Simply, you can't – not until the laws are changed, and I don't see that happening anytime in the near future.

So here is what you can do: be cautious about pre-judging. Many disabilities are invisible, so just because you cannot see a person's need for a service dog does not mean there isn't one. Pay zero attention to anyone flashing ID cards, badges, tags, national registry papers (there's no such thing as a national service dog registry) and fancy apparel. Anyone can get any of these things over the Internet; there are literally thousands of unscrupulous suppliers, so the presence or absence of those items does not tell you a thing.

You may exclude the "emotional support" or "comfort" animals; they don't have the same public access rights as mobility, guide, alert, or hearing dogs. Providing emotional support or keeping a person calm is something they do naturally, so a dog does not meet the criteria for a service dog unless it has also been individually trained to perform actual tasks to mitigate the person's disability.

In 2011, the law changed to permit only dogs and, in some cases, miniature horses as service animals; therefore, you may refuse access to someone with a "service" cat, bird, iguana, hamster, pig

... the list goes on ...

Legitimate service dog handlers generally will not take offense, raise their voices, curse at you, or spout all their legal rights when you ask them the questions you are allowed to ask. That is more the speed of someone with something to hide.

Your best bet is to pay attention to the dog's behavior. You are allowed to exclude any dog who barks, lunges, threatens, or fails to be brought under the immediate control of the handler. You may also have the dog removed if it is not housebroken. If you believe a dog may be a fake service dog, keep an eye on it. If it is well-behaved and under control, then you may have no choice but to just let it go. It is better than making life that much harder for handlers of real service dogs.

A few major organizations are making urgent attempts to get the laws changed but, until that happens, it is better to err on the side of allowing fake service dogs in than keeping legitimate ones out.

A Touch of Gold 2015 Calendar

A limited number of copies of our spectacular 2015 calendar are still available. Each feature photo is accompanied by the dog's story, or, as in the case of the *Spring Break-out Puppy Mill Rescue* dogs, their stories.



There are two pages of photos of volunteers at *AGR* activities and two centerfold pages showcasing our Gallery of Calendar Sponsors. In addition, every empty box you normally see on a calendar page has a photo of one of our rescued dogs. We have kept the price at \$10, as it has been in previous years. You can order with the Order Form available on our website. Calendars are also available for purchase from several of our regular veterinarians and at every *AGR* event. Please be sure to add postage costs to your order if you want your calendar(s) mailed. See Order Form for cost schedule.

*Rescue is pain.**Rescue is joy.**Rescue is worth it... because they are worth it.**And that's the honest truth.*~ Ashley Owen Hill in *Rescue Explained* ~

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Jude Fulghum

*Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for; perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of **Arizona Golden Rescue's** Magic Moments from October 6, 2014 through January 13, 2015. All adoptions finalized after January 13th will be in the next issue.*



14-056 Daisy (left), and her littermate **14-057 Sunshine** (right), were both relinquished to **AGR** when their owner pretty much



abandoned them. The dogs were left with a neighbor when the owner moved out of state, and after a couple of months reported he would not be coming back for them. Since the neighbor already had several dogs, she persuaded the owner to relinquish them so they could be given to us. These girls just devour any attention they receive and are very sweet. Both are 6 years old and nei-



ther had been to a vet in three years, so the vet's office was their first stop for spaying, vaccinations, and nail clipping. Both dogs were also overweight and had apparently been eating rocks in the back yard where they essentially had lived for 6 years. We have rarely seen a pair as bonded as these girls. During a stop at Connie and Nick's house, they were always near each other, walked in step with



each other, and their tails even wagged the same way at the same time! So, it was imperative that we try hard to place these two together, and we were successful! We are so grateful that Lenna and Eric in Phoenix were happy to take them home and spoil them, making up for all their years in the back yard. Congratulations to all, and thank you, Eric and Lenna, for taking these girls and making them part of your lives.

14-058 Bracken came to us originally in 2012 as a beautiful, 7-year-old English Cream Golden. She was surrendered to us because the owner was not able to handle her extreme fear and reaction to thunder, fireworks, and balloons. She had literally run through a thick-paned living room window during a storm when the owners were not home.



Her early history indicated that she was moved back and forth across the country several times in airplanes. Does the baggage compartment sound like rolling thunder or not? To say **Bracken** had emotional issues was a vast understatement! In 2012, we placed her with a wonderful man who was retired and home most of the time. He was dedicated to turning this dear dog around and totally adored her. Fast forward to early summer of 2014 when we received a call that **Bracken's** owner had had a debilitating stroke. Not knowing the owner's prognosis, we first had her at Connie and Nick's house, then when it became apparent that the owner most likely would not recover, we placed **Bracken** with a long-term foster, Susan, in Mesa. Unfortunately, after a few weeks **Bracken's** owner passed away. But fortunately, **Bracken's** long-term foster mom decided to formally adopt her. This wonderful dog, renamed **Molly**, is now in her forever home in Mesa. Thank you, Susan, for caring for her during her separation from her owner and for giving her the life she deserves.

14-065 Maggie was originally brought to a vet's office by the owner wanting the dog to be euthanized. Since she was only two years of age, the vet of course said no, and talked the owner into

signing **Maggie** over to us. She had obviously recently had a litter of puppies as she was still lactating (which begs the question, “Where were the puppies?”). We guessed that she had lived outdoors, as she seemed to have had no training at all. Obviously she needed to be spayed, which was set up after she was completely through the lactation period. **Maggie** has been adopted by Amanda and Mary in Scottsdale where we are sure she will go on to better things than producing puppies.



and sure enough they wanted him! So, the brothers ended up back together, which is evidently what was meant to be. Leslie and Rod and their two active sons in Mesa are now the proud guardians of two young, active and happy Golden Retrievers! The whole family adores their canine boys!

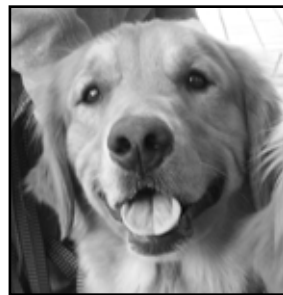


14-068 Achilles is a cute 1-year-old Golden mix that lived with a woman who moved away and gave him to her neighbor. The neighbor lived in a small apartment with no yard, and felt the dog needed more attention. A one-year-old Golden certainly needs a great deal of that! After some initial vetting, including a neuter, he was all ready to go, and we found a home for

him immediately with Mark and his family in Scottsdale. They have renamed him **Dewey**. We are sure they are enjoying the antics of this cute, young pup!



14 - 066 Chip (left) and his brother **14-067 Scout** (right), another very bonded pair, were relinquished to



us by owners who had recently moved to Arizona from Missouri. There, the dogs had been living outside in a large yard. Here, they were now relegated to a postage stamp-size area. The dogs were having to be kept outside as the toddler in the family was allergic to them. The boys were only 2½ years old, had been purchased at six weeks of age, and then lived outdoors until now. Both dogs were fostered by Deb for a week so we could get a handle on their behavior. As you might expect, although very sweet they were completely untrained and not housebroken. They learned quickly to “go out” at Deb’s, and she gave each some basic leash training. Then they were sent to **Partners Dog Training School** for some serious training. Because the boys seemed to be inordinately attached to each other – to the point that **Chip** would froth at the mouth out of anxiety if **Scout** went out of sight – we requested that they be gradually separated at **Partners**. After only 11 days there, **Chip** had to leave, as he developed a severe infection on his nose and in his foot, because he kept trying to get out of his chain link kennel run so he could be with his brother. After an overnight stay at an emergency vet, **Chip** went home with Deb to convalesce, and, while there, seemed to come to terms with not being around **Scout**. He interacted with Deb’s canine gang well and kept **Bubba** company in Deb’s laundry room when **Bubba** visited for a week. After three weeks at **Partners**, **Scout** was adopted very quickly. Deb interviewed several families for **Chip** and did not find the “just right” match for him. We contacted **Scout’s** new owners to see if they would consider taking **Chip**, too,



14-069 Buddy was rescued early in 2014 by another Rescue in Flagstaff. He had been in a bad situation, tied up outside with lots of other dogs. He actually lived at the shelter until he was well enough to be adopted. However, the new owner was now going through a divorce and was having difficult issues which led him to decide to rehome **Buddy**. As the original Rescue had too many dogs to take **Buddy** back, he came to us. He is a very handsome 6-year-old red boy and a trained service/therapy dog. We were able to place him almost immediately with Kenneth and Paulette in Sun City West. They are delighted to have him and have renamed him **Oliver**.



14-073 Lacey (left) and her daughter, **14-074 Baby Girl** (right), were abandoned by a couple who simply walked into a boarding facility and, in



essence, said “take them”, giving absolutely no medical history on them at all. **Lacey** had had a liaison with, most likely, a Border Collie or Aussie, as **Baby Girl** is a black Golden mix, a.k.a., a fugitive in the Golden Witness Protection program. The girls were taken to our vet for “the works” – a complete exam, vaccinations, and tests. Fortunately, both had already been spayed. Because we always want to keep bonded pairs together, we searched our da-

tabase of applicants and were ecstatic when Judy and Nick took these two girls off to their new home in Casa Grande. They are our heroes for adopting a bonded pair of dogs. The one thing you can give the previous owners credit for is leaving them someplace where they would have a reasonable chance of being adopted together into a loving home. Judy and Nick changed **Baby Girl's** name to **Shadow**, but the kids decided that **Baby Girl** fit her better, so the original name stuck. **Lacey** and **Baby Girl**, welcome to your new life! We are glad we could rescue you! We promise you a much more caring and committed home than you have known.



14-075 Apollo is an adorable one-year-old Golden rescued from a shelter. Take a look at this cutie pie! Makes you wonder how she ended up there, doesn't it? Fortunately, we have applicants who were looking for a dog exactly like **Apollo**, so she was easily placed with Alexander and Felicia in Gilbert who are, we are sure, enjoying puppy antics at this very moment.

They have renamed this eye-catching little girl **Emmy**. Nothing like a young pup to make you smile!

14-076 Tristan is a cute, approximately two-year-old Golden who was found running the streets. He was taken in by someone who then listed him on craigslist, as he could not keep **Tristan** because he was moving. **Tristan** did have some basic commands down cold, and we were told he was good with cats. **Tristan** had these people well trained, because they told us he would not eat kibble so they made him chicken and rice. Way to go, **Tristan**! Since we knew nothing about any medical history, he went through the entire vetting Full Meal Deal. After correcting some medical issues, we asked Jacque if she was interested and she was so excited. So, **Tristan** (now named **Cooper**) has bounced off to Scottsdale to entertain Jacque and her black lab, **Jake**. She is committed to helping him recover from his previous, perhaps interesting, life. After just a few days, Jacque wrote us: ***Cooper** is doing great! It's as if he has been with me forever! He and my other dog are already best friends and they love to snuggle and play together. I fell in love with **Cooper** the moment I saw him and I couldn't be happier to have him! Thank you for all you did to help me get the most wonderful dog!*



14-077 PJ (Primo Junior) was one of four Golden/Lab mixes relinquished to us by an owner who had lost his home and business and needed to move. **PJ** is a large, very active, young, light-colored Golden mix, who seemed to have been the result of a breeding program these folks had established (very knowledgeable, as



they fed him Old Roy and he hadn't been to the vet for over a year). Gotta love it! **PJ** was delivered to his new home with Colleen and Bruce in Mesa bearing ear infection meds, wearing the Cone of Shame, and needing valley fever meds. Didn't faze these folks who welcomed him with open arms and renamed him **Jake**. Here is an update on him. *We*

*lost our golden to cancer in August and contacted AGR in October to see about adopting another. We already had a 4-year-old Golden (**Molly**) and felt we needed to become a two-Golden family again. We had our wish list ready – purebred male Golden, dark red and under a year old. We met with Jim and he showed us pictures of a Golden mix – Lab and Golden, white in color and around 2½ years old. We were hesitant, but told Jim to bring him by. He arrived with **PJ**, now **Jake**, looking out the front window of the car, and it was love at first sight (even **Molly** approved immediately). Well, he met part of our criteria – a male! **Jake** had a significant limp caused by valley fever, was underweight, not very active, but a total sweetheart. What a delight he is – he loves to swim – even taught our previously water-shy **Molly** to enjoy the pool. He no longer limps, joins us on daily walks, and always has a ball in his mouth looking for a willing participant for a game of catch. He's such a friendly guy and a big hit at the local coffee shop. It's been such a pleasure to work with everyone at AGR, and we are so grateful to again have a two-Golden family. Sounds like **Jake** is a Stealer of Hearts!*

14-078 Lola is a 4-year-old Golden/Lab mix who came in with three other dogs from a family who had lost their home and needed to move. She had been born at their house, so we are guessing she was the result of a breeding program (maybe a new designer dog, the "Glab"?). Like the other dogs, she had not darkened the door of a veterinary clinic for over a year, so off she went for tests and the usual vetting. Steve and Jeannine in Scottsdale were happy to take this sweet girl home to a better life.



14-079 Mini joined her three siblings in coming to us from a family losing their home. She was the youngest of the four dogs, being only 2 years old. Here is a good piece of trivia for you – her name was really **Mini Max**, as she was named for a brand of pool heater! That is certainly a new one! Like the other dogs, she had not been to the vet for over a year, and so that

was her first stop. Since she had already been spayed (surprise, surprise, as we thought she was perhaps a breeding dog), all she needed was her vaccinations and she was ready to roll. Sarah and Bernard spirited her off with them to Gilbert, where we are sure she will have a long and happy life. They renamed her **Emmie**. We have an update on her. *Our home felt very empty after our Black Lab passed from cancer. We knew that we wanted another dog, the right dog, for our children to grow up with. BJ had a Golden growing up and knew that Goldens were great family dogs. We met with Jim, and he understood our family's needs and wants perfectly. Waiting was so hard, and Jim kept reminding us that the perfect dog would come around. Finally, **Emmie** came to AGR and we couldn't be happier! She is the best! **Emmie** is very gentle with our 6- and 4-year-olds. She loves going on walks with her Dad and enjoys meeting other dogs (although the little ones make her nervous). She eats lying down and plays hide-and-seek with the kids' stuffed animals. **Emmie** loves to follow the humans around the house and then lie at their feet. Thank you AGR for finding **Emmie** and matching her with our family. We can't imagine life without her! Sounds like things are going well, wouldn't you say?*

14-080 Arturo arrived with the three other dogs relinquished by an owner who was moving. As the "black sheep" of the family he was wearing a nice black coat and was immediately initiated into our Golden Witness Protection Program. He is the brother of **PJ** (now **Jake**) **Lola**, and **Mini** (now **Emmie**) – how could such different-looking dogs all be from the same canine parents? Looks like a great breeding program the owner had going on there for Glabs. Being only 2, **Arturo** had no real basic training and had been living outside. At the vet for his preliminary exam, he was found to be positive for valley fever and had not been neutered, so those items were addressed before we found the perfect place for him with Robin and Arty in Chandler. They have renamed him **Arlo**. They joined us at the *Holiday Pet Festival*, and we found **Arlo** to be a wonderful, sweet, loving, big boy. What a great new start for this deserving boy!



14-081 Nicolas is a beautiful, 9-year-old red dog given to us by an owner who moved into assisted living and could not take him. He had many of the wonderful traits we love to see in incoming dogs: loved to swim, was housebroken, knew basic commands, got along well with cats, was trustworthy in the house, and had current medical records! What a lucky catch for someone, and Carolyn and Wayne were thrilled to take this guy in for the rest of his days. Sounds like **Nicolas** got

lucky in the bargain as well!



14-082 Daisy is a young blond girl given up by an owner who could not keep her because of the owner's ongoing medical issues. At less than a year old, **Daisy** had only been with her owner for a few months. He reported that there was no pool, but **Daisy** thought the bathtub was made for her! Can't you just picture an 11-month-old Golden splashing

around in a bathtub? Towel Time! She had some basic training, and one of her endearing traits was giving kisses on a "kiss" command and giving hugs. Obviously, this was not a difficult dog to place, and Emily and Blake were excited to give her a home with them in Scottsdale. She has been given the beautiful name, **Trisara**, which, in Sanskrit, is the Third Level of Heaven. Emily wrote to us about this wonderful dog. *Thank you to the surrendering family. As I sit here and look at **Trisara**, I want to let you know how incredibly thankful my husband and I are for you and the choice you made to contact AGR. We know the decision you made was difficult and selfless, but you did it out of love for her. We imagine you must think of her often. You must know she is deeply loved by us and our entire family. She is a very happy, healthy and spoiled fur-baby. Love at first sight – **Trisara** is everything that you could want in a companion. She's sweet, loving, funny, playful, charming, and a true one-of-a-kind! Her hilarious antics keep us entertained on a daily basis. We simply cannot imagine life without her. When she arrived she was nervous and scared of everything. With some work, true love and dedication she came full circle. My husband and I were not the ones that made the decision if this is her forever home, she told us it was. Thank you to all AGR members for making this lifelong connection. Happy ending all around!*

14-083 Ryder was surrendered to us by an owner who felt she didn't have enough time to give him. At just less than a year old, he certainly needed lots of attention and exercise. As a Goldendoodle, he has that goofy look we all associate with that breed. All his vet work was up to date, so he only needed a microchip and a valley fever test and he was set to go. Allison in Gilbert had been wanting a Goldendoodle, so it was an easy match and off he went! Best wishes to Allison and her new cutie!



14-084 Paloma is a sweet little girl whose owner had her less than a month before determining her young son's allergies were really problematic with having **Paloma** around. The young children in the family had been calling her **Lola**, and she was a terrific dog.

She had not been spayed, and needed a full complement of vaccinations. At just about a year old and with her creamy coat, she was easy to place, and April and Dwight in Chandler were so excited to bring her into their home. Happy forever life, **Lola!**



14-085 Beau has one of the more interesting stories we have had for awhile and proves the power of perseverance. He is a handsome older gentleman of about 11 who showed up as a stray in Chandler. After the finder posted flyers and craigslist ads with no takers, he was turned over to us. When we took him to the vet for his initial vetting, it was found

that he had a chip which was registered to some folks in Southern California. Unfortunately the phone number associated with the chip had been disconnected. So our efficient Sandra went one step further and contacted the vet that implanted the chip and learned the family had moved to Idaho. The vet's office happened to have a forwarding number. In the meantime, **Beau** had been placed with a family in Phoenix who then had to go on hold waiting to see if **Beau's** owners (now in Idaho) wanted him back. We finally heard back from the owners. **Beau** had been living in California when those folks had to move. Unfortunately a gate was left open and he disappeared. In Idaho, since they no longer had a dog, they found a home that doesn't allow pets so they did not come to AZ to get him. However, **Beau's** owner was ecstatic to know that he had been found and was going to be adopted by wonderful people. So, Alice and David were finally able to make the adoption permanent and have renamed him **Chaucer** (Alice is a retired English teacher) with the hope of having him certified as a therapy dog. Only **Chaucer** knows how he got from Southern California to Chandler over a five-month period, and he's not barking!



14-086 Buddy is a handsome Golden that belonged to an owner who could not afford **Buddy's** medical issues and hated to part with him, but knew it was the right thing to do so **Buddy** could have a long and healthy life. **Buddy** had been found in Idaho only a few months previously, and the owner knew nothing about him. We took him immediately

to our vet, who diagnosed massive ear infections and a torn Achilles tendon. The vet recommended fusing the hock. **Buddy's** estimated healing time after surgery was 10-12 weeks with limited activity. Terri and Steve in Glendale were up to the task of seeing **Buddy**, whom they renamed **Cooper**, through his surgery

and recovery. A commitment of 10-12 weeks was quite an undertaking for folks who had never met this dog, and we appreciate greatly their desire to do so. We are wishing **Cooper**, Terri and Steve years and years of happiness together.

14-087 Shadow is probably a Border Collie/Golden Retriever mix. She was surrendered to the *Arizona Humane Society* after the death of her owner – she was found 5 days later lying next to her. **Shadow** was described as a big bundle of fur that could use some love and sweetness. She was taken to our vet as the shelter felt **Shadow** definitely had some medical issues (other than being quite overweight). Actually, the vet found her to be in pretty good



shape but with some obvious age-related problems. The shelter felt **Shadow** was about 12. She did have some arthritis in her spine and hips, but no dysplasia. Her hind end was somewhat weak which it was felt would improve with regular exercise. She also was a bit hard of hearing and had beginning cataracts. Her foster family, Sharon and Michelle in Phoenix, decided they couldn't part with her and have given her a forever home. Another foster failure! Her new mom updated us on "our senior sassy **Shadow**." *She is quite the trooper and the sweetest, sassiest love you can imagine. Loyal she is, and there is no doubt Shadow was well taken care of, spoiled is more like it! When she first came to us, she won our hearts over very quickly with her charming disposition and her soft and most sweetest kisses ever that I have had from a dog. Shadow cried and whimpered a little for the first few nights we had her, we could just tell that she was missing her owner. Aside from that, Shadow always has a smile on her face and is just consistently happy-go-lucky. Overall, Shadow and our other 3 dogs got along very well from the get go, though we did discover pretty quickly that Shadow has an alpha side to her. She is kind of like all four seasons in one. She doesn't share toys nicely and has a few issues with guarding one too many things, including Michelle and me. Here is a 12-year-old senior who struggles to get up due to severe muscle atrophy, arthritis and hip issues. She is also hard of hearing and in the beginning stages of cataracts and has Cush-ing's disease. We started walking her as soon as we got her. She now walks up to 4 miles a day, 2 in the morning and 2 at night. She has gotten stronger through these walks and with the help of much needed feel-good meds. If by any chance we don't walk the dogs at the exact time every day, Shadow is on us like white on rice to get going! I love how much she loves to get out. Sweetness she usually is, but while out walking, Shadow will lunge and bark at any large vehicle that goes by – busses, light rail, trash truck etc... also anyone on a bike or kids riding skateboards. In a funny and cute way, one minute Shadow is so sweet, gentle and quiet and then the next minute she is all ready to kick some butt. Pretty sure Shadow is a Border Collie/Lab mix – there is nothing Golden "ish" about her. She has a very strong prey and herding drive in her. Shadow is*

not an “aggressive” dog, alpha, yes, but not aggressive. I feel that **Shadow**’s breed and her being an only dog for 12 years, the hard of hearing and not-so-good vision, contributes to the few misappropriate moments she has. We have been working lots with correcting **Shadow** on her not-so-good manners while out walking and her moments of too assertively stepping over boundaries she should not, especially with our Dachshund **Woody**. **Shadow** can be very stubborn, but she is learning quickly who is the pack leader in our house (the humans) and where the boundaries are. We got **Shadow** some non-slip booties and socks. We have metallic epoxy concrete floors, and **Shadow** has a hard time getting up and slipping on them. Took her only a few minutes or so to adjust to the socks, but she is so much happier and confident wearing them. She truly aims to please and wants nothing more than to just be free, bask in the sun, play, walk, loved on and be by Michelle’s side. **Shadow** has grown very fond of Michelle and follows her everywhere – I often wonder if Michelle has the same type of energy and similarities as **Shadow**’s previous owner did. So, our little Lambchop (nickname Michelle gave her), who decided to adopt us, has fit right into our home and hearts and blessed we are to have her. Thank you again **AGR** for all your wonderful support and for saving this sweet girl’s life.

14-088 Oso was a stray we found on craigslist. The finder reported that he was quite expert at climbing a 6’ fence so perhaps that is how he came to be a stray! At only a couple of years old, he was very well behaved on leash and was housebroken so had obviously been with a family at some point. His first order of business was being “tutored” along with the usual vaccinations and tests. Carolyn and Barry swept him up and took him to their home in Phoenix where hopefully **Oso**, now named **Bob**, will learn that it is much nicer inside the fence than outside. Apparently he has, as Carolyn sent us the latest on him. **Bob** came to us on December 1, 2014 as **Oso**, with a colorful past of being a “road dog” – one who had lived on the road for a good portion of his 2 years. A minimum amount of history was known, other than his skill set of going over 6-foot block fences! **Bob** lived up to his history and more! He went over our block fence, bolted out of our house and spent 45 minutes running through our neighborhood followed by us. My husband then decided neighbors on either side of us and across the street should be introduced to our potential ‘juvenile delinquent’ so if he turned up in their yard front or back they would know where he belonged! I do want to say with all of his challenges, **Bob** has improved 1000%. It appears **Bob** just needed to settle in to his forever home! We need to also thank **AGR** for their significant support during our transitional period with **Bob**; while he is not yet a Canine Good Citizen, he has added joy to our lives and no longer seems attracted to jumping over 6 foot block fences! Sounds like **Bob** has realized he has it made and



has settled in for good!



14-089 Jesse was an adorable 1-year-old red boy surrendered by owners who had lost their home and had to move. He supposedly had been a student in two obedience classes but was described as just “puppy enthusiastic.” **Jesse** was quite the hiker and did very well off leash. Additionally, his owner reported that sometimes **Jesse** would get in the shower on his

own. That must have been quite the surprise to whoever was in the shower at the time! **Jesse** bounced off with all his puppy enthusiasm to Jeff and Kelli’s house in Gilbert where we are sure they are enjoying all the antics a young dog can provide! What a good-looking dog you have! Here’s to a long forever life, **Jesse**.

14-090 Sadie is another goofy Doodle dog. Weighing in at only 27 pounds, she is the junior version called a mini Goldendoodle; these small dogs are always very cute. At 6 years of age she was given to us because she didn’t like the owner’s toddlers and would leave the room rather than be with them. She loved to swim and had been trained to ring a bell when needing to go outside. Plus, she loved cats! Cats, not kids. Michael and Nina in Scottsdale took her home to live with them and her new siblings, a miniature Aussie and a Goldendoodle. Michael sent us an update on her. *Sadie is a very happy dog and has adjusted well to her new home. She has two new playmates and happily romps with them all day. Word has it that she loves to swim but she hasn’t ventured into the pool yet – which, in my opinion, shows her intelligence. It’s still way too darn cold. She used to sleep in her crate at night but that was before she discovered how warm and comfortable a real bed is. I have to fight to get my own pillow back. This weekend she is going hiking. It really is a dog’s life. Way to go, Sadie!*



14-091 ZZ (short for **Zoey**) is a stunning Golden girl of about 8 who was surrendered by an owner in Flagstaff. Rose and Daniel in Phoenix were excited to take this beautiful girl home with them to Phoenix where she will share her life with several kids and other dogs. She has been renamed **Evelyn**. They reported to us: *Evelyn (ZZ) has been a remarkable addition to our family. She came from a one-person family to our home with 3 active, young boys, 2 adults and 2 other dogs. She fit in immediately and welcomes us home every day with a smile on her face and a wag-*



ging tail. She seems to love her human and dog brothers, and they love her! Congratulations to all!



14-093 Sugar is a dear girl about 7 years old who came to us after the death of her owner. Other family members were leaving the area and moving into assisted living where a dog is not permitted. She had been living a sedentary life with her retired owners and was overweight. Fortunately, she had been very well taken care of medically, so her vet needs were minimal. She was placed with Cheryl,

Steve, and their family in Gilbert who will be giving her lots of exercise and playtime with their puppy! Happy landings, **Sugar!**

14-095 Cooper is a handsome 1-year-old red boy with a very cute smile. He came in weighing 92 pounds, so he is a big boy. Sadly, his family had to relinquish him due to financial issues. He had lived with 4 young children and loved to swim, but really had no formal training. **Cooper** was pretty much up to date medically and was raring and ready to go. He was adopted by Tammy and Mike in Glendale who were ecstatic to get him and now report, due to a great result from the infamous Green Bean Diet, that he is down to 85 pounds (and losing)! They are committed to getting him to an ideal weight, and we know **Cooper**, now named **Copper**, will have a wonderful life. A story where everyone wins!



14-098 Banner is a young, 3-year-old handsome boy relinquished by an owner who didn't have the time to care for him. He had lived outside most of his life and was very good with the owners' children. **Banner** is a very bouncy boy, so we wanted to find just the right home who could tame the Wild Beast **Banner**. Cambria and Glen and their children were perfect for him. They were so excited to get him, saying he was the best Christmas present ever! After having him for a few days they reported: *We have Banner and we love him! He's a handful but we will work with him. He loves attention and kisses!* A happy ending for this good-looking boy!



14-099 Emma is an 8-month-old English Cream Golden who was surrendered to us when the family realized they just didn't have enough time for a young energetic ball of fluff. A typical young dog, she loved pull toys, tennis balls, pools and lakes. Needing



only the basic vetting (including a spay) she was placed with Vicki and Scott and their family in Chandler; they have renamed her **Winter**. After just a few days, good news arrived. **Winter** is doing terrific. She has quickly become part of our family with our boys spending countless hours playing fetch and chase, and the house is full of giggles and laughter. We couldn't be

happier and can't thank you enough. Sounds like **Winter** is having the time of her life, and we are betting those boys are too!



14-101 Daisy is a beautiful and happy red dog of 8 years of age whose owners were not able to provide her with the proper attention that she deserved. It is wonderful when owners realize that the best thing for their dog is to find a home where the dog can flourish. **Daisy** had lived with very young children and was good with other dogs, but she had some separation anxiety when left alone for long periods of time. Fortunately, we were able to place her with John and Kate in Chandler. They are retired with plenty of time to give **Daisy** lots of attention, and have grandkids who visit frequently. Congratulations, **Daisy**, on getting just the right family to spoil you for the rest of your days!

NOTICE TO AGR ADOPTERS

When we delivered your dog to you, we gave you a nice, adjustable gold-and-brown leash and matching collar with a red heart collar tag that has **AGR's** contact information on it. We are grateful when you use the leash and collar we provided, as it is a "brand" that people will recognize when you are out and about with your dog. If you choose to use a different collar and leash, please move the red heart tag to the collar your dog wears. Then, if your dog becomes lost and later found by another party, there is a better chance that **AGR** will be contacted and able to return your dog to you. If you are not using **AGR's** leash and collar, we would appreciate it if you would return them to us, so that we can use them for another rescue. Thank you.

*The past is behind, learn from it.
The future is ahead, prepare for it.
The present is here, live it.*

~ Thomas Monson ~

Financial Report

Reporting period: January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014

Total Assets as of January 15, 2015: \$192,472.99

| | <u>Income</u> | <u>Expense</u> |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Adoptions | \$29,823.00 | \$ 6,022.00 ¹ |
| Bank and Credit Card | | 1,513.19 |
| Calendars | 5,710.00 | 3,373.55 |
| Casino Event 2014 ² | 7,058.42 ² | 1,397.49 ² |
| Donations ³ | 70,896.36 | |
| Dues and Subscriptions | 16.00 | 413.68 |
| Event Expenses | | 633.89 |
| Gifts/Grants ⁴ | 14,594.18 | 525.00 |
| Gift Wrap Events ⁵ | 11,445.20 | |
| Goldstock ⁶ | 227.50 | |
| Golf Tournament | 39,561.64 | 7,218.11 |
| Insurance | | 434.00 |
| Interest | 81.78 | |
| Legal & Professional (Database) | | 690.00 |
| Memberships | 19,190.00 | |
| Merchandise | 4,916.10 | 3,333.66 |
| Office Expenses & Supplies | | 762.67 |
| <i>Paws At The Park Picnic 2014⁶</i> | 1,474.41 | 254.87 |
| Postage | | 2,381.84 |
| Promotional | | 221.14 |
| Rent or Lease | | 2,067.39 |
| Santa Claws Photos taken in 2013 | 555.00 | |
| Stationery & Printing | | 5,182.60 |
| Telephone, Internet (Database, Phanfare, Website) | | 187.98 |
| Vet and Dog-Related Expenses: | | |
| Behavioral Training | | 7,373.00 |
| Boarding | | 567.00 |
| Collars, Tags & Leashes | | 1,546.14 |
| Dog Related – Miscellaneous | | 52.83 |
| Microchip & Heartgard® Expenses | | 882.62 |
| Travel Expense ⁷ | | 571.12 |
| Veterinary Services | | 107,760.34 |
| TOTAL | \$205,549.59 | \$155,366.11 |

NET INCOME: \$50,183.48**Checking Account on 01-15-15: \$96,179.53****Savings Account on 01-15-15: \$82,109.52****The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 01-15-15: \$14,183.94****Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 01-15-15: \$11,048.06**¹ Includes \$6,000 that **AGR** sent to the Golden Retriever Puppy Mill Rescue Team to help with puppy mill dog acquisition² Does not include deposits for facility and games made in 2013; that amount was \$1,115.00, so total profit for *Mardi Gras Casino* event was really \$5,943.42³ Includes *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* as well as General Fund, Honorary and Memorial donations⁴ Includes monies collected for gift for Karie Wilson, who was getting cancer treatment⁵ Includes Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Holiday Season 2014⁶ Income does not include merchandise sales – that income is shown separately⁷ Travel to Oklahoma to pick up puppy mill dogs includes 2 nights in a motel, several meals and gas**Diamonds in the Ruff**

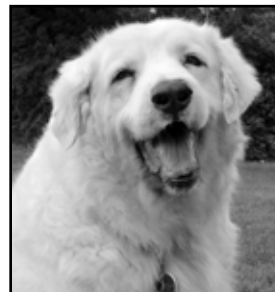
By Deb Orwig

Diamonds in the Ruff are rescued dogs that require **AGR** to spend at least \$1,000 on their health care. We had several during the fourth quarter of 2014, a couple of which were continuing-care cases from third quarter.



14-061 Angel now **Sugar**, is finally in her forever home after bouncing around to two others. This 6-year-old female Golden mix was a shelter save. She required the basic medical necessities, and some suspicious lumps will be removed soon, but she seems to be otherwise healthy. Her expensive problem? Behavioral. She exhibited some “inappropriate” social skills, and these

are mainly what caused her first potential adopters to ask us to find her a different home. She was evaluated by our behavior consultant, Teryl Hall, who felt that professional training was warranted. Because we really wanted her to have a stable, permanent home environment, we sent her to **K-9 Games** in Peoria for behavior modification training. She was boarded and trained at this facility for three weeks and since discharge will be reinforcing the training once a week “for as long as it takes” with her adoptive parents, who will be trained, as well. We view behavioral intervention for some dogs as being every bit as important as medical intervention. The cost of this program was **\$1,875**.



14-070 Aengus, who is at least 11 years old now, has been under our care in his foster home since August. He originally came to us from the shelter in Yuma in 2010, was adopted out to a man who took good care of him until he, himself, became ill; we took **Aengus** back into Rescue when the man was unable to take care of him any more and eventually passed away.

Aengus had multiple problems including some suspicious lumps and bumps that had to be removed (one was a nasty-looking, open sebaceous adenoma), bad teeth that needed cleaning, and eye irritations. He was also seriously overweight. He has lost some of that extra weight now and is on pain medication for osteoarthritis. To date since he was returned to us, his vet care has cost **AGR \$1,581**.

When 11-month-old **14-082 Daisy**, now named **Trisara** (refers to the Third Level of Heaven in Sanskrit), came into Rescue she had a condition we had never seen before: hunter green poop. She was also not yet spayed and had bad ear infections. Exhaustive tests to



determine the cause of the fecal color resulted in a diagnosis of *Campylobacter*, a bacterium that lives in the gastrointestinal tract. Her spay had to be put on hold until she had had a course of antibiotic (expensive Bay-tril) and probiotic (Fortiflora) to clear up the poop issue. She also had to be treated with Cerenia for nausea and vomiting. While we were waiting for

all these problems to resolve, she went into heat! Her adoptive mom kept her close and safe for three weeks, and by the time she was out of heat, she was well enough recovered from everything else that the vet could proceed with the spay. We think she is finally on the way to a life of good health! Her vet bill was **\$1,380**.



14-086 Buddy was our big-ticket dog for the fourth quarter and actually for the entire year: **\$6,264** so far. He had been found as a stray in Idaho by a miner who gave him to a friend to surrender to **AGR** because he could not afford to get **Buddy's** obvious lameness treated. When he came into Rescue, **Buddy** had grade 3 lameness in his

right leg and massive ear infections “jammed packed with brown stuff” in both ears. Turns out that his carcanial tendon or “Achilles tendon” was ruptured – it is one of three tendons in the leg. When **Buddy** walked, it collapsed. The tendon was wadded up at his knee and entangled in scar tissue. We were given two options for **Buddy**. The first option was to repair the tendon. However, the vet was worried that the tendon might not be in good enough condition to re-attach and also noted that it could stretch back out after repair; there is a 40 % chance of failure with this option. The second option was to fuse the joint and was the most definitive treatment option. In this case, **Buddy** would not be able to move the hock but after healing from the surgery would be able to run, play, hike, etc. The surgery involved taking the joint surface off two bones, doing a bone graft and then inserting a plate. The joint would then be fused at 10 degrees. **Buddy** would need to wear a cast for 10 to 12 weeks. Assured that he would not have any pain after healing from this procedure, we chose the second option, and the surgery was done on November 11th. He had a hard cast change every two weeks for 8 weeks. Then in January, he was put in a soft cast since X-rays showed he was healing well. He has had two ear lavages under anesthesia and an ear culture to determine what is growing in there – just a severe bacterial infection, which is now being treated. **Buddy**, now named **Cooper**, is making wonderful progress thanks to diligent attention by his new family in following the vet’s instructions for rehabilitation.

14-092 Lucky was not a very lucky dog. He was lame on his rear

right leg when he came to us, presumably because he had been hit by a car and never treated. X-rays showed a severely dislocated hip with the femur bone jammed up into the pelvis. At that time, the vet said he needed a femoral head ostectomy and performed the FHO surgery on November 26th. Liz Tataseo, our Health Care Manager, had been through this procedure before with her own dog, **Cooper**, so she fostered **Lucky** and did his rehab for about three weeks until the family that had been approved to adopt him could take him. Unfortunately, only a couple of weeks after that, **Lucky** became extremely ill – his symptoms and blood work pointed to bone marrow cancer. There was nothing more we could do for him, so we had to make the wrenching and heartbreaking decision to have him euthanized. His bill for the relatively short time he was with us was **\$4,578**. We again extend our appreciation to Tram Mai and **KPNX TV Channel 12** for their very generous \$1,200 Visa gift card – that money went to help pay for **Lucky's** medical care.

14-094 Shyla was **Lucky's** housemate. She was in much better shape than **Lucky** when we got her, but her medical bills still amounted to **\$1,029**. She had acute moist dermatitis; she is being treated topically for that as well as being evaluated for allergies. She had several mammary masses that needed to be removed. Fortunately, they all were determined to be benign. She also had some infected incisors worn down to the gum line, as well as some other bad teeth – a total of 10 teeth were extracted. In addition, she tested positive for valley fever with a titer of 1:8, which requires treatment with fluconazole for at least several months. **Shyla** is now on the mend and is being well cared for by her new adoptive family.



Special Thanks

Special thanks to Tram Mai and **KPNX TV Channel 12** for their very generous donation of a \$1,200 Visa gift card. Since **14-092 Lucky** came into Rescue on the same day as their presentation, we immediately used the money to help pay for his leg surgery. As a result of the presentation that was aired on the 10 PM news, several other donations were sent to **AGR**! If you missed seeing the TV presentation, you can go to www.azcentral.com and search on **Arizona Golden Rescue** – the video link will come up.

OVER THE RAINBOW

We honor the memory of our human and animal companions who have passed on...



Caesar Balch



Sage Engelhardt



Hoover Forstrom



Jax Korycki



Austin Navarette-Morales



Little Boy Connoyer



Copper Fairchild



Sadie Fulghum-Fairbrother



Boston Morris



Jake Nelson

The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven and Earth. It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its many colors.

Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass.

When a beloved pet dies, the pet goes to this place. There is always food and water and warm spring weather. The old and frail animals are young again. Those who are maimed are made whole again. They play all day with each other.

There is only one thing missing. They are not with their special person who loved them on Earth.

So each day they run and play until the day comes when one suddenly stops playing and looks up! The nose twitches! The ears are up! The eyes are staring! And this one suddenly runs from the group!

You have been seen, and when you and your special friend meet, you take him or her in your arms and embrace.

Your face is kissed again and again and again, and you look once more into the eyes of your trusting pet.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated.



Bubba Triplett

Carter Youhas



14-092 Lucky

14-096 Jax



14-097 Jake



Cheri Harris
Beloved mother of Roman Stolcis

Kathleen T. Murray
Beloved Grandmother of Katie Donahue
and mother of Mary Murray

James Renshaw
Beloved father of Jim Renshaw

Walt Sager
Beloved father of Jeff Sager and husband of Elaine Sager

Mary Lou Wilson
Beloved sister of Marsha Kleinz

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Thanks to many and varied donation amounts given to **AGR** during the 4th quarter of 2014, we ended the year in the best financial position we have ever been in, despite some hefty veterinary bills for a few dogs (see *Diamonds in the Ruff* on pages 19-20). Most of the donations came in anonymously during our holiday gift wrapping extravaganza between November 22nd and December 24th – the 2014 holiday season was our best ever! But we also got a lot of donations sent to our mailbox or online through PayPal. We appreciate every single donation, from the pennies a 4-year-old pulled out of his pocket “to help the doggies” to the \$5,000 check we received from an extremely generous supporter.

Although it is, perhaps, more convenient to use PayPal, we would prefer that if you are going to make a donation to send a check. The main reason is that checks cost us nothing to deposit. PayPal costs us about 3% per transaction, but we do not add that 3% to a donation, only to a purchase (such as a membership or for merchandise like calendars). So, in actuality, a donation made through PayPal gives us 3% less than you might have intended. For example, a \$10 donation will actually give us \$9.70; a \$250 donation will actually give us \$242.50; a \$1000 donation will give us \$970. The deducted amounts may not seem like much when viewed individually, but collectively we have “lost” considerable dollars due to PayPal’s transaction charge.

The same would be the case if you called us and gave us your credit card information – to protect your own security, please do not ever send us credit card information in an e-mail! We get charged about 3% for any charge from a Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express card – and it does not matter whether that charge is through a debit or a credit card, it is still 3%. Although I do impose a 3% “convenience fee” for using a credit card for a purchase, I will not add 3% to a donation – it is just not the right thing to do when someone wants to be generous. In the future though, if you are considering giving us a donation, please make it in the form of a check if at all possible.

A Note About Donation Acknowledgment Letters

Every cash and item donation that was given to **AGR** during 2014 was acknowledged – or, should I say I tried to acknowledge every one. A couple of people contacted me after they got their letters to tell me I either had the donation amount incorrect or I had left out one of their donations. I appreciated the contact, and I immediately issued a corrected letter. I sent out well over 700 letters altogether, so I hope all the other letters were accurate. If you make a donation during 2015, please be assured that you will get a letter of acknowledgment but most likely not until January 2016.

Book Review

By Jude Fulghum

The Mountaintop School for Dogs and Other Second Chances
By Ellen Clooney, ISBN# 0544236157, 2014

Evie is a 24-year-old young lady with a past. While going through rehab (drugs, along with an emotionally vague past), she comes across an ad for a dog trainer at a Sanctuary high in the mountains. Although she has no experience training dogs, she fudges her application and is accepted. Carrying lots of books about dog breeds and training methods with her, she quickly comes to realize that working with severely abused Rescue dogs is nothing like the books she has read (or more likely, skimmed). These are not purebred dogs learning to sit and stay; these are dogs kept in cellars, raced on tracks in Florida, dogs not wanting to be touched, and other typical Rescue situations. The Sanctuary not only takes in Rescue dogs, but participates in underground railroad type activities such as the kidnapping of dogs in need, including a large roundup of Pit Bulls from a dogfighting situation. “Rescued dogs are dogs in rehab” is an appropriate description of the types of dogs arriving at the Sanctuary. And what could possibly be a more fitting character than the chief “greeter” at the Sanctuary being an old Golden Retriever who has been adopted several times but returned for the usual stupid-person reasons and who takes his job as Sanctuary Host very seriously. For me, she went from absolute novice to pretty much of a “dog whisperer” in way too few pages, but there are some real gems in this book. This is a good read for people who perhaps don’t understand all the situations a Rescue group encounters when evaluating dogs to come into its program. There are some good insights about appropriate methods of working with difficult dogs and reading a dog’s cues. Definitely worth recommending. There was one particular quote that said to me what Rescue is all about: “Everything that happened to you before is over.” Might be my new statement to dogs that I transport.

More Special Thanks

Thanks to Linda Taylor, a flight attendant on a major airline, for garnering a new member for **AGR** by speaking in-flight about our salty snack bag recycling program – “Passengers, please save your pretzel or peanut bags, and I will collect them for *Arizona Golden Rescue*.” As a result of one of her announcements, a passenger asked for more information about **AGR**. Fortunately, Linda had some of our business cards. After he got settled in his new home in Sun City, he joined **AGR** and, even though he does not have a Golden, has not missed coming to an event yet! Additionally, several passengers have donated cash to our organization after hearing from Linda about what we do!

HERE and THERE

Events from October 13, 2014 through January 11, 2015

Your membership in our organization will be more fulfilling for you if you get involved and join us at our events, especially if you are one of our adopters. Our Meet-and-Greets are a great way to socialize, both for you and for your dog. Our fundraisers are FUN raisers! Please regularly check the events calendar on our website – www.arizonagoldenrescue.org – for dates and times of upcoming events.

Paws & Pasta Dinner

By Deb Orwig



Each year on the second Sunday of November, Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler, who own the *Little Bite of Italy Restaurant* in Sun City, host *Arizona Golden Rescue* for a fundraiser

dedicated to the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. This *Fund* was created in 2011 when Deb Orwig's cofounder of *AGR*, Debbe Begley, passed away from cancer. The *Fund* is used specifically to treat dogs that come into Rescue with cancer (two in 2014) and for medical expenses above and beyond \$5,000 that any one dog accrues for any other condition (two in 2014).



Bryan Foley

At *Paws & Pasta*, meals were served from 11 AM - 5 PM and included spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, dessert (8 different kinds of cake from which to choose) and beverage (soda or water; the

bar in the restaurant was also open for the purchase of alcohol, but we did not gain anything from those sales). Bryan very generously donated the cost of each meal – \$10 – to *AGR*, and in 2014 we served 192 meals! *AGR* member Sandy Fullington donated the meat for the spaghetti



Sandy Fullington and Gail Haywood sold meal and raffle tickets

sauce, Deb and Larry Orwig donated the soda, and *West Valley Hospital* via employee and *AGR* member Chris Spiel donated the water. We had a 50/50 raffle, which produced \$40.50 for Ralph Behrens of Sun City, and a small regular raffle and silent auction. The regular raffle generated \$240 and the silent auction another \$115. In addition, we (or should



It was a dog day afternoon!

I say the dogs who were present) collected \$128 in anonymous donations, plus a \$50 donation was sent in by a Flagstaff couple who could not attend. All in all, we added \$2,493.50 to the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*! We also sold \$949 in merchandise and calendars, but this revenue went into our General Fund.

Since the restaurant has an outdoor patio, quite a few member/adopters brought their dogs. All were well behaved. Peter Wong



entertained the crowd for awhile with his trick-trained Border Collie *Billie*, who can do, among other tricks, arithmetic, roll a barrel standing on top of it, pick up toys and put them in a bucket and mail a letter by opening a mailbox, inserting an envelope, closing the mailbox and putting the flag! She put on a very impressive show!



Thanks to the following for helping with the event: Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo transported the set-up equipment and materials. Tony Cotner, Nick, Patrick, Gail and Dana



Connie Wozniak, who had made lots of gorgeous Christmas stockings, set up our Christmas merchandise table display with those and ornaments and oven mitts that Deb Orwig had made

Haywood, Connie, Deb, Chris Spiel, Liz and Connie Wozniak helped with the set-up. Volunteers on the buffet serving line included



Deb Orwig selling merchandise



First-shift servers: Teri Guilbault, Nick Dodson and Jeff Guilbault



Second-shift servers: Ray Morales, Sherry Landwehr, Jill Prose and Reno Navarette

ting outside with friends and enjoying the day, which was fabulous weather-wise.

Be sure to reserve November 8, 2015 for our next dinner. The food is terrific, the company is wonderful, and the revenue will be added to the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*.



Third-shift servers: Karin Forsythe, Sandra Hansen and Chris Spiel

Nick Dodson, Karin Forsythe, Teri and Jeff Guilbault, Sandra Hansen, Sherry Landwehr, Ray Morales, Reno Navarette, Jill Prose and Chris Spiel. Sandy Fullington and Gail Haywood took care of ticket sales, both for the dinner and for the raffles. During the day, Teri Guilbault, Deb Orwig, Jill Prose, Chris Spiel, Jane Triplett and Connie Wozniak worked at the merchandise sales tables. Deb handled the regular raffle and silent auction. Huge thanks to the 192 people who purchased meals; many stayed for a couple of hours or more, just sit-



Because *PACC 911* knows we usually have a sizable group of volunteers and dogs, they generously allow us to have two spaces for our set-up

of their events during the year (in 2014, we went to five). Rescues are never charged a booth fee at one of these events either, so any revenue we take in at a *PACC 911* event is totally ours. We thank *PACC 911* for all the fundraising and public information opportunities they have provided!



At *PACC 911* events held at *PetSmart* or *Petco* stores, we have to be careful to take only merchandise that these stores do not sell; for this event, we featured purses, oven mitts, Christmas stockings and ornaments

A *PACC 911* Adopt-a-Thon was held on November 15, 2014 in the parking lot in front of the *PetSmart* store at 10030 N 90th St in Scottsdale. The event went from 10 AM – 3 PM and was fairly well attended, probably because of the excellent weather. Volunteers during the day included Tony Cotner with *Daisy*; Patrick Doyle with *Annabelle*;



In back, Gail Haywood, Liz Tataseo and Patrick Doyle
Across front: Alex Goughenour, Felicia Parker, Sarah Giles, Dana Haywood, Deb Orwig, and Tony Cotner; dogs visible are Riley and Trip in back; Emmy, Darby, Bilbo, Dolly, Mufasa (on Deb's lap), Duffy and Troy with *Daisy* partly behind Troy

Gail and Dana Haywood with *Bilbo*, *Caleb* and *Riley*; Sarah Giles with *Darby*; new members/adopters Alex Goughenour and Felicia Parker with adorable little *Emmy*; Deb Orwig with *Dolly*, *Duffy*, *Mufasa* and *Troy*; and Liz Tataseo with *Gonzo* and *Trip*.

PACC 911 Adopt-a-Thon on 11-15-14

By Deb Orwig

For those of you who do not know, *PACC 911* stands for *Phoenix Animal Care Coalition*. This group of volunteers serves as sort of an umbrella organization over the various rescue groups that are active in the Phoenix Metro area. Several times during the cooler months of the year (October through March), *PACC 911* sponsors Adopt-a-Thons. At these events, many of the Rescue groups that attend (there are usually 40 to 80, depending on the location), do on-the-spot adoptions. Rescues are also allowed to sell merchandise and distribute information about their organizations. Vendors of unusual dog-related merchandise are often present, and *PACC 911* personnel usually host a raffle. Any profit made by *PACC 911* goes into their *Emergency Medical Fund*, from which Rescue

Connie McCabe dropped by to take some photos after delivering a dog to a new home in Scottsdale. We sold two calendars (\$20), \$153.50 in other merchandise and collected \$75 in donations, a very good day considering that there were upwards of 60 Rescue groups present.



Duffy, Dolly and Mufasa must have thought this lady was offering food rather than money!

PACC 911 Adopt-a-Thon on 11-29-14

By Dana Haywood



While *AGR* was doing gift wrapping in the West Valley, we were also attending an Adopt-a-Thon at the *Petco* on Indian Bend Rd in Scottsdale. We had an absolutely beautiful day on Saturday, November

29th, for this fall *PACC 911* event. We were supposed to have a double spot site, but something got lost in information to the site planners and we only were assigned a single spot. The staff graciously allowed us to move to another single spot where we could put one tent in front of the other to give us our full 20-foot spot. This actually worked out well for us, as we put one table in the front with merchandise and one on the side with our adoption literature. Visitors had room on both sides of the tents to



Rocky Cotner enjoying attention

see the materials on the tables and two entrances to come in and visit the dogs to get their Golden love. We were also at the end of the row, which worked to our benefit. The traffic was a little low for an Adopt-a-Thon, but I attribute that to it being the Thanksgiving weekend and the day after Black Friday. I sincerely want to thank all who did come out to help us this day. Attending were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**, Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, Christine Spiel dropped



Bilbo's thick coat just begs for you to bury your fingers in it!

by in the morning with **Jack** and **Nash**, Cindy Tigges came by with **Charm** in the afternoon, and Gail and I were there with **Bilbo** and **Riley**. We raised \$139 in merchandise sales and another \$44 in donations – not bad for a day with so many other Rescues being there.

Holiday Pet Festival

By Deb Orwig



Beautifully decorated Wish Trees
All Rescue groups could display up to 10 "wish" ornaments – ours were made by Connie Wozniak, and 3 were taken and items purchased; for the second year in a row, Jackson Mockry (right) bought a toy for one of our dogs

On Saturday, December 6th, we participated in the 4th Annual *Holiday Pet Festival* at *WestWorld* in Scottsdale sponsored by *Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary*. As it always has been, it was the best-organized and best-run



large event we attend all year, all the more impressive because it is done by volunteers! This year it was held for the first time in the new building at *WestWorld* instead of in the big tent. The building is climate-controlled and was pleasant to be in most of the day, although it did get a little warm inside during the height of the attendance in the early afternoon, that was better than the freezing cold we experienced one year in the tent!



Our booth was really beautiful; the banner at the top of the drape was designed by Connie McCabe

house on Friday morning and we loaded up his big vehicle and my minivan, then we headed over to *WestWorld* to begin the set-up. Numerous *Tranquility Trail* volunteers met us in the parking lot and helped shuttle everything to

The production of this event takes a lot of time from a lot of volunteers. The day before the event, Connie Wozniak, Tony Cotner and Nick Dodson helped me with the booth set-up. Nick came to my



Cindy Tigges and Jolene Schlichter



Teddi Axne with Mufasa and Troy



Nancy Will and Connie Wozniak

our booth space, #207-209. The *Tranquility Trail* people were just fantastic! Then Tony, Nick, Connie and I spent the next 4 hours putting up the booth decorations (in my opinion, ours was the best-decorated booth at the event!) and setting up the floor mats, tables, chairs, tablecloths, chrome merchandise stand and the stand for the blankets and throws. We also put up the gorgeous 2' x 6' banner that says "Have a Golden Holiday" that Connie McCabe designed and which I had printed and laminated at *Staples* during the week. We did not put any of the merchandise out on the tables on Friday – Connie and I took care of that on Saturday morning with help from Teddi Axne and Nancy Will.



Dave Engelhardt with Sage, her last public appearance before she passed away

We had a wonderful group of volunteers – everyone who told me ahead of time that they would be there showed up, and we even had an unexpected volunteer with his dog come all the way over from Sun City! Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and Connie Wozniak were there with me and my gang (**Troy**,



Dave Williams came from Sun City with Bella

Dolly, **Mufasa** and **Duffy**) all day. Gail and Dana Haywood, who are usually also with us all day, came with **Riley** but had to leave



Diana Frankowski with Dancer



Karey Rodeffer with Sucus



Michele Meyer with Abigail

early due to another commitment. Throughout the day, we enjoyed the company of Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Abbie** and **Sage**; Diana Frankowski with **Dancer**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**; Michele Meyer with **Abigail**;



Tiara Mikkelsen and Paul Korpalski with Jaxx and Max

Tiara Mikkelsen and Paul Korpalski with **Jaxx** and **Max**; Sue and Scott Pechersky with **Emma** and **Charlie** (although **Charlie** had to go back home shortly after arriving because he couldn't handle the commo-



Robin and Arty Whitmore with Brinkley and Arlo

tion); Karey, Kelley and Sheri Rodeffer with **Sucus**; Jolene Schlichter; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Cindy Tigges; Robin and Arty Whitmore with **Arlo** and **Brinkley**; and Dave Williams with **Bella**. We also had the Hildebrand family (Michelle, Ryan and Drew), who came to experience "community service" and had a good time helping with my dogs (much appreciated, by the way). Nick came over at 5:00 PM to help pack up the booth and transport everything back to my house.



Jodi and Jay Koblick monitored our popular Wheel of Fortune for several hours

Our Wheel of Fortune was very popular – at \$1 per spin, it earned us \$231! I'm sure it would have done more, but we had to close it down at 3:30 PM because we ran out of prize toys. We may not be able to use the Wheel again, though, as our source for free toys has dried up.



To get a taste of "community service" Ryan, Drew and Michelle Hildebrand joined us for several hours and were very helpful in taking charge of the Orwig dogs

Our fantastic Donation Dogs (i.e., all the dogs who came) collected \$238 while in our booth and walking around the event wearing our holiday-colors Donation Vests! I got a request from *Saving Paws Rescue* for the vest pattern, which I will send them. They actually asked if they could buy one or more of our vests – no sale, sorry (they take me 8 hours each to make and \$20 worth of materials), but I did lend them one to use during the day. They were very appreciative and quickly realized how effective they are. We also got an additional \$115 in cash donations and another \$85 by check. Two other checks were received, one with a donation in memory of **Caesar Balch** from the Engelhardts,



Chris Spiel came in the morning with Jack and Nash then went to help at the Happy Valley Barnes & Noble gift wrap; also in this photo are Susan and Scott Pechersky with Emma

and one in addition to a Single Membership renewal from Diana Frankowski; total of these donations was \$100.

My special thanks to Connie Wozniak. In addition to helping so much with the set-up, operation and break-down of the booth, Connie spent weeks sewing some gorgeous Christmas stockings and tissue holders and also made the 10 Golden Retriever ornaments that we hung on the event Wish Trees. Three of these ornaments were taken by attendees – one bought a toy for **14-094 Shyla**, another purchased a nice bed for **14-092 Lucky** and a third gave a \$20 donation towards medical costs for **14-093 Sugar**.



We had good merchandise sales during the event. Cash sales were \$482, sale by check was an additional \$15, sales by credit card

were \$152 for a total of \$659. The sales included three calendars. Our Silent Auction items brought in a total of \$715! I was planning to use the Golden Christmas Express train set from *Danbury Mint* that *AGR* member Sandy Fullington had donated, but Tony Cotner snatched it up on Friday during our set-up, so I had to come up with another item for Saturday, as we were allowed to have two at the event. I decided to use the Food Saver machine with accessories that we'd planned to use at the golf tournament and didn't because we had too many items for that event. The other item was a Dog Stuff Bonanza basket and bed, which garnered \$215. The Food Saver high bidder was not there at the end and never responded to my phone call, so we are saving that item for another event.

So, in total, we had 30 volunteers with 19 dogs in attendance, and we raised a total of \$2,143 (\$1,365 last year), our best year yet at this event! Our expenses were \$150 for the booth fee and \$30 for the banner at *Staples*. Thanks to all of you who helped, bought merchandise, made donations or just cheered us on.

Holiday Gift Wrapping Extravaganza

By Deb Orwig



Arrowhead *Barnes & Noble* – 4 dates, 25 hours: Total \$3,127.69

Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* – 11 dates, 66 hours: Total \$7,212.35 + \$1,200.00 from TV Channel 12 = \$8,412.35

Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble* – 1 date, 9 hours: \$2,718.60

Total for the Season for all activities between 11-22-14 and 12-24-14, including *Holiday Pet Festival* and two *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greets, as well as gift wrapping: \$15,675.18 + \$1,200 from Tram Mai and *TV Channel 12* = **\$16,875.18 FANTASTIC!**



Deb Orwig with Dolly, Duffy, Troy and Mufasa

At a request from the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* store personnel, we actually began our holiday gift wrapping sessions on the week-

end before the holiday season, which “officially” starts on Black Friday. We were very lucky that during the entire season there was only one dicey weather day – December 18th – as a storm on the previous day when we were not scheduled to wrap was moving

east and we had to delay our set-up for an hour that day. All in all, it was delightful, shirt-sleeve weather (for most of us) at every session – it is why we like living in Arizona!

Wrappers who joined us at every session in the West Valley (Arrowhead and Happy Valley) were Martha McDowell and Jerry Sheffield. Neither brought a dog, so they were always able to devote their entire attention to wrapping. During the first couple of



Martha McDowell and Jerry Sheffield were a familiar sight at the wrapping table, as neither missed a single date at Arrowhead or Happy Valley!



Jodi and Jay Koblick and Connie Wozniak



Kat Mikol tying bow



Fran Stroch



Debbie Ball, Sherry Landwehr and Martha

sessions, Jerry intently watched Martha and me wrap and became quite a good wrapper himself. He left the bow-tying to us, though. Others who occasionally helped us at the wrapping tables during the season included Debbie Ball, Karin Forsythe, Teri Guilbault, Jodi Koblick, Sherry Landwehr, Kat Mikol, Fran Stroch and Connie Wozniak. On the busiest days nearer Christmas Eve, which was a crazy-busy day as always, we really needed at least four wrappers all the time.

On three occasions, we also had terrific assistance from student members of *Apollo High School Key Club* and their advisors. The



Apollo High School Key Club advisor is Krystal Claudio. The students

AGR member Linda Taylor with granddaughters Hannah and Kira and AGR dog Daisy are third from right in picture at right with Apollo High School Key Club members



who came with her on one or the other of three dates on which they helped included: Melody Aguila, Liliana Burgos, Jacqueline Castaneda, Roxanna Castaneda, Jose



Happy Valley group on November 22nd: Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; Liz Tatasco with Gonzo and Trip; Rick Ball with Connie's Winnie; Debbie Ball with Shelby; Jolene Schlichter with Deb's Mufasa; Deb Orwig with Troy, Dolly and Duffy; Dana Haywood with Bilbo; Gail Haywood in back holding Caleb and with Riley; Sheila Joyce with Charlie; and Tony Cotner with Daisy

Chavez, Luis Esparza, Alma Esquivel, Iris Guerrero, Kaylene Honyumtewa, Gaspar Layva, Patricia Loera, Emily Lopez, Ko-



Happy Valley group on November 23rd: Deb Orwig with Troy, Dolly, Duffy and Mufasa; Martha McDowell with Connie's Grizzly; Marcus Wieser with Nala; Chris Spiel with Nash and Jack; Patrick Doyle (his Annabelle was hiding); Tony Cotner with Rocky and Daisy; and Liz Tatasco with Gonzo and Trip



Patrick Doyle and almost-15 Annabelle helped with set-up and stayed all day at every West Valley session, as did Martha McDowell, Jerry Sheffield, Chris Spiel and Liz Tatasco

rina Manuel, Francisco Martinez, Jose Maya, Tatiana Maya, Karina Montes, Esmeralda Ray, Karina Roche, Blanca Rodriguez, Jennifer Rodriguez, and Antonio Sanchez. The *Key Club* must pay to rent van transportation to get the students to our events, which makes us doubly



Another familiar sight at most West Valley sessions was Tony Cotner, and when he wasn't there he was at the *Holiday Pet Festival* or *Tempe Marketplace* gift wrap; he usually brought just Daisy, but sometimes also Rocky; he was most helpful wrangling dogs for the wrappers

appreciative of their efforts. Some of the students wanted to learn how to wrap and tie bows, so we obliged them with some instruction. Most of them just wanted to wrangle the dogs, which was actually quite helpful, as it freed me and others up to concentrate on wrapping and bow-tying. They all got quite an education about the nitty-gritty of "community service" though!



Chris Spiel with Nash and Jack, always there and even did double duty on December 6 when she helped at the Holiday Pet Festival in the morning then went to gift wrap

Since basically the same volunteers came to all the West Valley gift wrapping appearances, I am just going to list everyone once, rather than date by date, as you would read mostly the same names over and over. Not everyone came every time but most came more than once. Connie McCabe, Liz Tataseo and I tried to



Liz Tataseo with Trip and Gonzo; Liz chaired the two sessions that Deb could not attend because she was either at the Holiday Pet Festival or Tempe Marketplace gift wrap



Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson with Grizzly; Connie took photos at virtually every one of our holiday season events; Nick helped Deb with set-up

Mufasa and Troy; Jill Prose; Jerry Sheffield; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Fran and Jan Strock with **Gus**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Linda Taylor and granddaughters Hannah and Kira Taylor with **Daisy**; Jane



Connie Wozniak, one of our regular West Valley wrappers, brought Honei once



Cynthia Wenström with Hannah; she brought Bailey instead of Hannah occasionally



Despite living in Apache Junction, Gail and Dana Haywood with Caleb (always on Gail's lap), Bilbo and Riley came to almost all the gift wrap sessions, too, as well as to the Holiday Pet Festival

get photos of everyone – I apologize if we missed you, especially those of you who came to Tempe Marketplace.

On our four Arrowhead dates, we enjoyed the company of Bill Atkinson with **Thunder**; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Megan Barber; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Karin and Rachel Forsythe;



Bill Atkinson with Thunder

Triplett, who brought her resident Greyhound **Skip** or her foster Greyhound **Amazing Captain**; Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey** or **Hannah**; and Connie Wozniak, who usually came just to wrap but brought **Honei** once to Arrowhead.



Jane Triplett with Skip



Rick and Debbie Ball with puppy Shelby, who was very well behaved for a 6-month-old



Also a frequent helper in the West Valley was Sheila Joyce with either Charlie or McKenna

Sarah Giles with **Darby**; Teri Guilbault with **Fresno** or **Jackson**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo**, **Caleb** and **Riley**; Bob and Darel Johnson with **Bo** and **Holly**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** or **McKenna**; Jodi and Jay Koblack; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**;



Black Friday group: Larry Orwig with Dolly, Mufasa, Duffy and Troy; Tony Cotner with Daisy and Rocky; Fred Prose with Gracie and Jasper; Liz Tataseo with Gonzo; and Ilan and Sharon Wieser with Nala

Sherry Landwehr; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly** or **Sammy**; Martha McDowell, who sometimes brought her grandchildren Domenic and Sophie McDowell; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Dolly**, **Duffy**,

The following helped out at the Happy Valley location on one or more occasions: Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Dustin Falke and daughter Lorelei with **Sebastian**; Karin Forsythe;



Happy Valley group on December 6, when some of the other "regulars" were at the *Holiday Pet Festival*: Cynthia Wenström with Hannah; Patrick Doyle; Sherry Landwehr; Martha McDowell; Debbie Ball with Shelby, who is sitting on Martha's grandson Domenic's lap; two Apollo HS Key Club members; Liz Tataseo with Gonzo; Karin Forsythe; Sheila Joyce with Connie McCabe's Winnie and Charlie sitting in front of two more AHS Key Club members; Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash

Teri Guilbault with **Blossom** or **Jackson**; Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**, **Bilbo** and **Caleb**; Marti Joyce with **Mayer**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie**; Nancy and Dave Kimmel with **Sadie** and **Trooper**; Sherry Landwehr; Samantha Luois; Amy Maynard with **Bentley**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**, **Sasha** or **Winnie**; Martha McDowell, sometimes with grandkids Domenic and Sophie McDowell; Debbie and Kat



Sophie McDowell



Dustin Falke, daughter Lorelei and Sebastian



Last session at Happy Valley on December 22nd: Back – Deb Orwig with Dolly, Duffy and Mufasa; Patrick Doyle; Martha McDowell; Jerry Sheffield; Julie and John Tyree; Front – Teri Guilbault with Jackson; Liz Tataseo with Gonzo; Amy Maynard with Bentley; Nancy and Dave Kimmel with Trooper and Sadie; Gail Haywood with Caleb and Riley; and Katie and Natalie Tyree with Luca

Mikol with **Hogan**; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Troy, Dolly, Mufasa** and **Duffy**; Jill and Fred Prose with **Jasper** and



David and Marcia Snelling with Mufasa and Dolly

Gracie; Jolene Schlichter; Jerry Sheffield; Chris Spiel with **Jack**

A wonderful surprise, especially for his family members Sharon, Ilan and Marcus. They were not expecting him back in AZ for several more weeks, was the return of Operations Officer Maj. Philip Wieser from active duty in Afghanistan. Philip was presented to the family at the *ASU* football game's *Salute to Service Day* on November 8th in Sun Devil Stadium. We are so glad he came back alive and in one piece! He started volunteering for *AGR* right away!



Philip with Nala and son Ilan

Another truly exciting event, which occurred at the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* on November 23rd, was a presentation by Tram Mai and *KPNX TV Channel 12* of a \$1,200 Visa gift card. Tram adopted **Pressley** from *AGR* 5 years ago and wanted to acknowledge the good work our organization has done! We sincerely thank Tram and *TV 12*!

and **Nash**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Julie, John, and daughters Natalie and Katie with **Luca**; Cynthia Wenström with



Marcus Wieser with Nala

Bailey; Sharon, Philip, Ilan and Marcus Wieser with **Nala**; and Connie Wozniak.



09-022 Pressley



Samantha Luois, a medical student at UA's Phoenix campus, joined *AGR* when she saw us at the Happy Valley location; here she is with Troy on her lap



Teri Guilbault with Jackson

Marcia and David Snelling, original rescuers of **14-092 Lucky** and **14-094 Shyla**, came for a while on November 30th. They were happy to hear that the dogs had been placed in a wonderful home. Nick Dodson helped with setup, as did Larry Orwig once he was in



Arrowhead group on December 7th: Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; Sherry Landwehr with Dolly; Connie Wozniak; Jerry Sheffield; Deb Orwig with Mufasa and Duffy; Bob Johnson with Holly; Sarah Giles with Darby and Connie McCabe's Sammy; Jane Triplett with Skip; Martha McDowell; Domenic McDowell with Troy; and Darel Johnson with Bo

Arizona for the holidays. Liz handled the Happy Valley location on the two dates that I was elsewhere (*Holiday Pet Festival* on December 6th and Tempe Marketplace



Sandra Hansen with Jasmine

Barnes & Noble.

After seeing that we were selling handmade, holiday-theme oven mitts and Christmas stockings, Jerry Sheffield created a really great display piece for them, which took up much less room on the wrapping tables and put these items where people could easily see them – at eye level. We sold quite a few of these items after that, as well as dog ornaments and holiday-theme bandannas I had



New member and first-time volunteer Megan Barber and veterans Karin and Rachel Forsythe with Troy and Gonzo



Other first-timers included above: Marti Joyce with Mayter; Julie, John, Katie and Natalie Tyree with Luca; below: Amy Maynard with Bentley



us to staff a gift wrap table inside and also allows us to have one outside in the interior of the mall. In addition, we always have dogs wearing Donation Vests stationed outside the front of the store and others walking around the interior of the mall.



Rusty and Don Krause with Stormy and Sunshine



Kat and Debbie Mikol with Hogan

made. A really fantastic thing happened at the Happy Valley location. A man came up to our wrapping table on December 22nd and said he had 20 gifts for us to wrap. We said, "Bring them on!" So, we spent the next 1½ hours wrapping for him. During that time, he wandered over to all our dogs and put a \$20 bill in every Donation Vest. Then when we had finished with his gifts, he said, "This should make you happy!" and dropped \$400 in the Donation Jar!



Nancy and Dave Kimmel, who now live in Prescott with Trooper and Sadie, stopped to help at Happy Valley on their way home from a family gathering in Tempe



Tempe Marketplace inside-store wrappers included (left to right, top to bottom): Beth Chaffee with Duffy and Troy; Cricket Forstrom, Sarah Martin; Leslie Morris, Valerie Mylowe; Karey and Kelley Rodeffer; Cindy Tigges, Donna Novak, Sharon Flores

We have always made more money on this one day at this location than on any other of our gift wrap dates. Of course, we are always there on the Saturday before Christmas, which may have something to do with that! Although it did not seem as busy at the wrapping tables as it has in past years, we actually collected more money than ever before! We were there for 9 hours and pulled in \$2,568.60 from donations and sales of our calendar, oven mitts, Christmas



Larry Jessup with Grizzly and Honeybear

Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** was again chaired by Larry Jessup. Larry does not own a computer, so he got on the phone with a calling list I gave him and made at least 200 calls trying to recruit volunteers for this one-day, huge wrapping event. He managed to get commitments from 91 people who came throughout the day and brought 54 dogs – the extra people either helped at the wrapping tables or walked my dogs around the mall (greatly appreciated by me and my dogs)! We need a lot of volunteers at this location, because the store requires

stockings and dog ornaments – that is about \$285 per hour! In addition, we received a \$150 check the following Monday



Kathy Rice with Mufasa and Laura Rivers, Jack Mills (dog-walker) and Pam Virdsall helped Deb Orwig outside, along with Rena Moreno and Donna Novak



one who could not come help at the event! So, our total for that day really was \$2,718.60. We were also at the Happy Valley store that same day but only for four hours; we took in \$473.90, about \$118 per hour, which was close to our average per hour for all the dates at Arrowhead and at Happy Valley.

Volunteers who came to the Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble**



Stephanie Beard with Kasey; Trent and Megan Bender with Lilo; Sheri and Don Boonstra with Goldens Sedona and Eowyn and Maltipoos Lily and Rose; Bruce Miller with Jake; Colleen Miller with Molly; Rena Moreno with granddaughters, Reno Navarette and Ray Morales with Duffy; Pattye Brown and Pat Ireland with Bailey and Tully; Stephanie Darkoch with Dolly and Troy; Jeanne and Charlie DiRuzzio with Gracie; Ted Morris with Maddy; Maggie Muller with Benzo; Donna and Berek Novak with Annie and Jackson



Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with Abbie and Sage; Richard and Tracie Freeland with Gus and Murphy; Diane and Tom Ghezzi with Mia; Terry Oline with Shanley and Michele Meyer with Abigail; Janess, Jason and Tom Pasinski with Maggie; Sue and Scott Pechersky with Emma; Andy Temes with Wrigley



Jack and Gail Goodman with Glory; Candy Greff with Teddy; Meg and Bill Headley with adult kids Bill, Joe, Kevin, Mike and Shannon, with Golden Ted; Mary and Emily Ruderstaller with Bonita; Debby Sable with Riley; Tiffany Jones with Dolly; April, Hayes, Dwight and Helena Howard with Lola; Russ Ingram with Reilly; Rod and Jo Lewis with Sebastian; Jeff Sager with Orion; Tyler, Leslie and Trevor Schmit and friend Ethan Pennock with Scout and Chip; Amy and Kathryn Stevens with Gypsy and Kona



Sarah Giles and Darby came to Arrowhead once and to Tempe Marketplace



Fern and Rebecca White with Iris



Sue Strong with grandkids Melissa and Connor Strong with Jake and Molly

included those in photos on page 32 and the top of this page, as well as some whose pictures are shown in the Arrowhead and/or Happy Valley sections: Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sarah Giles with **Darby**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo**, **Caleb** and **Riley**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**; and Deb Orwig with **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**. Unfortunately, we missed getting photos of Jan Podlich, and of Amy and George Temes with **Mr. McGhee**.

Sincere thanks to everyone who helped during the holiday, whether that was with physical help (with or without a dog) and/or sending money. All of you were important to our best-ever holiday season!



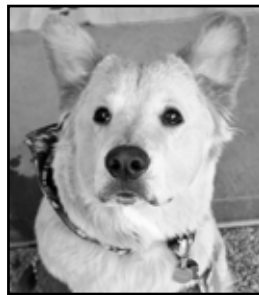
Deb's van from 11-22 through 12-24



Dolly: Yum, you taste good!



Grizzly: Do you think I could sneak one of those candy canes?



Bilbo: Did I hear someone say "cookies"?



Caleb in his comfy seat on Gail's scooter



Troy: I have a comfy seat on Natalie Tyree's lap!

Some Holiday Fashion and Hilarity...



Gonzo: Hey, it's keeping my ears warm!



Reilly Ingram kept her hat on all day



Charlie wearing green tie and red vest



Nash Spiel the reindeer



Riley Sable the reindeer



Mufasa and Winnie like to sit in chairs so they can see everything that is going on



Good opportunities for socializing – here are puppies Gus Strock and Shelby Ball



Duffy: I know I look silly wearing this hat! Don't I get any cookies after wearing that thing all day?



Cynthia and Hannah say: It was a very fun holiday season!



Troy: I'm done; let's go home!



Whoever said money can't buy happiness has never paid an adoption fee!

~ From *Quote of the Day* online

Meet-and-Greets

By Deb Orwig

During the fall, we were indoors at the **Petco** at 99th Ave/Northern Ave on the first Saturday of the month from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM. On the second Saturday, we were at the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart** from 11 AM - 2 PM. On the second Sunday, we went to the **PetSmart** on 91st Ave between Olive and Northern Ave in Peoria. On the third Saturday, you could have found us at the Bell Road (Glendale) **PetSmart** store from 11 AM to 3 PM. In October, we started going to the **Pet Club** in Desert Ridge Marketplace on the first Saturday of the month from noon to 4 PM, but we are changing the time in 2015 to 11 AM to 3 PM.

Liz Tataseo chairs the Peoria **Petco** and the Bell Road **PetSmart**. Connie McCabe hosts the Peoria **PetSmart**, and when we do the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart**, Denny Myrick hosts. Dana Haywood chairs the Desert Ridge **Pet Club** and also handles the Chandler **PetSmart**. Our thanks to all of you!



Meet-and-Greets at Pet Club
By Dana Haywood



On November 1st, we were invited by **The Pet Club** at Desert Ridge

Marketplace to set up a Meet-and-Greet at their store. We have to be inside, as the regulations at Desert Ridge prohibit setups outside in front of their store. The **Pet Club** makes sure that there is plenty of space up front inside for our group. Attending in November were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**, Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley** and **Bilbo**, Debbie Mikol and daughter Kat with **Hogan**, Deb Orwig with **Troy**, Jolene Schlichter with **Simba**, Sarah Seiber and new member Jerry Sheffield. It is a relatively small store, so most of the customers who entered the store stopped by to greet the



Dana, Tony, Jerry, Gail and Sarah



Simba and Jolene

dogs. We will be continuing to set up Meet-and-Greets at this store in 2015, generally on the first Saturday of the month.



Jerry, Gail, Kat and Debbie with sleepy dogs Bilbo (under Jerry's legs), Trina, Riley (barely visible next to Gail), and Hogan

We returned to **The Pet Club** at Desert Ridge Marketplace on January 3rd. Attending were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**, Deb Orwig with **Duffy**, Debbie and Kat Mikol with **Hogan**, and Christine Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**. Dana and Gail Haywood brought



Connie with Daisy and Aengus

Riley and **Bilbo**, and along with the Haywoods came **Trina** (Pauline and Kimberly Kearney's adopted dog), so that Jerry Sheffield would have a dog to wrangle seeing he had no gifts to wrap this day. (Jerry was very helpful over the Christmas season with the gift wrapping.) Jane Triplett also stopped by for a while with her newest foster Greyhound **Amazing Captain**, a very nice boy. Connie McCabe also joined us for a while with foster boy **Aengus**, who is looking wonderful and is still looking for his forever home.



Jane with Captain and Chris with Nash (Jack behind)



Meet-and-Greets at Petco
By Liz Tataseo

November 1st was our last **Petco** Meet-and-Greet before the holiday season gift wrapping events. We had a pretty good day, collecting \$83.41 in just three hours. Joining **Gonzo**, **Trip** and me were Debbie Ball with **Shelby**, Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**. Jackie Sigafoose dropped by and stayed to pet the dogs for a



Debbie and Sheila with Shelby and Charlie



Patrick and Annabelle, who will be 15 in January



Jackie with Trip but missing Colby, who passed away last Sept

while. In the spirit of the holiday just passed, Halloween, Gonzo wore his pumpkin costume and Charlie came as Superdog. In 2015, Petco Meet-and-Greets at 9480 W Northern Ave just east of the 101 will be the last Saturday of each month, usually from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Please bring a chair and join us with your Golden on any of those Saturdays.

Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart

91st AVE, PEORIA – Connie McCabe, Chairman

It was a chilly day on November 16th at the Peoria PetSmart. Lots of people braved the wind chill and came to visit, but at different times. I want



Jane with Grizzly, Susan with Ozzie, Karen with Star and Caesar, Pat, and Nick with Aengus



Chris, Patrick and Deb with Jack, Nash, Duffy and Grizzly

to thank Karen Davis with Caesar and Star, Nick Dodson who stayed for an hour with our foster Aengus, Patrick Doyle with Annabelle, Pat Morgan with a sling for her shoulder injury, Deb Orwig with Duffy, Susan Parker with Ozzie, Jane Triplett (Bubba has



Shotzie with Ginger

gone to the Bridge and was sorely missed), Shotzie Workman with Ginger, and especially Chris Spiel, who stayed all day with Jack and Nash. And, of course, my boy Grizzly. It was so cold and windy we ended up calling it a day at 4 PM instead of 5. We still

managed to sell 5 calendars for \$50 and also to get an additional \$63.12 in donations, even though the foot traffic was slow.



Since we did not do Photos with Santa this year (PetSmart did not have Rescue groups do them), we decided to go ahead and hold a Meet-and-Greet on December 14th. Thank you to Karen Davis with Caesar and Star, Susan Parker with

Ozzie, and Joy Slagowski with Bella and Katy for joining Sasha and me. We had a small but mighty crew. Lots of people came by to visit!



Sasha, now 13 years old, also came from a puppy mill

We gained a new member, Paul McNaught, and also saw Bill and Linda Atkinson when they stopped by to buy a bed for Thunder. Even though it was slow, we collected \$57 in donations, sold 5 calendars (\$50) and received a \$100



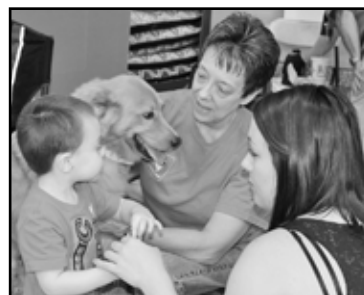
Katy, one of our Spring Break-out puppy mill dogs

Amber level membership! We have very limited space in this newsletter for photos. However, all photos taken at this and other events are available on our website under the Events tab, Gallery Section.

7290 W BELL ROAD, GLENDALE – Liz Tataseo, Chairman



Since the holiday season gift wrapping took most of the weekend days in November and December, we only able to go on October 18th for our monthly Meet-and-Greet at Arrowhead PetSmart.



Teri Guilbault with Fresno, grandson Lucas Miller and daughter Michelle Miller

We took in \$77.59 in donations and had a fun time inside the store meeting and greeting the customers.



Sarah Seiber with Gonzo

Joining **Gonzo** and me were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Bilbo**, **Riley** and **Caleb**; Teri Guilbault with **Fresno**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Sarah Seiber who came up from Tucson to help out with the dogs. **Charlie** enjoyed



trying on various costumes for Halloween but couldn't decide which one he liked best – he was, alternately, a banana split, a turtle and a T-Rex! Bring a chair and join us the third Saturday of each month with your Golden at Arrowhead **PetSmart** in 2015.

MAYO BLVD – Denny Myrick, Chairman



Sally with Rocky, Gail with Riley, Tony with Daisy, Teddi (can't see dogs), and Tom with Molly

A nice turnout on October 11th at Mayo Blvd **PetSmart**. We collected \$218.65 including the sale of six calendars. The following **AGR** members and their dogs participated: Teddi Axne with **Palmer** and **Watson**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sally and Tom

Fetherston with **Molly** and **Rocky**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**, **Caleb**, and **Bilbo**; Laurie and Jay McFarlane with **Rufus**; Denny Myrick (Host); and Deb Orwig with **Dolly**.

On a beautiful November 8th fall day the following **AGR** members and their dogs participated at the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart**. Tony Cotner with **Dai-**



Amanda and Mary Schmiester with Maggie; Cynthia Wenström with Hannah; Deb Orwig with Dolly; Gail Haywood with Caleb and Bilbo; Tony Cotner with Daisy; Dana Haywood with Riley; Denny Myrick with Duffy

sy; Sally Fetherston with **Molly**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Bilbo**, **Riley**, and **Caleb**; Linda Kinkead with **Brenly** (photo at left); Host Denny Myrick; **AGR** President Deb Orwig with **Duffy** and **Dolly**; photographer Pam



Gail Walker with Sierra and Denny Myrick with Duffy Orwig

Spicer; Debbie Sable with **Riley** and **Sienna**; Mary and Amanda Schmiester with **Maggie**; Gail Walker with **Sierra**; and Cynthia Wenström and Mike Lane with **Hannah**. Guests included Marylou Nobley and her seven-month-old Golden named **Beau**. It was also Gail Walker's first time attending a Meet-and-Greet here with **Sierra**, her 14-year-old Golden mix, who is in great health; she was adopted this past summer from **AGR**. **AGR** collected \$227.43 in donations and calendar sales.



Debbie with Hogan, Wes with Sadie and Andie, Deb with Dolly and Duffy, Denny with Molly, Tony with Daisy, and Tom and Sally Fetherston with Rocky and Molly

Normally there is no Mayo **PetSmart** Meet-and-Greet scheduled in December, so as to not compete with the **Barnes & Noble** gift wrap events. However, since there was no **Barnes & Noble** gift wrap scheduled for this particular date, President Deb Orwig asked if we would schedule a special Meet-and-Greet for December 13, 2014. So... luckily sandwiched between two heavy rain showers, the following **AGR** members and their canine companions participated: Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sally and Tom Fetherston with **Molly** and **Rocky**; Wes Harrington with **Andie** and **Sadie**; Debbie Mikol with **Hogan**; Denny Myrick (Host) with **Molly**; Deb Orwig with **Duffy** and **Dolly**; and photographer Pam Spicer. Donations benefited



from the extraordinary holiday spirit contributions of the **PetSmart**

customers. We collected a total of \$414.52, a record for this store location – maybe it was because of the cute holiday head covers that **Dolly**, **Duffy** and **Molly** were wearing and kept on during our entire session!



Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support. All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between October 15, 2014 and January 14, 2015. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Many wonderful people gave **AGR** end-of-the-year donations. These ranged from \$5 to \$5,000! Each and every one of the donations was important to **AGR's** financial well being, and we sincerely thank all of our donors for their continuing and generous support. The following donors did not indicate anything in particular as the reason for their donation, so their contribution was added to our General Fund, from which almost all our bills get paid.

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Teddi & Delwin Axne | Laura Hickey & Paul Heinstein | Pat Morgan | Chris Spiel |
| Stephanie Beard & Greg Konishi | Mary Hurley & James Potocki | Debbie & Denny Myrick | Lavonne Spivey |
| Chalmers Oscar & Jan L. Bellenger | Floyd Kackley for Honey Flores | Melody Nickerson | Fran & Jan Strock |
| Daisy, Rocky & Goldie Cotner | Cheryl & Stephen Kacy | Donna & Berek Novak | Mary & Ned Thomson, Jr. |
| Alice & David Courtney | Pauline Kearney | Laura Opstad | Betty Thompson |
| Tim Crowley | Tillie Kiefer-Smith | Deb & Larry Orwig | Julie & John Tyree |
| Mary & Bert Engstrom | Anne & Dan Kowalski | Judy Petitto | Gail Walker |
| Sharon Flores | Sherry Landwehr | Sandi & Bill Reilly | David Williams |
| Diana Frankowski | Mike Lane & Cynthia Wenström | Barbara & Jim Renshaw | Caron & Dean Wingerchuk |
| Eileen & James Furman | Samantha Luois | William Rice | Phyllis & Lawrence Wojciechowski |
| Dianne & David Gallery | Amy Maynard | Sharon & Carlos Ronstadt | Peter Wong |
| Annette & Robert Gawry | Edward Mertz | Debra Sable | Jackie & Wane Workman |
| Carol Gora | Gayle & Richard Milling | Sandra & Bill Sell-Lee | Nicholas Yale |
| Erin Lea Harper | | | Yardhouse bartender |

Extra Support Level Memberships

These Membership Levels are available to anyone joining or continuing a membership in **Arizona Golden Rescue**. Each level adds some extra cash to our coffers, and the extra is tax deductible. All levels except Copper receive a copy of our current calendar as a gift for the extra support. If you choose to renew at one of these levels when your membership comes due in 2015, you will automatically receive a copy of our 2016 calendar in September.

COPPER: Kathy Blue, Linda & Don Boice, Linda & Ward Case, Teresa Delisi, Keri Engelhardt, Karin & Jon Forsythe, Anne & Richard Gutekunst, Bonnie & Steve Hargrave, Nancy & Jeff Harwin, Gail & Dana Haywood, Larry Hevner, Dawn Bigelow-Ingram & Russ Ingram, Linda Kearns, Sharon & George LaFrance, Pat Morgan, Mary Murray & John Donahue, Wendy & John Nelson, Erin Orwig, Todd & Julie Peapenburg, Keri & Tony Schultz, Hannah & Mitch Selznick, Melanie & Ricky Stephenson, Liz Taseo, Cindy & Gary Tigges, Julie & John Tyree, Melody & Joe Webb, Anita & Alan Werner, Carol & John Wilson

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Terri & Dave Hill, Joyce Johnston, Darlene Kaminski & Rick Stephens, Nancy & Dave Kimmel, Julie & Kory Kosier, Anne & Dan Kowalski, Rusty & Don Krause, Ellen & Philip Leavitt, Tracie & Peter McBroom, Celia & Kent McClelland, Paul McNaught, Jacquelyn & Michael McWatters, Barbara Merideth, Michele Meyer, Christina & Jackson Mounkes, Lynn & Dennis Mullen, Donna & Berek Novak, Karen & Barney Novo, Joni & Todd Peschman, Judy Petitto, Sandi & Bill Reilly, Sandra & Bill Sell-Lee, Jane Triplett, Teri & Rob Turner, Susan & Roger Vallie, Gina Viggiano & Greg Shore, Kathleen Villegas, Mariruth & Patrick Wittkamp

TOPAZ: Debbie & Rick Ball, Michelle Bailey & Kay Correll, Karen & Chet Hetrick, Sherry & Bob Hunkler

PEARL: Katie Donahue, Arden & Wes Harrington, Mary Hurley & James Potocki, Sharla & David Jewett, Tammy Moerer & Brad Chapman

GOLD: Michelle Nicholas

Gift Memberships and Subscriptions Given

A Household Membership for
Cate and Johannes Hedrich from Jackie and Dave Engelhardt

A Single Membership for
Martha McDowell from **Daisy, Rocky and Goldie** Cotner

Memorial Donations

*In Memory of **Shiloh Ball and Sweetie Tataseo***

Teryl Hall

*In Memory of all 4th Quarter Bridge Dogs including **Caesar Balch, Little Boy Connoyer, Sage Engelhardt, Copper Fairchild, Hoover Forstrom, Sadie Fulghum, Jax Korycki, Austin Navarette-Morales, Jake Nelson, Bubba Triplett, Carter Youhas, 14-092 Lucky, 14-096 Jax and 14-097 Jake***

Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Teryl Hall
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig
Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **14-092 Lucky***

Judy Petitto

*In Memory of **14-092 Lucky, 14-096 Jax and 14-097 Jake***

Sandra Hansen

*In Memory of **Austin Navarette-Morales***

Reno Navarette and Ray Morales

*In Memory of **Teddi Axne's canine gang***

Christie Schulz

In Memory of the beautiful "furry kids" we have known and loved

Jeannette and Dave Morrocco

*In Memory of **Caesar Balch***

Doreen and David Balch
Jackie and Dave Engelhardt

*In Memory of my Lhasa Apso **Little Boy***

Barbara Connoyer

*In Memory of **Hoover Forstrom***

Cricket Forstrom

*In Memory of **Murphy Hill***

Terri and Dave Hill

*In Memory of **Bubba Triplett – thanks for everything AGR did for him***

Jane Triplett

In Memory of my Golden Retriever

Carole Downs

*In Memory of **Winter (Harley) -- loving him always***

Laura Nance

*In Memory of our sweet **Jake, who passed away on January 1, 2015***

Wendy and John Nelson

*In Memory of **Larry Eckhardt***

Barbara Connoyer

*In Memory of **Cheri Harris***

Arvie Allison
Brian Jeffries
Kelli Quinn

*In Memory of **Kathleen T. Murray***

Katie Donahue, granddaughter
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **James Renshaw***

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Mary Lou Wilson***

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

*In Memory of **Debbe Begley (deposited in the Debbe Begley Memorial Fund)***

Betsy and Fred Brown
Gene Difondi (at *Paws & Pasta Dinner*)
Carol Gora and Don Woods
Greg Korycki
Virginia Korycki

Honorary Donations

*In Honor of **AGR on behalf of Riley and Milo Starbuck***

Nicky Sallade

*In Honor of **AGR's Board of Directors***

Teri and Jeff Guilbault

*In Honor of **AGR members for the work you do***

Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church, Pastor Vern Anderson

*In Honor of **Dr. Valerie Ferguson at Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital***

Alice and David Courtney

*In Honor of the work **Sandra Hansen does for AGR***

Scott Hogan

*In Honor of **Deb Orwig's unwavering dedication to AGR***

Deposited in the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* as requested
Debbie and Rick Ball

*In Honor of **Duke's Gotcha Day***

Marsha and Steve Kleinz

*In Honor of **Sandy's Gotcha Day***

Christopher O'Brien

*In Honor of **Jasper and Gracie Prose for hosting Sammy***

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

*In Honor of **Senior Goldens***

Joyce Johnston

*In Honor of **12-119 Sophie (now Sadie) and 12-120 Emma***

John and Stacie DeMent

*In Honor of our girls, **Mary Kate and Ashley***

Mary Jo and John Courtney

*In Honor of our newly adopted Golden **Bob***

Carolyn and Barry Lieberman

In Honor of our son Jon's birthday

Marsha Sue and Henry Kirk Forsythe

In Honor of my mothers Michelle Bailey and Kay Correll

Shanley Ten Eyck

Donations in support of our *Special Needs Dogs Summer Fund Drive* and of the *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* that arrived after the November 2014 issue of *The Golden Paw* went to press:

For Special Needs Dogs

Dawn Bigelow-Ingram and Russ Ingram
Kim and Kevin McVeigh

In Support of the Fore! Paws Golf Tournament

Wayne Buesgens and Gail Turner, M.D.
Dixon Golf, Inc.

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PetSmart Charities

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Diamond Donors for 14-036 Toby

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Diamond Donor for 14-040 Charlie

Katie Marchal

Diamond Donors for 14-082 Trisara

Emily and Blake Rampmaier

Diamond Donors for 14-092 Lucky

Tram Mai and *KPNX TV Channel 12*

Deb and Larry Orwig
Judy Petitto Liz Tataseo

Diamond Donor for 14-094 Shyla

Judy Petitto

Diamond Donors for all Diamonds in the Ruff Dogs

Karen and Phil Davis Nancy and Dave Kimmel

Grants

Tremendous thanks to **AGR** member Jolene Schlichter for her efforts to procure these grants on behalf of **AGR**

Employees Community Fund of Boeing
to help with medical expenses of Golden mixes

Golden Retriever Foundation April Fund Grants
to help with medical expenses of **13-059 Sebastian, 13-090 Bubba, 14-025 Kathy, 14-062 Charlie, 14-066 Chip, 14-069 Buddy, 14-076 Tristan, 14-086 Buddy and 14-082 Daisy**

Pedigree Foundation -- Operations Grant

Special Donors

Judy Petitto for supporting **AGR** with a monthly donation charged to her PayPal account

Lori and Anthony Pranckevicius for supporting **AGR** with a monthly donation automatically sent by their bank

Bobby Vossoughi for supporting **AGR** with a monthly donation in memory of his Golden **Casey**

Kelly Green for donating lots of chip bags

Thank-You Donations

To AGR for helping all Goldens

Marsha and Robert Forsythe

To AGR gift wrappers for wrapping over 100 gifts for human children in foster care

Joy Slagowski

*To AGR's Teams for their compassion and dedication for helping to find **Paloma** a new home*

Laura and Collin Stewart

*To Connie McCabe for taking wonderful photos of **Glory** before she passed away*

Barbara and Jim Renshaw

*To Connie McCabe for taking beautiful pictures of our boy **Finn***

Barbara and Jim Renshaw

To Connie McCabe for taking our family Christmas photo

Karen and Phil Davis
Joy and Todd Slagowski

*To Deb Orwig for vacation care for **Bubba***

Jane Triplett

*To **Troy** and Deb Orwig for reading with my 3rd Graders*

Trishia Murphy

To Deb Orwig and all the Orwig furkids for helping with the All-Stars Tutoring Program at the Desert Foothills Library

Barbara and Bud Owings

To Anthony Pranckevicius for computer help

Connie McCabe



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