

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw

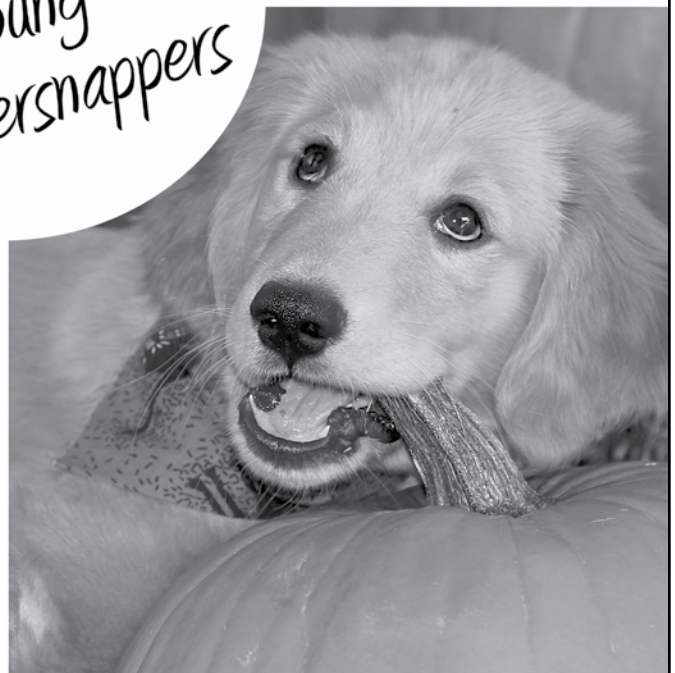
Volume VI Number 1

February 2014

Published by Arizona Golden Rescue



Old Gold
and Young
Whippersnappers



AGR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Deb Orwig President
 Liz Tataseo Director of Operations
 Sue Vallie Director of Dog Care
 Dana Haywood
 Director of Information Management
 Connie McCabe Human Resources Director

BOARD ASSISTANTS

Karin Forsythe Secretary
 Cindy Tigges Organization Accountant

TEAMS AND VOLUNTEERS

* Team Manager

Adoption Finalizations Sue Vallie
 Behavior Consultant Teryl Hall
 Facilities Managers Patrick Doyle, Dana Haywood
 Follow-up and Bridge Cards Karen Davis
 Grants Jolene Schlichter
 Graphic Artist Connie McCabe
 Health Care Team *Linda Knight,
 Susan Parker, Christine Spiel, Liz Tataseo
 Home Evaluations Kathy Blue, Candy and
 Jerry Caldwell, Beth and Jon Chaffee,
 Rand Drake, Marilyn Flynn, Sarah Giles, Nancy
 Goldcamp, Teri Guilbault, Dana Haywood,
 Diane and Jim Henkel, Larry Jessup, Joyce
 Johnston, *Sheila Joyce, Don Krause, Laurel
 Manning, Connie McCabe, Maggie Muller, Denny
 Myrick, Donna Novak, Deb Orwig, Fred Prose,
 Ruth Pulliam, Liz Tataseo, Carol and Don
 Thompson, Michele Wehry, Cynthia Wenström
 Intake Team Debbie Boshes, Sharon Flores, Lisa
 McDaniel, Judy Petitto, Paula and David Thomas,
 Lori Pranckevicus, *Michele Wehry
 Membership Manager Sandra Hansen
 Merchandise Sales Manager Deb Orwig
 Microchip Manager Sandra Hansen
 Newsletter Editor Deb Orwig
 Photography Team *Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig,
 Joy Slagowski, Pam Spicer
 Placement Team Sarah Giles, Jim Henkel, *Debbie
 Mikol, Pam Spicer, Sharon Wieser,
 Marshall Wozniak
 Shelter Walking *Michele Wehry
 Social Media Kathy Blue
 Transport Team Kathy Blue, Nick Dodson, Patrick
 Doyle, Teri Guilbault, *Dana Haywood, Gail
 Haywood, Diane and Jim Henkel, Joyce
 Johnston, Don Krause, Connie McCabe, Debbie
 Mikol, Denny Myrick, Deb Orwig, Liz Tataseo,
 Cindy Tigges, Sue Vallie, Michele Wehry
 Vet Records Manager Liz Tataseo
 WAGS Line Manager Gail Haywood
 Webmasters
 Dana Haywood and Dana Craig Haywood

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COLUMNS

President’s Message 3 - 4
 Director of Operations – *With Paw Extended*: 4 - 5
 Director of Dog Care – *Paws Forward* 5 - 6
 Director of Information Management – *The Information Highway* 6 - 7
 Human Resources Director – *The Human Connection* 7 - 9
 Health and Safety – *Caring for Your Senior Pet* 9 - 10
 Service Paws – *Reasons NOT to Consider a Service Dog* 10 - 11
 The Financial Picture 11 - 12

FEATURES

Magic Moments 14 - 20
Diamonds in the Ruff 20 - 21
Over the Rainbow 21 - 28
 Golden Hearts (Donors) 41 - 43

SPECIAL FEATURES

Old Gold Treasure 12 - 13
Raising Mr. McGhee, AGR’s Youngest Whippersnapper 24 - 25
Adopted for Life 26 - 27

HERE AND THERE – Events from October 14, 2013 - January 4, 2014

ASU West Stress Relief; PACC911 Blessing of the Animals 29
City of Surprise Bark in the Park 29 - 30
Paws & Pasta Dinner 30
Tails of the Season; Funeral Honor Guard 31
Holiday Pet Festival 31 - 32
 Meet-and-Greets at **Petco** including *Photos with Santa* 32 - 33
 Meet-and-Greets at **Pet Planet** 33
 Meet-and-Greets at **PetSmart** 33 - 34
 Holiday Gift Wrapping at **Barnes & Noble Booksellers** 35 - 39
Photos with Santa at PetSmart 39 - 40

MISCELLANEOUS

Editor’s Assistant’s Notes 3
Mardi Gras Casino 5
He is Your Friend 13
Old Dog in a Locker; Counter-surfing Dog? 22
 Book Review: *Lost and Found* 22
Here in This House 23
PACC911 23

Thanks to everyone who submitted articles for this issue. Special thanks to Kira Kirkwood and *Dog Fancy* magazine for allowing us to reprint the article “Adopted for Life” on pages 26 - 27.

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

Masthead photo is of **09-006 Daisy Taylor**

Cover Design by Connie McCabe – Thanks, Connie! Dogs are: top left, **13-072 Boston**; top right, **13-108 Sebastian**; bottom left, troublemaker from the 2013 St. Patrick’s Day puppy litter; bottom right, **13-085 Mr. McGhee**

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 Assistant's Notes



Duffy Orwig here. I am one of the “young whippersnappers” in *Arizona Golden Rescue*. At only 10 months of age in December, I was not the youngest “volunteer” who came to help during the holiday season – that distinction goes to **Mr. McGhee**, who was only 4½ months old then. He had had all his DHPP vaccines, though, so it was safe for him to attend. We had such a fun time, especially at the

Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble* gift wrapping. I even got to see one of my brothers, **Murphy** (at right in the photo at right), for the first time since he left my house with his new family last May. Wow, I couldn't believe it – I am a big boy (80 pounds), but he is bigger than I am now, and he was the smallest one of the whole litter of six that *AGR* rescued on St. Patrick's Day in 2013!



I sure hope all my brothers and sisters will bring their adoptive families to our upcoming *Paws At The Park* members' picnic and fun day on March 16th. Have you seen the March feature photo in our 2014 calendar, the one with the six puppies lined up on a sofa?



I am second from the right (the darkest one of the bunch). **Connie McCabe**, who took that terrific photo after we had all been running around her big back yard for three hours, wants to get a photo of all six of us together now that we are grown up. So, please come!

Paws At The Park is a fantastic event! My mom told me that about 120 Golden Retrievers attended with their families last year, and since *AGR* adopted out another 121 in 2013, there should, by all rights, be almost double that number this year! Members who have lost a dog to the Bridge can participate in a beautiful Rainbow Bridge ceremony. Also, each dog that has been adopted from *AGR* during the previous year will get special recognition and a gift – oh boy, a gift for me (I hope it's food)! Last year, they even had a game for the dogs – musical hoops, which was like playing musical chairs

but with hula hoops on the ground that the dogs and their people had to stand inside, instead of sitting in chairs. What a hoot! We have been promised even more games this year – hot dog dunk (food!) anyone? I am told there will be special recognition of all our senior Golden adoptees, too – that means any dog over age 8.

A lot of people apply to *Arizona Golden Rescue* to adopt a puppy. *AGR* does get puppies occasionally, although puppies as young as my siblings and I were at the time of rescue, 6 ½ weeks, are unusual. And **Mr. McGhee** coming to *AGR* at only 5 days of age... Wow, that was incredible! Be sure you read **Michele Wehry's** story about **Mr. McGhee** on pages 24 - 25. **Michele** was **Mr. McGhee's** mommy 24/7 for 12 weeks! For the first couple of weeks, she fed him every two hours round the clock! Although, she didn't lick his tummy like his canine mom would have after feeding him, **Michele** learned how to make him evacuate his bowels by just rubbing on his tummy – neat trick! We all want to thank **Michele** for helping our canine “brother” survive those dicey first few weeks. He sure is growing into a handsome young dog now!



Mr. McGhee at Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble* gift wrap

Wags and Woofs

By **Deb Orwig**, President

dorwigaz@cox.net



“Old Gold and Young Whippersnappers” is our theme for this issue. There are joys and perils in adopting either an old dog or a very young one, and you will read about both in these pages. We hope you enjoy the various articles, and afterward we hope you will think twice when considering adoption of either.

We had plenty of both old and young join us during the past holiday season. You may not realize it, but all except one of *AGR's* Board members and Team Managers are at least in their 50s (Placement Manager **Debbie Mikol**, the “youngster,” is in her 40s). While 50s or 60s is not “old” by today's standards of longevity, it is “getting up there.” We could use some younger help on a regular basis, for sure! During the *Holiday Pet Festival*, our gift wrapping appearances and *Photos with Santa at PetSmart*, several members attended who are in their 70s and even 80s! And that is just the humans! According to the conversion of dog years to human years that Health Care Manager **Linda Knight** shares with us on page 9, quite a few of the dogs that came to help collect donations are in their 70s and 80s, and a couple are even approaching 90 (**Annabelle Doyle** is 14, which makes her 88, and she attended almost every event)! You would never know they are that old – volunteering, meeting-and-greeting with the public, keeps them young!

Larry Jessup, one of our venerable senior members, chaired the Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** gift wrap extravaganza. Because he does not own a computer, Larry called over 200 households during early December to ask members to commit to helping. We ended up with 94 volunteers and 62 dogs there throughout the day; the people ranged in age from 7 to 80 and the dogs from 3 months to 14 years! Great job as always, Larry! We made over \$2400 at just that one event! Overall, 2013 was the best holiday season ever for donations!

We had help from the human “young whippersnappers,” too. Several of the children who came with their families to volunteer during the holidays were younger than 12 and several others were teenagers. We had a group of students from the Key Club at **Apollo High School** join us during three of the gift wrap occasions. We also now offer a Student Membership category and have three young people who have joined **AGR** at that level. All three volunteered at various events during the holiday season. The kids are terrific helpers with the “extra” dogs like mine (I have three) that are brought. Some of the kids are good wrappers, too, and thanks to tutelage from our fabulous bow maker Martha McDowell, several of them now know how to make gorgeous bows! Many thanks to everyone who helped us during the holiday season!

Special thanks to all who made donations during the holidays, too, especially after I released the e-mail message about needing help with the vet bills our Christmas Day “save” had incurred due to necessary emergency surgery. You can read about **13-120 Bella** in *Diamonds in the Ruff* on page 21.

Donations – cash or items that can be used in raffles or silent auctions – require thank you letters. My sincere and grateful thanks to Liz Tataseo for her help with the 2013 letters. I took care of the cash-donation letters and Liz did all the item-donation letters. Between the two of us, well over 350 letters were written and sent at the beginning of January. In the future, if any of you wish to have your letter for tax purposes right away after you make a donation, just let us know. Otherwise, such letters will be sent out during the first week in January after all the donations are in for a particular year. That procedure saves us paper and postage.

I mentioned above that we need help, and could especially use more involvement from some of our younger members. It gets harder and harder for those of us in our 50s and 60s to set up and take down a booth at an event. Tents, tables, merchandise – all are heavy! In terms of commitment to the organization and getting more involved, we need someone to take over as Director of Operations (DO). Liz Tataseo has done a spectacular job in this position, but she wants to move on to other things. Being a Board member is not a huge time commitment in and of itself – we schedule Board meetings on a week night at everyone’s convenience about once every two months on average, and they last 2-3 hours. There is a lot of online communication that goes on, though, so anyone offering to take on

a Board or Team Manager position must be computer friendly. The Director of Operations job entails scheduling events and chairing the major ones and some of the minor ones. Basically, Director of Operations is our fundraising department chairman. The two “major” fundraisers for 2014 are already scheduled: *Mardi Gras Casino* is on February 22nd, and our *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* will be on September 27th. Fundraising must be done year round, though, so numerous smaller events have to be scheduled and attended. As Director of Operations, you would not have to attend every single event, but you would at least have to be sure enough volunteers commit to attending so that we have a reasonable presence at each one. Will you consider doing this job? If so, please contact me as soon as possible. The new Board will be elected at our annual members’ meeting and picnic on March 16th at Sahuaro Ranch Park in Glendale (see enclosed flyer).

With Paw Extended

By Liz Tataseo, Director of Operations

five.goldens@yahoo.com



As we start a new year, we have many exciting events coming up that are old hat to many members. But we always need new members to join in and have fun, too. We continue to have Meet-and-Greets at **PetSmart** stores in various parts of the valley, **Petco** in Glendale, **Pet Planet** in Chandler and various **PACC911** events. All of these are great places to bring your younger Goldens, which allows them to socialize with other dogs as well as with people. Many of us have senior Goldens that are old hands at meeting and greeting, and they are great examples for the younger set.

By the time you read this, we will be close to walking in the *Parada del Sol* in Scottsdale on February 8th. All Goldens and their people are invited to walk the parade route and join us at *Trail’s End* at the **AGR** booth. We have done this every year since **AGR’s** inception, and our group is always very popular with the crowds.

We will again be doing Valentine’s gift wrapping at the Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** before and on Valentine’s Day. On Sunday, February 9th, we will be there from 11 AM to 6 PM and again on Valentine’s Day, February 14th, from 10 AM to 6 PM. We need you and your dog(s) to help on these occasions.

On February 22nd, we are having one of our major fundraisers, *Mardi Gras Casino!* You all should have received the advertising postcard a couple of weeks ago. Although there will be a few dogs there to pet, this is a people-only event. There will be different types of gambling tables, dinner, a raffle and silent auction and a cash bar. Come in costume and the most creative costume winner gets extra gambling chips. We want everyone to come and help raise money for all the dogs still to come into Rescue and have a good time with

great dog people. You can sign up on *AGR's* website or email me.

On March 5th at 7 PM, we will be doing *Student Stress Relief at ASU-West*. This is a purely fun event for the dogs. It provides an opportunity for out-of-state students who board at *ASU-West* to spend time with our Golden Retrievers. It helps with stress from all their hard work at school and gives them a dog fix, as they miss their own dogs. You can bring young or old dogs; those that love to chase balls or those who just want to lie there and be petted.

March 16th is the *Paws At The Park* picnic and members' annual meeting. There will be food, fun and frolic. All dogs welcome and people, too, of course. We will have dog games, lunch, a Bridge Dog Ceremony and an Adoption Ceremony and Parade of Rescue. In addition, there will be a raffle and silent auction to peruse, and we will have our merchandise there for sale. Send in the registration form that is included in this newsletter.

As we move through the year, join us at as many events as you can. There is nothing better than talking about dogs to others who think that's the best thing to do. It also provides socialization opportunities for younger dogs or older dogs that haven't had a chance to be around other Golden Retrievers. Always check the Events Calendar on the website each month to see what is happening in the world of *AGR*.

You're Invited!

MARDI GRAS CASINO

Saturday, February 22, 2014
6 PM to 10 PM

Located at: Fresh Event
4117 North 24th Street (West on Indian School Rd, off Rte. 51)

An Evening of Gambling and Fun!

Vegas-style Slot Machines, Craps Tables, Blackjack Tables, Poker Table, Professional Dealers and Pit Boss
Buffet Dinner will be served, Cash Bar

REGISTRATION
Early Bird Registration through February 15th
\$65 Single, \$95 Couple
Registration Price includes \$400 in Chips
(Chips also available at reduced prices)
Registration after February 15th or at the door
\$55 Single, \$100 Couple, includes \$400 in Chips
(Chips also available)

Table Sponsorships Available
(Includes Logo on Sign placed near table) - \$150
\$200 if attending the event and purchasing a ticket
For information: Call Lisa at 602.918.9527
or email Lisa: gals@agr.org
Register online at www.arizonagoldenrescue.org

\$400
in EXTRA CHIPS
Awarded for the
most creative
costume!

Benefiting the dogs of
ARIZONA
Golden
RESCUE

9350 W. Bell Road • Ste. C122-158
Glendale, AZ 85308

Paws Forward

By Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care

suevallis@cox.net



Mulling over this issue's theme, Old Gold and Young Whipper-snappers, on my morning walk, I wondered where to start. (*Oliver, heel!*) Maybe I should introduce the early morning pack: **Will** is a 12-year-old Golden. With a touch of arthritis tamed by meds and at an excellent weight, he has to be protected from getting too rambunctious or he will throw his neck out. **Tanner** is a 3-year-old, 134-pound Yellow Lab who is just beginning to settle down enough to seldom drag his petite owner around. **Penny** is our diminutive 7-year-old *AGR* Golden and **Oliver**, also an *AGR* rescue, is an exuberant 18-month-old Golden mix that looks like a Gordon Setter. (*Oliver, back off!*)

Every one of these dogs is friendly, healthy and loved. They all get along fabulously, but **Will** is definitely the senior statesman to whom the others defer. (*Oliver, let go of Will's leash!*) They all accept other dogs and their escorts that approach us (*Off, Oliver! Not everyone enjoys kisses!*), and there are other loosely-associated pack members who show up many mornings. (*Quiet, Tanner, 5:30 AM is too early to bark!*)

Are you beginning to see a pattern here? If you want perpetual motion and energy, sorting laundry behind closed doors to keep it from "walking away," and generally having to police the area twice before leaving, go young. If you want the quintessential dignified Golden curled up by the fireplace or lying quietly at your feet, that pup is going to take a lot of years to get there – or you could start right there with a senior.

People think they want puppies. When people think of puppies, they think "cuddly bundle." It would be wiser to think of a very mobile set of sharp teeth set on chewing anything in their path, because the shark-toothed stage lasts much longer than the wee cuddly one. Taking a young dog is an incredible commitment of time, consistency and patience. I have recently heard one member suggest, "Just shoot me!" if she ever considers taking another puppy.

People think that getting a young dog means minimal vet bills. Again, not necessarily so. If the chewing machine ingests even half of what it attempts to taste, it can result in very expensive surgery to remove junk from the tummy. Young dogs get hurt and get into things that aren't good for them. As they grow, bad hips, seizures or other genetic problems may manifest. Each of these are issues to deal with along with trying to teach manners and obedience.

A senior Golden is happy to curl up on a rug (or in a lap) near you. The senior doesn't need constant entertainment. If you are walk-

ing in the high country or neighborhood with your canine friend beside you, the senior enjoys the walk but doesn't demand intense exercise. Depending on how mature the dog is, you may not walk as far or as fast as with a younger dog, but then, some of us don't walk as far or as fast as we once did. Meanwhile, you have a friend who is happy to just be with you, to be in the moment. With an older dog, what you see is what you get. If they were going to develop genetic problems, these are there. Seniors are usually housebroken and don't tend to chew except on those things properly provided. In meeting new people or dogs, their approach is calmer, less frantic. They may need help understanding that you as a new owner will keep them safe: you are not going to be unkind; you will help them through a scary storm or celebratory fireworks, or whatever wrinkle they might have from their previous experiences. Discovering their personality is part of the enjoyment. But most of all, they know to appreciate what you are providing. I like to think of the silver on the face as patina. As with well-cherished silver, these dogs have earned their loving homes.

The Information Highway

By Dana Haywood,
Director of Information Management

dana.haywood@arizonagoldenrescue.org



“Old Gold and Young Whippersnappers.” As I began to write this column I tried to figure out how I could work with this theme. It then came to me that the theme did not need to apply just to our dogs whom we love no matter their ages, but to us volunteers as well. *AGR* was founded in March 2009, and I became a member in October of that same year. When I became Director of Information Management about 1 ½ years later, there were constant reminders that I was new to this rescue adventure and had a lot to learn. In that respect, I was the “Young Whippersnapper” trying to find my place in our Rescue. The advantage that I did have was that even though our organization was still young, we still had many active founding members who were well experienced in Golden Rescue. These are the “Old Gold,” and I have great respect for all of them for creating this great Rescue which I am proud to be a part of.

Unfortunately, any organization will eventually lose people it greatly relies on for many reasons, but our Rescue continues on. This is one reason we would like all members to get involved and share in the greatness of our organization. It can be as simple as attending some Meet-and-Greets in your home area, helping out with one of our many events, or even joining one of our Teams. Everything you do for *Arizona Golden Rescue* is rewarding, but it is only after you do it that you realize just how rewarding it is.

We understand that many of you have such tight schedules that time does not permit you to volunteer as much as you would like, or perhaps you do not live close enough to participate in many

of our events. One very important thing that all of you can do is maintain your yearly membership. The small amount that we require to be a member helps out the dogs in a large way.

As Director of Information Management it is my responsibility to make sure that our website, our database and our e-mail servers are always up to date and functional and that all necessary information gets out on a timely basis. Much was accomplished in 2013 to make all our information systems operate more efficiently than they did previously. 2013 was a year with a lot of changes for the organization in terms of IT Management, and communications among the different teams within *AGR* transformed. The database was completed in 2013, and this has allowed us to streamline many of our processes. Both our Intake and Placement Teams have increased their membership, and new communication standards were implemented to make sure everyone is kept up to date with what is happening within their team.

The *AGR* website was totally redesigned in 2013 for easier access to information, and it continues to evolve to make sure the information is current. As a perk, you can now find all past issues of our newsletter, *The Golden Paw*, online in the website's Information section. Newsletters typically have a theme and important information on topics such as training and health care. It is also inspiring to take a walk down memory lane by reading these past issues – you will see how far we have come in the five years since our founding.

Communications to members also changed in 2013. We now have software that allows us to send out mass messages without the restrictions placed upon personal e-mail accounts that limit the number of e-mails that can be sent out at one time. The addition of this new e-mail software also allows us to generate mailing lists from our database, so that we can send to different groups depending on the information that needs to be delivered and the geographical area that is most affected. When they join *AGR*, most members select the option to receive information via e-mail. Toward the end of 2013 we started using our new e-mail program to send out event reminders so that members would not have to rely on constantly checking the website Events Calendar. These e-mails have resulted in increased attendance at our Meet-and-Greets across the Valley, and it has been very nice to see new faces at these events along with the dogs that we have not seen since their adoptions. Our e-mail program is also an easy way to send out schedule changes for any individual event and to inform members in the vicinity of an event scheduled at the last minute. We were recently asked to provide a Golden Retriever Honor Guard for a funeral, and because we could get the information out quickly and efficiently, we had a respectable number of members with their dogs attending on fairly short notice (a big THANK YOU to everyone who was able to attend).

Another big feature of our e-mail program is that it will report to us how many of the e-mails that are sent out actually get opened and read. Unfortunately, only 35% to 60% of our e-mails actually

get opened. We do not know if our e-mails have gone to spam folders on your computers or if the e-mails have just not been opened. When you do receive an e-mail from us, please open it up and read it, as it is an attempt to keep you informed of **AGR's** activities. Also, please check your spam folder and, if possible, let your e-mail program know that e-mail from **AGR** is not spam.

One e-mail that we released last year notified members of **AGR's** acceptance as a Community Partner for **Fry's Food Stores**. When people who shop at any **Fry's** store choose to have their **Fry's** VIP cards linked to **AGR**, their purchases will generate points that turn into cash for **AGR**. There is no charge for **AGR** to be linked to VIP cards and no charges tacked on to shoppers' bills – this program is ENTIRELY FREE. We recently received our first check for the program's first quarter for the amount of \$432! This was the amount generated by just 40 families! Imagine the funds we could bring in for our dogs if every member linked their **Fry's** VIP card to **AGR**! If you shop at any of the **Fry's** stores (**Fry's Food and Drug**, **Fry's Signature** stores or **Fry's Marketplace**) and have not signed up for this program, please consider doing it as it is one way to help **AGR** without any extra cost to you. This program is not limited to members of **AGR**. If you have friends or family that share your love for Golden Retrievers and they also shop at **Fry's**, please ask them to consider helping out **AGR** by doing this. All the information on how to link your cards and participate in the program is on our webpage.

Online shopping has become more popular over the last few years. Many people are opting to do their shopping online rather than going to the physical store, and some retailers are entirely online. Just prior to the holidays, we sent out an e-mail regarding a new way to help **AGR** when you do your shopping online. We have partnered with iGive.com. You can shop at all of your favorite stores, including the popular amazon.com. Without any additional charges to you, the stores will donate a percentage of your purchase to **AGR**. The amount varies from store to store. iGive.com also has coupons for various stores, so you might even be able to save some money when you shop online. The first time you log in to iGive.com, you will register with an e-mail address and a password and then select **Arizona Golden Rescue** as your charity. After that first time, the system will remember you.

We have also partnered with **TerraCycle** to recycle empty salty snack bags. Like potato chip and other snack bags that generally just get thrown out with the trash, these include individual snack bags, family-sized bags and multipack snack bags. **TerraCycle** is on a mission to eliminate waste. They do this by creating collection programs (each one is called a "Brigade") for previously not recyclable, or difficult-to-recycle, items. The collected items are then converted into new products, ranging from recycled park benches to up-cycled backpacks. **AGR** will get one point or two points for each bag (depending on the quantity we send in each time) and a penny for each point. It can add up when you think of all the snack bags out there. Start collecting now and deliver your

haul to any Board member when you have accumulated a quantity of the bags. Just stuff them in a plastic grocery bag after cleaning out the crumbs. We need to send in a minimum amount of bags each quarter to remain in the program, so please help us maintain this goal! It costs you nothing, helps our Golden Retrievers, and helps the Earth at the same time.

We have made a great start to 2014 and hope to see many of you and your dogs this year at our events.

The Human Connection

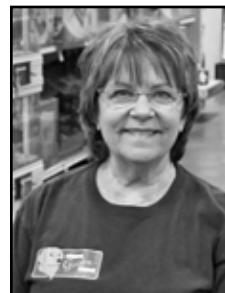
By Connie McCabe,
Human Resources Director

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, 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 writing in order of membership number, beginning at "one" and featuring several members every column. I know there are people who really just wanted to adopt a dog and have no interest in participating in **AGR** activities. I will respect their privacy and just concentrate on those who are currently active in the organization. In previous issues, we learned some things about Deb and Larry Orwig, Debbie Begley and Patrick Doyle, and Liz Tataseo (August 2013); Debbie and Rick Ball, Nick Dodson and Connie McCabe, and Joyce Hubler (November 2013).



Next up for active members is Susan Parker (#9F). By the way, "F" stands for founding member. Here is what Susan had to say about herself: *In 2009, it was my pleasure to become a charter member of **AGR**. Previously, I was a member of **Rescue A Golden of Arizona** from 1999-2009. This began for me after seeing the group walking with my favorite dog breed in the Parada del Sol. What a sight!*

*In 1981, my family and I transferred to the small town of Emmett, Idaho, 30 miles from Boise. While my husband worked for the telephone company, it was my passion to take care of our two children as well as a menagerie of farm animals. That same year, we welcomed into our family our first Golden Retriever, named **Sunny**.*

She was perfect as she grew and adapted to life with our Cocker Spaniel, Chihuahua, one tuxedo kitty, chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, pheasants, peacocks, one goat and three bottle-fed steers. The next year, another Golden puppy named **Brady** joined the family. As smart and amiable as both **Sunny** and **Brady** were, they did not come when called the first time. As fate would have it, my **Avon** rep said that her mom was an obedience training instructor in Boise and was starting a class in Emmett. I signed up. Both of my Golden learned very quickly and I was hooked. We started going to obedience matches and eventually obedience trials where both **Sunny** and **Brady** received their Companion Dog titles, receiving class placements with scores in the 190s [out of 200].

We transferred to Mesa, AZ in 1985. Golden **Toro** and **Ace** joined the family as puppies. I continued competing at obedience trials where **Toro** achieved a CDX title. We also experienced tracking and agility when they were just beginning in the Valley. **Ace** had bad hips so we couldn't go beyond a CD title.

Fostering Golden and Golden mixes has been one of my passions, truly a labor of love. Currently my fur family includes **AGR** rescue **Ricky**, a 12-year-old Golden mix, 5-year-old rescue **JoJo** and 7-year-old rescue **Jack**, both terrier mixes.

Susan recently joined the Vet Care Team, and we look forward to utilizing her many years of experience.



Number 10F is Michele Wehry. You probably know her currently as the Shelter Walking Manager and also Intake Manager, but here are Michele's own words: *How in the world does one take on another full-time job when you've already got one and there-in receive no pay for it? Is it for no pay? Or is it with the kind of payment that no dollar amount can buy? My interest in Rescue began in the year 2001 while watching a news*

clip. On the television in front of me was a very happy woman sporting her Golden and asking for volunteers, specifically foster homes. Yes! Way back then Deb Orwig pulled me into a whole new world of Rescue. I had spent my entire life bringing stray animals or children home to my mom, and I just knew Rescue couldn't be far from that. I had two small dogs back then, and with the help of the next door neighbor's two Golden Retrievers that continuously broke into my yard to hang out with us, two school-aged children, and running my own business, I knew I was up for this position, a Golden Retriever Rescue Volunteer.

First a small intro into my life. I spent all of my younger years raised in Santa Monica, California, during the first eight years, and to continue my high school years moving east. I, for whatever reason, decided to be "that volunteer" in the office during my years in high school. Of course I loved it, I love people. For all the years I volunteered, my counselor noted that I should be work-

ing with children. To that, I'd laugh. My reply to him was always, "The last thing a teen wants is to work with temper-flying, runny-nosed, aliens." However, never mess with a counselor on a mission. It was in December of my senior year that he approached me and said, "Let's go!" I, that kid that did anything to just stay away from trouble, thought, "Oh NO! I did something and my mom is going to kill me!" It was worse than that. He introduced me to my new volunteer position: our on-site child development center. Before I knew it, I was not only working at our development center but also at the local pre-school down the street that my counselor so proudly shared me with. Of course a Child Development degree was now in order, so "Hi-Ho Hi-Ho it's off to school I go." Outside of the math, it did become a spectacular love in my life. I truly did always love children and animals, and it was my pleasure to learn about them. I did, along the way to attaining a Bachelor's degree, open it up a bit to the psychology side when my ultimate mentor instructor brought in her own high school aged daughter for us to meet, and she scared me. I thought "OH MY GOSH! I do not want one of those as my children"; therein, taking the happy medium road to child development.

I worked for many years as a kindergarten teacher and had many side jobs. I've also done dispatching, sales, secretarial work for a VP, and managed an apartment complex. As I moved into a solid single parent situation, it became apparent that I was now on the road to life living me. I moved to Arizona in 1993 from California, now a single mother of two, two dogs, two cats, still taking classes, and began a private pre-schooling environment. Of course there must've been some extra seconds in the day, for immediately I became that local school volunteer. Okay, being the volunteer was always just to make my children crazy!

*My first rescue delivered was in June 2001, **Baby**, from **Rescue A Golden Of Arizona**. Lucky for me the Placement Manager then, Penny Varner, gave me some solid advice to not adopt your first rescue. I adopted my next foster **Shasta**, but he's a book all on its own so we'll just keep moving forward. I have continued to foster until my most recent foster, **Mr. McGhee**. I've fostered literally one hundred sixty-seven dogs and only one was a senior, **MyFuegoLa-Fuego**. **RAG** had me hook line and sinker by October, working Placement, the Shelter Team, and in later years, Intake as well.*

*I became a founding member of **Arizona Golden Rescue** in 2009, working Placement, Shelter, and Intake; continued in those roles until November 2012. I still work as Intake Manager and Shelter Coordinator (please call me if you can volunteer for either). In all these years I can't tell you how amazing it has been and working with such amazing friends. Yes, any organization has bumps, but at the end of the day it all falls back onto the Golden smile looking back at you. I attend many events as well, and you may have already met me sporting my best friend, who is also my fiancé, Mark. Join us, you can never have too many Golden, and from what I've learned from my dogs... Money means little as you can never have too many friends and family, just so long as you show up.*

And now for an introduction to our **AGR** Behavior Consultant, Teryl Hall (#11F), and her daughter, Trystan, also in Teryl's own words: *My daughter, Trystan, and I became involved with Rescue in 2000. At that time, we were living on the same circle as Deb Orwig and met her at a neighbor's open house. We knew her as the "Golden Lady." A few days after the party, we knocked on Deb's door and asked for information on how we could become involved. It was then that we joined Rescue A Golden of Arizona. We left RAG when AGR was formed in 2009.*



We still own, rather are owned by, our two male rescues, Sol and Amigo. As fosters, when we attended Meet-and-Greets, other members could see that I was becoming a foster failure before I even knew myself. The boys just fit perfectly in our home and acted as if they were meant to be part of our family, taking our total number of dogs to six. As much fun as it was, six untrained dogs equal chaos. I decided to get a trainer. What fun! Not only were we being educated, the bond we shared with the dogs grew stronger and we developed a mutual respect. We met with our first trainer weekly. Then, Deb introduced Andrew Sherwood into the mix. Initially, Trystan and I met him at a park. I was homeschooling Trystan at the time and her activities sometimes interfered with the training schedule. So, Andrew came to my home five days a week, driving from Mesa to Phoenix, rain or shine. Even before Andrew completed his training with us and the dogs, I could see a positive change. I never would have dreamed that practicing obedience, exercise, and setting boundaries could possibly bring the dogs so much happiness. They looked forward to all of it, becoming more secure and confident in the process. Having that experience caused me to look into the "why" of it all.

We have since had several fosters. I found that when you can humble yourself, open your heart and mind, every dog has something to teach you. They all have a unique personality, bringing new experiences and new issues. And, if you can't determine a solution on your own, I absolutely guarantee that someone within the organization has been through the same scenario and can offer solid advice. Writing this article has brought back many memories of the dogs that have come and gone in our home. Michele Wehry, Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo shared their vast experience when I fostered puppy mill dog Joe. I believe Connie McCabe contributed to Trystan's love of photography. There has never been a question that was too silly to ask. Trust me, I would have done it by now.

Trystan, now 17 and a high school senior, always had a love for animals. When she was four years old, she asked me if Santa Claus was nocturnal... something I'll never forget. When we attended Rescue functions, other members had no idea who I was. However, they knew or had heard of Trystan. When she was younger,

she would go door to door to collect donations, sell snow cones outside the library or calendars at our garage sales. Now that she has become a young adult, her interests have expanded. She wants to continue her education in photography.

On a more personal note, I was born and raised in Wyoming and still love to be in the mountains and pine trees. There seems to be a tranquility there that I can't find anywhere else. I always enjoy being outside with the dogs, swimming them in the summer when it's too hot for me to walk, hiking and walking them in the cooler months. The cooler months bring football season. I just finished my second year in fantasy football. The name of my team is the "Golden Receivers," of course. I will always strive to be the person my dogs think I am.

Health and Safety

By Linda Knight, Health Care Manager

azgroomer@hotmail.com

Caring For Your Senior Pet

Thanks to incredible veterinary medicine advancements in recent years, our pets are able to live longer, healthier lives. As an owner of a senior Golden, I am thrilled to have my companion by my side for an even longer period of time than I thought possible 13 years ago when he was a puppy. **AGR** loves being able to find forever homes for our senior intakes. We all remember the old dog-human comparison – a 1-year-old dog is really 7 years old, 2 is 14 and so on. A new chart has become the accepted comparison between dog and human years as follows:

Human	Large Dog Breed	Human	Large Dog Breed
1 year	15 years	9 years	61 years
2	24	10	66
3	28	11	72
4	32	12	77
5	36	13	82
6	45	14	88
7	50	15	93
8	55	16	120

However, along with the increased lifespan there also comes an increase in a number of conditions and diseases that are common. These include liver, heart, dental and kidney disease, osteoarthritis, diabetes and the dreaded cancer. Dogs age faster than we do, and many health problems can progress more rapidly than we realize. One of the most important steps you can take is to get a senior pet exam after the age of 8 by a veterinarian and every year thereafter. This complete exam typically includes lab testing, pain assessment, complete blood work, oral exam, diagnostic tests, vaccinations (based on risk assessment) and possibly additional

testing based on your answers to your vet's questions. A comprehensive medical history, overall appearance, urinalysis and fecal analysis, diet and nutrition are also important to an overall review.

These tests serve many purposes. They can ensure that your Golden is healthy, establish baseline values for future test comparison and help your vet make preventative care recommendations that may delay the onset or progression of certain diseases. Detecting a disease or condition in the early stages may allow the condition to be treated or controlled more effectively. **Ladybird**, a senior Golden, had a senior exam performed and lymphoma was discovered. She had no overt symptoms and would have not been able to be treated had a senior exam not been performed.

So many subtle changes may not mean much to you, but to the vet they can be invaluable information. Behavior changes, unexplained weight gain or loss, loss of appetite or lethargy, skin lumps, bumps or irritations, changes in mobility, bad breath, plaque on teeth, red or bleeding gums, drooling... any of these can be indicative of an underlying condition or disease. How many times have you heard, "Oh, he's just old"? Better to know that there is not something that can be dealt with or fixed. Pain can often be alleviated or eliminated by a number of medications or procedures.

Shep, a recent **AGR** senior intake, would not let anyone near his face or mouth. He was characterized as uncooperative and was on the "E-list" at the county shelter. A thorough senior exam revealed his white blood count to be abnormally high. Dr. Brophy, an **AGR** vet at **AMSC**, determined that **Shep** had 35 teeth that required extraction! Imagine the pain and how much relief **Shep** feels now that those diseased teeth and infections are healing. Anyone that has had one toothache can understand him not wanting to be handled! **Shep** is on his way to a healthier and happier new life.

Radiographs also may be recommended by your vet to explain mobility issues. **Watson** and **Sebastian**, two of **AGR's** seniors, were showing signs of decreased mobility. A senior exam including X-rays indicated degenerative hips. Hip surgery was not an option for either dog, but a procedure called bioscaffolding, which can be done by only one veterinary practice in Arizona, **AMSC** in Scottsdale, was done, and **Watson** and **Sebastian** are experiencing less pain and more mobility. This amazing cutting-edge injection procedure will give a great degree of relief (with no known side effects) for 2-3 years for these beautiful senior Golden.

Even a new growth or mole that is found can be examined and removed if necessary and eliminate the spread of possible cancer. A dental exam of **Glory** revealed a suspicious growth in her mouth. The growth was removed, biopsied and turned out to be an oral melanoma. **Glory** is currently being treated by Dr. Kim Hillers, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Oncology), **Southwest Veterinary Oncology**, with four Merial melanoma vaccine injections and the prognosis is much better than if the cancer had not been detected

during the dental procedure.

"He/She is just getting old" is a phrase from the past being replaced with "let's get a senior exam." And "if I had only had him/her checked out" is being replaced by "I am so glad he/she is feeling better." You are as important to your pet's quality of life as the newest technology and medicine advancements available. Do not wait to get a senior pet exam for your four-legged companion. It will make you both feel so much better.



Reasons NOT to Consider a Service Dog

For three years now, I have been singing the praises of the beauty of having a service dog. Life can be so much fuller, safer, and confident with a dog at your side to compensate for a physical deficit.

Now, here are some reasons one might put such a step out of his mind. A service dog is not for everyone. Here's why. First, one must consider the cost of keeping a dog. They are not cheap. A decent-quality food is essential to keep him in top working shape, and that can run \$50 a month or more, depending on the size of the dog. Vet bills and medications also bear a high price tag. Between heartworm and flea-and-tick prevention, those two meds alone run about \$250 a year. It is reasonable to expect veterinary visits to cost more than keeping a pet dog, as there is no time for a wait-and-see mindset. The dog has a job to do, and any medical problem must be seen to right away.

Most disabilities limit physical activity to some degree, and the dog must be okay with a lot of down time without being destructive or whiney. While a service dog is beside his handler most of the time, occasions do arise when it is more appropriate to leave him at home. In these cases, he needs to accept your being away without exhibiting separation anxiety.

Are you able to exercise your dog every day? Can you set aside time, two or three times each day, to reinforce the dog's training? What about grooming? Because a service dog is out in public, particularly in restaurants, grocery stores, and even hospitals, frequent bathing and brushing, and impeccable grooming are essential. It can be expensive if done professionally, and exhausting if you do it yourself.

A "dog bag" is not the lightest-weight thing to tote around with you, but your dog will need water, a dish, a towel to dry it with, a long leash, a treat bag, pick-up bags and even a toy or two. I also carry a small first aid kit and a bottle of neutralizer.

I am in no way saying all this is not worth it. Absolutely it is... to most people. But I have known a couple who found it much more work and expense than they were able to handle, and they wished they had known all of this up front. So now you do.

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Thanks to the best-ever-for-fundraising holiday season, *Arizona Golden Rescue* is in decent financial shape going into 2014. As of January 17th, with \$142,590.68 in the bank, we are almost \$15,000 better off than we were on this same date last year (\$127,895.05). That difference is due in large part to the tremendous volunteer effort we had during the holidays. We cannot let down our guard for a day, though, as that "extra money" can disappear overnight, with hip surgeries looming and who-knows-what other expensive medical conditions we will face this year.

I would especially like to thank all of you who responded by sending in donations (a total of \$2095) to help *AGR* cover the expense of emergency surgery required by our Christmas Day rescue **13-120 Bella**. Her story is on page 21. To help her become the wonderful dog we know she can be given proper boundaries on what is and is not acceptable behavior, we have placed her at *Partners Dog Training School* for three weeks. After that, her FWITAs have committed to taking her there weekly for eight follow-up lessons, so that they, themselves, can learn the techniques **Bella**, now called **Holly**, will be taught at *Partners* and can be consistent with her training.

Some of you who have adopted a dog from *AGR* were given a Health Addendum with your adoption finalization paperwork. The Health Addendum stipulated that *AGR* would cover certain expenses the dog might incur following adoption. Who qualifies for such an addendum?

Usually, *AGR* has vaccines and sterilization done before adoption finalization. However, all puppies that come into Rescue are covered for all vaccines through the entire set of DHPPs (whether the vet wants the standard three or as many as five, depending on the severity of the parvo season) and the rabies. The Health Addendum specifies that *AGR* is responsible for the costs of the vaccines and the dog's eventual sterilization.

AGR also covers spays and neuters, not just with puppies, but also with any adult dog that is not already sterilized upon being rescued. Sometimes we must wait to have this procedure done, especially if an adult dog has a severe case of valley fever, heartworm, or some other disease that needs to be cleared up before it is safe to put the dog under anesthesia for spaying or neutering. One case

we had was that of **Gypsy**. She came to *AGR* in 2012 unspayed, but with heartworm and was treated for that. Six months later at her follow-up vet visit in 2013, tests indicated that she still had active heartworm. She had to have the heartworm treatment again, and we had to wait yet another six months before we got an "all clear" test result and were able to have her spayed. Meanwhile, she went into heat, so her adopter had to deal with that. All is well with **Gypsy** now, though.

Another case is that of **Bonita**, who is just now having her adoption finalized. In May 2013 when she was rescued, unspayed **Bonita** had such a high valley fever titer, it was, literally, off the chart (over 1:254). The vet wanted to wait to spay her until the valley fever titer was reasonably low (no more than 1:16) and **Bonita** was acting like she felt good. Again, while waiting for the valley fever medication to work, **Bonita's** foster had to deal with her going into heat. All this time, *AGR* covered the cost of vet visits and tests every 60 or 90 days and, of course, the fluconazole used to treat valley fever. At the appropriate time, we will also pay for the spay. Because that operation will be done sometime in the future, we will write a provision into the Health Addendum which will note that *AGR* will cover the cost of a spay and also of one more valley fever test and another 90 days of medication.

Yes, we do a lot for our rescued dogs. But we cannot absorb the potential cost of eventuality. What does that mean? Golden retrievers are known to have hip issues. However, hip problems (dysplasia) often do not manifest until the dog is an adult. For this reason, responsible breeders of Golden retrievers must wait until a dog is at least two years old before they can have the hips certified by the *Orthopedic Foundation of America* as "excellent" (preferably) or "good" before proceeding with breeding.

If someone adopts a puppy from *AGR* and the dog develops symptoms of hip dysplasia or valley fever or diabetes or cancer, etc. after adoption finalization, should *AGR* be responsible for the cost of treatment? No. We deal with whatever medical condition is present when a dog is rescued. With cases of heartworm or valley fever, as well as some other ailments, we will hold off on adoption finalization until the medical issue has been resolved or at least until we can see an end in sight. But we cannot predict the future. For example, not every Golden retriever will suffer from hip dysplasia. With those that do develop bad hips, we will make recommendations regarding an orthopedic specialist. However, the cost of the surgery, if that route is chosen, is on the adopter, as is the cost of anything else the dog develops or contracts after adoption.

Just to put it into perspective with other sources for adoptions... NO Rescue or breeder or shelter that we know of will warrant dogs after adoption. It is not fair or reasonable to expect a Rescue to pay for vet bills after a dog has been adopted. We have a three-week "warranty period," which is three weeks more than an adopter will get just about anywhere else.

Reporting period: January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013

Total Assets as of January 17, 2014: \$142,590.68

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>
Adoptions	\$37,703.00	\$ 3,256.88
Bank, Credit Card, Legal, Prof.		1,341.41
Bowl-A-Rama	6,483.00	
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	6,250.00	3,703.86
Casino Event 2013 Total ¹	4,437.55	1,735.09 ²
Donations ³	55,522.93	
Dues and Subscriptions		170.33
Event Expense		1,686.92
Gift Wrap Events	12,096.35	
Golf Tournament ¹	36,940.20	7,771.03
Gifts/Grants	6,420.29	2,004.83 ⁴
Insurance		448.00
Interest	87.08	
Memberships	14,997.00	
Merchandise	5,133.15	1178.08
Office Expenses & Supplies		685.26
<i>Paws At The Park Picnic 2013¹</i>	2,094.81	283.46
Auction	520.00	
Donations	146.00	
Raffle	548.00	
Registrations	880.81	
Postage		1,887.72
Promotional		667.26
Raffle	475.00 ⁵	
Rent or Lease		1,200.00
Repair & Maintenance		61.35
Santa Claws Photos taken in 2012	1,250.00	
Stationery & Printing		7,471.34
Telephone & Website		250.05
Vet and Dog-Related Expenses:		
Boarding		7,867.60
Behavioral Training		7,024.75
Collars, Tags & Leashes		1,269.80
Microchip & Heartgard® Expenses		1,579.25
Veterinary Services		124,302.82
TOTAL	\$189,890.36	\$177,847.09

NET INCOME: \$12,043.27

Checking Account on 01-17-14: \$49,765.00

Savings Account on 01-17-14: \$82,027.74

The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 01-17-14: \$10,797.94

Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 01-17-14: \$20,795.95

¹ Income does not include merchandise sales – that income is shown separately

² Includes deposits for facility and games for 2014 *Mardi Gras Casino* event

³ Includes *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* and *Paws & Pasta Dinner* as well as General Fund, Honorary and Memorial donations

⁴ \$1900 Donation to the Yarnell Fire Fund to help the pets of the families of 19 firefighters who lost their lives in the Yarnell fire; money from *Debbe Begley Fund*

⁵ Includes raffles at *Phoenix Pet Expo* (\$190) and *Paws & Pasta Dinner* (\$285)

Old Gold Treasure

By Jude Fulghum and Deb Orwig



13-072 Boston, age 15

As all good jewelers know, there is yellow gold and then there is white gold, both being equally priceless. Many of us who choose to adopt an older Golden are immediately smitten by the soulful look from the eyes of a gentle white face. These are the jewels in the Golden line. The true 24 carats. They have seen it all, done most of it, and now are

content to share their Golden love with whomever they meet and to lie quietly at our sides.

Most of our requests in Rescue are for young, vibrant dogs still in their early years. Although puppies are fun and cute, those of us who have experienced Old Gold will gladly skip the housebreaking, the chewing, the 24/7 playfulness, and the need to keep a constant watchful eye on all the exuberance. While the younger dogs are a joy, they can also wear you down! And many of the older ones still have plenty of energy left!



13-016 Caesar, age 8, recently retired from his life as a Search-and-Rescue dog



12-039 Natasha, age 15

So why adopt an older Golden? The reasons are myriad. Some folks are attracted to the mellowness and contentment of older dogs, their happiness at simply being by your side. There is just something comforting about having an older dog in your life – a stability, an evenness of temperament. Even though your time together will be shorter than with a younger dog, it is far outweighed by what you will receive

in return. Senior Golden's have been described as a gift to enjoy each day. People speak of an unconditional love that can't be matched, the honor of just having Old Gold in their lives.



Ben Orwig, age 14, the babysitter

Then there is trust. I know I would not hesitate to have left my old boy in a room with anyone without completely trusting him – whether he be with a two-year-old or a ninety-year-old. He was the perfect babysitter. The trust level in these older dogs is unquestionable – this is where the

true gold standard of the breed shines through.



11-076 Bruno, age 11

People ask, *Won't it take longer for the dog to adjust to us because he's older?* or *Will he or we be able to bond to each other at this late stage in the dog's life?* Most of our senior owners see no such issues and report that the senior dogs blended right into their families with few problems, even if there were already other dogs there. One adopter said, *Never had a dog adopt me like he*

did – wonderful companion for 7 months. Many owners have said, *We would not love him more if we'd had him all his life.*

On the more practical side, many seek an older Golden as a companion for another older dog. Some resident dogs even become quite protective of their new senior friend. We have even seen situations in which an owner was hesitant to make a long-term commitment to a dog because of perhaps an upcoming change in lifestyle. Yet they feel more than amply rewarded.



9-year-old 13-090 Bubba is now fast friends with 6-year-old greyhound Dutch

The most altruistic and unselfish of



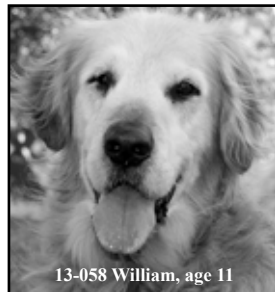
12-122 Bailey, age 9, passed away less than a month after intake

rescuers are those who adopt or even foster older dogs. It is not easy to take a dog into your home and heart knowing the dog will not be with you for very long. Some make a conscious choice to adopt Old Gold. Some have fostered an older Golden and ended up becoming so attached in such a short time that they couldn't bear to give up the dog to someone else, regardless of how long the dog would live. It is a risk, for sure, but those who have taken it have felt no pangs of regret and, for the most

part, would do it again in a heartbeat if the chance arose. Fortunately, there are many people like this, and to them we are eternally grateful.

I had applied to adopt a young dog – what was I thinking?

Yes, they are older and grayer. Yes, they may come with their own set of issues from previous experiences and homes. Yes, their medical needs may be more than those of a young adult dog. With Old Gold, WYSIWYG – What You See Is What You Get – her health history may not be known; no guesses as to what her energy level



13-058 William, age 11



12-055 Shadow, age about 9, was a wonderful companion to Kipling the cat and to the adopters for only 7 months before going to the Bridge

will be, etc. But, once you look into those eyes and see the thanks and the trust, all those potential problems fade away when you realize that you have been given an extraordinary opportunity – to love and be loved, unconditionally – in return.



13-006 Sammy, age 9

The exuberance of youth is gone, replaced by a peacefulness, a calm and quiet, loving and gentle spirit. They take the time to smell the flowers, to enjoy basking in a sunbeam, but still have the energy to chase squirrels in their dreams. Soulful, wise eyes look at you with adoration and thanks. Infirmities, once so aggravating and upsetting, have been accepted and, in some cases, even become less troubling as the dog strives to please. Nothing can make you feel more important, more appreciated, more needed, more loved than the patina of Old Gold. After all, you can take tarnished gold, rub it gently, and restore it to that burnished flame of true gold – all it takes is love.



10-060 Grizzly, now about 10 and going strong

accepted and, in some cases, even become less troubling as the dog strives to please. Nothing can make you feel more important, more appreciated, more needed, more loved than the patina of Old Gold. After all, you can take tarnished gold, rub it gently, and restore it to that burnished flame of true gold – all it takes is love.

*He is your friend,
your partner,
your defender,
your dog.
You are his life,
his love,
his leader.
He will be yours,
faithful and true,
to the last beat of his heart.
You owe it to him
to be worthy of such devotion."*

~ Unknown

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, 2013 through January 10, 2014. All adoptions finalized after January 10th will be in the next issue.



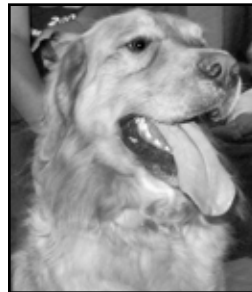
13-063 Blue is a very handsome 4-year-old red dog who had originally been living on acreage and, therefore, loved to run. Unfortunately, this desire got him into trouble and he was hit by a car. His owner tearfully surrendered him to **AGR**, as she knew we could give him the best care available and, subsequently, a wonderful home. His recovery time was minimal, as his injuries had mostly healed.

Having lived in a rural area, **Blue's** manners were not the best so we took him to **Partners Dog Training School** for a three-week obedience course before he was adopted by Karen and Barney in Gilbert. **Blue** now has two canine siblings of his own and a huge back yard where he can continue to have room to roam. Karen and Barney wrote: *We approached Arizona Golden Rescue to adopt a female dog, as our current rescued Chocolate Lab, **Lexi**, was diagnosed with cancer and was not given much time to live. We did not want **Buster**, our other Golden, to be alone. Jim from **AGR** met with us to discuss our qualifications and he immediately knew **Blue** was meant to be part of the family. While **Blue** was male and we really wanted a female, after hearing what **Blue** had gone through and the type of environment and behavioral reinforcement he needed we agreed he would fit right in with the rest of the gang. **Blue** stole our hearts from day one! He enjoys playing and rough-housing with his buddy, **Buster**, and is always vigilant of who comes and goes. A big thank you to Jim for placing the right family with **Blue**.*

13-072 Boston was rescued from a shelter after being dragged in by his owner who said **Boston** was too old. Being about 15 years old, **Boston** took great offense at this, as did we. **AGR** and **Boston** were both quite happy when an adopter was found for him. This grinning, sugar-faced red boy headed off to live with Lee and Donna of Phoenix, who adopted him under our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program designed to let our



oldest dogs live out their lives in the comfort of a loving home. Donna wrote us: *After reading the story about **Boston** being taken to a shelter at 15 years of age, my heart sank and I knew we had to be his forever home. I made sure my son was willing to pick up the additional dog poop and that our existing 11-year-old Black Lab (**Odie**) was willing to share his tennis balls, and, as they say, the rest is history. **Boston** fit into our family from the first day. Within hours, he and **Odie** were fast friends and chasing each other around the house. Even at **Boston's** venerable age of 15, he is hard to keep up with on his walks. However, he does have a tendency to act like an old man, as he routinely refuses to cross the street or walk any further until he decides he wants to continue on. We have learned to wait him out or walk him around in a circle until he decides he will continue with his walk. He came to us with some health issues but that is to be expected for a fella over 100 in dog years. We are thankful to all the volunteers at **AGR** and for the gift we have received in the adoption of **Boston**. And thank you, Lee and Donna, for giving this guy his final forever home!*



13-078 Sheldon is a handsome 3-year-old boy relinquished to us by an owner who had found him as a stray and was sadly unable to care for him, as **Sheldon** had to be left alone for long periods of time. He felt that **Sheldon** deserved better. **Sheldon** is a big dog, weighing about 100 lbs and needed to be placed on the "green bean" diet, which is very successful at helping overweight dogs lose

their excess pounds. He was placed with John and his family in Scottsdale and the resident dog, a Cocker Spaniel named **Coco**. After several altercations with **Coco**, **Sheldon**, now named **Simba**, has settled down and is a solid family member. Best wishes, **Simba**, for a long and happy life!

13-083 Sandy is a pretty older gal of an indeterminate age of 7 to 9-ish (some older girls just don't want you to know) that came to us after her owner was moving and could not take her along. A very cute Golden/Lab mix, she needed to be an only dog in



a home where she could be the queen of the castle. After some initial vetting and a much-needed dental and benign lump removals, she was placed with Diane in, appropriately, Queen Creek. How can she not be the head of the household in that town? Congratulations, **Sandy**, on finding a wonderful furever home!

13-086 Daisy came to us after being surrendered to a shelter when her owner was moving. She is a cute 6-year-old who evidently had lived her entire life outdoors and had minimal training, although she arrived well behaved. She was in rather poor medical condition, with quite-apparent skin issues, a mammary tumor (thankfully benign), and needed to be spayed. Because she had lived her life outdoors, it was decided to place her in a home where she would be the center of attention and the only dog. Diana in Phoenix has adopted her and is nursing her back to health. Diana updated us: ***Daisy** has adjusted well to her forever home. **Daisy** follows me everywhere and usually with a ball in her mouth wanting to play! **Daisy** now has a beautiful coat (it is so soft and fluffy) and is starting to regain her feathers. **Daisy** is sweet-natured and gets along with other dogs and their owners and the neighborhood loves her. My only problem is that **Daisy** will eat anything that is within her reach. I now know what a talented dog she really is and that she can open a Rubbermaid container (that did have 48 sugar cookies in it) without ruining it! She is a great girl, and I am so happy to have her as a new best friend. Sounds like **Daisy** is one talented girl who knows what she likes!*



13-089 Dixie is a beautiful, red 8-year-old girl who came to us having never lived with another dog. She had a tough time adapting after all the situations she had experienced, and we were thrilled when Candy and Neal of Mesa decided to make a commitment to turning this sweet girl around and into the beautiful dog she was meant to be. After a few incidents, things have worked out extremely well with **Dixie**

and the resident dog, **Teddy**. Candy writes: *Before **Dixie** found her way to our home, she had spent short periods of time with a couple of different families. We were looking for a companion for **Teddy Bear**, who had recently lost his mom dog, his brother dog and another pet companion. He was lonely and we needed to fill some empty spots in our hearts. It was touch-and-go for a while. **Dixie** growled and snapped at **Teddy Bear** because she thought he might hurt her if he got too close – she didn't know what it was*

*like to have a furry friend. We knew she'd been through a lot and really didn't want to give up on her. So we, and **Teddy Bear**, continued to show her love and patience. Just when we thought we had failed, things changed. Now she and **Teddy** go on walks and rides in the car together; they run and play in the park together; lie on the bed together – (next to Mom with **Teddy Bear** before she gets up in the morning). They love to chase balls and it's always a fun contest to get the ball first. We'd been told she didn't like toys or treats, but she loves all the toys she can find and piles them up to lie on top of. When she drops one, **Teddy Bear** will pick it up, and when he drops one, she picks it up. We had been told that she didn't like to eat her food or treats. She has not had a problem with any of the food that Dad makes for her, and **Teddy** showed her that it was okay to eat treats. We would like to thank the entire AGR team for believing in **Dixie** and in us! She is sweet, playful and loving, and we are thrilled to have her as part of our family! We are so happy that things have turned out well for sweet **Dixie**.*

13-090 Buddy is a 9-year-old red dog that lived his entire life as an outside dog, being allowed into the house only on occasion. After his initial puppy shots, he had no vet care the remainder of his nine years. His owner, who was moving to an apartment, declared him a great and loving dog although he was not reliably housebroken. As his coat was very matted, he was bathed and shaved so that his



coat could regrow and turn him back into a Golden Retriever. After he was neutered and received his vaccines, he was adopted by Jane in Peoria and her resident dog, **Dutch**. Unfortunately, after just a few days a subsequent visit to the vet revealed late-stage liver and heart issues. Jane is determined to give this sweet boy, now named, **Bubba**, the very best remainder of life that he can possibly have. She wrote to tell us: ***Bubba** came to share his life with me and his four-legged greyhound brother in September. He is an older character but looks a lot younger than his years. He has the best attitude and personality, always greeting me with a wiggle and a wagging tail. He has some health issues but ignorance is bliss, and I think he seems to be getting stronger and is certainly loving his life. He has an acre to roam, chases quail and rabbits in his best lumbering gallop. He talks to me and encourages me to pick up my pace when he thinks I am a little too slow for his liking. He is a great companion, and I am fortunate to have him in my life. Sounds like a great match for this very deserving dog.*

13-091 Buddy had the interesting experience of living in a summer camp for two years, having the run of the entire camp and playing with children all day long. Being 4 years old, he was the perfect playmate! You can just look at his photo and see one happy guy! His original owner, who lived at the camp, subsequently passed away and **Buddy** then lived with the managers until they decided he needed a better life. Obviously he was great with children and



had spent time with other dogs. After some minor vet work, he was placed with Trinity and Thomas in Phoenix. They wrote: **Buddy** is a gentle giant and a goofball all rolled into one fur package. He is easygoing and loves everyone. He likes car rides, walks, and playing fetch. Being the sweet-heart he is, he will lie near and listen to our daughter read him stories.

He also loves to be talked to. Sometimes he will speak back and sounds like Chewbacca... which makes our family laugh. **Buddy** has enhanced our lives and we couldn't have asked for a better dog! Thank you. We knew whoever got **Buddy** would have a treat indeed, and we are happy he has a great forever home.



13-092 Opal was one of seven English Cream Golden Retrievers that came to us via the **Arizona Humane Society (AHS)** when their owner/breeder died. At only three years of age, she has been diagnosed with moderate hip dysplasia and arthritis but that doesn't seem to slow her down. She is a gorgeous girl and her new owner, Keri in Tempe, has renamed her **Aiofe**.

Aiofe herself took the time to update us on her current status: *Hello! My name is **Aiofe** (pronounced "ee-fah") and I am a 3-year-old English Cream. My name used to be **Opal** but my family told me they wanted me to have an Irish name. **Aiofe** means joy, beauty and radiance. I have been through a lot in my short 3 years but I don't really remember a lot of it. I came to **Arizona Golden Rescue** from the **Humane Society**. That's about all I remember. My mommy and my granny came to pick me up from a vet and they said they fell in love with me at first sight. I was so scared! I didn't want to get in the car with them. Mommy and Granny had to pick me up and put me in the car! When we got home, I met **Abbie** and **Sage**. I call them my aunties. **Abbie** is my best friend and showed me the ropes in my forever home. I had never been on a dog bed before and I couldn't figure out how to get on it. But I sure figured out how to get in the bed with my mom! I didn't want to go to sleep because I thought it was all a dream. We walked a mountain path for my very first time and I got really tired! Now I'm used to the leash and I like to jog with my mom and go on walks with my aunties. They play ball with me, and my forever family says I bring out the puppy in them. Mom says I'm a "nicks-nux" because I like to shred paper and other small little things. If it's on the floor, it's fair game I say! Anyway, I'm really happy with my forever family and I'm spoiled rotten! I even have my very own ottoman to lie on. My family calls it my perch, whatever that is. Congratulations, **Aiofe**. Sounds like you found the pot of gold at the end of the Irish rainbow!*

13-093 Lucky is a 1-year-old bundle of energy! He is a goofy

mix of Golden and Bassett Hound, which will always make his owners smile every time they look at him. Amazingly, he was abandoned by his original owner and the landlord of the property kindly took him in. However, with another dog in the family, it was felt that **Lucky** would do better with a family of his own. He was fostered briefly by Connie who



described him as "knows two speeds, asleep and full run." After some basic vetting including vaccines and neutering, he was placed with Sue and Jeff in Maricopa. Sue wrote to update us: *We adopted **Lucky** through **AGR** a few months ago, and we can hardly picture life without him! He is a wonderful, sweet, playful boy. He has made our family complete! He loves to play with our daughters, and even likes to chase our Pomeranian around the yard. We are so glad that we found each other. Life would not be the same without our **Lucky** boy! Thank you, **AGR** for all you do and for choosing US to be **Lucky's** forever family!*



13-094 Tana is an 11-year-old Golden girl who was surrendered by her owner who had lost just about everything he had and was about to become homeless. His only companion was **Tana**, but he knew she was very ill and he felt her chances would be best with Rescue. He was absolutely devastated saying goodbye to his buddy. We thanked him for loving

her enough to save her life. She was quickly taken to our vet who found her to have a horrible thyroid problem – her cholesterol level was in the thousands, which is associated with severe hypothyroidism. She was right on death's door, so the owner's calling us literally saved her life. **Tana** also had some fatty lumps and staph and ear infections which were treated. After being fostered, she was placed with Christopher and Brenda in Phoenix who have renamed her **Lila**. And, yes, we did contact her releasing owner along the way to tell him **Tana** was OK and that he saved her life. This is a very lucky dog whose owner realized there was a problem and gave her to folks he knew would help her. Christopher and Brenda sent us this update: *Almost a year ago our family lost a furry family member. Our hearts were broken, and it has been difficult to open our hearts to someone new. The last few months we were warming up to the idea of rescuing another dog. We applied to **AGR** and were waiting to receive a young forever furry family member. Just when we were getting a little impatient, we received a phone call from **AGR** asking if we wanted to foster an 11-year-old female who had minor health issues, but the issues were under control. Funny how God blesses you with something you did not even know you wanted. We got so excited, not even stopping to think this was an older dog and our family just*

went through a loss not too long ago. What were we thinking? The thought of giving an older dog a forever home brought joy to our family. The fostering ended up turning into an adoption, and we are loving our new furry family addition. **Lila** is a very smart, sweet and loving young lady. **Lila** met so many family and friends over the holidays and everyone fell in love with her. **Lila** is very young at heart and loves to play with her new Chiweenie little brother. **Lila** had some serious health issues before she came to us. Her previous foster parent was a miracle worker and nursed her back to a normal life. We are forever thankful. It has only been a few weeks since we have been blessed with **Lila**, but it feels like she has always been a part of our family. We look forward to many more years being able to love on this sweet soul.



13-096 Tiffany was another of the seven English Cream Golden Retrievers that came to us through *Arizona Humane Society* after the death of her owner/breeder. She is approximately 9 years old, a beautiful, light-colored-but-quite-overweight Golden. She was taken to our vets and was diagnosed with severe hip dysplasia and needed removal of a cyst. She

was placed with Gary and Jacque in Gilbert who will be working with her to lose some weight, which will hopefully make her hips more comfortable. **Tiffany** is quite pleased to be out of the shelter, and we are glad we were able to find her such a loving home. She updated us herself: *Hi, I am Tiffany. I was very fortunate that the Golden Rescue came and took me and my brothers and sisters. On September 27th my parents got a call to meet us. Well, what can I say? They fell in love with me. I am now in my forever home with two new sisters! My mom and dad had two dogs already. My two new sisters have accepted me very well with not one complaint. I am one of the pack now and enjoy their company! My parents love to take all three of us for little walks, but never too far because I was not that active in the past and have hip dysplasia. I follow Mom around the house like Velcro and like to chase after my tail. Someday I might catch it! Well, we can all dream. My parents tell me that I am sweet-natured, affectionate, calm and breathtakingly beautiful. At the end of the day, I always look to find Mom and Dad, who stop what they're doing to pet and give me a hug. My parents recently gave me a surprise. I was able to reunite with and see my Golden family! My brothers and sisters are doing well and found their forever homes, too! Every day now is a Golden day!*

13-097 Adam also came to us through *Arizona Humane Society* after the death of his owner/breeder. He is another light-colored Golden approximately 11 or 12 years old. Nick picked up **Adam** at the *AHS* along with another two of the dogs and described him as being very calm and self assured, ready for his next adventure. At his initial vetting, however, he was diagnosed with some severe health issues, including dental and hip problems. He had also

never been neutered. At his advanced age, it was felt that hip replacement really wasn't an option for him. Instead, we chose to go the route of bioscaffolding for him. This procedure is basically an osteoarthritis implant injected directly into the joint, which allows for the creation of structural cartilage that can significantly reduce pain and increase mobility for 18-24 months.

We have had very successful results with this procedure in the past, and it is the treatment of choice for older dogs for whom total hip replacement is not a good option. Even with his continuing medical problems, Sherry and Robert of Fountain Hills have adopted him and renamed him **Watson**. They are committed to seeing him through these issues. Lucky dog indeed!



13-098 Mist was rescued from the *Arizona Humane Society* where she was one of the seven English Cream Golden Retrievers that had been turned in after the death of her owner/breeder. Very overweight, this 7-year-old girl is very friendly, leash and crate trained. She was taken to one of our local vets who diagnosed her with dental disease, arthritis, and an ear infection. After some vetting, she was placed



with Sharon and Carlos in Phoenix who have renamed her **Misty**. Her update shows how well loved she is! **Misty** joined our family on October 1st. *Finding Misty* was one of those "meant to be" events. We were ready to adopt, and **Misty** became available at *AGR*. I saw her picture and thought she was beautiful... pictures don't do her justice. She is gorgeous, inside and out. **Misty** was reserved and cautious when she first landed on the scene. By day two, she had discovered her "inner puppy"... watching her roll on the backyard lawn was delightful. Every day, we saw her let down her defenses a little more and get into the joys of being a dog at our house. Now, in her fourth week with us, she knows all the routines: When are we going on a walk? When do I get another pig's ear to chew on? **Misty** has two little sisters here – standard Dachshunds **Penny** and **Rosie** – who taught her to tell time, like It's time for breakfast/dinner! We wish that **Misty** could tell us about all the puppies she had during her first seven years of life. That probably won't happen. We can tell you that **Misty** is the perfect big dog for our family and we are thrilled that we get to give her all the wonderful doggy experiences she deserves. Thank you, *AGR*, for the terrific adoption process and matching us with such a beautiful girl! A wonderful happy ending for this pretty girl.

13-099 Wilma joined the remainder of English Cream Golden Retrievers that came to *AGR* from the *AHS*. When picked up by Nick and taken for web pictures, she was extremely frightened and clung to whoever had the end of the leash. As with the other dogs from

this kennel, **Wilma** had symptoms of some arthritis in her hips and was in need of dental work. A tumor on her chest was removed which was, thankfully, benign. **Wilma**, renamed **Zelda**, was fostered and adopted by Mary and James of Gilbert. Mary wrote to us with an update: *We adopted Wilma, now Zelda, in October. My husband has always been apprehensive around large dogs, but one look at Zelda and he was in love instantly. Me, too! She is the most gentle, affectionate, laid back dog that we have ever had and she is beautiful. Everyone that meets her loves her. Zelda is the perfect pet for our family. Happy new life, Zelda!*



13-100 Buddy is a typical energetic 8-month-old Golden hooligan that was surrendered by his owner who felt that **Buddy** should have a family that could give him the time and attention he needed. **Buddy** is ball crazy, loves water and swimming, and is good with everyone he meets. He is just a bundle of energy, which is normal for Golden up to age three!

He was immediately placed with Ryan and Stephanie in Gilbert.



13-101 Rebel is a 2-year-old cutie pie Golden mix who landed into Rescue as a stray. A kind person found him wandering, posted signs all over the neighborhood, and took him for many walks in the area to no avail. Quite the Houdini, **Rebel** escaped through a fence at his foster home and subsequently chewed up a leash in the back of Debbie's car on the way to his new home. Obviously the boy needs some

training! He has now found his furever home with Celia and Kent in Phoenix, who have renamed him **Andy**. Celia wrote: *Our family is really enjoying our new member, Andy. He arrived in our home right before Thanksgiving, which allowed our adult visiting kids to get to know him. He has charmed his way into all our hearts. Part Golden, part Shepherd (Australian we think) and very much still a puppy. The Shepherd instinct really comes out on neighborhood walks, and the wild rabbits no longer "visit" our backyard. We feel very grateful to have adopted such a great dog, and look forward to many years of fun and companionship with him as part of our family. Our thanks to AGR!*



13-103 Dixie is a cute little 10-month-old Golden puppy surrendered to us by

a family that was moving and could not take her with them. She had lived with kids and dogs, knew how to use a doggie door, and had been well cared for medically. An easy placement, and all she needed was a microchip! Sharon and Joseph in Mesa were excited to have this little girl to love and raise! Congratulations, **Dixie!**



13-105 Fritz, a 2-year-old Goldendoodle, was originally adopted out to a family who had 5 other dogs and was doing quite well as a member of the pack. However, he was returned to us after just a couple of months suffering from continuing seizure issues, despite being on seizure-control medications. After a bout of several grand mal episodes in the course of just a few days, it was determined that his seizure issues were apparently getting worse. After agonizing discussions with his foster, Stephanie, it was decided the best resolution for **Fritz** was euthanasia. We know that at the Bridge dear **Fritz** is seizure free and running around with all the other Bridgekids like the crazy Goldendoodle he was meant to be. He was a very special boy and everyone who met him loved him.

13-106 Katie is a beautiful 7-year-old red girl relinquished by her owner because they couldn't afford to give her the life they felt she deserved in their small home with no backyard. She was described as a real sweetheart and happy girl who loves balls and Frisbees. After her initial vetting, she was easy to place with Rita and Ted in Phoenix. Rita wrote: *Katie was placed in our home by AGR last November and has been a special part of our family ever since. She loves to fetch her tennis ball and dances in circles before she eats. Her gentle and loving spirit has captured our hearts. We are thankful to the volunteers of AGR who did a great job of matching Katie with us! We're sure she will be sufficiently spoiled, as she well deserves!*



13-109 Zoe is a 3-year-old Goldendoodle surrendered to us as the result of a divorce. She was reported to be great with kids, loved water, and was ball crazy. Other than the need for spaying, **Zoe** was ready to rock 'n roll, so she was taken directly to Danielle and Todd in Peoria, who were delighted to have her. Danielle wrote: *We applied to AGR almost a year ago in hopes of rescuing a Goldendoodle. Our family suffers from allergies, and we knew this hybrid breed of dog is what we wanted. We also knew that it would be a long shot that we would be given the opportunity to adopt a Goldendoodle. After months went by, we had really given up hope that the right pup would find*

us, until Ms. Spicer called to tell us she had a young female Goldendoodle who was fully trained, great with kids, and had no bad habits. Our immediate thoughts were, really? Can't be! We were all set for **Zoe** to be delivered, when Ms. McCabe called to say that **Zoe's** owner was not going to relinquish her. Our family was heart-broken, but we remained positive that what was meant to be would be. Exactly one week later, Ms. Spicer called to say that the owner was ready to relinquish her dog and needed to do so immediately. With tears in our eyes and no hesitation we said, Absolutely! Our prayers had been answered and our **Zoey Bear** arrived safely at our home. We are unsure who rescued who exactly, as we feel as saved as ever. **Zoe** has melted our hearts. She is the best Christmas gift we could have ever hoped for. Congratulations to all!

13-110 Sarah is another 3-year-old Goldendoodle who was surrendered to us by her owner. She is very sweet, well cared for, and had even been groomed before we picked her up. It was very easy to place her with Tamara and Brad in Carefree, who have renamed this lovely girl **Chaparral**. When Deb saw them to deliver some Angel Tree toys for **Chaparral**, they reported that she was doing well. Tammy said: *Brad and I just wanted to thank you again for the special role that you played in bringing **Sarah**, now named **Chaparral**, to our family. She was truly our Thanksgiving Day gift. You may recall, she came to us with some physical challenges, and we are delighted to share that she has fully recovered and is an extremely happy and healthy Goldendoodle. She is a perfect fit in our family... even our 11-year-old Weimaraner, **Lucca**, has grown to love her. Though she has been with us for only six short weeks, she has imprinted a place in our hearts. We cannot imagine not having her in our lives. Again, thank you for the lives that you enhance... for those with four legs and those with two.*



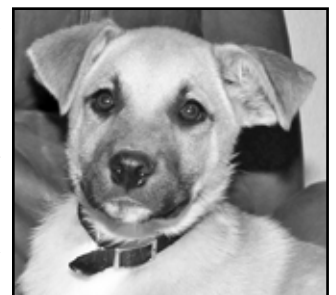
13-111 Bentley came to us as a stray from a family he followed home from a hike. After keeping him for a month, they realized they could not properly care for him and decided that Rescue was the right avenue for this young (approximately 2 or 3 years old) boy. He appears to be a Golden/Irish Setter mix with his handsome red coat.

His medical history was obviously un-

known and he was not neutered, so he went straight to the vet for the Full Meal Deal of neutering, blood work, vaccinations, and a full checkup. He was then placed with Julia and Tom of Phoenix. They have renamed him **Bismark** and he's doing great with his new Golden brother, **Cairo**. They wrote us: ***Bismark** became part of our family the day after Thanksgiving. Since the beginning, he has demonstrated a gentle, eager, and loving disposition.*

He readily adapted to his new surroundings, showing no fear or shyness at joining a household populated by three humans and a fellow Golden named **Cairo**. Early on, he discovered the wildlife that existed beyond the backyard fence, and it has proven to be an unending source of entertainment. He and **Cairo** have fun harrying any quail or rabbits that breach the fence line. Assimilating **Bismark** into the household has been easy to do. His manners are very good – he doesn't jump on visitors, knows how to sit, and is learning to lie down on command. He quickly realized which pieces of furniture he may hop up on, but he's still learning that just because a sandwich is out on the counter, it's not acceptable to remove it. In the time that we've had him, he's gained weight and melded into our routines. Walks and playing with toys (provided by an Angel Tree contributor) are some of the ways he spends his time. We're grateful to have this sweet, happy redhead's presence in our home, as is his canine companion, **Cairo**. Thanks, AGR for pairing us with such a wonderful dog, our **Bismark**.

13-115 Rad is one of the cutest little young puppies we've seen for awhile. He and his brother, **Runner 13-116**, were found as strays. Neither was well socialized and both were very shy. Both boys were taken to the vet for their initial shots and deworming. After a week of fostering with Ingrid, **Rad** was taken to Terri and Bryan's house in Chandler to meet the resident Golden and Dachshund. The family has renamed him **Jake** and have told us that he now goes right up to anyone who comes in the house, although he still has issues with being approached. We are sure with a little time that cute **Jake** will be the great dog he was meant to be. Bryan wrote us: *Thanks to AGR for helping place **Jake** into our hearts and home. He is fitting in right well.*



13-116 Runner is the other half of the **Rad/Runner** puppy pair found as strays in the desert. Witnesses say that the boys were thrown out of a car window. Love those kinds of thoughtful people. Not! Fortunately, neither pup was injured (only very shy and unsocialized), and after routine vetting they were able to be placed with

their furever families. Cute little **Runner** was adopted by Todd and Becky in Surprise, who wrote to update us about **Runner**: *Everything has been going very well with **Runner**. We have decided to keep the name. The first night it took a couple of hours to warm up to us, but he has been progressing leaps and bounds since. He loves his little bed. When Don brought him over, he placed him into the bed and he prefers to go back there on his own. There is*

a little German Shepherd statue that we have had for years, and **Runner** thinks it is a real dog and barks at it from time to time. He has been great about going outside and doing his business. Since yesterday, there has been no more tail-tucked-under and he is happy, yet very sleepy. After small bursts of energy he has put in a ton of shuteye. We all hope to put more effort into basic training this weekend and see what he picks up. **Runner** has been very quick to pick up on everything, so I am sure learning his name and basic commands will be a breeze. All good things, and we are looking forward to more. Happy endings from such a tough beginning for **Rad/Jake** and **Runner**!



The GSD statue is in center back

Diamonds in the Ruff

By Linda Knight, Health Care Manager

A review of the 4th quarter 2013 *Diamonds in the Ruff* will show you an incredible amount of lifesaving use of generous contributions made by you to **AGR**. With a total of over \$21,000 in vet care invoices for the 4th quarter, several Golden Retrievers would not be here today without your continuing generous help.



Ricky 10-045 continues to receive the best vet care for his needs. After a series of diagnostic tests, he has been treated for Cushing's syndrome, persistent coughing and the return of valley fever. He is a happy boy of over 13 years, and his life has far exceeded what was projected for him over three years ago. Regular senior exams and follow-up have given this

lovable boy a wonderful life. His 4th quarter vet expenses were close to \$1,100.

Tiffany 13-096 arrived in Rescue in September 2013. **Tiffany** had a cyst on her back needing removal and biopsy, meds for hip pain and a serious ear infection requiring flushing and medication. The mass proved benign and, to date, **Tiffany's** back is clear. Total vet charges were approximately \$1,000.



Watson (Adam) 13-097 also came into **AGR** in September. He

had a high white blood cell count and was started on antibiotics. He was neutered after pre-surgery blood work was completed. A couple of weeks later, **Watson** was having vomiting issues. We did additional blood work to rule out myasthenia gravis. He was also suffering from hip pain. His esophagus issues, which were diagnosed as megaesophagus, were significantly resolved by the use of an elevated bowl, food as a slurry and decreased water intakes. Additional concerns came about when **Watson** started regurgitating again and lost some weight. While under anesthesia for the neutering, **Watson** underwent hip, spine and mouth X-rays. His hips were found to have a great loss of density. He has some advanced arthritis at a couple of points in his spine, but the more clinically significant observation was that his left hip was a mess. He was not a surgical candidate due to age and other conditions. The recommendation was for an injection into the affected hip to reduce inflammation and to build cartilage. **Watson** was put on medication for nausea and he was scheduled for a "bioscaffolding" injection for his hips. Usually the best results are evident 90 days after injection, but now after only two weeks positive results are apparent. Total charges during the 4th quarter were \$1,650. His dental work remains to be completed.



Misty 13-098 entered **AGR** in late September with infected gums, and she was put on an antibiotic. The antibiotics had an adverse effect on her digestive system. We dealt with that issue, too, and **Misty** is now a happy and very loved senior. Vet invoices incurred to date are just over \$1,250.

Rosie 13-102 arrived in **AGR** at the end of October 2013 with no current vet records. **Rosie** had her exam and vaccinations, and she was X-rayed and evaluated for hip dysplasia and spayed. She also received a pet rescue chip identifier, as all of our dogs do if they do not have one. Severe hip dysplasia was found and FHO (femoral hip ostectomy) was performed in early December. According to **Rosie's** new Dad, **Rosie** is doing just fine. Post-op pain is being managed by meds, and she is healing well. Her challenge is that being confined clashes with her puppyish nature. She rails against wearing a cone, being kept in a crate or small room, and being unable to play freely. **Rosie** is also the canine sister of **Watson** (mentioned above), and I am sure they are telling each other stories of what it is like to be loved and become free of pain. Our gratitude to adopters Sherry and Bob for their continued incredible care and love



of these two wonderful Golden Retrievers. For Rosie, we have incurred a little over \$3,500 during the 4th quarter, with another hip surgery scheduled when she is totally recovered from the first.

Bella 13-104 is such a sweetheart. She was surrendered to **AGR** due to a life-threatening liver issue that could not be resolved – she was a very, very sick little girl. Thanks to great care and a battery of tests, ultrasounds and biopsies, **Bella** is doing much better today! She spent several weeks at Kennel Care Veterinary Hospital, and with the help of Dr. Brandt's skills and strict care, **Bella** showed improvement daily. When **Bella** was finally stable, Dr. Bailey at **Arizona Veterinary Specialists** performed a liver biopsy which showed a very high level of copper in the liver – for some unknown reason, her liver sequesters copper, which is toxic. **Bella** is being treated by her new foster family; treatment includes a strict diet, supplements and regularly scheduled follow-up vet appointments to ensure she is still headed in the right direction. Vetting costs incurred so far are over \$3,500.



Sebastian 13-108 arrived in mid-November. This handsome 7-year-old was previously diagnosed with, and had been treated for, epilepsy. Sebastian also has a heart murmur, so further heart tests were run, with generally positive results. An X-ray of his right hip showed the femoral head was developing hardening of the bone – sclerosis. He had mild dysplasia and arthritis in both hips and in his left hock. He received a bioscaffolding injection in all three places in early December and is already showing signs of improvement. Total costs so far are just over \$2,000.

Chaparral (Sarah) 13-110 came into Rescue in late November with a mass on her backside. She had a complete exam, and the mass was removed and biopsied. The diagnosis: a palisading granuloma – no cancer. She probably had bumped her hip at some point and it manifested into the granuloma, an inflammatory process. The location interfered with her daily life activities. Her wound was not healing properly, so surgery was done to repair the incision. **Chaparral** is currently doing great and is all healed. Cost of the two surgeries totaled over \$1,400.

Bismark (Bentley) 13-111 is a beautiful mahogany red Golden/Irish Setter mix. He had been a stray. He was not neutered and had

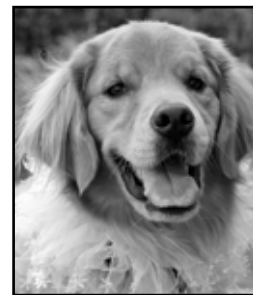


no records of shots so we brought him to the vet. He was given a complete exam. He is estimated to be 4-6 years of age and was covered with skin irritations and bumps. He was neutered Thanksgiving weekend and became very lethargic a few days later. He was taken to **Sonora Veterinary Specialists** where he was examined and given fluids. As he was also very underweight, he was retested for valley fever and tick fever but was found negative. After being put on antibiotics he was doing much better and released back to his foster. Even though blood work indicated an infection, it will remain a mystery as to what it was precisely. He has since recovered, gained weight and is a very happy and healthy boy! Charges incurred for **Bismark** were over \$1,500.



Shep 13-118 was saved from the west-side **MCACCS** in mid-December. Although in the shelter photo that was circulated, he looked somewhat Golden, he probably has very little Golden in him, hence his name **Shep**. We felt he deserved to know how a dog should live. **AGR** took him in and he received a much-needed exam and vet care. He was in dire need of dental work. Thirty-five

rotten (literally black) teeth were extracted, and he continues to recover from that ordeal. He is thankful and is a sweet boy. He is currently in need of a loving quiet home. Vet costs incurred to date are over \$1,300.



Bella 13-120 is our second Christmas Miracle in two years. **AGR** received a call on Christmas morning that this dear, sweet girl was in the **Gilbert Emergency Veterinary Clinic** and desperately needed life-saving surgery that her family could not afford. She was surrendered to our Rescue and the surgery was performed right then. They removed a myriad of hair ties, scrunchies, and assorted metal

and plastic bits from her gut. While one spot of her gut looked "suspicious", it promptly started looking much better while the surgery progressed so no resection was needed. **Bella** is nicknamed "the goat," as she has tried to eat everything imaginable during her recovery. She has now had her staples removed and a normal vet exam. Her vet charges to date are over \$3,500.



If you make a donation to help **AGR** with the medical expenses of any of these dogs, you will be listed as a Diamond Donor in the next (May) issue of *The Golden Paw*.

OLD DOG IN A LOCKET

Old dog in a locket,
That lays next to my heart;
I will always love you,
As I did right from the start.

You were right beside me,
Through the darkest of my days;
It was your kind and gentle nature,
That made me want to stay.

Now I hold you in my arms,
Your breath still warm against my hand;
Our hearts still beat together,
And I wonder if you understand.

Through the hours that I held you,
Before the light did leave your soul;
I knew a way to keep you,
Forever in my hold.

I snipped the hair from around your eyes,
So I would always see;
The beauty that surrounds me,
Even in times of need.

I snipped the hair from around your ears,
So I would always hear;
Music in the distance,
To quiet any fears.

I snipped the hair from across your back,
To bring me strength in time of need;
And the power of your essence,
Would always be with me.

I snipped the hair from around your heart,
That beat in time with mine;
So I would know that love would find me,
At some distant time.

And so, your life slipped out of mine,
On a quiet Spring-like day;
But I knew that a part of you,
Was always here to stay.

Old dog in a locket,
That lays next to my heart;
I will always love you,
Even though we had to part.

~ Heidi Stamm

BOOK REVIEW

By Jude Fulghum

Lost & Found, Jacqueline Sheehan, 2007.
ISBN: 978-0-06-112864-6

When Rocky’s 42-year-old veterinarian husband drops dead on the bathroom floor, she is devastated that her CPR is unable to save him. After grieving to the point that her job is affected, she decides to move to an off-island in New England for a winter to try to come to terms with her tragic loss.

Remembering an island she visited with her parents when she was young, she travels there and eventually meets the local public works manager who offers her one of his rental houses for the winter, and a job as the Animal Control Warden for the island. Soon after her arrival, she is notified of a loose dog with an arrow in his shoulder. She is able to rescue him and begins to try to heal him. But as the saying goes “who rescued whom?”

The story continues from here with life on the island, getting to know some of the interesting people who live there, and Rocky’s developing fascination with archery that eventually leads her towards solving the mystery of the arrow embedded in the dog’s shoulder. Of course, along the way, she falls for the dog that she has named Lloyd. Lloyd’s family is located and when he is taken back to Rhode Island with them, Rocky is devastated and realizes she must do whatever it takes to get him back.

There is death, intrigue, illness, and animal rescue all tied up in this New York Times bestseller. It is very well written, and was impossible to put down (except to reach for the box of tissues several times).

This is a great read!



Do You Have a Counter-surfing Dog?

Try tying several empty soda cans together and put them on the edge of the counter. When the dog grabs them, they will clatter to the floor and startle the dog. Hopefully, you will not have to use the cans more than once!



Here in this house...

I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of the other dogs 'out there'.
 I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world will not have changed.
 I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat.
 I will not shiver in the cold, or grow weary from the heat.
 I will feel the sun's heat, and the rain's coolness,
 and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.
 My fur will shine, and never be dirty or matted.
 Here in this house...

There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level.
 I will be talked to and, even if I don't understand,
 I can enjoy the warmth of the words.
 I will be given a name so that I may know who I am among many.
 My name will be used in joy, and I will love the sound of it!
 Here in this house...

I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.
 I will never be used to improve peoples' images of themselves.
 I will be loved because I am who I am, not someone's idea of who I should be.
 I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience, or stupidity.
 I will be taught all the things I need to know to be loved by all.
 If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to my teacher for blame.
 Here in this house...

I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch...
 knowing that, no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me.
 If I am ill, I will be doctored.
 If scared, I will be calmed.
 If sad, I will be cheered.
 No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and thought to be of value.
 I will never be cast out because I am too old, too ill, too unruly, or not cute enough.
 My life is a responsibility, and not an afterthought.
 I will learn that humans can almost, sometimes, be as kind and as fair as dogs.

Here in this house...
 I will belong.
 I will be home.

~ Anonymous

*PACC911*

By Deb Orwig

PACC911 is a nonprofit, charitable organization based in the Phoenix Metro area that coordinates events which showcase and benefit rescue groups. **AGR** attends **PACC911**-sponsored events several times during the year. What are the benefits to **AGR** in attending these "adopt-a-thons" even though we do not do on-the-spot adoptions as many of the rescues do? We can sell our merchandise; we can collect donations; and we can talk to interested people about our adoption process. In addition, after we attend at least two **PACC911** events, we become eligible for a grant of \$1100 from their Emergency Medical Fund (EMF).

The *Bowl-A-Rama*, which used to be sponsored by **PACC911** in August, is no longer one of their fundraising events. So, where does the money come from that is doled out from the EMF?

The primary source of income now for the EMF is a thrift store called *Rescued Treasures*. This Charity Boutique is located on the SW corner of 40th Street and Thunderbird Road in Phoenix. They accept donations of gently-used clothing, accessories, home decor and more. If you like shopping at thrift shops, be sure you visit *Rescued Treasures*! The decor has been beautifully arranged by a professional interior decorator. The selection of merchandise is really wonderful, and the prices are fantastic! For those of you ladies who recognize the *Chico's* brand, you will know how good a deal it is to get a \$160 blouse that looks like it was never worn for \$20!

The shop is doing well financially, but not well enough to fund all 125 **PACC911**-affiliated rescue groups at \$1100 per year. To help make sure there will be enough money for this endeavor, **PACC911** is sponsoring a fundraising event called *Glimmer of Hope* on Thursday, February 27th. As a celebration of the animals and to raise funds for the vital Emergency Medical Fund, this will be an exciting evening of raffles, silent and live auctions, entertainment and a sumptuous meal at the **Arizona Country Club** at 5668 E. Orange Blossom Lane, Phoenix. Entertainment will be offered by *Chicks with Picks*. The event opens at 6 PM, and dinner will be at 7 PM. Some of the fabulous silent auction items are already available for bidding on the **PACC911** website: <http://pacc911.auction-bid.org/micro2.php>

PACC911 animal rescue partners, including **AGR**, are being offered a special admission rate of just \$75. To register, go to www.pacc911.org I will be attending. If you would like to join me at my table, please specify such when you register. Supporting this event will be supporting **AGR** in the long run, so I hope some of you can go.

Raising Mr. McGhee AGR's Youngest Whippersnapper

By Michele Wehry

A foster dog is still that lifetime commitment of the heart – especially, when you're not adopting it.



Tiny five-day-old Mr. McGhee; notice his stump is only as big as the fingernail that was holding it up

As the Shelter Team Coordinator, one of my jobs is to check craigslist on a regular basis. I search for those needing to rehome their Golden Retrievers – they may or may not know about Rescue.

Once we contact them we can help them, or educate them with what to watch out for in their search for the dog's new home. You can only imagine on August 6, 2013 the dismay I felt as I opened craigslist to this ad ...

Help! Five-day-old Golden Retriever puppy free! Pure bred. I have Mom and Dad. First litter. Well one of them was born with something wrong with its little leg. Looked like circulation cut off at some point and deformed lower part. They were born last Tuesday and he has been fine. The dead part has turned black and has dried up. Probably needs to be amputated. As of this moment I am so broke don't have a dime to my name and am in a jam. He needs medical attention now! I don't have money for vet. I'm so sorry and feel horrible Just horrible! We would take to vet ASAP and you could take him home on Oct 1st. I don't want him to get worse or an infection, so if I don't find a solution soon I will have to put him down. He's beautiful and one of my biggest ones.

The owner did not know of Rescue but had been contacted already by two others off her ad. Hesitant of course, we left the conversation on the note she would call me back after she talked with her mom. I was worried out of my mind for that hour. because one of the calls was from a woman that thought it was an option to take this five-day-old pup on a car ride to California! I have learned in Rescue, though, that sometimes you absolutely need to trust in fate, so I did. Within the hour, she called back and said, *When can you be here?* Within a minute, Mark and I were off to Queen Creek. We arrived to a glorious litter of Golden pups, **Mr. McGhee**, five other dogs, I think two kittens, a horse, a boat load

of goats, and five young children. Clearly Mom had her hands full, as they had, as a matter of fact, just moved into this home, too. For those of you thinking "Ugh!", the back-to-reality of it is at least she saved his life and gave him the best of the best at the end of the day, just like we do.

As we drove away, I felt like Santa Claus because we were now on our mission to deliver this rat-sized pup to its new life. It would be safe, loved, and, most important, definitely live. Then in that very same moment, I turned to look at **Mr. McGhee** in the crate behind us. It hit me that he was not a full-grown rat (puppies look so much bigger in their litter), he's a MOUSE. My next thought was, *Oh, my God! What did we just do? Who's going to care for him? How on earth does one raise a puppy who is only as big as your palm? Who's going to lick him clean? How do you feed him?* I set my mind at ease with the thought, *Oh, that's right, he can stay with the vet as they're open all night with boarding.*



Mr. McGhee had to be bottle-fed every two hours round the clock for two weeks, then every three to four hours for a couple weeks

We arrived at the vet promptly at 3 PM on Sunday, AKA closing time. Like two very proud parents we could not wait to share our newest rescue find. The vet looked him over and we were all glad to announce he was in fine health outside of the missing part of his paw that was now infected. The vet explained the planned medications and then it came: That moment: that moment when everyone in the room does not know what the next moment is. I need to express that our poor vet was really sick. I could tell that the only thing she should have been doing while I kept her on overtime was to be in bed double-dosed on Nyquil. She explained to us that they did not have any preparations for a pup at their clinic, as they do not keep formula at hand. *Does he have a foster? Are you taking him home?* She explained that they could, if needed, hunt down food and keep him there, but that seemed so unfair given her state of sickness. So combined with the Uh Oh! Face I replied, *I just know I'm going to kill the puppy, I haven't awakened in the night for twenty-eight years, let alone every two hours!* Knowing my panic, the vet took a moment from her horrible virus to comfort me that indeed I was not going to kill **McGhee**. I was in a horrible panic! I had absolutely no clue how to do this and was sure that

Because the leg was stunted at birth, we were worried that there might be other physical or developmental problems, but Mr. McGhee's eyes and ears opened normally at about three weeks, and, as yet, no other problems have manifested



Because the leg was stunted at birth, we were worried that there might be other physical or developmental problems, but Mr. McGhee's eyes and ears opened normally at about three weeks, and, as yet, no other problems have manifested

I couldn't. It was the longest ride home ever that day. I knew Mark was leaving the next day for seven days out of town and my new puppy mill dog, **Cassie**, was also arriving the next day from Oklahoma. However, I did it, I signed up to be Foster Mommy to a peanut-sized puppy!



Seven-day-old Mr. McGhee in Michele's mommy pocket

There were so many things I didn't know about raising a puppy by hand. Like, *How does a puppy poo?* That was a big one. *How much food is the puppy to eat? Can a puppy explode from too much food? How do you keep it warm? What is warm?* I have no other puppies here to do that! *How do I socialize him? Is he going to eat small cats, small dogs, and small children because he doesn't have littermates?* Every question that one could think of I thought of. Thankfully, I had a ton of people willing to tell me what to do, and I knew how to look up the things they didn't know.

I learned how to potty him and when – that was a huge discovery for me. Keeping him warm was the no-brainer, especially when I created a “mommy pocket” to carry him around in while I worked.



Feedings never felt right because the boy could eat like no other, but I figured, *I don't explode... and I'm always eating too much!* He had so much company in his little life, and at five weeks he was able to hang out with my pack. Within two weeks he had everyone trained that “he was indeed the baby.” My **Ninannie** and newly adopted puppy mill dog, **Cassie**, taught him how to

play with dogs. **Cassie** thought he was her puppy, and **McGhee** was sure she was his mommy.

It took a couple of moons to get on board with my new Rescue learning experience. I also had to rearrange my life a bit, as I work full time at home. I have five dogs of my own. I am very active with both my family and Rescue, but in the end raising **Mr. McGhee** was my honor. Finding his forever home was even more of an honor and my gift to him for wrapping both Mark and me completely around his paw. He will for life be our baby, no matter how far away he is or how big he gets.



By six weeks of age, McGhee had figured out the doggie door

Mark, family, friends, children, the dogs, and I, spent uncountable hours loving **Mr. McGhee** in the twelve weeks we shared with him. I knew that he entered our life for a reason, and at the end of his time with us we would find that reason. We did! November

10, 2013 was the last time I held that baby like mine as I passed him onto those I trusted to raise him, love him, and cherish him as we did. There is no lying that we LOVED that face for twelve weeks as our own, and it broke our hearts, but we loved more so, that fate can't be broken if you're looking for it.



Mr. McGhee at about seven weeks had shown nothing but normal puppy development

Note from **Mr. McGhee** as he moved onto his forever family...

*I was adopted by George, Amy, Alex, Sam, and Andy at 12 weeks. I joined their other Golden (my new big brother) **Wrigley** and their cat **Miss Jinx**, on November 10, 2013. I haven't yet counted the rabbits, hamsters and fish, but there are animals everywhere.*

It's good to know my new humans love animals of all kinds. We live in Gilbert, AZ, and I have a huge back yard that looks like a city park, with – wait for it – a SWIMMING POOL! I'm told that when I get bigger, I'm going to be a Therapy Dog. Andy will be my handler, and Sammy will be working with my big bro!



Top, Alex; then George and Amy; then Andy with McGhee and Sam with Wrigley



Mark Hill and Michele Wehry with 11-week-old Mr. McGhee

I have heard countless times in my years with Rescue, *I'm just not foster parent material.* Trust me when I say I have never taken in a foster that I, myself, haven't thought, *I'm just not foster parent material.* They wiggle into your heart as your own. They love you as their own. You care for them as your own. You love them as your own. No games

about it, the love and care you give is a commitment of the heart and of a lifetime. Unlike the adopted dog, however, you just know up front *I am not adopting.* Nonetheless, there is no shorting the dog of love, care, and support. Eventually you trust and hold true that the home you find will be a step up than what you have to offer. You trust your heart. And, you learn very quickly that you are the messenger to that kid's fate. There is nothing more rewarding than creating a fate that, had it not been for you, would have never been created.



Michele with 4 1/2-month-old-and-growing-up-fast McGhee at Tempe Marketplace Barnes & Noble on December 21, 2013; this was his first appearance as an AGR ambassador

Adopted for Life

Hear from the experts on how to avoid pitfalls and make a match that lasts

By Kira Kirkwood



As I walked out of the animal shelter with my dream dog – a white German Shepherd Dog mix – at the end of a makeshift leash, I smugly shrugged off the volunteer’s parting words: “If he doesn’t work out, you can return him for another dog within two weeks.”

But within hours of getting Owen home, I not only remembered the volunteer’s words, I nearly took her up on them. Owen, 6 months of age, was not housetrained very well. He hated his crate and loved eating my clothes. He acted like a savage wolf whenever our older dog Annie, a 5-year-old German Shepherd Dog mix, got within 10 feet of his food bowl. Owen howled in terror every time he encountered a hat-wearing man. I panicked – what did I get myself into?

I shouldn’t have been surprised at this turn of events, and neither should you if you plan to adopt. All dogs need structure, and many require time to adapt to a new home and family, plus training and love – and that takes time and effort.

It’s a familiar story to the experts who deal with a variety of adoption issues every day. “There is no such thing as a push-button perfect dog,” says Maria Dales, executive director of the German Shepherd Rescue of Orange County, CA.

Not every new adopter realizes the investment that may be needed to reap the rewards of owning a great dog. Sadly, upwards of 20 percent of all adopted dogs are returned to shelters or rescues, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Why? The checklist for failed matches includes obedience problems, “buyer’s remorse” from getting the wrong type of dog for a family’s lifestyle, housetraining accidents, personality clashes, lack of new owner effort – they all contribute. By assessing your readiness to adopt and taking steps at the start of your adoption journey, you can pave the path to a fabulous, forever partnership and an adoption for life. No returns necessary.

First, ask why

Why are you thinking about getting a dog? Why do you want one? The answer, according to Tamar Geller, renowned life coach for dogs and best-selling author of *The Loved Dog* (Simon & Schuster, 2007), should be that you have lots of love and time to give to a canine friend. Geller, who has coached owners from Oprah Winfrey

to Ellen DeGeneres, says that prospective adopters should not just think about what the dog will do for them or how he will make them look. “I equate adopting a dog to dating,” she says. “If you just want to receive, it’s not going to work.”

Do your homework

Different breeds were created to fill different niches, says Susie Wormser, director of Scout’s Honor Rescue in Houston. Research your favorites and learn the traits that might make for the best match, whether you plan to adopt a purebred or mix. Do you want a lap dog to keep you company on the sofa, or a partner to share five-mile runs?

“If you don’t like to exercise, then please don’t get a dog whose job was herding livestock for hours on end,” she says. “Both you and the dog will be completely frustrated.”

Knowing what to expect from a breed helps you understand the dog’s behavior. What might at first be seen as “naughty,” such as nipping at the heels of running children, may just be the dog displaying his natural instincts for herding.

This research helps you identify which breeds or mixes are best for your situation, and enables you to ask the right questions of shelter staff when you begin your search. That’s what Anne Peebles of Houston did before she met Joelle, a “black puffball.” Peebles realized she needed a dog good with young children, cats, and all the comings and goings of a busy house. Joelle, a

5-year-old Golden Retriever-Chow Chow mix, fit the bill. “She has been a great addition to our family,” Peebles says. “She and our cat Sylvia love to play chase and wrestle. Joelle has been wonderful with our kids, sleeping next to them as babies to protect them.”

Social network connects shelters.

ShelterMe.com is a social network of sorts for dogs in shelters across the country. It enables anyone to create and then share a profile of a shelter pet to further increase that animal’s chance at adoption or rescue. Videos, photos, and detailed biographies written by those who have visited the dog are all part of the profile. No more depressing photos of sad dogs cowering in the back of concrete kennels, or skimpy descriptions with no more than an impound number. ShelterMe.com’s pictures are happy, playful, and lovely; the bios, personal and information-packed.

“We want people to see (this and think,) ‘I can picture this dog in my home,’” says Steven Latham, the creator and co-founder of ShelterMe.com. “More people need to go to the shelter – it’s that simple. ShelterMe.com will change the way shelter pets are perceived and adopted.”

For more information, or to add a dog to the website, visit www.shelterme.com

Be honest and know your limitations

Evaluate your lifestyle. Do you work 24/7? Travel frequently? Rarely leave the house? Have room for a dog in your condo or apartment? Never exercise? Plan to marry a non-dog lover? Have obsessions when it comes to cleanliness? Be honest, not judgmental, about your life and limits, and discuss them with the rescue worker. Taking a personal inventory helps you find the best canine match and avoid mistakes... like sharing your studio apartment and couch-potato life with a flamboyant Border Collie. And don't ignore older dogs. Often they are already housetrained and pose much less of a challenge in adapting than an untrained puppy. Many rescues use ratings systems and questionnaires, such as the ASPCA's Meet Your Match program, to help adopters connect with just the right dog for their interests and activity levels.

Don't fall for a face

"Choosing a dog because it's beautiful or because it looks exactly like a past dog are recipes for disaster," Dales says. Another trap is to fall for a breed or mix that is suddenly popular. "People fall in love with a cute face all the time," says Melissa Hannon, director of Peace and Paws Dog Rescue in Hillsborough, NH. "Researching the breed of dog you are interested in and comparing that to your lifestyle is imperative."

Just like with human relationships, it's the insides that count, not the outsides. Get to know the dog before you commit to him.

- Play with him outside the kennel.
- Speak to shelter volunteers about his personality.
- Offer to foster him. This is an opportunity to take a dog home and see how he does in your family setting.

A good rescue group or shelter worker will help you find a personality that clicks with you. "Strange as this may sound, it's that 'look of love' that I seek when I introduce adopters to their potential new family members," says Valerie Macys, president and founder of the Cocker Spaniel Adoption Center Inc. in Westminster, Md.

Commit to training

Despite screening by rescue groups, adoptions can be impulse decisions. "Are you truly in it for the long haul, come what may?" Macys asks. Once you adopt, you are saying that yes, you are committed to a relationship that may last five, 10, or 15 years. Will you still be able and willing to care for this dog then?

Because many adoptions fail due to behavior issues, it's vital that you are committed to training the dog every day, now and years

from now. "If you do not teach a dog to behave as you see fit, then how is he or she supposed to know what is acceptable?" Wormser asks.

Set up good rules and communicate them effectively. You need to let him know what is expected of him every day from the start. "Most dogs are returned due to obedience issues that are owner-created," Hannon says. "Training makes all the difference in the majority of cases... People need to start taking responsibility for the behaviors they are ultimately responsible for creating." For example, if you bring the dog home and let him have full run of the house unsupervised, of course problems will occur. Especially at first, keep an eye on him constantly, restricting his access, until he learns the rules.

And it is not just the dog that needs training. If there are children in your house, they must learn the rules of interaction before they can be safe and trusted together. Letting a new dog play unsupervised with children is dangerous and sets the dog up to fail. You can avert conflicts between children and canines by always being present to teach them both the right ways of play from the start.

Be patient

"When a dog gets to a new home environment, he needs a little time to adjust," says Steven Latham, creator and co-founder of ShelterMe.com and producer/director of the Shelter Me series on PBS. "There may be some whining or barking, separation anxiety, or pacing. This is very normal and will subside as the dog gets more comfortable." In this fast-paced society, we want it all right now. We are not accustomed to waiting. If the dog we just adopted is not behaving as we expect, we overreact and feel the game is lost even before it starts. "It may take time and work for everyone to get to know what is needed and expected," Wormser says.

I worked with Owen to solve his behavior quirks and obedience issues, and we spent the next 11 years together. He turned out to be one of the best dogs I've ever had. Even though the changes were quick in most cases, they still required patience and commitment on my part.

The time and effort paid off with years of loving companionship. I succeeded, and so can you.

Editor's Note: KYRA KIRKWOOD is a freelance writer, college journalism teacher, author (Move Over Rover, Random House, 2009), and blogger at The Write Mom, kyrakirkwood.blogspot.com. She lives in Southern California with her husband, two children, and rescue dog Ralphie.

This article has been reprinted with permission from DOG FANCY and Kyra Kirkwood from the October 2013 issue.

Top questions to ask when adopting

- Can I speak with the foster family? Visit them?
- How is he with X, Y, and Z (your personal lifestyle issues, such as kids, cats, birds, allergic spouses, low-energy homes, etc.)?
- What is his health like, and what medical care comes as part of the adoption cost?
- What do you know about this dog's history?
- What is his personality like? Any issues?

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



Darby Chaffee



Jelly Delisi



Brother Erickson



Sarah Erickson



Kelly Forstrom



Lil Bit Holland/
Craven



Baxter Lafollette



Buddy Lafollette



Tanner Novak

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.



Ladybird Orwig



Maggie Padavano



Kody Slagowski



Shadow Wehry

Friends of Goldens and Golden Rescue

Patricia Pagliuco

James Strong

Donald Walsh

Kenneth Young

HERE and THERE

Events from October 14, 2013 to January 4, 2014

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. We'd like to include your picture in this section in future issues.



ASU West Stress Relief

By Liz Tataseo



On October 22nd, we met 60-plus students on *ASU West's* campus to do stress relief with our Golden Retrievers. Elaura Harris from *ASU's* Barrett's Honors College arranged the event with us. The following people and dogs joined in for ball chasing or just lying around with dogs getting petted by the students: Vicki Atwater with **Harley**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Sheila Joyce with

Charlie, McKenna and Tessa; Deb Orwig with **Duffy, Mufasa, Ladybird and Troy**; Fred and Jill Prose with **Jasper**; Christine Spiel with **Jack and Nash**; Liz Tataseo; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Carter, Krissie and Maura**. This was just a fun time to help out the students of Barrett's Honors College who were missing their own dogs and finding stress relief by playing with and petting the Golden Retrievers.



PACC911 Adopt-a-thon and Blessing of the Animals

By Liz Tataseo

On October 26th, the following members joined *AGR* at the annual *PACC911* Adopt-a-Thon and *Blessing of the Animals*: Vicki Atwater with **Harley**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Caleb and Riley**;



Kathi, Gail with Caleb, Dana with Riley and Tony with Daisy

Connie McCabe with **Sammy** and **Grizzly**; Deb Orwig with **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Debra Totten with her new puppy, **Wilson**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill; Liz Tataseo with

Gonzo and Trip; Peter Wong with **Billie**; and Kathi Youhas came for



Debra Totten with Wilson

a while before she went shelter walking. Tony's sister, Jan Newland, also came by later in the day. The Ronstadts dropped by to visit with their new English Cream adoptee,



Carlos and Sharon Rondstadt with Misty (white dog) and Connie's Grizzly

Misty. Debbie Mikol and her daughter Kat, who worked the event for the church, stayed and helped us take down and take away all our equipment along with the regulars Tony, Patrick, Dana and Gail, Jan, Deb and Liz. We had assistance from *ASU* students in setting up the tents and tables when we arrived. It was a great day, and we made \$689 for *AGR* in donations and merchandise sales.



Kat and Debbie Mikol with Connie's Sammy and Grizzly



City of Surprise Bark in the Park

By Liz Tataseo



The second annual *Bark in the Park* for the *City of Surprise* took place on November 9th from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Surprise Stadium Complex on Bell Rd. Helping set Marshall, Liz, Connie, Deb, Sherry and Christine; dogs are Honei, Gonzo, Trip, Jack, Nash, Ladybird, Mufasa, Troy and Duffy

up the tent and information were Sherry Landwehr, Deb Orwig, Christine Spiel and Liz Tataseo. Connie and Marshall Wozniak dropped by with **Honei** to do some socialization; she was great. Bob and Kathi Youhas also dropped by for a while. Deb brought **Duffy, Mufasa, Ladybird and Troy**; Christine brought **Jack and Nash**; and Liz had **Gonzo and Trip**. It was not as busy as last year, but we did bring in \$71.75 in donations and met many nice people and animals, including some look-like-**Jack** Goldendoodles.



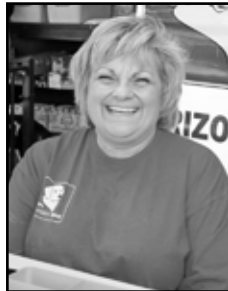
Paws & Pasta Dinner

By Liz Tataseo



Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler, owners of *Little Bite of Italy*

On November 10th, *Arizona Golden Rescue* held their annual *Paws & Pasta Dinner* at *Little Bite of Italy* in Sun City, hosted by Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler. Sandy Fullington again donated the meat for the fabulous spaghetti dinner, while Bryan and his suppliers donated the rest of the food. Dinner consisted of spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, bread sticks and large slices of a variety of cakes. Beverages were supplied by *AGR*.



Sandy Fullington



Above: servers Jared Miller, Sherry Landwehr and Jeff Guilbault; At right: Karin Forsythe, Christine Spiel and Nick Dodson. Sorry, didn't get a photo of the first-shift servers.



istration and selling raffle tickets, assisted later on by Michele Wehry. Because we opened earlier this year at 11 AM instead of 1 PM as in the past, we had three shifts of servers who did one great job! Serving were Sandra Hansen, Sarah Martin and her friend Stephanie (who was drafted by Sarah); Jeff Guilbault, Jared Miller and Sherry Landwehr; Nick Dodson, Karin Forsythe and Christine Spiel.



Barbara Connoyer donated our raffle item

Vicki Atwater dog-sat for various people throughout the afternoon, and Connie Wozniak assisted Deb Orwig at the merchandise sales tables (photo at right). In addition, Peter Wong and his well-trained Border Collie **Billie** put on a very entertaining and impressive trick show.



We had a great turnout of people and dogs. Since *Little Bite of Italy* has an outdoor patio, everyone was able to bring their dogs and enjoy the day and the food. Check out all the happy faces. Aside from the merchandise sale, we had a wonderful raffle of a Holiday Quilt and Stocking (stuffed of



course) donated by Barbara Connoyer, *AGR* member and owner of *Sun Valley Quilts* in Sun City.



Linda and Ward Case with Jersey, who would not look at the camera

Helping with take-down and clean-up were Tony Cotner, Patrick Doyle, Nick Dodson, Gail and Dana Haywood, Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig, Christine Spiel, Liz Tataseo and Connie Wozniak.

This event was a successful fundraiser, and we were able to add \$1798.50 to the *Debbe*



First-timers to this event, Jon and Beth Chaffee said they would be sure to come every year.

Begley Memorial Fund from donations, raffle sales and dinners. Additionally, merchandise and calendar sales added another \$1321.59.



Roger and Sue Vallie with Penny and Oliver



Tails of the Season

By Liz Tataseo



Christine, Jacque, Greg and Liz in back, Fred in front with Troy and Jasper, and Greenway High School volunteer

Arizona Golden Rescue took part in the second annual *Tails of the Season* on November 16th. This year's event was a little smaller than last year's in the number of vendors and Rescues, and once again there seemed to be little foot traffic, so the sponsors are planning on moving to a new venue in 2014. In addition to a raffle and food truck, the organizers brought in Super Heroes for the

event (photo at right) and had a Girl Scout Troup and the **Greenway High School** Key Club as volunteer helpers. Christine Spiel, Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo set up the tent and merchandise for the event. They brought along **Jack, Nash, Duffy, Mufasa, Ladybird, Troy, Gonzo** and **Trip**. Vicki Atwater later came with **Harley**; Sheila Joyce brought **Charlie**; and Fred Prose brought **Jasper**. Peter Wong stopped by for a while with his Border Collie, **Billie**. Jacque and Greg Chida, adoption applicants, came by and stayed for a long time getting their Golden Retriever fix. The dogs had a fun time being petted by the volunteers and playing ball in the big grass area and meeting and greeting. We brought in \$29 in merchandise sales and \$22 in donations. Every dollar helps!



Holiday Pet Festival

By Deb Orwig



The *Holiday Pet Festival*, sponsored by **Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary** and **PetSmart**, was held at **West-World** on December 7, 2013. This event is, bar none, the

We shared the booth with **Hug 'N Pups Grooming Salon**; thanks to **Connie Wozniak**, our merchandise was very attractively displayed

best-organized event sponsored by someone other than **AGR** that we attend. It is a one-day production that goes from 10 AM to 5 PM. However, as with



any event where we have a booth and sell merchandise, there is always preparation and set-up involved. My thanks to Liz Tataseo for helping me load my van on the 5th, and to **Connie Wozniak**, who came with me on Friday the 6th and was there all day on Saturday to help with the merchandise sales. **Connie** not only created 23 Christmas stockings, most of which we sold, but also has a flair for setting up a beautiful display! **Tranquility Trail** provided many volunteers to help with unloading vehicles on Friday and packing up the booth on Saturday.

Tranquility Trail offers the opportunity for Rescue groups to put ornaments on their Angel Trees. For lack of time, I was not intending to make any this year, but **Connie Wozniak** showed up on Friday with 10 adorable Golden Retriever tree ornaments. I "decorated" them with wishes from 10 of our foster dogs: **Bella, Bentley, Chaparral, Mr. McGhee, Rad** and **Runner** wanted



Funeral Honor Guard

By Deb Orwig



Cindy Tigges with Charm, Duey and Koso; Doreen Balch with Caesar; Dana Haywood with Deb's Duffy, Mufasa and Troy; Tony Cotner with Daisy; Diane and Jim Henkel with Winston and Bella; Sheila Joyce with Charlie; Keri Engelhardt with Aiofe; and Gail Haywood with Riley

In late November, I was contacted via e-mail by **Diane Clinton**. She had seen our group of volunteers and Golden Retrievers doing gift wrapping at **Happy Valley Barnes & Noble** and wanted to ask a special favor. She had a close friend, **Thorvald Eric Hansen**, who had just passed away. **Mr. Hansen** had had three Golden Retrievers during his life and just adored them. **Diane** wondered if we might provide an honor guard to be present outside the church where the memorial service was being held on December 13th. That day was a Friday, so only a handful of **AGR** members were available to go, but we were there lining the walkway with our dogs when people came out of the service. Aside from church officials, who had to be informed ahead of time and approve of our presence, **Diane** and her family were the only ones who knew we would be there. We were very well received with exclamations of joy and tears of thanks, and the dogs got many hugs and pets. We were proud to provide such a moving experience for those who attended the service. Several attendees sent in very nice donations to our organization as thanks for our being there.



One of the ten adorable ornaments made by Connie Wozniak

some toys; **Gambler** and **Tana** wished for a cushy bed; **Tucker** wanted some grain-free treats; and **Glory** just asked for a donation to help pay her expensive cancer-treatment bills. Every one of the ornaments was taken and merchandise purchased for these dogs! We even got a donation for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*, which had paid for **Glory's** cancer treatments. Ornament

wishes were generously granted by Tony Cotner, Hailey Jensen, Martha McDowell, Jackson Mockry, Lucy Siemann and the James Sullivan family.



Jackie, Beth and Dave with dogs in the aisle in front of our booth

Thanks to everyone who helped during the day on Saturday including Bill Atkinson with



Debbie Mikol and Cindy Tigges helped with set-up Saturday morning



The Balches with Caesar

Sammy; Teddi Axne; Doreen and David Balch with **Caesar**; Beth Chaffee with **Holly** and **Bevo**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Mary Jo and John Courtney with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt; Beverly Farrar; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Linda Kearns with **Samson**; Debbie Mikol; Valerie Mylowe; Christine Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Cindy Tigges; Kitra and Joe Tovar with **Vaclar**; Jane Triplett; and Connie Wozniak.



Linda Kearns with Samson



Linda and Lisa work on a dog's nails

Special thanks to the crew from *Hug 'N Pups Grooming Salon*! The crew included Linda Den Beste (owner), Lisa Huffner and Lana Sandvik. They spent a total of 5 hours on their feet or knees wrestling with dogs that did not want their nails trimmed! Even Linda, herself, was not able to do my **Duffy's** nails, though. He will NOT let anyone touch his toes! Crazy dog! Good thing he wears them down naturally by running around on our concrete patio!

It seemed less busy at our booth than last year, so I was astonished that the revenue totaled more, \$1365.12 – last year our total was \$1238.35. The difference this year seemed to be in the two silent auction items I put together, which made a total of \$260. There was a chocolate basket which also had treats for dogs, and a nice holiday tote and huge Christmas stocking donated by Barbara Connoyer, owner of *Sun Valley Quilts*; the tote was filled with dog toys and treats.



Chocolate Attack! with Dog Toys & Treats Silent Auction Item

Sincere thanks to all who helped make this year's *Holiday Pet Festival* the best ever for *AGR*!

Activities at Petco

By Liz Tataseo

During the 4th quarter, we had two Saturday appearances in November at *Petco* and then our first date in 2014, January 4th. Jeremiah, the manager, invited us to help with Santa Photos on December 14th, in addition to doing our regular Saturday Meet-and-Greets. Joining me



Most of the group that came on November 2nd: Liz with Gonzo and Trip, Christine with Jack and Nash, and Fred holding Duffy Orwig, Fred's boy Jasper and Troy Orwig



Sheila with Charlie, who was wearing his new cowboy hat

with **Gonzo** and **Trip** at the November 2nd, 30th and January 4th Meet-and-Greets were always Patrick Doyle and **Annabelle**. On November 2nd, Sheila Joyce joined us with **Charlie**; Deb Orwig brought **Duffy** and **Troy**; Fred Prose came with **Jasper**; and Christine Spiel brought **Jack** and **Nash**. Denise Padavano stopped by with her mom to say hello. On November 30th, it was just Liz, Patrick and Christine with their usual canine companions.



Annabelle and Patrick



Nash and Jack Spiel wearing holiday finery

Our Santa Photos event resulted in over 40 photos being taken in a short 3½ hours, with Patrick as Santa and Liz as photo printer. **Petco** provided the photographers. Outside with donation dogs were Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine**, Sheila



Petco Santa Photos Group: Liz with Trip and Gonzo, Sarah with Bunny, Santa Patrick, Sandra with Jasmine and Sheila with Charlie

Joyce with **Charlie**, Sarah Martin with **Bunny** and Fred Prose with **Jasper**. **Gonzo** and **Trip** helped Liz inside.

During our appearance on January 4, 2014, we had Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Dustin and Alex Falke with



Dustin Falke and new ambassadog Sebastian

Sebastian; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley** and **Caleb**; and Liz Tattaseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**. We had a nice afternoon introducing the Falkes and **Sebastian** to their first Meet-and-Greet experience. **Sebastian** was a little anxious at first but started going up to people with wagging tail after a short time. On November 2nd we collected \$109 in donations and had \$250 in calendar sales, thanks to Christine getting her year's supply. November

30th went well with \$131.26, and January 4th with \$75.52. During Santa Photos the donation dogs collected \$126.79. Several good days at **Petco**! **Petco** will be sending us \$5 for every photo taken.

to verify we were coming and also called me again to be sure we were still coming. In my vehicle I had Gail, Tony and myself, **Riley**, **Caleb**, **Trina**, **Daisy** and **Rocky**. We were all set even if no one else showed, but we were not disappointed. When we arrived, there were some people who already have an application for adoption in with us and wanted to meet us. I went over their application with them and made some suggestions to update their desires.

Connor Eggleston came and handled **Trina** while listening to the rest of us talk with people who came by. Sharon Flores showed up with **Honey**; Judy Petitto came by with **Sandi Joy**; and Sharon Wozny brought newly-adopted **Dixie** (13-103), who was just delivered yesterday. After talking with Judy and me, Sharon Flores became interested in being on the Intake Team.

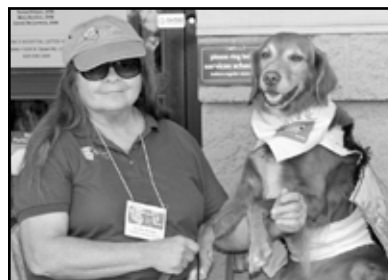
Mima at **Pet Planet** had a sign out in the parking lot informing people that **Arizona Golden Rescue** was going to be present today. She also provided shopping bags with sample foods, a dog food scoop and other items including literature concerning dog care. She brought out treats, then later came out with bully sticks, and at the end she gave us a bag of dog food for **AGR**. Mima also asked if we wanted to come back – we gave her an absolute yes, and we will continue going on the second Saturday of each month.

A lot of people came by and talked to us and took literature about **AGR**. We collected \$131.17 in anonymous donations, and also received a generous donation from Judy Petitto to go towards **13-104 Bella's** vet bill. All in all, it was a very nice day to be out in beautiful weather, and we look forward to going again.



Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart

91st AVE, PEORIA – Connie McCabe, Chairman



Connie and Winnie

What a great day we had on November 16th! The weather was perfect and we had a ton of visitors who kept us very busy. Lots of people took information, asked serious questions about adoption, and we actually ran out of the newest news magazine. We got \$121.81 in donations and sold 5 calendars

for another \$50. This was Karen Hetrick's first Meet-and-Greet with **Riley** (formerly **Jethro**). Even though he doesn't like the camera, **Riley** did very well with meeting people and dogs. **Winnie** and **Grizzly** and I were also joined by Karen Davis with **Caesar**, Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, Don and Rusty Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**, Pat Morgan with **Sunny** and Fred Prose with



Meet-and-Greet at Pet Planet

By Dana Haywood



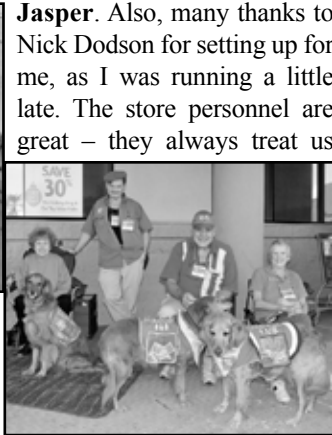
Dana's camera broke right after he took this photo, so we have no others from this event. In the picture are Judy Petitto with **Sandi Joy**; Gail Haywood talking with Tony's sister, Jen Gittings; Connor Eggleston with **Trina**; and Tony Cotner at far right with **Daisy** and **Rocky**

We had a wonderful Meet-and-Greet at **Pet Planet** in Chandler on November 9th. Mima, the manager, had called me earlier in the week



Above: Karen Hetrick, Fred Prose and Karen Davis with Jasper, Winnie, Grizzly and Caesar; Riley was hiding.

Right: Pat Morgan with Sunny, Patrick Doyle, and Don and Rusty Krause with Sunshine and Stormy; Annabelle was hiding.



Jasper. Also, many thanks to Nick Dodson for setting up for me, as I was running a little late. The store personnel are great – they always treat us

well, and it's a pleasure to be there!

7290 W BELL ROAD, GLENDALE



We had a fine-weather day on November 17th, so we set up a couple of tent canopies out in front of the Bell Road **PetSmart** store and spent four lovely hours meeting and greet-

ing. We collected \$210.92 in donations, sold two calendars for an additional \$20 and sold eight Christmas-theme bandannas that Deb had made for \$32 more. Attending were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Dana Haywood, who was transporting new intake **13-107 Blossom** to foster Debbie Mikol; Gail Haywood with **Caleb** and **Riley** and also her daughter Dawn and grandson Dakota; Deb Orwig with **Duffy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Sweetie**; Jane Triplett with **Bubba** and greyhound **Dutch**; and Kathi Youhas with **Maura**. Connie McCabe stopped by to take some great photos of beautiful **Blossom** (at right), who had been given to us the previous day at the **PetSmart** National Adoption Day at Tempe Marketplace by **Great Pyranees Rescue**. **Blossom** has little, if any, Great Pyranees in her, so her rescuers wanted her to go to a group that dealt with Golden Retrievers, as they felt we would have more success finding her a great home (which we have).



MAYO BLVD – Denny Myrick, Chairman

The following **Arizona Golden Rescue** members participated in the November 16th Mayo Blvd **PetSmart** Meet-and-Greet: Teddi Axne with **Palmer**, Wes Harrington with **Andie**, Denny Myrick



Cynthia with Bailey, Denny with Jake, Teddi with Palmer, Diane with Moon and Wes with Andie

with **Jake**, Pam Spicer (photographer), Diane Traxler with **Moon**, and Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey**. It was a beautiful fall day and we had a great, productive day making new friends and wowing them with our well-behaved Golden Retrievers. Despite a lower-than-normal **AGR** turnout due to three other Meet-and-Greets on the

same day, we had a record day with donations (\$352) and calendar sales (\$70) totaling \$422.

TEMPE MARKETPLACE – Dana Haywood, Chairman



We had a good day at Tempe Marketplace on November 16th even with a lot of other rescue groups being there under the auspices of a **PACC911** Adopt-a-thon. The event was held in the parking lot in front of the store.

Attending were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**, Sarah Giles with **Darby**, Neal and Candy Greff with **Dixie** and **Teddy**, Jim Henkel with **Winston**, and Maggie Muller with **Benzo**. Steve and Bonnie Hargrave dropped by for a while with **Boz** and gave us a nice donation, Connor Eggleston (our **ASU** student volunteer) was there for the entire time to help with set-up and take-down and is getting quite good at talking with potential adopters. My daughter Dawn Nomakeo and grandson Dakota Nomakeo were also there to help with set-up. Teddi Axne came by to help with set-up before she left to participate in the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart** event. Last but not least, Gail and **Riley** came with me.



Sarah Giles with Darby

During the event, we were asked by **Great Pyranees Rescue** to take a 14-month-old English Cream female Golden (see picture in left column in the Bell Road write-up). They had rescued her from the shelter, only to find out she is not a Great Pyranees but a Golden. She was spayed and up to date on shots, and she was great with other dogs and people. I took her home in preparation for transporting her to a foster home the next day.

We talked with many people interested in Golden Retrievers and our Rescue, and we took in \$123.50 in donations which included the sale of two calendars, with two others given away for \$20 donations.



Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble

By Liz Tataseo and Deb Orwig



Skateboards, one of our more challenging wrap jobs

Our annual gift wrapping fundraiser at **Barnes & Noble Booksellers** brought out many members and their dogs to collect donations to raise funds for veterinary costs. Our locations were once again Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** on November 24th, 29th, December 1st, 7th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 21st and 23rd; Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** on November 30th, December 8th, 14th, 22nd and 24th; and the Tempe Marketplace store on December 21st. Total monies raised at

the three gift wrap venues were \$5133.22 at Arrowhead, \$4893.23 at Happy Valley and \$2440.48 on the one date we were at Tempe Marketplace! Wow, these monies will help refill the accounts that are constantly being used up for our medical costs!



Liz Tataseo and Debbie Ball working on another challenge

Joining in this year at the Happy Valley and Arrowhead locations



A rare group photo – most of the time we were too busy to get one. Here are Rick Ball, Deb Orwig, Linda Taylor, Dana Haywood, Gail Haywood, Sandra Hansen, Tony Cotner, Debbie Ball, Don Krause, Rusty Krause and Sheila Joyce with Mufasa, Duffy, Troy, Daisy, Jasmine, Riley, Daisy, Shiloh, Stormy, Sunshine and McKenna; all these folks came to more than one wrap session

having a great time meeting and greeting and wrapping more and more gifts as we got closer to Christmas were: Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Vickie, Jayla, Houston and Dave Burgoon with **Buddy**; Michael Cashmore with **Annie**; Tony Cotner with

Linda Taylor had taught Daisy to take someone's money and drop it in a jar; every time she did that, someone else would give her money just to see her do it again!



Burgoon family with Buddy

Sheila Joyce with **Charlie, McKenna** and **Tessa**; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Jodi and Jay Koblick with **Logan, Katie, Shea** and **Micah**; Sherry Landwehr; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**;



Apollo High School Key Club Members



Liz Tataseo with Gonzo and Trip



Connie Wozniak made lots of great 2- or 3-toned bows from ribbon scraps



Christine Spiel with Nash and Jack



Karen Hetrick and Riley



Martha McDowell and Deb Orwig –wrappers and bow makers extraordinaire



Sarah Martin with Grizzly and Bunny



Fred Prose and Jasper

with **Sunny**; Tammy and Lance Morgan with **Brinkley**; Deb Orwig with **Duffy, Mufasa** and **Troy**; Fred Prose with **Jasper**; Anat, Ayden and Arik Schure; Christine Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Fran Strock; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo, Trip** and **Sweetie**; Linda Taylor with **Snophie**



Connor Eggleston wrangling dogs

and **Daisy**; Taryn Tigg-
es; Sharon,
Philip, Mar-
cus and Ilan
Wieser with
Nala; Cyn-
thia Wen-
ström with
Bailey and
Hannah ;



Larry Orwig with Duffy,
Mufasa and Troy

Connie Wozniak; and
Kathi and Bob Youhas
(before they left Arizona
on December 4th) with
Carter, **Krissie** and



Goldie Guilbault looking wonderful at 15



Kat Mikol, a terrific
wrapper

Maura. Larry Orwig, back in town on vaca-
tion from his job, jumped in to help out, too,
especially with set-up and take-down.

A special thank you to all those who came all
the time or many, many, many times to both
locations: Rick and Debbie Ball, Tony Cotner,
Patrick Doyle, Karin Forsythe, Sandra Hansen,
Gail and Dana Haywood, Sheila Joyce, Rusty
and Don Krause, Martha McDowell, Deb Or-
wig, Christine Spiel,
Liz Tataseo, Sharon,
Philip, Marcus and
Ilan Weiser and Con-
nie Wozniak. We
were also assisted
by the **Apollo High
School** Key Club



Teri Guilbault
with Jackson

on December
7th, 8th and 14th.
Fatima Mon-
tiel, Saby Bar-
rios, Cassidy
Causey, Luisa
Tamayo-Rose-
ro, Roxanna
C a s t a n e d a ,
and Makela
Conte all came
on December

Sharon, Marcus, Philip
and Ilan Wieser
with Troy and Nala

7th and held dogs, wrapped presents



Above: Sandra Hansen with
Jasmine; below, Jodi and Jay
Koblick with their 4 little dogs



Indoor wrappers:
Stephanie Darkoch,
Judy Doseck and
Donna Novak with
Jackson



More **Apollo High School** Key
Club volunteers

and made bows.
On December 8th
Key Club mem-
bers who came to
help out with the
dogs and wrap-
ping were Korina
Manuel, Astrixd
Canas, Martha
Prieto, Vlaney
Cardenas, Eliza-
beth Ortiz



Apollo HS Key Club
advisor Krystal Claudio



Patrick Doyle, Martha McDowell
and Tony Cotner came to all the
west side gift wrap sessions

Hernandez and Felix Del Valle.
December 14th saw Ashley Hon-
yumptewa, Kaylene Honyumpt-
ewa, Vanessa Martinez, Alejan-
dra Martinez, Adilene Rivera,
and Blanca Rodriguez holding
dogs and meeting and greeting.
Sponsors were Chris Jordan and
Krystal Claudio, **Apollo High
School** staff. The students were a
tremendous help!

Our wrappers and bow makers did a great job on more than
Barnes & Noble gifts

(skate boards, toaster ovens, clothes and large, large boxes) especially Debbie Ball, Karin Forsythe, Martha McDowell, Deb Orwig and Connie Wozniak. Surprisingly enough and unlike previous years, on Christmas Eve Day at the Arrowhead store, we did not have a huge influx of last-minute shoppers wanting wrapping during the last hour of the day.



Taryn Tiggess and Karin Forsythe, both good
wrappers and bow makers



The Tempe Marketplace
Barnes & Noble location is
just fabulous for us on the
one date we go there every
year! Over the course of
our 9 AM to 6 PM day, we
collected over \$2440 in do-
nations, calendar sales and
sales of Christmas bandan-
nas and stockings! Larry

Jessup (photo above left with **Honeybear**) has
chaired this location for us each year. Since he
does not have a computer, he called many **AGR**



First thing in the morning was the only time we could get a group photo at Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble*; the rest of the day we were too busy. Showing up early were Casey and Jane Pulis, Terry Oline, Ryan and Morgan Buechting, Joyce Johnston, Michele Meyer, Michele Wehry, Mark Hill and Leslie Morris; Deb Orwig in front.



Meeting-and-Greeting group out front: Denny Myrick, Tony Cotner, Gail Haywood, Dana Haywood (mostly hidden) and Bruce DeBruin



Bryan Bowles with D.O.G.; Carter family with Sammy; Gail Goodman with Glory; Jack Goodman with grandson Jack



Left: Cricket Forstrom with Hoover, Shelly Forstrom with Peanut, Kim Lindenmeyer with Indy; Right: Staci Gildersleeve with Duffy, Nick Ligidakis with Troy

member households to get commitments for help. Throughout the day there, we had 94 humans and 62 dogs come to volunteer! Those who came without dogs were put to work wrangling the extra dogs that were there or wrapping or making bows. Everyone kept very busy! Larry checked in volunteers out in front of the store, and Deb Orwig, who was at the wrapping table all day, tried



Charlotte Golla and Austin with Deacon; Jeff and Ellen France with Riggz and Ryder; Dave Kimmel with Sadie and Trooper



Gary Flagg with Pepper; Kim McVeigh with Gus and Jack; Berek Novak with Bodie; Terry Oline with Shandley



Frank Turco with Molly Diana Frankowski with Maggie Maggie Muller with Benzo



Nelson family with Abby Kelly Rice with Mufasa Sharon Wozny with Dixie

to keep track of volunteers who came in through the interior of the mall. We apologize if we missed anyone. Deb attempted to get a photo of everyone but she did miss some of you – again, apologies! Connie McCabe stopped by after a photo shoot with four of the seven English Cream Golden we took in in November and managed to get a few pictures while she was there. Please know that those volunteers who we didn't get photos of are no less important! You saw how busy we were – it is somewhat amazing that we got any pictures!



Sandi and Bill Reilly with Fast Eddie; Paula and David Thomas with Bear; Ted Morris with Maddy



Teddi Axne with Palmer; Michele Wehry, Mark Hill, grandson Michael, daughter-in-law Iris, Cassie and Ninannie; Tracie and Richard Freeland with Murphy and Gus

The following volunteers were present all day: Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Caleb** and **Riley**; Larry Jesup with **Honeybear**; and Deb Orwig with **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**. Other volunteers who came for anywhere from an hour to four hours were: Teddi Axne with **Palmer**; Doreen and David Balch with **Caesar**; Bryan Bowles with **D.O.G.**; Bruce DeBruin with **Clifford**; Ryan and Morgan Buechting with **Buddy**; Brandi and Chuck Carter and their children Ryan and McKenna with **Sammy**; Beth Chaffee; Stephanie Darkoch; Judy and Mark



Joyce Johnston with Toby and Max; Linda Kearns with Samson; Ryan Buechting with Buddy



Above: Neal and Candy Greff with Dixie and Teddy Bear; Sarah Giles with Darby; Valerie Mylowe, Sandi Riley and Beth Chaffee with Mufasa
Below: Tyree family with Lucca; Temes family with Wrigley and McGhee



Morgan Buechting and Leslie Morris wrapped and made lots of great bows; Bruce DeBruin and Clifford



Mark Doseck with Stella; Feist family with Buddy; Sagers with Shelby and Orion

Doseck with **Stella**; Trinity, Iyla and Arden Feist with **Buddy**; Gary Flagg with **Pepper**; Sharon Flores; Cricket Forstrom with **Hoover**; Shelly Forstrom and John Calhoun with **Peanut**; Ellen and Jeff France with **Riggz** and **Ryder**; Diana Frankowski with **Maggie**; Tracie and Richard Freeland with **Gus** and **Murphy**; Staci Gildersleeve; Sarah Giles with **Darby**; Charlotte Golla and her Goddaughter Austin with **Deacon**; Gail and Jack Goodman and daughter Tiffany with baby Jack brought **Glory**; Neal and Candy Greff came with **Teddy Bear** and **Dixie**; Merice Jednat with **Hunter**; Joyce Johnston with **Toby** and **Max**; Linda Kearns with **Samson**; Nancy and Dave Kimmel with **Sadie** and **Trooper**; Nick Ligidakis; Kim Lindenmeyer with **Indy**; Connie McCabe; Kim McVeigh with **Jack** and **Gus**; Michele Meyer with **Abigail**; Donna Morris; Leslie and Ted Morris with **Maddy**; Maggie Muller with **Benzo**; Valerie Mylowe; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Jessica and Wayne Neill with **Remington**; Mary, Kevin, Sydney and Jennifer Nelson with **Abby**; Donna and Berek Novak with **Bodie** and **Jackson**; Terry Oline and Mickey Kovach with **Shandley**; Joni and Todd Peschman with puppy **TJ**; Jane and Casey Pulis with

Major and Rocky; Sandi and Bill Reilly with Fast Eddie; Kathy and Kelly Rice; Carla and Jeff Sager with Orion and Great Pyrenees Shelby; Edna and Kaitlyn Starks with Gracie and Layla; Amy, Alex and Andy Temes with Wrigley and McGhee; Paula and David Thomas with Bear; Taryn Tigges; Frank Turco with Molly; Julie, Natalie and Katie Tyree with Lucca; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with daughter-in-law Iris and grandson Michael with Cassie and Ninannie; and Sharon Wozny with Dixie.

Tremendous thanks to Larry Jessup for contacting all the volunteers and to all who came – you were all terrific and very helpful!

 Photos with Santa at PetSmart
By Connie McCabe

In December 2013, AGR members helped with Photos with Santa at both Petco and PetSmart stores. Connie chaired PetSmart's Mayo Blvd store on December 7th and Bell Road store on December 14th. Liz chaired Petco on December 14th; her write-up about Petco's Santa Photos is on page 33. Unlike past years, PetSmart only offered photo opportunities on these two dates. We hope that in 2014 they change back to both Saturdays and Sundays on three weekends.



Connie reported: We had a great day on December 7th! A HUGE thank you to Denny Myrick for offering to host the Meet-and-Greet portion,



staying out in the cold with his Donation Dog team all day – it paid off – we collected a total of \$431 (including 4 calendar sales) in donations, plus we took 24 photos for another \$120, which AGR will get sometime in 2014.



Connie McCabe, Santa Phil Leavitt, Nick Dodson, Grizzly and Winnie

Indoors we did very well, too. As we expected, there were very few people who were prepared to take their own photos, so they were very happy we were there. There were many more who never knew about the photos at all. So, we got a lot of impulse shoppers! I read in the comments on the PetSmart Facebook site that this new

procedure was not going over well anywhere in the country. In a lot of stores, there was no one available to help the people with their photos. A lot of people were also upset that there were no frames. I don't think PetSmart corporate was aware of how many



Joy and Todd Slagowski's group was one of the largest photographed -- isn't it amazing how Connie gets everyone to look at the camera!



Santa Patrick with one of the smallest dogs photographed

people have made a family tradition of this. I certainly hope they go back to giving or even selling frames, as I got a lot of requests for them. Relying on just the new



Many people wanted to be in the picture with their pets



This lady did the head tilt just like her dog when Connie used a squeaker to get attention

system could have been a big disaster. However, it certainly was nice to not have to worry about printing the pictures. Only one person objected to not getting a print; everyone else was just fine with the idea of downloading and getting their own prints, or just having the digital file.

Group photo at top left: Sally Fetherston with Grizzly, Cynthia Wenström with Hannah, Tom Fetherston with Molly, Santa Patrick Doyle, Nick Dodson, Denny Myrick with Jake and young girl, Jolene Schlichter with Molly; Middle photo: Cindy Tigges with Charm and Winnie, Pam Spicer with Lexi, Denny Myrick with Grizzly and Jake; Bottom photo: Wes Harrington with Sadie and Andie, Diane Traxler with Moon, Debbie Mikol with Hogan, Denny Myrick with Jake

We did over 24 paid photos (there were more that I forgot to log) which was actually at least four more than the first day of *Santa Photos* last year. Plus the donations were higher, so it worked out well. I just wish *PetSmart* would have offered more days!

Many, many thanks to Santas Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle and Phil Leavitt and donation dogs **Annabelle**, **Grizzly** and **Winnie**. They were excellent as usual. Also, helping Denny Myrick and **Jake** with the Meet-and-Greet portion were: Tom and Sally Fetherston with **Molly**, Wes Harrington with **Andie** and **Sadie**, Debbie Mikol with **Hogan**, Jolene Schlichter with **Molly**, Pam Spicer with **Lexi**, Cindy Tigges with **Charm**, Diane Traxler with **Moon**, and Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah**.

All photos can be viewed at http://albums.phanfare.com/slideshow.aspx?i=1&db=1&pw=rAOMCJOZ&a_id=6341632



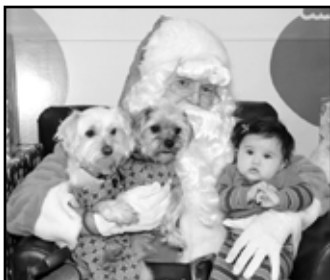
Left photo: Donation help from Lori Prankevicus with Misty; Jill and Fred Prose with Grizzly, Winnie and Jasper; Pat Morgan with Sunny;
Right photo: Jill Prose with Winnie and Grizzly; Todd Slagowski with Kody; Pat Morgan with Sunny; Jane Triplett with Bubba



On December 14 at the Bell Road store, Joy Slagowski and I took over 1000 photos. I had to thin them down, color-balance, crop and edit the best of them for the Phanfare album, which can be viewed here: http://albums.phanfare.com/slideshow.aspx?i=1&db=1&pw=Pfz3w1n&a_id=6351733

Connie McCabe with Jasper, Santa Jeff Guilbault, Grizzly, and Joy Slagowski

http://albums.phanfare.com/slideshow.aspx?i=1&db=1&pw=Pfz3w1n&a_id=6351733



The dogs and kids were cute, except that Jeff's grandson Lucas (photo at right above) didn't want to have anything to do with Santa even though he could hear Jeff's voice

We had a wildly successful day – there was a non-stop line until around 2 PM, when it finally slowed down a little. Many, many thanks to Nick, for helping me load and set up, despite having a really painful neck. Many extra thanks, also, to Jeff Guilbault, who stepped in to cover Nick's Santa shift – it was a long day in the Santa suit! Poor Jeff was also very patient about the lizard on his shoulder!



The lizard was even dressed in a little Santa suit!

I really want to thank the folks who answered my calls for help,



Some of the dogs were wary...



Others wanted to clean Santa's glasses

with **Jasper** (Fred alternated between *PetSmart* and *Petco*), Pat Morgan with **Sunny**, photographer Joy and Todd Slagowski with **Bella**, Jane Triplett, with **Bubba**, and of course, **Winnie** and **Grizzly**. Thanks also to Jared and Michelle Miller, who were a big help in packing up.



By and large, the cats were just dour

too busy. I never even got a photo of Jack Craven, who was a great help with keeping the morning customers corralled, informed and under control. I am actually grateful that we did not have to deal with trying to print pictures – it would have been a real disaster!

There may have been others that I missed, as I was inside most of the time. If so, I apologize. I also am sorry that we were unable to get some good group photos – just



This feline pair totally ignored the lizard on Santa's shoulder

Not a lot of Donation Dogs, but we still collected \$423.22 in donations – really good! – including 2 calendar sales, in addition to the approximately 80 photos taken (worth another \$400) – we are not sure, because we got so busy, we lost count at one point.



Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support. You all truly have hearts of gold! All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between October 14, 2013 and January 10, 2014. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Kathy Allison
Holly Ashenfelter
Doreen and David Balch
Richard Bird
Bruce Bouldin and Nicholas Yale
Peter Bourret
Betsy and Fred Brown
Ward Case
Jamie Cerreta
Joan and Paul Cieslak
Mike Collins
Patrick Conlin
Mary Jo and John Courtney
Johanna DeKing
Ryan Fiet
Sheri Fogel
Kirk Forsythe
Robert Forsythe
Diana Frankowski
Tracie and Richard Freeland
Bri Guerrero
Nancy Hall
Reidun Halpert

Bonnie and Steve Hargrave
Karen, Chet and Riley Hetrick
Terri and Dave Hill
Deborah Hill
Joyce Johnston
Jodi and Jay Koblick
Tyler Lane
Celia and Clint McClelland
Martha McDowell
Geri and Gerald McHugh
Edward H. Mertz
Gayle and Richard Milling
Peachy and Ralph Mock
Tamara Moerer and Brad Chapman
Elisa Moreno
Pat Morgan
Dennis Mullen
Reno Navarette
Jessica and G. Wayne Neill
Christine and Thomas O'Mara
Harry E. Parsons, Jr.
Linda Parsons and Virginia Duncan

Judy Petitto
Lori and Anthony Prancevicus
Jill and Fred Prose
Nicholas Pumilla
Sandi and Bill Reilly
Hannah Romberg and Scott Goldberg
Sharon Ronstadt
Vincent Savarese
James Schwenk
Joan Shadwick
Zachary Short
Shannon Stage
Ellen and James Stoll
Julia Streltsova
The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students
Betty Thompson
Susan Vallie
Nicolee and Don Will, Sr.
Aregeler Williams
Peter and Anna Wong
Connie and Marshall Wozniak
Sharon and Joseph Wozny

Honorary Donations

*In Honor of the birthday of my sister Judy Petitto to help with the vet bills of **13-104 Bella***
Gerri Fedio

*In Honor of the retirement [from **Michaels Wilder**] of*
Connie McCabe
Lorraine Stein

In Honor of the marriage of Bob and Cindy Simon
Ronna Green

*In Honor of **Buddy** and **Elsie** to help all their brothers and sisters*
April and Ben Fischer

*In Honor of our second "Gotcha Day" with **Duke***
Marsha and Steve Klein

*In Honor of my adopted dog **Sandy's** third "Gotcha Day"*
Christopher O'Brien

*In Honor of Chris and **Drummer***
Evelyn Meyer

*In Honor of **13-119 Bailey***
Beverly and William Parris

*In Honor of **AGR***
Dave and Nancy Hildebrandt, who said: *Our Golden, **Roxy**, is going through a fight with cancer, and it just reminds me how fortunate I am to have such a loving and devoted animal. This is really the most outstanding breed I've ever known. I just wanted to throw a little help your way to assist your efforts in finding good homes for the misplaced Golden's in your care.*

*In Honor of **AGR's** Board of Directors*
Teri and Jeff Guilbault

*In Honor of **Ladybird** and **Troy Orwig** for reading with the kids at **Desert Foothills Library's** All-Stars Tutoring Program*
Sylvia and Mark Wermes

Memorial Donations

*In Memory of **Ladybird Orwig** – all such donations were deposited in the Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*

Debbie and Rick Ball
Beth and Jon Chaffee
Mary Jo and John Courtney
Karen and Phil Davis
Katie Donahue
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Teryl Hall
Sandra Hansen
Jodi and Jay Koblick
Pippi Korycki
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Jeannette and Dave Morrocco
Deb and Larry Orwig
Barbara and Virgil (“Bud”) Owings
Fran and Jan Stroock
Liz Tataseo
Diane Traxler and Mike McDonald

In Memory of Debbe Begley

Jerry Brummer and Janet Albrizio
Fran and Jan Stroock in memory of **Ginger Stroock**

*In Memory of all 4th Quarter Bridge Dogs: **AGR Fritz, AGR Louie, Darby Chaffee, ‘Lil Bit Craven/Holland, Jelly Delisi, Sarah and Brother Erickson, Kelly Forstrom, Buddy and Baxter LaFollette, Tanner Novak, Kody Slagowski, and Ginger Stroock***

Teddi and Delwin Axne
Katie Donahue
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig
Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **Maggie Sullivan**, beloved Golden of Ruth and Jim Sullivan*

Laura and Philip Benedetti

*In Memory of **Darby Chaffee***

Beth and Jon Chaffee
Valerie and Eugene Mylowe

*In Memory of **Fritz***

Stephanie Darkoch
Lori and Anthony Prankevicus
Marlene Schwartz

*In Memory of **Casey Vossoughi***

Deb and Larry Orwig
Bob Vossoughi

*In Memory of **Sadie Hansen***

Sandra Hansen

*In Memory of **Shayla and Gus Mantz***

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

*In Memory of **Thorvald Eric Hansen***

ADKA Enterprises, LLC. (Diane Clinton)
Margaret Hansen

*In Memory of **Patricia Pagliuco***

Dianne Price
Marcia and Joseph Ketchum

*In Memory of **James Strong***

Susan and Kenneth Avondo, Jr.
Heidemarie and John Gauvin
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Donald Walsh***

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig

In Memory of Jeannette’s mom Erlinda Williams, who always appreciated how much we love our furry babies

Jeannette and Dave Morrocco

*In Memory of **Ken Young***

Julian Andre
Nancy and John Botcheller
Shafeeka Brown
Joan Buxton
Michelle Dorothy
Kathy and Thomas Heisler
John S. Hunt

Mars Family Charitable Foundation upon recommendation of Ms. Sally Mars Carey
Ellen Mazo

Meier Family Giving Account administered by
Fidelity Charitable

Jared Solomon
Strong Tower Insurance Group, Inc.
Val Vista Lakes Women’s Club

Christmas Wishes

To my pet-loving niece Francie Austin and husband Dick Mallery with wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year from Aunt Bobbe

Barbara Clayton

To my pet-loving great niece Melissa Austin Busson, husband Tyler, and daughter Bee with wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year from Bobbe

Barbara Clayton

*Corporate Donors and Sponsors**American Express Charitable Fund**American Express Company Employee Giving Program**Anchor Embroidery & Silkscreen**Avnet**Bank of America Charitable Foundation**Cars 4 Causes**dailygood* for use of *GoodSearch, GoodShop, etc.**Event Wines-Benefit Wines* – donation from wine sales*Freeport McMoRan Foundation* – 2-for-1 matching gift for donation made by employee Leah Seidelmann*Fry's Food Stores Community Rewards Program**HSPD Enterprises, Inc. (Hale Pet Door)* – donation as a result of Hale Pet Door purchase by Kim Blumrick*Petco Foundation**PetSmart Charities**Diamond Donors**Diamond Donor for 13-084 Glory*
Tony Cotner*Diamond Donor for 13-104 Bella*
Judy Petitto*Diamond Donors for 13-115 Rad and 13-116 Runner*
Tony Cotner
Gail and Dana Haywood
Judy Petitto*Diamond Donor for 13-118 Shep*
Sandra Hansen*Diamond Donors for 13-120 Bella*Debbie and Rick Ball
Marilyn Craik
Karen and Phil Davis
Sharon Flores
Carol Gebhardt
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Teryl Hall
Dawn and Russ Ingram
Rusty and Don Krause
Gail and Marc Lottman
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Geri and Gerald McHughKim and Kevin McVeigh
Pat Morgan
Jeannette and Dave Morrocco
Deb and Larry Orwig
Eileen Proctor
Barbara and James Renshaw
Joy and Todd Slagowski
Sheila and Rick Sparr
Fran and Jan Strock
Liz Tataseo
Jane Triplett*Gift Memberships Given*

A Single Membership to Martha McDowell from Tony Cotner

A Household Membership to Michelle and Jared Miller from Teri and Jeff Guilbault

*Recent Donations in Support of 2013 Golf Tournament*John and Robert Collier
*Dixon Golf, Inc.**Special Donors**Hug 'N Pups Grooming Salon* for donating the nail trimming money they collected at the *Holiday Pet Festival**The following individuals and families for Holiday Pet Festival Angel Tree Ornament donations:*Tony Cotner
Hailey Jensen
Martha McDowell
Jackson Mockry
Lucy Siemann
The James Sullivan FamilyJoan and Paul Cieslak for electing to support *AGR* with a monthly donation charged to their credit cardLori and Anthony Prankevicus for electing to support *AGR* with a monthly donation via automatic withdrawal from their bank accountBob Vossoughi for electing to support *AGR* with a monthly donation charged to his credit card*Thank You Donations**To the AGR Board of Directors – you make it possible for me to feel better and I am having a good life; I love you all!*
*Ricky Parker**To Connie McCabe for creating a photo collage for my artist to work from*
Mary McPadden*To Connie McCabe for photo shoot*
Shelly Anderson
Karen and Phil Davis*To Deb Orwig for providing vacation dog care for Bo*
Sharla and David Jewett*To Deb Orwig for providing vacation dog care for Bubba*
Jane Triplett*To Deb Orwig for providing vacation dog care for Cassie*
Trish and Gordon Martin



5350 W. Bell Rd.
Suite C122-158
Glendale, AZ 85308

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
GLENDALE, AZ
PERMIT NO. 116

623-566-WAGS (9247)
www.arizonagoldenrescue.org
info@arizonagoldenrescue.org

Your membership expiration date is shown at
the top of the mailing label below