



Reaching out to you with...

The Golden Paw



Volume V Number 1

February 2013

Published by Arizona Golden Rescue

'Twas the Day Before Christmas...

By Deb Orwig

'Twas the day before Christmas, when all through the mall,
Last-minute shoppers were buying for all...
Where can we go that will have many choices?
"Why not **Barnes & Noble?**" said all the voices.

Folks drove through the car lot and as they drew near,
what to their wondering eyes should appear
but Golden Retrievers –
some dressed as reindeer!

"Ooh, look at the doggies!" we heard people exclaim,
as they admired and petted and asked for their names:

**Riley, Troy, Gonzo,
Mufasa and Trip,
Cobbler and Augie,
Rocky and Harley –**
what a wonderful party!

The girls, too, were there to greet everyone.

They pranced and they danced
and had wonderful fun!

**Ladybird, Sunshine,
Daisy, Holly and Blossom,
Annabelle, Rosie,
McKenna and Krissie,
Maura, Tessa and Goldie,
Lucy and Hannah,
even Stormy and Snophie!**

Paw-shakes, hugs and kisses to all they'd impart.
poured on the affection,
rewards came from the heart!

Shoppers were generous despite these hard times;
they tucked in their
twenties, tens, fives, even dimes!

With the red and green vest pockets stuffed overflowing,
we headed on home knowing
the season...
was our best ever!

Hope everyone had a Happy Holiday!

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HANDLE
WITH
CARE

To:
Samantha and
Michael

From: AGR

Special Delivery...
12-146 Rosie

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 rocco, Denny Myrick, Deb Orwig, Liz Tataseo,

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Cover Art by Connie McCabe, who made a special effort to get a great photo of **12-146 Rosie** – thanks, Connie!

Masthead photo is of our first intake of 2013: **13-001 Duffy**; photo by Connie

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 Note

Mufasa Orwig

My column is supposed to focus on behavior training. My mom says I am "a work in progress." I don't have any new behaviors of my own to tell you about, so I'm going to present some training tips that Peter Wong sent in. Although he has trained Golden Retrievers in the past, Peter's current training star is **Billie**, a very smart and energetic Border Collie. Peter and **Billie** often

come to our Meet-and-Greets and put on a little show. Last November, they came to our *Paws & Pasta Dinner at Little Bite of Italy* and impressed the crowd. You see, **Billie** is not just obedient, she does all kinds of tricks. In the last issue, I told you about learning to put my toys back in my toy box when my mom tells me to "get the toy and put it away." I thought that was a great trick until I saw **Billie** in action! Peter will scatter 8 or 10 different toys around and tell **Billie** to "get the bear" or "get the (whatever)" and go put it in the bucket. She picks up the correct toy and trots over to a bucket and drops it in. Or, Peter will just say "pick up your toys" and she will go get each one and then put it in the bucket. She will also drop a small basketball into a basketball net on command from Peter. In addition, she can do arithmetic and mail letters (see photos on p. 9)! She is amazing! And Peter is a fantastic trainer, so I suggest you read his training tips carefully.

Distraction-proof Training**By Peter Wong**

A trained dog responds to your commands regardless of whatever distractions are present. A distraction is no reason to ignore commands. Training around and under distractions is very critical to produce a reliable working dog. A dog that only obeys at home is not reliable and cannot be considered trained. He must respond to commands outside his home environment. Following are some important distraction-proof training tips:

- (1) Once your dog is performing very well at home, start taking him to other sites: parking lots, parks, friends' homes, Meet-and-Greet events, schools, etc. and work him there.
- (2) Any time your dog ignores a command, quickly get him to respond and afterward immediately offer praise. This will demonstrate to him that a command cannot be ignored. Act quickly any time there is hesitation.
- (3) When working to get your dog used to distractions, include other dogs and people of all types and ages.
- (4) Be very generous with praise for correct behaviors. Every correct and quick response should result in a small tasty treat. Before you know it, you will always have his complete attention.

*Wags and Woofs***By Deb Orwig, President**

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In March 2009 when Debbe Begley and I were discussing creating *Arizona Golden Rescue*, we agreed on most everything about how we wanted the Rescue to be organized. Both of us felt that what was of utmost importance was to always hold the dog as our #1 priority – the dog's health, the dog's well-being, and the best possible home for the dog. Fortunately, all our Board members and Team Managers have always had the same priority. The dog is the reason why we all work so hard and so passionately.

Those of you who are reading this newsletter include not only our members, but also all whose names and addresses we recorded who gave us any amount of a donation during the last three months of 2012. Many of you do not know much about *Arizona Golden Rescue*, but if you read through this entire newsletter you will learn a lot, perhaps enough to want to become a member or maybe just enough to want to support us somehow during 2013 because of the great work we do.

Most of our members know the story I am going to relate here, as each one who has an e-mail address was made aware of the situation I am going to describe. It is such a feel-good story that I want you to know about it even if you are not a current member, because it really says what needs to be said about who we are.

A Special Christmas Eve Present

On Christmas Eve Day at about 4 PM, when we had been buried in gift wrapping since 9 AM, we got a call on our WAGS line, our contact phone number. Fortunately, Gail Haywood answers our phone in person from 8 AM to 8 PM every single day; when she's not at home, calls are routed to her cell phone. Gail was at the gift wrapping event. The woman who called, Linda Arters, wanted to talk to me. She said she had known me years ago when I was a member of another rescue group. She told me a friend of hers, Kim Gauchet, who operates *Born To Run* (13811 S. Val Vista Dr., Gilbert), a dog boarding and day care facility, had a 6-year-old Golden, **Rosie**, boarding with her, and **Rosie** had developed bloat. Knowing time was of the essence, Kim rushed **Rosie** to the nearest animal emergency clinic. When she apprised the owners, who were out of state visiting the wife's terminally ill mother, that **Rosie** needed emergency surgery and that it would probably cost over \$5,000, the owners sadly said they could not afford the surgery, so Kim called Linda and asked her advice on what to do. Linda called *AGR*, and we agreed to take **Rosie** into our rescue program and have the necessary surgery done. Within 15 minutes, Teri Guilbault, our Director of Dog Care, had the whole thing worked out

with the emergency clinic and **Rosie** had the surgery. Without it, she would have died; with it, she had a good chance of surviving.

The following 48 hours were critical, but **Rosie** made it through, and her prognosis was good. During that 48 hours, the Board discussed the situation the family was in. The husband had just returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. The wife's mother was terminally ill (she passed away on December 26th). The couple had lost their home to foreclosure and were renting a home whose owner allowed them to have a Golden. Where was the best home for **Rosie**? With her original owners, of course! So, in an unprecedented move whose circumstances are unlikely to be repeated any time soon, the Board voted to adopt **Rosie** back to her family and to charge them only \$1 for her adoption. They have not stopped thanking **AGR** since the day Teri Guilbault transported **Rosie** home. Teri said, *It was the best transport I have ever, ever done!*

On December 27th when I sent out a message to our members about **Rosie** and the fact that the Board had voted to return her to her family, many comments, all positive, poured in, as did donations for the next seven days. Comments from some who sent in donations in **Rosie's** honor included:

Great decision (many said this)!

*As a retired member with over 25 years of active reserve Navy, I'm glad to end this year on such a positive note knowing that **Rosie** has received the medical attention she needed and will get a chance to return to her family.*

*I think it's awesome that **AGR** was able to help this family stay together with their dog. Sometimes bad things happen to good people, and I wholly support the decision to help this dog and family.*

*Sending **Rosie** back to her home and parents was the right and best thing to do... thanks for doing what you guys do.*

*What a wonderful heartwarming story about **Rosie**. You should have put "tissue alert" in the subject line also. **AGR** does really rock!*

*Good job. The right decision at the right time of the year. **Arizona Golden Rescue** showed the Christmas spirit. They "walked the walk."*

That is the most beautiful gesture I have seen all year. That is the kind of heart a rescuer should have and I applaud all of you for this.

From another military member: This is one of those feel-good, warm-and-fuzzy, makes-you-tingle-all-over stories that make all of the work we do all year worthwhile. Kudos and a big pat on the back to all involved; pretty darn good for a bunch of civilians – just kidding, the military could not have pulled this off! What a way to end the year!

Rosie's surgery and follow-up treatment were covered by monies

in the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. Debbe, **AGR's** Cofounder, passed away from cancer in June 2010. At that time, **AGR** created a *Fund* in her memory that was designated to cover expenses over \$5,000 for a particular dog or for any dog that comes into Rescue with cancer or for other special needs circumstances. We have had several dedicated fundraisers for this special *Fund*: Gift wrapping at **Barnes & Noble** stores before Mother's Day and Father's Day, the 50/50 raffle at the *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament*, the *Bowl-a-Rama*, and the *Paws & Pasta Dinner*. Each year, monies raised at these and perhaps other events will be deposited in this *Fund*, so that in the future we may be able to help more families like **Rosie's**. Special thanks to all of you who sent in a donation in **Rosie's** honor (see p. 37). Donations to *Debbe's Fund* are welcome year round and are, of course, tax deductible.



Thanks to Liz Tataseo for organizing the gift wrapping helpers for the Arrowhead and Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** stores and to Kathi Youhas for chairing the Happy Valley store when I was at the *Holiday Pet Festival* and Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble**. Larry Jessup did a spectacular job calling all possible volunteers who live east of I-17, south of Anthem and north of Casa Grande to come out for the Tempe Marketplace gift wrapping – throughout our 9-hour stint there, we had a total of 83 volunteers and 47 dogs and we took in over \$2500 in donations, the most ever at a gift wrap event! That same day, we had an additional dozen volunteers and dogs for four hours at the Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble**! They also did incredibly well financially, over \$1000, as they were presented with a \$500 check just as they were packing up!

Connie McCabe did her usual fantastic job at the Arrowhead **PetSmart** chairing *Photos with Santa*. She had help with photography from Joy Slagowski and from quite a few Santa and Elf volunteers and dog wranglers (see article on pp. 32 - 35). Angela Palumbo and her daughter, Michelle, also did a great job handling *Photos with Santa* at the Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart** during the third weekend in December. They had Santa help from Dana Haywood, Jeff Sager and Barbara Brownlee, and elf and dog-wrangling help from several others (see pp. 35 - 36)! Thanks to all of you who came to any of the holiday events to help out!

Tremendous thanks also go to Liz Tataseo for helping me with the end-of-the-year thank you letters. Between the two of us, we generated 317 letters – she prepared the ones for item donations, and I did the ones for monetary donations. Many of the letters listed multiple contributions. All letters were sent out on January 4th. Special thanks to all of you who donated something, especially during the holiday season – it was by far our best season ever financially, so we are comfortable going into 2013. The fundraising can never stop, though, so please try to support our upcoming events, especially our *Golden Paws Gambling Hall Casino Event*. It will be an afternoon of great fun on February 24th at **Villa La Paws Training Center** in Phoenix.



With Paw Extended

By **Liz Tataseo, Director of Operations**
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Give a Little, Get a Lot!

Everyone has breathed a sigh of relief now that the holiday events have concluded, including all the dogs that went out into the cold to Gift Wrapping, Santa Photos and the *Holiday Pet Festival*. One of the reasons we extended our time frame and moved the Casino Event to February 24th was to avoid rushing the planning and also to complete all of the post-holiday activities. Let's all take a little time to recover. OK, that's done. (Sign up for Casino at www.arizonagoldenrescue.org)

As you read the articles about all the **AGR** events, give yourself a pat on the back (and your dog a pat on the head) if you attended or donated during this time. We not only raised lots of money for our dogs, but we also met wonderful people and received many new adoption and membership applications, and these are still coming in. Everyone gave a little and **AGR** got a lot!

Let's continue that throughout 2013. Take a little time and go to an event, help with planning, donate, but most of all be there with your dog to help out even if you choose just one event. We will have Meet-and-Greets every month in different parts of the Valley – there are lots to choose from. Make a resolution now to go to one or, even better, one a month. It's fun – your dog will enjoy it and so will you. Check often the Events Calendar on the **AGR** website.

We will be walking in the *Parada del Sol* in Scottsdale on February 9th and we expect many, many dogs to walk along with their people. The crowds attending this event love seeing the dogs and expect them every year. Come on out and walk with us and enjoy the day with your dog. If you have an older dog that can't walk too much, we can provide a personal trailer for them to ride in so they, too, can enjoy the event. You will need to let me know ahead of time if your dog(s) must ride in a trailer or wagon. Usually, we participate in the **PACC 911** Adopt-a-thon held in Anthem. This year, however, that event is, unfortunately, scheduled for the same day as the *Parada*, so we will not have a booth in Anthem.

Our Casino Event, *The Golden Paw Gambling Hall*, will include many exciting games provided by **Arizona Nights**, with professional dealers and a pit boss. There will be a silent auction and raffle, and Miss Kitty and her Saloon Girls will be there. Set aside the time now, 1:30 – 5:30 pm on Sunday, February 24th at the **Villa La Paws Training Center**, 10630 N. 32nd St. A light buffet will be available during the afternoon. Sign up now on our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org, or send in your registration by mail. All

you have to do is come and have fun (people only at this event).

March 23rd is the date for our annual *Paws At The Park* members' meeting and picnic. Food and beverages are provided for a small registration fee. This year this event will be at **Papago Park South** in Tempe. It is an event that your dog can attend with you and enjoy the day with all the other Golden Retrievers. This year we are having doggie games and a costume contest for your dog, a costume that best exemplifies springtime. Use the enclosed flyer to register.

We brought in more dogs than ever in 2012, which increased our vet expenses, and we anticipate increased numbers this year. All it takes is to give a little of your time and you will get so much in return and so will your Golden and all the Golden Retrievers out there who need rescuing.



Forever Home

By **Teri Guilbault, Director of Dog Care**
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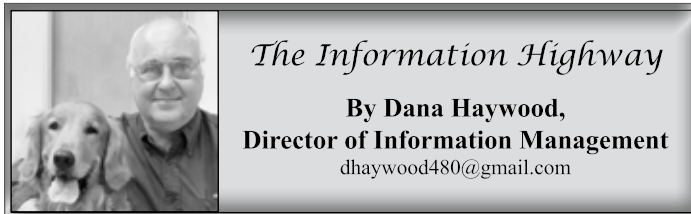
The year 2012 was a very good year for our organization – our membership continued to grow, and we were extremely fortunate to have wonderful members with huge hearts who donated both their time and money to **AGR**. We brought in 146 Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes – our biggest year for rescue yet! We had many, many happy dogs and families who were united and who all have wonderful success stories to tell. The icing on the cake for all of us came on December 24th in the form of 6-year-old **Rosie** as a medical emergency who suffered from bloat and was ultimately returned home to her surrendering family. What an incredible way to end an already great year!

Internally, we worked hard to expand our database to make it easier for all of us to get our respective jobs done as quickly and efficiently as possible, and we were able to split our Intake and Placement team into two different areas. As a result, we have been able to welcome several new volunteers who, as of the beginning of this year, will be working hard to place our dogs as they come in. Michele Wehry is still at the helm of Intake and, as always, does a fantastic job with her team. Denny Myrick, who is now doing a wonderful job as **AGR's** Placement Manager, has assembled a great group of volunteers, including Jim Henkel, David Jewett, Barbara Miller, Pam Spicer and Sue Vallie. Welcome to Placement and thank you all for your willingness to help!

In the coming year, our hope is that we can remain as successful as in the past and be able to continue to rescue every Golden Retriever and Golden mix that needs to be helped and rehomed. If you have any resolutions that you have not yet put into place (by now I'm sure you have all made and broken just a few!), please

resolve to continue to remain or become an active part of **Arizona Golden Rescue** if you are not already. Don't be afraid to come to a Meet-and-Greet or any fundraising event on the calendar, and please DO check our calendar regularly, as events have been known to pop up sporadically if we are offered an opportunity through **PACC911** or a generous merchant or vendor. It's always great fun for the humans and the dogs, too! If you think that you would like to help us out on a regular basis, we ALWAYS have a need whether it's helping to do a home evaluation, transporting a dog, helping out with our health team or even data entry – we can use you! Did I not mention something that you're good at and think you'd like to do? I'm sure we can use you! Don't wait to be asked because we'll be happy to have you!

I look forward to seeing all of you in the coming months and hope you and your furbabies have a very healthy and happy 2013!



Happy New Year, **AGR**, and thank you to everyone who made this last year the huge success it was! We took in 146 dogs in 2012, up almost 50% over 2011, when we took in 98 dogs. Our Membership has also grown to over 500 members, up considerably over last year at this time. Without the help of so many of you, our fantastic 2012 would not have been possible.

The growth that we have experienced necessitated changes in the way we do things. We added more volunteers to our Intake Team, so we now have four people on a rotating basis, each taking one week at a time of intake responsibilities. Because of all the time and responsibilities this growth created, our Intake Manager Michele Wehry, who was also the Placement Manager and the only one doing placement, relinquished that position to Denny Myrick so that we could create a dedicated Placement Team. We are now in the process of training the Placement Team volunteers, so that they will operate similarly to the Intake team with a weekly rotation of people doing placement.

I attended my first Board Meeting two years ago. In January, I had been asked to consider taking on the responsibility of being the next Director of Information Management when our general meeting and election was held in March. I attended the February Board Meeting as a guest, as I was not officially in the position yet. One item that was brought up was that the database that was being developed should be ready in about two months for us to see our first looks at it. The database has come so far now that earlier this past year we moved over to it for all our record keeping of the members and our dogs. In just the past few months, some very

important changes have been made to the database, so that it now will help our newly-developed Placement Team match dogs and their forever homes a lot more easily. No longer do we have to search through paper applications and home evaluations and folders created to store information on prospective homes. Now, all the adoption applicants' profiles are loaded into the database, and then we enter information about a prospective dog and the database will create a list of matching profiles between dog and FWITA. This rebuild of the database is what made it possible to have a Placement Team and not just one person doing the placements.

The database has also changed the way a lot of other operations are done. Our home evaluators now enter their evaluations online, and I enter the information into the database. Very soon, the update will happen automatically. When the home evaluator fills out his/her report, it will automatically be transferred into the database. Adoption Applications will also automatically be transferred to the database when applicants fill out their applications online.

We have had a new build of our website in the works for almost a year now, but with all the time and effort that have been required to get the database in the form we need it to be so that the website and database can share information, it has been delayed. Hopefully now that the database is close to completion we will be able to use the time to finish up the new website, which should come soon.

Along with all the growth that we have experienced, there is the need for increased volunteer participation. We can always use more members on our Home Evaluation and Transport teams. We can also use members at our regular Meet-and-Greets to help get our message out to the public. It is a great time to get to meet the other members of our fine organization.



Welcome to **Arizona Golden Rescue**, whether you are a new or established member, or even just interested in Golden rescue. This column is appropriately called *The Human Connection*, and in this issue I would like to point out some of the various ways that you can connect with others in this group of over 500 **AGR** members who share your love of Golden retrievers. I know that everyone has something that they can contribute to others, from great stories to incredible photos. Have questions on behavior, health, events or any other subject? We offer each other lots of good advice, inspiration and support when needed.

One of the best ways to link up with each other is through the yahoo group specifically formed for our members and other Golden

Retriever lovers. With few exceptions, contributors are monitored so there are no spam messages or viruses put through. You will receive notices of group events and important reminders. This is how many of us share links to the photo albums from different **AGR** activities, in addition to general discussions about our dogs and other topics of interest. Please go to

<http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/ArizonaGoldenRescue/join>

You must have a Yahoo account to join. If you don't already have one, there is an option to create a Yahoo account on that page. Don't be shy – we all look forward to seeing your stories and photos. We currently have 164 yahoogroup members and would love to add more.

We also have a popular Facebook group page, which has over 250 friends. Kathy Blue keeps us updated on that page with various items of interest, especially the wonderful success stories and photos contributed by our adopters.

We also have a newly-formed official photo sharing site through Phanfare, where I have posted all of our event photos since July 2012. We normally send out invitations to view individual albums when they are posted, but if you use the following link, you will always be able to see the full set of available event photos, even without an invitation. Contributor access is restricted, as we archive all of our official photos there. However, I welcome your photos and will be happy to post them to the appropriate event album for you. Just email them to me at photocraf@aol.com. The link to the event photos is:

agrdogphotos.phanfare.com/agr-events

Remember, you don't need an invitation, and the albums will remain there indefinitely. If you attend an **AGR** event and do not have contributor access but have photos to share, please email the photos to me to post for you.

These are only some of the ways to connect with other members, but by far the best way to meet each other and to socialize your dogs is to attend some of our Meet-and-Greets and other functions. Every event is posted on our website calendar, and if you join the yahoogroup you will receive reminders, too. We have a fun *Casino Event* coming up in February and our annual *Paws At The Park* in March – both will be great places to meet people. I hope you can attend. I look forward to connecting one way or another with you soon!

Volunteers don't get paid - not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!
~ Anon.

Health and Safety
By Teri Guilbault, Health Care Manager
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Hypothyroidism

We all know that as we mature, we tend to gain a few more pounds, our skin changes texture (did I mention wrinkles?), our hair tends to thin or just plain fall out, we tire a little more easily, are more sensitive to cold weather and we tend to get a little crabby. I hear they call that old age. When our beloved furkids start to get older and show these types of symptoms, we are concerned because that is usually a sign that something is amiss.

Hypothyroidism in dogs, or basically a sluggish or inactive thyroid, is not uncommon as dogs reach their middle or senior years, and can cause many problems in dogs, including those issues that I mentioned above. Untreated hypothyroidism can cause a lower quality of life for your dog, but the good news is that with the right medication, it is easy to treat. Hypothyroidism is normally a genetically-caused disease and is thought to be the most common genetic illness in dogs. This disease causes alterations in a dog's cellular metabolism and, as a result, affects the entire body. Interestingly enough, it can also be a contributing factor to seizures in dogs. But while there is a genetic predisposition for thyroid disorders such as this, environmental factors such as pollutants and allergies can also play a role.

A suggestion for helping to lower a dog's risk for seizures resulting from hypothyroidism is to make sure that your dog is in an environment as free of chemical pollutants as possible, as there are a number of chemicals that can cause seizure activity in dogs. Diet can also help. Dog foods should be as preservative-free as possible, as certain types of preservatives can also cause seizure activity. In addition, there has been discussion over the Internet about switching dogs over to a raw, organic diet to help control and lessen the likelihood of seizures, and that regular preventative vaccinations for your dog can also play a part in lessening seizures, as well.

If you suspect that your dog may have hypothyroidism, please talk to your veterinarian. He or she can run a Total T4 or an FT4, which are recommended blood tests to screen for this disease. As always, your veterinarian will best be able to determine a course of treatment. The initial testing to confirm this disease is normally the biggest expense that you would incur. Thyroid replacement medications such as Soloxine (levothyroxine) are a replacement for the hormone that the thyroid gland normally produces to regulate the body's energy and metabolism, and are not terribly expensive. Online pet pharmacies or retailers such as Costco offer medications at very reasonable prices; depending on the dosage, costs normally run in the \$10 - \$20 per month area. There will also be

regular retesting to ensure that your dog's thyroid level numbers are within normal ranges. Once a dog's thyroid level has been stabilized, then normally testing would occur every 6 – 12 months.

As *Arizona Golden Rescue's* Health Care Manager, my goal is to always ensure that all of our rescues, and your other furkids as well, get the best possible health care so that we can try to extend their lives as much as possible. As with any issue that you may run into with your dog, please always contact your veterinarian to confirm what may or may not need to be done, as he/she is always the best resource for your animal's health.

Information for this article was taken from the following sources:

<http://www.drsofostersmith.com/pic/article.cfm?aid=2030>

<http://dogs.about.com/od/caninediseases/p/Canine-Hypothyroidism-Diagnosis-And-Treatment-Of-Underactive-Thyroid-In-Dogs.htm>

http://thyroid.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ&zTi=1&sdn=thyroid&cdn=health&tm=19&gps=371_368_1600_900&f=00&su=p284.13.342.ip_&tt=2&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A//www.thyroid-info.com/articles/dog-hypo.htm

<http://thyroid.about.com/cs/catsdogspets/a/hypothyroiddogs.htm>

<http://www.vetinfo.com/seizures-from-hypothyroidism-in-dogs.html>

Editor's Note: Normally, I would not reprint an article from one of our newsletters any more often than once every other year. However, because of 12-146 Rosie, our last intake of 2012, the subject of bloat is foremost in people's minds. So, I am reprinting from our May 2012 issue a Health & Safety column written by Teri Guilbault, AGR's Health Care Manager, on that subject, so that you can review or learn anew about this life-threatening condition.

Bloat

Bloat is a very serious health risk for many dogs, yet many dog owners know very little about it. Research has shown that after cancer, it is the second leading killer of dogs. Golden Retrievers are high on the list for being susceptible to this condition. One of our beloved rescues, **11-076 Baxter**, went to the Bridge as an unfortunate casualty of this condition.

The technical name for bloat is "Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus" ("GDV"). Bloating of the stomach is often related to swallowed air (although food and fluid can also be present). It usually happens when there is an abnormal accumulation of air, fluid, and/or foam in the stomach ("gastric dilatation"). Stress can be a significant contributing factor also. Bloat can occur with or without the stomach twisting. As the stomach swells, it may rotate 90° to 360°, twisting between its attachments at the esophagus and at the upper intestine. The twisting stomach traps air, food, and water in the stomach. The bloated stomach obstructs veins in the abdomen, leading to low blood pressure, shock, and damage to internal organs. The combined effect can quickly kill a dog. Be prepared! Know in advance what you would do if your dog bloated.

Typical symptoms often include some of the following. Unfortunately, from the onset of the first symptoms there is very little time to get immediate medical attention. Best rule of thumb for this, and any other medical condition, is: Know your dog and know when it is not acting right.

- Attempts to vomit that are unsuccessful.
- Dog does not act like its usual self, a very early warning sign and the only sign that almost always occurs.
- Significant anxiety and restlessness.
- Hunched up appearance.
- Lack of normal gurgling and digestive sounds in the tummy.
- Bloated abdomen that may feel tight.
- Pale or off color gums.
- Excessive drooling.
- Coughing.
- Foamy mucus around the mouth.
- Unproductive efforts to pass stool.
- Pacing and whining.
- Heavy or rapid panting, or shallow breathing.
- Unable to stand, or collapses.
- Accelerated heartbeat.

If you believe your dog is experiencing bloat, please get your dog to a veterinarian immediately! Bloat can kill in less than an hour, so time is of the essence. Call your vet to alert them you're on your way with a suspected bloat case. Better to be safe than sorry!


Here is a partial list of things that you can do to reduce the risk of bloat developing in your dog:

- Avoid highly stressful situations or try to minimize stress as much as possible.
- Do not exercise for at least an hour or longer before and especially after eating.
- Discourage rapid eating – if your dog "inhales" his or her food, there are specialized bowls that you can purchase that are compartmentalized to make it harder to consume food as quickly.
- Feed two or three small meals a day versus just one large.
- Allow access to fresh water at all times except for one hour before or after a meal.
- When switching dog food, do it gradually – over a period of weeks is suggested.
- Do not feed dry food exclusively, but if you do, avoid foods containing fat as one of the first four ingredients, avoid foods that contain citric acid, and select a food that includes rendered meat meal with bone product among the first four ingredients.
- Do not promote rapid or excessive drinking.
- Use of an elevated food bowl has been debated by many well-known veterinarians – some recommend only bowls that are elevated, and some say not to use them.

A couple of tips which are always a good rule of thumb:

- If your regular vet doesn't have 24-hour emergency service, know which nearby vet you would use – keep the phone number handy.
- Always keep a product with simethicone on hand (Mylanta Gas [not regular Mylanta], Gas-X, etc.) in case your dog has gas. If you can reduce or slow the gas, you've probably bought yourself a little more time to get to a vet if your dog is bloating.

There are many very useful articles on the Internet with suggestions on how to help your dog avoid this condition or how to recognize this condition if it happens. Suggestions in this article were taken from <http://www.globalspan.net/bloat.htm>



Service Paws
By Wendy Enos
wendyenos@cox.net

The Aging Service Dog

A month ago, my **Sophie** dog was born. She was certified as a service dog a couple of weeks ago. She was in her prime just yesterday. That's the way it seems to me when, in actuality, she just turned 8 ½ and passed the sixth anniversary of her certification. I still have yet to fathom how time could pass that quickly!

It means at least half of her life is behind her. Her career as a service dog is beginning to wind down. She has a little arthritis in her wrists and shoulders, her vision and depth perception aren't what they used to be, and she tires a little more easily now.

So is she finished working? By no means! I expect she'll let me know when she's ready to retire, but it's solely my responsibility to watch and listen to her, and pay close attention to make sure I don't ask of her anything she shouldn't be doing anymore.

Sophie has always been a great bracer; it was one of the first tasks she learned, to plant her feet firmly on the floor and stand like a stone statue anytime I touch her shoulders to either keep from stumbling or to get up off the floor. So when her veterinarian reported some minor arthritis, I modified **Sophie's** brace. Now I lean into her side and she painlessly leans back. Just a minor adjustment, but one I'm sure she appreciates every time she has to do it.

Instead of being annoyed with her for taking her time jumping into the van or onto the bath table, I'm patient as she takes her time to make sure of where she's jumping, since nuclear sclerosis equates to an aging human's need for reading glasses.

It was a difficult decision to stop flying her cross-country as we have done for the past five years. Curling up in a cramped airplane

for six hours puts too much stress on her physically and mentally and, while she'd do it without complaint, I've seen what she goes through, and it'd be wrong to put her through it anymore at her age.

For nearly seven years, **Sophie** has faithfully clung to my side, saved me countless times from injury, and made life so much safer and easier for me. Now, with a few modifications to her tasks, I can turn the table just a little and make her life a little more comfortable, as she so richly deserves.

The Importance of Exercise
By Peter Wong



Physical exercise is vital for your dog's health. There are far too many dogs suffering not just from being overweight, but from obesity. A dog's health condition is related to the health condition and attitude of its owner. Is the owner health conscious? Does the owner suffer from any health issues such as high blood pressure? Is the owner overweight?

Does the owner consume a poor diet or just not exercise due to plain laziness? For the sake of your dog's health, please make every effort to set up a daily routine in which your dog is exercised twice daily. Walk or run, or better yet, use a bicycle in which the dog is running alongside with the leash



attached to the handle bar. Thirty or more minutes twice daily would be excellent. Of course, don't do too much at first – take time to increase the duration and distance.

My dog Billie looks forward to our daily exercise sessions. The sessions average up to 2 hours daily.

They satisfy her need for exercise. She is not an idle dog, and she would not be happy sitting around with nothing to do – this would be no life for her. She is a high-drive dog that must be active: daily exercise and daily training is what make her happy. Start today to better your dog's health. Exercising with your dog will, in the long run, develop a deep bond between the two of you. Start now!



The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Reporting period: January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012

Total Assets as of January 15, 2013: \$127,895.05

	Income	Expense
Adoptions	\$43,443.00	\$ 2,175.00
Bank, Crdt Card, Legal, Prof.		2,538.29
Bowl-A-Rama Donations ¹	6,014.50	
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	5,780.00	3,598.56
Casino Event	85.00	
Celebration Party Silent Auction	400.00	
Donations	58,872.23	
Dues and Subscriptions	141.48	187.33
Event Expense		776.83
Garage Sale	3,534.97	
Gift Wrap Events	12,495.98	
Golf Tournament	37,521.04	10,450.00
Grants ¹	5,129.71	550.00
Insurance		252.00
Interest	81.58	
Memberships	15,645.00	
Merchandise	5,769.06	3,980.36
Office Expense		774.05
<i>Paws & Pasta</i>	1,653.00	
<i>Paws At The Park Picnic 2012²</i>	1,411.06	823.35
<i>PetSmart Charities PetWalk</i>	1,866.00	
Postage		1,697.84
Promotional		464.71
Rent or Lease		1,200.00
Santa Claws Photos taken in 2011	1,425.00	
Stationery & Printing		3,509.82
Tickets, Raffle ³	1,611.50	
Telephone		190.47
Utilities		307.72
Vet and Dog-related Expenses:		
Boarding		338.95
Collars, Leashes, Tags		2,136.66
Microchip & Heartgard® expenses		2,249.75
Transport Expense ⁴		133.35
Veterinary services		148,095.12
TOTAL	\$202,880.11	186,430.16
NET INCOME:	\$16,449.95	

Checking Account on 1-15-13: \$31,979.63
 Savings Account on 1-15-13: \$81,940.66
 The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 1-15-13: \$13,974.76
 Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 1-15-13: \$12,794.03

¹ Grant to Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue to help with expenses of a 20-dog puppy mill rescue
² Income does not include raffle ticket sales – that income is shown separately
³ Includes 2012 Celebration Party raffle and Paws At The Park raffle
⁴ Gas for transport of six dogs from El Paso Golden Retriever Rescue

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Katie Donahue, D.O.

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 11, 2012 through January 7, 2013. All adoptions finalized after January 7th will be in the next issue.



12-060 Lilo was rescued with her brother **Jethro**, now known as **Riley**, in May 2012. They are 5-year-old Golden/Lab mixes. We had plans to keep the pair together but, after a short period of observation in a foster home, we made the decision to separate them and allow them to develop individual personalities and blossom separately. **Lilo** was placed with

Trent and Megan in Mesa and has been doing quite well. Initially, she had some separation anxiety issues and was not thrilled when her parents left her home alone for short periods of time. Teryl, our behavior specialist, was able to suggest to Megan and Trent some activities to keep **Lilo's** mind occupied while they were out of the house to prevent her from getting herself worked up and agitated. Teryl was also able to give them pointers on how to improve **Lilo's** leash manners and interactions with other dogs. Fortunately, **Lilo** is quite the student and has excellent instructors for parents. Though initially reluctant about the idea of adding a dog to the family, when Megan asked Trent about going to a Halloween party not long after getting **Lilo**, his first thought was, *What are we going to do with Lilo?* Megan is thrilled with how well Trent has taken to pet parenting. **Lilo** even sent us a note to let us know just how much she's enjoying her new life and the opportunities she gets every day to exercise her brain and her legs: *Hi, my name is Lilo and I'm just about the most happy girl you'll ever meet! I am always smiling and wagging my tail. I have a million favorite things. I love going on walks and it's even better when my mommy gives me a toy to hold onto while we stroll. My daddy takes me on runs two or three times a week. I could run forever! Back to toys, I just love them! My favorites are the squeaky toys, and my parents*

think it's pretty funny that I rip all my squeaky toys to pieces. I am also a pretty smart girl. My parents signed us up for pet training at PetSmart, and the trainer is always using me as the demo dog because I learn everything so fast! My parents are pretty slow (I'm their first dog!) but I'm being patient with them. Did I mention that I'm a Golden Retriever/Lab mix? Sometimes the Lab in me makes me want to pick up and eat EVERYTHING! When I'm not trying to find stuff to eat on the floor (or the counter tops, oops!) I just want to be around people. I love meeting new people and I've gotten better about not jumping on them. I just love all the attention and I love kissing to show my appreciation. Kids are the best! We have a lot of neighbor kids for me to get attention from and their faces are easier to reach to give them kisses! Teryl, AGR's behavior specialist, has been trying to work with me to be as nice to other dogs and cats. I get a little mean when I see other animals, but my parents have faith I'll get better. Speaking of my parents... did I mention how much I love them? I have a lot of favorite things but my absolute, furever favorite thing is to cuddle on the sofa with them. It didn't take very long for them to figure out that I'm a lap dog! I think cuddling with me on the sofa is probably their favorite thing to do, too. We're all pretty happy to have found each other!



12-095 Daisy is a lovely 5-year-old female Golden mix rescued from the Eastside Shelter. She has adorable almost-Golden ears that perk up when she's excited about things. She has a very loving personality and is very sensitive to people's emotions. Her mom feels she is a natural therapy dog. She is now living in Gilbert with Mom Brenda and several other

doggy friends. Mom Brenda writes: *Daisy is an awesome addition to my family. She is a great dog and even though she has only been with me since November 6, 2012, I can't imagine life without her. She is a smart dog, and I definitely consider myself the lucky one in this case. She gets along great with my other dogs and they all play around in the backyard. She likes to "talk" to me and lets me know when she wants to go on a walk or would like a treat. What a gift she is!*

12-101. It is not uncommon that we have several dogs in Rescue with the same or very similar names. Often, when families adopt dogs, they will change the dog's original name, and we will have duplicate names in that case as well. Over the last few months, we had three **Mollys** come in to **AGR** almost one right after another. We had to number them to help keep them straight! **Molly** number one, **12-101**, is an 8-month-old puppy who was surrendered because of separation anxiety and puppy behavior. As



most people are aware, puppies tend to chew on things as they get their adult teeth. If they are not provided appropriate supervision and appropriate chew toys, they will chew whatever they can get their teeth around. Also, an 8-month-old puppy is similar to a teenage human. It will try to test the boundaries and see just how much mischief it can find. If its owner does not provide proper exercise, training, and mental stimulation, it can become a hoodlum. Unfortunately, some members of **Molly's** original family never gave her a chance, and she developed some unpleasant puppy behaviors. Her family was not willing to work with her and train her to behave, so they requested **AGR** to find her a more appropriate home. Now known as **Maui**, she has found her forever home with Michelle, Keith, and their children in Anthem. She is having a wonderful time there and has blossomed into a lovely dog. Michelle writes: *We welcomed Maui into our home about 8 weeks ago. Maui has most certainly found her forever home. I would venture to say that no dog has ever been so spoiled so quickly or given so much love in return. Maui is our 10-month-old Golden and she is amazing. When my kids were 1 and 3, they lost their father in a plane crash; we had two dogs at the time. Both dogs were rather old and within about a year both passed, as well. Mommy needed some time to be ready to welcome another family member, and when I decided it was finally time, the kids were overjoyed. Both my daughter and my son adore Maui and we take her everywhere with our little family. Maui has been hiking in Flagstaff numerous times (including summiting Mt. Humphreys with me and Keith, my new love) and she has been whisked away to Show Low for a weekend in the mountains. Maui takes rides to school to drop the kids off and often can be found sleeping under their beds until our bedtime when she follows us to sleep. Maui is loving, faithful, and sweet, and our home is that much better because of her. Thanks to Arizona Golden Rescue for allowing her to be a part of our home.*



12-102 Malachi is a 3-year-old Goldendoodle with boundless energy. He has yet to grow out of his Energizer Bunny puppy phase. He loves to play fetch, and the person throwing the ball will tire before **Malachi** does. He also loves to swim so much he once sprained his tail wagging it while in the water! He has the typical Golden exuberance for meeting people and

tends to jump to greet someone, but he is very gentle when he puts his paws on a person's shoulders. Unfortunately, he seems to have developed some allergies. Many Golden Retrievers have sensitive immune systems and develop allergies to certain types of meats, grains, fragrances, or even grass. **Malachi's** allergies don't seem to be too severe; the hot spot he came in with has healed well and, in addition to the occasional antihistamine, he has found a food that helps him itch less. New dad, Dong, is still working with **Malachi's** vet to calm down all of his allergies, but, overall, **Malachi**, or **Mally** for short, is doing quite well. He is back to

enjoying endless games of fetch, long walks, and dips in the pool!



12-103 Dosha, now known as **Murphy**, is a handsome 9-month-old puppy who found himself in need of a new home. He also found himself with several medical issues that we are continuing to work on. The most obvious of his issues was his bilateral cryptorchidism – neither of his testicles descended into his scrotum.

During puppy gestation (and people gestation), the testicles start life in the abdominal cavity. They migrate to the scrotum and should be in place by birth. If they are not, doctors get a little concerned. Cryptorchid testicles do not function properly, as sperm require a cooler temperature to develop, which is why testicles are found on the outside of the body. Also, if left in the abdomen, they can become cancerous. Because his testicles were in his abdomen, **Murphy's** neuter surgery was a bit more complicated than a typical neuter. He did very well, though, and, after a short recovery period, he was ready to go home to his forever family with Melissa and Brian and their sons Jordan and Justin in Gilbert. After he healed from his neuter, Melissa noticed that **Murphy** was limping some. **Murphy** went back to the vet for an exam with Dr. Pullen at **AMSC**, who does most of **AGR's** orthopedic work. Imagine our surprise when we found out poor **Murphy** had an old fracture in his left femur that hadn't healed properly. The bone had healed with some rotation and angulation and was causing his patella to slide out of place. **Murphy** was going to need more surgery. While awaiting his knee surgery, **Murphy** developed a nasty tummy bug which resulted in another overnight trip to the vet, IV fluids, and lots of TLC. Fortunately no surgery this time! He has since recovered from both his tummy upset and his knee surgery and has returned to fairly normal activity. But oh, by the way, he started to have some ear irritation, so Melissa took him back to the vet and, when they cleaned out his ear, they found he had ruptured his ear drum! Poor **Murphy**! It is a good thing he is such a sweet, loving dog. I don't know many dogs who would have tolerated quite so much medical intervention. **Murphy's** new family adores him and has seen him through all of his medical needs. We wish them all a much calmer 2013!



12-104 Molly number two is a 6-year-old red female who was rescued from the **Arizona Humane Society**. She was slightly underweight and had some muscle loss in her back legs when we brought her in to Rescue. Connie and Nick sprung her from the shelter and, while she was OK with Nick, she much preferred Connie. They also noted her to be

rather shy with strangers, and, when a visiting cat hissed at her, she

went searching for cover. Ingrid and her daughter Karie served as **Molly's** chauffeurs on the drive to her new home with Arthur and Jolene in Phoenix. **Molly** was very happy to meet both of them and made herself at home. She ran around exploring the backyard but was not too sure about what to do with the pool. Once in the house, she settled with Arthur and Jolene for the rest of the afternoon. On a walk shortly after her arrival home, **Molly's** new parents noted something was a little funny with her gait. Further examination revealed moderate hip dysplasia in both her back legs. As it does not really bother her, Dr. Pullen recommended weight control and glucosamine. This over-the-counter medication may help prevent her from developing arthritis as she ages. For now, **Molly** is living life to the fullest and enjoying herself with her new family.



12-105 Mollie with an "ie," was **Mollie** number 3. She is a four-and-a-half-year-old girl who is a lovely shade of blond. She has found a new home with Wanda and Peter in Gilbert. Her new home came ready-made with a new best friend, a 9-month-old German Shepherd Dog named **Wally**. Initially, **Mollie** was not quite sure what to make of this oversized, overactive, overfriendly

new playmate, but **Wally** finally settled down and allowed **Mollie** to settle in before convincing her they were going to be friends forever. We wish **Mollie** and **Wally** and Wanda and Peter a happy life together with their expanded family.

12-106 Doaner, now known as **Boz**, is a big, goofy, big, happy, really big, puppy. Did I mention he is big? At nine months old, he is already 75 pounds. He will get bigger. Fortunately he is well behaved and eager to please. On first meeting people or dogs he is a little shy, but he warms up quickly and easily makes friends. He was



very happy to meet and move in with his new family, Bonnie and Steve and their Golden/Irish Setter mix **Lillianna**. He is thrilled to have a new playmate, and he and **Lillianna** keep each other occupied all day. Mom Bonnie writes: *On October 11, 2012, Boz (previously Doaner) came into our lives and joined our family forever. From the moment we all arrived home that day, Boz and his new sister Lillianna have been having the best time playing, wrestling, and bonding. They play till they are both tuckered out, and after naps they are back at it again. Boz is very well behaved, and it's great that he rings the bell on the door to go outside. We all love him so much! THANK YOU so much to our AGR friends for completing our family by bringing Boz into our lives.*

12-107 Christy Love and her housemate **12-108 Missy** came into



AGR because their original owner was no longer able to care for them. Both dogs were overweight, **Missy** (on right in photo) more so than **Christy**. Both dogs also had some eye problems; again **Missy's** were worse than **Christy's**. The dogs' eye issues stem from a condition called entropion, where the eyelid rolls inward and the lashes irritate the lining

of the eyelid and the eye itself. In severe cases, surgical correction is required. Fortunately for **Christy**, our veterinary eye specialist felt that her condition was secondary to allergies and recommended treatment for her allergies and reevaluation prior to deciding to operate. She has responded well to a change in diet and a short course of steroids. We are hoping she will continue to do well and be able to avoid surgery. **Christy Love** is now enjoying life with new parents Mary and Mike in Surprise. She also shares her home with a canine sister named **Annie**. She has been renamed **K-Su** in honor of her parents' love of Kansas State University and has made herself quite at home. She and **Annie** worked out some small differences of opinion

and now they get along famously. Mom Mary writes: **K-Su** has been with us for three weeks and has settled in well with us and our other dog, **Annie**. **K-Su** sleeps with me and potties outside most of the time. She walks very well and plays at the park. Once in a while she gallops when she is catching up with **Annie**. **K-Su** is a lover; she loves to be petted. She lies at your feet when you are watching TV; she has to be near us. She sleeps so soundly, **Annie** can walk by her and she never wakes. **K-Su** came to us very well trained, she does not beg at the table when you are eating. She has met some of our neighbor dogs and loves them all. She is a very sociable dog with people and dogs. We love her and are so happy she came to live with us. **K-Su** is a wonderful pooch.



12-108 Missy was **Christy Love's** housemate prior to coming into Rescue. She was grossly overweight at 131 pounds – her ideal weight would be somewhere between 65 and 75 pounds. She was about big enough for two dogs! She also had severe entropion of both eyes and bilateral hematomas in her ear canals. Golden Retrievers can be very prone to ear infections. If left untreated, the irritation causes constant

head shaking and scratching of the ears which can, in turn, cause a separation between the skin lining the ear and the cartilage or tissue making up the ear itself. Blood then collects between the two layers, forming a hematoma. This is very uncomfortable for

the dog, causing her to shake and scratch even more, further exacerbating the problem. It also can cause severe scarring in the ear canal. The solution is to surgically drain the collected and clotted blood and, if possible, apply a pressure dressing to keep the layers of tissue together to prevent the blood from re-accumulating. Keeping a pressure dressing on a dog's ear is not the easiest thing, as you can imagine. Fortunately, **Missy's** surgeries for both her eyes and her ears were successful and she had a fairly uneventful recovery. To celebrate starting a new life, she has changed her name to **Mia** and is now working on her diet with new parents Tom and Diane in Phoenix. She sent us a letter to let us know how things are going with her new life: *Hello everybody who has been a part of my life since **Christy Love** and I moved away from home. Diane and Tom came on a Sunday morning on November 11, 2012. I liked Deb's house and all my new-found friends and didn't know why they came to visit. After a short petting and walk they left. On Monday morning I got to ride in Deb's car, something I was really not sure about. What's a car ride anyway? Shortly after we arrived at a new house, there was Tom. I was glad to see him again. Soon after Deb left, Tom took me for a short walk and I liked it here so much I decided to stay until Deb came back to pick me up. Since Deb lost her way back, I have been really enjoying living with Diane and Tom and we all decided that I could continue my life living with them – they are both such wonderful people to me. I came at 2 ½ years old and my fighting weight was 125 lbs. I tried out as a lineman for the Pittsburgh Steelers but did not get signed. Tom, the training coach, said I was born to play free safety and need to get down to a new fighting weight of 65-75 lbs. You talk about rolling your eyes! Now my trainer and I walk 2 times per day. AM regimen 0.8 of a mile and evenings 0.5 miles. This trainer is so sneaky he now has me walking off leash, stopping at every corner and crossing on command, and I carry my own leash! By the time this goes to press, I will be walking further and I will be lighter than my 118 lbs. Life couldn't be better. I have 3 beds, and a doggy door I learned to use the first day I came here. I have a back yard and a pool that I will be taught to swim in this summer. When I don't walk to the vet's office for my weekly weigh in, they give me a ride in the golf cart. They even gave me a ride in our motor home and promised my first camping trip in January. Diane takes full charge of my diet. She taught me house manners during their dinner time, grooms me and now has me retrieving a tennis ball that I run after. I finally have a spring in my step and I'm a puppy again. I am starting to realize what I missed out on being so heavy. I have been exposed to a whole new world and I know life couldn't be better. Know what's better than dog treats? Give up? Ice Cubes! I get 6-8 treats a day and love my Ice Treats. My head's in the freezer every time they open it. What more can a Golden want... a good home and soooooo much love and all the Ice Treats I want!*

12-109 Midnight, as his original name implies, joins the ever-growing ranks of our rescued black Golden Retrievers. Dana rescued him from the Eastside shelter in early October. He was a pleasant passenger in the car and walked well on his leash after he bolted



out of the shelter. He knew he needed to get out of that place! Now known as **Buddy**, he is living the good life with Patrick and Barbara in Surprise. At first, **Buddy** could not figure out why people were paying so much attention to him. When he realized this would be a regular thing, he decided he could definitely live with that. He had toys and grass and a big back yard to play

in. His first night home he even enjoyed sleeping in his new parents' bed. We're pretty sure **Buddy's** decided to stay put!

12-110 Casey and **12-111 Abbie** are 7-year-old siblings who were unable to stay with their original family. It was with great

sadness that their family asked **AGR** to find them another home and keep them together as a pair. **Casey** is a lovely gold color (left in photo) while his sister **Abbie** is black. Both dogs are very sweet, eager to please, and love their people. **Abbie** is the



boss and **Casey** happily follows her around. They are now living in Chandler with Gail and Nick. Initially, **Abbie** and **Casey** wanted their new parents all to themselves and were not excited to share with their doggy cousins. **Casey** and **Abbie** attempted to warn off dogs belonging to Nick and Gail's daughter. They had no problems sharing beds or toys; they just didn't want to share affection. With a little bit of work, they now happily coexist with other dogs. They've realized there's plenty of love to go around and they'll get their fair share. We wish them a happy new life with all the members of their new extended family.



12 - 113 Todd (left) and **12-114 Trisha** are 9- and 7-year-old house-mates who found them -



selves in need of a new house, as their previous owner had developed allergies and was not able to interact with them as much as he felt was appropriate. He requested the pair be kept together, as they are very bonded to each other. Fortunately, we were able to keep them together and arranged an excellent placement for this pair. They are now sharing their love with Bill and Lisa in Phoenix. Both dogs need to slim down some, so their new parents are utiliz-

ing exercise and the green bean diet. **Todd** and **Trisha**, both with AKC papers, will be stunners once they have reached their ideal weights. They have made themselves at home with their new family including their parents, Golden brother **Max**, and seven cats. Bill and Lisa say they have brought new life into their home and couldn't be happier with the additions to their family. Mom Lisa writes: *My husband Bill and I are both visually impaired. We each had Golden Retriever guide dogs. My dog **Max** is 12 and Bill's dog **Astro** was 8. On 9/10/2012 **Astro** went to the Rainbow Bridge. The vet said he probably had a heart attack. After that, our entire household was out of sorts. We all missed **Astro** very much. **Max** missed him more than any of us. The dogs had worked together for 6 years, and service dogs have a very special bond with each other. **Max** became very depressed. Not only had **Max** lost his friend, he also lost his job - I needed to retire him due to his hearing loss. Bill went on to **Petfinder.com** in search of a dog. We came upon your wonderful Rescue group and I filled out the adoption form. We spent a couple of days looking through pictures of different dogs. Bill and I had talked about one versus a pair. We decided that one was just fine. Then we came to **Todd** and **Trisha**. Bill and I fell in love with them. They seemed to be calling us from cyberspace. The big brown eyes and the sweet smiles captured our hearts. **Toddles** and **Trishiboo** have been with us since November 5th and were at home as soon as they came through the door. **Max** is back to his old self and loves his new brother and sister. We have all been getting a lot of exercise running around the backyard chasing balls and toys. I work from home and am able to spend lots of time with all the dogs. **Toddles** and **Trishiboo** are fun-loving, affectionate and very willing to please. They already have a very strong bond with Bill and me. They follow both of us around the house and want to put their noses in everything we do, and that's just great. We feel like they have been with us for years. We are doing the green bean diet and it is working great - both dogs are slimming down. We are working on some basic obedience and walking on leashes. Along with our 3 Golden Retrievers, we have 7 cats. **Toddles** and **Trishiboo** get along great with all of them. In fact I am not sure what they did in their past, but they are really good at herding cats. One of our cats got out and they literally tag-teamed and ran him back in the house. Having **Toddles** and **Trishiboo** in our lives has helped our family heal and move on. They are curious, loveable, playful, and just as sweet as they can be. We are excited to share our first Christmas together. No dogs are going to be more spoiled this year than they are. We look forward to getting to know and loving them for many years. Bill and I want to thank you for allowing us to bring them into our family. I know we have saved their lives, but they have saved ours, too.*

12-115 Steve is another member of the Golden Retriever Witness Protection Program. He is a handsome six-year-old with a shiny black coat. His original family requested **AGR** to find a new home for him, as several of their family members had developed severe allergies to that shiny black coat. He is mild-mannered, friendly, and, like almost all Golden Retrievers, loves people. He did test



positive for valley fever, but, fortunately, does not require any medication at this time. As long as his titer remains low, he can be monitored with routine testing. He has found his forever home, and a new name, **Shadow**, in Sierra Vista with Margo and Edward and their daughter Morgan. We're hoping **Shadow** remembers he is a he even though

he doesn't have any man parts (he is neutered) as Morgan has big plans to dress him up in all kinds of pretty dresses. We wish **Shadow** lots of love and lots of luck!

12-116 Connor is an adorable 7-month-old Golden mix puppy. He was rescued from the Westside shelter. He is a little on the small side at only 28 pounds and may not grow up to be the largest of Golden Retrievers. His new family doesn't seem to mind. On the day of his arrival, his new two-legged siblings waited for him in the front yard for



over an hour! He's now happily at home with Jason and Becca and their children in Chandler. Along with a new home, he has a new name. **Connor** now answers to **Lucky**. He is working on his basic obedience skills, not barking at everyone, and all puppies' favorite: not digging holes in the yard. We wish **Lucky** a happy new life and good luck learning all his new skills!



12-117 Buddy is a six-year-old Golden who was rescued from the Eastside **MCACCS** shelter. You read about him in the *Diamonds in the Ruff* section of our November issue. He was so anemic from a huge tick infestation he could barely move. He was also suffering from the intestinal parasite *Giardia*. He received treatment for both the ticks and the

Giardia, as well as a blood transfusion for his anemia – yes, dogs can get blood transfusions and receive significant benefit from them. He went to recover with foster parents Cristi and Steve and their three **AGR** dogs. Cristi and Steve, who have been foster failures before, were really hoping for a quick placement for **Buddy** as he fit in very well with their family and they really didn't want to fail again. Unfortunately, even with all of our Placement Manager Denny's hard work, they failed. They fell in love with this sweet boy, and their three **AGR** rescues, **Brother**, **Sarah**, and **Odi**, were also in love. **Buddy** has regained most of his strength, all of his ticks have gone away, and he is thoroughly enjoying life with his new family.

12-118 Nash is a beautiful 1-year-old white-gold Golden Retriever. He was surrendered by his original owners because they did not have time for an active puppy. Dana picked him up from his previous home and drove him to his new home in Surprise with mom Christine. Along the way, **Nash** decided Dana's shoulder made an excellent



head rest – fortunately he didn't drool too much! If he needed extra attention, he would simply tap Dana's shoulder with his foot. Upon arrival at Christine's house, **Nash** was introduced to his brother-to-be, the resident Goldendoodle named **Jack**. **Jack** was a little overenthusiastic in his greetings and **Nash** wasn't quite sure he wanted a new brother. After a little time for both dogs to settle down, **Jack** offered **Nash** his rope toy and they both agreed a game of tug was in order. The boys were able to put aside any differences they may have had and decided friendship was a good idea. **Jack** even let **Nash** have the upper paw in their game of tug! Mom Christine writes: *After losing my 9-year-old Goldendoodle Traveler, I was looking for a new brother for my 5-year-old Goldendoodle Jack who was lonely without a friend and a playmate. Fortunately there was Nash on the AGR website. He was turned in to AGR due to the previous family not having time to spend with a very playful 1-year-old Golden. Nash came into our home and has been a joy! Nash loves to chase, tackle, and give kisses to his new big brother Jack! Nash is waiting patiently for swim season next summer so he can finally get his paws wet and do some serious swimming with Jack. A huge THANKS to AGR for making my home complete again!*



12-119: Two-year-old **Sadie** and her presumed daughter **Emma** were found by Good Samaritan John and his wife Stacie on their way back to Arizona from Colorado. They were somewhere around "Nowhere," New Mexico when they noticed a small gold-colored dog dodging traffic on the opposite side of the freeway. John was able to turn around and approach

the dog, who appeared to be friendly. As they offered the dog water, a second gold-colored dog appeared to share the water. John and Stacie surmised the dogs were a bonded pair, as maybe mother and daughter. John and Stacie graciously took the dogs to a vet near Gallup, NM for a once over and treatment for tapeworms and their first set of vaccinations. As the two girls and the couple's resident Cocker Spaniel got along well, they elected to bring them back to Arizona for further care at **Animal Medical & Surgical Center** in north Scottsdale. John has severe allergies and has several medications he uses to allow him to tolerate their Cocker, but his system was quickly overwhelmed by the addition

of **Emma** and **Sadie**. As such, they contacted **AGR** to see if we would be able to help locate new homes for the girls. We accepted and have found forever homes for both of these very lucky dogs. **Sadie** was expecting puppies when she was rescued and whelped three brindle-colored pups 8 days after moving to Arizona. The two female pups were healthy but, unfortunately, the male pup was stillborn. **Sadie** proved to be an excellent mom and both girls, **Bridgette** and **Brittney**, will hopefully be going to their forever homes soon. **Sadie** has moved from her foster mom Ingrid's house to her forever home with Mike and his family in Glendale. She is a gentle soul and has brought her happy demeanor with her to her new home. Her parents say: ***Sadie** has been with us for a few weeks now and has definitely burrowed right into our hearts! We are so thankful for the compassion of John and Stacie of Scottsdale, who turned around on the highway near Gallup to rescue **Sadie** and **Emma**! Jody and I can't begin to thank John and Stacie for what they did out on that highway that day! **Sadie's** story is amazing, and even more amazing is the grace with which **Sadie** has given back to us! She has a very sweet disposition and hasn't needed any training at all! As the saying goes: "This home was rescued by a Rescue dog!" We love her dearly and she returns her love tenfold!*



12-120 Emma is about 8 months old and a petite red head. She is Golden with a mix of something, we are just not sure what. She has a typical puppy personality and loves attention from everyone. She has found her home with Brent and his family in Chandler. She has a new doggy sibling to play with and a new human sibling to play with, as well. She was quite excited about her human sister and they have become very close. We wish them many happy years together!

12-121 Coral Cove is a lovely 5-year-old white-gold girl. She had been previously adopted but found herself back in Rescue, as a member of her adoptive family developed allergies and wasn't able to tolerate all of her gorgeous golden fur. She was morbidly obese when she made her initial rescue debut, and she still has quite a ways to go before she reaches her goal weight. She was about 115 pounds at this intake and should be around 75 pounds. She has found a new home with Dan and Andrea and their resident Golden **Beni**. She had a bit of a slow transition with a little separation anxiety, which one might expect after moving around several times in the last year, but she and **Beni** have bonded well and are helping each other adjust to "normal dog" life. She is also working on her diet with those magic green beans! Andrea sent us a note about their new life together: ***Coral** came to us almost two months ago. We've pieced together some of her history and know she was*



*once used as a breeding dog and may have lived with 2 or 3 families. She was a bit depressed and aloof. We have another Golden, **Beni**, and he just lost his adopted sister/wife (our little joke) in January, 2012, and he was becoming very needy. Slowly but surely, **Coral** and **Beni** are bonding and enjoy eating, sleeping, and going for the occasional walk together. **Coral** was extremely overweight when she first came into **AGR**. She tipped the scale at 130 lbs. She was brought to us at 110 lbs and now has slimmed down to a svelte 100 lbs. in about six weeks. Her food is very regimented, and other than occasionally stealing food from our two-year-old son, she eats twice a day AND THAT'S IT. She enjoys going out for walks and to the park. Her weight does sap her energy, so she is usually only good for about ¼ of a mile before she needs to take a break. **Coral** also had some issues with separation anxiety which caused her previous owner to lock her outside or in a crate. **AGR** provided a crate but after one incident with a chewed up couch pillow, **Coral** has free rein of the house. It helps that I work out of the house, but she is very calm now when I leave. As long as food is given at prompt times, she is very respectful of the home. She has her own dog bed which camouflages against her white coat. Not fun when you trip over her in the middle of the night. **Coral** is a sweetheart who loves to present her huge paws. She loves to be rubbed on the belly and has made herself a much-valued member of our family. This will be **Coral's** last home. Thank you **AGR**!*



12-124 Buddy is a 6-month-old Goldendoodle who had an interesting entry into Rescue. He started life as a stray and wandered up to his original owner's yard. She graciously let him stay, anticipating that another family member was going to adopt him. When that family member was not able to keep **Buddy** and he was unable to stay with her, she

requested **AGR** to find a loving permanent home for this little guy. **Buddy** is a sweet, playful, very loving puppy whose favorite thing to do is be near his people. He is incredibly smart but definitely needed basic puppy obedience and patience with his training. He is receiving all of that and more at his new home with Shiri and David and their children in Scottsdale. Connie and Nick took care of **Buddy's** transport and were the proud bearers of the "surprise" puppy for the children in **Buddy's** new house. They were not expecting his arrival. Both the children and **Buddy** were very happy with how things turned out; everyone was in love. We wish them a happy life together!

12-125 Jasper is a medium-sized, 4-year-old red Golden with a lovely white blaze on his chest. He was rescued from the East-side **MCACCS**. Michele was anticipating a routine transport of a healthy dog but instead she found **Jasper** had some eye irritation and mass between his shoulder blades. This changed her afternoon plans, but fortunately she was able to spring **Jasper**



and transport him to one of our vets for further evaluation. **Jasper's** eye issues turned out to be irritation, possibly from allergies, and he is responding well to a steroid medication. His neck lump was easily removed and pathology reported it was a benign sebaceous cyst. Good news all around! He had a brief stay with foster parents Connie and Nick and enjoyed playing with their dogs. He also

enjoyed fishing in their pond; he didn't catch anything but he had fun trying! Connie took him to his forever home with Fred and Jill in Glendale and he fit in right away. He has transferred his fascination from fish to rabbits and has made it his sworn duty to protect the house from any evil bunny invaders. He also enjoys lots of walks and lots of games of fetch. He took a break from bunny patrol to let us know how everything else was going at his new home: *My name is Jasper and I have a new home. I have taken on all the responsibilities of new home ownership. No longer will we be bothered by those "rascally" rabbits. My job is to keep them out of my backyard and my neighborhood. The training of my new humans has also been going well and they have caught on quickly. It only took one lesson and they learned not to leave vacuum parts lying around. However, some lessons take repetition, so I remind them daily that my toys belong in the middle of the floor and not in the corner by my bed. And hello, how many times do I have to remind them, the best part of stuffed toys is the stuffing! I've tried to teach them that in a dog's world there are only two types of time – sleep time and play time. I'm not sure how old I am, but I still want to play like I'm a puppy. That means I'm always up for playing ball in the backyard and several walks a day. Besides, I'm not pointing any finger (or paws) but some of us could lose some weight. And by the way, if you insist upon making me watch television at least let me do so from someone's lap.*

12-129 Jackson is a 5-year-old red Golden. He was turned in to Rescue by a family who inherited him after his first family dropped him off at their house and never returned. They were unable to care for him, and he spent the majority of his time outside. He did not seem to be too impacted by his less-than-ideal living situation and remains a typical Velcro dog. **Jackson** spent some time with foster parents Dana and Gail before moving to his forever home with Alana, Eric, and their family. He has a new name, **Rusty**, and hordes of adoring fans to cater to his every whim. When Dana was transporting him, several friends of Alana's had arrived to welcome **Rusty** home. **Rusty** was in heaven with all the attention. When Dana left, **Rusty** had rolled over to better receive belly rubs from his adoring entourage. We're sure he'll have lots of love and happiness in his new home.



12-130 Yankee was another casualty of the economic times. The owner was losing his home to foreclosure and had to move to an apartment that would not allow dogs. Seven-year-old **Yankee** is friendly but scared of most everything. The owner had not been able to housebreak him by the time he was 12 weeks old (most dogs require diligence in house training until they are



4-5 months old), so he was kept in a 10' x 10' patio outside for the rest of his 7 years. He had not seen a vet in so long that the owner couldn't remember when his last visit might have been. So, we had to put **Yankee** through "the works" at our vet. Fortunately, despite being an outside dog, he tested negative for both valley fever and heartworm. He was transferred to Sue's home in Mesa where he immediately had some new experiences – going into a house for one. It seriously scared him and he had to be pulled inside. Once in, he did a slump walk in the house. Out in the back yard, he was fine as long as there was no noise – he would just run when something scared him. After he relaxed some, Sue decided to show him his new toy box. Michele, who had transported him said, *OH MY GOSH! Priceless moment, a cry moment. He was like a child on Christmas morning. So precious. He just kept searching the toys over and over. He'd pick one up and run it to his little safe spot turn around and smile at me like "WOOOOOW! You took me to a happy place! After that, it took him a good hour but then he decided "in for a penny, in for a pound" and jumped with all four paws right into Sue's lap and didn't even breathe until he realized that was OK. He was still wagging a half-way-tucked tail but so happy to be alive. The transformation in just a couple hours was amazing. He is a kind soul. He is living the puppyhood he never had and is having the time of his life for the first time as a "family-member" in his entire seven years. Sue was just going to foster this sweet boy, but within three weeks she had him housebroken and decided she could never let him go anywhere else.*

12-132 Skipper and his sister **Rosebud** are 1.5-year-old littermates who were placed in Rescue because their original family had a change in circumstances that prevented them from keeping the dogs. **Skipper** knew a few commands but was mostly stuck in his puppy ways, including having a strong desire to eat socks. He was in need



of a family who would be able to ensure he got basic obedience training and would curb some of his puppy traits. He found just that family with Donna and Berek in Phoenix. He also found two senior Golden brothers who can show him what it is like to be a mature gentleman. **Tanner** is a 12-year-old Golden and **Bodie** is 14. **Skipper**, now known as **Jackson**, was quite pleased to have

brothers; **Bodie** happily accepted a new member of the family; **Tanner** took some time to warm up. Now all three Golden Retrievers seem to get along well. **Jackson** plays tug and keep-away with **Tanner**, and **Bodie** wanders by in between his naps to share kisses with his new little brother. We wish them all a happy new life together!



12-133 Rosebud took a journey without her brother. Denny and his wife served as **Rosebud's** drivers to her new home with Cynthia and Mike in Scottsdale. Per Denny's report, it was a good thing they had a destination planned as his wife fell in love with **Rosebud** and was plotting to kidnap her to add to their collection of Golden Retrievers! Fortunately,

both couples are good friends or else Cynthia and Mike might still be searching for a dog. **Rosebud**, now known as **Hannah**, did make it to Scottsdale and her intended destination and is quite happy with her new parents and new Golden sibling **Bailey**. The two dogs made fast friends and immediately started a game of chase. **Hannah** easily integrated herself into her new home and is a cherished new family member.

12-135 Bianca's original family had to sell their home and move into a 1-bedroom apartment. In addition to having to live in cramped quarters not suitable for a Golden, the mom had to spend much time taking care of her ill sister. She wanted **Bianca** to have a proper home and a family to care for her. That she got when we placed this lovely 4-year-old butterscotch-colored female who had AKC papers and was known to be good with all ages of children and with cats. She now resides with mom Wendy, dad Ed and an 8-year-old human sister, Remy, in Phoenix. Remy had wanted a Golden Retriever because she thought they were beautiful. Well, she got "**Bianca The Beautiful**", which is actually her AKC registered name! There is also a 13-year-old cat, Bandit, to pal around with. **Bianca**, with her beautiful looks and beautiful personality, is now a beloved member of a wonderful family. Best of everything to all of them!



12-136: Kathi sprang this 8-year-old girl from the Westside **MCACCS**. She named her **Jackpot** because, at her size (103.7 pounds), she looks like a pot of gold and secondly, because she hit the jackpot by getting out of there. She made her way to one of our vets for her initial vetting and removal of a fatty lump on her tail before spending time with foster mom Teryl. All



of our foster parents are fantastic, but staying with Teryl earns a dog a special bonus. They get 24/7 love and affection plus 24/7 behavior and obedience lessons! The dogs might not think that's a special bonus but their new families are pretty appreciative. **Jackpot** had an excellent time with Teryl and slimmed down to about 87 pounds before moving in with her new family in Chandler. Chuck and Charlotte, their two small children Charlie, age 4, and Jenny, 18 months, and their resident dog **Kingman** were thrilled to have Teryl bring their new Golden home. **Jackpot** has decided that Charlotte is her favorite but she is very affectionate with all of her new family members. Charlie has shown the makings of an excellent dog parent: upon her arrival he noticed **Jackpot** looked thirsty so he kindly filled his toy plastic tool box with water for her as a makeshift bowl. **Jackpot** has settled in well and now has the new name of **Bella** to go with her new life. We wish her and her family all the best!

12-137 Sugar, now known as **Holly**, is a lovely blond Golden mix who was rescued from the Westside **MCACCS**. She's now enjoying life with her new dads, Charles and James, and their resident dog, **Hobo**. **Holly** and **Hobo** weren't quite sure what to make of each other upon initial meeting, but they have settled down and are enjoying being siblings. We wish them all a happy new life together!



12-138 Peanut is the third Golden Retriever/Basset Hound mix that we have rescued. She's a 9-year-old female who was turned in to Rescue because her original owners were unable to care for her medically. She has had allergies for the last several years of her life. She tends to develop hotspots and ear infections. Fortunately, she responds well to antihistamines and topical ointments.

We anticipate that a change in her diet and avoidance of people food will also improve her allergies. The green bean diet will also improve her figure, as she's rather overweight. Her new parents, Shelly and John in Scottsdale, are working on her diet and exercise program and plan to have her looking back in shape in no time. We hope to see the newly-improved **Peanut** at some of our upcoming **AGR** events! We would like to thank Shelly and John for covering the cost of all of **Peanut's** intake veterinary expenses.

12-139 Harry is an adorable 4-year-old Golden mix. On the smaller side at only 45 pounds, he could even stand to lose a few, but he has lots of love to give and energy to expend. He was rescued from the shelter and given a new lease on life. He found his forever home with Jack and Tricia in Scottsdale. Their home came ready-made with two Golden sisters: **Annie**, who is 11, and **Gold-**



ie, who is just about Harry's age of 4. **Harry** and **Annie** hit it off immediately; Harry must like older women! His relationship with **Goldie** took a little longer to develop. All three are doing well now and enjoy their regular walks through the neighborhood as well as playtime together. **Harry** himself dropped us a line to let us know how he was doing: *Hello, my*

*name is **Harry**. I don't remember my other name, but when AGR rescued me from the pound they said I looked like a **Harry**, and it suits me. I used to run away from my old house so my owners gave me to the pound... they said I was an escape artist. Well, the only place I run to now is to my space on the couch! In my new family I have 2 doggie sisters, **Annie** and **Goldie**, so I have lots of company and I don't get bored or lonely. I'm learning how to play with my new sisters and we get 2 walks a day and lots of hugs. My new family loves me so much; I even sleep on the bed with them. I want to thank AGR for saving my life and giving me a second chance.*

12-140 Token is a 4-year-old Golden/Black Lab mix – she is another of our Witness Protection Program Golden. **Token** has a lovely glossy coat with stunning red highlights. She found herself in need of a new home when her original owners were moving and unable to take her with them. She is very sweet and loving and has a calm demeanor. Her new parents, Roni and Henriette, met her at the vet where she was staying and, after an initial period to warm up, they were ready to take her home. She's now known as **Maggie**. Dad Roni often wonders if she's a real dog, as she's so calm and unflappable. Her parents sent us a note to let us know of her progress: *We hereby want to thank you for bringing **Maggie** into our home and life, and we are full of respect for all the wonderful work you and your organization are doing for rescuing these great dogs. **Maggie** is doing very well, lost already some pounds due to long walks and we enjoy every minute being with her! She is just a sweetheart!*



12-142. This 4-year-old Golden mix rescued from the Eastside shelter has gone through some significant changes. She has also had several name changes to go with her life events. Initially billed as an intact male, she was rescued by Dana and named **Scruffy**, as her coat was a terrible mess. Upon arrival at **AMSC**, Dana was quite surprised to be informed that **Scruffy** needed a name change to **Scruffette**, as

she was really a spayed female (we have no idea how the shelter

folks could have mistaken the gender)! After lots of bathing and grooming, this sweet little girl was ready for her new home and yet another new name. Now known as **Ruby**, she's enjoying life in Gilbert with Stevie and Curtis, their children, and their two small dogs. It took her a bit to adjust to life with her new parents and human and canine siblings, but she's come out of her shell and has blossomed into a lovely dog. Her parents write: *Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to Arizona Golden Rescue for finding us our **Ruby Jane**. **Ruby** was on death row at the pound and a little scruffy, but we are so glad you saw past that to the dog you knew she could be! We have 4 boys, one of whom is epileptic and ataxic. **Ruby** is so gentle with them all, but especially with him. We are working with her to become a Delta certified therapy dog to be able to accompany our son to the hospital and to meet his special friends because she is just so thoughtful and gentle. **Ruby** loves going for walks, cuddling with her family, and learning new commands for treats. She is also learning that car rides bring new adventures. We have never seen a dog who walks better on her leash or who is happier to be walking with her new pack. Our family is so happy to have **Ruby** as a new member – she couldn't be more perfect for us!*

12-143 Sugar was the second dog we rescued by this name in two weeks. Odd how names sometimes seem to come in clusters. We've had a couple of **Abbys**, several **Mollys** and several **Buddys** come in all around the same time, now two **Sugars**. Both of them have been renamed, this one now being called **Andie** by her new family comprised of Arden, Wes and their adult daughter who lives with them in Scottsdale. **Andie**, a pretty little one-year-old girl, is a typical puppy: friendly, energetic, jumps up on everyone, chews on things, digs when allowed the opportunity, and is in need of obedience training, lots of exercise and lots of attention, all of which she is getting from her new family of experienced Golden owners. Until we rescued her, she spent her time either outside or in a crate inside – the surrendering family just did not have the time or patience to train her properly. **Andie** is now having the time of her life exercising with her Australian Shepherd/Lab buddy and feeling great about herself now that some boundaries have been put on her behavior. Happy new life, **Andie!**



12-145 Precious was found as a stray. The finder kept her the requisite 6 days and did everything she could do to locate the owner of this pretty 2-year-old Golden mix, but to no avail. Unable to keep her permanently, the finder called **AGR**. While with the finder, **Precious** proved to be great with other dogs, cats and all ages of humans. She now makes

her home with Jacqueline and Michael in Sun City. They have renamed her **Zoe** and claim they have already spoiled her rotten. Well, she's a Golden; she deserves being spoiled! Michael wrote, *Zoe has plugged right into our family as if she never had any other. Both cats have accepted her willingly. After the first evening of sniffing and the occasional hiss, everything is smooth. Both cats will initiate play with Zoe. Watching the play is a hoot!* We wish the family all the best.

Diamonds in the Ruff

By Deb Orwig

Diamonds in the Ruff are rescued dogs that require **AGR** to spend at least \$1000 on their health care. If you can help with the expenses of any of our *Diamonds in the Ruff*, your donation will be acknowledged in the *Diamond Donors* section of our May newsletter.

To update you on November's *Diamonds in the Ruff*... **12-112 Bailey**, a senior girl, was a horrible mess when she was surrendered. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of our vet, we lost her – she developed multiple organ failure. Her wonderful foster, Jason, as well as Liz Tataseo and I, were with her when she was sent to the Bridge. Our sweet blind boy, **11-091 Keller**, whose adorable photo is our 2013 calendar's December feature photo, had his second elbow surgery and is doing well helping his dad, David, recuperate from shoulder surgery. **12-117 Buddy** is now totally clear of ticks and his fur is growing back in. You can read his adoption story on page 15. **12-119 Sadie** had her pups (see her story on pp. 15-16) and has been adopted; **12-120 Emma** has also been adopted. We thank Stacie and John DeMent for their very generous donation which covered all the vet expenses of **Sadie**, **Emma** and the two puppies **Sadie** whelped.



The fourth quarter of 2012 was a rough one for us. Not only did we lose **12-112 Bailey**, we also lost **12-122 Bailey** (photo at left). She was a senior girl who had never been spayed. When our vet did the spay, he found a golf-ball-sized tumor in her abdomen. Even though she was doing well post-surgery, they decided to keep her at the vet another night. Sadly, she passed away during

that night. Our vet suspected that she had thrown a blood clot.

We also lost another senior, **12-131 Troy**, who was rescued from the shelter. He came to us with a terrible infection in his leg that did not respond to powerful antibiotics and he went



downhill rapidly. His wonderful foster, Marcia, as well Dana Haywood representing the Board, and Jim Henkel, who had done the foster's home evaluation and the transport of **Troy** from the vet to the foster, were all with him when he was sent to the Bridge.

All three dogs that passed away, **12-112 Bailey**, **12-122 Bailey** and **12-131 Troy** were adopted under our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program by their caring fosters.



During the fourth quarter of 2012, we spent a considerable amount of money on two dogs that, fortunately, did survive and are now enjoying life with their adoptive families. One was **12-103 Murphy**. You can read his story on page 12, All of the vet work that had to be done on **Murphy** has amounted to a total of over \$6550.

The other, **12-146 Rosie**, was a Christmas present to **AGR** and to her original family, whom we allowed to adopt her back after we paid for the emergency surgery necessary to relieve bloat. We are waiting until she has completely healed from the surgery before we finalize her adoption, which is why her adoption story is not in this issue's *Magic Moments* section. However, I related her dilemma in my column on pp. 3 - 4. Her emergency room care and follow-up at **AMSC** cost us \$4931. During the week following an e-mail message I sent out to our members on December 27th, the donations that poured into **AGR** in honor of **Rosie** to help with her medical bills amounted to \$4305! So, the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* was depleted by only a total of \$626! Our heartfelt thanks to all who donated toward **Rosie's** cause. Donors are listed on page 37. We will accept donations designated for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* at any time during the year. Donations that were sent specifically for **Rosie** are greatly appreciated.



When I Got My New Dog

I asked for strength that I might rear her perfectly;
I was given weakness that I might feed her more treats.
I asked for an obedient dog that I might feel proud;
I was given stubbornness that I might feel humble.
I asked for compliance that I might feel masterful;
I was given a clown that I might laugh.
I asked for a companion that I might not feel lonely;
I was given a best friend that I would feel loved.
I got nothing I asked for,
But everything that I needed.

~Author Unknown

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



Shadow Fairchild



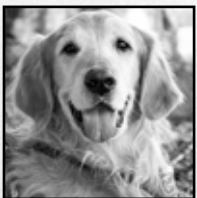
Howard Haywood



Greta Holland / Craven



Holly Lujah Joyce



Hayden Orwig



Austin Reid



Piper Totten



Leo Youhas

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.

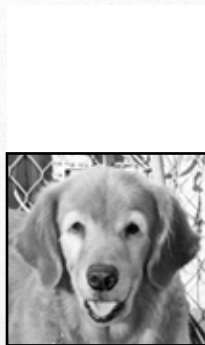
There is only one thing missing. They are not with their special person who loved them on Earth.

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.



12-112 Bailey Phillip



12-122 Bailey Dale



12-131 Troy Fredman

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

H & R Block Nonprofit Referral Program

Have you done your taxes yet? Have you considered having **H&R Block** do your tax return? We want to let you know that **Arizona Golden Rescue** is now an approved beneficiary of the **H&R Block Nonprofit Referral Program**, new for 2013. Special thanks to **AGR** member and **H & R Block** employee Leigh Rivers for suggesting that our group be included in this program and for helping to expedite our approval as a beneficiary.

For every tax return **H&R Block** prepares for a new client who brings in the flyer included with this newsletter, **H&R Block** will donate \$20 to **AGR**. You will not have to pay \$20 more for your tax return – this will be strictly a donation to **AGR** from **H&R Block**. If you misplace the flyer, you can download one from our website. The flyer has our coupon code on it – **H&R Block** must have this code in order to process the donation to our group, as there are other groups that are also beneficiaries. The flyer and code will be accepted by any **H&R Block** office nationwide. You will be considered a “new” client even if you have used **H & R Block** before but did not use them to prepare your 2011 tax return.

If you are a returning client of **H & R Block**, please thank your agent for including **Arizona Golden Rescue** in their Nonprofit Referral Program.

An Historic Day...

On December 4, 2012, **AGR** Member Dave Engelhardt, who is a veteran, passed along the following message from Jim Frost, Veteran, 981st Military Police Company (Sentry Dog): The U.S. Senate this afternoon passed the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013. Included in that Act was the Canine Members of the Armed Forces. This part of the bill makes a lot of changes to how the Military Canine is designated in the Military, how it is treated, and what it is eligible for upon retirement. There will be medical benefits available for those who adopt these dedicated animals that will not involve additional federal funds. Most importantly from my standpoint is the Military Canine will no longer be designated as “equipment” while on active duty serving this country, and will not be classified as “surplus equipment” upon retirement. They will be Canine VETERANS who have served this country with dedication, loyalty, and sacrifice. Thousands of military personnel... handlers, combat, combat support, and support came home from a conflict because these dogs saved their lives. This has been decades in the making. To all those who sent messages to our members of Congress to support this action, I thank you. I thank all of you for your support of any kind towards what so many of us have worked for and hoped for.

American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen Becomes an Official AKC Title

New York, NY – In celebration of dogs with good manners at home and in the community, beginning January 1, 2013, passing the **AKC**®'s **Canine Good Citizen**® test can be recognized as an official **American Kennel Club**® title for all dogs.

Since the program began in 1989, the **CGC**® has been considered an “award.” Dogs that passed the 10-step test received a certificate, but **CGC** was not listed on the dog's title record. Now as a result of frequent requests from dog owners and instructors, owners of dogs registered or listed with **AKC** will be able to use the **CGC** suffix after the dog's name and include **Canine Good Citizen** on their dog's official title record.

For dogs that pass the test on or after January 1, 2013, owners will be able to choose from two options on the **CGC** test form: **CGC** as a title or **CGC** certificate only.

Owners whose dogs earned the **CGC** award from January 1, 2001 onward may convert the award into a title (if the dog is registered with the **AKC**) by filling out and submitting this form.

To compete or earn any **AKC** titles, including the new **CGC** title, dogs must have an **AKC** number: an **AKC** registration number, a Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) number or an **AKC** Canine PartnersSM number. If your dog doesn't already have an **AKC** number, go to the **AKC** website to learn how to obtain one.

The **Canine Good Citizen** program is a two-part program that stresses responsible pet ownership for owners and basic good manners for dogs. Many dog owners choose **Canine Good Citizen** training as the first step in training their dogs. The program lays the foundation for other **AKC** activities such as obedience, agility, tracking, and performance events and also serves to enhance the bond between owner and dog, making dogs a pleasure with which to live. Dogs whose owners desire to volunteer in therapy work with either **Delta Society** or **Therapy Dogs International, Inc.** must obtain a **CGC** title before becoming therapy-certified.

A Recipe for Treating Lick Granulomas

Mix 2 parts Bitter Apple with 1 part Icy Hot or Liquid Heat. The itch of a lick granuloma is sort of like phantom limb pain – it itches, but scratching and licking doesn't soothe it, so the dog just keeps going at it. It makes them so crazy that the Bitter Apple alone isn't enough to deter them. Using the combo above produces a deep tingle that makes it feel a little less irritated so that the Bitter Apple is enough to stop their licking. This works on 70-80% of lick granulomas. You may want to use a conepart of the time, too, until it settles down a bit. Lick granulomas occur most frequently when a dog is bored or stressed, so more activity/exercise is beneficial, too.

HERE and THERE

Events from October 29, 2012
through December 24, 2012

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.



Stress Relief at ASU West

By Liz Tataseo



On October 28th, several **AGR** members and their dogs went to **ASU West** to provide stress relief for the resident students who were away from home and their own pets. We all

met at Las Casas Field on the campus at 59th Ave and Thunderbird Rd in the evening around 5 PM and stayed for about 2 ½ hours.

Ellaura Harris, Barrett Peer Leader who arranged the event on **ASU's** end, sent this message following the event: *I would like to thank you again for all the work you and the organization did to make our event successful. I am extremely happy with the amount of people who came and the number of dogs that were there. I know that the residents*



Ellaura with McKenna, Daisy and Molly

really enjoyed playing with them and learning about them. Thank you again for coming out and sharing your dogs with us. We really appreciate it!



Two students with Daisy, Holly and McKenna

AGR Members and their dogs who facilitated the stress relief

were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **Holly**, **Mckenna** and **Tessa**; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Frank Turco with **Molly**; and Kathi Youhas with **Krissie** and **Maura**. We brought balls for the dogs to chase and retrieve, and they had a great time playing with the students. The dogs had an equally good time just being petted by students and rolling over on the ground or draping themselves across the students' laps. A good time was had by all. We thank the students for inviting us!



City of Surprise Bark In The Park

By Liz Tataseo



The **City of Surprise** put on their first *Bark in the Park* Meet-and-Greet for rescues and vendors on November 3rd. It was held in the Surprise Sport Complex off Bell Rd at one of the venue's parks.

Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo set up the tent and information table at 7:30 AM. Deb brought **Ladybird** and **Mufasa**. Liz was accompanied by **Trip** and **Gonzo**. The weather was terrific, and we met many people interested in **AGR** and handed out lots of information.



Teri holding Lucas, who was delighted with Mufasa



Volunteers during the day were: Deb-bie Ball with **Shiloh** (photo at left); Jodi and Jay Koblick with **Katie** and **Shea**; Don and Rusty Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Teri's daughter, Michelle Miller,

with her son Lucas; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Carter**, **Krissie** and **Maura**. This was a nice venue at which to have a Meet-and-Greet and a good first effort for the **City of Surprise**. We chose not to sell merchandise, but we received \$107.93 in donations.



Don with Stormy talking with Jodi and Jay; Kathi and Bob in back



Paws & Pasta

By Liz Tataseo



The *Paws and Pasta Dinner* at **Little Bite of Italy** (15456 N 99th Ave, Sun City) held on November 4, 2012 was a huge success! Attendance was excellent (we served 137 meals

between 1 and 5 PM) and the food was, as usual, superb. Diners enjoyed salad, spaghetti with marinara sauce, Italian bread and a variety of cakes for dessert. Several groups stayed for the entire afternoon and enjoyed looking over the *AGR* merchandise and watching the antics of **Billie** the Border Collie doing her tricks. **Billie** is trained by Peter Wong, a member of *AGR*. Peter and **Billie** graciously performed two shows to entertain the crowd during the event.



Bracken meeting Teri

Several dogs were in attendance, as many diners brought their four-legged companions to enjoy the outdoor seating. Linda and Ward Case brought **Jersey**;

Barbara Connoyer had **Buddy** and **Holly** with her, plus several human friends;

Tony Cotner came with **Daisy**; the Doseck family brought **Stella**; Bill Drury came with **Bracken**;



Barbara Connoyer at right with quilt raffle winner

Gail and Dana Haywood had **Riley**;

Sheila Joyce brought **McKenna**; Pat Morgan came with **Sunny**; Deb Orwig came with **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Joy Slagowski brought **Gnomeo**; and Linda Taylor was there with her **Daisy**. A beautiful wall quilt donated by Barbara Connoyer of *Sun Valley Quilts* was raffled off during the event and brought in \$180!



Ward Case talking with Sheila while Linda Case tries to get Jersey to hold still for the photo

Many members came without dogs just to en-

joy the dinner and support *AGR*: Karen and Phil Davis, Mary and Bert Engstrom, Sally and Tom Fetherston, Sheila and Zach Jocewicz, Rusty and Don Krause and their son Rob, Michelle Miller and her son Lucus, and Michele Wehry. Others helped out on the serving line or doing other jobs. Gail Haywood worked registration and sold raffle tickets for both the quilt raffle and the 50/50 raffle. The 50/50



Karin, Kathi and Nick on the serving line



Linda reacting to her 50/50 win

raffle earned \$203, and Linda Taylor won half of the total for the second year in a row! Members on the serving line first shift were Jeff Guilbault, Sandra Hansen and Jared Miller. Second shift was taken by Nick Dodson, Karin Forsythe and Kathi Youhas. Bussing tables were Patrick Doyle and Liz Tataseo. Connie McCabe was, of course, taking photos throughout the afternoon. Sales at the *AGR* merchandise tables were monitored by Teri Guilbault and Deb Orwig. We also received a total of \$313 in donations.

Special thanks to Sandy Fullington, who was instrumental in the event planning and in handling registration at the event.



Huge thanks to Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler (photo at left) for once again hosting the event for *AGR* and donating their restaurant, food and personnel.



Sandy and Gail

Setting up in the morning were Tony Cotner, Patrick Doyle, Teri Guilbault, Dana and Gail Haywood, Deb Orwig, Liz Tataseo and Bob and Kathi Youhas. The same group also took down all the equipment with the extra help of Karin, Rachel and Jacob Forsythe.



Liz, Pat with Sunny, Patrick and Sheila

It was a fabulous day, and *AGR* earned \$2014.50 for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund* and another \$532 in merchandise sales. We are indebted to Bryan and Nancy for their generous donation of *Little Bite of Italy* for the day.





Pet Club, Glendale

By Liz Tataseo



On November 15th, **AGR** did a trial Meet-and-Greet at **Pet Club**, 17204 N 67th Ave, Glendale. A few of us went on a Thursday afternoon from 4 - 7 PM to see how it might work out. Sheila Joyce with **McKenna**, Deb Orwig with **Mufasa** and Liz Tataseo with

Gonzo and **Trip** had a nice spot up front to meet customers, and



This young lady was enamored with Trip. After they went home, she insisted that her mom bring her back to the store to give us a donation!

many were generous in donating. Kathi Youhas and Patrick Doyle



Kathi with Trip in her lap, Mufasa and Gonzo in front

came by to lend a hand for a while, and we had a good time. One young lady and her mom came back a short time after leaving to love on the dogs some more and specifically to give us a donation. We will see if we can continue a relationship with **Pet Club** in 2013. **Pet Club** is a roomy store and has a large variety of pet foods at reasonable prices. The store personnel are also very nice and accommodating. We enjoyed our afternoon there.



Tails of the Season

By Liz Tataseo



Don, Sheila, Patrick in way-back with Annabelle, Kathi, Liz and Rusty

AGR was invited to a new venue on November 17th called *Tails of the Season*.

Tails of the Season was held at **Northwest Community Church** on 43rd Ave and Bell Rd; it was their second year of holding an event for rescue adoptions. Unfortunately, their advertising could have been



Liz and Sweetie

better, as there was not a lot of public participation at the event, although many of the smaller dogs were quite popular. It was a very nice day, and the organizers had many volunteers to help set up and to walk the dogs. Throughout the day, our booth was a very popular hangout for a sizable group of teenagers, who were there as volunteers from one of the local high school Key Clubs.



Joining Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo, who set up the tent and merchandise, were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, Sheila Joyce with **Tessa**, Don and Rusty Krause with **Stormy** and **Sunshine** and Kathi Youhas with **Maura**. Deb brought **Ladybird**, **Hayden**, **Mufasa** and **Troy** and Liz had **Trip** and **Sweetie**. Peter Wong also stopped by for a while with **Billie**. Dee and Sara Stevenson with **Maggie** dropped by for a visit, as well. Several other rescues were there, and we enjoyed seeing Joy Slagowski who was helping with Cattle Dog Rescue. While donations were small due to the lack of traffic, merchandise sales made up for it thanks to other rescuers shopping at our booth, for a total of \$161.25 for the day.



Holiday Pet Festival

By Deb Orwig



Tony, Gail and Dana in booth

On Saturday, December 1st, **AGR** had a booth at the *Holiday Pet Festival* held at **WestWorld** in Scottsdale. This was the third year this event has been sponsored by **Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary**, and for **AGR** it was the best of the three years we have attended. Co-sponsors included

PetSmart, **PetSmart Charities** and **Pawlicity**. Unlike last year when the weather was terrible, this year the weather was perfect for early December, so public attendance was way up, estimated at over 10,000! There were more vendors at this show than ever before, too, and quite a few rescue groups were represented. We had the same great booth location as in previous years – on the corner of the second aisle in from the entrance – and we had plenty of Golden Retrievers with us to attract the public's attention. We talked to many, many people about our Rescue. During the event, Mike Andersen joined **AGR** as a new member and ended up adopting a dog (12-119 **Sadie**) from us about two weeks later!



Jackie Engelhardt, Roger Comer and Vicki Comer (far right in right photo) all came without dogs to help. Their assistance with merchandise sales and handling some of the "extra" dogs that were with us was invaluable.



Beth with Bevo, Tony with Daisy, Roger with Ladybird, Gail in back, and Vicki

Tony Cotner, Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo set up the booth on Friday afternoon. *Tranquility Trail* graciously provided numerous volunteers to help with unloading and carting all our merchandise and set-up equipment to the booth. We greatly appreciated their assistance!

During the event on Saturday, which lasted from 10 AM to 5 PM, we had help from the following volunteers: Beth Chaffee with Bevo; Vicki and Roger Comer; Tony Cotner with Daisy; Jackie Engelhardt; Gail and Dana Haywood with Riley; Denny Myrick with Jake; Deb Orwig with Ladybird, Troy and Mufasa; Judy Petitto with Sandi Joy and Judy's sister Gerri Fedio; Cynthia Wenström and Mike Lane with Hannah; and Michele Wehry. AGR members Jan and Joe Baselice, Gail and Mike Galbreath with Molly and Coco, and Jan Newland stopped by our booth to say hello.



Gerri and Judy with Sandi Joy

Denny Myrick with Riley; Denny Myrick with Jake; Deb Orwig with Ladybird, Troy and Mufasa; Judy Petitto with Sandi Joy and Judy's sister Gerri Fedio; Cynthia Wenström and Mike Lane with Hannah; and Michele Wehry. AGR members Jan and Joe Baselice, Gail and Mike Galbreath with Molly and Coco, and Jan Newland stopped by our booth to say hello.



Denny with Jake, Dana, Vicki, Mike and Gail with Coco and Molly



Michele with Mufasa on her lap



One mom with her special-needs daughter stayed in our booth for quite a while. That evening she sent this photo and message to us via our Facebook page: *My daughter enjoyed spending time with your group at the Holiday Pet Festival today. Thank you so much for letting her have a moment with*

your amazing dogs and volunteers!

Thanks to everyone who helped, and special thanks to the crew from *Hug 'N Pups Pet Grooming Salon and Dog Training* (1609 E. Bell Rd, Suite B, Phoenix). Linda Den Beste, the owner and manager, and her assistants. Linda, Gavin Easton, Nicole Easton, and Lisa Huffner were busy the entire day! They spent a total of 5 hours on their feet or knees wrestling with dogs that didn't want their



Gavin and Linda



Gavin trimming nails of Shiba Inu held by Nicole



nails trimmed! One Shiba Inu made such a commotion even Mufasa was concerned (at left); Gavin didn't draw blood once, either! At the end

of the event, Linda handed me \$247 that they had collected for nail trims! She and Gavin had also donated the \$100 fee for the electricity to run the nail grinders. Thank you so much!

We collected \$124 in donations, sold 16 calendars (\$160) and an additional \$515 of merchandise. In addition, our silent auction item (a large basket filled with dog treats and toys) sold for \$120. A generous customer gave us \$70 to purchase items detailed on three of the ten Wish Tree ornaments I had made, including a soft, cushy bed for senior girl 12-134 Sadie, soft toys for senior girl 12-138 Peanut and tough toys for young 12-132 Jackson! Liz and I went shopping at *Ryan's Pet Supply* the following Monday and really got our money's worth! Another kind customer purchased toys for 12-139 Harry from one of the vendors at the show.



Mike and Cynthia with Hannah

Our total revenue including the fantastic donation from *Hug 'N Pups* was \$1238.35, plus the toys for Harry. Be sure to mark December 7, 2013 on your new AGR calendar as the date for this year's *Holiday Pet Festival* – it is worth the trip to attend, and there is no admission fee or parking fee! This is one of the best-organized events we attend. We are looking forward to 2013's show.

No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich. ~ Louis Sabin



Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart

We are now doing monthly Meet-and-Greets at four different **PetSmart** stores. Connie McCabe chairs the 91st Ave store, Teri Guilbault chairs the Bell Rd store, Denny Myrick handles the Mayo Blvd store and Angela Palumbo chairs the Tempe Marketplace store. Below are the reports for November 2012 only, since October's reports were in the November issue and we did not do any Meet-and-Greets in December because of the *Photos with Santa*.



Winnie on chair, Grizzly, Sheila, McKenna, Pat, Sunny, Star, Karen, Caesar

CONNIE: What a very nice day we had on November 3rd at the 91st Ave **PetSmart**! Thanks to Nick, of course – he always helps me with set up and take down – Karen Davis with **Caesar** and **Star**,



Sunny investigating, as Connie put it, a creepy fake baby

Sheila Joyce with **Tessa**, and Pat Morgan with Mr. November 2012 **Sunny**. I brought **Grizzly** and **Winnie**. We met a LOT of people – I expect several applications to come in. There was a couple interested in **Sadie** and also a young man looking for **Rosebud**. Another couple who had just submitted an application also dropped

by. We collected \$124 in donations, plus sold 8 calendars for another \$80, and we never had a quiet moment until 4:30 PM.

DENNY: On a beautiful fall Saturday, November 3rd, at the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart** store, the following **Arizona Golden Rescue** volunteers and their wonderful Golden Retrievers set up their display outside: Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sally and Tom Fetherston with **Molly** and **Rocki**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey**; Not pictured: Mike Lane; Diane Traxler and Michael McDonald with **Moon**; and Pam Spicer, photographer. In three hours, we collected a total \$122.10.



Pam Spicer's stunning photo of Jake Myrick with unknown woman



Cynthia with Bailey, Sally with Rocki, Tom with Molly, Denny with Jake, Tony with Daisy, Gail, Riley and Dana at Mayo Blvd **PetSmart**

TERI: On Sunday, November 18th, the weather was perfect for sitting outside and talking to people about our Rescue at the Arrowhead **PetSmart** location. The highlight of our day was when Christine Spiel with her resident Goldendoodle **Jack** and new **AGR**-adopted buddy **Nash** stopped by to visit us and let us know



At Arrowhead **PetSmart**: Gail, Dana, Kathi, Liz, Teri, Tony, and Patrick

how everything was going. **Nash** is one handsome boy! We also managed to visit with a lot of people interested in possibly adopting and collected a nice \$101.26 to boot! Joining me with my furkids, **Blossom** and **Jackson**, were: Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **McKenna**; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird** and **Mufasa**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo**; and Kathi Youhas with **Carter**. Jared Miller with son Lucas also stopped by for a while, as did Connie McCabe. Pictures of the day's event can be found at <http://albums.phanfare.com/isolated/zE6BFB5E/1/5840030>



Nash on left, Jack on right

ANGELA: Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Meet-and-Greet at the Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart**, which was scheduled for November, had to be cancelled. *Photos with Santa* at the Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart** on the weekend of December 15-16, 2012 took the place of a Meet-and-Greet for December.



Thanks to all who came to help out at any of these Meet-and-Greets. They are so important for helping to get our name out to the public!



Holiday Gift Wrapping

By Liz Tataseo and Deb Orwig

Editor's Note: Photos are not in order of appearance date. We tried to get a picture of every volunteer, but it just wasn't possible. If you helped at any of the gift wrap events and you do not see yourself in any of the photos, we are sorry we missed you.



Santa dog Mufasa by Gift Wrapping sign; above sign on table is a wrapped calendar – we sold a lot of those!

with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **McKenna**; Martha McDowell; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Taryn Tigges; Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah** – it was her debut as a Donation Dog; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Carter** and **Maura**.



Martha and Taryn cooing over Mufasa



Part of our Black Friday crew: Dana, Andrew, Liz and Taryn

5 PM both days. The amount of donations reflected the shorter hours but we still had good days: \$508.73 and \$354.86, respectively. Helping out on Saturday were Vicki and Roger Comer with **Harley** at his first gift wrapping event; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Sandra Hansen with foster **Sadie**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with



Hannah's debut as a Donation Dog

We started the gift wrapping season at Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** on November 23rd and had a really good day from 9 AM to 6 PM (and stayed a little later). **AGR** earned \$867.25 on this Black Friday with the help of Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Andrew Giddings with **Baylee**; Gail and Dana Haywood



Roger and Vicki with Harley

On Sunday, joining in were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Teri Guilbault with **Fresno**; Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **Holly**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**, **Sasha** and **Winnie**; Michelle Miller with son Lucus; Jan



Don and Rusty with Stormy and Sunshine

Newland with **Goldie**; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; and Bob Youhas with **Carter**. The next weekend was really busy, as we had a group at the *Holiday Pet Festival* on December 1st, while some more of us were at the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** from 1 - 5 PM., and even more of our volunteers were working at the *Photos with Santa* at **PetSmart**. We had a good afternoon at **Barnes & Noble** with \$474.88 in donations and calendar sales. Joining in the fun were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Teri Guilbault with grandson Lucus; Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Don and Rusty Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Sherry Landwehr; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**;

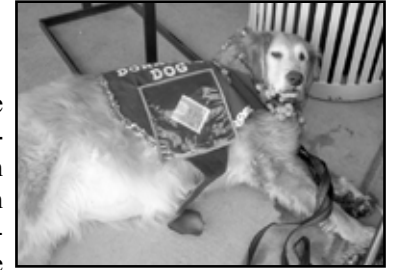


First-time Donation Dogs: Bentley (above) and Watson (center) Peapenburg and Lucy Webb with her daddy Joe (right)



Hannah and Eric Peapenburg with **Bentley** and **Watson**; Sharon Wieser and son Ilan and Mom Augie

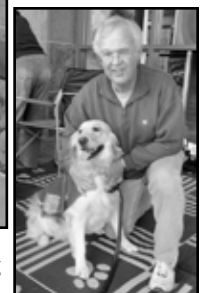
Holly and **McKenna**; Don and Rusty Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**, **Sasha** and **Winnie**; Jan Newland with **Goldie**; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Krissie** and **Leo**.



Sadie says, What a tough job! I take a nap and wake up to find money in my pocket!



Larry Orwig with Ladybird, Trip and Gonzo





Kathi, Patrick, Connie, Teri, Dana and Gail

with **Nala**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Joe and Melody Webb stopped by for a while and decided to bring **Lucy** next time; and Kathi and Bob Youhas

came with **Carter** and **Maura**. There were also several *Apollo High School Key Club* volunteers to help out with the dogs. Jodi, Sherry, Kathi and Martha did a great job wrapping with the rest of us meeting and greeting the public.



Sarah and Bunny



Back: Bob, Patrick, Debbie; Front: Ilan and Marcus

On December 2nd, we were back at Happy Valley for another 1 - 5 PM shift and took in \$373.42. Participants were Debbie Ball with **Shiloh**; Aaron Cargile with **Jasper**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Sheila Joyce with **Tessa**; Deb Orwig with **LadyBird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Sharon,

Philip, Marcus and Ilan Wieser with **Nala**; Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey**; and Bob Youhas.



Sheila, Liz, Tony, Aaron and Cynthia

Back to Happy Valley we went on December 8th for another 1 - 5 PM shift. The season was getting busier and donations were going up: \$535.04. Working for *AGR* that day were Aaron Cargile with **Jasper**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Lonnie Duffield (a friend of Aaron's); Teri Guilbault with **Fresno**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley** and **Trina Kearney**; Martha McDowell; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Deb Orwig with **LadyBird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Sharon, Marcus and Ilan Wieser with **Nala**;



Annabelle with friend



Liz with Trip and Gonzo

with **Nala**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Sharon, Marcus and Ilan Wieser with **Nala**;



Karin and Jodi

and, once again, some *Apollo High School Key Club* members joined in to help with the dogs and collect donations.

Sunday, December 9th, we returned to Arrowhead and collected \$501.44 in donations. While it was getting colder, we still had lots of volun-

teers: Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley** and **Trina Kearney**; Shilo Heussman, a *Deer Valley High School* student volunteer; Don and Rusty



Apollo High School Key Club volunteers



Sherry Landwehr with Mufasa

Krause and their son Rob with **Stormy** and **Sunshine**; Sarah Martin and **Bunny**; Deb Orwig with **LadyBird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; and Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**.

December 15th and 16th were great days at Arrowhead and Happy Valley with

\$1027.94 and \$612.52 in donations, respectively. Helping out were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Teri Guilbault with **Jackson**; Sheila Joyce with **McKenna** and **Tessa**; Jodi Koblick; Sarah Martin; Martha McDowell; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Carter**, **Krissie** and **Maura**. We also had several *Chaparral High School National Honor Society* students to help with the dogs on Saturday.



Tony and sister Jan with Daisy, Goldie and Rocky



Students from Chaparral High School's National Honor Society



on Saturday.



Child putting money into a Donation Vest pocket, a common sight at all of our gift wrapping sessions

the 11 AM - 5 PM shift were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Karen Davis with **Caesar** and **Star**; Sandra Hansen; Gail Haywood



Sandra with Sadie

On December 22nd, we were again a split squad. Thanks to calling efforts by Larry Jessup, we had a huge group going to the Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** and a smaller group at the Happy Valley location. At Happy Valley, we had a fabulous day due to a single donation of \$500, which resulted in a total of \$1029.94 in four hours! We had terrific help from Vicki and Roger Comer with **Harley**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Sheri Fogel; Sarah Martin with **Bunny** and **Molly**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Joe Webb with **Lucy**; Philip, Sharon, Marcus and Ilan Wieser with **Nala**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Krissie** and **Maura**.

At Tempe Marketplace on December 22nd, we had the best day we've ever had at a **Barnes & Noble** anywhere in any year as far as donations go: our "take" was \$2,495.94, which included two

On Sunday, it was a smaller crew but still mighty: Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shi-loh**; Roger Comer with **Harley**; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Joe Webb with **Lucy**; and Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah**.

Wednesday, December 19th was an extra day by invitation of Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble**, and we did well with \$629.58 in donations. Joining us for



Rick, Debbie, Kathi, Patrick, Sheila, Bob

with **Riley**; Beverly Host; Don and Rusty Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Martha McDowell; Deb Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Carter** and **Leo**.



Martha, Kathi and Sheri Fogel at Happy Valley on December 22

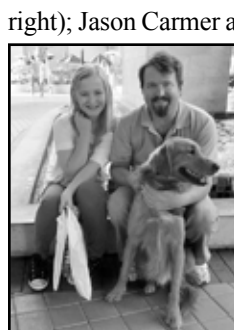
\$25 membership renewals, 14 party collars at \$5 each, 13 calendars at \$10 each, and \$2,245.94 in donations that day, plus before the end of the year an additional donation of \$10 and another \$5 for merchandise were sent in by people who had seen us there. So, our grand total for Tempe was \$2,510.94! Thanks to Larry Jessup calling most of our members who live east of I-17, south of Anthem, and north of Casa Grande, we had a fantastic crew of 83 volunteers and 47 dogs



Kasey; Melissa Beceiro and sons Jordan and Justin with **Murphy**; Megan and Trent



Terry Oline holding her Shanley and Deb's Ladybird and Stephanie Beard with Kasey; in front, Tempe Joyce



Bob Corwin with

Dana Haywood with **Riley**, **Bonnie** and **Steve Hargrave** with **Lillianna** and **Boz**, **Diane** and **Jim Henkel** with **Bella** and **Winston**, and **Bob Corwin** with **Suzie Q**

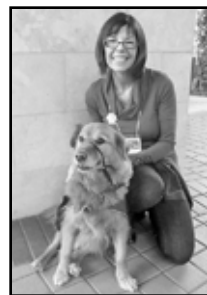
during our 9 AM - 6 PM shift including: Michelle Bailey and Kay Correll with **Chance** and **Tumbleweed** (photo at left); Stephanie Beard with **Bender**; Nick Yale and Bruce Bouldin with **Bentley** (at left); Barbara Brownlee with **Mandee** (at right); Jason Carmer and daughter Jessica with **Jaxon** (left); Brandi and Chuck Carter and their children McKenna and Ryan with **Samantha**; Barbara Chapman and Fred Mancoff, with **Wrigley**, as well as Margaret, Neal and Wes Mancoff; Stevie and Curtis Cope and children Benjamin, Hank and Sam with **Ruby**;



Larry Jessup and Honeybear greeted everyone who came to Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** through the parking lot entrance



Michelle Bailey and Kay Correll with **Chance** and **Tumbleweed** (photo at left); Stephanie Beard with



Barbara Brownlee with **Mandee** (at right); Jason Carmer and daughter Jessica with





Mary and Kathy Davison with Jake

Suzie Q; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Kathy and Mary Davison with **Jake**; Andrea Decker and daughter Jill with **Diego** (at right); Judy Doseck and daughter Hannah with **Stella**; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Rex** and **Sage**; Cricket Forstrom with **Hoover**; Diana Frankowski; Lenore Friedman; Debbie and Tim



Brandi and Chuck Ryan and McKenna Carter with Samantha

Fuller with **Bella**; Diane Golla and son Charlie with another **Bella**; Bonnie and Steve Hargrave



Inside wrapping group for much of the day: Kathy Davison, Judy and Hannah Doseck, Linda Kearns (seated) with Stella Doseck

and **Lillianna**; Stacy and Mike Healy with children Makenna and Keaton with **Kelsie** and **Kylie**; Teryl Hall with **Amigo**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Gillian Hamilton with daughters Susan and Jing with **Mr. Greene**; Diane and Jim Henkel with yet another **Bella** and **Winston**; Larry Jessup with



Beth Keune (pronounced Coin'ee) with Duke



Carrie and Jane Pulis with Rocky and Max

Honeybear; Joyce Johnston with **Max** and **Toby**; Marti Joyce with **Tempe**;



Cope Family with Ruby

Myrick with **Jake**; Donna and Berek Novak with **Jackson** and **Tanner**; Terry Oline and sister Mickey Kovach with **Shanley**; Deb



Outside wrapping helpers: Gayle Starr, Valerie Mylowe and Diane Ghezzi

Linda Kearns; Beth Keune with **Duke**; Kim Lindenmeyer with **Indy**; Michele Meyer with **Abigail**; Leslie and Ted Morris with **Maddie**; Valerie Mylowe; Denny



Donna and Berek Novak with Tanner and Jackson

Orwig with **Ladybird**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Carrie, Casey, Jane and Zach Pulis with **Max** and **Rocky**; Jeff Sager with **Orion**; and Gayle Starr.



Jeff Sager with Orion



Joyce Johnston with Toby and Max



Kim Lindenmeyer with Indy



Lenore Friedman



While Leslie Morris helped wrap at our table outside in the Tempe Marketplace mall, her dog Maddie was out front with her husband Ted and a new friend



Michele Meyer with Abigail



Bella recognized Teryl Hall, who had been her foster mom for 4 months before she was adopted by Debbie (at right in photo) and Tim Fuller

the shoppers kept coming and coming to the gift wrap tables. The long day on Sunday netted \$1643.29, and Monday we had a blockbuster of \$2349.18. Sunday's group included: Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**;

ended up staying until nearly 10 PM on Sunday, since no other nonprofit group was scheduled in after us and



Tom Ghezzi was a big help wrangling Deb's dogs while she was wrapping



Melissa Beceiro with Murphy

Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **Holly, McKenna** and **Tessa**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Martha McDowell; Deb Orwig with **LadyBird, Mufasa** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Augie** in the morning then **Gonzo** and **Trip**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with **Krissie** and **Maura**. Deb, Liz, Patrick, Kathi and Bob stayed late to wrap gifts.

Monday, in addition to the people and dogs who came Sunday,

we added Vicki and Roger Comer with **Harley, Rocky Cotner**; Karin, Jacob and Rachael Forsythe; **Goldie Guilbault**; Teryl Hall and her neighbor Emma with guest dogs **Cobbler** and **Rosie**; Don and Rusty Krause



Largest package we wrapped was a set of luggage



Adorable Snophie snuggling with friend

with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Sherry Landwehr; Linda Taylor with **Daisy** and adorable new Lab puppy **Snophie** (correct spelling); Joe Webb and **Lucy**; and Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah**. We had to finish up by 6 PM, as that is when the store closed on Christmas Eve. A big woofing thank you to everyone who came out into the cold and helped us collect so much to help the dogs with vet costs. You are all wonderful! Over the entire season, we collected a total of \$13,419.01 for our gift wrapping! We are very grateful to the various **Barnes & Noble** stores for allowing us to do this terrific fundraiser!



Patrick watching Martha wrap



Nick, Santa Jeff, Connie with Winnie, Grizzly and Sasha

out the Santa beards and wigs on top of that. I could never manage these Santa gigs without his help!

December 1st: Thank you to everyone who volunteered or brought your dogs in for photos. We had a blast Saturday morning. Santa Nick Dodson and myself as photographer were joined by our wonderful

elf friends Jack Craven, Cara Holland and Doris VanBenschoten. **Grizzly** and **Winnie** worked to bring in donations for the morning shift. It was slow, and we only took 11 photos in the morning. Many people never even knew we were going to be there! However,



Santa Nick with Arrowhead PetSmart store personnel Andrew and Tim

it picked up a little in the afternoon. Joy Slagowski was the afternoon photographer, while Jeff Guilbault played Santa. I assisted Joy, while Mary Jo and John Courtney were dog wranglers. Sheila Joyce and Marilyn and Mark Flynn were first-time elves.



December 1st morning shift: Jack Craven, Santa Nick, Doris Van Benschoten, Grizzly, Cara Holland and Winnie

The store did not supply envelopes this year, and Mark was kind enough to go out in the crazy traffic to buy some, so people had a safe way to carry their photos home. Joining **Grizzly** and **Winnie** as a Donation Dog was **Mary Kate Courtney**. The dogs gathered up \$253.64 in donations for the day, and we sold 9 calendars for another \$90. We took 20 photos, which will yield us another \$100 in the future. Total revenue: \$443.64. We had lots of friends come visit. Several people who had their photos taken last year came by. Also, Sheila got her photos done



December 1st afternoon shift: Standing are Santa Jeff, Joy Slagowski, and Mark Flynn; in front, John and Mary Jo Courtney with Mary Kate, Sheila Joyce with Winnie, and Marilyn Flynn with Grizzly



Santa Nick with Jasper



Photos with Santa at Arrowhead PetSmart

By Connie McCabe

It was wonderful to see so many of our helpers back again this year – thank you all! And many thanks to our new elves, too. We were successful only because we made so many people go away pleased with their Santa experience. We had a LOT of people come back who had been there last year, and that says it all. I really have to give special thanks to my husband, Nick Dodson. Not only did he help set up every shift and come back to pack up everything, he played Santa for four shifts and elf for one. And even when he wasn't there, he brought us lunch almost every day! And washed



Pat Morgan and Sandra Hansen with Sunny enjoying the nice early December weather

with **McKenna, Tessa and Holly**. **AGR** dog **Dakota (09-025)**, who is looking terrific, also came for his photo. We were tickled to see our recent foster **Jasper**, with his mom, Jill, and dad, Fred. **Jasper** was happy to see “Uncle” Santa Nick and **Grizzly**, too. **Jasper** looks great – this placement was a real good fit! Diane and Jim Henkel made a long trip from

Gilbert to bring **Bella and Winston**,

who were very well behaved.

December 2nd: Santa Nick Dodson and I were joined in the morning by Cricket Forstrom with **Kelly and Hoover**, Patrick Doyle and Bob Youhas. We had



December 2nd afternoon: Bob Youhas, Santa Jeff, Cricket Forstrom, Cricket's dogs Kelly and Hoover, Patrick Doyle

a nice session – took 19 photos in the morning and had some gorgeous dogs. In addition, we photographed a very pretty snake and an adorable Guinea pig – fortunately for the Guinea pig, not at the same time! Bob and Patrick were dog wranglers and people greeters, while Cricket helped me with photos inside. Don Thompson was Santa in the afternoon, while Pat Morgan and Sandra Hansen greeted the public with **Sunny**. Karen Davis helped me with the dogs and photos, and we took an additional 12 photos,



Santa Nick got the Guinea pig and the snake, fortunately not at the same time!



Above: This is how TWELVE Maltese were brought in... Right: Santa Don and three family members had their hands full! Notice that all of those dogs are looking at the photographer!

including Pat with **Sunny** and also Cricket with **Kelly and Hoover**. For the day, we collected \$163 in donations, sold 5 calendars and will receive \$155 for 31 photos. Total revenue: \$368.30.



December 8th first shift: Roger Comer, Kathi Youhas, Vicki Comer, Grizzly, Santa Nick, Patrick Doyle Kim Lindenmeyer with Indy, Connie McCabe

December 8th: Santa Nick Dodson and I were initially joined in the morning by Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, Kim Lindenmeyer with **Indy**, and Kathi Youhas (even though she was not feeling well). Vicki and Roger Comer came by with **Harley** to get a photo and saw that we were so busy, they offered to stay and help. What a wonderful help too!

Handsome **Grizzly** and **Indy** worked the crowds, and we did 28 photos in the morning! In the afternoon Jeff Guilbault was a wonderful Santa, Joy Slagowski was a terrific photographer, and I helped as an elf. Patrick stayed all day, too, and Pat Morgan brought **Sunny** to work as an afternoon Donation Dog with **Grizzly**. I missed getting a photo of the afternoon crew – my apologies, as we were pretty busy collecting \$174.57



Cooper the cat checking out Santa Nick

in donations, which included 1 calendar sale, and did 42 photos (\$210). Total revenue \$384.57. Deb brought sweet **Hayden, Troy, Ladybird and Mufasa**, and I am so glad we were able to get a good photo of them. There were lots of cute dogs, and Vicki and Roger were finally able to get a photo with **Harley**! Lucas Miller popped in to see grandpa Santa Jeff, too.



Santa Jeff nose to nose with little Shiloh



Toto the dog checking out Santa Jeff



December 9th first shift: Patrick Doyle, Nick Dodson, Grizzly, Santa Bob Youhas, Sadie, Connie McCabe, Sandra Hansen

December 9th: Thanks to Bob Youhas as Santa, Patrick Doyle as “elf/wrangler-wannabe Santa” again, Sandra Hansen, and Nick Dodson (who stepped in as substitute elf), we had a great morning. Sandra brought her foster **Sadie** and we had **Grizzly**, too, for Donation Dogs. They made a very handsome

couple and collected \$77, including one calendar sale. **Annabelle** visited from time to time, too. We took a respectable 22 sets of



Kathi and Kim with Grizzly and Indy photos, and we were busy all morning. In the afternoon, Jeff



December 9th second shift: Joy Slagowski, Grizzly, Santa Jeff Guilbault, Anne Kowalski, and Taryn Tigges



The Slagowskis demonstrate just how much fun it is trying to get a large group of animals to cooperate for a photo; Connie can do it, though!

Guibault was Santa while Joy Slagowski was photographer, and I switched to elf. We were joined by Anne Kowalski and Taryn Tigges as elf wranglers. Sandra and Sadie stayed too! The afternoon dogs collected \$143.38, including 2 calendar sales, and Joy took an additional 13 photos in the afternoon.

So, we had \$220.38 in donations, including the sale of 3 calendars, plus 35 photos for another \$175, so revenue of \$395.38 for the day. Liz Tataseo brought Trip and Gonzo for some cute photos. We got the famous Slagowski crew (always a source of great amusement to the onlookers) and a nice Youhas family portrait also. Great job everyone!



Oh, the weather outside was frightful... Fortunately, Joyce Hubler and Sandra Hansen came dressed for it

December 15th: Despite really nasty rainy and cold weather, the Bell Rd Santa team did great! Thanks to Phil Leavitt, (who pulled two shifts on Saturday as Santa), Patrick Doyle with Annabelle (another shift for him, too!), Kathy and Mary Davison (their first time – what great helpers!), and Joyce and Ripley Hubler (real troopers in that awful weather). Along with Grizzly and myself, we were

able to take 17 photos in the morning. I was amazed that so many people took their dogs and cats out in the rain. Grizzly and Ripley collected \$179.65, including sales of 2 calendars. Terrific job!



December 15th first shift: Mary Davison, Joyce Hubler with Ripley, Grizzly with Kathy Davison, Santa Phil Leavitt, and Patrick Doyle with Annabelle

We got to take some photos of AGR members and their dogs too: Sweetie Tataseo with Liz, Shiloh Ball with Debbie and Rick, Ripley Hubler with Joyce, Nash Spiel with Jack and Christine, and Annabelle Doyle

with Patrick. In the afternoon, the weather only got worse, but a surprising number of people still came out. Santa Phil continued as Santa, and Joy Slagowski came on as afternoon photographer. Vicki Comer joined us again, and once again was a huge help. Poor Sandra Hansen – it was really cold, but she stayed outside along with Joyce,



December 15th second shift: Joy Slagowski, Santa Phil Leavitt (who was Santa all day), Vicki Comer, Grizzly and Sandra Hansen



Mishaps, like beard hair getting caught in a party collar during photo set-up or goats peeing and pooping on the carpet (oops), occur and lend humor to the day



who also stayed with Ripley most of second shift, too. At the end of the day, there was a beautiful double rainbow, but I only



As Santa, sometimes you have to bribe...



Sometimes you just have to get down on your knees...



And sometimes, you have to tolerate antlers in your face

caught part of it. Nick Dodson, of course was a huge help in loading, transporting and setting up, along with bringing us lunch and then coming back to tear it all down and load up again! And Griz-



After a long day of two shifts as Santa, Phil deserved a little nap!

zly – what can I say...he and Ripley really stole the show with the people out front. We took 15 photos and collected \$86.39, including one calendar sold for the afternoon. The day's total included 32 photos (\$160) plus \$266.04 cash, including 3 calendar sales – \$426.04 for a cold and rainy day was not too bad!

December 16th: This was our last day and people knew it. Even though it was sunny

out, it rained cats and dogs and even goats inside! We had an incredible team all day: Nick Dodson as Santa in the morning and Sandra Hansen to help me with the photos inside, while Susan Parker and Patrick Doyle wrangled **Grizzly** and **Sadie** outside, with an occasional visit from **Anabelle**. Sarah Martin brought **Bunny** and **Molly**, then stayed to help. Michelle Nicholas joined us at some point with **Maggie**, who

has turned into a beautiful big girl, and they both stayed most of the day. We took 29 photos in the morning and didn't have a minute to sit down, and we were blessed with two cute but non-housetrained goats (see photo on p. 34)! I was zoomed in close on the goats and dog, looking through the viewfinder and pleased to see that the goats were looking very relaxed and content. When I zoomed back out, I could see why they were so happy. One of them had peed on the rug we had brought from home. The other one had pooped little goat pellets. Only then did I realize why everyone was laughing! In the afternoon, Jeff Guilbault became Santa, Joy Slagowski was the photographer and Sandra and I helped with the elf duties. Todd Slagowski was outside with **Kahuna** and **Bella**



December 16th second shift: Susan Parker, Sadie, Sandra Hansen, Santa Jeff Guilbault, Pat Morgan with Sunny, Todd Slagowski and Joy Slagowski with Bella and Kahuna

and Pat Morgan with **Sunny**. Susan Parker stayed all day, and she helped with **Sadie** and **Grizzly**. Sandra Hansen went home and brought back **Jasmine** to join in the fun, too. Michelle Nicholas managed to disappear when the group photo was taken indoors, though. In the afternoon Joy took 19 photos,



Michelle Nicholas with Grizzly and Maggie

which really added up. We were able to get good photos of Sarah with **Molly** and **Bunny**, Michelle with **Maggie**, and finally Sandra with **Sadie** and **Jasmine**. My favorite story was the family who came in with their Chihuahua mix all punked up with a purple Mohawk. They had been waiting in line for an hour at

Arrowhead Mall for a family photo with Santa, only when they got up to Santa, were they told that he was allergic to dogs and they were turned away. Joy was able to get a great photo of the entire family and it really made their day. Thanks to everyone, the Donation Dogs collected \$439.94 including 4 calendar sales. We took 48 photos, which will bring us \$240.00 for a day's income of \$679.94!

Again, thank you everyone on all shifts for the entire Santa Photos event in both Arrowhead and Tempe, You earned a big raise! All photos are available for viewing at our new photo sharing site: <http://agrdogphotos.phanfare.com/agr-events>



*Photos with Santa at
Tempe Marketplace PetSmart*

By Angela Palumbo



Dave with Sage, Gail, Tony with Daily and Rocky, and Denny with Jake talking with Santa Dana

Thanks to all my volunteers who came on December 15th: Dave and Jackie Englehardt with **Sage**; Gail and Dana (Santa) Haywood with **Riley**; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Tony Cotner

with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Jeff Sager (Santa); Michelle Palumbo; and Jim Henkle got wrangled in because Diane was sick – thanks, Jim, for stepping up. It was raining all day and I was a little nervous about how many would come out for photos, but we managed to do 25 photos. We collected



Santa Jeff Sager with cat



Santa Dana with ferrets

\$252.85, including the sale of 4 calendars and 25 photos for a total of \$377.85. Not bad for a rainy day!

We had another good day in Tempe on December 16th. Thanks to my wonderful volunteers: Dana (Santa again in



Santa Jeff with Greyhound group



Santa Barbara Brownlee with dogs and family group

the morning), Gail and **Riley** Haywood; Tony, **Daisy** and **Rocky** Cotner; Maggie Muller; Michelle Palumbo; Ruth Pulliam; and Julie Carlson. Special thanks to Barbara Brownlee, who offered to be my second shift Santa. Kudos! We did have to have her "man up" a little, but she was great!

We took in \$183.45 including the sale of 2 calendars, and did 22 photos at \$5.00 each, giving us a total of \$293.45 for today and a total of \$671.30 for the weekend. Thanks all!

Santa Barbara with Rottie group



Gift Wrapping Donations

AGR received many, many donations at our gift wrapping appearances; listed are just the ones we recorded because they used a check or credit card. Thanks to all who donated during the holiday season, anonymously or otherwise!

Shelly Ardis
 Georgia Barioni
 Anita Brown
 Amy Cartwright
 Shawna Crisp
 Marcus Esparza
 Clete Faddis
 Joyce Hubler
 Adrian Kegler
 Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström
 Donald Mallory
 Mark Millett
 Natasha Munoz
 Emily Pearson
 Lupe Ramirez
 Rebecca Reaser
 Beow Schroer
 Xenia Spanos-Carone
 Ellen and James Stoll
 Paul Sullivan
 Sharon Van Slyke
 Christine Willis
 Lawrence and Phyllis Wojciechowski



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 11, 2012 and January 15, 2013. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Kathy Allison
 Stephanie Beard and Greg Konishi
 Ruth Beebe (at **Pet Club**)
 Richard Bird
 Joan and Paul Cieslak
 Karla Dunn
 Shiri and David Etzioni
 Shelly Forstrom
 Diana Frankowski
 Lisa and Bill Hazlet
 Karen, Chet and Riley Hetrick
 Dawn and Russ Ingram
 Sheila, Bill and Zachary Jocewicz
 Marti Joyce
 Agnes and George Keyasko
 Nancy and Dave Kimmel
 Rusty and Don Krause
 Patricia and Barry Kriegsfeld, M.D.
 Barb Morris via son Bill (at *Paws & Pasta*)
 Jeannette and Dave Morrocco
 Dennis Mullen
 Valerie Mylowe
 Harold E. Parsons, Jr.
 Judy Petitto
 Laura and Leigh Rivers
 Walter Rogers
 Mrs. Zoe Schreiberman
 Fran and Jan Strock
 Magdalena and John Thomas (at *Paws & Pasta*)
 Tanya Underwood
 Paula Waters (at **Pet Club**)
 Andrea and Daniel Zemel

Honorary Donations

In Honor of 11-017 Bela Selznick – monthly donation
 Hannah and Mitch Selznick

In Honor of Bo and Daisy
 Sheryl and Joseph Panovsky

*In Honor of our 1-year anniversary with **11-078 Duke***
Marsha and Steve Kleinz

*In Honor of the **AGR Board of Directors – Merry Christmas!***
Teri and Jeff Guilbault

In Honor of my mothers, Kay Correll and Michelle Bailey
Shanley Ten Eyck

In Honor of Katie Davis
Barbara Davis

*In Honor of Carol Gora who adopted **11-079 Jackson***
Paulette Field

*In Honor of Sandra Hansen for her volunteer work with **AGR***
Scott Hogan

In Honor of Connie McCabe who took our Christmas photo
Karen and Phil Davis

*In Honor of Deb Orwig and her furry workers for all they do
for our students in the All Star Kids Tutoring Program at
Desert Foothills Library*
Anonymous Tutors
Anna Hoffman
Kerri Krist
Martha McDowell
Barbara Owings

*In Honor of Deb Orwig and her furry workers for helping my
third grade students read better*
Trishia Murphy

*In Honor of Deb Orwig for caring for **Maggie and Jake**
while we were out of town*
Jackie and Dave Engelhardt

In Honor of my sister Judy Petitto's birthday
Gerri Fedio

*In Honor of the wedding of Janet Shepherd and Ronald
Bender*
Barbara Connoyer

*In Honor of Kathi and Bob Youhas for volunteer work with
AGR*
Betty Thompson

*In Honor of **12-146 Rosie***
Janet and Eddie Amig
Michael Andersen
Linda Arters
Beetle Bailey
Linda and Donald Boice
Betsy and Fred Brown
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In Memory of our precious Logan's boy Dillon
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In Memory of Leo Youhas
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Greg Korycki and Carrie Foust and Girls
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Kyla Duffy – Percentage of sales associated with **Lost Souls: FOUND! Inspiring Stories About Golden Retrievers, Vol. II**

Paul Shepard graciously donated a tabletop copy machine –
Thanks!

Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.
~ Roger Caras

From the Editor's Desk

By Deb Orwig

Thanks to Peter Wong and everyone else who submitted articles!

Special thanks to Liz Tataseo for helping to get the November 2012 issue of *The Golden Paw* ready for mailing and for her help with the end-of-the-year thank you letters.

Thanks to Connie McCabe for creating the cover art for this issue.

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

BULK RATE MAIL

Your address label on the back cover contains the verbiage "OR CURRENT RESIDENT." The U.S.P.S. now requires that verbiage on anything sent out by bulk rate mail. We qualify to use bulk rate mail because of our nonprofit status and because we send out more than 225 identical pieces of mail in each mailing. It is very cost effective for us to use bulk rate mail – the November issue of *The Golden Paw* cost about 33¢ each, as opposed to the \$1.50 it would cost to send one copy by first class mail. Sometimes, however, bulk rate copies do not get delivered at all, or they may take a week or more (especially to out-of-state recipients) to get to their destinations. **Bulk rate mail is not forwarded**, nor is it returned to us if you no longer live at the address on the label, which is why it is so important for you to notify us if you move.

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AGR participates in a cell phone recycling program sponsored by **GRC Wireless Recycling** that will bring us some cash. They will pay us \$2 - \$10 for a regular phone and up to \$50 for a smartphone, Blackberry or the like. If you get a new phone, please save your old one and turn it over to us at any of our events or membership meetings. Thanks!

Collar Strangulation

Collar strangulation kills thousands of dogs a year. The most common fatality results from two household dogs playing – a tooth or a paw gets caught in the other dog's collar and it almost always kills the other dog, while the one who is caught tries to get free by twisting and turning thus tightening the collar. An *AGR* member recently almost lost one of her dogs when the one who got caught twisted the dog's collar almost strangling the other dog trying to get his paw out. If you have more than one dog, it's best not to keep collars on in the house or backyard. All *AGR* dogs are microchipped, so if they get out they can be found with a chip scan – they do not need a collar on unless they are being walked on leash.



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