

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw

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**SPECIAL
COLLECTOR'S
EDITION**



Tips for keeping
your dog happy and

HEALTHY

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Masthead photo of 14-033 Dolly by Pam Spicer; Cover Design by Connie McCabe

Editor's Assistants' Notes



Dolly, Mufasa, Duffy and Troy Orwig

Training and the exercise it entails are good for us canines and for you humans, too. It makes us more alert, tunes us in to what's important (our trainer/handler), helps us learn to ignore things that aren't (all kinds of distractions) and tones up our muscles. New routines cause us to think and to adapt – good exercise for our brains – all of which lead to better health for all of us. Remember, if you have a fat dog, you aren't getting enough exercise!

We want to discuss one of our favorite subjects: food. Our Rescue volunteers, especially the ones who do home evaluations, transports, and Meet-and-Greets, frequently get asked, "What should I feed my dog?" They always recommend using a good quality food. We know that grocery store dog food is usually not very good quality, but there are so many different foods at the pet supply stores these days, how do you choose one?

For a new dog, **AGR** usually recommends using one of the no-grain foods. The best advice we can give you is to feed your dog something he or she will eat and that does not give him or her the itches or the runs. If we Golden Retrievers are going to be allergic to anything we eat, chances are it will be corn or one of the other grains (wheat, rye) commonly used as fillers in dog foods.

When our transporters deliver a dog to a new family, they give the family a copy of **AGR's** *Your New Dog* manual. In that publication, which is now available on **AGR's** website, is a page entitled "How to Grade Your Dog's Food." Using that rating system, you can decide for yourself if the food you are using or intend to use is a good one. Any food rating 90 or better is considered a really good quality food. For the health of your dog, do your dog a favor and rate the food you are using. You might be surprised to find that some of the really good foods are not the most expensive ones.

Treats are important for us, too! Don't forget to look at the ingredients in those, as well. If your dog is sensitive or allergic to something in dog foods, be sure that ingredient is not included in the dog biscuits and cookies you buy or make.



Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

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"Health" is the theme of this issue of *The Golden Paw*. The word has many ramifications when it comes to Rescue and all that the organization encompasses. As a nonprofit animal rescue group, **Arizona Golden Rescue's** health is dependent upon the quality of the organization, the strength of its volunteer force and the organization's financial well being.

We have a very well-run organization. Not infrequently, I am told "**AGR** really has its act together" by people who contact us to ask questions or to adopt a dog. Every member who does home evaluations, transports, or Meet-and-Greets is well trained. We provide that training through our mentoring program. We require new evaluators and transporters to do at least two ride-alongs with experienced members. We encourage "newbies" to come to Meet-and-Greets with their newly-adopted dogs and position themselves next to an experienced member to listen to the responses when the public asks questions. We also give them copies of our informational brochure to read, and, of course, they have already read our *Your New Dog* manual. A well-informed representative will always make a good impression.

Is your dog healthy? Do you wish your dog could live forever, or at least as long as you do? I certainly do. However, it is a sad fact that their lifespans do not even begin to last as long as ours. Of the 15 dogs who have been my companions during the past 36 years, 11 have passed away, with an average age at demise of 12¼. That average is skewed, however, because one of them left me at age 5½. At **AGR** events and during home evaluations I have done, there have been many occasions when I have told someone who says they want a young dog that there are no guarantees as to how long any one dog will live. **AGR** has lost dogs at 5 weeks of age (recently, **15-010 Fiah**) and 3½ years (recently, our current calendar cover girl **13-120 Bella-Holly-Eureka-Rooter**). But, we still have with us **09-002 Goldie**, who is now over 16, and many of our rescued dogs have lived to 13, 14, or 15.

Basically, a dog's genetics determine the length of its lifespan. But, we can help our dogs live as long as their genetics dictate. How do we do that? We give them a high-quality food. We provide them with a nice bed and toys to keep them entertained. We see to it that they get exercise. We walk them on leash (and not on an extendable one that gives us no control) so that they cannot bolt and run out into traffic. We ensure that they have a safe environment in which to live with no toxic chemicals, poisonous plants or cacti within reach. We train them to stay off counters and people, not to chew up things, and to be otherwise well behaved. If we live near

a preserve or an undeveloped desert area, we get the dog snake-trained. We see to it that our dogs have an annual check-up by our veterinarian, vaccines when they are due, tests for valley fever and heartworm, and, here in Arizona, we keep them on Heartgard® year round. It is a big job – and can be an expensive one – to be a responsible dog owner. Hopefully, some of the information presented in this issue of *The Golden Paw* will help you take good care of your dog so that he or she lives as long and healthy a life as possible.



It's a Ruff Life!

**By Christine Spiel,
Director of Activities**

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Note from the President: In February 2015, Chris Spiel agreed to serve as our Director of Activities (formerly Director of Operations). Chris has attended most of our events since adopting Nash (on right in title box photo) from AGR in 2012. Chris originally got involved with AGR when she lost her 9-year-old Goldendoodle, Trav. His buddy Jack, also a Goldendoodle, was very lonely. So, she logged onto the AGR website and filled out an application, completed her home evaluation, and before she knew it 2-year-old Nash was brought to her door! She said it's hard to believe Nash has been with her for 2+ years already! Chris started attending Meet-and-Greets, then became a member of the Health Care Team and the Home Evaluation Team. She is now our Director of Activities. She said she has enjoyed every moment! Her employer West Valley Hospital, where she works as an exercise physiologist in the Cardiac Rehab Department, has even gotten caught up in the Golden addiction. West Valley Hospital CEO, Stan Holm, has graciously donated bottled water to AGR, as well as items for the Fore Paws! Golf Tournament. Chris lives in Peoria.

After a long, stressful, exhausting day at work, it only takes one thing to make all my negatives go away... loving on my dogs, **Jack** and **Nash**. When I walk through the door and am greeted by those wagging tails and Golden smiles, the day's worries are whisked away. Even on my most exhausting days, I immediately perk up, re-energize, and off for a walk we go.

That's just what dogs do. They make us healthier! And, they don't even ask to see our insurance card or make a copay. Within seconds my blood pressure has been reduced, my risk of having a heart attack has been decreased, and hormones are released throughout my body decreasing my stress. Some studies have even shown that dog owners are significantly less likely to die within one year of a heart attack than those who did not own dogs. Cholesterol levels in dog owners have been shown to be lower than those of non-dog owners even when matched for weight, diet and smoking habits. Just having a silly Golden has so many healing and preventive qualities it is amazing.

Research has proven time and time again that some dogs have the ability to detect numerous forms of cancer, low blood sugars in the diabetic population, or the onset of seizures. In addition, dogs help patients rehabilitate faster from illness or injuries by en-

couraging patients to increase their mobility, interpersonal contact and socialization. Dogs act as "social catalysts" leading to greater interaction between people and alleviating feelings of loneliness, especially among elderly patients with physical disabilities. One study even showed that the use of therapy dogs in nursing homes decreased the use of prescription drugs and the overall cost of caring for the patients. Autistic children also benefit from having a service dog with them in the classroom. The service dogs help children relate better to their autistic classmates by changing the environment to a more positive one and providing a common ground amongst the children.

It is understandable why so many hospitals, nursing homes, as-sistive-living facilities, hospice facilities, shelters, schools, and library reading programs offer pet therapy as part of their regimen.

A bond between man and dog which began more than 15,000 years ago still exists today – is there any wonder why? Dogs' ability to be silly and non-judgmental helps us feel needed, offers unconditional love and trust, prevents illness and promotes healing. They listen to our moans and groans or just snuggle with us. Surely, they deserve the title of "man's best friend."

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Phoenix Pet Expo at WestWorld in Scottsdale
Saturday and Sunday, April 25th and 26th
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Saturday; 11 AM - 4 PM Sunday
Huge pet extravaganza held inside
air-conditioned building

Gift Wrapping for Mother's Day at
Happy Valley Barnes & Noble Booksellers
2501 W Happy Valley Rd, Phoenix
Friday, May 8th, 10 AM - 5 PM and
Sunday, May 10, 11 AM - 5 PM

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

***** Check out our new Meet-and-Greet location at**
***PetSmart* in Chandler**
located at 2860 E Germann Rd
(corner of Gilbert and Germann Roads)
usually on the second Sunday of each month

SAVE THE DATE...
Saturday, September 19th
7th Annual Fore Paws! Golf Tournament



Paws Forward

By Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care

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With an entire issue devoted to dog health including all of the various concerns a conscientious owner must mull over, dog owners might forget the simple enjoyment and mental aspects of playing with your canine friend. Play benefits not only the dog but also the person on the other end of the leash. My thoughts are mostly for those whose dogs have settled in and are reasonably secure in their new environment and with you. Play with a brand new dog must be approached more judiciously.

Young dogs prone to getting into trouble because of boredom should have mentally challenging toys available. Even a simple toy with treats stuffed inside gives our bright youngsters something to do with their time. Most such toys can be included in a pen or crate while the dog is waiting for family members to return home. Even seniors enjoy a bit of gentle silliness once in a while.

Training itself can be approached as play. Even though we know how serious the need is, it should be fun for both the person and the dog so that the lessons “take”. Once basic training is addressed, play, too, can be expanded. Teaching tricks can be a form of play, as it is fun for you, and the dog gets kudos for succeeding with a new action.

Certainly, most Golden Retrievers love fetch. (I happen to have one who does not, but then I sometimes believe she is part cat – expecting staff to serve her.) Fetch can be excellent exercise and fun. Once the dog is secure with “come”, any open field can be room to race and retrieve. We always need to be cautious in the Arizona heat that the dogs do not overdo. Dogs will continue far beyond what is safe for them, so we humans need to set limits. By combining fetch with swimming, or approaching it more gently in the house as a game of hide-and-seek, safe fun is possible any time of year. Tug-of-war has pluses and minuses. If there are any dominance issues – that the dog isn’t one hundred percent convinced you are always the one in charge – this game is not a good idea.

Exploring the neighborhood in the cool early morning benefits everyone’s fitness. Taking any opportunity to go to the high country for both a change of scenery (and scents, as well as being cooler) reinvigorates us all.

Each of us got our dog(s) for our own reasons. These may include to provide a caring home for a hurting canine soul, to secure a pal, to teach responsibility to family members, or any or all of a myriad of reasons. Don’t forget to have fun with your friend. It will keep your own life fun and healthy, as well.



The Information Highway

By Dana Haywood,
Director of Information Management

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Being a 501 (c) (3) organization, we rely on donations to survive. Over the last few years, I have tried to find ways to earn funds for the organization that would not be a constant upfront request of people to donate money. I have found several ways. Some have been a lot more successful so far than others, but I hope as we present these opportunities again they might have more success.

The most successful program so far has been *Fry’s Community Rewards*. In the first year of this program, we did extremely well – each quarter’s donation from *Fry’s Foods* was higher than the previous quarter’s. The way the program works is that members with *Fry’s* VIP Cards specify *AGR* as recipient of donations when they use their VIP cards. We had a total of 109 families sign up for this program last year. One issue that arose is that the cards have to be renewed each September, or else the donations to the assigned charity stop. Last quarter of last year our donation check dropped dramatically because many of the people who signed up did not renew their cards. If you shop at *Fry’s Food Stores* and do not have your VIP Card assigned to another organization (such as your child’s school), please consider signing up or renewing your sign-up of your VIP Card to have *AGR* be assigned as your designated charity. Signing up does not affect your points or any rewards that card use otherwise offers. Signing up is very easy and takes a very short amount of time to do. Sign-up information is on our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org

There was an Albertsons Key Card taped into this box in every copy that was mailed or given to someone who lives in states where Albertsons has stores.
Sorry there is no Albertsons where you live!

At left is the actual key tag to be used at Albertsons. If there is no tag, it means you live in a state without an Albertsons. Remove the tag and use it! If you need more than one tag for family members, you can get them at *AGR* events.

We now have a second food store chain that has a program to help charitable organizations. *Albertsons Food Stores* now has a key card that when scanned after you do your shopping at their stores will create a donation to *AGR*. The program works a little differently from the *Fry’s* program, as *Albertsons* does not have a regular savings card program. Their card just registers purchases made to determine the amount of donation that *Albertsons* will make to *AGR*, and the cards will not have to be renewed every year. We have already set up the program; the bar code on the card is permanently assigned to *AGR*. Cards will be available at all *AGR* events and Meet-and-Greets. We are including a key tag for you here if you are a resident of a state that has *Albertsons* stores. Please remove the tag above and carry it with you.

Arizona Golden Rescue now has our own shopping website. The dollars you spend buying products from www.Shop.com/ArizonaGoldenRescue support **AGR**, and you earn up to 50% cash back on qualified purchases. Our website has over 50 million products from 3500+ stores, including your online favorites such as **Walmart, Sears, Macy's, Staples, The Home Depot** and many more. Sign-up information is on the home page of our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org. If you shop online, the only thing different that you must do once registered in the program is to go through www.Shop.com/ArizonaGoldenRescue to get to your online shopping site. There is also an app that you can download – “ShopBuddy” – that will alert you whenever you land on a participating cash-back merchant site.

On average, we spend over \$1000 per dog; our highest adoption fee is \$350. The difference has to be made up somehow. It requires a lot of work by us trying to acquire the money to cover expenses. The programs described above are easy ways for you to help besides sending in cash donations, which are also always welcome. The best thing about the program is that it does not cost you anything to help **AGR** other than what you are already spending on purchases.

Looking to Sell and/or Buy a House?



There is a new and potentially huge fundraising opportunity for **AGR** for which we would appreciate your consideration.

One of our **AGR** adopters, Wayne Lockwood, is an Associate Broker for **HomeSmart Real Estate**. He and some of the other **HomeSmart** agents have formed the **AZ Rescue Realty Team** and have designed a program to support animal rescue groups; **Arizona Golden Rescue** has been chosen as one of those groups. Wayne told us,

We have just launched the AZ Rescue Realty Program through HomeSmart and taken the website, <http://www.azrescuerealty.com> live. Having a history with our own rescue animals and having been inspired by the efforts of PACC911, we will strive to follow in their footsteps and become a major source of funding for the Arizona rescue community. The HomeSmart agents who have agreed to participate in this program will donate 50% of their commission to the rescue group of the buyer's or seller's choice!

The **AZ Rescue Realty** website introduction says: *The needs of the Arizona animal rescue community are overwhelming. In fiscal 2014, Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) took in 38,235 dogs, cats, puppies and kittens. Of those, 11,382 were adopted, 4183 were returned to their owners, 12,129 were transferred to rescue organizations and sadly, 10,160 were euthanized. That means, in spite of the heroic efforts of MCACC and the rescue community in decreasing euthanizations by 24% for the year, nearly 30 animals died abandoned, scared and alone every day. Tragically, these numbers represent only Maricopa County Animal Care and Control and do not include animals euthanized at private facilities or those who died homeless and helpless on the streets. Rescue organizations and no kill shelters are the key to reducing those numbers.*

While 12,129 animals were transferred to Rescues, there just weren't enough resources to accommodate the other 10,160 who ended up being euthanized. According to Dr. Eva DeCozio-Bush, DVM, Co-Founder, Board Chair and Medical Director of Panacea Animal Wellness Sanctuary (PAWS), Maricopa County and the Greater Phoenix Metro Area have the second highest euthanasia rate in the United States. Thousands of healthy, adoptable animals are euthanized each year, largely due to the lack of rescue resources. We want to change that.

For clients of the AZ Rescue Realty Team, 50% of all commissions received, when representing you in a real estate transaction, will be donated to the PACC911 approved 501(c)(3) Animal Rescue of your choice. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of abandoned, homeless and abused animals in Arizona.

“Big Donations Can Make a Big Difference”

When you're represented by the AZ Rescue Realty Team, 50% of all commissions received will be donated to the 501(c)(3) rescue organization of your choice. On a \$200,000 transaction, the rescue group you choose would receive a check for \$3,000. A \$300,000 transaction would result in a donation of \$4,500, \$500,000 would be \$7,500 and so on. There is no donation limit. It's always 50% of the commission received. Your next real estate transaction could result in a donation of 1,000's of dollars to the rescue or shelter you'd like to support!

Contact the **AZ Rescue Realty Team** at 480-239-4205 or via their website: www.azrescuerealty.com

AmazonSmile

Arizona Golden Rescue is now a *bona fide* beneficiary of donations from AmazonSmile. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the *AmazonSmile Foundation* will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. If you already have an Amazon.com account, you can use the same account on AmazonSmile. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Your selection will be remembered, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization – *AGR!* – every time you shop, at no extra cost to you.



The Human Connection

By Connie McCabe,
Human Resources Director

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"It's all about the dogs."

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

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

In the February 2015 issue, I highlighted Jack Craven and Cara Holland; Judy Petitto; Bill and Linda Atkinson; and Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström. In the November 2014 issue we were introduced to Angela Palumbo; Don and Carol Thompson; Bob

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

The last few issues we had to skip over 14F, Cricket (LaBelle) Forstrom, but she's ready now!



In 1946, Cricket moved with her parents to Phoenix, Arizona from Cleveland, Ohio. Her family resided in what is now the historic Windsor Square neighborhood, where Cricket enjoyed an idyllic childhood that included riding her beloved horse, Chachita, throughout much of Phoenix. Cricket graduated in 1958 from *North High* and then was off to Colorado Women's College to major in Interior Design. However, meeting and then marrying Carl Forstrom, who was pursuing the Engineer of Mines degree at the *Colorado School of Mines*, was the event that happily derailed Cricket's educational pursuits. Cricket and Carl married in 1960 and after sojourns in Corning, NY and eastern PA, Carl found his professional home with *Phelps Dodge*, which brought the family back to Arizona.

Cricket and Carl had four children: Shelly, John, Eric and Matt. Carl served as Manager of the *Phelps Dodge* mines in both Ajo and Morenci. During these years and while raising their four young children and serving as hostess for frequent guests from around the world, Cricket became an accomplished cook and entertainer. For three consecutive years, Cricket received 1st Place trophies in Baking and Canning at the Greenlee County Fair. Following Carl's sudden death in 1987 Cricket returned to Phoenix and in 1989, joined Chapter D of *P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization)*, an organization that promotes educational opportunities for women. She has served as Guard and has frequently chaired several committees, most notably the Social Committee.

When Cricket returned to Phoenix, one of her main passions was inspired by her daughter, Shelly, who told her, "Mom, you either need to take up skiing or Country Western dancing!" Cricket says she chose Country Western dancing "because I had a healthy concern for my bones!" In the years since returning to Phoenix, Cricket has devoted her time to several volunteer organizations. She volunteered for 15 years with *Horses Help*, a therapeutic riding program and another 15 years with *Rescue A Golden of*

Arizona. She was a founding member of *Arizona Golden Rescue* in 2009 and has volunteered at the Golf Tournaments, *Barnes & Noble* gift wrapping and at other events, in addition to fostering dogs when possible. Cricket also served a four-year term as Complaint Investigator on the six-member Arizona Veterinary Board.

Today, Cricket explores the world by trekking to India, Tanzania, Rwanda and other exotic locations or by cruising to the Galapagos to swim with all manner of amazing creatures. She has even been able to have exciting close-up experiences with silverback gorillas and lions in their natural habitats! The photo at right was taken when she was in the Taj Mahal in India. Cricket also spends precious time with her wonderful grandchildren: Matt and Ericka's three boys, CJ, Zachary and Jacob; John and Tara's sons, Christopher and Connor; Eric and Connie's son, Eric Jr.; and Shelly's daughter, Hannah LaBelle Forstrom, named in Cricket's honor. Sons John and Matt are managers in the greater Phoenix area of "big box" retail stores. Like his dad, Eric is a miner, working as supervisor of a gold mine in Nevada. Shelly retired from *The Home Depot* and devotes her time and talent to the *Phoenix Junior League* and its charitable work; she adopted **Peanut** from *AGR*.



Next we have Cindy and Gary Tigges, founding members sharing number 45F. Cindy is the *AGR* Organization Accountant and is also active in transporting and fostering, in addition to helping with events.

Originally from Iowa, Gary has lived in Arizona since he was two years old. He is a Fire Captain Paramedic for the City of Phoenix with 32 years of service. Amazingly enough, one of his degrees is in Fire Science. He specializes in Technical Rescue. He is a TR trainer and also is one of the techs who operates the hoist in the helicopter while rescuing folks off mountains or from flooded cars in washes or other tricky places where people find themselves in need of rescue. He plays hockey and loves to sail and ski.



Cindy moved from Michigan to Arizona to attend *ASU* for a Business Administration degree. She worked in accounting for *KPNX-Channel 12* and for *Dimension Cable* before becoming a corporate dropout to raise children. She was a Girl Scout leader for many years. She plays English hand bells in two choirs and also enjoys

reading and crafts. She loves travel, sailing and skiing.

Cindy and Gary met through their love of sports and the outdoors. They have been married for 30 years and have three children: Ali, a Captain in the US Army; Aric, a pilot and First Officer for *ExpressJet* airlines; and Taryn, a student at *NAU* in Exercise Science, who is planning on a physical therapy career. They also have one granddog, **Libby**, a Border Collie/Australian Shepherd mix.

Over the years, they have had cats, birds, turtles and hamsters but have never been without dogs, big dogs. First, two girls found their way into their lives BC (before children) – **Shasta**, a Lab mix, and **Dusty**, a German Shepherd/coyote (no kidding) mix. Both lived long, full lives. The second pair was Chocolate Lab **Hershey** and another German Shepherd mix, **Sheba**. **Hershey** went blind at age seven from progressive retinal atrophy but adjusted well with the help of her loving family. When these girls were seniors in 2005, Cindy heard a plea from *Rescue A Golden of Arizona* regarding a need for fosters for a litter of Golden puppies that had come in from Willcox, AZ. They put in their application but, unfortunately, those puppies were too ill to be placed. However, another litter of puppies was soon rescued from a puppy mill that was closed down in Yuma. The family took **Sheba** to be interviewed by the puppies. One puppy, who was thought to be a good fit, determined that she would be better off in a calmer household, but another girl puppy, "Maroon" by yarn-collar designation, felt that the Tigges family was perfect. The fosters brought her up to get a sniff test with **Hershey** and with **Hershey's** blessing, **Charm** became the first Golden girl. **Charm** was a particularly even-tempered girl even as a puppy, so she achieved her Canine Good Citizen at age one and became a Delta Society Pet Partner with Cindy at age 1½. They did many years of therapy work at the Ronald McDonald House and at a Senior Alzheimer home. **Charm** was retired from her good works when she became uncomfortable due to hip dysplasia.

After the passing of **Sheba** and **Hershey**, Gary and Cindy felt that **Charm** should have a doggie sibling again. They monitored the intakes for another Golden until Cindy saw pictures of a pair of forlorn, bedraggled English Cream Golden littermates being brought to the US by Stephanie Harding, a UN police trainer who had found them in a shelter in Kosovo. Steph moved heaven and earth to transport this brother and sister to AZ, where she had contacted Deb Orwig to find them homes through *RAGofAZ*. Their first foster mommy was Katie Donahue, who saw them through their medical exams and procedures. **Koso** and **Duey** came to the Tigges family originally to be fostered but actually never intended to leave. Even though they are one year older than their sister **Charm**, they had had no training of any kind, in any



Cindy with Charm, Koso and Duey

language, as far as could be determined. So, with **Charm's** help, they have slowly acclimated to life in the US and are currently living happily ever after in the suburbs. The Tigges pack enjoy being involved at **Arizona Golden Rescue** events to help other rescued Golden find the homes, health and love they all deserve.



Last, but not least, for this month are Teri and Rob Turner, numbers 49F. Teri had this to say:

I fell in love with Golden when my husband bought a Golden puppy for my birthday in 2002. It was then that I started looking at information online and learned about Golden Retriever Rescue.

*I had read a story about a sweet girl who had been shot in the face with a shot gun at close range. The thought of someone looking into the eyes of the sweetest animal on Earth and actually pulling the trigger was something that I could not let go of. It was that moment that I knew I had to get involved somehow, some way. I found that I could bring my love of Golden and my interest in golf together by volunteering with the charity golf tournament. Now, 13 years later, I am still involved in helping to make the **Arizona Golden Rescue** Fore Paws! Golf Tournament a success. We lost our beloved Golden, **Rocket**, in 2013 and do not currently have a Golden, but Golden will always be in my heart as the most loveable and human of all dogs! Teri works full time as an Information Services (IT) Associate Project Manager for **Mutual of Omaha**; Rob has his own landscaping business, **Landscaping Plus LLC**.*

Health and Safety

By Liz Tataseo, Health Care Manager

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A Vaccine to Give Hope for the Devastation of Valley Fever

Each year many dogs are lost or crippled by valley fever (VF). Owners can spend thousands on medication and veterinary care if their dogs contract the disease. Researchers at the **University of Arizona** have already created a vaccine that has given protection to tested mice from lethal doses of valley fever. The next step is to proceed to testing in dogs and develop a usable vaccine just like there are ones for distemper, parvo and rabies.

On March 21st, Lisa Shubit, DVM, presented information on the development of a VF vaccine and also on T-cell testing to determine a dog's own immunity to the disease. The treatment of choice now for VF is fluconazole, an anti-fungal medication that inhibits the growth of the fungus in the dog until the dog's immune system

can counteract and destroy it. At that point the dog is immune if the dog's T-cells retain their "memory" for the fungal spores. This is also true for humans – same medicine, same immune response. Unfortunately, dogs are at greater risk for complications due to the disease than are humans: 25% in canines vs 1% - 5% in humans.

Researchers used a live mutant strain of *Coccidioides* (VF spores) that has had a gene removed so the spores are rendered harmless and cannot cause the disease but still can provoke an immune response in the dog. This has been called delta CPS1. Specially-bred mice (\$35/mouse) without immune systems were used for the various tests. These mice were given 10 to 100 times the lethal dose of the vaccine and did not get sick, so the researchers learned that the vaccine will not cause VF. The second part of the research involved vaccinating mice and then infecting them with the virulent form of VF. A comparison was done with a placebo and previous protective substances. The mice with the vaccine had much lower incidences of VF.

More research needs to be done – larger studies with mice and then with dogs. Research must also be done to develop tests to measure the immune response to the vaccine in dogs. Formulation of a vaccine that is shelf stable and easy to administer, licensing, and studies in dogs that receive the vaccine are in the future. Estimates are 12 to 18 months in time and \$2 to \$2.5 million dollars to continue and finish the research. Questions still to be answered: When to vaccinate? How long does the immunity last? Must there be boosters? Will all dogs respond?

The T-cell study is a companion study (small sample size right now) to see if a dog's immune response is the same in all dogs. The results could be predictive of which dogs must stay on fluconazole long term and which dogs can control the infection on their own. The immune system has two aspects: antibody response and T-cell response. Antibodies fight off bacteria and viruses; T-cells secrete interferon that destroys cells "remembered" by the memory T-cells. The results of this small study have shown that some dogs' T-cells respond even if the dog did not have VF before, some dogs' T-cells respond that had VF (they "remembered") and some dogs who had VF still fail to have T-cell response.

To theorize on what this means: some dogs buoyed by medication have a powerful immune response and fight off the disease and become immune. Other dogs without an appropriate immune response do not seem to get better, or even have higher titer levels when retested. Such dogs may need to remain on medication for the rest of their lives.

The best medication for VF right now is human-grade Diflucan, since FDA regulations ensure the actual manufactured dosage must be within 98% of the stated dosage. Compounded fluconazole has more variability and is not regulated, so it can be 50% to 80% of the stated dosage. Prices for both are extremely high right

now, especially for Diflucan.

Arizona Golden Rescue tests all rescued dogs for VF. Even if the level is 1:2 (lowest possible exposure titer), a dog is retested 1 to 3 months later to ensure that the titer level does not rise. If the level is still 1:2, the dog's immune system is working. If the titer goes up, medication is prescribed. Each test costs **AGR**, an average of \$97.

To help support this valuable research, a tax-deductible donation can be made by credit card or check. By credit card, go to www.vfce.arizona.edu and click on "give today". By check, mail to **Valley Fever Center for Excellence**, P.O. Box 245215, Tucson, AZ 85724 (EIN 86-6050388) and make payable to **University of Arizona Foundation**, memo line Canine Vaccine.

The above information is a summary of a lecture given by Lisa Shubitz, DVM, **University of Arizona** Researcher and Veterinarian, that Linda Knight and I attended on March 21st. The "Canine Valley Fever Vaccine Lecture" was sponsored by the **Arizona Victims of Valley Fever** and the **Valley fever Center for Excellence**. The **Mustang Public Library** in Scottsdale hosted the event. For more information, email vfever@email.arizona.edu or www.arizonavictimsofvalleyfever.org/canine-valley-fever-vaccine.html.

*Editor's Note: I have previously published articles on valley fever, but I am including the following one by Liz from November 2014 again, since valley fever is such a problem in Arizona and we all need to be educated about it. Few other states' rescue groups have to deal with this disease, because it rarely occurs in significant frequency anywhere else (see distribution map on page 11). Detecting and treating this insidious disease is necessary but expensive for **AGR**. We have applied for specific grants to cover the cost, but so far none have been awarded – we will keep trying.*

Valley Fever or Coccidioidomycosis

Five dogs, four different conditions (two were asymptomatic) and all of them with the same disease – valley fever. **Trip** was



surrendered in 2011 with a hind limb he could barely walk on and most of the time didn't use. No one had taken the time to really find out what was wrong and, suspecting the worst, the family surrendered him to **AGR**. After testing, **Trip** was found to have the disseminated form of valley fever, and the leg could not be saved. Now a tripod (notice no right hind leg in the photo), **Trip** has been tested clear of the disease for 18 months, but he will be tested yearly to be sure he remains negative.

Scout was surrendered to **AGR** in early September 2014 and had no symptoms of the disease; he looked like a happy and healthy two-year-old. After testing, **Scout** was found to be positive for

valley fever (with a titer of 1:32) and placed on medication. His littermate brother, **Chip**, who had lived with **Scout** all his life, tested negative.

One other example is **Caesar**, who came into Rescue in early 2013. He had lived in the Prescott area all of



his 8+ years, so we did

not think he would need testing for valley fever. However, our vet advised us to go ahead with the test even though **Caesar** was not exhibiting any symptoms and even though he had come from the northern part of Arizona where the incidence of valley fever is very low. We thought we might be wasting our money on the test (at anywhere from \$43 to \$222, it is not inexpensive) until **Caesar's** titer came back positive at 1:32. He was also started on medication.



PJ came to **AGR** from Tucson later in September, and he was limping on his front legs and in pain. After X-rays and because we did not want to wait until blood test results were back (takes about a week, as the vet sends out the dog's blood sample to an analytical laboratory), **PJ** was placed on medication for valley fever and pain medications. The test results revealed a titer of 1:32.



The worst case we have ever seen in **AGR** was in 2013. **Bonita's** valley fever titer was 1:256, the highest level that can be measured. She exhibited all the classic symptoms such as coughing, limping, lack of appetite and energy, and fever. Her initial blood work confirmed that she had a chronic infection in her system. The vet suspected valley fever and thought that it had infected **Bonita's** spinal column and brain, as she exhibited a "drunken soldier" swaying walk. She was in extreme pain so was started on high doses of morphine and corticosteroids, as well as on fluconazole. After six months of medication, **Bonita's** titer had dropped to 1:32, and by February 2014, it was even lower at 1:16, excellent progress considering how high it was originally. Although she may be on fluconazole for life, she is now acting like a normal dog.



Because valley fever is most prevalent in Arizona and occurs in other areas of the Southwest, one of the blood tests that **AGR** asks all of our vets to do is the Cocci test. If you look at the map on page 11, you can see the percentage of dogs positive for valley

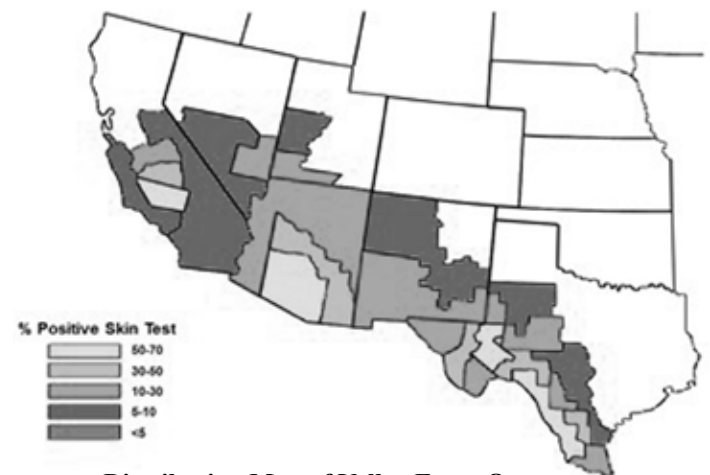
fever in various areas of the Southwest. Arizona is one of those areas that has a high percentage of dogs that have been found positive for the disease. Like **Scout** and **Caesar**, many dogs have no symptoms for the disease, even though positive. Some exhibit classic symptoms like **PJ** and **Bonita**. Valley fever is not contagious and cannot be passed from animal to animal, from animal to person, or from person to person.

What is valley fever? Valley fever in dogs (and humans) is caused by the fungus, *Coccidioides sperules*, which grows in the soil and can become airborne during wind, construction or farming. Infection occurs when the individual, whether dog or human, inhales the spores. Valley fever symptoms can occur within three weeks of inhalation, and the first sign can be a lingering cough. About one-third of people who are exposed are able to fight off the respiratory infection caused by the fungus, which often presents as a prolonged case of flu. About 70% of dogs who inhale the fungus do not become sick. In others, it can be a mild case or prolonged, debilitating and potentially lethal. Valley fever incidence is one of the reasons **AGR** requires all dogs adopted to be inside dogs. Dogs left outside for long periods of time are more likely to get valley fever.

Valley fever titers. Valley fever levels are determined by a ratio called a titer, which measures the antibody levels in a dog's blood. When a dog has been exposed to the fungus, their immune system begins to produce antibodies to fight the fungus. Dogs that are positive for valley fever at the 1:2 or 1:4 titer levels are considered exposed but not active and usually do not receive medication, but **AGR** does have the dog return for a retest in three months to make sure the titer is still low or negative. Dogs with exposure levels of 1:8, 1:16 and up are given an antifungal drug called fluconazole, which is the generic form of Diflucan. **AGR** recommends giving a dog milk thistle or Sam-E or Denamarin® (combo of both) to offset any liver issues that can be caused by the fluconazole. **Trip**, **Scout**, **PJ** and **Caesar** all had titers of 1:32. Most dogs will have to take the anti-fungal medication for several months up to 1-2 years. Some that have a very high initial titer may have to be on the drug for a longer time, perhaps for the rest of their lives. Dogs with the more common respiratory infection will usually start feeling better in one to two weeks but must remain on the medication to completely eradicate the fungus. After **Trip's** amputation and being on the medication for only two weeks, there was a visible improvement in his energy level and demeanor.

Disseminated Form of VF. Dogs and people can also get the disseminated form of valley fever if left untreated for a long period of time, as in **Trip's** case. Valley fever can most often spread to the bones of an individual and cause lameness or swelling of the legs and, at its worst, bone lesions and calcification. But it can infect almost any organ in the body including the brain, as it did for **Bonita**. Dogs with disseminated valley fever are usually prescribed pain medication to support the time needed for the anti-fungal

medication to work. The time needed for a dog to be on medication for the disseminated form is usually a much longer period.



Distribution Map of Valley Fever Occurrence from Valley Fever Center for Excellence website

The **Valley Fever Center for Excellence**, located at the **University of Arizona** in Tucson, was established to address the problems caused by the fungus, *Coccidioides*, the cause of coccidioidomycosis (valley fever). Two-thirds of all infections in the United States occur in Arizona, mostly in the urban areas surrounding Phoenix and Tucson. The **Center's** mission is to mobilize resources for the eradication of valley fever through: 1) the development of public awareness and education about valley fever; 2) the promotion of high-quality care for patients with valley fever; and 3) the pursuit and encouragement of research into all aspects of *Coccidioides* species, and the diseases that it causes.

A study by the **Valley Fever Center for Excellence** and supported by the **Valley Fever Vaccine Project of the Americas** found that

- Dogs that spent 80% of their time outside were 5 times as likely to be infected as those who spent their time indoors.
- Dogs that were taken outside for walks had a decreased incidence of the infection if walked on sidewalks.

AGR feels that all dogs going to their forever homes should be given the best chance to have a long and healthy life. While we cannot predict or account for health issues that develop after a dog is adopted, by doing blood work (which includes valley fever testing and a snap test for heartworm and tick fever), vaccines, a complete health exam and treatment of any injury or condition a dog initially brings into rescue, **AGR** gives adopted dogs a solid chance for a happy, healthy life.

A wise Arizona dog owner will get his/her dog(s) tested for valley fever annually.

Service Paws

By Wendy Enos

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***Be Slow to Judge***

“That man looks perfectly well to me; he doesn’t need a service dog.” Really? He has a seizure disorder and the dog alerts him beforehand so he can safely sit or lie down before he falls down.

“That woman is walking normally. Why does she have a service dog?” Because her hands are arthritic and she relies on the dog to pick up and carry items she can’t hold herself.

“How can that tiny little dog possibly be a service dog? It sure looks like a pet to me.” Nope. She’s a legitimate hearing dog, doing double duty as she alerts her handler to an oncoming diabetic blood sugar crisis. Even a tiny dog can be trained to do that.

Offering myself as an example, I’m sure I and my own service dog have incited a lot of comments ourselves over the years. My ataxia and balance issues are perhaps a little more visible but, for the most part, I don’t look particularly disabled, especially when sitting down. In stark contrast to that, though, optic issues require the use of very dark glasses. So I’m out and about with a harnessed dog. What would you logically assume? No, I’m not blind except in bright daylight; indoors I see fairly well. The harness is required for balance and stability.

You can see how appearances of a disabled person with a service dog can be deceiving. I venture to say that at least half of all disabilities are invisible. Disabled persons don’t go around with labels on their backs to advertise it; we just want to fit in and contribute to society just like everybody else. And, frankly, it’s none of anyone else’s business what a person’s disability is. Even merchants who must permit service dogs into their businesses are not, by law, allowed to ask.

Service dogs come in all sizes, breeds, and mixes. While toy or miniature dogs obviously shouldn’t pull wheelchairs or perform physically arduous tasks, they make excellent hearing, seizure alert, or diabetic alert dogs. Then again, not all hearing dogs are small dogs. I’ve seen a Leonberger (roughly the size of a St. Bernard) certified as a hearing dog!

In the following several issues, I will address many of the specific types of service dogs and the tasks they are trained to perform.

Gentle Reminder: Remember as the weather gets hotter by the day, keep those dog boots on hand wherever you go.

*Health Tips****Poison Ingestion***

If you suspect that your dog has ingested a poison, call the **National Poison Control Hotline** at 1-800-222-1222 or **ASPCA’s** Poison Control at 1-888-426-4435 as soon as possible. 1-800-222-1222 is the telephone number for every poison center in the United States. Call this number 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to talk to a poison expert. Call right away if you have a poison emergency. Also call if you have a question about a poison or about poison prevention.

Although there is still a network of 57 poison centers around the country, there is now one single telephone number for poison emergencies. When you call 1-800-222-1222 you will still talk to your local poison center experts. It is worth the price of the call (have your credit card ready for a potential \$65 charge), because certain poisons will cause further damage to the dog if the dog is made to vomit up the substance.

If you witness your pet consuming material that you suspect might be toxic, do not hesitate to seek emergency assistance, even if you do not notice any adverse effects.

Inducing Vomiting

Call your veterinarian immediately once you’ve determined that your dog has eaten something dangerous. Call a veterinarian emergency clinic if your vet is not available. Take their professional advice first **before** you make a dog vomit using **hydrogen peroxide**.

Trap your dog in a secure area, such as a bathroom, patio or kitchen to avoid having to chase it and having to clean up vomit from carpet. If possible, ask someone to help you with restraint to make a dog vomit using hydrogen peroxide, since the job isn’t as easy for one person (unless your dog is small).

Give a small dog only about a capful of hydrogen peroxide. Use the cap of a regular-sized bottle of hydrogen peroxide – about a teaspoonful. Administer more – around 2 tablespoons – to a large dog. If you have a syringe, use it to inject the liquid down into your dog’s throat.

Wait patiently and quietly until your dog vomits. Know that it occurs soon after you administer hydrogen peroxide, but it can take up to five minutes. Look for foreign objects in the vomit and make sure your dog has expelled the dangerous items it swallowed. Repeat the procedure if nothing substantial comes up. Realize there may be nothing obvious to see if you are trying to help your dog eliminate a poison.

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

Reporting period: January 1, 2015 - March 31, 2015

Total Assets as of April 15, 2015: \$190,758.88

	Income	Expenses
Adoptions	\$ 5,375.00	\$
Bank Charges (Intuit, PayPal)		93.79
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	910.00	
Credit Card Expense		323.83
Donations ¹	18,698.65	
Dues and Subscriptions		42.42
Event Expense		
Gift Wrap Events	259.97	
Grants		179.40
Insurance		486.00
Interest	26.86	
Legal & Professional Fees		10.00
Memberships	6,010.00	
Merchandise	2,713.15	130.84
Office Expenses & Supplies		383.79
Paws At The Park Picnic 2015 ²	1,607.00	371.99
Raffle	763.00	
Registrations	844.00	
Postage		253.84
Promotional		390.59
Rent or Lease		530.94
Repair & Maintenance		409.89
Stationery & Printing		2,022.56
Telephone & Website		47.13
Dog-related Expenses		
Boarding		
Behavioral Training		
Collars, Tags & Leashes		
Grooming		40.00
Microchip & Heartgard® expenses		621.81
Veterinary services		28,971.74
TOTAL	\$ 35,600.63	\$ 35,310.56

NET INCOME: \$ 290.07

Checking Account on 4-15-15: \$ 76,554.80

Savings Account on 4-15-15: \$100,020.14

The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 4-15-15: \$14,183.94³

Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 4-15-15: \$13,429.94

¹ Donations made in support of Paws At The Park before and during event are included here

² Income does not include merchandise sales – that income is shown separately

³ 15-024 Sandy's expenses above \$5,000 have not yet been transferred from this Fund

On April 8, 2015, there was an article on the front page of the *Arizona Republic* regarding *Celebrity Fight Night*. This is a Phoenix-based charity that is purported to raise money to find cures for catastrophic diseases. According to the newspaper article, the founder, who is also the current Board chairman and CEO, has supposedly been paid nearly \$1 million during the past two years for a part-time job that he had previously done on a volunteer basis. The amount he was paid was more than what this nonprofit, charitable organization gave away to help the causes that *Celebrity Fight Night* supports. If this is true, then it is a sad state of affairs and gives nonprofit, charitable organizations a questionable reputation.

There must be more of this kind of thing going on than we would like to believe. In the January 2015 issue of *The Costco Connection*, the author of “The Consumer Connection” column, David Horowitz, warns consumers to determine, before you donate, whether a nonprofit organization will make the most of your donation. He says, “Just because a charity claims to do good, or stands for a cause, doesn’t mean it’s performing well and that your donation will be put to good use.” I want to assure all of you who have ever donated in support of *Arizona Golden Rescue* that every penny has gone to help the dogs we have rescued, either directly by helping with medical expenses, or indirectly by helping us pay for our overhead.

We do not have a facility where we keep dogs that have not yet been adopted – such dogs are hosted in private homes. However, there are some administrative expenses we cannot avoid: bank charges for credit card processing; insurance; cost of renting our online Quickbooks site, our website domain, and our Phanfare photo storage site; database design and modification assistance (we don’t need much of this anymore); stationery, business cards and brochures; printing of this newsletter and promotional items such as the golf tournament postcards; leasing storage space (my 4-car garage was getting so full, it would only hold two cars – the rest of the space was taken up by *AGR* stuff); telephone; event expenses (we know we have to spend some money to make more). Even with these non-dog expenses, almost 82% of the money we take in goes directly to help the dogs.

Not a single member of our organization, including me as President, is paid anything for any reason, except for pre-approved expenses such as additional software to help our business run more smoothly, or reimbursement for foster-dog medications. No individual has ever, nor will ever draw a salary of any kind. Our purpose is to help the Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes that need help, and that is where your money goes.

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

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Jude Fulghum

Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for; perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of Arizona Golden Rescue's Magic Moments from January 14, 2015 through April 5, 2015. All adoptions finalized after April 5th will be in the next issue.



14-061 Angel was a pretty white Labrador/Golden mix we rescued from the **MCACCS** shelter with the not-so-endearing trait of wanting to lick the ears of the front seat occupants of any car in which she was riding. At 6 years of age, she loved brushing and lots of attention. However, her manners were a bit lacking, especially her habit of wanting to jump on anyone and every-

one. **Angel** knocked around in foster homes for a while before finding her forever home with Judith and Gretchen in Glendale; they renamed her **Sugar**. After she settled in with them, **AGR** provided three weeks of behavior training at **K-9 Games** in Peoria, and she is now much better behaved. A very happy ending for a deserving girl. Judith wrote, ***Sugar** is the light of our lives – the whole family is crazy about her; and she seems to like all the dot-ing. **Sugar** isn't much like the dog we thought we wanted – instead, she's the dog we were supposed to have, and it turns out the Universe knows what it's doing. This adoption process has been full of surprises, but we are very happy with the results. I'm really glad we were able to use **AGR** resources for the process of getting a new dog. Thank you so much for all that you did for us and for **Sugar**. We're a happy family (**Tiger**, the cat, not as happy as the rest of us!), thanks to your efforts.*

14-070 Aengus was originally placed by us in 2010, and was returned to us when his owner was no longer able to care for him. Now at the age of 11, this handsome Golden mix was in dire need of the green bean diet, as he was quite overweight. He also needed a dental and the removal of a large cyst on his back. He expectedly had some issues with climbing stairs, but he was also a resource guarder. It was felt that he really needed to be in an only-dog household with no kids where he could be the star of the show and live out his life being number one in his family's eyes. Connie and Nick fostered him for months until his medical issues



could resolve and he could get some weight off. He was adopted by Kurt and Mary Kay in Tucson. They are totally committed to giving **Aengus** the best of everything. We are so glad to see this boy in his final forever home!

14-092 Lucky was given to us along with his buddy **14-094 Shyla** because of medical issues. He had been hit by a car but had not been treated, plus he was very malnourished. Both dogs had spent their lives outside. After taking him in, we immediately had surgery done for **Lucky**, who had a severely dislocated hip resulting from the car accident. His surgery went well, and his outlook was good. J'Nett and Chris in Gilbert, who wanted to take **Lucky** into their home along with **Shyla**, picked him up and took him home to be reunited with her (they had adopted her first). Unfortunately, after only a few weeks **Lucky** became quite ill and blood work showed bone marrow cancer indicators. With extreme sadness on everyone's part, we had to send **Lucky** to the Rainbow Bridge where he waits for his buddy, **Shyla**, and the wonderful people who gave him such a terrific few weeks. Rest well, **Lucky**. You were loved very much.



14-094 Shyla was surrendered to us with her buddy, **14-092 Lucky**, by an owner who knew **Shyla** needed medical care but could not provide it. **Shyla** had lived outside and was thought to be about 5-7 years old. Poor girl had some severe medical problems including dental issues requiring several extractions, some mammary tumors, and she was crazy with itching. She also

tested positive for valley fever and tick fever. Quite a lot of medical issues on her plate! Wonderful adopters, J'Nett and Chris in Gilbert, took this girl in and saw her through all her treatment. Unfortunately, her time with her sibling, **Lucky**, was short, as he was assisted to the Rainbow Bridge after a diagnosis of bone mar-

row cancer. **Shyla** is doing great, and her mom wrote us with an update. *Our family absolutely adores Shyla. It's so sweet to see my two boys play and give her lots of hugs and kisses. She tolerates the three-year-old more than any person I know. She is so excited to see us when we come home, even if it's only been five minutes. She loves to be petted, walked, taken to the park, playing in the water, and treats! She is so mellow and the perfect fit for our family! Thanks so much!*



14-096 Jax was a handsome young Golden surrendered to us by an owner who simply did not have the time to give him the attention he deserved. The owner revealed to us that **Jax** had experienced seizures since he was 11 weeks old, but medication seemed to have the condition under control. He also had some vision deficiency, probably due to the seizure issues. His owner told

us **Jax's** favorite of all favorite things was peanut butter. After being placed with Steve in Mesa, **Jax** started exhibiting neurological problems which led to a trip to the veterinary neurologist for evaluation. His condition continued to deteriorate, and the vet felt he probably had an undiagnosed case of distemper which had caused neurological damage. It was decided that sending **Jax** to the Bridge was the very best thing that could be done for him, and with great sorrow he was released to go sniff out the millions of Reese's Peanut Butter Cups which we are sure are in great supply at the Bridge. A big thank you to Steve for adopting **Jax** and giving him a loving final few days.



14-097 Jake was relinquished to us by his owner who could not afford to take care of **Jake's** medical issues. **Jake** was a quite handsome big red dog about 9 years of age. Sure enough, he had several tumors which needed to be examined. He went to Deb's house as a foster and subsequently had his lumps aspirated to see what was going on. Unfortunately, the results were

not good. With several mast cell tumors, he would not have had a good life at all, so with sadness he was released to the Rainbow Bridge. He was adopted by Deb under our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program, so at least he left this life in the loving arms of his forever adopter. After having **Jake** cremated, we returned his ashes to his owner who had obviously adored this dog. Rest well, **Jake**. You were loved, and will be greatly missed.

14-100 Leilana came to us as an owner surrender because the new baby was allergic. At 4 years of age, this was the only home **Leilana** had known. Fortunately for her, this beautiful dark gold girl was scooped up right away by Larry, who lives in Phoenix.

He has renamed her **Layla**, and she has now become the onsite Ambassador at Larry's business, **EmbroidMe**. She does have some continuing allergy issues to work through, but Larry is by her side all the way doing everything necessary to get her in tip-top shape. He even sent us some Christmas photos which show how obviously well loved she is. What a lucky girl to have found such a dedicated and devoted owner! We wish you both many years together, **Layla** and Larry!



15-001 Happy was rescued from the **MCACCS** Westside Shelter and was thought to be between 7 and 10 years old. He is a little guy, tipping the scales at only around 50 pounds. This sweet boy is quite stunning with his dark red "field Golden" look. Because he was a stray, he had some medical issues which needed to be addressed, including allergy problems and the need for neutering. After initial vetting, he was placed very quickly with Carolyn and Gordon in Phoenix. We received an update on him. *The moment we saw this cute doggie with the unceasing wagging tail, we fell in love! This cutie had been a stray, so we know nothing about his past, except that he was given the name Happy. The name is totally fitting; he has made us so happy! Happy is so fitting for this senior stage in our lives. In dog years, we are probably the same age! We take our walks at the same pace. We prefer loving on each other above all else, and Happy has adoring traits that make us smile quite often. Thank you, AGR, for bringing Happy into our lives!*



15-002 Niner is a beautiful black Golden mix relinquished to us by his owner who couldn't give him the time and attention he needed. **Niner** is still quite young at only a bit over a year old, and these youngsters need lots and lots of exercise, training, and attention. His owner had him since puppyhood and had taken care of all the basic medical needs, so **Niner**

was pretty much ready to rock and roll right away. As he had spent time around kids and other dogs, he was a dream dog to place. Farah and Eric in Scottsdale took him right home to join their family. They and their children have renamed him **Dug** – maybe he likes squirrels! Have a wonderful life, **Dug!**

15-003 Loretta Carlene (a.k.a. "L.C.") is a gorgeous, light-colored Golden around 5 years old. Sadly, her owner passed away



and the family felt Rescue was the best plan for her. She was in dire need of the green bean diet (a daily diet of *Old Roy* will do that to you), but was otherwise in perfect health and had a wonderful disposition. Other than the weight issue, her owner had obviously taken very good care of her. As many applicants want a female Golden around 5, she was

very quickly adopted by Kenneth and Mary in Scottsdale who have renamed her **Kalli**. Her people have sent us an update. *We have been fortunate to have Kalli join our family. She came to us after she lost her owner and was a little unsure of all the changes. But, she quickly integrated into our lives at home and at work, as she is our new Associate at our Counseling Offices. Kalli was a bit overweight, but with her daily walks and healthy meals she is slimming down and with that has come a really cute playfulness in her personality. She loves tug-o-war, belly rubs and playing hide-and-go-seek around the kitchen counter. Kalli is such a joy, and we are so grateful that she has come into our lives. Thank you to all who made that happen.*

15-004 Duke came to us when his owner could not afford to address several medical issues. **Duke** had been adopted into the family at six weeks of age, and was now 10 years old. He loved kids and his tennis ball. He had also never been neutered, and was initially diagnosed with an enlarged prostate and anemia. He was immediately neutered, and various other tests were run to rule out other reasons for his pain and anemia. We are thrilled to report that once he was neutered, he began eating like he should and appeared pain free. After a month or so, the vet declared **Duke** a healthy dog! He was adopted by Kris in Phoenix who totally adores him and reports he is very smart, knows his commands, and is very loving and calm. A great ending for this beautiful big red dog!



15-005 Sofie, a 13-year-old beautiful girl, was surrendered to us by her owners who could not afford to take care of a serious medical issue **Sofie** had. She apparently had a great life with these folks, having helped raise several children, and the owners were very emotional having to part with her. At her vet exam she was initially diagnosed with a urinary tract infection, had a thorough exam, and a senior panel of blood tests. Unfortunately, after just a few days **Sofie** had to be taken to the clinic with a very enlarged bladder which, upon emergency surgery, revealed a large mass.



There really was no other choice than to give **Sofie** the release she deserved from being a good dog all her life. Sweet dreams at the Bridge, dear **Sofie**.

15-006 Charlie was turned over to us by his owner who worked all day and had no outlet to address **Charlie's** severe separation anxiety. **Charlie** was 5, and had lived with his people since he was 9 months old. He was great with dogs and kids but just had issues being left alone. He was also quite the Houdini, escaping a yard contained by a seven-foot fence! Did he go over or squeeze through the gate? Only **Charlie** knows! He was better with anxiety medication, but his owner felt he deserved a better environment with people who were able to spend time with him during the day. We found him to be very rambunctious and felt he needed a very experienced owner and a ton of exercise to take care of his overabundant energy. Luckily, David and Kathi loved meeting him, and David, who is at home all day, will be great at training **Charlie** and giving him exercise. Off he went to his new home in Surprise, and a new life with lots of attention and exercise.



15-007 Lily Bean is a lovely five-year-old dark Golden whose owner was moving and couldn't take her along. She was great with kids, cats, and other dogs, knew her basic commands, and was crate trained! Just the ticket for folks who want a "plug and play" Golden. Other than some minor vetting, **The Bean** was off to her new home with Karen and Terry in Gilbert – they have

renamed her **Paisley**. They sent us an update. *On January 29th, 2015, Arizona Golden Rescue called to say our Golden, age 5, had arrived. Paisley came into our lives the following day. We are thrilled to have her! We have spoiled her already with lots of attention and love... and having a good time doing it. She has been very busy. She plays ball and goes on a walk every day, meeting at least one person or dog along the way. I have taken her to the pet stores for socializing and to pick out her favorite toy which Mom always buys for her. Paisley has a choice which soft bed she wants to sleep in each night, but usually it's next to Mom. She's a little snuggle bug. Many mornings, she has gotten up to get a toy and then comes back to bed and drops it on my face letting me know it's time to get up and play. How can anyone resist that? Within the first 2 weeks she has met 6 other Golden retrievers for play time and even went swimming with them. She loves the pool! She has also walked in the Parada Del Sol Parade. Great Experiences! We feel fortunate that we have Paisley now and are able to give her the love and attention she deserves. Thanks to everyone and the great team in AGR for the thorough process in adopting a Golden. It*

means a lot and is very appreciated and shows your passion for these wonderful dogs. A perfect ending!



15-008 Roma was picked up at the **MCACCS** Westside Shelter and rode well in the car as she looked at the shelter disappearing in the rear window. An absolutely sweet red girl with a shaved coat, she was thought to be between 3 and 5 years old. She was so grateful to be out of the shelter that she just hugged everybody! She only needed to be spayed, which was done while her new parents,

David and Shari, were on the East Coast. They are obviously big Red Sox fans as they have renamed her **Fenway**. Better than "Big Papi"! David has sent us an update. *The new addition to our family, Fenway, is an absolute delight! She is our third rescue Golden and while she looks 95% Golden, the other breed was obviously a non-shedding dog, if there is such a thing. A happy surprise! She is a quick learner, great with people of all ages and at roughly 2 years old is house trained and has never jumped on furniture or chewed on anything other than her toys. Our first rescue Golden was with us from age 1+ and died at 14. Our most recent Golden was adopted at age 1+ and lived to be 13. We've had Fenway with us for nearly two months and we look forward to many happy years together.* Sounds like you are batting 1000, **Fenway!**

15-009 Samantha (Samee) was rushed to an emergency vet after she was brutally assaulted by a Pit Bull belonging to a member of the owner's family. The police had to use mace to break up the fight. The best thing **Samee** had going for her survival was that she was only six months old. The owner could not afford to pay the vet bills, so turned **Samee** over to us. At only six months



old, **Samee** already weighed 69 pounds! She is a Bloodhound/Golden mix and is just adorable. Liz, our Health Care Manager, followed all of **Samee's** medical updates and took her home to Glendale for fostering a couple of weeks after the attack. Guess what? Liz decided she couldn't part with her. Bloodhounds need tons of exercise (as do young Golden), and we are sure that with Liz's pack of four male Golden **Samee** (now named **Reba**) will be getting lots of playtime and stimulation. Here is what Liz had to say. *Reba, formally Samee, is doing well. Happy, healthy and growing bigger by the day. She is a very smart dog – must be the Bloodhound/Golden mix. Since I have four male dogs in the house, I was concerned she would be fearful of them given the experience that brought her in, or that they would not be nice to her. She is totally unafraid, and even if they warn her away (look out, it is a puppy!) she just goes on her merry way to either a different dog or to play with a toy. She does, however, want to eat*

everything: trees, bushes, dog beds and drip systems. Although that has become less lately, she gets to use the giant crate and lots of Nylabones® when I am out until she overcomes her need to chew. You have won the lottery, **Reba!**



15-010 Fiah was one of a litter of 10 puppies produced by a backyard breeder. She came to us with a heartbreaking story. Her owner asked us to take her at only four weeks of age, as **Fiah** was having seizures, and with the other 9 puppies and another dog in the home it was just too much. We immediately took her to one of our vets, who initially was cautiously optimistic about saving her. After a few days of treatment, she appeared to be

doing better, but then her seizures just became uncontrollable. Sadly, despite trying a variety of medications and protocols for this little girl, the vet felt that the Rainbow Bridge was the best place for her to be. Our vet was so distressed that he asked us for permission to do an autopsy (at no cost to **AGR**), which we gave. What he discovered was chilling. The puppy had signs of "shaken baby syndrome." What came to light after further investigation was that the breeder had allowed her young children to take the puppy out of the kennel and play with it unsupervised. The children, of course, did not know that playing with the puppy like it was a doll would harm the puppy. The parent was not watching the children "play," and may, herself, not realized what shaking the puppy could do. Little **Fiah**, you deserved a better life. We are sure you are now cavorting with all the other puppies at the Bridge. Rest well.

15-011 Riley was a handsome blond boy who came into Rescue with his brother, **15-012 Cooper**, when their owner had to travel for work and could no longer afford daycare and boarding for them. At age 4, **Riley** and **Cooper** were good with dogs and kids, and so, as always, we hoped to place them together, as **Riley** had been with **Cooper** all his life. **Riley**



A very handsome pair!

was described as a big cuddler who loves pool time and playing ball with his brother. To **Riley**, swimming really entailed lounging on the raft in the pool, a true Life of Leisure dog. He had obviously been well cared for, as his vet info was all up to date and his owner gave us quite a write-up on both dogs and their habits. David in Phoenix was so excited at the prospect of adopting both dogs that he cancelled an out-of-town trip to get them! Have fun in your new home, **Riley!**

15-012 Cooper was surrendered with his younger Golden brother, **15-011 Riley** due to the long out-of-town business trips confronting his owner. While **Riley** lounged in the pool, **Cooper** was busy racing after balls thrown into the water. He was described as an absolute ball freak who would fetch all day long! If nobody threw the ball for him anymore, he would get it moving himself! These were well cared for dogs – when owners tell you they routinely brushed the dog's teeth, you know they were loved. **Cooper** is now at home in Phoenix with his two best buds, "Dad" David, and **Riley**! We are so glad they are all together, a perfect match!



15-013 Daisy was initially adopted a few months ago, but was returned to us when she showed signs of aggression with dogs she did not know. She was probably not well socialized with dogs in the community when she was young, but rather was raised in a yard with limited outside contact. Since the new owners really wanted a very outgoing and social dog, they regretfully

returned her to us for a chance at a better life where her issues could be managed. **Daisy** is a beautiful 8-year-old red girl, who is good with kids and cats and absolutely adores people. She gets along well with dogs she knows, so we placed her with Kendy and Anthony in Glendale who reported that she was doing great with their resident Golden.

15-014 Charlie came to us as a very handsome 5-year-old blond Golden whose owner had health challenges which made her unable to care for him. Hearing that **Charlie** loved dogs, cats, and kids, we went out to get him. He was just gorgeous, but a bit overweight (which the green bean diet could help). After receiving



the Full Meal Deal at the local vet, **Charlie** happily went off to Gilbert with Jack and Rosie, who renamed him **Shiloh**. Their initial report to us was that his tail hadn't stopped wagging and that they could not be happier! They recently sent another update. *Our love for Golden Retrievers started in Ventura in 1972, where a beautiful Golden Retriever named **Goldy** lived across the street. I mentioned this to a nephew in the early 80s. On Christmas Eve in 1987 there was a knock on the door and we were presented a Golden puppy with a bow around his neck. We enjoyed 12 years before his trip to the Rainbow Bridge. Eighteen months later we*

*found another beautiful Golden puppy and also had him for over 12 years until we lost him. In the fall of 2014, we joined **Arizona Golden Rescue** and on February 24th we were blessed with **Charlie**, now **Shiloh**. We could not have asked for a more precious, loving boy. He fit into his forever home like he had been here for all of his five years of life. His name is **Shiloh**, but he also is known as **Mr. Perfect**! Life is Golden.*



15-017 Zero is a distinguished older gentleman of 10 years with a beautiful "sugar" face. He was surrendered to us by a family who was moving and couldn't take him along. Another great Golden who was friendly with kids, cats, dogs and people, **Zero** was going to be easy to place. We took care of some medical issues that he had with his eyes, ears, and teeth, and he did

show hip dysplasia which is being treated with anti-inflammatory medication. After a brief stay with Debbie, he sauntered off (what else does a senior gentleman do?) with Nancy and Edmund to Carefree. Great new hometown name for a dog like **Zero**. He has a new name to go with his new town – **Joe**. Nancy sent us a wonderful update about him. ***Joe** came into our lives on March 3rd with an ear infection, eye infection and teeth in need of cleaning. Although he was in a state of confusion, he quietly explored the house, the yard and property. Enter Dr. Pullen of **Animal Medical & Surgical Center**. He fixed **Joe's** eyelids, treated the ear infection and cleaned his teeth. **Joe** handled himself with great dignity and no complaining. What a guy. He has settled into our lives beautifully. Even our rescue Lhasa Apso has accepted him with pleasure. We all love this guy and are grateful to have him with us. Our home feels complete once more with a Golden in residence. Happy to hear that all is well, **Joe**!*

15-020 Sawyer is a totally adorable 1-year-old Golden whose original owner discovered that it takes a lot of time and energy to keep a busy young dog out of trouble. However, the owner had taken him to two training classes, and **Sawyer** was very good with young kids, dogs, and cats. He loved to tear up tennis balls.



Sound familiar? His vet records were complete and pretty much up to date, so off he went to Queen Creek to live with Michael and Elizabeth. We are sure he is keeping them quite busy! Liz and Mike had met several **AGR** members at our **Chico's** fundraiser at the end of January. When they got home that day, they applied for membership as well as for adoption. Three weeks later they had their boy! See what can happen if one attends a Meet-and-Greet? Have a wonderful life, **Sawyer**!

Diamonds in the Ruff

By Liz Tataseo and Deb Orwig

Diamonds in the Ruff are dogs on whom *AGR* has had to spend at least \$1,000. In this column in the February issue, we featured **14-061 Sugar**, **14-070 Aengus**, **14-082 Trisara**, **14-086 Buddy**, **14-092 Lucky** and **14-094 Shyla**. We lost **Lucky**. **Sugar**, **Aengus**, **Trisara**, **Buddy** and **Shyla** have all been adopted. **Sugar's** behavior has improved due to persistent and consistent training by her family. **Aengus** has lost some more weight and is happy in his new home. **Trisara's** intestinal issue (an unusual bacterium called *Campylobacter*) has been treated and she has been pronounced 100% healthy. **Shyla** is on fluconazole for valley fever and is being treated topically for skin issues. **Buddy** had his final soft bandage removal on 3/16/15 and was released to full activity with no restrictions on 3/23/15. Dr. Pullen said he is extremely pleased with his progress and results of surgery. Also, **Buddy** had bad ear infections initially and now Dr. Pullen said his ears were very near normal and will need nothing more than just maintenance.



14-100 Layla: \$2,110.07. When she came to us, **Layla's** coat was terrible, so one of the tests we had done was thyroid level. It was quite low, so she is now on daily Soloxine. She initially tested high for creatinine levels so some kidney issues were suspected, but her recheck was OK. **Layla's** biggest problem is major allergies that have affected her paws and ears. To

help her raw paws heal, we had six cold laser treatments done. Medication proved only somewhat helpful, so **Layla** was tested at *Dermatology for Animals* for allergies; she also had a yeast infection for which she was put on Ketoconazole. She was skin-tested for 70 different allergens. From the results, they created a serum that her adopted dad will have to give her weekly by injection for 16 weeks. He has also been instructed to get Cetirizine over the counter and give **Layla** 2 tablets of 10 mg a day. She is now on a fish-based food, too.

15-009 Reba: \$3,343.59. Due to an attack by a Pit Bull, **Reba** suffered extensive puncture wounds on all four limbs. The left front was the deepest and most damaged. All wounds were cleaned and ragged tissue was surgically removed, and the emergency vets were even able to close the largest wounds. **Reba** had two drains in the left front leg alone and three others elsewhere. There was a lot of muscle damage but no tendon/liga-



ment damage. She was in the emergency hospital for 8 days. Fortunately, she is now doing extremely well physically and, amazingly enough, is not afraid of other dogs.

15-010 Fiah: \$4,119.86. An autopsy revealed that this 5-week-old puppy had a necrotic frontal lobe in her brain with no skull fractures. It is suspected that she was shaken so severely that there was neurological damage. Also, strangulation could have caused severe lack of oxygenated blood flow to the brain. Our vets tried many different treatments, but in the end, there was nothing that could be done for **Fiah** except to send her to the Bridge.



15-015 Bella: \$932.76. **Bella** came into Rescue with a corneal ulceration. She had to have a keratectomy, which is the treatment of choice for such ulcers, but the procedure really boosted up her vet bill. She has recovered about 70% at this writing and is spending her time enjoying cool Strawberry with her new family.

15-017 Joe (Zero): \$1,453.92. Ten-year-old **Joe** had lived with entropion (ingrown eyelids) in both eyes all his life – it was amazing that his corneas had not been destroyed by abrasion by the eyelashes. *AGR* had eyelid surgery done on both eyes. He had his teeth cleaned, X-rays of his hips, and was treated with Posatex for bilateral ear infections. The hip X-rays showed severe spinal arthritis which may be causing some stiffness when he tries to get up, but more likely the stiffness results from severe hip dysplasia. **Joe** is now on Rimadyl (anti-inflammatory) and Tramadol (for pain). He is now doing well and is happy and energetic.



Right after her ears were done and all her growths removed, **Sandy** looked like she'd been through a war; she was not a happy camper

15-024 Sandy: \$7,972.26. Due to incredibly bad ear infections, **Sandy** had to have a lateral resection of both ears. Basically, the vertical portion of the ear canal, which is usually L-shaped, was removed – the bend of the “L” had collapsed, so no air was getting into the horizontal part of the canal, making it a prime breeding ground for bacteria and fungi. A new opening was made, leaving just the horizontal portion that

goes into the ear drum, and allowing air to get into the ear canal. This type of surgery is preferred with “bad ears” as it leaves the dog with hearing, whereas ablations usually cause deafness. Dr. Pullen also removed small skin tags on both left and right eyelids, a large sebaceous adenoma (cyst) on her back near her tail, and several other growths, including a black, pedunculate growth on her side below her shoulder area. He sent the latter growth in for biopsy. All growths proved to be benign, fortunately. **Sandy’s** bad teeth were cleaned, but she needed no extractions. X-rays of her hips showed no arthritis; Dr. Pullen said “These hips should last her well for the rest of her life.” **Sandy’s** ear infection was due to a bacterium, *Pseudomonas*, that is antibiotic-resistant, so she had to have a week of daily injections of an expensive special antibiotic, Ceftazidime, which combats it. She also had to have numerous ear bandage changes under anesthesia. Hopefully, by the time you read this, she will be healed and released from her “bondage”.



Despite tolerating her treatments and having to constantly wear a cone and a shirt, Sandy is always smiling and wagging her tail now, so she must feel a lot better

As you can see, in 2015 *AGR* has so far spent over \$18,935 on just these seven dogs, and expenses for at least **Layla**, **Bella** and **Sandy** have not ended. We would greatly appreciate your assistance with any amount of a donation for any of these dogs. Should you make a donation, you will be listed as a Diamond Donor in the August issue of this newsletter. Thanks in advance for your support!

Apparent Exception to Laws of Physics

Scientists are confounded by the discovery that an exception to the laws of physics seems to exist where “Goldens In The Bed” are concerned. For years scientists have discussed the phenomenon whereby the Golden, without visibly increasing in size, expands to fill the bed. Now they are truly puzzled by the discovery that not only do Goldens expand and contract when sharing a bed with humans, much like gas under pressure, but during the afternoon nap, Goldens actually increase in weight. This increase in weight is so substantial as to make it impossible for the Golden who jumped up to share a bed for a rainy afternoon nap to jump down again a few hours later. Worse, this weight gain makes it impossible for the owner to remove the dog from the bed, and if the dog is positioned properly, to remove him/herself from the bed. Golden owners are advised to use extreme caution when napping with Goldens. Not only is this habit forming, but owners may find themselves trapped in bed for hours at a time!

~ Anonymous

. . . *BUT IT’S JUST A DOG* . . .

By Nancy Campbell LVT*
minatoneshoba@ix.netcom.com

If it were my brother, I’d find an allergist to help him with his allergies, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my sister, I’d find the best laser eye surgeon so she could see again, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my mother, I’d hire a staff of oncologists for the cancer that is stealing her away from me, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my father, I’d find the best orthopedic surgeon to enable him to walk again, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my husband, I’d hire every medical professional necessary to put him back together after that terrible accident that almost took him away, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my child, I wouldn’t skimp on dental care, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If it were my best friend, I would go with her to the doctor, every day that she needed me to help her through the worst pains in her life, taking off work if necessary and putting my own needs aside, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

If any member of my family were dying, at that moment I would pull out all the stops and do whatever was in my power to save their life, no matter the cost.
But they tell me, it’s just a dog.

Just a dog.

Just my friend.

Just my family.

Please . . . my dog . . . no matter the cost.

*from *The Guardian*,
the Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Newsletter,
Issue #28, Winter 2002
Reprinted with permission from the author

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



Penny Forsythe



Blossom Guilbault



Checkers Guilbault



Rooter Hall



Fletcher Knight



Sasha McCabe / Dodson



Buddy Padavano



15-005 Sofie



15-010 Fiah

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.

Honeybear Taylor

We regret that no photo was available

Ethelyn Farrar

Beloved mother of AGR Member Beverly Farrar

Rae Feinsilver

Beloved mother of AGR Member Jodi Koblick and Mother-in-Law of Jay Koblick

Estill "Estie" Wilson

Beloved mother of AGR Member Marsha Kleinz and Mother-in-Law of Steve Kleinz

Grief never ends... But it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith... it is the price of LOVE. ~Author Unknown

Goal: Keeping Pets Safe
An Ounce of Prevention is Worth
a Pound of Cure

Be mindful of exposing your furry relatives to substances and other items that may prove harmful to them. Every year thousands of animals are hurt and sometimes seriously injured by poisonous items, many as seemingly innocent as a plant. To help pet owners identify potentially dangerous objects, the **ASPCA** has the following tips. Visit <http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control> for more information.

1) Dogs can eat most foods that humans can eat. However, there are several foods you should NEVER give to dogs, because they are toxic. Toxic foods include ALCOHOL, AVOCADOS, CHIVES, CHOCOLATE (including Baker's, semi-sweet, milk, and dark), COFFEE (grounds, beans, chocolate-covered espresso beans), GARLIC, GRAPES (as few as seven grapes have been reported to cause death in some dogs), HOPS (used in home beer brewing), MACADAMIA NUTS, MOLDY OR SPOILED FOODS, ONIONS (including dried onion flakes, onion powder and onion salt), RAISINS, RHUBARB leaves, TEA (caffeine), SALT, TOMATO LEAVES AND STEMS (green parts) XYLITOL (a sweetener used in gum, candy, baked goods and toothpaste) and YEAST DOUGH. You should not give your dog turkey except in small quantities ("just a taste" is OK). Also, dogs do not produce significant amounts of lactase, the enzyme that breaks down milk sugar (lactose), so limit milk products. In addition, keep salt intake to a minimum (i.e., keep those salty chips and fries to yourself!).

2) Keep all medications out of your dog's reach, preferably in closed cabinets. Pain killers, cold medicines, anti-cancer drugs, antidepressants, vitamins and diet pills are human medications that can be lethal to animals even in small doses.

NEVER give your dog any medication without first consulting your veterinarian. Medications that should NOT BE GIVEN to dogs include aspirin, acetaminophen, and ibuprofen. Aspirin toxicity may cause gastrointestinal problems, respiratory difficulties, neurological problems, bleeding disorders and kidney failure. Ibuprofen also causes bleeding ulcers, and in increasing doses eventually leads to kidney failure that is fatal if not treated early. Symptoms include poor appetite, vomiting, black tarry stools, vomiting blood, abdominal pain, weakness and lethargy. Dogs are less sensitive to acetaminophen than cats are. A 50-pound dog would need to ingest more than seven 500 mg tablets to suffer toxic effects. If you ever suspect that your dog has ingested any amount of these medications (or any other human meds), please contact your family veterinarian or local veterinary emergency facility immediately. To ensure the safety of your dog, give him only medications prescribed by your veterinarian and only in the dosage prescribed.

3) Be aware of the plants you have in your home and yard. Some plants, such as Sago Palm, Oleander and Rhododendron, can be toxic to pets if ingested. Lilies can be especially toxic to cats.

4) Do not allow your pets to have access to the areas in which cleaning agents are being used or stored. Cleaning agents have a variety of properties. Some may only cause mild stomach upset, but others can cause severe burns of the tongue, mouth and stomach.

5) Be careful when using rat and mouse baits. The most common active ingredients found in rat and mouse baits are anticoagulants, which interfere with blood clotting processes. Ingredients of this type include warfarin, brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difacinone and difethialone. Other formulations can contain bromethalin, cholecalciferol, zinc phosphide or strychnine, which are designed to kill rodents by affecting various other critical body systems. Some baits also contain inactive ingredients meant to attract rodents, and these ingredients can sometimes be attractive to pets as well.

6) Always read the label *first* before using flea products on or around your pets. Some flea products for dogs can be deadly if given to cats.

7) Common household items can be lethal to animals. Many liquid potpourri formulations contain ingredients such as essential oils and detergents that could be quite hazardous to pets. Due to the risk for serious illness, pet owners should place potpourri simmer pots and unused liquid in rooms where pets cannot gain access. Also consider using relatively safer alternatives, such as plug-in or solid air fresheners used in out-of-reach locations, not in close proximity to pets with sensitive respiratory tracts such as birds. Other items potentially dangerous to pets include mothballs, pennies, tobacco products, homemade play dough, fabric softener sheets, dishwashing detergent, and batteries.

8) Automotive products such as gasoline, oil and antifreeze should be stored in areas that are inaccessible to your pets: As little as one teaspoon of antifreeze can be deadly to a cat; less than one tablespoon can be lethal to a 20-pound dog.

9) Be sure your pets do not go on lawns or in gardens treated with fertilizers, herbicides or insecticides until these have dried completely. Always store such products in areas that are inaccessible to your pets. If you are uncertain about the usage of any product, contact the manufacturer for clarification before using it.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

We are no longer collecting chip or other salty-snack bags for recycling. The company that was hosting this program has lost its funding; it has been over a year since they had to close the program and they do not anticipate getting more funding.

CareCredit®

Most of us live on a budget; some even live paycheck to paycheck with little in reserve. So, what options do you have if your pet becomes seriously ill or has to have emergency surgery? You surely do not want your pet to die unless he or she is diagnosed to be terminal and nothing can be done to save or prolong the animal's life. If your pet does get into something toxic or develops a serious illness that requires extraordinary veterinary intervention and leaves you with incredibly large bills to pay, consider asking your vet if he/she supports Care Credit®. It is basically a **no-interest** credit card that is somewhat controlled by the specific doctor or veterinarian who participates. The amount that you charge determines how long they will give you to pay off the bill *interest free!* It can be 3, 6, 12 or 18 months. CareCredit® can really help – you won't have to take the entire amount you owe out of your bank account or put it on an interest-bearing credit card. This company's roster of participating vets also includes many specialists, such as canine dentists, canine ophthalmologists and canine oncologists. If you access the CareCredit® website, you can determine if your vet or the specialist you intend to consult is a participating vet. CareCredit® is also available for human medical needs, such as Lasik and vision issues, cosmetic surgery, dentistry, hearing problems, and other specialties. Check out their website and keep it handy – you never know when you might need it: www.carecredit.com/vetmed Several of our members/adopters have taken advantage of CareCredit® and have been very appreciative to know about it. All of **AGR's** main veterinarians offer it.

Online Pet Meds

Online ordering of pet meds can get you expired meds, counterfeiting, incorrect prescriptions, etc. Companies that are legitimate and safe are registered with VIPPS. When you have multiple dogs, it is much cheaper to buy Frontline®, Heartgard® and other prescriptions online, unless your vet is willing to match prices (never hurts to ask). Link for safe online pet med ordering: <http://www.nabp.net/programs/accreditation/vet-vipps/find-a-vet-vipps-online-pharmacy/>

Health Tip: Play Dough

At all costs, keep homemade play dough, the kind made with flour and salt, away from your dog. The salt content is so high that it will cause severe dehydration, which can lead to brain hemorrhage and death if your pet eats it.

Pet Insurance

Pet insurance, like all insurance, is something you pay for but might never use. However, in the event of a catastrophic accident or illness, pet insurance could mean the difference between treating your pet or having it euthanized. Some plans cover all types of medical expenses including annual checkups and vaccinations; others cover only accidents and illnesses. Plan premiums run from \$10 to \$50 per month per pet, annually from \$500 to \$1200 per pet depending on the coverage. Some plans have copays; some have deductibles; some have payout limits. With some, you have to pay up front then apply for reimbursement. With some, pre-approval for treatment is necessary. When considering the purchase of a policy, read the fine print, understand the limitations, and look for exemptions.

Quite a few **AGR** members carry pet insurance. If you are considering purchasing such, please do your homework. Research the various companies available and make the best choice for your personal financial picture and your resident animals. You can get comparative quotes from the top five pet insurance companies by visiting www.trupanionpetinsurance.com. **Pets Best** (www.petsbest.com) and **VPI** (www.petinsurance.com) are two companies that several of our members use.

Before you buy a policy, try to get answers to the following:

- 1) Can I choose my own veterinarian?
- 2) What are the policy's conditions and exclusions?
- 3) What are the waiting periods?
- 4) Are congenital (present at birth) or pre-existing conditions covered?
- 5) Does the company offer multiple-pet discounts on their premiums?
- 6) How long does it take for a claim to be processed?
- 7) Is the company licensed in my state?
- 8) Have any consumer complaints about the company been registered with the state's Department of Insurance?

Note: it may be especially important to consider purchasing health insurance if you have adopted a dog that has come from a shelter or was picked up as a stray by a Good Samaritan. The main reason is that the Rescue has no health history for the dog – its history begins with its rescue, so there is no way to predict what health conditions you may face in the future.



Morbid Obesity

By Deb Orwig

Originally published in the November 2012 issue of *The Golden Paw*

One of our heartaches as rescuers is to have a dog come in that is morbidly obese. Synonyms for “morbid” are “gruesome,” “sickly” and “horrible.” When a dog weighs 1½ to 2 times more than it should, we use all those adjectives. We have all seen morbidly obese humans – have you ever watched *The Biggest Loser* on TV? We all know that being so overweight is not healthy. Morbid obesity will lead to a shorter life and, most likely, a myriad of health problems along the way. You have heard people blame their weight on their metabolism. Yes, a slow metabolism, such as one that might be caused by hypothyroidism, can certainly be a factor. But, the bottom line is that people and dogs gain weight because they consume more calories than their bodies burn up.

Unless a dog is a stray and hangs out by the back door of a restaurant where leftovers are tossed within easy reach, the only way a dog is going to weigh more than it should is if his or her providers – i.e., humans – allow it to eat more than it should. Part of the problem comes from the pet food industry. Do you follow the instructions on the bag regarding how much kibble to give your dog? Don't. More often than not, the food manufacturer will indicate quantities that are considerably more than a healthful amount for your dog. Why? Because they want to sell more food.

Our Intake, Placement, and Health Care Teams and Board members have recently had an online discussion about morbid obesity, as four of the dogs we have taken in during just this past quarter have been in this category: three females (**Missy**, **Christy Love**, and **Trisha**) and one male (**Todd**). There have been others in the past, too. We are concerned for the dogs' long-term health. We are concerned because we know these dogs will have a shortened life span. We are concerned about placing these dogs with families and then having them die within a relatively short time. Not good.

Two comments have been particularly apropos... Kathy Blue pointed out, *It is not easy to change one's habits when it comes to spoiling our canine companions. It takes education, understanding and commitment. That's why we spend so much time at home visits educating on proper diet and how to determine an appropriate quality dog food... After taking over Dallas's care (my dad's dog) 18 months ago, and working with Dr. Harbo at Four Legged Friends, I have really had my eyes opened. You can literally spoil your pet into an early grave. There are alternative snacks like dehydrated sweet potato chips, green beans etc. It is not being mean, it is being a good and responsible guardian.* And Judy Petitto said, *I think it goes back to [people] equating food with love. We just need to love them with the right food so we*

can keep them with us as long as possible.

If you have read through *Magic Moments*, you may have noticed that the term “green bean diet” is used when a dog is significantly overweight. What *is* the green bean diet?

Green beans, canned or frozen, will add bulk but no calories to your dog's meal. If your dog is overweight, we recommend substituting an amount of green beans for part of the kibble that is normally used. For example, if you are currently feeding 1½ cups of kibble twice a day and your dog is overweight, cut the kibble to 1 cup and add ½ can of green beans, preferably the no-added-salt variety, with the liquid.

Before starting your dog on a diet, take him or her to your vet for a check-up and weigh the dog. Once the dog has been put on a reduced-calorie regimen, weigh the dog once a month on the same scale to determine the rate of weight loss. The larger the dog, the more it will lose at first; then you will most likely see a decrease or even a plateau in weight loss for a while before the scale registers more loss. During these plateaus, increase the amount of exercise you are giving your dog, and the plateau will not last as long. The ideal weight loss for a large dog is ½ lb to 1 lb a week. So, with **Missy**, for example, who weighed in at 131 pounds, it could easily take over a year for her to lose half her body weight, which she needs to do. If a dog loses weight too fast, there can be complications involving internal organ damage.

How much should your dog weigh? That is a discussion you should have with your vet. A normal-size female Golden Retriever should weigh 50 - 60 pounds, depending on her frame; a normal-size male should weigh 65 - 75 pounds. If you have a Golden mix, the ideal weight range may vary a lot more, depending on what breed or breeds contributed to the mix.

One thing many of us have noticed is that it is a rare Golden who will regulate its own food intake. Given the opportunity to eat at any time (i.e. being “free fed”), a Golden will eat and eat and eat... and gain and gain and gain! If you are free-feeding at your house, please consider changing to a twice-a-day feeding schedule. Leave the food down for no more than 10 minutes. If your dog is used to eating anytime it wants to, it may not eat much at first when changed to a twice-a-day routine. But within a few days to a week, it will be eating its entire meal in just a couple minutes.

Also, no snack in between meals unless it is one or two small treats. Of course dogs like treats, but they don't *need* them. We recommend purchasing small-dog-size treats, even for a Golden. If you buy the large-dog-size biscuits, break them in half or even in fourths and give your dog only one piece.

And remember... If you have a fat dog, *you* aren't getting enough exercise!

Emergency Preparedness

In August 2010, Liz Tataseo represented *AGR* at a conference on *Emergency Preparedness for Animal Safety*. She brought back a 16-page handout containing some excellent information that had been collated from several different agencies including the *American Red Cross* and the *Humane Society of the U.S.* There isn't room in this newsletter to print all of it, so we will put the entire handout up on our website; you can access it there and take what you want from it. I will reprint only a small part here.

In the Phoenix area, we experience "disasters" only rarely – dust storms, flooding, damaging winds and microbursts and, most recently, large hail stones are about it. However, many of our readers live in areas where there are tornadoes, hurricanes, heavy snow, forest fires, mudslides or raging rivers that breach their confines. Regardless of the type of disaster you might experience, as the Scouts say, "Be Prepared!"

Be Prepared with a Disaster Plan

The best way to protect your family from the effects of a disaster is to have a disaster plan. [As] a pet owner, that plan must include your pets. Being prepared can save their lives.

Different disasters require different responses. But whether the disaster is a hurricane or a hazardous spill, you may have to evacuate your home.

In the event of a disaster, if you must evacuate, the most important thing you can do to protect your pets is to evacuate them, too. Leaving pets behind, even if you try to create a safe place for them, is likely to result in their being injured, lost, or worse. So, prepare now for the day when you and your pets may have to leave your home.

1. Have a safe place to take your pets.

Red Cross disaster shelters cannot accept pets because of states' health and safety regulations and other considerations. Service animals who assist people with disabilities are the **only** animals allowed in Red Cross shelters. It may be difficult, if not impossible, to find shelter for your animals in the midst of a disaster, so plan ahead. Do not wait until disaster strikes to do your research.

Contact hotels and motels outside your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets and restrictions on number, size, and species. Ask if "no pet" policies could be waived in an emergency. Keep a list of "pet friendly" places, including phone numbers, with other disaster information and supplies. If you have notice of an impending disaster, call ahead for reservations.

Ask friends, relatives, or others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals. If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if kept together, but be prepared to house them separately.

Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24-hour phone numbers.

Ask local animal shelters if they provide emergency shelter or foster care for pets in a disaster. Animal shelters may be overburdened caring for the animals they already have, as well as those displaced by a disaster, so this should be your last resort.

2. Assemble a portable pet disaster supplies kit. Whether you are away from home for a day or a week, you'll need essential supplies. Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be carried easily (duffle bags, covered trash containers, etc.). Your pet disaster supplies kit should include:

- Medications and medical records, especially of vaccinations (stored in a waterproof container) and a first aid kit.
- Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape.
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.
- Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

3. Know what to do as a disaster approaches. Often, warnings are issued hours, even days, in advance. At the first hint of disaster, act to protect your pets.

- Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pets.
- Check to be sure your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.
- Bring all pets into the house so that you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry.
- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and securely fastened, up-to-date identification. Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area. You can buy temporary tags or put adhesive tape on the back of your pet's ID tag, adding information with an indelible pen.

You may not be home when the evacuation order comes. Find out if a trusted neighbor would be willing to take your pets and meet

you at a prearranged location. This person should be comfortable with your pets, know where your animals are likely to be, know where your pet disaster supplies kit is kept, and have a key to your home. If you use a pet sitting service, they may be available to help, but discuss the possibility well in advance.

Planning and preparation will enable you to evacuate with your pets quickly and safely. But bear in mind that animals react differently under stress. Outside your home and in the car, keep dogs securely leashed. Transport cats in carriers. Don't leave animals unattended anywhere they can run off. The most trustworthy pets may panic, hide, try to escape, or even bite or scratch. And, when you return home, give your pets time to settle back into their routines. Consult your veterinarian if any behavior problems persist.

The following are organizations and resources that you can contact or access to help you plan how to protect your pets.

Local Government Animal Control Maricopa County website: <http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/> Additional educational materials at <http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/Education.aspx>

If you don't have a plan and need information quickly, contact <http://www.maricopa.gov/emerg.mgt/>

Local Animal Shelters: Because most emergency shelters do not admit pets, local animal shelters may be able to offer advice, such as what to do with your pets if you are asked to evacuate your home.

You can search for local shelters on the Pets 911 website <http://www.pets911.com/organizations/organizations.php>

Other resources:

<http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/>

<http://www.avma.org/disaster/>

<http://www.uan.org/>

<http://www.ready.gov/>

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/pdf/petprotect.pdf>

<http://vetmedicine.about.com/od/veterinaryqa/f/FirstAidKits.htm>

<http://www.fda.gov/cvm/disaster.htm>

In emergency situations, pets could be poisoned by exposure to harmful chemicals, products, or foods. For information on protecting your pets, visit the **Animal Poison Control Center's** website: <http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/poison-control/> If you suspect that your pet has been poisoned, call toll-free 1-888-426-4435 (calls are answered 24/7; credit card needed for consultation fee).



If you are physically unable to exercise your dog(s), consider asking a family member or friend who can.

Pet First-aid Kit

Creating a pet first-aid kit is a smart idea that will prepare you to act quickly in case of emergency. Put everything related to your pet's health issues in an easily-accessible bag. A clear plastic tote is ideal, as that will allow you to readily find whatever you need, and you can place a card with emergency numbers on the inside facing out so they are easily read. On your Emergency Numbers card, be sure to include:

- Phone number of your veterinarian
- National Animal Poison Control Center – open 24/7/365; charges a consultation fee 1-900-680-0000
- Closest Veterinary Emergency Animal Hospital phone number and address

Include a folder with copies of all your pet's medical records. These records will be most important if you have to take your pet to an Emergency Animal Hospital or to a veterinarian who is not your regular vet; for example, if you have need of a vet while on a trip out of your home area. If you leave your pet home with a pet sitter, leave copies of these records, as well as a letter signed by you giving the pet sitter permission to have your pet treated by a vet.

A very handy item is a book on pet health care; there are several good ones available. Be sure to read it before you have to use it!

Keep a list of substances which might be found in and around your home that are toxic to pets. Such a list is available under the Education tab on our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org and in this newsletter.

Carry a blanket or large towel in your vehicle. These can be used to wrap a cold animal or to carry an animal that is injured or bleeding.

First-Aid Kit contents should include:

- Tweezers
- Dog nail trimmer
- Styptic powder – to stop bleeding if you cut a nail too short
- Scissors
- Bandages and gauze
- Betadine sponges – for cleaning cuts and wounds
- Eyedropper
- Peroxide – use to induce vomiting upon ingestion of non-food object or if pet eats something toxic; can also be used for cleaning wounds
- Rubber gloves
- Saline solution – regular human contact lens saline solution can be used to flush out dirt, sand, or other eye irritants
- Sterile Vaseline – applied around eyes, will prevent soap and water from getting into pet's eyes while bathing pet
- Sterile telfa pads (non-stick) to put on a wound before applying bandage
- Triple antibiotic ointment

After applying what first-aid you can, be sure to seek veterinary care as soon as possible to assure the best outcome for your pet.

Over-The-Counter Drugs

Many of us use over-the-counter drugs to help our dogs when they become sick or uncomfortable. Numerous over-the-counter medications and supplements are safe to use with our pets. The following chart includes a lot of “safe” drugs and the dosages that are weight-appropriate. Adult Golden Retrievers can receive the recommended adult human dose of many of the medications in the following list. We do not encourage anyone to self-medicate an animal without your veterinarian’s knowledge. **Please always check dosage with your vet.**

This list is not exhaustive, but it does contain many of the more commonly used substances. The information in this chart was compiled in 2007 by Deb Rising, then a veterinary technician and always a friend of Golden. She has given us permission to reprint it. Since eight years have elapsed since Deb produced this chart, I asked Dr. Valerie Ferguson, owner of **Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital** (3131 E. Thunderbird Rd, Phoenix) to review it for accuracy and make any necessary updates. She said the information was great but added Pepcid, an antacid, and Zyrtec, an antihistamine. Before using any of these over-the-counter preparations, please always check with your veterinarian to determine if their use is warranted and safe for *your* dog. Our thanks to both Deb Rising and Dr. Ferguson for this information!

Name of Drug	Description	Dosages	Additional Info
Activated charcoal suspension (also known as micronized charcoal)	Absorbs toxins; used to treat ingestion of poisons	3 to 6 ml per pound given orally; repeat dose in 1 hour (5 ml equals 1 tsp)	
Aspirin (baby) or Bufferin (Ascriptin)	Pain reliever	5 to 12 mg per pound given orally every 8 to 12 hours	Never use in conjunction with cortisone (steroids) or if a bleeding disorder is present; should not be used post-surgically due to anticlotting effects; long-term use can lead to gastric irritation, ulceration, and bleeding
Benedryl	Antihistamine	1 to 2 mg per pound given orally every 6 to 8 hours	
Beta-carotene	A precursor to Vitamin A; it is converted to Vitamin A by the dog’s body and is not toxic, so it can be given safely in place of Vitamin A, which can be toxic in high doses	A 20-lb dog can be given daily a dose of beta-carotene equivalent to 10,000 IU of Vitamin A for <i>short-term use</i> ; a 20-lb dog can be given daily a dose of beta-carotene equivalent to 1,000 IU of Vitamin A. Never exceed the recommended adult human dosage.	
Chlorpheniramine	Antihistamine	A 20-lb dog can be given 2 mg orally every 8 to 12 hours; at no time should the dose exceed 12 mg	A good brand name to look for is Chlor-Trimeton
Chondroitin sulfate	A naturally-occurring compound made up of a combination of protein and carbohydrates; protects joints and can be used to treat arthritis	A 50-lb dog can be given 1,000 mg daily	Often used in combination with glucosamine sulfate; if using both, give your dog half doses of each
Cod liver oil	Used to treat corneal ulcers and/or erosions	1 drop in affected eye daily	Before treating, check with your vet; corneal ulcers and erosions can be quite dangerous, so it is best to use this treatment with veterinary supervision
Colloidal silver	A suspension of tiny silver particles in water	For topical use on burns and wounds; use as a flushing preparation 3 times a day	Sometimes used in valley fever treatments
Cranberry	Herb used to treat urinary-tract problems	A 20-lb dog can be given ¼ of the recommended adult human dose	Best used in tablet form

Name of Drug	Description	Dosages	Additional Info
Dandelion	Herb with diuretic properties used to help reduce pulmonary congestion	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ the recommended adult human dose	Best used in tablet form
Dimethylglycine	Vitamin-like supplement that can be used as an immune stimulant	A dog under 25 lbs can get 50 mg; between 26-50 lbs, can get 100 mg; between 51-90 lbs, can get 150 mg; over 90 lbs, can get 200 mg	Because different companies use different concentrations of dimethylglycine in their solutions, you must check the concentration of milligrams per milliliter listed on the bottle and calculate the number of milliliters to give your dog
Echinacea	Herb used to promote healing of wounds and improve immune system	A 20-lb dog should be given $\frac{1}{8}$ of the recommended adult human dose; use for 10-day intervals separated by a 7-day rest; stop use after three 10-day trials	Obtain organic freeze-dried sources when possible
Flaxseed oil	Herbal oil that encourages healthy skin and a full hair coat; a natural anti-inflammatory agent and immune modulator	A 20-lb dog can be given the equivalent of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the recommended adult human dose; Golden retrievers can receive the recommended adult human dose	Keep refrigerated so that the oil does not become rancid; purchase a human-grade, organic, cold-pressed form of the oil
Gatorade	Sugar and electrolyte drink; can be used to prevent dehydration when treating repetitive vomiting and diarrhea	Put $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in bowl in place of water; when dog empties bowl, wait 20 minutes, then place another $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in bowl; repeat until vomiting subsides	
Glucosamine sulfate	A naturally-occurring compound made up of a combination of protein and carbohydrates; protects joints and can be used to treat arthritis	A 50-lb dog can be given 1,000 mg daily. Golden retrievers with hip dysplasia can get a minimum of 1,500 mg daily	Often used in combination with chondroitin sulfate; if using both, give the dog half-doses of each
Iodine	Mineral that prevents goiter (enlargement of the thyroid gland)	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{8}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Give in the form of kelp tablets
Kaopectate	Absorbent used to treat diarrhea and vomiting	0.5 to 1.0 ml per pound given orally every 2 to 6 hours	
Lactobacillus	The "good" bacteria naturally present in the intestines of healthy animals that controls the "bad" bacteria and yeast; synthesizes B vitamins and provides the cells of the intestinal lining with fatty acids	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose	When purchasing, opt for high-quality brand-name products that are stored in refrigerated areas of the store in order to ensure that the viability of the live bacteria is maintained
Lecithin	A fat found in animal and plant tissue; used to help strengthen the sphincter muscle of the bladder; also aids in promoting mental alertness in old animals	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult dose of soy lecithin oil daily	Buy fresh bottles of lecithin sold in refrigerated areas; it is important to keep it refrigerated to avoid it getting rancid
Licorice root	Herb that acts as a natural cortisone; helpful in reducing throat swelling and inflammation of stomach	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{8}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Do not use for longer than 10 days

Name of Drug	Description	Dosages	Additional Info
Metamucil (psyllium husks, not seed)	Natural source of fiber that acts as a bulk cathartic and prevents and treats constipation	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose	It is very important to increase your pet's water consumption when supplying psyllium; if no bowel movement is produced in 48 hours, see your veterinarian
Milk Thistle	Herb that contains antioxidants important for maintaining a healthy liver	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Used to protect the liver when dog is taking fluconazole for valley fever or other drugs that affect liver health
Parsley	Diuretic herb that can help reduce pulmonary congestion	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Best to get in tablet form
Pedialyte	Pediatric electrolyte solution that can help to treat eclampsia and vomiting	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{2}$ the recommended children's dose	
Pepcid	Antacid; stomach-soothing agent	10 mg twice a day for a dog 40 lbs or less; 20 mg twice a day for dog over 45 lbs	
Pepto-Bismol	Antidiarrheal agent that also soothes the stomach	0.5 to 1.5 ml per pound given orally every 2 to 6 hours for short-term use (1 or 2 days)	Use only for 1 or 2 days; if symptoms continue, seek veterinarian's advice; it may cause the dog's stool to turn black, which is often confused with blood in the stool
Plant-derived digestive-enzyme supplements	A source of enzymes that helps the body to digest its food	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose; dose should be sprinkled over lightly-dampened food 10 minutes before it is served	Buy a brand name for humans unless a pet supplement is available; the supplement should contain amylase, protease, lipase and cellulose
Proteolytic enzyme supplement	A specific type of digestive enzyme supplement that contains only protease	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{2}$ the recommended adult human dose	For most effective results, give apart from meals; bromelain or papain tablets are recommended
Robitussin DM	Cough suppressant	0.25 to 1 ml per pound given orally every 6 to 8 hours	Because it merely subdues symptoms and makes the animal more comfortable, do not use for more than 4 days without a veterinarian's advice; you could be covering up a more serious problem
Selenium	Mineral used for protecting the immune system; helpful for maintaining healthy heart, joints, and muscles	A 20-lb dog can be given no more than 30 mcg daily without a veterinarian's recommendation	Because it is toxic in high doses, be sure that you are not also providing selenium with any other supplements (or <i>only</i> give in a combination tablet)
Shark cartilage	Natural anti-inflammatory for arthritis treatment	A 40-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{3}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Available in tablet or powder form
Sulfur	Mineral required for synthesis of body proteins; can also act as an antioxidant	500 mg in the form of methylsulfonyl methane (MSM) per 30 pound daily	Purchase in form of methylsulfonyl methane
Trace mineral supplements	Essential minerals that keep the body functioning properly	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{4}$ of the recommended adult human dose	Best form to purchase is chelated trace mineral tablets that contain as many as 74 different trace minerals
Valerian	Herb used for its sedative properties; reduces anxiety and helps to treat muscle spasms	A 20-lb dog can be given $\frac{1}{8}$ of the recommended adult human dose	If this dose does not produce acceptable results, double the dose and evaluate the effect; valerian has a bad taste, so mix it with your dog's food to mask the taste

Name of Drug	Description	Dosages	Additional Info
Vitamin B complex	Vitamin that helps to maintain healthy nerves, skin, eyes, hair, liver and mouth	Goldens can use the recommended adult human dose	
Vitamin C	Vitamin used for strengthening the immune system; also, an anti-allergic, anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial, anti-viral and detoxicant agent	500 mg per 20 pounds daily; reduce the dose if a soft stool develops	Best purchased in calcium ascorbate or sodium ascorbate forms rather than acetic acid form, which can upset the stomach; try to obtain a brand that includes bioflavonoids
Vitamin E	Essential antioxidant vitamin used for strengthening the immune system	A 20-lb dog can be given 200 IU daily when treating a health problem	Because it is a fat-soluble substance that accumulates in the body, it can become toxic in high doses
Zinc	Essential mineral used for tissue repair and healing, proper immune-system functioning, and healthy skin and coat	A 20-lb dog can be given 10 mg daily; dogs under 20 lbs can be given 5 mg daily; dogs 40 lbs or over can be given 15 to 20 mg daily	Absorbed most efficiently if purchased in its chelated form; potentially toxic in high doses, so be sure you are not supplying in any other supplements; take with a copper supplement, because it may interfere with absorption of naturally-occurring copper
Zyrtec	Antihistamine	0.5 to 1.0 mg/kg once a day; a 20-lb dog can be given ½ to one 10 mg tablet once a day	Sometimes effective when Benadryl is not

CAUTION: Do not ever give Tylenol (acetaminophen) or ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) to a dog without advice from your veterinarian. Administering such medications to dogs can create very dangerous and even life-threatening complications.

Abbreviations used in table

- kg – kilogram
- lb – pound
- lbs – pounds
- mg – milligram
- ml – milliliter

Conversions

- 1 pound = 2.2 kilograms
- 1 tsp = 5 ml
- 3 tsp = 1 Tbsp
- 4 Tbsp = ¼ cup

*Does Your Dog Have Bare Elbows?
Try These Tips*

- Use fresh Aloe Vera, Bag Balm ointment, or Tree Tea Oil on the site
- Use Neosporin ointment and a padded shirt to protect the areas; be sure the shirt has been washed and is free of bleach, laundry detergent and fabric softeners
- Keep your pet off concrete – your dog may have an allergy to something in it, or the concrete may just have rubbed the fur off, as it is very abrasive
- Ask your vet to do a scraping of the elbow and look at it with a microscope to see if there are any embedded foreign bodies
- Consult a Dermatologist – it will save you money in the long run

- Change dog food to a no-grain variety, and do not use Science Diet prescription food as it is full of grains
- Sometimes allergies develop in older dogs
- Be sure the dog hasn't been lying in grass sprayed with insecticides or weed killers



*Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love...
they depart to teach us about loss.
A new dog never replaces an old dog;
it merely expands the heart.
If you have loved many dogs,
your heart is very big.*

~ Anonymous

ASPCA'S Top Ten Pet Poisons

AGR's Home Evaluators are trained to look for things that could be hazardous to a Golden in a potential adoptive home. Some of the things they look for are in this list. If any such item is found where a Golden could get at it, the homeowner is alerted and the situation is discussed. Please check your own homes at least once a year for things that might not have been put away properly in a cabinet or on a high shelf where they cannot be reached by a dog or cat.

Human Medications, the #1 cause of pet poisonings – prescription and over-the-counter drugs such as painkillers, cold medications, antidepressants and dietary supplements. Imodium can mask underlying causes of diarrhea, like parasites. Drugs like Pepto Bismol contain aspirin, which can irritate a dog's digestive tract and cause severe damage to cats. Ibuprofen can cause ulcers and bleeding in the intestinal tract and damage the kidneys; high doses can cause fatal renal failure. Acetaminophen, the key ingredient in Tylenol, is toxic to dogs and cats because the liver enzyme responsible for its breakdown works differently in cats and dogs than it does in people – one dose can kill a cat. Pets often snatch pill vials from counters, kitchen islands and nightstands or gobble up medications accidentally dropped on the floor, so it is essential to keep meds tucked away in hard-to-reach cabinets.

Insecticides – especially misuse of flea and tick products, such as applying the wrong topical treatment to the wrong species. Thus, it is always important to talk to your pet's veterinarian before beginning any flea and tick control program.

People Food – people food like grapes, raisins, avocado and products containing xylitol (sugarless gum) can seriously disable our fur kids. One of the worst offenders, chocolate, contains large amounts of methylxanthines, which, if ingested in significant amounts, can cause vomiting, diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst, urination, hyperactivity, and in severe cases, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors and seizures.

House Plants – many varieties (see list of Toxic Plants on p. 33).

Veterinary Medications – non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, heartworm preventatives, dewormers, antibiotics, vaccines and nutritional supplements can be damaging if misused or improperly dispensed. Keep all pet medications out of reach of your pets.

Rodenticides – many baits used to attract rodents contain inactive ingredients that are attractive to pets as well. Depending on the type of rodenticide, ingestion can lead to potentially life-threatening problems for pets including bleeding, seizures or kidney damage.

Household Cleaners – bleaches, detergents and disinfectants can cause serious gastrointestinal distress and irritation to the respiratory system.

Heavy Metals – lead, zinc and mercury, not music! Lead is espe-

cially pernicious, and pets are exposed to it through many sources, including consumer products, paint chips, linoleum, and lead dust produced when surfaces in older homes are scraped or sanded.

Garden Products – fertilizer exposure can cause severe gastric upset and possibly gastrointestinal obstruction; cocoa mulch smells wonderful (like chocolate) but is especially toxic. Don't use it!

Chemical Hazards – chemicals such as ethylene glycol (anti-freeze), paint thinner, drain cleaners and pool/spa chemicals are a substantial danger to pets. Such chemicals can cause gastrointestinal upset, depression, respiratory difficulties and chemical burns.

*Prevention is really key to avoiding accidental exposure, but if you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, please contact your veterinarian or the **Animal Poison Control Center's 24-hour toll-free hotline at 888-426-4435.***

Items To Avoid For Your Dogs

You name it, and dogs can get into it. Some dogs actually seek out things to chew, eat or destroy. Some of these items are generally nontoxic while other items (including foods) can be highly toxic.

According to a list published online by Dr. Jon, items below marked with superscript numbers are the top ten most toxic items that dogs ingest.

Alcoholic beverages – can cause intoxication, coma, and death

Apple seeds – contain cyanide; remove core if feeding apple pieces as a snack

Baby food – can contain onion powder, which can be toxic to dogs; can also result in nutritional deficiencies if fed in large amounts

Bones from fish, poultry or other meat sources – can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system

Cat food – generally too high in protein and fats for dogs

¹ **Chocolate, coffee, tea and other caffeine-containing products** – contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can be toxic and affect the heart and nervous system

² **Cigarettes and cigarette butts** – nicotine is as bad for your dogs as it is for a smoker; the fibers in the cigarette butts can get impacted in the intestine; see **Tobacco**

Citrus oil extracts – can cause vomiting

¹ **Cocoa bean mulch** – smells enticing like chocolate but is extremely toxic

Fat trimmings – can cause pancreatitis

⁶ **Grapes and raisins** – contain an unknown toxin which can damage the kidneys

Hops – unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate,

elevated temperature, seizures, and death

Human vitamin supplements containing iron – can damage the lining of the digestive system and be toxic to the other organs including the liver and kidneys

Large amounts of liver – can cause Vitamin A toxicity, which affects muscles and bones

Macadamia nuts – contain an unknown toxin which can affect the digestive and nervous systems and muscle

Marijuana – can depress the nervous system, cause vomiting, and cause changes in the heart rate

Milk and other dairy products – some adult dogs and cats do not have sufficient amounts of the enzyme lactase, which breaks down the lactose in milk; this can result in diarrhea; lactose-free milk products are available for pets

Moldy or spoiled food, garbage – can contain multiple toxins causing vomiting and diarrhea, and can also affect internal organs

³ **Mushrooms** – can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death

Onions and garlic (raw, cooked or powder) – contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia; cats are more susceptible than dogs; garlic is less toxic than onions

⁴ **Paint balls** – paint type is toxic

⁹ **Pennies** – copper is toxic to dogs; can get caught in throat

Persimmons – seeds can cause intestinal obstruction and enteritis

Pits from peaches, plums and apricots – can cause obstruction of the digestive tract

Potato, rhubarb and tomato leaves; potato and tomato stems – contain oxalates, which can affect the digestive, nervous, and urinary systems

⁵ **Potpourri** – often has some toxic plant materials mixed in

Raw eggs – contain an enzyme called avidin, which decreases the absorption of biotin (a B vitamin); this can lead to skin and hair coat problems; raw eggs may also contain *Salmonella* bacteria

Raw fish – can result in a thiamine (a B vitamin) deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death; more common if raw fish, especially salmon, is fed regularly

Salt – if eaten in large quantities it may lead to electrolyte imbalances

⁷ **Slug bait** – extremely toxic to dogs

¹⁰ **String, yarn, ribbon, cassette tape and other similar items** – can get caught in throat or become trapped in the digestive system and require surgery for removal; called a “string foreign body”

Sugary foods – can lead to obesity, dental problems and possibly diabetes mellitus

Table scraps (in large amounts) – table scraps are not nutritionally balanced; they should never be more than 10% of the diet; fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed

Tobacco – contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems; can result in rapid heart beat, collapse, coma and death; if you smoke, keep your cigarettes put away

Yeast dough – can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines

⁸ **Xylitol** – a sweetener used in some chewing gums and candies; highly toxic to dogs

If your dog eats something and you have any doubt about whether it is dangerous or toxic, always call your veterinarian or local emergency clinic.

Are Your Dog's Bowls Toxic?

Do you eat off the same plate or out of the same bowl or drink out of the same glass every day without washing those items between uses? Of course not! Do you wash your dog's food and water bowls after every use or at least once a day? If not, why not? Bacteria can grow on minute food particles left in the bowls; mold can grow in water bowls not washed frequently. Washing the bowls will avoid transmission of bacteria, especially *Salmonella*, to pets or people. To keep your dog – and yourself – safe, please wash your dog's bowls every day either by hand with antibacterial soap or in your dishwasher.

Ear Infection Protection

Mix equal parts white vinegar and vodka and put in a dropper bottle. Be sure your dog's ears are free of infection before using this preparation. Once no infection is present, put a couple of drops in each ear twice a week. The acidity of the mixture will prevent the growth of yeast and bacteria. Drops are especially important after the dog has been swimming.

Treating Lick Granulomas

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

Toxic Plants

There are many common foods, plants and flowers that can be very toxic to your dog. Below is a list of the most common types. An * indicates that a substance is especially dangerous and can be fatal. Confirm that you do not keep any of these plants in house or yard.

Almonds*	Hydrangea*
Amaryllis bulb*	Holly berries
Apricot*	Iris corms
Autumn crocus*	Jack-in-the-pulpit*
Avocado (leaves, seeds, stem, skin)*	Jimson weed*
Azalea (entire rhododendron family)	Kalanchoe*
Begonia*	Lantana*
Bird of Paradise	Larkspur
Bittersweet	Lily (bulbs of most species)
Bleeding Heart*	Lily-of-the-Valley
Boxwood	Lupine species
Bracken fern	Marijuana or hemp*
Buckeye	Milkweed*
Buttercup	Mistletoe berries*
Caladium*	Monkshood*
Calla Lily*	Morning Glory*
Castor bean* (can be fatal if chewed)	Mountain Laurel
Cherry	Narcissus (Daffodil)
Chinese sacred or heavenly bamboo*	Oak* (remove bark for use as a bird perch)
Chokecherry (unripe berries)*	Oleander*
Chrysanthemum (a natural source of pyrethrins)	Onions*
Clematis	Peaches*
Crocus bulb	Pencil cactus plant* (Euphorbia species)
Croton	Philodendron (all species)
Cyclamen bulb	Poinsettia
Daffodil (Narcissus)	Potato (leaves and stem)
Delphinium	Rhubarb leaves*
Dumb cane (Dieffenbachia)*	Rosary Pea* (can be fatal if chewed)
Elderberry (unripe berries)	Schefflera
English ivy	Shamrock (Oxalis species)*
Fig (Ficus)	Spurge (Euphorbia species)*
Four-O'clocks	Tomatoes (leaves and stems)
Foxglove (Digitalis)	Umbrella Plant (Schefflera)
Garlic*	Yew*
Hyacinth bulbs	

Diabetes in Dogs

Diabetes mellitus is a disease of the pancreas. It is the failure of the pancreatic beta-cells to regulate glucose (blood sugar), which is a vital substance that provides energy and must work inside the cells. Insulin allows glucose to leave the bloodstream and pass inside the cells. Without an adequate amount of insulin, glucose is unable to penetrate the cells. Left untreated, diabetes causes glucose to accumulate in the blood, which can be fatal. Though many diabetic dogs lose a dramatic amount of weight prior to a diagnosis, some become more bloated, which is hard to notice if the dog is overweight already. Fatigue is another warning sign; thirst and constant urinating are also symptoms. Sight loss is a side effect of canine diabetes. Urine and blood tests can confirm the diagnosis of diabetes. Routine is a priority in keeping diabetes in check, since feeding meals and administering insulin must be done every 12 hours. If you feel your dog may be showing signs of the disease, check with your veterinarian right away. The earlier diabetes is identified, the faster you may be able to bring it under control. Canine diabetes is a real and serious disease. But, if treated properly, diabetic dogs can live a happy, normal life. For more information on canine diabetes, visit <http://www.caninediabetes.org>

Homemade Liverwurst Pill Pockets

These "pill pocket" treats are really simple to make. When it's time for your dog to take his medicine, simply take a "dough" ball and hide the pill in the center. Then offer it to your dog like a treat.

3/4 cup plain shredded rice cereal
3 ounces Liverwurst (room temperature)
2 ounces cream cheese (room temperature)

Place shredded wheat in a bag and crush using a rolling pin. Mix liverwurst and cream cheese together until smooth. Mix with shredded wheat. Roll into small balls the size of gum drops. Store in the refrigerator in a resealable plastic bag or container. Will last 7 to 10 days.



How Often To Bathe a Dog?

That all depends on your pet. Factors include: his hair coat and hair length, how often he gets dirty, where he lives (if he is indoors or outdoors most of the time), his shedding cycle, and any underlying skin problem. Some dogs need baths only a couple of times a year, while others need weekly grooming. It is beneficial to brush your dog about twice a week. Bathing your dog every month or two is not unreasonable, but some dogs, especially outdoor dogs, will need more frequent cleanings. A good rule of thumb is to bathe your pet when his coat gets dirty or begins to smell "doggy."

The Importance of Exercise

By Peter Wong



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

overweight? Does the owner consume a poor diet or just not exercise due to plain laziness? For the sake of your dog's health, please make every effort to set up a daily routine in which your



dog is exercised twice daily. Walk or run, or better yet, use a bicycle in which the dog is running alongside with the leash attached to the handle bar. Thirty or more minutes twice daily would be excellent. Of course, don't do too much at first – take time to increase the duration and distance.

My dog **Billie** looks forward to our daily exercise sessions. The sessions average up to 2 hours daily. They satisfy her need for exercise. She is not an idle dog, and she would not be happy sitting around with nothing to do – this would be no life for her. She is a high-drive dog that must be active: daily exercise and daily training are what make her happy. Start today to better your dog's health. Exercising with your dog will, in the long run, develop a deep bond between the two of you. Start now!



The Green Bean Diet

When **14-033 Dolly** came into Rescue a year ago, she was a little over 8 years old and weighed 113.6 pounds. She was so overweight she had a lot of difficulty getting up off the floor and could barely waddle! She was started on the "green bean diet" right away. This is not a meal plan where you just add green beans to the kibble. You have to reduce the amount of kibble you would normally use by half and add green beans (canned with no salt added, frozen, or fresh are best). The green beans add filler but no calories. If your dog will not eat green beans, try broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini and/or yellow squash. The ideal weight loss should be 1-2 pounds per week. **Dolly** now weighs a svelte 78 pounds! She gallops out to get the newspaper every morning and can chase the rest of the Orwig pack around the back yard! **14-034 Jaxx** has had similar weight-loss success, and **12-108 Mia** lost 55 pounds on the green bean diet! Way to go, **Dolly, Jaxx** and **Mia**! You will all live longer, healthier lives!

Squeaky Toys

The excitement your dog feels when he plays with a squeaky toy is instinctual. It goes back to a time when dogs had to hunt and kill prey to survive. The squeaky noises of prey animals would help dogs locate their prey, and the noises the prey animals made during the kill were very satisfying to a hungry dog. "Hunting" a squeaky toy gives your dog the same type of satisfaction. And the more the toy squeaks, the more excited your dog becomes. That's why so many dogs will try to "kill" the toy by destroying it and pulling out the squeaker. When you purchase a squeaky toy for your pet, be sure to put safety first. Finding the right squeaky toy can be hard work. First, examine the toy and confirm that it does not have a lot of pieces that can be chewed off and swallowed. Next, look for features (eyes, nose, etc.) that are embroidered onto the toy, not attached. Check the seams and fabric to determine how easily your dog might chew through them. Swallowing squeakers or stuffing can be life-threatening and can happen very quickly. For this reason, it is very important to always supervise your dog's play.

From Dr. Jon's petplace.com column on 10-5-12.

Health Tip: Play with Your Dog!

Scientists have found that animals' varied and unpredictable play behavior activates different parts of the brain. Canines apparently use behaviors from a lot of different contexts – predation, aggression, reproduction – the developing brain gets all sorts of stimulation. Neuropsychologist Stephen Siviy determined that play affects the brain's level of a protein associated with the growth of nerve cells, possibly enhancing creativity. *Play just lights everything up!* So, play with your dog, and stimulate his brain power!

21 Symptoms You Should Never Ignore in Your Dog

Submitted by Shelly Culver, Vet Tech at Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital
reprinted with permission

There are serious symptoms that should never be ignored in your dog. A symptom is defined as "any problem that can indicate an underlying disease" and may be the first clue to the presence of a life-threatening problem in your dog. Here is a list of 21 symptoms that should never be ignored if you see them from your dog.

1. Pacing and Restlessness. In dogs, pacing and restlessness can indicate pain, discomfort and distress. Restlessness can be associated with a condition called "bloat" (gastric torsion), which is a serious condition caused by the abnormal dilation and twisting of the stomach. Bloat commonly occurs in large breed and deep-chested dogs.

2. Unproductive Retching. Dogs attempting to vomit but being unable to bring anything up is also a common sign of bloat. Contact your veterinarian immediately.

3. Collapse or Fainting. Acute collapse is a sudden loss of strength causing your dog to fall and be unable to rise. Some dogs that collapse will also lose consciousness – this is called fainting or syncope. Some dogs recover quickly and look essentially normal seconds to minutes after collapsing, while others stay in a collapsed state until helped. All reasons for collapse and fainting are serious and should not be ignored.

4. Not Eating or Loss of Appetite. Anorexia is a term used when an animal loses his appetite and does not want to eat or is unable to eat. There are many causes for "loss of appetite"; it is often the first indication of illness. Regardless of the cause, loss of appetite can have a serious impact on an animal's health if it lasts 24 hours or more. Young dogs 6 months of age or less and toy breeds are particularly prone to the problems brought on by loss of appetite.

5. Weight Loss. Weight loss is a physical condition that results from a negative caloric balance. This usually occurs when the body uses and/or excretes essential nutrients faster than it can consume them. Weight loss is considered clinically important when it exceeds 10% of the normal body weight and is not associated with fluid loss. There are several causes for this, some of which are very serious.

6. Breathing Problems. Respiratory distress, called dyspnea, is labored breathing, difficult breathing and shortness of breath. This can occur any time during the breathing process, during inspiration (breathing in) or expiration (breathing out). When your dog is having trouble breathing, he may not be able to get enough oxygen to his tissues. Additionally, if he has heart failure, he may not be able to pump sufficient amounts of blood to muscles and other organs. Dyspnea is often associated with accumulation of fluid (edema) in the lungs or chest cavity (pleural effusion). Pleural ef-

fusion can lead to shortness of breath and coughing and should be evaluated immediately.

7. Red Eye. A red eye is a non-specific sign of inflammation or infection. It may be seen with several diseases involving parts of the eye, including the external eyelids, third eyelid, conjunctiva, cornea and sclera. It may also occur with inflammation of the structures inside the eye, with glaucoma (high pressure within the eye), or with certain diseases of the orbit (eye socket). Either one or both eyes can become red depending on the cause of the problem. Some of the possible causes can be serious and ultimately cause blindness.

8. Jaundice. Jaundice, also referred to as icterus, describes the yellow color taken on by tissues throughout the body due to elevated levels of bilirubin, a substance that comes from the breakdown of red blood cells. There are several causes for jaundice, and regardless of the cause, jaundice is considered abnormal and serious in dogs.

9. Trouble Urinating. Trouble urinating can include straining to urinate, frequent attempts to urinate, and discomfort when urinating. Discomfort may be demonstrated as crying out during urination, excessive licking at the urogenital areas or turning and looking at the area. There are several underlying causes. Some of the causes if left untreated can result in death in as little as 36 hours.

10. Drinking and Urinating Excessively. These signs are often early signs of disease including kidney failure, diabetes mellitus, thyroid gland problems, and uterine infection (pyometra), as well as other causes. Dogs normally take in 20 to 40 ml per lb of body weight a day (237 ml = 1 cup). If you determine your dog is drinking excessively, make an appointment with your veterinarian.

11. Fever. A fever is defined as an abnormally high body temperature resulting from internal controls. It is believed that fever is a method of fighting infection. The body resets the temperature control center of the brain to increase the body's temperature in response to an invasion of foreign matter such as bacteria or a virus. Normal body temperature for a dog is 101.5° - 102.5° F. If your pet's temperature is high, call your veterinarian.

12. Seizure. A seizure or convulsion is a sudden firing of nerves in the brain. The severity of a seizure can vary from a far-away look or twitching in one part of the face to your dog falling on his side, barking, gnashing his teeth, urinating, defecating and paddling his limbs. A seizure can last from seconds to minutes. Seizures are a symptom of a neurological disorder – they are not in themselves a disease. They can be caused by several disorders such as epilepsy, trauma, toxins and tumors.

13. **Bruising and Bleeding.** Abnormal bruising and bleeding arise with disorders of hemostasis (clotting). Clotting abnormalities are also called coagulopathies, because they reflect the inability of the blood to coagulate or clot. Bleeding from clotting disturbances may occur in the skin, mucus membranes and various internal organs, tissues or body cavities. The impact of internal bleeding on the individual may be mild to severe depending on the amount of blood lost.

14. **Coughing.** Coughing is a common reflex that clears secretions and foreign matter from the throat, voice box and/or airways, and protects the lungs against aspiration. It affects the respiratory system by hindering the ability to breathe properly. Common causes include obstruction in the windpipe, bronchitis, pneumonia, heartworm disease, lung tumors, kennel cough (*Bordetella bronchiseptica*), valley fever and heart failure. Some of the causes are life threatening and should be evaluated by your vet.

15. **Bloated or Distended Abdomen.** Abdominal distension is an abnormal enlargement of the abdominal cavity. This term is usually reserved for abdominal enlargement due to causes other than simple obesity. One cause is fluid accumulation. Another cause is enlargement of any abdominal organ such as liver, kidneys or spleen. Distension of the stomach with air (bloat), or fluid or distension of the uterus during pregnancy can result in abdominal distension. Pressure from the abdomen pushing in to the chest can make breathing more difficult and pressure in the abdomen may decrease appetite. It is important to recognize abdominal distension; it can be a symptom of a life threatening disease and should be investigated thoroughly.

16. **Bloody Diarrhea.** Blood in feces can appear as “melena” which makes the stool appear black and tarry; this suggests digested blood in the feces. Melena is different from fresh blood in the stool (hematochezia). Bleeding into colon and rectum appears as fresh blood in the stool. Bloody diarrhea should always be evaluated by your veterinarian as soon as possible.

17. **Bloody Urine.** Hematuria is the presence of red blood cells in urine. It may be visible to the naked eye (gross examination) or microscopic. There are several possible causes – some are bacterial infection, stones in the bladder, and cancer.

18. **Bite Wounds.** Bite wounds are the result when two animals engage in a fight or aggressive play. Bite wounds, which may only appear as a small puncture in the skin, can be quite extensive. Once a tooth penetrates the skin, severe damage can occur to the underlying tissues without major skin damage. Some wounds may appear deceptively minor but may have the potential to become life-threatening, depending on the area of the body bitten. All bite wounds should receive veterinary attention.

19. **Bloody Vomit.** Vomited blood can be fresh blood, which is bright red, or partially digested blood, which appears as brown coffee grounds. There are a variety of causes for vomiting blood and the effects on the animal are also variable. Some are subtle

and minor ailments and others are severe and life threatening.

20. **Lethargy and Weakness.** Lethargy is a state of drowsiness, inactivity, or indifference in which there is a delayed response to stimuli such as sound, sight, and touch. Lethargy is a non-specific sign associated with many underlying systemic disorders and should not be ignored if it persists for more than 24 hours.

21. **Pale gums.** Pale gums can indicate blood loss or “shock”. The possible causes of blood loss and shock are life-threatening and should be evaluated immediately.

Please do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian if you observe your dog exhibiting any of these symptoms!

Cancer in Dogs

The statistics are sobering – 1 in every 3 dogs will suffer from cancer. This makes cancer the #1 killer of dogs over 2 years of age. Cancer does not have to be a death sentence, though. Statistics show that 50% of all dogs with cancer will die from the disease, **but the other half will live!**

When certain canine cancers are discovered early, the probability of a positive outcome is much higher. Routine veterinary care and wellness screenings are the best way to detect these kinds of problems early on, so **make sure that your dog is seen by his/her vet on a regular basis.**

Here are the *American Veterinary Medical Association's* top 10 signs of cancer in small animals:

1. Abnormal swellings that persist or continue to grow
2. Sores that do not heal
3. Weight loss
4. Loss of appetite
5. Bleeding or discharge from any body opening
6. Offensive odor
7. Difficulty eating or swallowing
8. Hesitation to exercise or loss of stamina
9. Persistent lameness or stiffness
10. Difficulty breathing, urinating or defecating

Dog Training Tip

The most important aspect of dog training is to **do** it. The two most important concepts of dog training are **consistency** and **persistence**. Use one-word commands (sit, stay, down, off, come, etc.). You can even use nonsense words, as long as you use the same word to mean the same thing every time. A healthy dog is a happy dog, and so is a well-trained one, which makes for a happy owner, too!

Vasculitis and Uveitis

By Liz Tataseo



Meet **Gonzo**, my medically needy Golden. I call him that because during his 12 years of life he has made many visits to the vet for small and large “incidents” for treatment. Torn dew claws, stomach surgery for chicken carcass removal (don’t ask), immune-mediated myositis (a painful auto-immune disease that prevented him from opening his

jaws), lymph node aspirations and thrombocytopenia (low platelet count). So, when I saw the small open sores on his inner ear flaps, it wasn’t a big deal especially since his one-year-old fur brother continued to “help” by licking them when he could, which *didn’t* help. They went away with cleaning and medication but came back along with some crusty, yellow crud around his ear tips.

Off to the vet for antibiotics, a fungal test and blood work. His blood work was great. The sores went away but not the crusty stuff – now the tip of his ear had black crusty stuff. We went back to the vet for a referral to a dermatologist. Dr. Schick at *Dermatology for Animals* in Avondale examined him all over, said this was probably vasculitis but didn’t like the way his eyes looked and had Dr. Norman, an ophthalmologist, give him a quick check. Sure enough, there was something else. We had a full eye exam by Dr. Norman after our dermatology appointment, and she confirmed uveitis in both eyes, an inflammation of the middle layer of the eye. There is actually a form of this disease called “Golden Retriever Uveitis.” Without treatment, blindness can occur. What are these two conditions and what causes them?

Ear margin vasculitis is a condition of ear margins, (tips, edges) where the tiny vessels on the edges of the ears collapse or become inflamed due to an aberrant immune response, and can lead to blood-starved areas, which can lead to necrotic areas (tissue death). If this is not treated, the ear edges can turn black, hard, and leathery. Once this stage has been reached, cracking and bleeding can occur and the ear tips can die and fall off. Vasculitis can also occur in other parts of the body including feet, nail beds and internally.

There can be different reasons why this type of immune response appears:

- Extreme cold can constrict the tiny blood vessels and result in this effect on the edges of natural and cropped ears.
- Reactions to rabies vaccine is believed by some to be a cause of this condition. There are ongoing studies on

this type of vaccine reaction.

- Tick fever
- Valley fever
- Bacterial, viral or fungal infections
- Lupus
- Cancer

There can also be no known cause. **Gonzo** was negative for tick fever and valley fever and is being treated with a drug called Pentoxifylline that helps increase blood flow by making the blood cells more flexible and by opening up capillaries. It was important to have a complete eye exam, because if a dog has uveitis with hemorrhaging of the retina or a blood clotting problem elsewhere, the Pentoxifylline could not be used.

Uveitis is an inflammation of the middle layer of the eye, the layer under the clear cornea and white sclera. This inner area has a rich blood supply and nourishes the retina and also contains the ciliary body which produces the fluid inside the eye. Nontreatment can lead to corneal ulcers, ocular infections, cataracts, retinal detachment, glaucoma and blindness, just to name a few. Uveitis can be caused by most of the reasons listed above for vasculitis but according to research, in 75% of the cases the cause is never determined.

Gonzo has also had cancer screening with abdominal ultrasound, chest X-rays and urine analysis by an internal medicine specialist. All negative. He likely falls into the category of no known cause.

Overt signs of uveitis are squinting and rapid blinking or rubbing of the eyes excessively. Other signs are excessive green or yellow discharge, swelling of the eye or eyelid and a change in color of the iris, especially cloudiness or redness.

Gonzo now gets drops of prednisolone acetate, a corticosteroid, twice a day. In hindsight, I do remember some squinting and blinking but these were not excessive.

These are not uncommon conditions. Your vet normally will examine the eyes and ears of your dog and can detect unusual changes in both. It is important for the dog parent to be on the lookout for changes in a dog’s physical condition. With **Gonzo**, it is always something. I’m very glad I have canine health insurance!

Bloat

By Teri Guilbault

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

The technical name for bloat is “Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus” (“GDV”). Bloating of the stomach is often related to swallowed air (although food and fluid can also be present). It usually happens when there’s an abnormal accumulation of air, fluid, and/or foam in the stomach (“gastric dilatation”). Stress can be a significant contributing factor also. Bloat can occur with or without the stomach twisting. As the stomach swells, it may rotate 90° to 360°, twisting between its attachments at the esophagus and the upper intestine. The twisting stomach traps air, food, and water in the stomach. The bloated stomach obstructs veins in the abdomen, leading to low blood pressure, shock, and damage to internal organs. The combined effect can quickly kill a dog. Be prepared! Know in advance what you would do if your dog bloated. Unfortunately, from the onset of the first symptoms there is very little time to get immediate medical attention. Best rule of thumb for this, and any other medical condition, is: *know your dog and know when it’s not acting right*. Typical symptoms often include some of the following:

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

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

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

- Avoid highly stressful situations or try to minimize stress as much as possible.
- Do not exercise for at least an hour or longer before and especially after eating.
- Discourage rapid eating – if your dog “inhales” his or her food, there are specialized bowls that you can purchase that are compartmentalized to make it harder to consume food as quickly.
- Feed two or three meals a day versus just one.

- Allow access to fresh water at all times except for one hour before or after a meal.
- When switching dog food, do it gradually – over a period of weeks is suggested.
- Do not feed dry food exclusively, but if you do, avoid foods containing fat as one of the first four ingredients, avoid foods that contain citric acid, and select a food that includes rendered meat meal with bone product among the first four ingredients.
- Do not promote rapid or excessive drinking.
- Use of an elevated food bowl has been debated by many well-known veterinarians – some recommend only bowls that are elevated, and some say not to use them.

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

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

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

Hypothyroidism

By Teri Guilbault

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

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

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

If you suspect that your dog may have hypothyroidism, please talk to your veterinarian – he/she is always the best resource for your animal's health. Your vet can run a Total T4 or an FT4, which are recommended blood tests to screen for this disease. As always, your veterinarian will best be able to determine a course of treatment. The initial testing to confirm this disease is normally the biggest expense that you would incur. Thyroid replacement medications such as Soloxine (levothyroxine) are a replacement for the hormone that the thyroid gland normally produces to regulate the body's energy and metabolism, and are not very expensive. Online pet pharmacies or retailers such as *Costco* offer medications at very reasonable prices. Depending on the dosage, costs normally run in the \$10 - \$20 per month area. Regular retesting will ensure that your dog's thyroid level numbers are within normal ranges. Once a dog's thyroid level has been stabilized, then normally testing would occur every 6 to 12 months.

Information for this article was taken from the following sources:

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

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

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

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

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

Avoiding Heat-Related Injuries in Dogs

by Nate Baxter, D.V.M.

reprinted with permission

The best method of treatment for overheating is prevention. Learn to watch your dog, and see the changes in the size of the tongue and how quickly it goes down. Learn your dog's response to different environments. Another very important point: Do not swim your hot dog to cool it and then put in a box or small crate. Evaporation can not take place in a tight space – the box will turn into a sauna and you will cook your dog. Water on her skin causes the blood vessels to constrict, decreasing blood flow to the skin. Hot blood is then shunted back to the dog's core and retains the heat.

Dogs do not lose enough electrolytes through exercise to make a difference, but if the dog gets truly into heat stroke the physiological changes will make them necessary. BUT oral replacement at that point is futile – they need intravenous fluids and electrolytes, and lots of them.

Cooling: For MOST situations all you will need to do is get the dog in a cooler environment, i.e. shade, or in a vehicle with the air conditioning on (drive around so the vehicle does not overheat and the AC is more efficient). Evaporative cooling is the most efficient means of cooling. However, in a muggy environment, the moisture will not evaporate, so cooling does not happen well. I cool with the coldest water I can find and will use ice depending on the situation. The best way is to run water over the dog, so there is always fresh water in contact with the skin. When you immerse a dog in a tub, the water trapped in the hair coat will get warm next to the dog and act as an insulator against the cool water, and cooling stops. If you can run water over the dog and place him in front of a fan, that is the best. Misting the dog with water will only help if you are in a dry environment or in front of a fan. Just getting the dog wet is not the point, you want the water to be cool itself, or to evaporate. **Alcohol** is very effective at cooling due to its rapid evaporation. It should be used when other methods are not working. You should be on your way to the veterinarian before you get to this point. We recommend using rubbing alcohol. Alcohol should be used on the pads and lower feet where there is little more than skin and blood vessels over the bones. Use a little bit and let it evaporate – you can use too much, as some is absorbed through the skin. There are concerns about toxicity, but you have to get the dog's temperature down.

Watching temperature: If you feel your dog is in danger of heat injury, check its temperature and write it down. Keep checking the temp every 3 minutes. I recommend getting a glass rectal thermometer. The digital ones from the drugstore I have found to be very unreliable. Don't forget to shake it down completely each time, sounds silly, but when you are worried about your companion, things tend to get mixed up. This is VERY IMPORTANT: once the temp STARTS to drop, STOP ALL COOLING EFFORTS. The cooling process will continue even though you have stopped. If the temperature starts at 106.5°, and then next time it drops to 105.5°, stop cooling the dog, dry it off, and continue monitoring. You will be amazed how the temperature continues to go down. If you do not stop until the temp is 102°, it will drop way too low [below 101°]. I cannot emphasize this point enough.

When the dog is so overheated that it is panting severely, only let it have a few laps of water. Water in the stomach does not cool the dog, you just need to keep the mouth wet so the panting is more effective. Do not worry about hydration until the temperature has started down. Due to heavy panting, dogs will swallow air mixed with a large amount of water and are at risk for bloat. Once the temp is going down and panting has slowed to more normal

panting, then allow water. The dog will rehydrate itself after its temp is normal. If the dog has a serious problem even though you have gotten the temp normal, get the dog to a vet, as it can still need IV fluids and some medication. Also, a case of heat stroke can induce a case of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (not parvo), with a ton of very bloody diarrhea and a lot of fluid and electrolyte loss. Such cases need aggressive treatment – see a vet immediately.

Ticks

By Teri Guilbault

Although Lyme disease does not occur in Arizona, tick-borne diseases such as tick fever and the uncommon anaplasmosis, which are carried by the common brown dog tick, do. These diseases can make your dog sick with fever, lethargy, and other flu-like symptoms. Fortunately, they are curable if treated with the antibiotic doxycycline. Failure to treat a dog for these diseases can cause death, so it's really important to keep a watchful eye out for ticks.

If you have ticks around your home, you're already probably spraying or using something to get rid of them as they can and do multiply quickly. If you have found ticks on your dog or other animals, it's also a good idea to make sure the animals are tested regularly for tick fever. Using a flea and tick preventative such as Frontline® is really the best remedy, as it kills the fleas and ticks before they can breed and cause a problem.

Ticks can be relatively small or can end up being about the size of a lima bean if they've been feeding off your dog and are fully engorged. They need to be removed and disposed of quickly and safely. The following is a quick and easy guide to help you:

- With fine-tipped tweezers, grab the tick by the head or mouth parts right where they enter the skin. Do not grasp the tick by the body – you do not want to crush the tick and force harmful bacteria to leave the tick and enter your pet's bloodstream.
- Without jerking, pull firmly and steadily directly outward. Do not twist the tick as you are pulling.
- Petroleum jelly, a hot match, or alcohol will NOT cause the tick to 'back out.' In fact, these irritants may cause the tick to deposit more disease-carrying saliva in the wound.
- After removing the tick, place it in a jar of alcohol to kill it. Ticks are NOT killed by flushing them down the toilet.
- Clean the bite wound with a disinfectant. If you want to, apply a small amount of triple antibiotic ointment.
- Wash your hands thoroughly.

Once an embedded tick is manually removed, it is not uncommon for a welt and skin reaction to occur. A little hydrocortisone spray or cream will help alleviate the irritation, but it may take a week or more for full healing. In some cases, the tick bite may leave a permanent scar and a hairless area. This skin irritation is due to a reaction to tick saliva. Do not be worried about the tick head staying in; it rarely happens.

Vaccinations Against Snake Bites

Dogs can be vaccinated against snake bites. The vaccine does not cure the dog if it is bitten. Also, the vaccine does not prevent a bite or prevent a reaction to a bite, it only reduces the intensity of the reaction and slows down the damaging affect of the venom in your dog, thus buying you some time to get your dog to a vet for treatment. Also, treatment for a bite will not be as costly because not as much antivenin will be necessary to counteract the effects of the bite. Dog owners whose property backs up to a preserve or open desert area should seriously consider getting their dog(s) snake-avoidance trained and getting this vaccination. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, or in this case, a few hundred dollars is much better spent on the preventative measures than a few thousand on the cure!

Snake-Avoidance Training

Every year thousands of dogs are bitten by rattlesnakes. We have already had two reports of **AGR** members' dogs getting bitten right in their back yards. Most dogs will survive, but the pain to your dog and the cost to your wallet are immeasurable. Despite the prevalence of rattlesnakes in Arizona, many vets do not carry the antivenin. If they do carry it, it will cost \$600 or more per vial; usually a dog will need two or more vials, and **AMSC** has related to us that one dog they treated required eight vials! And then, of course, you have additional costs for IV fluids, emergency care and the like. It is expensive to treat a snake bite! Much, much less expensive to get your dog trained to avoid rattlesnakes!

Where can you get snake-avoidance training?

Partners Dog Training School, 4640 E Forest Pleasant Place, Cave Creek; cost for a first-time session is \$89 per dog; if you have multiple dogs, the cost would be \$79 for each other dog. If you have snake trained your dog with them before, the cost is \$69 per dog. **480-595-6700** www.snakeproofing.com

ViperVoidance, 43226 N. 7th Ave., New River; \$80 per dog includes 1 retest within 30 days; **480-215-1776** www.vipervoidance.com

Arizona Rattlesnake Avoidance Training, 8181 W. Tangerine Rd. Marana, AZ 85658. Classes are held at Buhke's Pet Resort. Serves Tucson, Marana, Oro Valley, Catalina, Green Valley, Sahuarita, Vail and surrounding areas; private lessons at the kennel are \$65. **520-682-4114** www.arizonarattlesnakeavoidance.com

Desert Wildlife Services, 5405 West Sunset Road in NW Tucson; \$90 per dog with \$10 per dog discount for 3 or more dogs. **520-668-8691** www.desertwildlifeservices.com

Southwest Snake Avoidance Experts, 5405 West Sunset Road, Tucson; serves Tucson, Oro Valley, Green Valley, Marana and Avra Valley; no fees are listed on their website. **520-668-8691** www.snake-avoidance.com

Antibiotics - 5 Things You Should Know

from *The Pet Place* column online by Dr. Patricia Khuly, 2-23-15

Antibiotics are for bacterial infections, and that means they won't work for every kind of infection. For example, colds and flus are caused by viruses and, as such, will NOT respond to antibiotics. Offering them in these cases only exposes a wider range of bacteria to these drugs, thereby increasing the chances for the development of resistant strains of bacteria.

Make sure it's the right antibiotic for your dog's problem. This is crucially important when it comes to treating most bacterial infections. But how to tell? Increasingly, veterinarians are testing the site of infection (ears, urine, skin, airways, wounds, etc.) to see what kinds of bacteria are affecting the area and which antibiotics will kill them best. This test is called a "culture and sensitivity", and it is by far the best way to know that the right antibiotics are being used and that they are being used judiciously.

Antibiotics aren't without their risks to dogs. Historically, both human medical and veterinary professions have been too quick on the draw when it comes to prescribing antibiotics. The misuse of antibiotics can court antibiotic resistance, which can actually exacerbate a patient's illness. As antibiotics are fraught with side effects ranging from mild gastrointestinal upset to deadly autoimmune diseases, it's especially important to take the use of these drugs very seriously and only when absolutely necessary.

Three crucial words: "Take as directed!"

- DON'T skip doses or fail to use the entire course of antibiotics as prescribed. Giving an antibiotic willy nilly or stopping short of the whole course can prove far worse than not using antibiotics at all.
- DON'T start using an antibiotic you happen to have "left over from the last time." This is a really bad idea not only

because of what has already been explained, but also because you should never have any antibiotics ever "left over" to begin with. (That is, unless you have to suddenly stop an antibiotic for a legitimate, doctor-directed reason or your pet dies.)

Not so sure your veterinarian is on board with these by-now well-accepted tenets of appropriate antibiotic use? Get a second opinion. It is never OK to live with uncertainty on this crucial issue. And just in case you're the kind that likes to be more self-reliant than most, consider getting even better educated on the subject. For more detailed reading on what's right and not right in the world of antibiotics in animal health, check out The Bella Moss Foundation. This UK group is dedicated to the responsible use of antibiotics worldwide and its comprehensive website always offers the most practical and up-to-date information on the subject.

AGR's Wonderful Veterinarians

AGR uses four main veterinary facilities for dogs that come into our Rescue. We would not be able to do what we do for all our dogs were it not for the sizable discounts these vets give us. They help in a huge way to help us give our dogs a second chance at a great life. We sincerely thank them for their service and encourage you to use one of them as your regular vet.

Academy West Animal Hospital, 6231 W. Bell Road Glendale, AZ 85308 602-938-8650; M - F 8 AM - 6 PM, Sat 8 AM - 3 PM, closed Sundays; boarding available

Animal Medical & Surgical Center, 17477 N. 82nd St., Scottsdale, AZ 85255 480-502-4400; M - Sat 7 AM - 7 PM; Sun 8 AM - 5 PM; extended emergency hours daily until 11 PM; veterinary nurse on duty 24/7/365; boarding available

Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital, 3131 E. Thunderbird Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85032 602-787-0015; M, W, F 7 AM - 5:30 PM, Tu & Th 8:30 AM - 7 PM, Sat 8 AM - 1 PM, closed Sundays

Kennel Care Veterinary Hospital, 6277 W. Chandler Blvd Chandler, AZ 85226 480-940-0066; M - F 7 AM - 6 PM, Sat 8 AM - 2 PM, closed Sundays; boarding available

The following facilities also will treat our rescued dogs and give **AGR** discounts: **Anthem Pet Medical Center**, **Arizona Pet Resort** (Scottsdale), **Aspen Veterinary Clinic** (Flagstaff), **Companion Pet Clinic** (Gold Canyon), **KC Animal Hospital** (Scottsdale), **New Frontier Animal Medical** (Sierra Vista), **Thumb Butte Animal Hospital** (Prescott), **VCA Animal Medical Center of Tucson**, and **Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson**.

HERE and THERE

Events from January 11, 2015 through March 31, 2015

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



1st Quarter Pacc911 Events

By Deb Orwig

The **Phoenix Animal Care Coalition**, otherwise known as **PACC911**, sponsors numerous “adopt-a-thons” during the year, with most of them occurring during the first and last quarters when the weather is conducive to outdoor events in Arizona. As many as 80 rescue groups may be onsite at one of these events, and the majority of them do on-the-spot adoptions. Money raised by **PACC911** at the events they host goes into their *Emergency Medical Fund (EMF)*. After participating in a minimum of three **PACC911** events, rescue groups may apply for grants from this fund to help with medical expenses. In 2015, we have already been told the maximum amount we can get from the *EMF* is \$1,300, and our grant writer, Jolene Schlichter, has already applied for and received a check for that amount. Although **AGR** does not do on-the-spot adoptions, we appreciate the opportunities **PACC911** offers for us to interact with the public and speak with people who might be looking to adopt a Golden or Golden mix, as well as to sell our merchandise. We also very much appreciate **PACC911**'s financial assistance.

During the first quarter of 2015, **AGR** attended five **PACC911** adopt-a-thons. These were held at **Benedict Sports Complex** in Tempe on January 10th, in the parking lot at the Ahwatukee **PetSmart** on January 24th, at **Anthem Community Park** on February 7th, at **Earnhardt** car dealership in Chandler on February 24th, and at **Highlands Church** in north Scottsdale on March 7th. There was a 6th event scheduled in Fountain Hills at the end of March, but we did not attend that one.

The January 10th event was called “Paws for a Wish.” It was hosted by **The National Canine Cancer Foundation**. It is the only Arizona event to showcase Agility, Lure Coursing, Herding Instinct Testing, AZ Dock Dogs and more, with 100% of net proceeds divided between the **National Canine Cancer Founda-**



tion and **Make-A-Wish AZ**. This was a three-day event but **PACC911**-affiliated rescue groups were there only on Saturday. We had a good booth location opposite the dock diving pool, so we had some great entertainment during the day watching the

dogs jump into the pool. Attending with our group were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Abbie** and their grandchildren; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Caleb** and **Riley**; Cate and Johannes Hedrich with their Golden **Shifty** and **Kodiak**; Michele Meyer



with **Abigail** (photo above); Deb Orwig with **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; and Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**. We sold \$159.55 in merchandise, another \$30 in calendars, and collected \$89 in donations. We also received a new Household Membership for the Hedrichs (photo at left).



The next **PACC911** event was in Ahwatukee on January 24th. We made \$63.02 in merchandise sales, sold 4 calendars for an additional \$40, and collected \$93 in donations



Vicki, Kate, Dana, Gail, Daniel and Terri helped with set-up



Diane and Allan Long with littermates Nessa and Duffy, who had not seen each other for 1½ years

Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Diane and Allan Long with **Nessa** (**Duffy**'s sister); Connie McCabe; Vicki and Daniel Merritt

plus two Household Membership renewals. Several first-time volunteers joined us at this event. Attending were Kate Avery; Terri and Bryan Bowles with **D.O.G.** and **Jake**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Abbie** and Keri Engelhardt with **Aiofe**; Sharon Flores; Carol Gebhardt; Gail and



Eric, Lenna holding Leah, and Annie Walimaa with Sunshine and Daisy

with **Winter**; Leslie and Ted Morris; Deb Orwig with **Dolly** and **Duffy**; Jerry Sheffield; and Eric, Lenna, Annie and Leah Walimaa with **Sunshine** and **Daisy**. Terri has a jewelry business called **South Hill Designs**. She brought a display and offered to donate 20% of any purchases to



Vicki and Daniel Merritt with Winter



Terri and Bryan Bowles with D.O.G. and Jake



Jackie and Dave Engelhardt volunteer with us with Abbie often, but Keri is a flight attendant and usually works on weekends, so we were fortunate that she had the day off and chose to join us with Aiofe

AGR; unfortunately, she did not sell anything, but we thank her for her kind offer anyway. I had left **Mufasa** and **Troy** home together loose in the house. Liz Tataseo graciously went to my house in the middle of the day to let them out. She brought **AGR's** mail



with her and left it in the middle of my kitchen table. In the photos at left is what I found when I got home, and this was

not all – a half loaf of bread was taken off the counter and consumed, as well as a bag full of snack-size Snickers, Milky Way and Reese's Peanut Butter cups (these were eaten wrappers and all). Never, ever has either 5-year-old **Mufasa** or 10-year-old **Troy** done anything like this! The proof of who did it was in **Mufasa's** technicolor poop for the next three days. I had to write to four of our members and ask them to send in a new membership renewal check, as the ones in this pile of mail were too chewed up to deposit. Fortunately, everyone who received the letter had a good sense of humor! But I was not laughing.

On February 7th, we went to the **Anthem Community Center**. It was the first Anthem event we had been able to attend in four years, because in past years the **Parada Del Sol** has been on the



Nick Dodson with Grizzly; Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; Lori Prankevicus holding Mufasa, Duffy, Troy and Dolly; Winnie in the chair, Dana Haywood with Bilbo and Gail Haywood with Riley



Debbie Ball with Shelby

same Saturday – this year it was the following weekend. Anthem is always a good venue, but this year it seemed much busier with much more people traffic and more rescues than we remembered from four years ago. We received \$64 in donations and sold \$163.50 in merchandise. The following members helped out during the day: Debbie Ball with **Shel-**



Mary Jo and John Courtney with granddaughter Kaylee and AGR dog Mary Kate



Connie McCabe and Jane Triplett with Amazing Captain

by; Tony Cotner with

Daisy; Mary Jo and John Courtney with **Mary Kate** and granddaughter Kaylee; Teri Guilbault with **Jackson**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly** and **Winnie**; Mi-



Teri Guilbault with granddaughter Nora and daughter Michelle Miller with son Lucas

chelle, Lucas and Nora Miller; Deb Orwig with **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Lori Prankevicus; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Liz Tataseo. Nick Dodson came to help with set-up and break-



Since we sell merchandise at the PACC911 events, we always get a double booth space; there is never any booth fee

down. Jane Triplett also stopped by with her foster Greyhound Amazing Captain.



Jack Mills, Tony Cotner, Chris Spiel, and Roxie Mills, who has Chris's Jack and Nash

Next, we attended the **PACC911** Adopt-a-Thon at the **Earnhardt** car dealership in Chandler on February 21st. Joining us during the day were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sharon Flores; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Rosie and Jack Mills; Deb Orwig brought **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa**, **Troy** and **Shelby Ball**, too; Karey Rodeffer

came with **Sucy**; and Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**. Dave Engelhardt came to help us set up, left, and then came back later with Jackie, **Abbie** and grandkids. It was a good day, as we sold \$185 in merchandise, another \$20 in calendars and collected \$208 in donations. Rosie and Jack came without a dog and told us they had been waiting for a placement since last October. We counseled them to continue to be patient. They got a dog (**15-014 Charlie**, whom they



Karey Rodeffer with Sucy

have renamed **Shiloh**) just a week later!



At Highlands Church, we had a lovely booth space under some trees and near one of the sidewalks that wind through the grounds

The last **PACC911** event we attended during the first quarter was held at **Highlands Church** on Pinnacle Peak Rd in north Scottsdale. It was a disappointing venue with a lot of rescue groups but rela-

tively light attendance from the public – those of us in the booth spent a lot of time



Jolene Schlichter came without a dog to help

just talking to each other. If this location is used again next year, we probably will not have a booth there.



Lauren Rudin looking at some of the items Connie Wozniak has made for our merchandise inventory

Donations amounted to \$75 with \$63 in merchandise sales. Joining us for

this event were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Jolene Schlichter; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Connie Wozniak. Lauren Rudin also stopped by briefly and took a few photos.



1st Quarter Events: Chico's in Mesa

By Deb Orwig



We had a fantastic day at **Chico's**, Mesa, (1660 S. Val Vista Dr) on January 31st, despite dreary weather! There was a good turnout of



Many who were driving by in the parking lot saw our tent and sizable group of dogs and came over to say hello



Rosie Mills petting Paisley, who was brought by new adopter Karen Malone (left)



James Potocki with Zelda and Marty Mickel

volunteers, one of whom had just gotten a dog from us the day before! Welcome to the group, Karen Malone and **Paisley**! Another new member joined us for a while without a dog – welcome, Marty Mickel! In addition, the following members came to help: Don and Sherry Boonstra with **Eowyn** and **Sedona**; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Abbie**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Johannes and Cate Hedrich; Diane and Jim Henkel with **Bella** and



Sherry and Don Boonstra with Sedona (dark one) and Eowyn

Winston; Mary Hurley and James Potocki with **Zelda**; Rosie and Jack Mills; Deb Orwig with **Duffy** and **Troy**; Judy



Lynn and Bob Krauss used to own the business that does our shirt embroidery; Lynn now works at Chico's



Chico's, Mesa, Assistant Manager Francine Jones with Duffy and Troy

and Karey and Kelley Rodeffer with **Sucy**. We also got two new



Kelley Rodeffer and Judy Petitto with Suey and Sandi Joy

member families as a result of them seeing us at the store – welcome to Liz and Mike Harman and to Deborah Fuller! Liz and Mike went home that day and filled out both a Membership Application and an Adoption Application on our website. They have already adopted a dog from **AGR – 15-020 Sawyer!**

Daisy; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Sheila Joyce with 2-month-old grandson Carson Zable (his first Meet-and-Greet) and **Charlie**; Connie McCabe with **Sammy**; Martha McDowell; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Dolly, Duffy, Mufasa and Troy**; Chris Spiel with **Jack and Nash**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo and Trip**; and Connie Wozniak. We wrapped a total of 9 gifts.



Sheila Joyce's grandson Carson Zable at his first AGR Meet-and-Greet

Turns out we had an even better day at **Chico's** than I had anticipated. In addition to \$293 in donations and \$30 in calendar sales outside the store, plus two Household Memberships for another \$80, we received a check from **Chico's** for \$649, 10% of their sales while we were there! That means that our 4-hour event there brought in \$1052 – fabulous! Our thanks to the staff at **Chico's**, Mesa, for inviting us to be there, especially Lynn Krauss, who made the initial contact with me! The store personnel have already invited us to come again in the fall once the weather is cooler.



*1st Quarter Events:
Parada Del Sol and Trail's End*

By Deb Orwig



*1st Quarter Events:
Gift Wrapping for Valentine's Day*

By Deb Orwig



The beautiful banner Connie McCabe created for us to carry in the Parada Del Sol on February 14th was useful at the gift wrapping event, too, since we were at the **Barnes & Noble** on February 13th



On Valentine's Day, a gloriously beautiful day, 40 humans and 33 dogs walked in the parade behind Connie McCabe's gorgeous "Goldens Are All Heart" banner (photo in left column). All members were asked to wear a red or white shirt, and all dogs that attended were given a bandanna that Deb made from fabric with hearts on it. We were a very snazzy-looking group! Joining us were: Pattye Brown and Pat Ireland with **Bailey and Tully**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Stephanie Darkoch; Tom Ghezzi with **Mia**; Sarah Giles with **Darby**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo and Riley**; Larry Hevner with **Layla**; Dawn Big-



Mia Ghezzi ready to walk

Friday, February 13th was definitely a lucky day for **Arizona Golden Rescue**. We did gift wrapping at Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** and brought home \$354.51, which included the sale of one calendar and 10 bandannas, so \$283.97 in donations plus the sales. Helping out during the day were Tony Cotner with



Connie Wozniak and Martha McDowell wrapping

elow-Ingram and Russ Ingram with **Reilly**; Nancy and Dave Kimmel down from Prescott with **Sadie and Trooper**; Karen and Terry Malone with



Marcus and Ilan Wieser carried the parade banner; Sheri Rodeffer and Stephanie Darkoch carried the **Goldens Are All Heart** banner

Paisley; Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson with **Grizzly** and **Winnie**; Debbie, Kat and Colin Mikol with **Hogan** and **Ivy**; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**; Felicia Parker and Alex Goughenour with **Emmy**; Susan Parker with **Ozzie**; Fred Prose; Karey and Kelley Rodeffer, Karey's dad Kim Allen, and Mother-in-Law Sheri Rodeffer with **Sucy**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Liz Tataseo; Cindy Tigges with **Charm**, **Duey** and **Koso**; Michele Wehry and Mark Hill with **Cassie** and **NinAnnie**; Ilan, Marcus, Philip and Sharon Wieser with **Nala**; and Dave Williams with **Bella**. Ilan and Marcus carried the parade banner and Stephanie and Sheri carried the Heart banner; Dawn pulled the garden wagon with water for the dogs



A familiar sight at most AGR events is Chris Spiel with her boys Jack, a Goldendoodle, and Nash, an AGR rescue; Chris chaired our participation in the Parade and Trail's End and did a great job!



The Valentine crown started out on Dolly, but she wouldn't keep it on, so we put it on Mufasa, who must have thought he was crowned King of the Jungle, as he strutted proudly the whole length of the Parade with it on

and assorted shirts and jackets that walkers had shed; others who came without dogs helped with the multiple dogs brought by the Orwigs, Chris Spiel and Cindy Tigges. We were 51st in the line-up – or actually 50th, since the equestrian group that was supposed to be immediately ahead of us did not come. We stepped off at about 10:35



Ivy Mikol also made a fashion statement wearing a red-and-white tutu made for her by Kat Mikol and a red-and-white heart bandanna

AM and were back at the booth right at 11 AM. Patrick Doyle and **Annabelle** kept watch over our *Trail's End* booth while the walkers



Valentine's Day is Charlie Joyce's birthday and he wore a red shirt that said "It's My Birthday"; Sheila let him pick out his own present from our great toy selection

walked in the parade. Joining us for a while in the booth after the parade were Amanda and Mary Schmiester with **Maggie**. The new north-to-south route this year worked out well – shorter than in previous years and packed with the best crowd we've ever seen. The weather was spectacular! Parking was fairly easy, too. The only drawback was a huge truck decorated like *The Lion King* that pulled into the empty parking spaces to the west of our booth and played very loud music for two hours. We complained and



We called this "the noise machine" because all it did for two hours was play obnoxiously loud music

complained to the *Trail's End* staff, and they finally got it to move. We still had music bombarding us from both ends of Main Street, but the groups were far enough away that it was only obnoxious and not intolerable. It was a very fun day, although long for those of us who set up the booth at 6:30 AM and stayed to break down the booth when *Trail's End* closed at 5 PM. Those included Tony Cotner, Patrick Doyle, Nick Dodson, Dana Haywood, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, and Chris Spiel. Liz Tataseo was there almost all

day, too, and helped pack up the booth at the end. The huge crowds were very generous – we took in a total of \$1,258.70: \$529.42 in merchandise sales and \$729.28 in donations. Thanks to everyone who attended! This is one of the most fun events we do all year. We hope you can join us in 2016.



The set-up crew for AGR's Trail's End booth: Larry Orwig, Patrick Doyle, Deb Orwig; Dana Haywood; Chris Spiel, Connie McCabe, and Tony Cotner. Gail Haywood (dog wrangler) and Nick Dodson (photographer) also helped. We were on Main St in Scottsdale at 6:30 AM because we had to have the booth set up by the 8 AM check-in time for the Parade

Ed. Note: Connie McCabe took so many great photos of everyone who attended that I decided not to use any of individuals/couples/family groups in this newsletter because there are too many. If you would like to see all her wonderful pictures, you can access them through our website by clicking on Events/Gallery on the top menu bar.



1st Quarter Events:
College and Canines

By Liz Tataseo



On March 4th, **AGR** members, their dogs and students from *Barrett, The Honors College* once again got

together for a fun evening on the big lawn at *ASU West's* campus. We met earlier (5:00 PM instead of 6:00) than we have in the past, so it was nice to have daylight until we left at 7 PM. Hav-



ing a rollicking good time were **Daisy** with her person Tony Cotner; **Riley** and **Caleb** with Dana and Gail Haywood; **McKenna** with Sheila Joyce; **Dolly, Duffy, Mufasa** and **Troy** with Deb Orwig; **Jack** and **Nash** with Chris Spiel; and **Reba** with

Liz Tataseo. Many, many students came by to pet the dogs, throw balls for the dogs and, in all cases, they had a stress-free good time. Deb handed out toys and was immediately surrounded by dogs, as they all wanted one to either carry around, tear apart or play tug-of-war with. The toys had been donated to **AGR** by a kind lady at one of our **PetSmart** Meet-and-Greets.



Audree Baker, left, Peer Leader for Barrett, The Honors College, made the contact with AGR for this event

pago Park for us and paid the \$50 reservation fee in memory of **Sage**.

On Friday the 13th, we loaded a trailer lent to us by Larry Jessup (thanks, Larry!), my mini-van and Connie and Nick's vans, then finished the loading up of the raffle items into five vehicles (includ-



Sharon Flores and Connie Wozniak handled the merchandise set-up and sales



Liz Tataseo coordinated the raffle area set-up

ing Chris Spiel's SUV) on Sunday morning. Nick Dodson, Katie Donahue, Connie McCabe, Deb and Larry Orwig, and Chris Spiel helped with the loading. When we got to **Papago Park**, Tempe, at 8:30 AM on Sunday, Dave Englehardt and Tony Cotner were already there to help with the unloading; Gail and Dana Haywood, Susan Parker and Jane Triplett arrived shortly afterward, along with Sandra Hansen and Jan and James Newland, Sue Vallie and Janet Hobbs. All pitched in to help erect the

9 tent canopies and 12 tables we had brought. Connie Wozniak then directed the efforts to display our merchandise. She had help from Sharon Flores, Sandra Hansen, Sherry Landwehr, Susan Parker and Jane Triplett. Meanwhile, Katie Donahue, Teri Guilbault and Liz Tataseo set up our fabulous raffle. Jeff Guilbault, Gary Landwehr, Larry Orwig and Chris Spiel iced down all the soda and water and generally got the food area organized and the grill fired up.



Cooks Jeff Guilbault and Gary Landwehr

We had members attend from as far away as North Carolina (Katie Donahue), Tucson (Mary Kay and Kurt Wilcher with **Aengus**), and Cornville (Barbara and JR Kleven). All were offered the opportunity to



Katie reunited with Aengus, whom she originally rescued from the Yuma Shelter in 2010; she enjoyed meeting Kurt and Mary Kay Wilcher, Aengus's adopters, who came up from Tucson for the event

choose something from our merchandise table as a thank you for coming so far for our event.

The raffle would not have been as great as it was without pre-event help from Katie Donahue, Martha McDowell, Liz Tataseo and Connie Wozniak. Martha, Liz, Connie and I



1st Quarter Events:
Paws At The Park

By Deb Orwig



The Parade of Rescue that follows our Adoption Ceremony is a thrilling sight every year; this year there were about 100 human and 75 canine participants

Sunday March 15th was a spectacular day for a picnic! We had our largest attendance ever at a **Paws At The Park** event – 128 came including 16 children under age 12, and there were 296 paws walking around the grounds!

The weather was gorgeous – mid 80's with a light breeze. Those who registered ahead of time but who were unable to attend will get donation credit for their \$8-per-person fee. Our registration fees brought in \$1012. Thanks so much to Jackie and Dave Englehardt who reserved **Pa-**



Registration check-in at the event was handled by Gail Haywood (middle) and Ruth Pulliam (right) with some conversation help by Jan Newland (left); only a couple of people had to pay that day, which was great!



Cheryl Cole, daughter of Barbara and JR Kleven, lives in Phoenix, but the Klevens, who are waiting patiently for a dog placement, came down from Cornville for this event and "borrowed" Troy Orwig for much of the day

put most of the baskets and collections of items together at my house on Monday, March 9th – at the time, there were only about 80 people registered, so we prepared about 35 raffle items. By Friday, 140 had registered, so Katie and I put together some more raffle items. We ended up with 52, and there was something to entice almost everyone to purchase

raffle tickets – we made \$763 on the raffle! Many members got smokin' deals on some of those raffles! Thanks to Katie Donahue and Jill Prose for taking care of raffle ticket sales.



Katie Donahue and Jill Prose (with Jasper) did a great job selling raffle tickets

I started the "business" portion of the gathering by introducing *AGR's* Board of Directors for 2015-2016 and asking for a vote of confirmation: Deb Orwig, President; Chris Spiel, Director of Activities; Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care; Dana Haywood, Director of Information Management; and Connie McCabe, Human Resources Director. I then gave a brief history of the progress of the organization: on March 13, 2009 at our first meeting, we started with 30 members; within a week, we had 121, and now we have 627. We have rescued 605 dogs. Last year, we rescued 101 dogs and raised over \$205,550 to support our rescue efforts! Pretty impressive statistics as we enter our 7th year of business!



Next, a special presentation was made to us by 5-year-old Shane Harrish, who had raised \$10.26 by selling lemonade and wanted to donate that money to us to help the dogs. In addition, 11-year-old Emily MacIsaac donated \$5 from her allowance. A picture of these generous kids with Deb Orwig is at the left.

Next on the agenda was our Rainbow Bridge ceremony. Eleven members who wanted to honor a dog they had lost in the last year gathered around the PA system to listen to Shelly Guidotti's song "So Hard To Say Goodbye." You can listen to this song on the Bridge page of our website. I then distributed a commemorative booklet and a rainbow rosette to all the Bridge ceremony participants.

A much happier adoption-recognition ceremony followed. Twen-



Nancy and Dave Kimmel came down from Prescott with Sadie and Trooper and invited their children and grandchildren to attend the event, too; Dave set up our PA system

ty-two of our 2014-2015 rescues were present to receive a paw-shaped adoption medallion. Then we invited everyone who had rescued a dog from any source at any time to join us in a Parade of Rescue around the Park – that thrilling sight always chokes me up! My thanks to Dave Kimmel for setting up our PA

system (which he and his wife, Nancy, donated to us several years ago) and playing the music for the Bridge ceremony and the Parade ("Rescue Me" and "Who Let the Dogs Out?") just loud enough for us to hear but not so loud for the neighbors to send the police like they did two years ago!



Sue Vallie, *AGR's* Director of Dog Care, presenting the adoption medallion to Cooper Thompson while his proud mom, Terri, watches



Our merchandise sales did very well – \$761! Among our buyers were three people visiting the area from France (photo at left). They were driving by the Park, saw all of our tents and stopped to see what was going on. They did not speak much English,

but money talks quite well in any language – they ended up buying several items!

AGR's only expenses for this event were for some of the food. The *Albertsons* grocery store at 8240 W. Deer Valley Rd in Peoria very generously

donated 13 packages of hotdog buns and 13 packages of hotdogs, saving us about \$112! Thanks to Karin Forsythe for getting this donation for us. Teri and Jeff Guilbault donated tomatoes, lettuce, onions, charcoal and lighter fluid; Teri even cut up the tomatoes and onions and leafed the lettuce! Katie Donahue donated four 12-packs



PATP is a wonderful family event where we serve a good meal for a very reasonable price and kids under age 10 even eat for free; several members brought their whole family – this is Intake Manager Michele Wehry's clan: husband Mark Hill, dogs NinAnnie and Cassie, children Anthony and Nina with her husband, Steve Monti and Michele's grandkids, Sophie, Michael and Giovanni; missing from photo are Michele's brother Martin and Anthony's wife Iris



Penny Vallie checking out the donkey piñata raffle which came with a giant bag of candy and a Mexican hat

of soda, and Larry and I donated 16 more 12-packs, the cheese for the burgers, and muffins for the set-up crew. Nine cases of water were provided by **West Valley Hospital** thanks to Chris Spiel, who works there and asked for the donation. Sue Vallie bought the mayonnaise and some cookies. With some help from husband Roger, she also put together all the utensil/napkin packets ahead of time. The team managers, as well as Tony Cotner, brought desserts. Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson donated the coleslaw. There was a slight snafu with the **KFC** where Connie usually gets the coleslaw. She had called the or-

der in at least a week ahead, but when she went to pick it up, no one working in the store knew anything about it. The manager, who was on vacation, apparently had not told anyone we would be picking up three trays of the salad. They put together two trays and then Connie went home and stayed up the night before the event to make some more (people actually liked hers better!). We did have some left over but not much, so thanks, Connie, for taking care of making sure we had enough for everyone. **AGR** ended up paying for the ground sirloin patties and buns, the chips, and the beans.



Another reunion happened when Connor and Katy, two of the puppy mill dogs we rescued in 2014, were brought by their adopters Michelle Pousson and Sharon McKenzie and Joy Slagowski; Connor had been extremely attached to Katy when they came to us, but hardly glanced at each other at PATP – movin’ on and enjoying life now!



Good friends have good times at our events: Cate and Johannes Hedrich with Kodiak and Shifty, Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with Abbie and Keri Engelhardt with Aiofe; Jackie and Dave graciously donated the Park fee in memory of Sage

Thanks to all who donated items for our food service and for the Park fee, **Paws At The Park** cleared about \$1,760 including donations, raffles and merchandise sales. In 2016, this event will be held at **Sahuaro Ranch Park** in Glendale. We hope more of you will be able to attend this wonderful gathering of members and friends. As soon as we announce the exact date,

which will be on a Sunday in mid March 2016, please put it on your calendar so nothing else gets in the way!

Ed. Note: Another reminder that you can view all the many wonderful photos Connie McCabe took at this event by accessing the Gallery under the Events tab on our website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org



1st Quarter Events:
Sun Valley Animal Shelter Pet Expo

By Deb Orwig



We had a lovely day on Sunday, March 22nd at the second annual **Sun Valley Animal Shelter Pet Expo**. The event was supposed to go from 10 AM to 4 PM, but everyone packed up at 3:30 because the public traffic was non-existent by then. Hopefully, next year they will advertise

it to extend only until 3 PM. We had a nice double booth space at no charge except to provide a raffle item worth at least \$25 – we actually gave them two. The money raised from the raffle goes to help the shelter animals. Arriving at 8:30 to help set up the booth and merchandise were Gail and Dana Haywood, Deb Orwig, Chris Spiel and Connie Wozniak. Tony Cotner



Denise Padavano and Carolyn Blean regularly volunteer on weekends at the Sun Valley Animal Shelter; Denise found a one-year-old male Golden there the day before this event and adopted him!



Dana and Gail Haywood came all the way from Apache Junction to west Glendale and Tony Cotner came from southeast Scottsdale to help at this event; also in the photo is Connie Wozniak, who lives in Surprise

with **Daisy** arrived later, as did Carolyn Blean, Denise Padavano, Liz Tataseo, who brought **Reba**, and Sue Vallie, who came with **Oliver** and **Penny**. The set-up crew included **Bilbo** and **Riley** with the Haywoods; **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy** with

Deb Orwig; and **Jack** and **Nash** with Chris Spiel. Patrick Doyle stopped by near the end of the event and helped us pack up. Also very helpful during our booth set-up and break-down was a gentleman representing **Luke Air Force Base**, as well as some volunteers



Chris, Liz (offering treats) and Sue



from the **Sun Valley Shelter**. We appreciated help from all of them. It was a relatively good day for donations (\$106.75) and merchandise sales (\$174.24). The **Sun Valley Shelter** had some really nice raffles, too, which had been donated by all the vendors including **AGR**.

Patrick and Reba

Duffy; and Dana and Gail Haywood with **Bilbo, Caleb and Riley**. We had a much better day than our last time there, as we received \$116 in donations and had two families come back with additional family members to talk to us about adopting.



Meet-and-Greets at Petco

By Liz Tataseo



Meet-and-Greets at Pet Club

By Dana Haywood



January 3rd was our first Meet-and-Greet since the holiday season at the **Pet Club** at Desert Ridge. Attending



Connie McCabe with Daisy Cotner and foster boy Aengus

were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Debbie Mikol and daughter Kat with **Hogan**; Connie McCabe with **Aengus**; Deb Orwig with **Duffy**; Jerry Sheffield; Christine Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley, Bilbo** and visiting dog **Trina**. Jane Triplett also

stopped by with her Greyhound foster dog **Amazing Captain**. Traffic was very slow that day – we collected only \$35.26 in donations and sold one calendar for another \$10.

Meeting on March 1st at the Desert Ridge **Pet Club** were Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Debbie Mikol with foster **Joe**



Jane Triplett with Amazing Captain and Chris Spiel with Nash (Jack hidden)

(f.k.a. **Zero**); Deb Orwig with **Dolly** and

This photo with Debbie Mikol, Tony Cotner and Dana and Gail Haywood, shows how we are set up inside Pet Club. Due to mall restrictions, we must always be inside the store, but they clear a nice space for us up front – we really appreciate that!



Barbara Kleven talking with Deb Orwig and Debbie Ball

We enjoyed being outside at **Petco** in the great weather in February and March. Lots of people stopped by for information, and we also brought in \$67 and \$60 in donations, respectively. En-



Sheila Joyce with Tessa, who just turned 5

joying the last Saturday in February were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Sheila Joyce with **Tessa** (Happy Birthday, **Tessa!**); Deb Orwig with **Dolly** and **Duffy**; and Liz with **Gonzo** and **Reba**. Barbara and JR Kleven, members who live in Cornville, stopped by for a while.

*Here comes Peter (ur, **Duffy, Troy, Riley, Jack, Nash, Caleb, Reba, Bilbo, Gonzo** and **Annabelle**) Cottontail hoppin' down the bunny trail...*



In March, we had a larger contingent composed of Patrick with **Annabelle**; Dana and Gail

Haywood with **Bilbo, Caleb and Riley**; Deb Orwig with **Duffy** and **Troy**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Liz with **Gonzo** and **Reba**. Teri Guilbault also stopped by briefly to drop off some medications someone at her work place donated. Chris brought

the bunny ears, so we had lots of Easter Bunny Dogs – the ears didn't stay on too long, though!



91st AVE, PEORIA – Connie McCabe, Chairman



One of many amazing photos Connie McCabe takes at AGR events. This one of seven dogs is in the album for Peoria PetSmart 3/8/15. Of course, all the online photos are in color, which makes them even better!

For photos from the Meet-and-Greets and all other AGR events, go to our website homepage and click on Events, then Gallery <http://agrdogphotos.phanfare.com/agr-events/2015/> You may also see most of them on the AGR Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/124724086406/>

Please consider stopping by a Meet-and-Greet close to

you to meet your fellow AGR members. Everyone is welcome, and it is a great way to socialize your dogs and meet the public, too! And the more people and dogs that are there, the more foot traffic is drawn to us for even more contact and donations.

As usual, we had a very pleasant day on January 11th. Grizzly, Aengus and I were joined by Patrick Doyle and Annabelle; Mike, Tammy and Mikey Follensbee with newly-adopted Copper; Sheila Joyce with McKenna; Deb Orwig with Dolly; Jill



Mike, Tammy and Mikey Follensbee with Copper, Jane Triplett holding Grizzly, Patrick Doyle; Chris Spiel with Nash and Jack; Jerry Sheffield holding Aengus; and Sheila Joyce with McKenna

Prose with Gracie; Jerry Sheffield; Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; and Jane Triplett. Nick Dodson helped me set up as usual and carted all the stuff back and forth. This was Aengus's first full Meet-and-Greet and he did very well. He really had a good time and especially loved giving kisses to everyone who would sit still. It seemed like the foot traffic was slow, but we still managed to collect \$120 in donations for the day. And the rain stayed away until we were all packed up and gone!

What a fantastic day we had Sunday, February 8th! The weather was perfect, and the turnout of volunteers and visitors was excel-



Chris with Jack and Nash; Deb holding Winnie, Duffy and Dolly; Pat with Sunny; Patrick; Fred with Jasper; and Susan with Ozzie

per; Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; Jane Triplett with foster Greyhound Amazing



Shotzie with puppy Penny and AGR's Ginger

Captain; and Shotzie Workman with Ginger and new puppy, Penny. This was Penny's first venture out and she did very well! Winnie joined me today, too! It was very nice to see Denise Padavano, who stopped by for a while to visit.



Jane fosters Greyhounds, but she always wears her "I Love Golden's" T-shirt! Captain's outfit with the little jockey riding on his back was a hoot!

Thanks to the following who came on March 8th: Nick Dodson; Patrick Doyle with Annabelle; Sheila Joyce with McKenna; Pat Morgan with Sunny; Deb



Susan holding Grizzly and Ozzie; Chris with Jack and Nash; Fred and Jill with Jasper; Pat with Sunny; and Patrick with Annabelle, who usually hides in back of the group

Orwig with Dolly and Duffy; Susan Parker with Ozzie; Fred and Jill Prose with Jasper; Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash; and of course my Grizzly. We had a terrific day. Traffic was light, yielding just shy of \$90 in donations, but we made a lot of friends and had a great time!



BELL ROAD, GLENDALE
– Liz Tataseo, Chairman

Our meet and greets at Arrowhead PetSmart, which are always on the third Saturday of the month from 11 AM - 3 PM, produced very good do-

Chris Spiel speaking with customers



Patrick Doyle with Annabelle and Sheila Joyce with Charlie (here) or McKenna are regulars at this store



nations from the public in all three months of the first quarter of 2015: \$87.61, \$100.16 and \$179.57, respectively. Joining **Gonzo** and me in January and February were Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**,

Sheila Joyce with **Charlie**, Chris Spiel with **Nash** and **Jack**; Jane Triplett with **Skip** and Jerry Sheffield. Additionally in February, Sheila brought **McKenna** and I brought **Reba**, my new girl who displayed her puppy self to great attention

by the public. In March, Deb Orwig subbed for me and had a great day. She brought **Duffy** and had help from Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Patrick Doyle with **Anna-**



Natalie and her dad John Tyree with Luca



Natalie is a high school senior and earns community service credit for helping at AGR events, a win-win for her and for us!

donations we collect! Please bring a chair and join us on the third Saturday of each month at our nice, cool, inside-the-store location.

CHANDLER – Dana Haywood, Chairman

We had our first Chandler *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greet for the year on January 11th. In attendance were Sharon Flores with **Honey**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Karey and Kelley Rodeffer with **Sucy**; and Dana and Gail Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**. We collected \$81.07 in donations.



Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson stopped by briefly in February and got this photo of Liz, Sheila and Patrick



Attention, dogs – Fred has treats!

Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie**; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine** and **Stormy**; Fred Prose with **Jasper**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and John and Natalie Tyree with **Luca**. Once again, we found that the more dogs present, the more



Gail Haywood enjoying the nice weather at the January Meet-and-Greet in Chandler

Petitto with **Sandi Joy**; and, of course, Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo**, **Caleb** and **Riley**. It was a quiet day, but we still were able to take in \$91 in donations from very generous visitors.

On March 8th, we met at the Chandler *PetSmart* and being a southern facing frontage it started to get a little warm, so we set up a tent. Attending were Don and Sheri Boonstra with **Sedona** and **Eowyn**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Sharon Flores with **Honey**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Bilbo** and **Riley**; Jack and Rosie Mills with **Shiloh**; Felicia Parker with **Emmy**; and Judy Petitto with **Sandi Joy**. We did well collecting \$100 in donations.

Ed. Note: Dana did not get any photos in February due to camera not working.

MAYO BLVD – Denny Myrick, Chairman

On a rain-threatening but mild January 10th, *AGR* had a nice turnout for the Mayo *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greet. Participants included Sally Fetherston with **Rocky** and Tom Fetherston with **Molly**; Jerry Sheffield; Denny Myrick (host) with **Molly**; Wes Harrington with **Andie** and **Sadie**; Donna and Berek Novak with **Annie** and **Jackson**; and Debby Sable with **Rylie** and **Sienna**. Not shown in the group photo: photographer Pam Spicer; Teddi Axne with **Watson**; and Larry Hevner with **Layla**. Noteworthy was the first-time attendance at this location of Larry



Sally with Rocky, Tom with Molly, Jerry, Denny with Molly, Wes with Andie and Sadie, Berek and Donna with Jackson and Annie, and Debby Sable with Rylie and Sienna

We had a nice day at *PetSmart* in Chandler on February 8th even though it was a little warm for this time of year. Once we put up a tent, it was much nicer. Attending today

were Russ Ingram with **Reilly**; Sharon Flores with **Honey**; Judy



Tony Cotner with Daisy and Karey and Kelley Rodeffer with Sucy



Jack Mills with Shiloh, Judy Petitto and Felicia Parker with Emmy



Teddi with Watson



Larry with Layla

Hevner with **Layla**; and Jerry Sheffield. We collected a total of \$339.55.

Due to the *Parada Del Sol* scheduled for the second Saturday in February, which would have been our regular meeting day at the Mayo Blvd *PetSmart*, we met on the first Saturday, February

7th, instead. The following *AGR* members, left to right, participated in the February Meet-and-Greet: Cynthia Wenström



Cynthia with Hannah, Barbara with Sammie and Howie, Wes with Andie and Sadie, Cindy with Duey and Koso, and Denny with Molly

with **Hannah**; Barbara Meredith with **Sammie** and **Howie**; Wes Harrington with **Andie** and **Sadie**; Cindy Tigges with **Duey** and **Koso**; and Denny Myrick (host) with **Molly**. Not shown in photo: Tom and Sally Fetherston with **Molly** and **Rocky**, as well as photographer Pam Spicer. We collected a total of \$147.76 in donations.



Barbara with Howie and Sammie

Denny missed the March Mayo *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greet (and we missed him!) due to a bout with MRSA pneumonia, so Deb Orwig hosted on March 14th in his absence. He is now mostly

recovered, fortunately, but as of the second week in April he was

still taking a twice a day, home-administered super antibiotic IV. Nasty bug, that MRSA! Deb,

who brought **Dolly**, **Duffy**, **Mufasa** and **Troy**, had the following

volunteers help out: Tony Cotner with

Daisy; Katie Donahue, who was visiting from

North Carolina for a week; Sally Fetherston; Wes Harrington with

Andie and **Sadie**; Gail and Dana Haywood with

Bilbo, **Caleb** and **Riley**, and also the Haywoods' grandson

Dakota Nomakeo; photographer Pam Spicer; Jolene Schlichter with

Simba; Gail Walker with **Sierra**; and Cynthia Wenström with

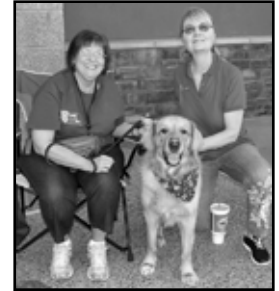
Bailey. This event put an additional \$206 in our bank account.



Katie with Troy; Deb with Mufasa, Duffy and Dolly; Gail with Sierra; Wes with Sadie and Andie; Tony with Daisy; and Cynthia with Bailey



Dakota says, "What's better than spending an afternoon surrounded by a pile of Golden's?"



Jolene, Simba and Sally



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

7th Annual Fore! Paws Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Camelback Golf Club

1 PM shotgun start
4-person scramble event



Early bird discounts until September 12th!

\$110 per golfer, \$440 per foursome
(After Sept. 12th, \$135 and \$540)

Watch our website for registration details starting June 1st

Golf Committee will have the launch meeting in May – if you are interested in serving on this Committee, please contact Deb Orwig at dorwigaz@cox.net, 623-693-0589, or Chris Spiel at cmspiel@gmail.com, 602-881-8615

If you have anything you can donate for the Tournament raffle or silent auction, please contact Deb



Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support. You all truly have hearts of gold! All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between January 15, 2015 and April 15, 2015. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Linda Arters	Wes Harrington	Denny and Debbie Myrick	Lori and Anthony Prankevicus
Kate and John Avery	Shane Harrish	Jessica and G. Wayne Neill	Jean and Bernie Quick
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Goldie and Rocky Cotner	Tillie Kiefer-Smith	Denise Padavano	Karey Rodeffer
Alice and David Courtney	Jane and Gerald King	Angela Palumbo	Debra Sable
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Tracie and Richard Freeland	Emily MacIsaac	Sandra Pister	Ellen and George Turner, Jr.

Honorary Donations

In Honor of Teddi and Delwin Axne (for house sale)
Stephanie Stephenson

In Honor of Karin Forsythe's Birthday
Marsha Sue and Henry Kirk Forsythe

In Honor of Groomer Linda Knight
Linda Oester

In Honor of 12-027 Bentley
Bruce Bouldin and Nicholas Yale

In Honor of 14-049 Sierra Walker
Gail Walker

In Honor of 15-023 Princess
Jan and Forrest Simmons

Memorial Donations

In Memory of All 2nd Quarter Bridge Dogs and People including 10-006 Penny Forsythe, Blossom Guilbault, Checkers (the cat) Guilbault, 13-120 Rooter Hall, Fletcher Michael Knight, Sasha May Bam Bam McCabe / Dodson, Buddy Padavano, 15-005 Fiah, 15-010 Sofie, Honeybear Taylor, as well as Ethelyn Farrar, Rae Feinsilver and Estie Wilson
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Teryl Hall
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig
Liz Tataseo

In Memory of 11-097 Carter Youhas
Kathi and Bob Youhas

In Memory of 12-041 Jake Nelson
Emily Raymer

In Memory of 13-072 Boston Morris
Donna and Lee Morris

In Memory of 13-120 Bella-Holly-Eureka-Rooter Hall
Fran and Jan Strock

In Memory of 14-097 Jake
Doug Hartman

In Memory of Fletcher Michael Knight
Gina Kilker

In Memory of Sasha May Bam-Bam McCabe / Dodson
Kathy Blue
Carol Gora
Marsha and Steve Kleinz
Greg Korycki and Carrie Foust
Mike Lane and
Cynthia Wenström
Connie McCabe and
Nick Dodson
Susan Parker
Fred and Jill Prose

In Memory of Lambeau owned and loved by Julie Snider
Barbara Gengler

In Memory of Casey Vossoughi
Bobby Vossoughi

In Memory of Jeff Couch, Mariruth's Cousin
Mariruth and Patrick Wittkamp

In Memory of Rae Feinsilver, Jodi's Mother
Jodi and Jay Koblick

In Memory of My Mother, Ellie Raymer, who would have been 95 on Valentine's Day and who loved Golden Retrievers
Emily Raymer

Thank You Donations

To Deb Orwig for providing vacation dog care for **Shelby**
Debbie and Rick Ball

To Deb Orwig to thank her and **Troy** for taking the time to
listen to countless stories being read to students in the
tutoring program at the **Desert Foothills Library**
Barbara and Virgil ("Bud") Owings

To Pam Spicer for Friday afternoon hugs and loves for
Bailey and Hannah
Cynthia Wenström

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Deb and Larry Orwig
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Diamond Donors for 15-024 Sandy
Deb and Larry Orwig

Gift Memberships

For Jude Kettunen from Tony Cotner

For Michelle and Jared Miller from Teri and Jeff Guilbault

For Mary Murray and John Donahue from Katie Donahue

For Sheri Rodeffer from Karey Rodeffer

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

Grants

Phoenix Animal Care Coalition (PACC911)

*Memberships - New Advanced-Level Supporters***COPPER (\$50)**

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Anne and Dan Kowalski

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Cindy and Gary Tigges

AMBER (\$100)

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Joyce Hubler

Dawn Bigelow-Ingram and Russ Ingram

Nancy and Dave Kimmel

Marsha and Steve Kleinz

Michele Meyer

Judy Petitto

Debra Sable

Teri and Rob Turner

TOPAZ (\$250)

Debbie and Rick Ball

Michelle Bailey and Kay Correll

Joyce Johnston

PEARL (\$500)

Katie Donahue

Paws At The Park - Help with Picnic Expenses

Tony Cotner

Alice and David Courtney

Mary Jo and John Courtney

Deborah Fuller and Mike Bigge

Teri and Jeff Guilbault

Dawn Bigelow-Ingram and

Russ Ingram

Sandy and Richard Luke

Karen and Terry Malone

Carolyn and Gordon McDaniel

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

Sharon McKenzie and

Michelle Pousson

Reno Navarette and Ray Morales

Deb and Larry Orwig

Liz Tataseo

Terri Thompson

Sue Vallie

Connie Wozniak

Special Thanks

To Jackie and Dave Engelhardt for securing Papago Park
for our Paws At The Park event and paying for the
reservation fee in memory of Sage Engelhardt

To everyone who submitted articles for this issue



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