

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw



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Thank You



to the many
members, volunteers
and donation dogs
who helped make
our 2019 holiday
fundraising season
a huge success!

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Editor's Assistants' Notes



Vin, Mufasa, and Duffy Orwig with Dallas Orwig in front

We were so excited to be able to participate in *AGR* events during the holidays! It was usually **Vin** and sometimes also **Duffy** or **Mufasa** who got to greet customers at *Barnes & Noble* during the gift wrapping activities. **Dallas** even got to go once for the morning shift and then spent the afternoon shift taking a break in his crate. The bookstore customers were ever so kind! The three ambassadogs who were there during each shift were warmly greeted by everyone, received lots of petting, and a couple of customers even brought treats to give out. And, of course, we dogs collected lots of donations – lots of \$20 bills and even a couple of \$50 bills and two \$100 bills were found in the donation vests! **Mufasa** and **Dallas** usually kept Dad company at home, but all four of us got to walk in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*! That was such a fun event! The crowd in Glendale loved us and stuffed money in our donation vests during the entire length of the parade!

All of us are looking forward to participating in the *Parada Del Sol* on February 8th, and we hope you can join us there. This is *AGR's* 11th anniversary year, so please try to come and help make this year's walking group the largest of ours that has ever walked in this parade. We encourage you to hang around our booth at *Trails End* after the parade, too. We get lots of attention from the large crowds of thousands that show up and wander around this street fair.

We also are anxious to attend *AGR's* 11th Anniversary Celebration on March 15th at beautiful *Eldorado Park* in Scottsdale. We can't wait for you to see all the great items Mom has been storing in our spare bedroom for the raffle and silent auction! Among many other wonderful things, she even has ten one-day passes to Dis-

neyland/California Adventure that will be offered for bids! And, of course, the meal is fantastic, the *AGR* merchandise is incredible, and the company is fabulous – all those Golden Retrievers (last year, 77) in one place! Wow, it's a sight to behold. Be sure to send in the registration form that is included with this newsletter.

Duffy and **Vin** would love to see all their littermates there (take note **Barklay**, **Lucy**, **Nessa**, and **Murphy**, and **Brody Boy**, **Murphy**, **Pluto**, and **Jasper**) – wouldn't it be great to get a group photo?! So, everyone, please plan to attend!



Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net

In this issue's column, I was hoping I would be able to introduce some new volunteers for the positions we advertised in the November issue: Director of Dog Care, Home Evaluators, Transporters and a writer for *Magic Moments*. To my dismay, no one has offered to take on any of these positions yet.

We especially need a Director of Dog Care. It is a Board position and most important for us to have someone handling the job if policy/procedure decisions need to be made or votes need to be taken for such things as sending a dog for behavior modification training or euthanizing a dog. Generally, it is a really important job to oversee all the dog-related teams to make sure all are working effectively and to help solve problems if any arise. Communication skills are essential, and it wouldn't hurt to have computer skills, as well. Although you will have the other Board members as mentors and a *Policy and Procedures Manual* as a guide, you will learn on the job. It is not difficult – I have been handling it for three months along with my regular activities. Please consider offering to take the job. We will train you!

Most people who apply to adopt a dog from *AGR* are wonderful people. Home Evaluators and Transporters get to meet some of the nicest people in Arizona and see some of the most beautiful homes. We do require anyone wanting to volunteer for either job to do at least two ride-alongs with an experienced Team member. Connie McCabe does many of the home evaluations and the vast majority of our transports, so she can train anyone for either Team. I can, too. One of us will always be available as a mentor. So, how about hopping on board our volunteer train?

In 2019, our holidays were happy days. Except for one day, we had great weather for all our gift wrapping sessions and the other events we attended. We had plenty of help, too, thanks to all of you who came to at least one event; many of you attended several. We also got a lot of donations, not just at the gift wrapping ses-

sions, but also at all the other events, especially the two new ones on the west side of the Valley that Carolyn Brown set up: the *Sun City Grand Fall Festival* and the *Advent Church Art & Craft Show*. We have already been invited to come back to both events in 2020! Our thanks to Carolyn for getting us into these events.

In addition to collecting donations, we also sold a lot of merchandise, much of it handmade. Denise Padavano, Sheri Rodeffer, Jeanne Wegener and Connie Wozniak helped me with the sewing of many bandannas, checkbook covers, collar covers, fleece tugs, microwave bowl cozies, pot holders, oven mitts and totes/purses. Our products are unique and well made. We have items that make wonderful gifts for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, and just for instance! Everything we have in our merchandise inventory will be available at the **PACC911 Adopt-a-thons**, *Trail's End* and our March 15th *Paws At The Park*, and are always available at my house. We do not sell merchandise on our website, so you have to attend one of our events or come to my house in order to see what we have.



It's a Ruff Life!

By April Crow
Director of Activities

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There are many events coming up this spring, so check out your calendar – we hope to see you at some of them. I love attending the events, meeting other **AGR** members and, of course, loving on all the dogs that attend, so I hope to see many new faces this year! The **PACC911 Adopt-A-Thons** are a great way to meet other Rescue lovers and support **AGR**. Come out with your dogs and enjoy the perfect spring weather!

The *Parada Del Sol* is a fabulous event – and my favorite event of the entire year! The parade is so much fun, and everyone LOVES seeing all the dogs. I might be a bit biased, but I do believe we were the hit of the parade. You can't help but smile from ear to ear when you see all the people waving at you and so excited about all the dogs. I can't even express to you enough how enjoyable this event is, so mark your calendar and plan to come out to the Parade and experience the thrill for yourself.

Don't forget to also mark your calendar for the wonderful *Paws at the Park* annual **AGR** Picnic. This is a member-only event (but you can bring friends who want to come) with great food, many wonderful raffle and silent auction items and our fabulous merchandise inventory of items that appeal to dog lovers. We have a large area reserved so there is plenty of space to spread out and relax. We hope to see you there!

If you can help out at any of the events, please contact April Crow

at lolowsmom@gmail.com. We appreciate any time you are willing to contribute and thank you in advance!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Meet-and-Greets at the Northern Avenue **PetCo** and 91st Avenue **PetSmart**
Check website calendar for dates and times

PACC911 at *Anthem Community Park* Adopt-A-Thon
Saturday January 25, 2020; 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Anthem Community Park
41703 North Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem, AZ 85086

Parada del Sol & Trail's End Festival
Saturday, February 8, 2020, 10:00 – 12:00 Parade;
12:00 – 4:00 PM Festival in Old Town Scottsdale

Abrazo Rescue Roundup Health and Safety Day
Saturday, February 22, 2020, 9:00 AM – 1:00PM
Abrazo West Campus - East Parking Lot
13677 West McDowell Road, Goodyear, AZ 85395

PACC911 & PetSmart Chandler
Saturday, February 29, 2020, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Crossroads Towne Center
2860 E. Germann Rd, Chandler 85286

Paws At The Park
Annual **AGR** Members' Picnic
Sunday, March 15, 2020; 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Eldorado Park – West Ramada
2311 North Miller Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85257

PACC911 at Fountain Hills
Paws Around the Fountain Adopt-A-Thon
Saturday March 21, 2020; 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Fountain Park
12925 North Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

OPEN!

Director of Dog Care

**YOUR
PHOTO
HERE?**

From Deb Orwig: *As the position of Director of Dog Care is still open, I have written the Dog Care article for this issue.*

Occasionally, we have had complaints from applicants that we are more difficult to adopt a dog from than to adopt a child from Child Protective Services. Be that as it may, we take our job of ensuring the safety of our rescued dogs very seriously. It is why we have a detailed 6-page application. It is why we do a thorough home evaluation. It is why our transporters are given the option of not leaving a dog at a specified home if they feel something is not

good about the placement.

Years ago, one approved applicant withdrew his application after he saw the contract we asked him to sign. He objected to this section of the contract:

As FWITA/ADOPTER, I/we agree that **AGR** is the sole owner of the rescued dog in our care until the fostering period has been deemed over; thereafter, the dog remains co-owned by **AGR**. During the fostering period, **AGR** may reclaim the dog for any reason at any time; after the adoption is deemed finalized, **AGR** may reclaim the dog if it is felt that such action would be in the best interest of the dog.

He would not agree to have **AGR** remain co-owner of a dog that might be placed with him. So, we said good-bye to that applicant even though we were sure he would have been a good dog owner.

We have the stipulation of co-ownership for a good reason: to ensure the safety and well-being of the dog. If anything happens to an adopter that renders the adopter unable to care for the dog, the dog must be returned to **AGR**. We had to exercise that stipulation recently. One of our adopters of a pair passed away very suddenly from a massive stroke. The only family members lived out of state. One of them wanted to take the dogs, who were both 11 years old, across the country. We said no. We did not know the family member. We did not know what kind of environment the dogs would be going to, and we could not do a home evaluation. Since visiting them here only a couple of times, the family member really did not know the dogs. In addition, we didn't feel a cross-country trip in winter would be a good idea at all. The family member was not happy about us reclaiming the dogs but really had no choice when we presented the contract that our adopter had signed – it is a legal document.

Another instance where we had to reclaim a dog happened some time ago. The adoption application looked good with no red flags. The home evaluation was good with no red flags. When the young, active dog they thought they wanted was transported to the family, it became obvious relatively quickly that they would not be able to handle the dog. The dog had a lot of energy and needed vigorous exercise; the adult family members could not provide it due to physical limitations we had not known about in advance. We did leave the dog with them for a few days, but when our behaviorist visited at their request, she felt it was not a good match, so we reclaimed the dog and moved the dog to another home. The family was quickly sent a refund of the adoption fee they had paid when the dog was delivered.

One other area of concern about the safety of our rescued dogs is the red heart tag we put on all **AGR** collars. This collar tag is custom-made for us by **Boomerang Tags** in California. They charge us about \$1.60 each (we buy 500 at a time, so we get a discount off their one-piece price). The heavy-duty, red, heart-shaped tags

have ARIZONA GOLDEN RESCUE and our WAGSline phone number (623-566-9247) engraved on one side. If you are one of our adopters, you may think there will never be a time when that tag might become useful. However, dogs can get out of their yard – maybe a service person or even a family member forgets to latch the gate. Maybe the dog bolts out of the front door. Maybe you're staying in a motel with the dog; you leave for a meal and forget to put the DO NOT DISTURB sign on the door; the maid comes in, freaks out when confronted by the dog and the dog gets by her and leaves the motel. All these scenarios have actually happened more than once. Each time, the person finding the dog called the WAGSline phone number that is on the tag, and we were able to help reconnect the dog with the adopter. So, please keep your dog safe and leave that heart tag on the collar.

If you do not want to use the collar we give you, remove the heart tag and put it on whatever collar you do want to use; we'd love it if you would send the **AGR** collar back to us, too, rather than throwing it away. One time, an adopter disposed of the collar with the tag on it. It was found by a homeless person who put it on his dog. The dog escaped and we got a call that someone found one of our dogs. We asked the finder to get the dog scanned for a microchip; no chip was found, which told us right away the dog wasn't ours, but one of our members went to see the dog anyway. That's when we found out it was not a Golden or Golden mix but a Pit Bull! Sorry, we don't rescue those! We got the collar back.



The Information Highway

By Adam Cardinal
Director of Information Management

arcardinal@hotmail.com

Making Peace With Social Media

If you have been engaging with **AGR** for six months or more, I think you likely can see we are not a “bleeding edge” or even a “cutting edge” organization. And I think we are okay with that – being on the forward curve of change involves taking risks that we would prefer not to take. One of those is financial risk – when we know that each expense on new services, new engagement platforms, new fundraising or delivery products directs funds away from dog care, we think long and hard. We look to see how other organizations sharing common characteristics as ours use social tools to achieve the goals we have set for the organization. We look to understand their business model and how they plan to generate profit. Far too many organizations have traded away good will – and their members and volunteer support – by sharing data they have been entrusted with (member data, credit cards, bank account info) to a service provider who is not only not properly vetted, but also who has an established interest in

deriving income from core activities. If one of their core activities is data aggregation and data sales for marketing purposes, you have to have known that the selling of your donor lists, volunteer contacts, etc. was part of the plans. We don't do it.

One of my pet peeves is when a business I patronize asks me to "Follow Me on Facebook." I can only wonder why they wasted my time and theirs by engaging in an activity without a supporting strategy.

The most common goal/strategy for social media use is called "customer engagement." At its most basic, customer engagement is a method to remain "front of mind." Marketing studies show consumers are likely to forget the business from which they made a one-time purchase of goods and services – regardless whether they are satisfied or unsatisfied with the transaction. Because of consumer forgetfulness, businesses, by inference, must commit to steady state, ongoing advertising, visibility marketing and public relations activity if they hope to attract new customers while keeping existing customers.

Studies have shown that businesses with the highest rates of repeat customer activity on infrequent purchases (2X a year or less) are those who regularly engage with their customers – not just in promoting additional goods and services, but also in making the consumer feel that they have built a connection with the business – so when they think about a repeat purchase they won't go out searching again for the lowest price, nearest provider etc. Through ongoing engagement, the consumer remembers the business and can recommend it to other friends, neighbors etc. Ongoing interaction makes the consumer feel like an "insider" – someone who is privy to advanced notice of new products, locations, features. All of this is done at a higher conversion rate than with media (television, radio, newspaper), direct mail (junk mail, postcards, coupon services), and visual advertising (billboards, road signage, lobby cards, dinner menus, etc.).

Far too many businesses adopt a social media presence without a plan to do the primary thing that keeps customers engaged – make updates. When I look at the businesses I follow, the majority never appear on my Facebook feed. When I visit the page, I see content that is 2 to 3 years old. I see merchants posting the same content over and over again for weeks – or even months – until the consumer visually tunes out the merchant when looking at his or her newsfeed.

There are some common behaviors effective users of social media employ to create engagement. These are some of the most common:

1. Engage – don't advertise

To create relevant and engaging social media content, a business must include showing its posters and readers that they care about them. The focus should be on starting and joining conversations, not advertising services. The more

events and appeals are limited, the more power they have when you post them. Recognize the type of content that is relevant to your followers.

2. Emotion matters

Social networks allow people to build profiles that are extensions of who they are. People interact with and share content that communicates their desired identity. Think about what your product or service says about those who use or buy it.

3. Keep content current

Use current events and trending subjects in a creative way to engage users and join conversations. Activity on pages – along with interactions with that content – drives social media logic to make the business site more visible in the feeds of followers and potential followers.

4. Laugh (or cry)

Humor – you don't always remember the jokes, but you remember that you laughed. Similarly with sadness – or outrage. The emotion your content elicits will create a memory.

5. Take a stand

Showing support for a cause is something that people are eager to express. Let the passion you have for your organization shine by highlighting the services your organization provides. Be inspiring and your readers will be inspired to share.

6. Keep it positive

Being positive promotes engagement and encourages sharing.

If you are looking for samples of this content in action take a look at the *AGR* Facebook page. *AGR* is fortunate to have Kathy Blue as a volunteer social media coordinator. She has helped make *AGR's* page a place people want to visit even when they are not actively looking to adopt a Golden. They will find great Golden photos and short videos, personal recollections, referrals for vets, groomers and other service providers, discussion about medical treatments, feeding, treats and supplements along with warnings about seasonally relevant dangers and how to keep your pet safe.

To make sure that content appears in your feed, don't just read posts – interact with them. Like a post that catches your eye – post a question; respond to someone else's question. But most of all, see what a great job Kathy Blue has done in building our social media presence.

I also want to alert you to a new feature on *AGR's* Facebook page – the **DONATE Button!** Whenever *AGR* accepts a donation that is processed via credit card, the card processor and web merchant take at least 4% off the top – some take more. That is why we assess a fee to use credit cards on our website or when Deb Orwig processes a transaction – so that we get the actual amount specified. Facebook is processing payments for nonprofits with no fee.

Facebook says this is their “current” policy. But if you have been meaning to make a donation and have not yet mailed in a check because you didn’t want to pay the credit card fee online, there is another reason for you to visit the **AGR** Facebook page – a fast transaction with no fee!



“It’s all about the dogs.”

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

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

If you would like to view previously featured members and do not have access to the printed newsletters, you can download them from the Information tab on our website.

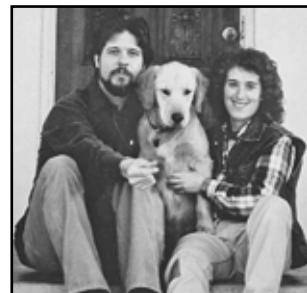
Hopefully by now you will have noticed how very many of our members have stayed to be part of the organization long after their first-year membership has expired. And, many times, they continue as members even after the **AGR** dog(s) they have adopted has gone to the Bridge. There are many members who have never even adopted a dog from us and some who don’t even have a dog at all! We are very grateful to those who have continued to renew their memberships year after year and who contribute their time, money and hearts to the group, whether or not they are interested in adopting a Golden.

Starting off this month is Intake Team member Beth Lansdowne, number 1810.

In Beth’s own words:
I’m from Chicago and have been in Phoenix for the past 35 years.

*For as long as I can remember, I’ve been a dog person. Growing up, we always adopted wonderful mixed-breed dogs from the Humane Society. It wasn’t until I was in high school that I knew that someday I wanted a Golden Retriever. I babysat a family with toddler quintuplets, and they had a beautiful dog named **Barney**. I saw just how loving and patient he was with people and fell in love with the breed.*

*Fast forward to when I had a job and was ready for a dog. When we moved here in 1984, I got my first Golden, **Cuate**. Valley fever wasn’t routinely tested in dogs, and we lost **Cuate** at 2 years old because his valley fever was in his brain and the meds they had back then weren’t effective with infection in the brain.*



Peter and Beth Lansdowne and Cuate

I really didn’t know much about Rescue at that time, but soon after my first Golden, I became involved with a Rescue here in the Valley. I have worked with some wonderful people in the Rescue groups that I have been involved in. I was involved with intake and transport at one time and I still have wonderful memories of helping get dogs out of some pretty desperate situations.

*After **Cuate**, we got our next few Golden through reputable breeders. As much as I adored all my Golden, my Rescue dogs pulled a little harder on my heart. While I was Intake Coordinator with a Golden Rescue group in town, a pregnant female came in with a male. I wasn’t planning on adopting, but one of the puppies came back into Rescue and I couldn’t resist bringing **Roxie** home. I already had two Golden at home, but **Roxie** completed our pack.*

*After a couple of years, we had to put down our male Golden, **Dylan**. I love female Golden. I also love the big baby males. **Ben** was a stray found on the east side. As soon as I saw him, I knew he was my boy. Actually, he was my heart dog and he knew it! I was so fortunate to have had him, as well as all the other Golden in my life.*



At one point, I had three Golden, two cats and two kids. It was pretty crazy, but my kids learned about Rescue and how animals should be treated. I did take a break from Rescue for a few years, but

*came back to be on the Intake Team with **AGR**.*

I currently don’t have any dogs but rescued 2 kittens last year. Once I am home more, a Golden will definitely be a priority.

Now let's get to know **AGR's** Placement Manager Patty Mancini, number 1759.

Patty says: *My name is Patty and I have been a volunteer with Arizona Golden Rescue going on 3 years. I have always been a part of the Placement Team, and I claim it to be the best team in the Rescue! Placement is one of the most rewarding things I have done in my life. My love for Golden Retrievers began over 20 years ago when we got our first Golden named **Madison**. We were twenty-something and chose to get our first "baby" from a breeder in Arizona. **Madison** was the love of our lives, and we treated her like our first child. Over the next 22 years, we went on to have 3 children and 6 Golden Retrievers: **Madison, Copper, Bo, Maggie, Emmy and Brixx**. After getting our second puppy, **Copper**, from a breeder, we learned about Rescue and what different Rescue organizations did. We then shifted gears and began to Rescue instead of seeking breeders. Being able to help out a family that needs to surrender their dog and place it in a loving home is just the best feeling ever!*



Patty Mancini with Joni Cipollone's dog Ray at a Placement Team meeting

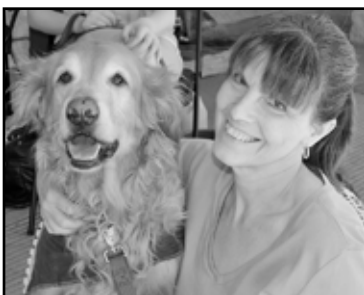


Sofia, Patty, Ella, Dominic and Mike Mancini

My children and husband love Golden Retrievers as much as I do. They all play a part in loving and caring for our dogs. Sofia is 17, Dominic is 14, and Ella 11 years old. The kids were all born in Arizona. Mike and I are both East Coasters but have been in Arizona for 22 years. I know I will continue to be a part of Rescue the rest of my life, and I hope to add many more Golden Retrievers to our tribe in the future!

Let's meet Jocelyn Raught, number 1777, who tells us:

*I have been a dog lover forever. Growing up in north-western Pennsylvania, I was always accompanied by my best friend, a collie named **Lassie**, who took care of my other babies – Guinea pigs! After **Lassie** passed, a clown of a dog named **Eddie**, probably a Goldendoodle, came into the house. However, I was off to college at Indiana University of PA, studying Biology and Spanish, and could not have a dog. After a short stint teaching in Palm Beach, Florida, I got married and moved to Toledo, OH.*



Jocelyn with Bubba

Since the cold was too much to handle, we moved to Peoria. I

*began teaching Spanish at **Cactus Shadows HS** where I was fortunate to teach a few other **AGR** members! Soon, we adopted a sweet beagle-mix named **Larry**. He was the baby until Denae, and then Tianna, came along. It took a few years after losing **Larry**, but we found a match in **Toby**, a Golden who did not fit in an apartment and was being given up to a Rescue.*

*After six years of perfection, another Golden puppy named **Bubba Joe** added a little excitement to the mix. These two not only grew up with the girls, but they were my best counselors and confidants as I divorced. Unfortunately, **Toby** had fluid around his heart and passed at 10 years old. Learning about **AGR** from another member and figure skating aficionado, Dave Kimmel, Tia and I started following the Facebook page and checking the website for available dogs. One day, a gorgeous 11-year-old red diva appeared and it was love at first sight. **Roxy** came in and took over our lives for the next year and a half, telling **Bubba** and us what to do and when to do it!*

*It was so hard to lose this special girl, and again, it took quite a while until we were ready to open our house to another dog. We were looking for that 3-6 year old Golden to hang out with **Bubba**. The meetings were not working out too well, so Connie suggested meeting a little "Golden-mix" (ha ha) at the time, named **Mia**. She flew out to meet us and dropped at our feet with her belly up! She seemed so sweet and innocent and was thought to be two years old. Well, she tricked us! We thought we had a little 25-pound girl, but she grew quite a bit and still had a lot of puppy in her! My daughter, Tia, was a trooper as we all went through puppy classes to get **Mia**, now named **Mimi**, a little more settled. Just like our other diva, **Mimi** keeps it interesting and entertains us with so many antics. We love her dearly, and brother **Bubba** puts up with her pretty well.*



Tia, Lulu, Santa, Mimi, Jocelyn, and Bubba

*On a non-dog note, Tia now teaches Biology at the same high school where I work. We spend quite a bit of time at ice rinks all over the west, as we both volunteer as US Figure Skating officials. I am an accountant while Tia has her judging, data, video and accounting appointments. My other daughter, Denae, is a coach so we get to spend time together. We enjoy bringing our dogs, including Denae's Great Pyrenees, **Lulu**, to the **AGR** events and meeting so many of the wonderful volunteers and dogs. Who isn't happy surrounded by so much gold?*

**Have you reserved September 19, 2020 for an AGR activity?
If not, mark your calendar today!**



Health and Safety

**By Liz Tataseo
Health Care Manager**

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Allergies in Dogs:

Hard to Determine and Often Hard to Control

Does your dog scratch, chew, lick all the time or have chronic diarrhea? Could be allergies.

The three most common indicators that your dog has an allergy are:

1. itching and inflammation of the skin which can either be limited to one area (localized) or all over the body (generalized).
2. coughing, sneezing, and/or wheezing; nasal and/or eye discharge may also be present.
3. sometimes dog allergies involve the digestive system, resulting in vomiting or diarrhea.

Common dog allergies include:

Canine Atopic Dermatitis, commonly called Atopy. Canine atopic dermatitis is a genetic inflammatory skin disorder in which the dog becomes sensitized to environmental allergens (such as pollens, molds, house dust mites, etc.). Depending on the allergens, canine atopy can be seasonal (e.g., pollen allergies) or it can be year round (e.g., house dust mites, molds, etc.). Allergies usually occur within 1 to 3 years of a dog being exposed to continual environmental allergens but can appear up to 5 years of age.

Dog Flea Allergies are, as the name indicates, caused by a reaction to fleas. Flea allergy dermatitis, a.k.a. dog flea allergies, used to be one of the most common dog allergies. However, with more flea control products available to dog parents, the incidence of flea allergies in dogs has decreased substantially. Now, dogs can become allergic to flea and tick products. The cause of flea allergy dermatitis is the saliva of the flea, which contains a number of chemicals that can induce an allergic response in dogs.

Dog Food Allergies: compared to canine atopy and flea dermatitis, allergies in dogs are rather rare, accounting for less than 10 percent of cases referred to veterinarians. Canine food allergies result when a dog develops allergic reactions to one or more ingredients in their food and cause intense itching in the allergic dog. Suspect dog food allergies if your dog shows allergy symptoms all year round and does not respond to anti-inflammatory and anti-itching medications such as corticosteroids or Apoquel. To diagnose dog food allergies, you need to feed your dog an "elimination diet", the purpose of which is to ban all protein that the dog has eaten before in order to isolate and identify the allergen.

Contact Dermatitis is caused by direct skin contact with an allergen. Contact dermatitis usually causes sudden onset of skin reactions such as itching, hives, rashes, and hair loss. Common culprits that may cause contact dermatitis in dogs are chemicals found in some flea collars, soaps and disinfectants, weed killer, fertilizers and insecticides. If your dog shows symptoms such as hair loss, redness, and/or inflammation around the neck shortly after beginning to wear a flea collar, chances are he or she is allergic to the collar. Soaps and gardening chemicals can cause allergic reactions on the skin that can easily contact the ground, such as the "armpits", and the stomach and groin areas. Sometimes, the dog may also develop mouth lesions if he or she licks the affected areas.

Food allergies are often the hardest to diagnose. A food allergy is a "real immunological reaction to a food component." Food allergy symptoms commonly include:

- Itchy skin (a.k.a. pruritus)
- Sneezing
- Itchy paws
- Hot spots (skin infections resulting from excessive scratching)
- Skin rashes
- Scaly and/or oily skin
- Pigmented skin
- Leathery skin texture
- Eye discharge
- Red eyes
- Vomiting and diarrhea
- Hair loss
- Ear infections
- Secondary yeast or bacterial infections (a.k.a. pyoderma) of the skin or ears

Experts differ on what are the most common food allergies. One list includes:

Beef proteins are common food allergens. Feeding your dog a single food for years increases their potential to develop an intolerance or allergy to one or more ingredients. Beef is one of the most common ingredients in a lot of pet foods, which may be the reason it is the most common food allergen.

Dairy. Some dogs have problems digesting lactose. This is intolerance, rather than an actual allergy. Lactose intolerance leads to gas, diarrhea, or vomiting. What's tricky is that a true dairy allergy can lead to these symptoms too, so it is hard to know if a dog is suffering from an allergy or intolerance.

Wheat. There are many misconceptions regarding carbohydrate-containing foods for dogs, especially grains. It is much more common for dogs to have allergies to meat than to grains, for instance. However, some dogs do have an allergic reaction to wheat.

Eggs. An egg allergy means that your dog's immune system over-

reacts to the proteins present in the egg yolk. Fortunately, it is relatively easy to avoid eggs. Just be sure to double-check food labels.

Chicken. The same rules apply here as they do for beef and lamb! Just because it is plain old chicken doesn't mean your dog can't be allergic to this common protein.

Lamb. Many commercial dog foods were made with chicken or beef, so lamb was considered a good option for dogs that experienced allergies while eating "regular" food. However, it is also a possible cause of allergy; if your dog is allergic to lamb and rice, you could try venison and sweet potato.

Soy. Some studies have shown that eating soy can cause various health issues beyond allergy, including reproductive and growth problems, thyroid, and liver disease.

A different list includes the following; notice the addition of rabbit and fish:

- Beef
- Rabbit
- Pork
- Dairy
- Chicken
- Lamb
- Fish
- Eggs
- Corn
- Wheat
- Soy

While it is difficult to say which breeds are most susceptible to food allergies, the following breeds are the most commonly associated with having food allergies.

- Dachshunds
- Bulldogs
- **Golden Retrievers**
- German Shepherds
- Pugs
- Pitbulls
- Cocker Spaniels
- Shih Tzus
- Westies (a.k.a. West Highland White Terriers)
- Yorkies (a.k.a. Yorkshire Terriers)

Always watch out for Acute Allergic Reaction

Although rather rare, a dog could develop an acute allergic reaction to things such as bee stings, insect bites, and vaccines. If the reaction is severe (a case of anaphylaxis), the dog shows symptoms such as:

- Facial swelling
- Hives

- Breathing difficulties
- Weakness
- Collapse

Understandably, this is serious and can be fatal if left untreated. If you notice any of these allergic reactions in your dog, don't waste any time. Take him to the vet or an emergency vet clinic immediately, because the severity of the symptoms may worsen very quickly.

If your dog has any of these symptoms that might suggest an allergy, you should get your dog evaluated by your vet. One of my own dogs developed Atopy when he was 5. Fortunately, he could take a drug named Apoquel, which worked well for him. Minor allergy concerns might only need Benadryl or another over-the-counter antihistamine. In all cases, see your vet first – allergies can overwhelm your dog's immune system and cause really awful medical problems.

We have had several dogs come into Rescue whose entire bodies were so overwhelmed with an allergic reaction that they had lost most of their fur, had many sores and their immune systems were totally out of whack. With great vet care and home care by the adopters, all those dogs regained their health and beauty.

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Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook, 2007, Carlson, Delbert DVM, Carlson, Liisa D. DVM, Eldredge, Debra DVM, Giffin, James MD



Service Paws

**By Aria Ottmueller
Guest Columnist**

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*Editor's Note: In May 2018, Aria Ottmueller graduated from Northern Arizona University with honors. She completed a double major in Criminology and Criminal Justice and Political Science with minors in International Studies and Law and Society. She is currently attending University of Iowa, College of Law in Iowa City, IA. Aria was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; however, she grew up in Chandler, Arizona. She is visually impaired, and has a guide dog, **Tori**, a 6-year-old Labrador Retriever. **Tori** accompanies Aria on day-to-day activities, acting as her eyes. Aria wrote a 39-page final paper for a class she took at NAU. The following is excerpted from the paper which is entitled *Fraud Dogs! The Dangers of Fraudulent Service Animals*. I published her Introduction in the February 2018 issue, the section entitled *The Law in May*, another section called *Problems Within The Law in August*, Opportunities for the Disabled in November; Education in February 2019; Trends and Problems with Fraudulent Service Animals in May, Case Studies in August and The Numbers and Increased Discrimination in November. Our thanks to Aria for allowing us to print parts of her paper which I feel might be of interest to our readers.*

This will be the final excerpt from Aria's paper. If any AGR members who have a disability – visible or invisible – would like to write something for this column in the May 2020 or future issues (perhaps, what it is like to live with an invisible disability), please contact me at dorwigaz@cox.net.

The increase in fraudulent service animals has led to more court cases involving service animals, which has increased the amount of discrimination towards service animals, thus creating more dangers for their handlers. The revision of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has indirectly caused an increase in service animal fraud. The ADA increased awareness for service animals when it was revised in 2008. As demonstrated in the case study, more legal cases followed this revision. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of protecting the rights of owners who have service animals, while allowing emotional support animals to reside in residences. The definition of service animals in relation to ESAs was not clear within the ADA, therefore the Supreme Court had to decide these cases as previously mentioned [Note: see November 2019 issue].

The data have shown an increase in service dogs as a result of the ADA. The numbers show 10,000 Guide Dogs, 20,000 dogs in other accredited organizations, and 147,000 registered service animals, including emotional support. The 147,000 registered animals are classified through online registrations. When comparing the amount of accredited dogs to those registered online there is a clear discrepancy in dogs that are not service animals. People are more likely to buy a vest and register the dog online than have a legitimate service dog. The general public notices fraudulent service animals more than legitimate service animals. If there are over 147,000 registered animals yet a total of 30,000 dogs from accredited organizations, this discrepancy shows that the public is in contact with fraudulent service dogs more than legitimate dogs.

The increased numbers have shown that fraudulent service animals and misuse of ESAs have led to dangers. There were no attacks on service dogs prior to 2008. The increase in fraudulent service dogs has led to more dog attacks, increased discrimination, and dangers. People are skeptical when allowing service animals into establishments. The case study showed various instances of cases where people were discriminated against because the disability was not apparent or the owner simply did not allow service animals. Handlers have increased concerns because the misuse of service animals is causing their animals harm and impeding their ability to complete tasks. When animals are stressed or nervous, they will not complete a task to their fullest capacity. These animals become distracted, leading to increased dangers.

Ultimately, the dangers posed by fraudulent service animals will erode the freedoms provided by these dogs. They can limit a persons' willingness to leave their home with the service dog. The United States continues to have lenient laws regarding the classification of service animals. Some people believe that criminalizing laws will decrease service animal fraud; however, people can wrongfully be arrested due to a non-visible disability. Individuals with a disability that is not known are less likely to travel with their animal. Discrimination and dangers are increasing due to the misuse of service animals. Many people do not want these animals in restaurants and other public facilities because fraudulent

service dogs do not behave well. Conclusively, fraudulent service dogs have caused people to discriminate against legitimate service animals.

Relation to Scholars

Scholars used in the literature review make valid points. Some argue that service animal laws are too lenient, while others believe that these laws are becoming too strict. All of the authors agreed that service animals are dogs that perform a specific task, while ESAs are different. Unlike service animals, ESAs are not allowed in public places, as discussed by some of the authors. Others believe that ESAs should be given the same rights as service animals; however, that becomes an issue because they do not receive the same amount of training. Since they are not given the same amount of training, ESAs present problems for legitimate service animals in society.

Service animals create freedoms; however, prosecuting people based on fraudulent service dogs creates discrimination towards those who do not have a visible disability, thus limiting their freedom. Some of the articles assume that criminalizing fraudulent service animals will decrease discrimination, while others believe it is a hindrance that can further perpetrate discrimination against the disabled. There are issues on both sides of the argument, but the solution could be to regulate the sale and production of service animal vests. This would minimize the amount of fraudulent service animals because vests would not be easily accessible. A person can search "service animals" on the Internet and often the first thing that comes up is either vests or "register a service animal here." The latter enables individuals to falsely register a dog as a service animal or an ESA. Fraudulent registrations ultimately create more discrimination and dangers as reviewed by the authors.

The literature and the case study provide evidence that the use of fraudulent service animals is increasing. Both of them demonstrate that service animal owners are concerned about the dangers presented by these animals and how owners will be impacted in the long run. Handlers also express issues with criminalizing the use of service animals since many officers are not adequately trained on the topic. Instead of criminalizing the use of fraudulent service animals, the United States should regulate the access of service dog vests and registration cards. By regulating this access, people will not be able to commit fraud as easily and this will decrease the amount of fraudulent service animals without restricting the rights of those who require these animals in their everyday lives.

How the World Will Be Changed

The misuse of service animals will impact the future. There will be policy implications as previously mentioned because states continue to criminalize fraudulent service animals, which can have a negative impact on the world, affecting those who do not have visible disabilities. The United States may create stricter

laws on service animals restricting, someone's ability to buy a service animal vest or a registration card online. This type of legislation could positively impact the U.S. by allowing those with legitimate service animals to move more freely. As mentioned in the literature review, the use of assistance devices can increase education and employment, thus improving the economy. The use of service animals is an assistance device; therefore, the use of legitimate service animals could improve the economy. It would improve the economy because people with these dogs can attend work regularly. Many of these people need their service dogs to accompany them on daily activities, by increasing independence, these people have the freedoms and ability to work.

Finkel (2010) specifically mentions that discrimination is more of an issue for non-apparent disabilities. For example, it may not be clear to the public how dogs used for autism assist the handler. The laws are going to have to be clearer to address this issue. The dog may not be capable of performing a specific task; however, the animal can assist an autistic person in another way. People argue that this animal does not qualify as a service animal and these types of animals may not be accepted into schools (Finkel, 2010). This also stems from the fact that children are obtaining service animals at a younger age. These changes will lead to more legal action within the United States regarding the use of service animals because schools have to decide how children with service animals can integrate into the classroom. The change also leads to discussions about the use of different animals and whether or not they are accepted in society. This is important because unless a person is constantly exposed to a service dog, these dogs are not being discussed. This type of conversation could improve how society views service animals while condemning those who do not have legitimate ones.

The legality of service animals within the United States will further affect other countries. Countries such as Japan and China, which are allowing more service animals, may restrict service animal access. By restricting access, it will become more difficult for people with disabilities to obtain service animals in these regions, because fewer organizations providing them will locate in areas with such restrictions. Japan is beginning to liberalize the use of service animals; however, they can decide to restrict their use because of the issues they cause in the United States. It could be viewed as a public order issue that is not worth the trouble in society. Ultimately, this restricts freedoms of owners, not allowing them the same rights as people without disabilities in each country.

There are many solutions that could mitigate or eliminate the use of fraudulent service dogs. First, the law should have a clear definition of what a service animal constitutes because stating that they have to perform a specific task is broad. There should be clear distinctions between a service dog and an ESA within the ADA. By doing this, doctors will understand that they cannot pre-

scribe a service animal, only an ESA. Dogs who are not from accredited organizations should be required to undergo training. Fraudulent service dogs may attack other dogs because they are not trained. Accredited training will reduce the amount of dog attacks on legitimate service animals. Owners of fraudulent service animals are able to register their dog on the Internet without providing proof that they have a legitimate service dog. This type of registration should no longer be allowed. People with service animals should have to register and provide proof to the government rather than online. Service animal vests also should not be sold online and easily accessible because many people buy these vests and claim they are used for service animals. There are many solutions that can be enacted in order to restrict those who are not using legitimate service dogs; these solutions would decrease discrimination and the amount of fraudulent service animals while increasing the use of legitimate service animals in society.

Conclusion

There should be a means of restricting service animal use by not allowing private distributors to disseminate vests and registration cards. This action will decrease fraud, allowing service animals and their handlers to move more freely. Owners of establishments should be allowed to ask people with service animals for proof that their animal is a service animal. If issues of fraudulent service animals decrease, people with disabilities will have more freedom, not only in the United States, but also around the world. Studies have shown that increased assistive technology will improve productivity amongst the disabled in the workforce. Fraudulent service animals have increased discrimination, created dangers, and limited the freedoms of people with disabilities. In the early 1930s, Guide Dogs were the only service animals accepted in society; today, every service animal, real or not, is accepted. These factors continue to present issues in society that will be evident around the world in a negative way. Fraudulent service animals hinder the freedoms granted to those who use legitimate service animals in everyday activities. They provide a vital importance to the disabled. Abusing these freedoms sacrifices the hard work used to obtain and maintain a dog. Ultimately, Fraud Dogs should not, nor should they ever be, used as a means of getting around the law.

References:

Finkel, E. (2010). Who Let the Dogs In?. ABA Journal, 96(4), 20-21. Retrieved October 3, 2017

From the day we are born, hugs or touch improve our sleep. Hugging releases oxytocin. On its own, this hormone provides tremendous health benefits. Not only does it give us feel-good hormones, but it also reduces pain. Receiving a hug helps reduce stress, lowers blood pressure and lowers the risk of heart disease. It also eases anxiety. So hug your dog – a lot!

Follow the Lead

By Deb Orwig

In the November 2019 issue, I presented a discussion about prey drive. While you can't get rid of prey drive behavior completely, there are things you can do to keep it under control. By understanding why your dog is acting the way s/he is, you will be better equipped to handle the behavior using some training methods. If you did not get the November issue, you can view or download it from our website: click on Archive Golden Paw under the Information tab.

Training Methods to Use for Control of Your DogFocus

Before your dog even starts chasing, they will do a number of things. They will often scan their surroundings and stare at the target for a brief moment before taking off. You can use these actions to your advantage and stop your dog before the chase begins. By teaching your dog to focus on you, it will prevent them from finding a target. To teach your dog to focus on you, hold a treat between your fingers and bring it up between your eyes. When your dog glances at the treat, give it to them as a reward. You can then add your verbal command, such as "Watch me!" or "Focus," as you're moving the treat between your eyes. Repeat this process and make your dog hold your gaze for long periods of time. Then, slowly introduce distractions until you're comfortable enough using the command in real-world environments. This command can be used to snap your dog back to reality when they start looking for prey.

Drop-Down

The drop-down method can be used once your dog has already found something they want to chase. You are essentially breaking his focus with treats and giving the critter time to get away. To be successful, your dog will need to already know how to get in a down position. When you notice that your dog is locked onto a target, immediately command him to get down. At the same time, drop a treat between his feet. When you do this, he will look down at the treat and break focus. Quickly move the treat to his side so that his head turns away from the target completely. At that point, you can walk your dog away and reward him.

Leave It!

This is a popular command that is used by many trainers. It can teach your dog when to leave things alone. Start by placing a treat on the floor. When your dog goes to get it, tell her to leave it alone. If she is persistent, cover the treat and block her from getting it. Once she backs off, you can reward her.

Walking a Dog with High Prey Drive

Dogs with high prey drive often experience issues on their walks. Walking around your neighborhood exposes your dog to a lot of potential stimuli. There are plenty of critters running around, bicyclists zipping past, and other dogs taking a walk. Here are some ways to prevent a chase.

Don't Stop

You should never stop during your walk, since stopping can be perceived by your canine companion as a moment of tension. He will think that you spotted prey and will scan his surroundings to find it too. Keep moving forward the entire time you are out. This will decrease the chances of your dog getting excited. He will be able to focus solely on the walk. If your dog seems to have a need to "go", then give the command "free" and let the dog wander the length of the leash to take care of business.

Use Your Commands to Stop the Chase

The training commands previously mentioned can all be used during your walk. They should only be attempted once your dog has mastered them. Keep a watchful eye on your pup and look out for signs that s/he might want to chase something. You should use your focus command the moment you notice your dog acting strangely. If the chase cycle has extended beyond the scanning phase, use the appropriate command to bring her back to reality. It is also a good idea to use the focus command periodically throughout the walk to make sure that your dog is always aware of your presence.

Keep Things Unpredictable

Taking a unique path each time you go for a walk is a great way to keep your dog focused. Sticking to the same routine every time will get boring for both of you. Your furry friend will know what to expect and what to do. As a result, he may start to look for potential prey. Even if you have to walk on the same path each time, there are things you can do to keep your dog on his toes. Simple acts like walking around obstacles, taking sharp turns or doing an about-turn, or changing speeds every few minutes are enough. Your dog will have no choice but to focus on what you're doing, leaving no time to look for prey.

Staying Safe

While your dog may not mean any harm by their chasing, not everyone knows that. Dogs with high prey drive are the first to be labeled as aggressive. You need to make sure that you and anyone that may come across your dog remains safe.

Use a Leash at all Times

Your dog should be kept on a leash at all times when they are not in the confines of your home or yard. Even if your dog is great at responding to commands, there is always a chance that the urge

to hunt will be stronger. You should avoid no-leash places like the dog park as much as possible. These locations have a lot of distractions that could trigger your pooch. Also, do not ever use a retractable leash – these do not allow you to have any control over the dog.

Install a Fence

A high-quality fence is a great way to give your dogs some freedom while still keeping them contained. You should also install a lock that prevents people from accidentally letting your dogs out. If you have a pool-cleaning service or lawn-maintenance service, be sure to instruct the operators to always close your gate – and then check to see if that has been done before you let the dogs out in the yard.

Avoid Peak Hours

Early mornings and late evening are prime walking times, as sidewalks and streets are the busiest then. You can avoid a lot of issues by simply taking your dog for a walk at different times. Hold off for another hour in the morning and leave a bit earlier in the evening so that there are fewer distractions on your walk.

Booties: Protect Your Dog While Walking

In Arizona, the weather is excellent for walking right now, with cool mornings and evenings and pleasantly warm afternoons. This is a good time to get your dog used to wearing booties, so that when the really hot weather arrives, the dog will readily accept the booties.

As summer approaches, precautions must be taken to keep your dog safe. Walk or hike early in the morning or very late at night. If the sidewalks are too hot for you to walk on with bare feet, then they are too hot for your dog to walk on without foot protection. Foot protection is also important if you take your dog hiking at any time of year. Dirt trails can have sharp stones, cactus spines and other hazardous objects such as broken glass on them.

Various styles of dog booties can be found in some local pet supply stores, but you will probably find them to be less expensive on the Internet. Put “dog booties” in your Internet search engine and you’ll come up with dozens of companies that sell them. The best booties are ones that have leather soles. Try accessing http://images.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?_adv_prop=image&fr=goodsearch-yhsif&va=dog+booties Here is another good site: <http://www.seniorpetproducts.com/dogs/mobility/boots-shoes/> Most Golden Retrievers will wear size large.

The Muttluks Official Site, <https://muttluks.com/pages/dog-boots-size-chart>, gives instructions on how to measure your dog’s feet. Some dogs, like my old girl Dolly who had huge front paws, need a different size bootie for front feet than for back ones. The best booties have Velcro closures. Don’t get booties that have stretchy knit cuffs – they don’t stay on the dog’s feet. I personally own

Aussie Boots and Muttluks – both are good. Grip Trex Ruffwear is good, too. Others like Kurgo Step & Strobe Dog Shoes, Summit Trex, or other brands with leather or rubber soles are most desirable. Do not buy fleece booties or booties with plastic soles – these will not offer adequate protection.

A brand I hadn’t seen before was recently donated to **AGR** – it’s called Healers. These look very good and are available from Amazon in pairs, so you can definitely buy just two at a time, important if your dog’s front and rear feet are different sizes. But go to the Muttluks site and follow the instructions for measuring foot size before you order any brand.

Once you have a set, label each bootie with a Sharpie marker as to which foot each bootie goes on. Like your feet, a dog’s left foot is shaped differently from the right one and the front feet are different from the back ones. Label LF, RF, LR and RR so you always put the same bootie on the same foot.

Get your dog used to wearing booties by putting them on in the house and only on the front or back feet at first. Make the dog walk around by attaching a leash to the dog’s collar. Once the dog has gotten used to the feel of the booties on two feet, then put the other pair on the dog. At first, the dog may walk like she has a spastic disease, but usually she will settle down fairly quickly and walk normally.

By using training methods such as I have suggested and by putting booties on your dog’s feet, you’ll have a great walk!

What’s happening on September 19, 2020?

AGR’s 11th Annual Fore! Paws Golf Tournament!
at the beautiful
Palm Course at McCormick Ranch Golf Club

1 PM shotgun start, 4-person scramble format

Registration opens May 1, 2020
www.arizonagoldenrescue.org/golf

SUPER Earlybird fees by July 15:
\$125 per golfer*, \$475 foursome*, Dinner only \$40*

Earlybird fees between July 15 and September 1:
\$150 per golfer*, \$575 foursome*; Dinner only, \$50*

September 1–16, \$175 per golfer*, \$675 foursome*
Dinner only, \$60*

*add 4% if using a credit card

Fee includes range balls, practice field, cart, and dinner, which will be their fabulous Mixed Grill with BBQ ribs & chicken; Vegetarian meal available upon request

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Reporting period: January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Total Assets as of January 30, 2020: \$238,979.25

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Adoption Application Fees	\$ 4,100.00	
Adoptions	31,238.00	
Adoption Fee Refunds		\$ 3,200.00
Bank Charges (PayPal & Credit Card fees)		\$ 1,212.25
Calendars		\$ 3,762.99
Sales	1,786.00	
Sponsorships	2,200.00	
Donation Income, General	41,869.69	
Debbe Begley Memorial Fund	948.00	
Honorary	14,380.55	
Memorials	17,996.00	
Summer Fundraiser	12,808.00	
Event Expense		182.25
Gift Wrapping (not including sales)	4,214.70	
Golf Tournament	32,132.86	6,027.30
Donations	12,437.86	
Golf Prizes	1,885.00	
Golfers	6,915.00	
Hole Sponsorships	4,450.00	
Meals	2,020.00	
Silent Auction	4,425.00	
Grants	12,743.00	
Insurance		657.00
Interest	69.38	
Internet Services		999.94
Legal and Professional Fees		10.00
Membership Income	22,775.00	
Merchandise	11,303.04	2,614.12
Newsletter Subscriptions	32.00	
Paws At The Park 2019	1,145.00	364.95
Donations	485.05	
Auction and Raffle Prizes	2,234.00	
Office Expenses & Supplies		829.57
Photos with Santa in Dec. 2018 + 2019	1,063.40	
Postage		2,097.37
Rent or Lease		3,103.08
Repair & Maintenance		69.75
Stationery and Printing		6,364.61
Telephone		193.29
Dog-related Expenses		
Adoption Expense		36.00
Behavioral Training		7,886.61
Boarding		3,396.00
Collars, Leashes & Tags		2,561.94
International Rescue Expenses		8,356.25
Micro-chip expenses		805.09
Miscellaneous, dog-related		302.34
Veterinary Services		150,312.77
TOTAL	\$215,523.67	\$205,345.44
NET INCOME: \$10,178.23		
Checking Account on 1-30-2020:	\$135,628.76	
Savings Account on 1-30-2020:	\$ 94,090.17	
Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 1-30-2020:	\$ 9,260.32	
Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 1-30-2020:	\$ 19,995.60	

Financial Considerations

By Deb Orwig

There are two occasions that have become designated for making donations to nonprofit organizations like ours: *Arizona Gives Day* and *Giving Tuesday*. *Arizona Gives Day* is always the first Tuesday of April; *Giving Tuesday* is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Although donations can be given any time of year through AZ-Gives, the donation period for certain types of awards on *Arizona Gives Day* runs from 12:01 AM to 11:59:59 PM; the donation period on *Giving Tuesday* starts at 6 AM Arizona time.

Facebook and PayPal are two of the “big name” partners of *Giving Tuesday*. Data are not yet available for 2019. However, in 2018, for *Giving Tuesday*, Facebook and PayPal announced donation matching for up to \$7 million in donations to United States nonprofits starting at 8:00 EST on a first-come-first-served basis with up to \$20,000 per donor and \$250,000 per nonprofit. The match limit being hit was announced at 9:05 EST (about one hour after the beginning of matching), and the announcement said that the match was achieved within seconds. An unofficial third-party estimate, based on data shared by donors with donation timestamps and whether or not they were matched, showed that donations made up to 14 seconds after the start of donations were matched, but donations made 15 seconds or more after the start of matching were not matched. A total of \$125 million was raised via Facebook on *Giving Tuesday* in 2018, the highest for a single day on the platform. Total donations on *Giving Tuesday* were estimated to be nearly \$400 million in the United States alone, according to tentative estimates. All indications so far are that in 2019 the matching fund limit was reached even faster – as quick as in the first 5 seconds! – and the overall totals raised were even higher. Amazing that so many people could be awake and ready to push that DONATE button when the second hand on the clock read 6 AM in Arizona!

We thank all the donors who participated on *Giving Tuesday* via Facebook, PayPal (PP) AZGives (AZG), or by sending a check dated that day.

Anonymous	Carlina Cutter	Martha McDowell
Debbie Ball	Andrea Decker	Anne McGill
Kathy Blue	Paulette Field, PP	Trishia Murphy, AZG
Anne Booher	Sharon Flores, F & AZG	Jeff Nowak
Carolyn Brown	Bekki Hamilton	Deb Orwig
Cindy Brown	Laura Heinstein, PP	John Prather
Beth Chaffee	Suzanne Johnson	Fred Prose
Sue Chenoweth	Sheila Joyce	Chris Spiel
Joni Cipollone	Karyn Marchant, AZG	Liz Tataseo
Lynda Coble	Amy Maynard	Cindy Tigges
April Crow	Connie McCabe	Julie Weber
		Mike Wilson, AZG

A note that may be of interest, especially to those of you who donated via AZGives or PayPal: an administrative fee was subtracted from your donation by AZGives (5.2% plus another 2.1% for the credit card use fee, so 7.3%) and by PayPal (3.9% for credit card use). If this distresses you – and it should – please consider donating through Facebook. At least for now, Facebook will not extract any administrative fees from donations made through our Facebook page – the amount you donate is what we will get.

Arizona Gives Day: April 7, 2020

AGR is registered as a legitimate nonprofit charitable organization with AZGives. We will be “open for business” (i.e., donations) on *Arizona Gives Day*, which is coming up on April 7, 2020. All of you who donated to us on *Arizona Gives Day* in the past will get e-mail reminders from AZGives to do so again. As usual, the administrative fee/credit card use fee will be imposed on *Arizona Gives Day*. If you choose not to cover the use fee, it will be subtracted from your donation and **Arizona Golden Rescue** will not receive the total amount you wish to donate. For example, in 2019, for a \$25 donation that the donor did not agree to cover the processing fee for, we received \$23.17; for a \$500 donation, we received \$463.50. The solution: donate to **AGR** on our Facebook page or send a check – with either method, a \$25 donation will actually be worth \$25 to us, a \$500 donation will be worth \$500!

Funds raised on *Arizona Gives Day* – however they are donated – will be designated for helping senior-age rescued dogs. Each year, we apply for a grant from the **Grey Muzzle Foundation** to help with senior dogs’ medical expenses. Donations on *Arizona Gives Day* demonstrate to this Foundation that we have a regular annual source of income to support our senior dogs. So please consider making a donation on *Arizona Gives Day*.



Diamonds in the Ruff

By Debbie Ball
rlbdlb@cox.net

Diamonds in the Ruff are dogs on which **AGR** has had to spend at least \$1,000 during one quarter. In the fourth quarter of 2019, we had a total of seven such dogs, two of which were continuations from earlier in the year. Please consider making a donation to help with the expenses of a specific dog, or just earmark it for *Diamonds in the Ruff*. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and will be acknowledged both in the newsletter and in a personal letter to the donor.

Diamonds in the Ruff Fourth-quarter 2019

19-007 Kelsey is an unspayed female purebred Golden of unknown age rescued from the **MCACCS** West shelter. At intake, she was somewhat of a mess with huge mats, dirty ears, neglected

teeth, enlarged liver, and a mammary tumor, but was described as a very sweet girl. She was initially vetted by **Animal Medical & Surgical Center (AMSC)** in Scottsdale. She was subsequently spayed and had the tumor removed. She also tested positive for valley fever, and had severe ear infections and hip dysplasia. The tumor was found to be cancerous, so **Kelsey** underwent chemo treatments and was given



meds for the ear infections and pain relievers. In June, she also received a dental cleaning. In October, **Kelsey** had recheck exams with the oncologist; all exams went fine and she is looking good! **Kelsey** has been adopted by Bill in Scottsdale. **Kelsey’s** fourth-quarter expenses were **\$1,099**. In all of 2019, she has cost **AGR \$11,012**. We thank the **Golden Retriever Foundation** for helping us with **Kelsey’s** bills.

19-058 Viva is a 10-year-old female Golden mix rescued from the **MCACCS** Westside shelter. She was underweight, lethargic, matted, with weak hind legs and had lots of ticks. She was taken to **AMSC** in Scottsdale for X-rays, bloodwork, an ear cleaning, and medications, as she was found to have anemia and a yeast



infection in both ears. In November, **Viva** had additional bloodwork done and she was found positive for Ehrlichia (tick fever), requiring additional medications. She may also need future dental work after her blood counts are normalized. **Viva** has been adopted by Diana in Phoenix. **Viva’s** fourth-quarter expenses were **\$1,011**, and total in 2019 to date has amounted to **\$2,523**. We appreciate financial assistance for **Viva** from **PACC911’s Golden Angel Fund**.

19-062 Daisy is an 8-year-old female purebred Golden surrendered by her owner who had kept her outside because she had ticks and fleas. She received her initial vetting at **Academy West Animal Hospital**. They updated her vaccines and gave her all the necessary usual tests. **Daisy** was found to have ear infections in both ears and an eye problem. After evaluation by **Eye Care for Animals** in Scottsdale, **Daisy** was diagnosed with pigmentary uveitis in both eyes and will require eye drops for the rest of her



life. Further vetting done at *Four-Legged Friends* found her with an elevated cocci titer. Fluconazole was consequently prescribed for that. **Daisy** has been adopted by Paige and Jeff in Scottsdale. **Daisy's** fourth-quarter expenses have totaled **\$1,139**.

19-067 Carter is a 2-3-year-old male purebred Golden rescued from the China meat trade. His initial vetting was done in China to ensure he was healthy enough for international transport. After he was acquired by *AGR*, **Carter** (as with all of the recently acquired China dogs) was in need of some additional vet work: a heartworm test, fecal, and Bordetella vaccine. In **Carter's** case, he also needed a full eye exam along with a dental scaling and tooth extraction. The canine ophthalmologist determined that **Carter** has pigmentary uveitis, and, like **Daisy**, will require eye drops for the rest of his life. **Carter** has been adopted by Nels in Phoenix. *AGR's* fourth-quarter expenses for **Carter** (post China transport) were **\$1,422**.



19-069 Robbie is a purebred Golden 18-22 months old and was also rescued from the China meat trade. He had been at a noisy boarding facility and lacked socialization skills. As with the other China dogs, his initial vetting was done in China to ensure he was healthy enough for international transport. After arriving in Arizona, **Robbie** needed additional vet work including a heartworm test, fecal, and Bordetella vaccine. Between **Robbie's** initial foster family and various *AGR* personnel, it was determined that **Robbie** was in need of some intensive training. So, he spent several weeks at *Partners Dog Training School* in Cave Creek, where he improved his manners. He is now with his forever family, Gabrielle and Ricoh in Scottsdale. They are following through with group obedience lessons that were included with the training package. *AGR's* fourth-quarter expenses including training for **Robbie** (post China transport) are **\$3,260** so far.

19-073 Rose is an approximate 2-year-old female purebred Golden also rescued from the China meat trade. At a medical facility there, she was diagnosed as malnourished and dehydrated. After transport to Arizona by *AGR*, **Rose** also needed additional vet work including a heartworm test, fecal, Bordetella vaccine, and additionally some bloodwork, an ear culture, and medications. In mid-November at a follow-up vet



appointment, **Rose** was diagnosed during an ultrasound with an incomplete spay (still having ovaries and a uterine stump). This type of spay is common in China. It leaves the female with hormones but an inability to get pregnant. Due to health ramifications with this condition, **Rose** underwent a successful complete spay procedure in late November. **Rose** has been adopted by Ellen and Jeff in Fountain Hills. **Rose's** fourth-quarter vetting (post China transport) has cost *AGR* **\$2,860**.



19-083 Bowie is a 2-year-old male purebred Golden who was surrendered by his prior owner for medical reasons. **Bowie** was found to have seizures, and no one was home during the day to monitor his condition. After he was surrendered, *AGR* wanted to find out why he was having seizures, so **Bowie** was taken to the *Veterinary Neurological Center* for a complete neuro exam, MRI, spinal tap, and bloodwork. Diagnosis was idiopathic epilepsy. **Bowie** has been on phenobarbital and potassium bromide for seizure control. He is currently being fostered by Connie and Nick in Phoenix in hopes of getting his seizures under control while our Placement Team searches for his forever home. Fourth-quarter vet work for **Bowie** has cost *AGR* **\$4,288**.

****NOTE from Debbie Ball:** Some interesting analysis: in the four years that I have been tracking expenses by dog, *AGR* averages 34 dogs per year that cost more than \$1,000 in veterinary expenses. That number, 34, represents approximately 40% of the dogs that are rescued every year by *AGR*. Our total veterinary expenses per year (excluding any boarding, training, Heartgard, or microchip registrations) average slightly more than \$1,600 PER DOG each and every year. Not every dog costs that much, but the 40% that have higher than average expenses (those with expenses over \$1,000) distort the picture because their expenses are so far above average. While we never know for certain what our predictable expenses might be for each incoming rescue, our policy is still to rescue those purebred Goldens and mostly-Golden mixes that are not aggressive and do the best we can for them. That is why every event in which we participate and every donation dollar is so important in keeping us financially viable and stable. Thank you for your continuing support!

A Touch of Gold 2020 Calendar

We still have calendars available for purchase.
Please send a check for \$12 plus \$2.25 for postage to:
AGR
5350 W. Bell Rd., Ste. C122-158
Glendale, AZ 85308

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Deb Orwig

*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 19, 2019 through January 15, 2020. All adoptions finalized after January 15th will be in the next issue.*



19-045 Cloud, renamed **Lady**, is a 3-year-old Golden mix we rescued from **Pinal County Shelter**. Unfortunately, she tested positive for tick fever, hookworms and heartworm. It took a month of treatment for her to be cured of the tick fever and the hookworm and another month to be sure both were gone before we could have her treated for the heartworm. The heartworm treatment

was done two times, a month apart. Fortunately, one of our foster-only families was available to keep her during all this time. When she was diagnosed as free from all parasites and disease, we found her a home with Pamela and Ken in Phoenix. They saw to it that **Lady** had the requisite rechecks by the vet and that she was finally spayed. At first, they weren't sure the placement was going to work. The dog had apparently never been around cats and growled and wanted to chase. **AGR's** terrific behaviorist, Sharon McKenzie, went to the home. She was able to give corrections and show **Lady** how to be respectful when approaching the cat. The cat helped, too, by giving **Lady** a whack when she got too close. From that point on **Lady** heeded the cat's warning, and eventually she and the cat lay down on the floor next to each other. A couple months later, the adopters reported: **Lady** (a.k.a. **Cloud**) is doing well with us. She has ¼ acre yard to explore and play in. She enjoys long walks twice a day and is getting friendly with her canine friends in the neighborhood. Our two kitties have gotten used to her presence in the home. **Lady** is a gentle dog and a favorite with kids in the neighborhood, as well. We are very happy to have her in our home. Happy new life, **Lady**!



19-058 Viva, a small Golden mix, was about 10 years old when we rescued her from the **MCACCS** westside shelter. She was very thin, lethargic, had weak hind legs, was loaded with ticks and her coat was a matted disaster. Hoping to put some life back into this sad, dispirited girl, the transporter named her **Viva**. To get rid of the ticks, she had to be shaved, which, of

course, got rid of all the awful mats. Surprisingly, her bloodwork showed no disease, just slight anemia, which was probably a result of neglect rather than illness. As we expected, once she had regular meals with good-quality food, the anemia improved. However, three months after we brought her in, she tested positive for tick fever – yes, sometimes it take a while for this illness to develop after the dog has been infested with ticks. **Viva's** adopter, Diana in Phoenix, renamed her **Daisy**, because Diana had adopted a dog named **Daisy** from us in 2013 (went to the Bridge in August 2019) and was used to using the name. Diana graciously offered to cover any vet work **Daisy** might need going forward.

19-059 Vinnie was yet another westside **MCACCS** rescue. He was judged to be about 10 years old. He was in rather typical condition for a stray that age – not very good. His bloodwork was actually fairly good, but he needed a dental and ear cleaning. He had a 10-cm mass removed from his leg; fortunately, it was just vascularized fibroadipose tissue and was benign. Due to his mildly elevated



liver enzymes, the vet suggested putting him on milk thistle. He was adopted by Joan and Keith in Scottsdale, who renamed him **Levi**. They related: **Levi** (a.k.a. **Vinnie**) is a most loving and happy boy! In the mornings, he makes his way from the bedroom to the kitchen in joyful spins, talking all the way. He is such a delight, and we cannot say enough about seniors! They are the total package, ready to love, please and be that faithful companion. It is our utmost pleasure to welcome **Levi** into our pack. Thanks to **AGR**, these precious souls have a bright future. When we finalized the adoption, we issued an addendum for veterinary intervention if there were any changes to an epulis in his mouth or a pigmented spot on his left eyelid.

19-060 Cooper, an 8-month-old Golden, was surrendered by a family whose daughter had developed allergies to the dog and the father's work schedule had changed leaving him little time for this pup. Although not yet neutered, **Cooper** was basically healthy, needing only the leptospirosis and bordetella vaccines as well as



heartworm and valley fever tests, both of which came back negative. Our vet asked to do X-rays of his front leg because **Cooper** seemed to favor it with a slight limp. Turns out, he has some torn cartilage in his right shoulder, which should heal on its own as long as his adopter, Daniel in Scottsdale, can keep him from getting too rambunctious. **Cooper** sent us this message: *Hi*

everyone, Cooper here! I've been having the best month of my life with my new pawdre! During my first vet visit, everyone made fun of my puppy hair that stands up like a Mohawk, but good news, the doc says I'm healthy other than a minor shoulder injury I sustained prior to joining my new family! The doc told me I need to rest for a month, but I think she forgot I am just a puppy. My dad spoils the heck out of me and even lets me sleep in his bed at night. I have soooo many awesome toys and even get to go on fun car rides! I'm looking forward to more adventures with my new family once I am all healed up! Please keep me in your thoughts! Love, Cooper. Cooper has an addendum for surgery to repair his cartilage tear if it does not heal with appropriate rest, as well as a neuter when old enough per the vet.

19-062 Daisy, a somewhat overweight 8-year-old purebred Golden, was living outside because she had ticks and fleas and the owner did not want the critters in the house. Amazingly enough, **Daisy** did not test positive for tick fever. She was, however, positive for valley fever, so she was started on fluconazole. She had infections in both ears, and our vet detected a mass in the interior chamber of one eye. The *Eye Care for Animals* specialist determined that **Daisy** has pigmentary uveitis in both eyes. She will have to have prescription eye drops for the rest of her life if she is not to lose her vision. **Daisy's** spay was postponed until her valley fever titer stabilizes, which may take a few months. So, when she was adopted by Paige and Jeff in Scottsdale, we issued an addendum for three months of fluconazole and another valley fever test. If the VF test shows no change, then **AGR** will have **Daisy** spayed. After **Daisy** was with Paige and Jeff for just a couple days, Paige sent us this message: *Daisy is doing well. She clearly has been pretty neglected and is a little reserved but coming around nicely. I can't wait to see her come out of her shell every day. I have been trying to get her on one of our dog beds but she has been lying on the floor; finally she got on one. I was so excited! I'm sure she has never had one before. She is eating and drinking well and now taking her valley fever medicine. She is sleeping in my daughter's room, which she seems to be more comfortable doing. It's funny – I have never had a dog choose sleeping in my kids' room over mine! Thank you for everything. She's a good girl who has had it*



rough and we just want her to be treated like a princess. A month later, another message: We love Daisy! She fits into our family like a perfect puzzle piece. She has had a lifetime of neglect and was primarily an outside dog, so she has had lots of new learnings. She has learned to walk on leash, ride in a car, use a dog door, sleep on a dog bed, but more than anything be loved unconditionally. She was a little shut down and nervous when she came to our home but is blossoming into the wonderful family dog she truly is. She has unwavering loyalty to our family and you can see it in her eyes and behavior. Every morning I wake up, if she isn't by me I find her in my daughter's room sleeping with her. She loves our kids and gets along great with our other dog and cats. We can't thank you enough AGR for rescuing her and placing her in our home. We are forever grateful for her, as she is a blessing for our family. This family is obviously a blessing to Daisy, as well. Our thanks to them for their care and love for Daisy.

19-064 Libby's owner moved to a condo that would not allow her to have a dog over 25 pounds. **Libby**, a 10-month-old Goldendoodle, weighs 55 pounds and is still growing, so **Libby** had to go. We found Theresa and Michael in Phoenix, who own their own home and did not care how much **Libby** weighs. **Libby** was already spayed, but she needed to be tested for heartworm and valley fever (both negative) and also required the leptospirosis vaccine. It did not take long for **Libby** to start playing with the resident dogs. She was groomed and given a nice haircut, a regular necessity for most Goldendoodles. According to Theresa, they absolutely love **Libby**! We are very happy for the entire family.



19-065 Bentley is a 14-month-old purebred male who was already neutered. According to his owner, he had chronic diarrhea for which her vet could not find a cause. Consequently, **Bentley** had to be crated for many hours a day. Nervousness from being crated so much may have been the cause of the diarrhea, because he has not had a stool problem since we placed him with Jennifer and Robert in Waddell. They have set up the laundry room as his safe place with food and water there and haven't really used the crate since Jennifer is home most of the day. **Bentley** gets attention from the kids and Robert once they all get home. They took **Bentley** to a horse lovers' exhibition – the daughter rides – and he was great all day with them. Robert plays ball with him and has noticed his stamina is not that great. So, Robert was advised to take lots of breaks with him and will gradually increase his exercise. They purchased insurance on him when adoption was finalized. Robert mentioned



he couldn't believe what a beautiful dog they were getting when they finally saw him. The family is very happy to have **Bentley!**



19-067 Carter is one of the eight pure-bred Goldens we brought to Arizona from China in October 2019. He was judged to be 2-3 years old. **Carter** had obviously survived on the streets before being rescued, as his coat was so dirty and matted it needed to be shaved. It has not fully grown back, but he will be a beautiful medium to dark gold when it does. He does pull on a leash when walking and is very

interested in other dogs while walking. In China, he was cared for at a medical facility and boarding facility, so he had limited people and other dog (at play) interaction. He needs to have his outdoor social skills polished, up but he loves people and hugs. Since **Carter's** eyes seemed to be irritated, we had him checked out at *Eye Care for Animals*. The vet diagnosed an old orbital injury that displaced the eye (why the third eyelid shows so much) with traumatic cataract displacement and mild retinal degeneration in the right eye and a beginning cataract in the left eye with GR Pigmentary Uveitis. Both eyes need an anti-inflammatory to decrease risk of glaucoma and pain. **Carter** was placed with Nels in Phoenix. Nels was working on training the resident dog, **Archer**, to become a service dog. **Carter** and **Archer** became great friends and played a lot together until **Archer** had to leave for more advanced training at another foster home. Now, Nels and **Carter** will just have each other, and we are sure they will do well together. **Carter's** finalization was accompanied by an addendum for a dental (he had two extractions) and rabies revaccination.



19-070 Dawn, now **Abbey**, another dog from China, is about 5 years old and totally healthy, amazingly enough. She is, in fact, the only one of the eight China dogs who was. Her original owners kept her until she was 3, then placed her in a shelter because they wanted a smaller dog. She was adopted and kept as a family pet for her next two years. Her owners sold her to the meat trucks when the wife

became pregnant, a common practice in China. She arrived at the overcrowded Harbin shelter very dirty and matted so her coat was shaved; she had no skin problems. She is friendly and loves hugs and tummy rubs. She was spayed and was up to date on DHPP and rabies vaccinations. Her bloodwork results were excellent. She is a snuggle bunny, and her Chinese foster home described her as the "sweetest soul" they have ever fostered. Beverly and Perry in Peoria also think **Dawn**, whom they renamed **Abbey**, is one of the sweetest dogs they ever had – they love **Dawn** and she loves them. Perry wrote: *This sweet pup came to us from China through the arrangements of Arizona Golden Rescue... and how*

fortunate we are to have gotten her. What a wonderful addition to our home she has become. When she looks at you through those innocent eyes, you can actually see the appreciation she has for being here. She is a quick learner but has a strange admiration for chewing on rocks. It is a work in progress. Even at the age of four or five, she acts like a young puppy – excited at mealtime and especially when we get home. Good job, AGR!

19-071 Sophie, about 3 years old, was rescued in China from the meat trader trucks in Harbin. She spent a week in the overcrowded shelter before being pulled and taken to a clean, safe medical facility where she was treated for dehydration. She was reported to be very affectionate and walks well on a leash. She received her DHPP and rabies vaccinations in China, but we have found that Maricopa



County will not accept an out-of-country rabies vaccination, so we have had to have all the China dogs revaccinated for rabies. **Sophie** spent some time in a foster boarding facility where she received human interaction and better nourishment. Once here, **Sophie** tested positive for hookworm, but she was clean after the treatment. **Sophie** was not one of the two female China dogs that went into heat and had to be re-spayed here, but we issued an addendum with finalization for a spay just in case she should start bleeding vaginally. **Sophie** was one of the favorites of the October transporters and she is definitely a favorite with her new family, Shannon and Matt in Tempe. Shannon wrote: *Growing up with a Golden Retriever, I always knew that I would love these dogs. When we applied through Arizona Golden Rescue and heard that Sophie would be coming all the way from China, I knew we might be in for some curveballs. Waiting proved to be the hardest part, and when she finally plopped out of the car in our driveway, our hearts melted. Isaac, our first dog, was skeptical of this new dog stealing attention, but Matt and I could see that Sophie was a perfect fit. Isaac quickly assumed his place as a protective big brother, has helped Sophie learn some English commands and challenged her pace on her first hike of South Mountain. Aside from one round of treatment for parasites, we cannot believe how lucky we are to have had AGR bring this sweet girl into our lives. She has become our second dog shadow, following us and Isaac around every corner, up every mountain and into the car, every chance she gets. We love Sophie so much and cannot wait to have more adventures with her as a part of our family.*

19-072 Kiki, who was named **Iris** in China, was given her new name by her promised adopter, Sheila in Phoenix, from the moment Sheila saw the first photo sent from China. Like **Sophie**, **Kiki** had hookworm. She also tested positive for round worms and Giardia. **Kiki** was rescued from the meat trader's truck on the way to slaughterhouse. She was almost immediately taken to a shelter and given a full medical evaluation. She was spayed



and is current on DHPP and rabies vaccinations. She spent some time in a safe foster facility where she received human interaction daily. She was rescued at the same time as **Rose (19-073)**; they may be sisters from a breeder who sold them to the meat traders. **Kiki** arrived in generally good health, has not displayed any behavioral problems, and walks well

on leash. Once clean of parasites, this beautiful little girl learned that Sheila intends to bring her to **AGR** events (she has already attended many Meet-and-Greets and came to help with gift wrapping during the holidays) and train her to be a therapy dog. **Kiki** has a wonderful temperament. Once she has her therapy dog certification, she will surely be a favorite at **Royal Oaks Convalescent Home** where Sheila takes her other two Golden Retrievers. Sheila wrote: *Little Kiki joined our family and brought us back to 3 Golden Retrievers again! Kiki was a year old when she came in and spent the first month leashed to me! We are best buds and she has added lots of sparkle and joy to our family! Both Charlie (8) and Willow (9) love to play with her and walk with her. Kiki ended up taking her first dog walk while I pushed a double stroller accompanied by a 5-year-old riding his bike! She did great! Meanwhile, she is able to walk nicely with the other 2 even when there are bikes or horses or dogs or joggers zipping past! All of my dogs become certified therapy dogs and spend Saturdays at a senior care facility in Sun City. Kiki is already taking classes to prepare her for this and will be my 8th therapy dog. The residents ask about her all of the time and can't wait until she is certified! She has passed her AKC Novice Tricks title and has also received her AKC Canine Good Citizen certificate. She is loved by my 2 grandsons to the max. The 2-year-old was able to say his longest sentence to date to Kiki: "Cut it out girl!" Ha ha! We are so grateful to God for this dear girl who was saved from so much and to all of the people on her journey who have brought her to us! "Saved from much to serve others." Thank you, AGR!*

19-073 Rose may be **Kiki's** sister. She spent less than a day at the Harbin shelter after being rescued from the meat trader's truck. She was transferred to a medical facility where she was diagnosed as malnourished and dehydrated. Later at the boarding facility, she received daily human interactions with volunteers who worked with the dogs on socialization, leash walking and trust. She is somewhat shy than **Kiki** and has a tendency to bark out of nervousness in new situations, but after she gets to know someone all she wants is petting and hugs. The family first chosen here for **Rose** backed out shortly before the dogs were to arrive from China. But Placement found another family



right away, Ellen and Jeff in Fountain Hills. These wonderful people have a summer home in Michigan and were due to arrive back in Arizona only a day before the China dogs, so Cindy, one of the October transporters, offered to have **Rose** stay overnight at her house in Scottsdale. Cindy then took **Rose** to Fountain Hills the next day. Like **Kiki**, **Rose** needed treatment for hookworms and Giardia. She also had infected ears and some spots of concern on her abdomen; the spots were treated with antibiotics and a topical ointment. When she was in for the follow-up check on the parasites and skin irritations, the vet noticed fresh blood coming out of **Rose's** vulva. The recommended ultrasound showed that the ovaries and stump of the uterus were still present, so an incomplete spay had been done in China. We were told that spays are often done this way overseas because the dog will still have hormones and thus will still have heat cycles but can't get pregnant. Perhaps such a method of spaying is faster – that is the only explanation we have why spays are done that way. **Rose** did well after the re-spay, but that procedure cost us significantly more than a normal spay would have cost. We have advised our contact in China not to have any females spayed before they are sent here in the future. Only a couple of days after **Rose** was "home", Jeff told us that **Rose** had met all the neighbors and the grandchildren. He said she loves people, that everything was good, and they have no concerns. **Rose's** barking was an issue, however, when they brought her to one of the gift wrapping sessions during the holidays. She was nervous because of the other dogs, all the people, and the traffic driving through the parking lot and just would not stop barking, so, unfortunately, we had to ask them to take her home. Our behaviorist will be working with them to provide advice on curtailing the barking.

19-074 Séamus, now called **Arnie**, is a 6-month-old purebred Golden. The surrendering owner told us he had family coming to live with him for 7 months and the young grandson was seriously allergic to dogs. **Séamus** was in good shape when he came into our program and only needed a heartworm test and the leptospirosis vaccine. Due to some concern about the way he walked and sat, the vet did some X-rays. Fortunately, these did not show any abnormal development or degenerative disease. When the dog is 12-14 months old, he will be neutered (we issued an adoption addendum for this surgery). We found his forever home with Patty and Gregg in Prescott. After only a couple of days with **Séamus**, Patty told us: *Arnie, formerly Séamus, was brought to us on a snowy day in Prescott on December 1. He immediately adapted to his new surroundings and new pals. We had hoped he would bond with our 6-year-old Golden/Black Lab rescue female, Phoebe. Well it didn't take long before the two of them became fast friends and they play and play all day long. He has a very sweet disposition and realizes that he is the low man*



(dog) on the totem pole and has willingly accepted his new role. We go for long walks in the community and he is enjoying the 5,000-foot elevation climate. He has also adapted well to playing in the dog park and meeting new playmates. He eats well and has gained a few much needed pounds. After another month, Patty related: **Arnie** is doing great! He is getting long wavy hair on his back now and is filling out. He is as happy as he can be. He and **Phoebe** can't seem to stop playing. Needless to say we are thrilled to have **Arnie**, and he is happy, secure and loved by his new family. The timing of **Arnie's** arrival couldn't have been any better. Sadly we lost **Birdie** (11½) on December 24. She passed away less than 24 hours after obviously not feeling well. **Phoebe**, of course, was beside herself, but having **Arnie** for sure helped distract her from the sadness. We were sorry to hear about the loss of **Birdie**, but we know that **Arnie's** presence and typical puppy behavior are helping everyone through their grief.



19-078 Tanner, an overweight (87.5 lbs) purebred sweetheart, was 4½ years old when her owner, who has an autoimmune disease, decided his allergies had been growing worse and worse and he just had to give her up. She was already spayed, but she needed all her vaccinations updated, the leptospirosis vaccine also, and tests for heartworm and valley fever. She also had ear infections which were treated. When

we placed her with Debra and John and their children in Phoenix, we thoroughly discussed the green bean diet and how important it is for them not to give her people food and to limit the treats to one small one a couple times a day. Just about 3 weeks later when they took her to the vet for a follow-up check on her ears, they found that **Tanner** had lost 3 pounds – a pound a week is a good rate of weight loss – so they are handling the diet correctly. John reported: **Tanner** is doing pretty well. We got her a bigger kennel, so she slept better last night. She still has a hard time getting up, but we are taking her on some short walks and she seems to enjoy them. She's really sweet and the kids love her. Happy new life with your new family, **Tanner!**

19-079 Lucas is a stately senior gentleman who belonged to the ex-wife of the surrendering owner (SO). When the wife passed away, the SO, who was living in an apartment, had to find new homes for the dog and 11 cats. The SO guessed the dog's age at 8, but our vet estimated 12. **Lucas** needed all his vaccinations updated, and tests for heartworm and valley fever. Everything was good except that he had ear infections, so the vet proceeded with neutering. It is not common for a Golden to come into Rescue with a known tolerance for cats. We found **Lucas** a home



with Judy in Sun City. She already had two cats and adopted another that **Lucas** had befriended at the vet's facility. Judy said she is going to be known as "The Cat Lady". We issued an adoption addendum for follow-up on his ears and urinary tract infection. Judy loved **Lucas** instantly! He should be very comfortable in her home with cats for companionship.



19-080 Beau is a big 2-year-old Golden-doodle that belonged to a man who had to be hospitalized and placed on a respirator. The daughter, who had power of attorney, actually surrendered the dog to us. **Beau** needed our complete standard of care including all vaccinations updated, a heartworm test and a valley fever test and he was neutered. Overall he is a healthy dog. He has been adopted by Kelly and her

daughter in New River. Kelly told us: *Everything is amazing! He's always the best dog ever; getting along so amazing with my older dog; he's great in the car. Gosh, we could not have asked for a better dog, and he's just such a joy to my daughter; I got him to be like more of an emotional support dog for her and he just loves her and stays right with her. Sometimes I can't even get into the bathroom in the morning because he just wants to stay right by her side. I work from home, and he's in the office with me. Everything is just great – thank you, thank you! I wish you all the absolute best.* Kelly sent us another update: *My daughter Christen brought one of her dogs up to play. They got along so great we're going to have a play date every week. Now I'm going to my friend's house with the standard poodle and have a play date – Beau already loves that dog! He's getting lots and lots of opportunities in our neighborhood. We take such very good care of him – he is always around a person who loves him. Beau has been the missing piece in our family. He has been an emotional support dog to each and every member of our family when each of the girls needs someone to hug, to love, to cry on and to laugh with. Beau has been able to fill needs we didn't even know we had. We are eternally grateful to have him as a forever addition to our family. We wish your family and Beau the absolute best life together!*

19-084 Bo and **19-085 Maxx** are handsome 3-year-old English crème littermates whose owner was starting a new job requiring her to be away from home 60 hours a week. She made the hard decision to do the right thing when she surrendered them to **AGR**. What she didn't know was that these amazing dogs would be mending the hearts of a broken family. In 2019, Tiara and Paul in Chandler lost their two Golden boys from cancer within 7 months of each other; their house just didn't feel right without a dog. Tiara





said: *Our little boy would run to the room where the water bowls previously were and yell 'Dog' over and over. You can't explain the Rainbow Bridge to a 1-year-old.* Both



Bo (photo at left)

and **Maxx** (photo at right) were already neutered but needed updating of their vaccinations except for the rabies, which is good for another 1½ years; they also needed tests for heartworm and valley fever. Because the FWITA family has a young toddler, they requested that a full blood panel be done on both dogs to be sure nothing might be hidden – they generously paid for the bloodwork, which came back totally normal and identical for both dogs. When the family got “the call” from Placement about **Bo** and **Maxx**, they got very excited and could hardly wait until we transported the dogs to their home. Tiara commented: ***Bo** and **Maxx** fit right in to our home. **Bo** loves to play with our son and has a personality just like our **Jaxx** had. He is on the heavier side at 120 lbs but is now getting 2-3 walks a day and is very active with the family. **Maxx** is the mischievous one that keeps us on our toes. He LOVES to cuddle and is an all-time lap dog. I guess he just knows how to melt your heart to get his way. There are some very fancy, large, comfy dog beds here, but they prefer the human bed right next to Paul and me. We truly feel blessed to have **Maxx** and **Bo** as a part of our family. Our first Golden boys will always be missed, but our hearts are healing. **Bo** and **Maxx** are living a VERY spoiled life and we are proud to give that to them. We are so happy that your family is finally whole again and that you and these beautiful dogs are such a perfect fit for each other.*

Banana Applesauce Pumpkin Dog Treats

By Connie McCabe

- 1 very ripe banana (or microwave 30 seconds until softened)
- 1/2 cup applesauce
- 1 can pumpkin puree (not pie filling)
- 2 Tablespoons honey
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 3 cups whole wheat or almond flour
- 1 tsp baking powder

Mix up moist ingredients and cinnamon, then add flour and baking powder (may have to adjust with more flour or addition of moist ingredients to make it easy to work with). Form small balls of dough on parchment paper and press with thumb to flatten. Bake at 350° for about 20 minutes and let cool on paper towels. You could do more or less depending on desired hardness. These are somewhat chewy and very tasty. I ate two. The kitchen smells wonderful and the dogs loved them! Makes 3-4 dozen.

The Rainbow Bridge - Michele Meyer

I don't normally include information about dogs or people who have gone to the Rainbow Bridge. Sometimes I don't have information; other times, I don't want to call notice to one dog or one person over another. However, we lost a member in November who was very active with **AGR**, Michele Meyer. Many of you who have been members since we started would know at least who Michele was, as she brought her Golden(s) to many of our events. She had a wonderful, warm personality and was very supportive of Rescue. So, I want you to know a little about her. She passed away from multiple myeloma, which took her in only 7 months from her diagnosis.

Following is part of the obituary that was published in her hometown newspaper in St. Louis and a tribute that was written by a local very good friend, Stephanie Schroeder-Willits.

Michele Marie Meyer, age 58, of Tempe, AZ, formerly of St. Louis, died Sunday, November 17, 2019 surrounded by her family. Michele was born April 13, 1961 in St. Louis the daughter of Michael Meyer and Beverly (Graczak) Meyer. She was preceded in death by her father and one sister. She is survived by her mother, two brothers and two other sisters.

Stephanie wrote: *Michele Meyer was not only a witty, intelligent and dynamic woman, she was also a champion for homeless animals. She conquered her fear of dogs to become a stellar mom*



*to her fur babies **Lester**, **Cedar** and **Abigail**, as well as becoming a foster mom to other rescued dogs in need of love and shelter. **Arizona Golden Rescue** held a special place in her heart, as all 3 of her dogs were Golden Retrievers. She was always more than willing to help out with various **AGR***

*undertakings and often recruited friends and family to participate in their events (for that we are thankful – not only did we have fun with Michele, we were able to contribute to a meaningful cause). A select few people enter your life and bring with them true friendship, kindness and laughter – Michele was one of those extraordinary people. Without her there is definitely a little less light in this world, but she would be pleased to know that we are supporting **Arizona Golden Rescue** and continuing her efforts to effect change for animals that require assistance.*

Michele's family requested that memorial donations should be sent to **Arizona Golden Rescue**, 5350 W. Bell Rd. Ste. C122-158, Glendale, AZ, 85308. Donors in Michele's memory are on page 43. A lovely memorial Celebration of Life was held in Tempe on January 25, 2020. I was honored to represent **Arizona Golden Rescue**; Connie McCabe and Ruth Pulliam also attended.

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



11-015 Charlie Connett



11-016 Remi Connett



11-039 Mercedes Fontanilla



12-119 Sadie Andersen



13-042 Deacon Golla



13-076 Sully Czuppa



14-009 Roxie Nickerson-Thomas



14-034 Jaxx Korpalski



15-004 Duke Shipp



16-020 Pumba Gehrke



16-034 Astro Deer-Vick



18-002 Lucky McGoo-Wozny

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.



18-053 Mitch Brzycki



Willow Crow



Honey Pavero



Birdie Rokoski



Duey Tigges



Skip Triplett

and

Ilie Bucec

Beloved grandpa of AGR member Julia Buchek

AGR member Michele Meyer

AGR member Natalie O'Sullivan

Ann Valente

Beloved mother of AGR member Thomas Valente



From China with Love

By Carolyn Brown
International Intake Division Chairman
2contactcarolyn@gmail.com

*The love of a Golden does not stop at a state line or shoreline ...
It is universal.*
~ Carolyn Brown

We Welcome the "Dainty Duo"

AGR's China rescue efforts expanded in December with the addition of **Daisy** (now **Lola Noel**) and **Sandy**. As with all the Golden in our October group, these two were saved from the slaughterhouses in Harbin, China. Our new **Lola Noel** was originally going to be part of our "Great Eight" in October, but she was still recovering from a skin condition and it was thought best to send her here at a later date. We had followed her progress for several months and jumped at the chance to add her to a flight that was bringing five other Golden to a Rescue in southern California where we knew the organizer. One more Golden could be added on the same flight, so a beautiful, young girl named **Sandy** earned her Freedom Flight also.

Nick Dodson and Peter Brown left for **Los Angeles International Airport** early on the morning of December 1st. What should have been a rerun of the October pick-up at **LAX** turned into a two-day tug-of-war with U.S. Customs through no fault of ours. Confusion with paperwork of two additional dogs sent by the China Rescue resulted in the seven Golden being held overnight at a kennel at the airport.

Originally, since the Golden were all on the same USDA import permit, U.S. Customs was going to send all nine dogs back to China even though the seven Golden had cleared before the problems with the last two non-Goldens were discovered. Thanks to a local news station and the work of the great group, *Goldens Abroad*, assistance came in from all over the U.S. I had posted our plight on the group's bulletin board asking if any others had faced this problem and looking for suggestions.

My first phone call came at 1:45 AM from a Golden-lover in North Carolina I have never met. She gave me assurance she and her contacts would do everything in their power to get our dogs released. A new broker in New York took over dealing with Customs in LA, and a local animal rights group staged an 8 AM protest in front of the U.S. Customs office at **LAX** bringing news coverage to their plight. Our two girls became part of "The China Nine" – their story was being broadcast throughout California. A State Representative got involved.

As time passed and the outlook dimmed on getting the dogs released, fate took over and the flight on which they were to be sent back to China on the second day was delayed six hours. Then it was cancelled. We had another day's reprieve! On the second day after the dogs' arrival, U.S. Customs relented and released the seven Golden. Unfortunately, the two smaller dogs (a Dachshund and a Miniature Poodle) were shipped back to China.



Daisy, now Lola Noel

dog producing litter after litter destined for the meat traders, now resides with Lisa and Jacob in Tempe and is loved beyond words. **Sandy** found her forever home with Ted in Scottsdale. Sweet **Sandy** is helping Ted get over his grief of losing his other Golden just recently.

Thank you to all the **AGR** members, volunteers, adoptive parents and donors who have opened their hearts and homes to our China babies. You have all helped give these dogs a new lease on life.

Have the problems we had with U.S. Customs in December discouraged us from bringing any more Golden here from China? Not at all! We are currently working with Eva Dudas in Harbin, China to designate up to 8 more Golden for a trip to the States in April.

Postscript: We learned on January 20, 2020 that the little Dachshund, whose name is Gus, is now back in the US in the arms of his adoptive mom, who is thrilled with him. He stayed sweet and loving throughout his ordeal of flying from China to LAX, back to China and, a month later, back to LAX again. We do not have a connection that can tell us anything about the miniature Poodle.



*Rescue, it's what we do.
Saving lives, it's what we do.
Doesn't matter where they come from,
if they need us we'll be there for them.*

Your Dog's Dictionary

You and your dog have very different definitions for many items. Here's your dog's take:

Bath: A process by which humans drench the floor, walls, and themselves. You can help by shaking vigorously and frequently.

Bicycle: A two-wheeled device invented for dogs to get exercise. To get the maximum benefit, hide in the bushes and dash out barking when a human passes on one of these contraptions. Run alongside for a few yards until the person swerves and falls, then trot away.

Bump: Best way to get your person's attention. Most effective if used when they are drinking a cup of coffee or tea.

Deafness: A malady that affects you when your person wants you to come inside and you don't. Symptoms include staring blankly at your person, then running in the opposite direction or lying down.

Dog Bed: Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or newly-upholstered sofa.

Drool: What you do when your person has food and you don't. For best effect, sit as close to your person as you can and look sad, letting drool fall on floor, or better yet, on their lap.

Leash: A strap that attaches to your collar enabling you to lead your person where you want them to go.

Sofas: After eating, it is polite to run your face over the sofa (like humans use napkins) to clean your whiskers.

Thunder: A signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following closely at their heels.

Wastebasket: A dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and candy wrappers. During boredom, turn it over and see how far you can strew the contents throughout the house.

Love: Feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way to show love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.

In order for a dog to be stubborn he must first understand completely what is asked of him and then choose to disobey. There are very few stubborn dogs in the world. There are, however, many dogs who are untrained.

TOXIC PLANTS AND FOODS

There are many common foods*, plants and flowers that can be very toxic to your dog. Below you'll find a list of the ones that are especially dangerous and can be fatal. If you have any of these plants in your house or yard, get rid of them!

- *Almonds
- *Alcoholic beverages
- Amaryllis bulb
- *Apricot
- Autumn crocus (*Colchicum autumnale*)
- *Avocado (leaves, seeds, stem, skin)
- Begonia
- Bleeding heart
- Caladium
- Calla lily
- Castor bean (can be fatal if chewed)
- Chinese sacred or heavenly bamboo
- *Chocolate, coffee, tea
- Choke cherry (unripe berries)
- Dumb cane (*Dieffenbachia*)
- Fire sticks (*Euphorbia tirucalli*)
- *Garlic
- *Grapes and raisins
- Hops
- Hydrangea
- Jack-in-the-pulpit
- Jimson weed
- Kalanchoe
- Lantana
- *Macadamia nuts
- Marijuana
- Milkweed
- Mistletoe berries
- Monkshood
- Morning glory
- Oak
- Oleander
- *Onions
- *Peaches
- Pencil cactus plant (*Euphorbia* sp.)
- Philodendron
- Rhubarb leaves
- Rosary Pea (*Arbus* sp.) (Can be fatal if chewed)
- Sago Palm (Cycads)
- Shamrock (*Oxalis* sp.)
- Tobacco
- *Tomatoes and potatoes (leaves and stem)
- *Yeast dough
- Yew



RESCUE EXPLAINED

By Ashley Owen Hill



The neglect changes you.
The abuse hardens you.
The suffering breaks you.
The ignorance angers you.
The indifference disturbs you.
The injustice destroys you.

On a daily basis...your faith will be tested.
Your heart will be wounded...
Your soul will be altered.

On a weekly basis...you'll question yourself.
You'll question your strength.
You'll question the world.

On a monthly basis...you'll fall down.
You'll get up.
You'll go on...

On a yearly basis...you'll look back...
You'll see faces...
You couldn't save them.
You'll learn to mourn.
To grieve.
To sob.
You'll learn to trust a little less.
To do a little more.
To fight a little harder.
You'll learn to try.
To hope.
To pray.
You'll learn to fail.
To succeed.
To accept.
You'll learn when to hold on.
When to give up.
When to let go.
You'll learn who you are.
What you stand for.
Why that matters.

Then... at times... you'll forget why you matter.
You'll question what you're doing.
You'll wonder if it's worth it.

But...here's the good news... When you forget...
When you question...
When you wonder...
All you have to do...
Is take a look around...
And you'll see them.

You'll see their faces.
You'll see their smiles.
You'll feel their love.

In their eyes, you'll see their journeys...
You'll remember their beginnings...
You'll know how far they've come...
You'll remember when they didn't know you...
When they didn't trust you...
When they'd given up.

You'll remember how you healed them...
How you loved them...
How they loved you, too.
And as you look back...
You'll want to move forward...
For them... and because of them.

In your darkest hours, you'll look around...
To find the differences made...the hope given...and the lives saved...
Because you existed.
In those moments, when you look into their eyes...every doubt will be erased.
Every question will be answered.
Every worry will subside.
Because in that instant...in each of your hearts...
You both share the very same thought: "Every bit of pain was worth it...for this moment here with you."
And honestly...no matter what else happens...
Those moments hold all the strength you need...
To keep going.

Rescue is pain.
Rescue is joy.
Rescue is worth it...because they are worth it.
And that's the honest truth.



HERE and THERE

Events from November 1 through December 30, 2019

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 would like to include your picture in this section in future issues.

PACC911 at All Saints Episcopal Church

By April Crow

We had a fantastic day at the PACC911 Adopt-a-thon at All Saints Episcopal Church in Phoenix on Saturday, November 2nd!

We would like to thank the following volunteers for helping us set up early Saturday morning: April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Trishia Murphy, and Deb Orwig with Duffy and Vin. We had several additional



Morning volunteers
In front, Sue Akenhead with Duffy and Cindy Tigges with Natasha and Lucy;
In the tent, Patrick Doyle, Jodi and Jay Koblick and Trishia Murphy



Carolyn Brown with Watson Tataseo

volunteers help during the first part of the day: Sue and Keith Akenhead with Happi, Sue Chenoweth with Monty, Dean Mortimore with Lola and Mary Kate, Cindy Tigges with Lucy Martin and Natasha, and Jodi and Jay Koblick. We also had a guest appearance by Peter and Carolyn Brown. What a great sport Carolyn was to show up to support AGR – including wheelchair, leg brace (broken leg) and all!

A big thank you also goes out to the afternoon volunteers and those that helped with tear down of the booth at the end of the day: Connie McCabe with Jackson; Anne, Isabelle, Abbey and Patrick McGill; Jolene Schlichter; and Liz Tataseo with Watson. Because of all the additional helpers,



Connie McCabe with Jackson and April Crow with Duffy



Deb Orwig; Patrick, Abbey, Isabelle, and Anne McGill with Jackson; April Crow with Duffy and Vin; Patrick Doyle; and Liz Tataseo with Watson

ambassadors were so great about promoting AGR that we received two applications from people wanting to adopt from us! Between the donations received by our ambassadors (\$108.20) and the merchandise sales from all the great new hand-sewn items at our booth, AGR was able to bring home \$735.02 – we were fortunate it was such a success!

we were packed up, vehicles loaded and out of the parking lot in record time!

The dogs at our booth were a huge hit and got lots of love and attention from everyone who stopped by. Our



Jolene Schlichter, holding one of our new microwave bowl cozies, came just to help pack up

Thank you again to everyone who came out to help and represent AGR! It was a great day hanging with friends and supporting a great cause!

Deb's Note: In hopes of recovering some of the money we spent to bring the eight China dogs here in October, Carolyn Brown graciously offered to register AGR to participate in two events on the west side of the Valley: the Sun City Grand Fall Fest and the Advent Episcopal Church Art & Craft Show. Both were quite successful financially, bringing in a total of \$2,533.77 during our three weekend days at these two events. We also gained a new member, Josephine Sala, who helped at subsequent events during the holiday season. In addition, we have already been invited back for the 2020 events by both organizations. Good job, Carolyn!

Sun City Grand Fall Fest

By Carolyn Brown



Carolyn Brown, Patrick Doyle, Trishia Murphy and Connie Wozniak staffed our merchandise tables, which were between the main ballroom and outside doors, a great location– anyone coming inside had to go right by us!

On November 10, 2019, we took our handmade wares to Surprise to participate in the Sun City Grand Fall Fest. Our members Peter and Carolyn Brown are residents in the 9,500-home community and promised a great flow of traffic that would melt over seeing Golden Retrievers at the event.

It was truly a “Grand Day”. The entire Sonoran Plaza was filled with over sixty vendors and twenty of the Sun City Grand clubs and organizations. The weather was perfect, and there were people everywhere for four hours; the last hour was not well attended.

We had a prime location at the entrance to the main ballroom. If people wanted to use restrooms or visit the vendors inside the ballroom, they had to pass by our tables.

Looking cute and raking in donations, **Joey** and **Cody** Brown were with Peter Brown near benches just outside the ballroom doors. Debbie Ball and Liz Tataseo spent some time outside, too. Being right near the food trucks, live music and table-and-chair seating area helped, too.



Bob Youhas with Blaze, Peter Brown with Cody and Debbie Ball with Joey

Since this was our first ever appearance at this event and we had not specifically asked to have any dogs approved, we pushed the envelope a little bit and limited it to **Joey** and **Cody** Brown since, technically, they are both residents of Sun City Grand. Kathi and Bob Youhas brought **Blaze**, and even though we couldn't have a vest on him, his cuteness brought people over to our area. We got to speak to the organizer of the event while she was hugging on **Joey Brown**, and she said in 2020 we could have four dogs! In just five hours, the dogs alone brought in \$313.00.

Inside, we did very well for a first-time attendance. We brought in \$443.33 in sales including three calendars. Sales were handled by Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Connie Wozniak and Kathi Youhas. Connie Wozniak's pot holders, purses and totes were a big portion of the sales. Carolyn Brown promoted gift wrapping, which resulted in \$80 from residents who took advantage of it closer to Christmas.

Adam Cardinal and Patrick Doyle were our “Go-To” guys for set-up and tear-down. Members Carolyn Blean, Marlene Breton and Denise Padavano stopped by to visit.

The *Fall Fest* was a “GRAND” success. In five hours, we added a total of **\$756.33** to the funds that help us pay for those we save. We will definitely return for another “GRAND” *Fall Fest* event in November 2020. Hope to see you there.



Connie Wozniak watching over the merchandise; Liz Tataseo in back talking with Carolyn Brown

Scotland Day at Sun Valley Quilts

By Deb Orwig

Sun Valley Quilts, 9857 W. Bell Rd., Sun City, is owned by **AGR** member/adopter Barbara Connoyer. I go there fairly often to look at all the wonderful fabrics she carries that I can't find anywhere else. Lovely quilts made by Barbara, her staff and some of her quilting class students adorn the walls. I always get inspired and want to make something after I have looked around.

One day last summer, Barbara was there when I walked into the store — I was looking for some golf-theme fabric that day (of course, she had several). She told me about a Scotland Day she was planning for November 15, 2019. I said, “Do you know that Scotland is the ancestral home of the Golden Retriever breed?” She did not. So, she invited **AGR** to attend her workshop and bring some Golden Retrievers. We talked about the program for the day — she had a speaker, Patience Griffin, lined up to give a presentation showcasing quilts she had made from tartan-style fabrics she had designed. These fabrics, produced by Northcott, are gorgeous, and they are now available at



Barbara Connoyer, owner of Sun Valley Quilts, with Vin, Mufasa and Duffy Orwig on Scotland Day

Sun Valley Quilts! Ms. Griffin is an award-winning author and quilt designer. Her tartan fabrics weren't in the store in August, so Barbara gave me an entire bolt of a plaid fabric which I used to make Donation Vests and bandannas for the dogs that would be attending: **Mufasa**, **Duffy**, and **Vin** with me in the morning group and **Charlie** and **Kiki** with Sheila Joyce in the afternoon. There was fabric left over, so I have made some oven mitts and microwave bowl cozies out of this lovely 100% cotton fabric.



Kiki Joyce wearing her plaid Donation Vest

I really enjoyed the presentation. I learned that the “tartans” are made using a process similar to that used to produce batiks. Sheila told me she did too, despite not being a quilter. The dogs were all a huge hit with the customers. We came home with \$187 in donations, and a couple weeks later I picked up money from the sale of calendars I'd left with Barbara. Our thanks to Barbara for inviting us to attend and being so supportive of **Arizona Golden Rescue!**

At Barbara's suggestion and the loan of a pattern, we will soon be producing insulated fabric steering wheel covers! Look for them in our merchandise inventory at events.

Advent Episcopal Church Arts & Crafts Show

By Carolyn Brown



Friday afternoon group: Peter Brown, Debbie Ball, Trishia Murphy, Liz Tataseo, Patrick Doyle, Carolyn Brown and Connie Wozniak; Dogs: Joey and Cody Brown; Shelby Ball; Mufasa, Vin and Duffy Orwig; McKayla Tataseo also there but hiding behind Vin

You never know when you invite someone to one of our events (the golf tournament) where it might lead. One of the members of Peter Brown's foursome attends the *Advent Episcopal Church* in Sun City West and overheard they were looking for a dog rescue to be at their *Arts and Crafts Fair*. This information was brought to Carolyn Brown's attention; she made a few

phone calls and *AGR* was booked for it.

Not only were we given our space for the two-day event at no charge, it turned out to be in the most visible and accessible area at the event. The event brought in people from all the surrounding areas. We were treated with donuts and coffee each morning by the church personnel. The event ran for two



Saturday afternoon group: Marlene Breton, Debbie Ball, Trishia Murphy, Deb Orwig, Fran Strock, Sarah Martin, Patrick Doyle, Carolyn Brown and Connie Wozniak; Dogs: Dillon Ball, Duffy Orwig, Vin Orwig, Mufasa Orwig, Bunny Martin, Jackson McCabe/Dodson, Joey and Cody Brown



Keith and Sue Akenhead with Happi

We had great weather both days with a constant flow of people stopping by to see all the dogs who were there: Sue and Keith Akenhead with **Happi**; Debbie Ball with **Dillon** one day and **Shelby** the other day; Carolyn and Peter Brown with **Cody** and **Joey**; Andrea and Jillian Decker with **Diego**; Michael Feight and Jill Imler with **Ginger** and **Zoey**; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**; Connie McCabe with



Jillian and Andrea Decker with Diego



Jill Imler and Michael Feight with Ginger and Zoey



Debbie Ball with Dillon and Teri Guilbault with Mufasa

Jackson; Deb Orwig with **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Vin**; Fran and Jan Strock with **Gus** and **Maci**; Liz Tataseo with **McKayla**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas

with **Blaze**. Other members who worked the merchandise tables or stopped by to visit included Carolyn Blean, Marlene Breton, Teri Guilbault, Denise Padavano, Bill Richardson, Jane Triplett and Connie Wozniak.



Fran and Jan Strock with Gus and Maci

Our craft sales were GREAT. Special thanks to Connie Wozniak for her beautiful purses and totes. They not only sold well at the event, but they also created an additional \$180 in sales after the event when another vendor in attendance tracked us down to purchase some more. The microwave bowl cozies made by Deb Orwig were a hot seller, too, no pun intended!



Sarah Martin with Bunny

We passed out a lot of literature, signed up a new member, Josephine Sala, and spread the word of our local and China rescue efforts to a totally new group of people. We have already been invited back for next years' event.



Bill Richardson and Trishia Murphy



Denise Padavano, Carolyn Blean and Jackson



Josephine Sala with Duffy talking with Michael Feight

Thanks to everyone for your donation of time and effort to make this two-day event a success. The first day we raised \$833.40 and day two was \$943.93 for a two-day total of **\$1,777.33**.



ASU West De-Stress Fest

By Deb Orwig



We were again invited to bring our dogs, Golden Retrievers or otherwise as long as they were other-dog friendly, to meet with students at *ASU West* for their De-Stress Fest on December 3, 2019. We were on campus from 6:00 to about 7:30

PM. I expected even more students to show up this time, as word got around after our October visit that it was a fun time for all.

Apparently our coming this time was not publicized much, so we enjoyed the company of only about 20 students.



April Crow with Jake and Joni Cipollone with Jake and Gracie; April and Joni often come to events together as they live close to each other

We also had a smaller group of volunteers with dogs, since it was in the evening on a weekday. The students who did show up really loved the dogs. Many students board at *ASU* and are away from home and their own dogs, whom they miss. Others find that just petting the dogs helps relieve the stress of getting prepared for midterm or final exams.



In addition to our presence there, the students also had other activities from which to choose, including free ice cream sundaemaking, another reason that some students did not come outside to see us. One of the students very kindly brought out some sundaes for any of us who wanted one. That was nice. Since it was quite dark, even when we first arrived, it was difficult to get good photos. Connie was not able to come, since she was home waiting for the China dogs that were supposed to arrive (but didn't until 2:30 AM on the 4th).

AGR volunteers who came included Adam Cardinal with **Malle**; Joni Cipollone with **Gracie**; April Crow with **Jake**; Sheila Joyce

with **Charlie**; Dean Mortimore with **Lola** and **Mary Kate**; Deb Orwig with **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Vin**; and Cindy Tigges with **Natasha**. Thanks to all of you who came!

PACC911 at Aviano Community Park

By Deb Orwig

On December 7th, we attended the last *PACC911* Adopt-a-thon of the year. We originally had a conflict because we thought we were going to go to the two-day *Phoenix Holiday Pet Spectacular*. However, I cancelled our plans for this latter event because it had been scheduled at the *Rawhide Convention Center* in Chandler with set-up on December 6th, but I could not get enough help from the south and southeast Valley area for set-up or for either of the weekend days. In addition, it would have meant an hour's drive for me both to and from the event for three days, and I just was not willing to do it without guaranteed help. So we had the 7th free to go to the *PACC911* event.

Of the venues where *PACC911* holds their adopt-a-thons, *Aviano Community Park* in the Desert Ridge area is the least well attended both by rescue groups and by the public. The Park is not on a main thoroughfare, but rather secluded and buried in a housing development. It is a nice, spacious park but not a draw for people not living in the immediate area.



Adam Cardinal discussing Rescue while Duane Borho holds Malle and Rhys

We were among only about 20 rescue groups there. That should have meant we would have come home with lots of donations and a significant income from merchandise sales. For a very slow day with little traffic, we did pretty well. We collected only \$78 in donations but had \$222 in sales. A couple that seemed quite interested in possibly adopting took our brochure. The day was overcast but pleasant, so we actually enjoyed just sitting around, talking,



Peter Brown with Joey, Carolyn Brown with Cody, Sarah Martin with Vin and Mike Wilson with Takoda

and playing with the dogs. Sarah Martin, who had come by my house to pick up the tents and tables, and Lauren Shapiro attended without dogs. Carolyn and Peter Brown brought **Cody** and **Joey**. **Malle** and **Rhys** came with Adam Cardinal and Duane Borho. I had **Vin** with me, and Mike



Eileen Yurish with Gibby and April Crow with Logan

Wilson came about 1 PM with **Takoda**, who had a great time playing with **Vin**. April Crow had come in the morning with **Logan** and with her friend Eileen Yurish and Eileen's dog, **Gibby**, but they were there just to get a photo with Santa. April kindly returned at 3 PM to help us pack up.

caner!) as they greeted the people along the sidewalks. Thank you to every one of you who came out to walk and support **AGR**. We had 20

Even though we had an early line-up number, there was still plenty of time for socializing before we stepped off; here are Chris Spiel, Cindy Tigges, Jeff France and Ellen France and dogs



Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade
By April Crow



Deb Orwig was trying to make it from the outer parking lot to our line-up space with a wagon, the banner and 4 dogs; fortunately, the Grand Canyon University band members and Marlene Breton came to her rescue!

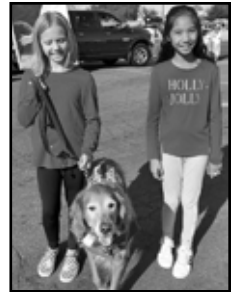
Wow, what a fabulous day for a parade! The weather was absolutely perfect, and there was a great crowd. As usual, our group was welcomed throughout the parade route by the large crowds along the sidelines. Wearing the red and green donation



Duane Borho with Malle and Adam Cardinal with Rhys had a hard time finding a parking place, so they weren't with us when we took the group photo, but we caught up with them and them with us at the end of the parade at the shuttle stop

people and 19 dogs and were definitely a crowd favorite!

Ellen France kindly pulled our water wagon, and Ella and Yasmeen did a great job handling Deb's dog **Duffy** (photo at right) – great job, everyone!



Ella Williams and friend Yasmeen with Duffy Orwig

Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce Holiday Pet Adoption
By Deb Orwig

In addition to the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade* in the morning and *Photos with Santa* at **Petco** in the afternoon, on Saturday, December 14 we also had a booth at the **Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce's Holiday Pet Adoption** event in the **Floor & Décor** parking lot in Glendale. Fortunately, we had enough volunteers to staff all of these activities. Setting up the tents and tables at 8:30 AM were Carolyn and Pe-



We had a great line-up spot, #10, so we stepped off about 11:15 AM with April Crow (with Logan) and Larry Orwig (with Mufasa) carrying our banner vests, our wonderful dogs collected \$722.29 (and a mini candy



Carolyn with Joey and Cody, Deb with Duffy and Vin, Josephine with Mufasa

ter Brown, Julia Buchek, April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Sarah Martin, Deb and Larry Orwig, Lauren Shapiro, Liz Tataseo and Connie Wozniak.



The adopter of this cute little pup bought one of our collar covers for him

We had so many hands helping with set-up that it went very quickly! April and the Orwigs then headed downtown to walk in the

parade. Carolyn, Julia and Connie did a great job setting up our merchandise. Debbie Ball arrived around 10 AM with Shelby, joining Cody and Joey Brown until the Orwigs got back at 1 PM with Duffy, Mufasa and Vin. Kathi and Bob Youhas were there to help during the middle of the day. Josephine Sala came at 2 PM for the rest of the afternoon. Sarah Martin came back at 4 PM to help with the pack-up. Thanks to everyone who volunteered at this and all other events on December 14th. Special thanks to new member Julia Buchek for taking photos. No one got a picture of her at this event, but we did at one of the gift wrapping sessions.



New AGR member Julia Buchek showing off the first bow she tied at the gift wrapping session on 12-13-19; she's good at photography, too!



Holiday Gift Wrapping Extravaganza

By Deb Orwig



In order to draw attention to our gift wrapping set-up, Carolyn Brown tied some already-wrapped boxes to our sign

Our 2019 gift wrapping season at **Barnes & Noble** extended for an entire month, from November 23rd through December 23rd. In years past, we have always also done all day Christmas Eve Day. Due to a miscommunication with the manager at the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble**, not in 2019, however. In the long run, even though we missed the revenue from what has traditionally been our most lucrative gift wrapping day of the season, I was glad we weren't outside on that cold, rainy, miserable day! In 2015, we experienced that kind of weather on Christmas Eve Day and wished we hadn't. So, we got the day off this year.



A familiar face for many years at gift wrapping is Martha McDowell, who came by to pay her membership dues and tell us she couldn't help this year due to bad arthritis in her hands - we missed her during the season!



We may have lost Martha McDowell's help for the season, but Carolyn Brown was an exceptional wrapper and a bow-tie expert

During the 2016 season, due to a bite incident by a dog with another group, **Barnes & Noble** began limiting all dog groups to only three dogs on site at any time. This limit makes scheduling volunteers much more difficult. There were a couple of times during this season when **AGR** members forgot about this limit and showed up with a dog when I already had three scheduled to be there. I hate to turn a volunteer

away at any time, however I had no choice but to send them home. I am sure there were other times when members thought I prob-



At shift change on November 23rd, we did have four dogs on site for about 5 minutes - Cynthia Wenström with Hannah, Deb Orwig with Vin and Duffy, Lauren Shapiro, Carolyn Brown, and Sarah Martin in front with McKayla Tataseo

ably already had three people coming with dogs so they did not contact me, and I had to fill in with one or two of my own dogs. This 3-dog limit means that there are not a lot of different dogs that were volunteered to help, so you will see many of the same dogs in the photos I have included with this article.

Actually, we were lucky to be able to do the gift wrapping at all. The **Barnes & Noble** employees were not sure until sometime in the fall that the new corporate owners would allow nonprofit groups to do the gift wrapping. Because we have been the most frequent group at the Happy Valley location and because the store personnel really like us and the job we do, they went to bat for us and convinced the ownership they needed our assistance. Then, we had a small problem with the mall owner. Both the store manager and I wrote to the owner



Three of our handsome male ambassador dogs: Dillon Ball, Mufasa Orwig, and Jackson McCabe/Dodson



Natasha Tigges, who is a dark red Goldendoodle, struck a beautiful pose in a green donation vest with gold trim and a red-and-white neck ruffle week-end before Thanksgiving. In 2019, all ten sessions we scheduled were at the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*. During the entire season, the weather was delightful on every day except one. On that day, we started two hours late due to rain early in the morning. The rain had stopped by 9 AM, so we were able to be set up and ready to wrap by 10 AM.



Dallas Orwig

The male dogs who joined us during the season included **Dillon Ball**; **Cody** and **Joey Brown**; **Rhys Cardinal**; **Burt** and **Charlie Fagan**; **Jackson McCabe/Dodson**; **Dallas**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Vin Orwig**; **Watson Tataseo**; and **Loki Williams**. Females were represented by **Happi Akenhead**; **Shelby Ball**; **Malle Cardinal**; **Leila Forsythe**; **Chloe** and **Rose France**; **Ginger Imler-Feight**; **Kiki Joyce**; **Riley McCabe / Dodson**; **Lola Mortimore**; **Gracie Prose**; **Emma** or **McKayla Tataseo**; **Natasha Tigges**; and **Hannah Wenström-Lane**. The thirteen boys seem to be outnumbered by the fifteen girls, but in terms of hours worked, the boys, especially **Cody** and **Joey Brown**, outdid the girls.



Debbie Ball brought husband Rick, for a short time on November 23rd; also in the photo are Liz Tataseo with McKayla and Sarah Martin sitting with Vin

and pleaded for *AGR* (and the other groups that would be wrapping when we were not there) to be allowed to set up outside. Finally, we were given permission, and we ended up having a good holiday season financially.

As always, our holiday season gift wrapping began the



Peter Brown with Vin and Duffy and Jill Prose with Gracie



Hannah Wenström-Lane with baby

As always, our holiday season gift wrapping began the

The season started out well this year. On that first weekend, November 23rd and 24th, we wrapped only a total of 12 packages, and they were mostly for birthdays. Yes, we do bring a few rolls of non-seasonal wrapping paper! We also bring paper that is color- and design-suitable for Hanukkah gifts. Hanukkah was late this year, beginning at sundown on December 22nd. Maybe it was the fact that people had

more time to wrap gifts themselves, but we hardly had any requests for Hanukkah giftwrap paper. Despite not wrapping many items, we brought home \$620.70 on Saturday and \$652.93 on Sunday! Joining me with **Duffy** and **Vin** on the 23rd were Jill Prose

with **Gracie**, Liz Tataseo with **McKayla** and Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah**. Lauren Shapiro and Sarah Martin came to help wrangle dogs or wrap. Whenever Liz Tataseo came during the season, she helped with photography, as did Connie McCabe when she came.

Most Saturdays and Sundays during the season, we were at the store from 10 AM to 5 PM, which



On November 29th: Deb Orwig, Liz Tataseo, Carolyn Brown, Sarah Martin and Peter Brown in back, with Cindy Tigges, Natasha, Joey, McKayla and Cody

means the set-up needed to start at 9:15. Our set-up crew usually consisted of Peter Brown, Adam Cardinal, Patrick Doyle and Fred Prose. Larry Orwig helped a couple of times, as did Duane Borho, and Ilan Wieser came once. The guys would unload my van, carry everything over to the set-up area, and put up the tables, including a couple really heavy ones that *Barnes & Noble* provided. (I have promised to donate two fold-up, 6-foot



Joey Brown getting hug, a typical scene with many of the dogs



On November 24th, Sue and Keith Akenhead brought Happi, Josephine Sala helped with Deb's boy Mufasa, who likes to sit in chairs, Deb wrapped, and Liz Tataseo came with Watson



Connie McCabe usually brought Jackson, but Riley got to come with her once

to start at 9:15. Our set-up crew usually consisted of Peter Brown, Adam Cardinal, Patrick Doyle and Fred Prose. Larry Orwig helped a couple of times, as did Duane



Volunteers on December 1st included Carolyn Brown, Sarah Martin, Karin Forsythe with Leila, Adam Cardinal with Malle and Dean Mortimore with Lola

fiber-glass tables to the Happy Valley

Barnes & Noble so that we don't have to move those heavy tables in the future.) Carolyn Brown and I set up all the wrapping supplies and arranged the merchandise display. Three volunteers with



In the afternoon on December 1st, Debbie Ball with Shelby, Cindy Tigges with Natasha, Deb Orwig, Patrick Doyle, April Crow, Carolyn Brown and Bob Youhas; Kathi Youhas was also there but was shopping when this picture was taken

was there just for set-up; Patrick stayed all day.

Wrapping started in earnest on Black Friday, November 29th. We can never predict how Black Friday will go – some years it has been busy, other years hardly any business. This year was relatively good, as we returned home with \$447.55. Had we started at 8 AM when we were supposed to, we undoubtedly would have earned more, but the rain kept us away until 10 AM and our shift ended at 2 PM. So, our income still amounted to almost \$112 per hour! We had a light crew that day: Carolyn and Peter Brown with **Cody** and **Joey**, Liz Tataseo with **Emma** in the morning and Cindy Tigges with **Natasha** in the afternoon. Sarah Martin with her friend Maggie came to help wrap.



Emma Tataseo in her safe spot under a chair; Emma is scared of traffic noise and likes to hide; Liz hopes that with occasional exposure, Emma will get over her fear

Sunday, December 1st seemed slow, but we made \$593.90 from donations and sales. Carolyn and I were glad Sarah Martin came to help wrap. Volunteers who brought dogs included Adam Cardinal with **Malle**, Karin Forsythe with **Leila** and Dean Mortimore with **Lola** in the morning; Debbie Ball with **Shelby**, Liz Tataseo with **Watson** and Cindy Tigges with **Natasha** in the afternoon. April Crow came mid-afternoon to help wrap and pack up; Kathi and Bob Youhas also stopped by to visit with us for a while.



Jill Imler with Ginger, Dean Mortimore with Lola and Sharon Wieser handling Mufasa joined us on December 8th, a damp, cold day

dogs and others to help wrap were scheduled in 2- or 3-hour shifts starting at 10 AM (or whenever our start time was). Peter Brown, who lives in Sun City Grand, would often come to help set up, return home for several hours, then come back with his boys, **Cody** and **Joey**, for the late shift so he could be there to help pack up. Adam Cardinal, who lives in Peoria around 91st Ave/Bell Rd, did the same a couple times; Fred



Trishia Murphy took over handling Mufasa in the afternoon on December 8th; also there were Carolyn Brown, Marlene Breton and Peter Brown with Cody and Joey

came with gifts to wrap, purchased merchandise and gave donations. Carolyn Brown, Marlene Breton and I wrapped at least 20 gifts. Larry Orwig and Ilan Wieser helped set up. In the morning, Jill Imler brought **Ginger**, Dean Mortimore came with **Lola**, and **Mufasa Orwig** was there all day, handled in the morning by Sharon Wieser and in the afternoon by Trishia Murphy. In the afternoon, we also enjoyed the company of Jill and Fred Prose with **Gracie** and Peter Brown with **Cody** and **Joey**. Yes, it looks like we had 4 dogs there for an hour, but I made **Mufasa** “place” on a blanket under the wrapping table in the breezeway, so he was not visible to or interacting with the public. Philip Wieser came to help Peter, Carolyn, Marlene, Trishia and me pack up. Our income that day was \$713.05 for our 7 hours there (10 AM – 5 PM).

Our first Friday gift wrap day was December 13th, but it was not an unlucky day for us – we brought home \$760.56 after our 8-hour shift (9 AM – 5 PM). Patrick Doyle and Fred Prose helped me set up, and Carolyn Brown, Julia Buchek, and April Crow helped me wrap during the day. Volunteers with dogs included Debbie Ball with **Shelby**, Liz Tataseo with **McKayla** and Cindy Tigges with **Natasha**;



Shift change on December 13th: Larry Orwig with Vin, Liz Tataseo with Jackson and Watson, Cindy Tigges with Natasha and Debbie Ball with Dillon; in back, Patrick Doyle, Deb Orwig and Carolyn Brown



Larry Orwig with Vin, Julia Buchek, Peter Brown, Jill Prose, Carolyn Brown, Patrick Doyle, Deb Orwig and April Crow kneeling with Gracie and Jackson

Larry Orwig with **Vin**, Connie McCabe with **Jackson**, Jill Prose with **Gracie**, and Peter Brown handled **Mufasa** and **Duffy**. We never had more than three dogs there except for 5 minutes or so during the shift changes. Pack-up volunteers who helped me included Peter, Carolyn, Julia, April, and Patrick.

Despite our busy day on December 14th with three events going on, we had a good crew of volunteers at the gift wrapping session on December 15th. Adam Cardinal came to my house to help transport some of the wrapping materials, then helped me set up at 9:15, handled **Vin** until 1:30, then took him back to my house, let my other dogs out to do business and put them all back in the house – thank you, Adam! I also had to bring **Dallas** on the 15th, because Larry was not going to be home all day and **Dallas** needs



Adam Cardinal with Dallas, Josephine Sala with Vin; Sarah Martin and Carolyn Brown behind the table

medications every day mid-day. Until 2 PM, **Dallas** was handled by Josephine Sala; then he spent the rest of the afternoon in his crate in the breezeway away from the public while Debbie Ball was there with **Shelby** and Peter Brown brought **Cody** and **Joey**. Josephine handled **Shelby** while Debbie wrapped. Others who helped me wrap included Carolyn Brown and Sarah Mar-

tin. Our wrappers did overtime until 5:30, as we got slammed with three big wrapping jobs starting at 3 PM – one had 33 items; one had 26 and one had about 20. Yikes! We were buried in wrapping paper and ribbon! Peter and Carolyn took home some of the wrapping materials and merchandise so I could fit **Dallas** in his crate into my van. We had the best day yet financially, with \$881.57 in the cash box and donation jars at the end of the day.



Patrick Doyle, Connie Wozniak, Sarah Martin and Carolyn Brown in back; in front, Peter Brown with Joey and Cody and Debbie Ball with Shelby

We had the next five days off to recover. December 20th, our last Friday session, was short, only 5 hours from 10 AM to 3 PM, but we still earned \$708.45! Helping me set up were Carolyn and Peter Brown and Patrick Doyle. Wrappers helping me during the day included Debbie Ball, Carolyn Brown, Julia Buchek, April Crow and



Lauren Shapiro with McKayla, Vin and Jackson on December 20th

Connie Wozniak; Lauren Shapiro handled the merchandise tables in the first shift and Connie Wozniak during the second. Dogs that worked included **Kiki**, who was brought by Sheila Joyce; **Jackson** came with Connie McCabe, **Watson** with Liz Tataseo, **Vin** with me (we hid him in afternoon), and Peter Brown brought **Cody** and **Joey** in the afternoon so he could be there for pack-up. Again, we had only three dogs interacting



Shift change on December 20th: Deb Orwig, Debbie Ball, Kathi Youhas, Connie Wozniak, April Crow, Julia Buchek, Connie McCabe with Jackson, Bob Youhas, Liz Tataseo with McKayla; in front, Larry Orwig with Vin and Sheila Joyce with Kiki



One person's wrapped gifts, and these were not all of them!

with the public except for a few minutes during the shift change. Kathi and Bob Youhas came by in the morning to socialize. Carolyn, Peter, April and Patrick all helped pack up my van.



Kiki Joyce

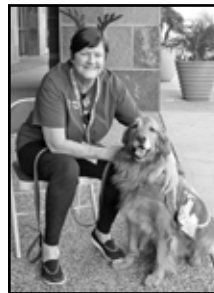
Saturday, December 21st was also only a 5-hour session, this one from 2 PM – 7 PM. We were very busy that day, bringing home \$1,176.10! Set-up helpers included

Carolyn and Peter Brown, Adam Cardinal, Joni Cipollone, April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Ellen and Jeff France, Teri Guilbault and Sarah Martin. It was terrific having so much set-up help – since another group was wrapping during the morning, we really had to hustle to get everything in place



Volunteers on December 21st: in front, Joni Cipollone with Riley, Peter Brown with Joey, April Crow and Cody, Debbie Ball with Shelby; in back, Karin Forsythe, Deb Orwig, Sarah Martin, Patrick Doyle and Carolyn Brown

when we started at 2 PM. Volunteers helping me wrap included Debbie Ball, Carolyn, Julia Buchek, Joni, April, Karin Forsythe, Teri and Sarah. Dogs on site were **Shelby** with Debbie Ball but wrangled by Adam Cardinal while Debbie



Ellen France with Chloe



Jeff France with Rose

wrapped, **Riley** with Connie McCabe, **Chloe** and **Rose** with Ellen and Jeff France, and **Cody** and **Joey** with Peter Brown. **Rose France**, one of our October China dogs, got very nervous due to all the unfamiliar people going in and out of the store and car traffic traveling through the parking lot, so she started barking and couldn't stop. Consequently, Ellen and Jeff had to take her home. Adam left for a while but brought tacos back for everyone who was still there at 4:30 PM. Our thanks to Adam – the food really helped us get through the rest of a day of lots



Just part of one customer's pile of wrapped gifts



Joni Cipollone with Riley

of customers, some with small jobs, others who brought 20-30 items!



Liz Tataseo with Watson, Teri Guilbault, Cindy Tigges with Natasha and Andrea Williams with Loki on December 23rd

Monday, December 23rd was our last gift wrapping day; we had the 10 AM – 5 PM shift. Carolyn Brown and Patrick Doyle helped me with the set-up. Teri Guilbault came about 9:30 and stayed to wrap all day. Other wrappers besides Teri and me included Debbie Ball, Gina Fagan, Karin Forsythe, Sarah Martin, Fran Strock

and Connie Wozniak. Beverly Host and Lauren Shapiro handled the merchandise in the morning, Sheila Joyce and Connie Wozniak in the afternoon. Amy Maynard also helped mid-day. In the morning, we had Liz Tataseo join us with **McKayla**, Cindy Tigges with **Natasha**, and Andrea and Ella Williams with **Loki**. Nick Dodson also brought foster **Bowie** for a short time in the afternoon, and Larry Orwig brought **Vin**. Ray, Amy and Laura Fagan brought **Charlie** and **Burt**. Since I didn't



Andrea and Ella Williams with Loki



Beverly Host



Amy Maynard

know ahead of time that both dogs were coming, I had scheduled Connie McCabe to be there with **Jackson** and Peter Brown with **Cody** and **Joey**. Their times overlapped, so Fagans left a little early and Peter sat in the breezeway

with his boys for a little while – it all worked out. Gina Fagan, and the whole family in fact, was a first-time volunteer. She was a good wrapper and, like Julia Buchek, learned to make great bows very quickly. It was our best day of the season financially: \$1,450.10 from donations and sales. A couple people for whom we normally wrap could not make it on Monday the 23rd because they had to work at a paying job, so I offered to wrap for them at my house on the 24th.



Gina Fagan with her gorgeous first bow-making effort



Ray and Gina Fagan with Charlie and Burt



Volunteers on December 23rd: standing, Teri Guilbault, Debbie Ball, Bob Youhas, Connie Wozniak, Amy Maynard, Patrick Doyle, Carolyn Brown, Sarah Martin, Deb Orwig and Ray Fagan; kneeling/sitting, Sheila Joyce, Gina Fagan with Jackson, Burt with Lauren Fagan, Kathi Youhas, and Charlie with Colleen Fagan

That brought in another \$160, so our total for the last gift wrapping of the season was \$1,610.10!

The season was terrific this year, with a total revenue of **\$8,164.91** from our ten gift wrapping sessions. Collectively, gift wrapping is our second largest fundraiser, the golf tournament being first.

I certainly hope I have not forgotten to mention anyone who helped during the gift wrapping season! Whether you came only once or numerous times, your presence was appreciated! Whether you helped set up and/or pack up, wrapped, or made bows, or brought a dog or wrangled someone else's, or just came for socializing and conversation, your presence was appreciated! Since merchandise sales were so important to our totals each day, I want to thank Denise Padavano, Sheri Roddeffer, Jeanne Wegener, and Connie Wozniak for helping me sew quality and unique items that people really wanted to buy! To everyone who volunteered... you are all so very important to the success of *Arizona Golden Rescue* – never forget that!

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Connie Wozniak with one of the 270 beautiful pot holders she made for AGR during the year



Patrick Doyle no longer has a dog, but he comes to everything and helps however he can – thanks, Patrick!

The holidays were happy days with smiles, hugs, and love.



Customer loving on Mufasa and Vin



April Crow with Riley McCabe/Dodson



Gina Fagan and Amy Maynard

Photos with Santa at Petco

By Connie McCabe

On December 7, 2019, we had a terrific Santa Photo session at the Northern Ave **Petco** – we are so very lucky to have many great



Connie is a magician when it comes to photography! Notice that every one of the eight Golden Retrievers and every one of the ten people in this large-group photo with Santa Nick are all looking at the camera!

volunteers and donation dogs! It was a very busy four hours, as we started early for a large group and stayed late to accommodate those who needed us.

Many thanks to Santa Nick Dodson, who did a wonderful job with the dogs (and

two bunnies), in addition to traipsing the supplies back and forth. Great job from Liz Tataseo on the iPad and Joy Slagowski, who helped inside with crowd control, record keeping and information. We took at least 17 paid photos and maybe a few more, so we earned the guaranteed \$200 for the shift. Our outside helpers were great and collected another \$146.40 in do-



Inside helpers Connie McCabe, Joy Slagowski and Liz Tataseo with Santa Nick



Outside volunteers on December 7th: Dean and Marlene Mortimore with Mary Kate and Lola, Kati Montgomery with McCabe-Dodson foster Beau, Marlene Breton with Shelby and Debbie Ball with Dillon

Ball with **Shelby**; Kati Montgomery, who wrangled our foster, **Beau**; and Dean and Marlene Mortimore with **Lola** and **Mary Kate**.

Also thank you to Joni Cipollone with **Gracie** and **Ray** (photo at right); Cara Holland and Jack Craven with **Bella** (she looks



Jack Craven, Cara Holland and Bella with Santa Nick



Santa Nick holding Thom with Joyce Hubler and Ripley

so great!); Joyce Hubler, who brought **Ripley** and **Thom**; Sheila Joyce for bringing her whole family; and Chris Spiel, who brought **Jack** and **Nash** and

also stayed to help clean up and pack and load.



Santa Nick with Chris Spiel Jack and Nash



Santa Nick with Sheila Joyce and family

We had another terrific day on December 14th at **Petco**



Inside volunteers: Joy Slagowski, Teri Guilbault, Santa Jeff Guilbault, Liz Tataseo and Connie McCabe

for Santa Photos. We only took around 17 or 18 photos but will still get the \$200 minimum from **Petco Foundation**. In addition, we collected \$220.10 cash, sold 1 calendar for \$12 cash and 2 calendars for \$24 PayPal for a total of \$456.10 for the day! Thank you to everyone who participated, especially Nick Dodson, who shepps all the supplies back and forth. I could

never do that myself. And thank you to Liz Tataseo, Joy Slagowski, CJ Major, Jeff and Teri Guilbault for helping to load everything back up! Santa Jeff Guilbault did a super job and elf Teri Guilbault was a major help, both indoors and out.



Outside volunteers on December 14th: CJ Major with Jackson, Kati Montgomery with Toby, Kati's mom Honi, and Sheila Joyce with Kiki

Thank you, again, to Joy Slagowski for doing the information and administration of the photos, while Liz Tataseo again did a terrific job with the iPad photos. Outdoors we had Sheila Joyce with **Kiki**; Kati Montgomery with her mom, Honi, and her handsome



Pat Morgan and Cassie with Santa Jeff

Toby; and Nick and CJ taking turns with Jackson. Pat Morgan came by with the gorgeous Cassie and Fred and Jill Prose brought Gracie and Jasper for



Jill and Fred Prose, Gracie and Jasper, with Santa Jeff

their family photos. Thank you all!



Santa Jeff held some cute pairs and an armful of Shih Tsus



Santa Jeff with Shady; some parents realize that it is much less expensive and faster to get their child's photo with Santa at Petco than in the mall; besides, they can't have their dog in the photo, too, if they go to the mall!

Sunday December 15th was a super busy day for photos. It was the last day but it still took me by surprise. We were a little short-handed but managed to take 24 or 25 photos, the most ever for that Petco store! Thank you, Nick, for always being there



December 15th: Connie McCabe, Santa Phil Leavitt, Liz Tataseo and Watson



Santa Phil with Cassie, Lily and Luna Barnett

double duty by wrangling both Jackson and Riley for a while. Thankfully, Marlene Breton came by to help; Sheila Joyce and Kiki responded to my request for help also. People were not particularly generous, we only got \$85 in donations, but we exceeded the 20 photo break point and will get some extra money for the overage – photos should bring in about \$240 (Ed note: the actual amount was \$238.80).

Many thanks to Liz Tataseo for the great job on iPad photos and to her Goldendoodle Watson for being such a GOOD BOY! And of course to Santa Phil Leavitt, who was tasked with trying to keep his wardrobe malfunction covered up. I was able to edit



December 15th outside: Nick Dodson with Riley, Marlene Breton with Jackson, Liz Tataseo with Watson and Sheila Joyce with Kiki

it on my photos, but we had to be super careful on the iPad photos, since there was a hole in the suit where it shouldn't have been, and we didn't want to give Santa a bad Santa reputation! Also thank



Although Santa Nick got a pair of bunnies for one photo (not included here), Santa Phil got the one cat and a pig!



you to Cassie Barnett, who brought Lily and Luna for their photos.

These are just a few of the photos from Photos with



Santa Phil also got the ones with the most interesting headgear!



Santa Phil and some BIG dogs!

would be the case until I got there. So, all of my photos will have a rather stark green background, but the iPad photos that the customers received had fancier blue and purple backgrounds in its place. Thank you, again, to Kathy Blue for donating the pretty Christmas tree prop we used and to Deb Orwig for once again re-wrapping the Christmas boxes we also used for props.

Santa at Petco. Others can be seen on our website: arizonagoldenrescue.org, in Events>Gallery. The set-up was a little different this year – the background was a "green screen" which drops out of the photo using special software. Petco had several built-in backgrounds that were inserted in place of the green screen on the final photo. I don't have that software and didn't know that

Meet-and-Greets
at Petco and PetSmart

Petco, 9980 W Northern Ave – Liz Tataseo, Hostess



Liz with **Watson** (photo above) were Josephine Sala and Marlene Breton, who came without dogs and were great dog wranglers; also

We had a good time in November outside **Petco** with many people and dogs to help out and received many donations. Joining



Dean Mortimore with Lola and Mary Kate, Marlene Breton with Jackson, Kati Montgomery with Toby, Kati's mom Honi, Josephine Sala with Watson, and Sheila Joyce with Kiki



Toby Montgomery, an adorable Golden mix

Kati Montgomery and her mom Honi with **Toby**; Dean Mortimore brought **Lola** and **Mary Kate**, too. This was **Toby's** first Meet-and-Greet and he was wonderful. Sheila Joyce brought **Kiki** who has mastered Meet-and-Greets already, and Connie McCabe came with **Jackson**, also known as **Action Jackson** or **Mr. 1000**. He was certainly active!



Debbie Ball with Dillon



process. Meeting and greeting were Debbie Ball with

The young lady on the left had come to several of our gift wrapping sessions at Happy Valley Barnes & Noble; she was enamored with the dogs and told us she wants to be a veterinarian; she found our event schedule on our website and convinced her mom that they should make the trip to Petco! We expect to see her at least once in 2020. Kiki and Watson are also in the photo.

Dillon, Sheila Joyce with **Kiki** (who wore a beautiful sweater and changed into her Mrs. Claus dress later) and Liz with **Watson**. We had visitors who had been at gift wrapping the previous weekend and tracked us down so they could see the dogs again.

PetSmart, 9960 N 91st Ave, Peoria – Connie McCabe, Hostess

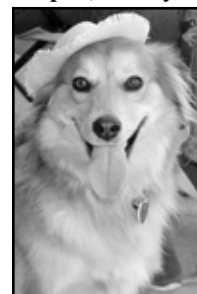


People: Phil and Karen Davis, Sheila Joyce, Chris Spiel, Fred and Jill Prose, Tia and Jocelyn Raught; Dogs: Jackson, Star, Kiki, Nash, Jack, Jasper, Gracie, Mimi, Bubba

On November 10, 2019 we had a slow but very pleasant day at **PetSmart**. Not a lot of foot traffic but lots of fun anyway. Many thanks to Nick Dodson for helping with the loading, set-up, pack-up and dog handling. Also thanks to Karen and Phil Davis with **Star**; Sheila Joyce with **Kiki**; Fred and Jill Prose with **Gracie** and **Jasper**; Jocelyn and Tia Raught with **Mimi**



Nick Dodson and Connie McCabe with Jackson and Riley



Mimi Raught – so cute!

and **Bubba**; and, of course, Chris Spiel with Jack and **Nash**. We sold some calendars, gave out info and met a lot of really nice people. We received one membership renewal of \$25, sold 3 calendars for \$36 and received \$68.42 in donations. As always, more photos are available on our website at arizonagoldenrescue.org under the Events>Gallery tab.

Due to our busy holiday schedule, which included doing *Photos With Santa* on what would have been our regular December Meet-and-Greet date, we did not go to **PetSmart** in December.

New Procedures at PetSmart

Arizona Golden Rescue has never done on-site adoptions anywhere. However, for the last couple years since the company changed owners, **PetSmart** has required rescue groups to do at least one in-store adoption per year or lose their Partner status. We lost ours, and until we are reinstated we cannot do Meet-and-Greets at **PetSmart**. We have come up with a work-around and reapplied; we have been approved, but the paperwork on **PetSmart's** side is taking time. Hopefully, we will have our Partner status back before February 29, 2020 so we can participate in the **PACC911-PetSmart** co-sponsored Adopt-a-thon in Chandler.



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 to the extent allowed by law. The donations shown below were made between October 28, 2019 and January 17, 2020. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted. PLEASE NOTE: All donors who make donations during 2020 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2021 unless an acknowledgment for tax purposes is requested sooner.

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*On behalf of my aunt and uncle, Anne and Rick Gutekunst,
Merry Christmas from Rick, Jennifer, Maris and Sophie
Jennifer Wainwright*

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The Editor thanks Carolyn and Peter Brown for stuffing and taping the November newsletter and delivering the prepared newsletters to me for mailing; also, for their help preparing the tax letters for mailing.

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Thanks

To **AGR** for all you do for our pups
Sally, Wendell and **Peggy Sue** Jones
Marti and **Zoe Zoe** Joyce

To Carolyn and Peter Brown for vacation care for **Scooter**
Sharon Gullickson

To April Crow for donating the entry fee for the
Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade

To Connie McCabe for our Christmas photo
Ellen and Phil Leavitt
Joy and Todd Slagowski

To Deb Orwig for bow creation
Cindy Tigges

To Deb and Larry Orwig for vacation care for **Blaze**
Kathi and Bob Youhas

To Cindy and Gary Tigges for vacation care for **Lucy**
John L. Martin

To everyone who helped at any event during the holidays
Deb Orwig

Grants

Best Friends Animal Society to help with medical expenses
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C.A.R.E.'s Jake's Fund to help with **19-087 Kosmo's** expenses

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for her leadership, friendship and dedication to **AGR**
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In Loving Memory of **Palmer Axne**
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