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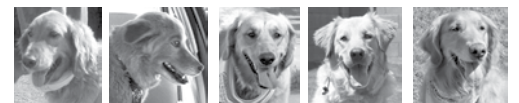


The Golden Paw

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Debbe Begley
April 26, 1949 - June 18, 2011

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Editor's Assistant's Note

My mom, the Editor, told me the focus of this issue is on fostering. Terrific! I get to tell you my story about my foster experience. My mom has been a “foster failure” 8 times in her life in Rescue as the foster of **Barley**, **Bruno**, me (**Rocky**), **Kokomo**, **Hayden**, **Ben**, **Troy** and **Ladybird**. But in the last 13 years she has also fostered well

over 200 other dogs – some stayed for one day; others stayed for months, but she gave them up when the right family came along, so the “failure rate” really isn’t too bad!

At the end of July 1999, I arrived at the Orwigs’ house in the back of a pickup truck. My original owners were so anxious to get rid of me that they drove from Ahwatukee to north Glendale in about 20 minutes – it’s amazing I didn’t get bumped out of that truck or die of heat stroke! My turn-in description was “hyper, destructive and unmanageable.” Everyone who meets me now says they can’t believe that, but it was true. I had earned that label because at 17 months of age, I had had no training at all and had severe separation anxiety. I didn’t like my name (**Hercules**), so I never would respond to it. They left me alone in their back yard, so they should not have been surprised that I dug up the yard, destroyed the sprinkler system and ate the siding off their house. Oh, and I barked all the time and jumped up on anyone who came out there to visit me. Mom Deb promised me that she would never leave me alone again, but she expected me to learn to behave. It took many hours – years, really – of training, but I am now the most gentle, well-behaved dog you’d ever want to meet. I am a certified therapy dog (TDI), and my main volunteer work aside from helping at events is helping elementary school children learn to read better. I love that!

For the last 11 years, I have had the constant companionship of at least one other dog, and, at times, we’ve had several others at our house. I have earned the privilege of being the first to welcome a new foster and help them get through what may be a rough few days. For one period of 8 weeks, we had a Golden party with 14 around the house – that was when **Ladybird** whelped 10 live puppies and we had 3 adult dogs besides her and the puppies in the house. Wow, what a fun time that was!

Bruno was my first buddy. When I walked into the Orwigs’ house, he was very sad because his best friend, **Barley**, was dying from mast cell cancer of the lymph system. Nasty disease. **Barley** looked terrible, so I left him alone and went over to **Bruno** to try to get him to play with me and take his mind off of **Barley**. **Bruno** was very glad to have a new playmate, as **Barley** died two days later. **Bruno**

and I were best friends for another 3 years, when he passed away. By then crotchety 10-year-old **Kokomo** had joined the household. She was a Golden-Chow mix whose owner had been beaten up and left for dead. Mom agreed to foster her until her owner had finished rehab, which was to take about 6 months. Before that time was up, the guy disappeared, so **Kokomo** became a permanent member of the household for the next 4 years. She didn’t much like anyone and just kind of stuck to herself.

Two days after **Bruno** went to the Bridge, Michele called my mom to ask her to “foster a 6-month-old puppy for a week.” Michele said she had houseguests who had a dog that didn’t like other dogs, and since her foster dog **Hayden** was way friendly, she was afraid he’d get hurt. So, over came **Hayden**. My dad walked in the door about 10 minutes after **Hayden** had arrived. **Hayden** bounced over to him and licked him all over his face. Dad looked over to Mom and said, “We’re keeping this one, aren’t we?” Sigh. Eight years later, **Hayden** and I are still best buds. And wise Michele is still chuckling over the deception she had to pull (her houseguest’s dog was also very friendly) to get Mom to take **Hayden**, as she knew the best cure for the grief over losing a precious Golden was to get another one as soon as possible.

Then **Ben** came. He wasn’t supposed to stay, but after 4 months of nobody wanting to adopt an old dog, my family adopted him. He was 12 and grossly overweight as many senior rescues are. Thanks to **Ben**, we all learned about the “green bean diet.” Took almost a year for **Ben** to lose 30 pounds, but did he ever look grand after that! When he was 13, we went to the Golden Retriever National Specialty in Cleveland, OH. The day of the Parade of Rescue, my mom was walking **Ben** down the hotel corridor and one of the “show people” stepped out of her room and saw him. The exchange went like this, “Oh, what a beautiful Golden! Do you have him entered in the Veterans Class today?” “No, he’s going to be in the Parade of Rescue.” “He’s a rescued Golden (spoken with a very condescending tone of voice)?” “Yes, he is,” said my mom. “He’s gorgeous (spoken as if she had a hard time believing it)!” Yes, **Ben** was gorgeous by then, and what a sweetheart. He lived ‘til he was just a couple weeks shy of 16. So, go ahead and foster an old dog – he or she may live a surprisingly long time!

Ladybird arrived at the beginning of March 2005. My mom thought she was a chunky little monkey and vowed to put her on the green bean diet right away. The next day during the vet exam, Dr. Ferguson said, “I hope you’re prepared to have puppies!” Oh, dear! There were going to be at least 6 in about three weeks! So, we got the laundry room all set up for whelping. On March 27, which was Easter Sunday that year, **Ladybird** started popping puppies around noon. By 5:30 PM, she’d had 11 – 9 boys and 2 girls – but the last one was stillborn. Number 9 became everyone’s favorite pretty quickly. Dad decided that one of the puppies had to stay (“How can you give all of them up after having 10 of them here for 8 weeks?”), so it had to be Number 9, who became

Troy. Ladybird was actually adopted out, but had to come back after nine months because her adoptive family was dealing with some serious human illness and could no longer care for her. She decided to stay at our house forever.

Every foster has a story. Every foster situation is unique. Some work out well; others not so well – sometimes so little is known about an incoming dog that Placement can only guess about what kind of environment might be best for the dog. All things considered, **AGR** has a phenomenal success rate with foster and FWITA placements and eventual successful adoptions. Try it, you'll like it!

Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President
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The last three months have been hectic, to say the least. At the end of February, we found out that Debbe Begley, **AGR's** Cofounder and Director of Operations (i.e. responsible for all events and fundraisers), had cancer. By the end of March, it was clear that Debbe could no longer do this job. As you may know, she passed away on June 18, 2011. More on Debbe later (see pages 19 - 21).

Fortunately, Teri Guilbault, who had been **AGR's** Organization Secretary, as well as Health Care Manager, offered to step into the Director of Operations position if we could find someone else to take over the Secretary's job. We did. Karin Forsythe graciously agreed to do it and is continuing as our Grants Administrator as well. Beverly Ruth, a member of the Health Care Team, is now doing a vigorous job of keeping up with all the rescues while they are under vet care, taking some of this load off of Teri. We could use another person on the Health Care Team. If you're interested, please contact me. Thank you so much, Teri and Karin, for your willingness to step up your volunteer efforts for **AGR!**

In March, Dana Haywood was elected to the position of Director of Information Management and has been going at this position like gangbusters ever since. He and his adult son, Dana Craig Haywood, have revamped the website (looks fabulous, guys!) and switched us to a new host which will cost us less and give us more. Dana has also been working tirelessly with *The Cyber Image* to get our database completed. In addition, Dana has introduced us to VOIP, a telephone service that is not only more flexible than what we had with *Qwest*, but it is also going to cost us about \$40 per month less. We now have a live person answering the phone between 8 AM and 8 PM – Gail Haywood, our Transport Manager! Many people who have called our WAGSline recently are surprised when they realize they are talking to a person instead of a voice mailbox, but we have had a lot of positive comments about this service.

I'd like to thank Larry Jessup for collecting messages left on the WAGSline for the past two years. Larry was very diligent about checking the mailbox several times a day, kept a great log of all the calls and contacted the appropriate Board member or Team Manager with calls they needed to address. But we found that even with checking the voicemail inbox this often, we lost out on getting a few dogs because the surrendering owners were too impatient to wait a couple hours for a call back. We won't lose any more dogs with Gail personally taking the calls. Thanks to both Larry and Gail for their efforts.

Many, many thanks go to Kathy Blue. Kathy was the Membership Chairman for 9 years while we were with another Rescue group, and she moved right into that position when we formed **AGR** in March of 2009. The first year wasn't too much work, but after that, she started having to keep up with membership expirations and, since she is having to care more and more for her aging dad, she asked if we could find someone else to take over as Membership Manager. We have – Dawn Nomakeo. Dawn has brought our membership roster up to date and, with the help of Katie Donahue, our Human Resources Director, has contacted all members whose membership expired in March, April, May and June. Many have, thankfully, chosen to renew. Our thanks to both Dawn and Katie. Kathy is still serving on the Intake Team and for that service we are very grateful.

Thanks also to two seamstresses in our group. Debbie Myrick made 19 oven mitts before the *Phoenix Pet Expo* – this item was one of the best sellers on our merchandise table. Jan Newland helped me serge the edges of all the bandannas we have made for Debbe Begley's tribute (see page 20). Thank you so much, ladies!

Finally, I would like to thank all of the Team Managers and team participants, especially those of you who have stuck with us for two years. You all do a fabulous job, and we appreciate your efforts very much! If you are reading this and are not a member of one of our action teams but would like to be, please contact me.

How Often To Bathe a Dog?

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



The Show Goes On

By Teri Guilbault, Director of Operations
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Most of you have seen my name here and there – as the Health Care Manager writing about various health issues that our wonderful rescues have faced, suggesting how to keep your Golden and any other beloved pets healthy and safe, and promoting some general good health ideas. I've also been the face behind the General Membership Minutes that you see after our organization holds a membership meeting and the *Paws At The Park* picnic. Although I am still your Health Care Manager, I am no longer the Organization Secretary – that position is now being held by Karin Forsythe, who has graciously taken over for me. I extend my sincere thanks to her for filling this spot as I move into another role – that of Director of Operations for *Arizona Golden Rescue*. It is with a very heavy heart that I begin this position, since filling the shoes of our beloved Debbe Begley will be a daunting task. I will, as will we all, miss Debbe terribly for her tireless efforts and for the wonderful things that she did for our organization, particularly our wonderful rescues, and for losing a very dear and wonderful friend. But as Debbe said, “The Show Must Go On,” and we will honor her memory by making sure that yes, indeed, it certainly will.

We have many activities currently in the planning stages, most of which you are familiar with and have participated in over the past two years. Just to name a few:

- Appearances at the *Chase Field Community Corner* on Friday evening, July 22nd, and Sunday afternoon, August 28th, will give us an opportunity to connect with our *Diamondbacks* fans.
- Our 3rd Annual *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* will be held on Saturday, September 24th, at the *Camelback Golf Club*. This year, it will be an afternoon golf tournament and dinner, and we are doing our best to make it a most memorable event. Early registration, which entitles you to a reduced golf and/or dinner rate, will end on September 1st. If you are a golfer, put together a fun foursome and come on out. If not, we would love to have you join us for dinner and our raffle and silent auction, which will feature some really terrific items for bid.
- Sunday, November 6th is our *Paws and Pasta Spaghetti Dinner* at the *Little Bite of Italy Restaurant* on 99th Avenue in Sun City (see page 20). Come on out for some great Italian food and a truly enjoyable afternoon.
- Finally, plans for our *Barnes & Noble* gift wrapping,

along with our *Photos with Santa* at *PetSmart*, are already in full swing. This is one of my favorite times of the year, and we always have a great time with our dogs.

You will be seeing e-mails from me regarding these events and also reminders about our regularly scheduled Meet-and-Greets at our various *PetSmart* and *Choice Pet Market* locations asking for help. Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to come help. If you haven't participated in any of these events, please plan to. Also, please check out our Events Calendar on the *AGR* website for additional information (locations, times, etc.) about all our events. We love to see our rescued Golden and Golden mixes being transformed from being uncared for – and sometimes really unhealthy – to happy, healthy dogs that actually smile at you when they arrive at their forever homes, and all of our efforts at these events are a HUGE part of making that happen.

I look forward to seeing everyone in the coming months!



Second Time Around

By Liz Tataseo,
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Road to Rescue: The Foster Family

One of the most important stops on a dog's Road to Rescue is the foster family. It can also be the most difficult, because the foster must let the dog move on to a forever home. Yes, there are “foster failures,” but that is the good part, as you have now added to your pack. But for someone who can't, for certain reasons, have a dog all the time but wants the pleasure of a Golden, or if you have your quota of dogs but can temporarily take in one more for awhile, fostering might be for you.

If a dog must be moved immediately from the surrendering home or from a shelter, he will go into a temporary home for a day to a week or more before he goes on to his forever family. The foster family has a very unique position: love the dog, evaluate and learn about the dog, and help make a recommendation for the best family for the dog. This is especially important for a dog coming from the shelter or *Humane Society* – we always need to learn about the dog since we have no surrender information.

Often, longer fostering for several weeks takes place to get needed vet work completed, and it could be that the foster family has to do rehabilitation following surgery, or see the dog through diagnosis and treatment for an allergic or infectious condition, or provide some needed obedience training. Fosters who do such tasks are our special angels.

We need fosters who currently have no dogs or cats. Sometimes we may take in a Golden that reportedly does not do well with other animals, and we need such a home for an extensive evaluation to see if that is true.

We need fosters who will take a puppy! Ah, puppyhood: the training, the jumping, the whining, the nipping, the chewing – wait, that’s my dog! Caring for a puppy is fun but takes lots of patience and the willingness to give her some structure and training.

Those reasons and more are why fosters are so important to Rescue. During a week when 3 - 4 dogs of different ages, sizes and temperaments are surrendered or found at a shelter, we need places for them to go. Placement always carefully matches a dog to her forever family, and with an abundance of dogs it is necessary for dogs to go somewhere and be taken care of while placement is being determined.

How do you become a foster? The process is the same as for adoption. Fill out the Foster/Adoption application (available online or by calling 623-566-WAGS). Have a home visit by a volunteer from **AGR**, and indicate that you want to be a foster.

Fosters are responsible for the following if you choose to get them for your foster dog: vitamins, supplements, chews, etc. unless deemed a necessity by the veterinarian; toys, leashes, beds, treats, grooming supplies, or other accessories such as training aids. **AGR** will cover the cost of prescription dog food, provided it is prescribed by one of our participating veterinarians. **AGR** covers the cost of all vetting and medications that are needed. Yes, there is an expense to foster, just like it would be if the dog were your own, because for that period of time, the foster dog is your dog.

Can you be a foster, yes! *Will* you be a foster? We all hope so, because it is an important stop on the Road to Rescue.

What happens now that I have been approved to adopt or foster?

The Placement team receives your home evaluation and application and reviews all information.

If a dog match is found, a Placement Team member will call you to explain about the dog and the dog could be placed with you if agreement is reached.

Dogs often will go directly from a surrendering owner to the new family. This is the nature of Rescue. We do not ourselves have a shelter to board dogs. Sometimes a dog is with a foster or is at the vet and will be transferred from there.

Dogs that come to you from a surrendering owner or the vet have a profile made of what a surrendering owner shares with us. If you have any problem with a dog, immediately call the Placement individual that called you so they may evaluate the situation and help you.

If you are a “foster with intent to adopt” (FWITA), then a contract will be signed and an adoption fee and membership fee paid when the dog is delivered.

If you are a foster, a membership fee is paid and a foster agreement signed. A foster should be aware that a dog will be moved when a permanent home is found.

All dogs not medically cleared prior to coming to your home will have needed vet work arranged at one of our vets and you will be expected to take the dog to the vet for his or her vetting. The Health Care Team will coordinate that with you. **AGR** pays for all vet work on an incoming dog.

There is no guaranteed time span in which we can place a

Golden with an approved family. Our goal is to find the best fit for the dog, and not to just place him/her in an available home.

Fosters, FWITAs, and adopters must be current members of **Arizona Golden Rescue** at the time a foster or adoptive dog is delivered or a membership fee will be charged at that time. Membership Fees range from \$25 for a single membership, to \$40 for a family membership to more for higher levels of support. The choice of membership level is yours.

Adoption fees for dogs

All dogs up to age 2	\$350
Dogs age 2 to 5	\$325
Dogs age 5 to 9	\$300
Dogs age 9 and older	\$250
Pairs -- second dog is half price:	
both dogs younger than 2	\$525
one dog younger than 2 and one 2 - 5	\$512
one dog younger than 2 and one 5 - 9	\$500
both dogs between 2 and 5	\$487
one dog 2 - 5 and one 5 - 9	\$475
both dogs between 5 and 9	\$450
one dog 5 - 9 and one over 9	\$425
one dog younger than 2 and one over 9	\$425
both dogs over 9	\$352

If a foster or adopted dog cannot be kept for any reason, the dog must be returned to **Arizona Golden Rescue**.

Approved vet care and prescription food or medication will be paid for by **AGR** as long as the dog is in the foster phase.

The Information Highway

By Dana Haywood,
 Director of
 Information Management
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Recently I checked the By-laws to see what my position, Director of Information Management, actually entails. The **AGR** By-laws state:

“The Director of Information Management shall be responsible for overseeing the following but not limited to: website, e-mail group, database, pertinent graphic arts, newsletter, telephone, forms, grants, and any other committees or teams or duties which are deemed necessary by the Board.”

After reading this job description, the question came to mind, “Can I do all this?” So far the answer has been yes, and I am enjoying my time doing it. Luckily there were members with much more expertise in certain areas handling some of the jobs. Deb Orwig has been handling the newsletter and Connie McCabe has done a wonderful job with the graphic arts. This has allowed me to spend more time handling the jobs for which I have the greatest expertise. The grants have been managed by Karin Forsythe, and my job is to put the acknowledgments and logos on our website.

In the last few months, there have been so many changes in the **AGR** “Information World” that it is hard to believe at times that we have had so much happen in such a short time.

My first priority was the website. I wanted to enhance it so that it would be capable of doing much more than we had been using it for. One of the first things that we did was change our web host to another company that could manage the integration of a new database that is being developed, which will be able to handle all the records that are essential for our everyday operation. At the present time, we are doing everything manually. Spreadsheets and other types of record keeping have to be shared among everyone necessary; we don’t yet have the luxury of a dedicated place to go where we can all get the information at any time. We have rearranged pages on the website and also added new features. We now have a photo slide show of the dogs that have been rescued, and we also have a Rainbow Bridge page with a slide show of the dogs who have gone to the Bridge, and we will soon be adding stories about these dogs. More changes are coming, so please check the webpage periodically to see how it develops.

We have worked through issues with our e-mail server to try to eliminate spam and make sure that the e-mail is working properly.

After a rough start with our new host, it now seems to be performing well.

We are still working with the database designer and hope that by the next newsletter we will be able to tell you that it is working well. We are live-testing it now to make sure it is going to do everything that we want it to do.

Probably the biggest change we have been working on besides the website is our phone system and the manner in which we handle the WAGSline. We switched over from a standard phone line to a VOIP line (Voice Over Internet Protocol). Not only will this system save the organization money every month, it gives us more features. We also changed the way we respond to the WAGSline. Up to this time, it was a voicemail system that was checked periodically, and the person checking would pass along messages to the appropriate Board member or Team Manager. We now are answering the WAGSline live from 8 AM to 8 PM every day, so when someone calls in they get a nice “**Arizona Golden Rescue**, how may I direct your call?” from Gail Haywood. This has been a surprise for many callers, and we have been able to react a lot quicker to people wanting to surrender dogs. When they get a live answer, they are not calling somewhere else. We are also helping people who call in with non-Golden Retriever issues, directing them to the proper rescue groups or other places they can contact for their needs.

There are ways you can help **Arizona Golden Rescue** by doing something that you may do all the time: searching the web and shopping online. When you do a web search and use the search engine GoodSearch, **AGR** gets a penny for every search you do. You just need to go to GoodSearch.com and select Arizona Golden Rescue as the charity you want to support. You can set up your browser to use GoodSearch as the default (contact me if you need help with this). Also available on this GoodSearch page is GoodShop. You can purchase items online from stores you may already use, and **AGR** gets a percentage of the order total at no extra cost to you.

Our Cover

Debbe Begley, **AGR**’s Cofounder and first Director of Operations, passed away in June. She would have been angry if the focus of this newsletter was on her and not on the dogs. So, on the cover I have put a photo of her with the two loves of her life, **Khakidawg** and **Sandy**, surrounded by pictures of every dog her efforts have helped since our formation – all 162 of them (one got away at the shelter and a couple others were returns to Rescue so are not pictured twice). Her fundraising legacy left us very solid financially, as you can see in *The Financial Picture* on page 10. Consequently, we will be able to help many more dogs that need us in the future. Photo captions are on page 34.

The Human Connection

By Katie Donahue, D.O.

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We've all seen the stickers expressing the sentiment, *If you didn't vote, don't complain*. Well, here's a new one: *GET INVOLVED... The world is run by people who show up*.

Like what you see happening in an organization? Get involved, you can help make it better! Don't like what you see going on? Get involved, bring your new and different ideas. Some of my patients seem to think I'm psychic and all they have to do is show up and I'll magically make them better without having to hear about why they don't feel well. Unfortunately, I'm not psychic. I can't magically heal my patients, and I can't magically hear all the good suggestions our membership has if you don't come and participate.

Don't think you have earth-shattering new ideas? Doesn't matter. The key phrase in all of this is GET INVOLVED. Once you become a part of something, your mere presence changes things. Each person who comes to one of our events brings something different to the mix. A different life experience, different thoughts on puppy raising, different thoughts on dog food, all of that adds to the collective body of knowledge that is *Arizona Golden Rescue*.

In the May issue, I wrote about lots of small ways to get involved, such as coming to our Meet-and-Greets or volunteering at events like the golf tournament or holiday gift wrapping. Today I'd like to address a slightly more in-depth way to get involved. As we don't have a kennel facility to house our dogs before they go to their permanent homes, we rely on foster parents to open their homes to our newly-rescued dogs. Many of our dogs come from shelters or locations where they haven't had much medical care or interaction with people or other dogs. The best way for our Placement Manager to ensure a good permanent home is to place the new dog with a foster home, so we can learn more about the dog's personality, behavior, and any medical needs. We have an excellent core group of foster homes, but we're always in need of new families.

Why would anyone want to be responsible for everything but medical care for a dog that's going to live with someone else? Or better yet, why run the risk of being a foster failure? Then families would end up with ten dogs in their homes. Yes, fostering can become a bit pricey what with all the extra dog food and toys you might want to buy. Maybe you might want to get a doggy bed for your new foster. But, if it's in your budget to include another dog, I encourage you to consider fostering. Being a foster failure is a little harder to deal with. I speak from experience. But I have not failed every time I've fostered, and neither will you!

Fostering allows you to welcome a dog who needs love, affection, and stability in a time of uproar and confusion in his life. You can help him settle in to a new lifestyle, allow your dogs to make new friends, and you get to make a huge difference in your foster dog's life and the life of his new family. So GET INVOLVED and stay involved. You'll be glad you did!

Health and Safety: Vasculitis and Uveitis

By Liz Tataseo,
Director of Dog Care
e.tataseo@yahoo.com



Meet **Gonzo**, my medically needy Golden. I call him that because during his 8 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 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 a cancer screening with an internal medicine specialist: abdominal ultrasound, chest x-rays and urine analysis. 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!

Service Paws

By Wendy Enos
wendyenos@cox.net



The Whys of Service Dog Etiquette

- The dog is working.
- Don't touch the dog.
- Don't speak to the dog or distract him.
- Never offer food to the dog.

Rules of service dog etiquette have been published and taught long enough now that almost everyone has learned at least some of them, and kudos to anyone who actually follows them.

Even though it's near the top of the no-no list, face it... dogs, particularly service dogs, attract attention. It seems every time we're out and about on the streets, in a store, at a restaurant, or on public transportation, we encounter an assistance dog of some kind. And since service dogs are especially well-behaved and nicely groomed, they're hard for dog lovers to resist.

At **Happy Tails Service Dogs** where **Sophie** and I trained, the rules regarding meet-and-greets are relaxed; it's up to the individual handler whether or not to candidly chat with the public or to allow others to pet their dog. Personally, I don't have a problem with it, but there are many who do, so it's always best to ask first before speaking to or handling the dog, and certainly don't take it personally if the answer is no.

On a personal note, allow me to take it one step further. Being a Golden Retriever, **Sophie** is a very social dog who loves anybody who loves her back. I truly believe it would break her spirit to forbid her to mingle with folks who want to meet her. I try to be polite and nice to anyone who wants to meet her, but there are a few things I wish people would consider:

- Before speaking to me, or to her, be as reasonably sure as you can she's not actively performing a task which places my life or my safety on her shoulders.
- Wherever you might encounter me, please remember I'm there for a reason, so keep your meet-and-greet short and sweet. I have often lost track of my family and become lost while listening to people's own personal dog stories.
- If I have time, I'm perfectly happy to discuss where and how my dog was trained and how long it took, particularly if there are questions I can answer to help

other people. But I do have time constraints and can be in a hurry just like everybody else. So, just as you should ask first before petting my dog, it'd be nice to be asked first if I have a minute to chat before assuming I do.

- Always always approach me first, and not my dog. For those of us with balance issues, a distracted dog can lead to being pulled off balance or even a fall.

Now, as for the rule about not feeding the dog, that one stands firm! Most service dogs are fed on a strict schedule, and many are on a strict diet... dogs like **Sophie** with a very tender tummy. One small inappropriate treat, even if it's fine for people or most other dogs in general, could lead to disaster. Can't resist offering a treat? Please ask first and, again, don't take it personally if the answer is no.

Restaurant etiquette is especially important. The reason I can take my dog into a steak house and have her lie quietly and behave herself is because she has never been given so much as a Charlee Bear® in any eating establishment. So in any restaurant setting, please, don't even offer.

To sum it all up, just use common sense and courtesy. Teach these rules, as well as their reasons, to your children. No child, or adult for that matter, should approach any strange dog without asking permission. The same rules, plus a few extra ones, apply to service dogs.

A POEM TO MY FOSTER DOG

By Diane Morgan

*I am the bridge,
Between what was and what can be.
I am the pathway to a new life.*

*I am made of mush,
Because my heart melted when I saw you,
Matted and sore, limping, depressed
Lonely, unwanted, afraid to love.*

*For one little time you are mine.
I will feed you with my own hand.
I will love you with my whole heart.
I will make you whole.*

*I am made of steel.
Because when the time comes,
When you are well, and sleek,
when your eyes shine,
And your tail wags with joy
Then comes the hard part.*

*I will let you go - not without a tear,
But without a regret.
For you are safe forever -
A new dog needs me now.*

The Financial Picture

Reporting period: January 1, 2011 - June 30, 2011

Total Assets as of July 15, 2011: \$73,093.19

	Income	Expense
Adoptions	\$10,141.00	\$ 281.48
Bowl-a-Rama	600.00	
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	590.00	
Casino Nite		83.89
Credit Card & PayPal Processing		487.27
Donations ¹	18,524.62	
Dues and Subscriptions (Quickbooks Online)		209.16
Event Expense ²		350.00
Golf Tournament 2011	600.00	565.00
Insurance		252.00
Interest	29.56	
Legal & Professional Fees		10.00
Memberships	7,845.00	
Merchandise	3,648.24	877.44
Newsletter Subscriptions	32.00	
Office Expenses & Misc.		231.41
Parada del Sol Parade & Booth		144.42
Paws At The Park Picnic 2011 ³	623.00	34.48
PetSmart Charities PetWalk	850.00	
Postage & Shipping		662.68
Santa Claws Photos taken in 2010	1,120.00	
Stationery & Printing		2,125.67
Storage Facility Rental		500.00
Telephone		324.95
Tickets, <i>Coyotes</i>	280.00	
Tickets, <i>Phoenix Mercury</i>	150.00	250.00
Tickets, Raffle ⁴	1,550.00	
Vet and Dog-related Expenses:		
Boarding		185.36
Collars, leashes, collar tags		620.08
Medallions		103.95
Microchip expenses		312.84
Veterinary services		27,489.49
TOTAL	\$46,583.42	36,101.57
NET INCOME: \$10,481.85		
Checking Account on 7-15-11:	\$26,372.36	
Savings Account on 7-15-11:	\$43,826.20	

The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 7-15-11: \$2,869.37

¹ Donation income includes honorary and memorial donations for Debbe Begley

² Booth fee for 2012 Phoenix Pet Expo

³ Income does not include raffle ticket sales

⁴ \$740 from Celebration Party and \$810 from Paws At The Park

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Dr. Katie Donahue

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 April 15, 2011 through July 5, 2011. All adoptions finalized after July 5th will be in the next issue.



10-070: Back in October of 2010, **Bella** came in to Rescue because her previous owners were not able to afford her growing medical costs. Five-year-old Goldendoodle **Bella** started having seizures and, as the cause was not readily apparent, a significant amount of time, effort, and monetary investment would have to be spent on her care. **Bella** stayed in foster care for quite some time and

made numerous trips to multiple vets including an oncologist. Other than the seizures, her medical issues included persistent lymphadenopathy (enlarged lymph nodes), significant allergies, a questionable bout with incontinence, and separation anxiety. Poor **Bella**! We believe both the seizures and lymphadenopathy were secondary to tick fever, as both have abated after treatment for the tick fever. **Bella** is currently not having any issues with incontinence, and her new family is working on her separation anxiety. She still has some allergy problems but receives daily drops to help keep her symptoms at bay. She now enjoys being a happy-go-lucky Goldendoodle with her new family in Cave Creek. Mom Brita writes: **Bella** joined our family about 4 months ago and we are so happy to have her and call her our own. **Bella** had some difficult medical issues to sort through including seizures and significant allergies when **AGR** rescued her. She was successfully started on the right treatment and with only a few bumps in the road has done very well at our home. She enjoys playing with our 4-year-old Goldendoodle and keeping the toys away from her. She never misses a meal or her daily walk – she is very anxious for both of these at the times when she thinks they should occur. **Bella** continues to have some allergy issues leading to skin irritation, although she has not had a seizure since we've adopted her and is doing great! Thank you **AGR** for pouring your heart and financial assets into **Bella** to give her a chance at a healthy life!

11-008 Goldie came to **AGR** from another set of rescuers. Her original owner had passed away, so she went to live with friends of his. Unfortunately, her new dad was allergic to her and she was



unable to stay with them. We were happy to have this delightful 7-year-old come stay with foster mom Joyce. Joyce took her off to the vet for her check-up, and other than needing to lose about 20 lbs, **Goldie** was just fine. **Goldie** let us know she didn't really like the Valley and that she was more of a Southern Arizona kind of girl, so we hooked her up with Su in

Yuma. Su and her boy **Denali** were missing their previous **Golden Girl** and were hoping to add another to their lives. Su missed having Golden Retriever hair all over her house, and **Denali** missed having a live-in playmate. We thought these guys would be the perfect match, and Su let us know we were right: *As soon as I saw **Goldie's** face, I knew that was the face I wanted to look at forever... she had just lost her human and I had lost my **Golden Girl**-dog... she needed to come live with me and my **Denali**-dog. Today the three of us are quite the trio and are frequently seen around Yuma visiting **Goldie's** new friends (including local retailers who have welcomed her into their stores). **Goldie** has more than doubled the fun and love in our household. A big thank you goes to the volunteers at **Arizona Golden Rescue**.*



11-012 Rocky, a 4-year-old black Golden/Aussie mix (left), and **11-013 Bear**, a 4-year-old mostly-Golden mix (right), made the trip down from



Payson with their FWITAs. Their original owners were unable to devote enough time to the brothers and their small child. Their new parents, Ron and Sandra, were quite happy to have them, though their first night together was delayed by a

trip to the vet. Both boys had gnawed open the sutures from their neuter surgeries. Two wound reclosures and two e-collars later, the boys were quite happy to head home to Cave Creek the next morning. **Rocky** made a few trips back to the vet for a bout with *Giardia*, but both boys are now very healthy and happy with their new parents. We wish them all the best for their new life together!

11-015 and **11-016: Colt** and **Remington** are another pair of brothers who were unable to stay with their original family. Colt is a 2-year-old mostly-Golden mix (at right in photo) and **Remington** is a 3-year-old Golden Retriever (at left in photo). The boys have fit



right in at their new home in Peoria with Dave and his 11-year-old son. They are celebrating their new lives with new names: **Colt** is now **Charlie** and **Remington** now answers to **Remi**. Both will have rechecks for valley fever in the coming months. They plan to spend their summer hanging out with their family.



11-017 Buster is a 3-year-old Golden mix whose previous owners did not have enough time for him. Though well-loved, he spent most of his time outside and his owners felt he should be with a family who could give him the attention he deserved. Denny was able to transport him to new parents Hannah and Mitch in Scottsdale. He happily joined their family and now

shares his life with fur sibling **Clara**. **Buster** is also sporting a new name: **Bela**, definitely not Bella like a girl but **Bela** as in the 20th-century Hungarian composer Bela Bartok. Mom Hannah is a professional oboist, and both her fur kids share her passion for music. She writes: *Wanted to check in with you about **Bela**. We have had glorious days with him. He has blended in with our family on a sensational level. He and **Clara** are truly enjoying each other. Today we took the pups to the Fountain Hills off-leash park for **Bela's** first experience. **Bela** played hard and was extremely well behaved. Earlier in the day we visited the vet where he received his shots. He is quite healthy. It seems like he has been with us for much longer than just a few days. He is sleeping all night right in the bedroom with the family, and has caused no mischief in any way. **Bela** is our new Prince of a Pooch. This week we will have him groomed! He is enjoying his new diet and tolerating it quite well. WE LOVE HIM! He loves the 5-month-old grandson and his parents who are visiting for the weekend. He is a joy. Thank you, again, to Rescue. We are so appreciative. Hannah has very generously set up an automatic monthly donation to **AGR** from her checking account – thanks so much!*



11-018 Cheyenne is a beautiful 5-year-old female who was unable to stay with her previous owner as they were downsizing to an apartment secondary to financial issues. Her former owner had a business associate who volunteers with **AGR**, and he recommended we find a place for her. **Cheyenne** stayed with foster mom Joyce for

a few days so we could learn a little more about her and find her the perfect forever home. It turns out she's not the best leash-walker, though she does enjoy her walks, and she has some fear issues – **Cheyenne** seems to be afraid of loud noises, sudden movements, or other things she sees that she's not quite sure of, like mailboxes. New dad Bill was more than ready to work with her, and she's slowly coming out of her shell. We feel in no time she'll be the perfect Velcro Golden Girl.

11-019 Goldie number 2 came to us as her original owner, an elderly gentleman, was no longer able to care for this active young puppy. We were able to place her with Christy and Ronald in Anthem, where she will get all the exercise and training a 1-year-old puppy needs. **Goldie** will now be known as **CJ** to her new friends. She does have evidence of mild hip



dysplasia but, fortunately, will not need corrective surgery. **CJ** is keeping her new parents on their toes and is quickly learning to be a well-behaved member of society. Mom Christy writes: ***CJ** has settled into our family with ease. She is a joy to have with us. She is learning quickly, especially her leash training. We are thrilled to be Golden owners again. Thank you so much for all your great work with Goldens. Hugs!*



11-020 Chip is a 2-year-old boy who magically appeared at his finder's house. After a concerted effort to locate his original owners was unsuccessful, the finder called **Arizona Golden Rescue** as they were unable to keep him. We were happy to help **Chip** find a new home. He did require his routine vet work and neuter, then came down with kennel cough. Fortunately he recovered

quickly. **Chip** is a happy-go-lucky little man with a great disposition and sunny smile. After **Chip** had spent a few days at the vet, Denny drove him to meet his new parents in Scottsdale. Wayne and Jessica are just delighted with him. We wish them all the best!

11-022: One of the best things about rescuing Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes is that we see all kinds of mixes come our way. **Ebony** is one of the more frequent types of mixes we see; she's a Golden/Border Collie mix and, as her name suggests, is a beautiful glossy black. She was found as a stray at a dog park, and when her finder was unable to locate her original owners she moved in with Ingrid and *Arizona Golden Rescue* to wait for her permanent home. After about a month with foster mom Ingrid and all the doggies at Ingrid's house, 6-month-old **Ebony** was ready to move in with new parents Michael and Amanda in Gilbert. **Ebony** is enjoying spending quality time playing with her new fur brother **Hagard** and settling in with her new family. We know she'll be quite happy with them!



11-024 Boomer was another stray, this time from Tucson. This 4-year-old red Golden was lucky enough to wander into the home of a very dedicated dog lover. Unfortunately, he was unable to stay as she had three large dogs of her own. She spent some time trying to find his original owners and improving his health before contacting *AGR* when

no owner came forward. This "love sponge," as Tucson member Jane described him, headed up to the Valley for some additional vet work before going to his new home. It appeared as if **Boomer** had some burns to his neck and back; the vet thought perhaps he had been burned under a car. He also has a very low valley fever titer and fortunately does not need medication at this point. **Boomer**, now **Bauer**, is quite happy with his new family in Gilbert. Dad Ted is working on his training, and **Bauer** enjoys spending time with his doggie sibling and two human siblings. Happy new life, **Bauer**!

11-025 Winslow's surrender and placement were very difficult. His original owners tried very hard to keep him, but, due to severe allergies, simply couldn't. They requested we find the perfect home for this 6-year-old boy. Our goal is to find the best homes for all our dogs, but **Winslow** needed just the right one. His original owners had adopted him from the shelter at just 8 or 9 months old. He had been a stray and was emaciated and totally shut down. He was fearful of everything, including himself. He also had a bout of pancreatitis and was bitten by a rattlesnake. All through this, **Winslow** remained the model



of a loving Golden Retriever. We believe we've found just the perfect home for **Winslow** with Matt and Mary Lynn and their two Golden Retrievers in Glendale. **Winslow** has settled in quite well and enjoys playing ball with his fur brothers and taking a dip in the pool. He also loves spending quality time with his new parents and loves giving kisses. Mom Mary Lynn writes: *The day he came to our home to become part of our family and we were told the "story of Winslow" ~ of the blows the past had dealt him and the terrible times he had somehow managed to rise above and weather, none of which were his fault ~ I sat looking into his big brown eyes, heartbroken, and I cried. He tilted his head to the side and looked at me with a renewed optimism, as though trying to comfort me. It seemed that he was saying, "It is OK. I am here now. I will trust and love you unconditionally. Nothing in my past matters anymore. Please love me!" It was at that moment I promised him that he would always be loved, and feel safe, and forevermore would have a fun and happy place to call home. The adjustment period was very short. Winslow has fallen right into the routine with his new Golden Retriever brothers, Duke and Hoogie Sandwich. He loves his morning and evening walks, and he gets a kick out of splashing around in the pool to cool off on these hot days. Chicken Jerky treats are a favorite for him. (I think he might prefer to make them a favorite pastime!) He is my alarm clock every morning and has been from the very first days; I awaken to his warm breath on my face and licks on my hands as though he is saying, "Get up, woman! Let's get this day started! We have good memories to create!" It was one of the things that proved to me he was happy to be in my home; he knew I would never be a threat to him, and everything he might remember from "before" would slip away and be replaced with pleasant memories of good times. It has only been a month, but I truly believe in my heart that Winslow was meant to be a part of our home. I admit that I love my puppies as some love their children. I spoil and pamper them, and I spend lots of time with them. They are such an important part of my life. But I will never apologize for that. Winslow belongs exactly where he is now ~ in a home where he will always feel loved, cared for and safe. We feel very blessed and complete now thanks to Winslow. And Winslow certainly deserves to be treated like a king. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be brought together with Winslow, he is a perfect addition to our home, and we love him very much. AGR volunteers gift wrapping at the Happy Valley Barnes & Noble bookstore before Father's Day found that Winslow and Mary are a great addition to our volunteer force!*



11-026 Colby is a very stately 7-year-old gold Golden who came to us because his original owners were going to have a baby. They felt they would be unable to give him the attention he deserved. We were able to place him with Jackie in Glendale and she is quite thrilled with him. He had to have some vet

work done, as he had an ear infection and a small growth on his front elbow. Other than those minor issues, he is doing very well and settling in to the routine at his new house. Mom Jackie writes: *I was introduced to Arizona Golden Rescue at the recent Pet Expo at the University of Phoenix Stadium. Once I completed the application and site visit, the big day finally came. I remember exactly where I was when the call came... and let me tell you it was worth waiting for! Once I saw Colby it was love at first sight – he is absolutely the perfect dog! In fact, he comes to work with me every day. We are updating our company website, and he will be pictured and listed as an employee! Colby and I go for walks every morning and in the evening we walk with others from the neighborhood. He's still getting used to the paw protectors to protect his feet from the heat of the concrete, but that will come in time. Thanks to the entire team at AGR for finding the perfect match for me!*



11-027 Zona is a handsome 18-month-old red Golden with lots of love and energy but absolutely no training or manners. When Teri and her daughter Michelle went to collect him from his previous owners, he had no idea how to walk on a leash or get into the car. Teri had to “help” him in, read: scoop him into the back of her car. Fortunately, once he was in the car he rode well to his new home

with Daniela and Alex in Carefree. He needed “the works” at the vet as he’d had no prior vet care, but he was very healthy otherwise. Now renamed **Mozart**, he is enjoying life and will be attending both obedience class and rattlesnake training to enhance his Golden Retriever brain power. Mom Daniela sent us this note: *Alex and I were bereft following the death of our beloved Golden Beemer. My husband thought he would never find another dog he would love as much. I was hopeful, however, that if the right dog would find its way to our house, he would love him/her as much or more. And this is what happened. When Mozart came to our home, he was filthy, with matted hair and both his ears infected. He was very wary around humans and kept at a safe distance from everybody. He bit his leash on his way to our house and in one neat bite cut it into two! Teri and her daughter, who brought Mozart to our home, looked at us with pity, commenting that we had our hands full with this dog. Mozart had lived practically alone all his short life, as his owner was never at home. He learned to chew everything in sight, and this led his owner to decide he could no longer keep him. He did not know how to act around humans. The first weekend we spent together, Mozart gradually became less frightened, as he realized neither I nor Alex was going to harm him in any way. By the end of that weekend, he was following us constantly, crying whenever we were out of his sight! We had bonded. After seeing the vet (for the first time in his life, I might add) and getting all the shots and after a good bath, Mozart felt much better and began to enjoy the process of settling into his new home. He has been with us for 2 1/2 weeks now, and nobody would recognize in the gentle, clean and mindful*

dog of today the scared, confused, unfriendly dog that arrived at our doorstep only a few days ago! We love Mozart and he will be a permanent member of our family, for sure. Thank you, AGR!



11-028: All puppies are adorable, but **Sammy** is one of the most adorable puppies ever! This little guy somehow ended up as a stray. When his finder was unable to locate his original owners, she contacted **AGR**. **Sammy** spent some time making the rounds of our Board members’ homes to meet them and their dogs and just be his adorable puppy self before settling down for a

nap at Teri’s. After about 10 days with Teri and her pack, he decided he’d like to move in with Chris and Sara in Phoenix. They have another four-legged friend named **Hamlin**, and **Sammy**, now **Toby**, loves playing with him all day long. **Toby** is still working through some puppy issues such as chewing and jumping, but he is doing very well with his training. He’s quite smart and eager to please. Mom Sara writes: *‘Sammy’ is doing great... I think we’ve decided to change his name to Toby. He’s so playful and silly he needs a fun name. He’s adjusted quite well... definitely made himself at home. He’s quite the snuggle bunny at night and our other dog, Hamlin, just looks at him like ‘hey, why are you lying next to my mom and dad?’ So we’re trying to make sure Hamlin gets lots of love also. He’s just as special, too. But they are getting along quite well... they play and play and play.*



11-030 Preston is a gorgeous white Golden. He is an exuberant 6-month-old who had too much energy for the small dogs belonging to his original owner’s roommate. Things weren’t improved by the fact that **Preston’s** owner traveled for long periods of time, and **Preston** was frequently left to his own devices. Fortunately **AGR** was able to find an active family

for this active puppy. Rosy and Hugh were happy to welcome **Preston** into their home in Cave Creek. **Preston**, now **Diego**, did need some medical attention for a rather interesting condition. He had a Happy Tail injury – **Diego** is so happy to see people and wags his tail so exuberantly that he’d injured it and needed to have it bandaged! He’s still having some issues with that tail and his happiness. While we don’t want his happiness to decrease, we’d like to see his tail get better. Maybe his new parents can consider bubble-wrapping all the hard surfaces in their house!

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

Diamonds in the Ruff

By Deb Orwig

Diamonds in the Ruff are rescued dogs that require **AGR** to spend at least \$1000 on their health care. In our May issue, we featured several dogs that had tested positive for valley fever. All but three of them are now negative. **11-014 Bear** had a titer of 1:32 but after three months on fluconazole, the titer is now only 1:8; he is still taking fluconazole daily. The other two will be retested in July; hopefully, they will not need the medication any longer.

We have put hip reconstruction surgery for **10-065 Mandy** on hold. Now that she has recovered from her cruciate ligament repair, she seems to be walking fine, up to a mile a day with no ill effects.

We did not mention **10-046 Lucy** in the May issue, but we probably should have. She is a 9-year-old Golden mix who had a lung tumor when she came into Rescue last year. This tumor was judged to be very slow growing, so no one was particularly concerned about it. However, a mass was recently discovered in her abdomen. Her platelet count was really low, so we had to wait to begin chemotherapy until the count came up. She is eating well and still enjoying life, so we will continue to keep her comfortable until she lets us know it is time for her to leave us.



11-011 Prince is our big-ticket dog for this past quarter. I mentioned in the May issue that he had come to **AGR** with sarcoptic mange and had to be kept isolated in my laundry room for a month and given medicated baths twice a week. The mange has cleared up and he has now been neutered. However, we are still dealing with some digestive

problems. We had allergy testing done and that revealed he was allergic to all sorts of common dog food ingredients: wheat, oats, rice, barley, corn, peas, lamb, turkey and chicken, among other things. It was a challenge to find a food he can eat – I am now using *Natural Balance Bison and Sweetpotato* formula. It was a real exercise in reading the fine print on all the various dog foods and dog treats – so many of them now contain pea flour or chicken fat, both no-nos for **Prince**. Very few treats sold commercially are OK for him; those that are grain free almost all have chicken fat or pea flour in them. Our vet sells some hypoallergenic treats that are OK, and I found some Beef Treats at *Costco* that have only beef liver and beef lung in them and no preservatives. He loves these! **Prince** is still getting pumpkin mixed in with his kibble – the fiber in the pumpkin helps keep his stools relatively solid. We

are also still trying to get his thyroid properly regulated, so he has not yet been released for adoption. So far, **Prince's** medical bills have amounted to over \$2200. **Prince** is one of the special needs dogs we are featuring for this year's Bowl-a-Rama. Please make a donation to that event if at all possible.

VALLEY FEVER ALERT!

By Deb Orwig

Valley fever, also called *Coccidioidomycosis immitis*, is a fungal disease that commonly affects people and dogs living in the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. The fungal spores of the valley fever organism are released into the air when the ground is disturbed by construction, farming and after rainfall. The dust storms in southern AZ during the summer could be carrying spores of the fungus that causes valley fever. The spores are inhaled and lodge in the lungs where the infection begins. If a human or a dog contracts the disease, the symptoms could manifest in days, weeks or months, or the individual may not exhibit any symptoms until the disease is very advanced. It is for the latter reason why *Arizona Golden Rescue* has every dog tested for valley fever when it comes into our Rescue program. Please be on the alert for the following symptoms in your dog:

- Fever
- Cough
- Fatigue and lethargy
- Joint aches
- Weight loss
- Lack of appetite
- Limping
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Draining sores from skin (dogs only)

The disease is not contagious except in the case of draining sores. It can be passed to humans through draining sores on dogs.

According to the Mayo Clinic, in addition to the above symptoms in dogs, humans may exhibit any or all of the following:

- Chills
- Night sweats
- Headache
- Chest pain - varying from a mild feeling of constriction to intense pressure resembling a heart attack
- Shortness of breath
- Red, spotty rash (humans only)

If you or your dog develop any of these symptoms, get tested right away. The disease is usually curable if caught early.

This Gift Pays You Back!

By Rue Chagoll *

Pssst! This being the holiday season and all I'm gonna let ya' in on a little gift-givin' secret. Here's a gift you can give – that will then pay you back – way, way more than you ever spent! Yup, no kidding. This gift won't cost you a dime. What's the catch? No catch. All you'll have to spend is some time and attention. If you want, but this is purely optional, you can throw in a little bit of affection. Attention invested in this scheme will be returned immediately at 100%. Any of that optional affection will be even more quickly returned, and at a whopping 500%. Guaranteed! Over time – granted this won't happen overnight – over time you'll see enormous returns in pride and in joy. With a better-than-even chance a few laughs will come your way, too. And who among us couldn't use some additional pride and some additional joy, or a few bonus laughs? I thought so!

OK, you want specifics? Here's the deal, short and sweet: Open your home to foster a rescued Golden Retriever. Doesn't have to be right now. Make it a New Year's resolution. In fact, you can cash in on this deal just about any old time! Getting approved as a foster home is Phase 1. Rescue will work with you to send a dog matched to your expertise and home situation.

It'll be as quickly as Phase 2, when you first lay eyes on that Golden-in-need, that paybacks will start to accrue – via wag of the tail, a sloppy nuzzle, or perhaps just a soulful gaze. I remember quite vividly, though it was seven years ago, the first foster Golden who came to our home. His name is **Fletcher**. "Sprung" on a snowy day, stinking and filthy, from a small town shelter's death row – a year or so later I looked on proudly as he and his adopter earned an **AKC** Obedience title.

Since then, there have literally been dozens: all shapes, sizes, colors, ages and backgrounds. Some were just big, loving teddy bears and perfect in every imaginable way – like **Brandy** and later **Luke**, who had us wondering how in the world anyone could ever have turned them out. Usually, though, they arrived with a bit of baggage from life-before-Rescue – sometimes physical, sometimes behavioral. Some needed dieting and exercise, or special medical treatment. Some needed socialization. A few were in need of improved manners. Several were seniors, seeking but the chance to prove themselves still-worthy companions. **Alex**, **Lily** and **Jackson** came to us bursting with love, and about three times that in energy and playfulness. **Sadie** arrived some 25 pounds overweight, serious candidate for the doggie-equivalent of Weight Watchers and Richard Simmons. **Maggie** taught us about canine epilepsy. **Spirit** and **Sawyer** came with some serious anxieties. **Sydney** arrived as the most gruesome example ever of untreated canine hypothyroidism. Seniors **Sox**, **Sam** and **Bucky** showed us the flame burns brightly behind those gray masks.

Every dog we've fostered has in his or her own way rewarded us many times over for the invested time, attention, and sometimes special care. Beyond the Phase 2 short-term paybacks, come the even greater Phase: long-term dividends. Wait a minute, you say? What happened to Phase 3? Well, seeing as I've gotten you to read this far, I guess I can risk now describing Phase 3: "Sending Them Home." I won't lie to you. It hurts a bit, sometimes a lot, to let go. But you take confidence in the work Rescue has done in first specifying then finding the "perfect" home for this dog you've somehow come to love as your own. So, you send them away with a hug, and wait, albeit impatiently, for Phase 4, which begins with the follow-up phone call shortly after placement. Sighs of relief, tinged with a bit of longing for that new friend, are your reactions to "We just love him!" or "She's absolutely the perfect dog for me!" or "How can we ever thank you enough?" But the real long-term dividends are those delivered time and again, months and years down the line. You'll be paid handsomely, each and every time you see that dog on the street or at some canine event, the adopters beaming and bubbling heartwarming tales. What could be more rewarding than knowing you helped give that once-needy friend a new lease on life?

We get e-mails, photos, letters, holiday cards and sometimes even visits from the cadre of precious Goldens who've graced our home. Each stirs memories of wonderful shared times, that together amount to the veritable heap of riches we now claim. There's still the occasional sigh or damp eyes, but of joy not sadness. You should give this fostering business a try! Make a promise to "give" your home to a Golden-in-need sometime soon and I promise by next holiday season you'll be awash in the dividends! Pardon? You're still fretting about that Phase 3? OK. Tell ya' what I'm gonna do just because you've trudged with me all this way. But shhhhhhh, don't let this get around or there's likely to be a stampede of foster home applicants. Here's what you do. When Rescue's [Placement Manager] phones to advise a terrific home has been found for your foster Golden, just say, "Not better than this one, it isn't! Bring me the adoption papers!" Poof! No more Phase 3. Neat, huh? I leave you with this sobering note. Insufficient number of foster homes is most always one of the biggest limiting factors in any Rescue program. The simple truth is dogs go wanting for lack of them. I salute everyone who has fostered a rescued Golden!

*Rue Chagoll originally wrote this piece back in November 2001 for his own rescue organization's newsletter, and I have saved it all this time. I received his permission to reprint it – thanks, Rue! Rue is a long-time supporter of Golden Retriever Rescue and the proud adopter of a rescued Golden who's now one leg away from her **AKC** Utility title.

Dogs give their human companions unconditional love and are always there with an encouraging wag of the tail when they are needed. The dog is indeed a very special animal.

~Dorothy Hinshaw Patent

*Thank You
for Bringing This Foster Dog
into My Life*
Author Unknown

Ed. Note: The following article came to my attention almost 10 years ago, and I liked it so much I saved it. At the time, I did make an attempt to discover who wrote it, but no one seemed to know. That's a shame, because he/she deserves credit for a beautiful piece.

Had I not made the decision to participate in Rescue, I would never have had the chance to meet him. If I had sat here comfortably in my home and said, "I already have four dogs and I know that I couldn't take in another, even on a temporary basis," I would never have met this dog.

Yes, it takes time to rescue and foster... but who gave me time in the first place? And why or what was the reason I was given time? To fill my own needs?

Or was there another reason ever so small and seemingly insignificant, like rescuing this one dog, that could make a difference in another's life? Perhaps to add joy, hope, help and companionship to another who is in need?

With great sadness, I sat down on a footstool in my kitchen this morning and watched as this foster dog bounced back into the house and skidded across the floor to sit ever so perfectly in front of me. He was the picture of health, finally. He was all smiles for me... and I smiled back at his happy face. Deep in his eyes, the storm clouds of illness and generally poor health had blown away, and the clear light of his perfection radiated out from his beautiful soul. He holds no ill will toward man. He forgives us all.

I thought to myself, as I impressed this one last long look of him into my heart, "What a very fine creature you have created." Tears slowly pooled and spilled over my cheekbones as the deeper realization of how wonderful this dog is sank into my internal file cabinet of Needful Things To Remember. Lord, he's a *dog* – but he's a better human being than I am.

He forgives quickly. Would I do the same? He passionately enjoys the simple things in life, and I have often overlooked them. He accepts change and gets on with his life! I fuss and worry about change. He lives today and loves today. And I often dwell in the past or worry about the future. He loves, no matter what. I am not that free.

This very lovely dog has gone to his new home today, and already I miss him. Thank you for bringing this dog into my life. And thank you for the beautiful and tender lesson on how to be a better human.

FOSTER FRAPS ~ By Deb Orwig

If you aren't familiar with the term FRAP, we will explain – then you will see just how apropos this acronym is to fostering Golden Retrievers! FRAP stands for Frenetic Random Activity Periods – it describes fostering to a "T"!

The Placement Manager calls you while you're (1) in the shower, (2) eating, (3) out doing errands, (4) in the midst of a riveting book or TV show, (5) cleaning house for company coming in two hours, (6) doing just about anything besides thinking about fostering another Golden. The call: "Can you PPLLEEAAASSEE take in a foster for me in an hour – I've tried everyone else I can think of, no one is available, and all the vets/boarding facilities are closed! He/she is such a beautiful boy/girl, just SO sweet and lovable! He/she was digging up the owner's back yard, so they want to get rid of the dog, and if we don't rescue him/her NOW, they'll take him/her to the pound. He/she is housebroken (NOT, sometimes) and was sent to obedience school by the owner (but has forgotten everything). He/she is just a WONDERFUL dog!" Dog arrives. FRAPs begin. The dog drives you crazy. You fall in love all over again! You cry when the dog goes to his/her new home and hope that the new owners keep in touch with you. Fostering Golden is one of the most rewarding jobs in the world!

AGR has only a small group of members who have a foster-only home. We would have spent much more on boarding had we not had all of you. You are all terrific! We need everyone's help to spread the word to friends, neighbors, coworkers, and business associates that we could use more foster homes. Many of our foster families have ended up adopting the dog(s) they fostered, thus eliminating their households from our foster homes list.

What is required for being a Golden foster caregiver? Above all, you must be an **AGR** member or join when you get a dog – our insurance requires all who are active in the organization (including fosters) to be members. The cost can be as little as \$25 for one year. You don't need a big yard, but the yard must be fenced (or you will have to walk the dog outside on leash). You don't need a big house. If you need a crate, we will provide one if you don't have one. A dog door into the back yard is helpful but not necessary. All you really need is a commitment to Golden Retrievers, a supply of good-quality dog food, and time to love and exercise the dog. As you foster the dog, you will evaluate its temperament and personality, so that **AGR** can make as good a match as possible between the dog and a potential new owner.

Being a foster parent is a heart-warming and rewarding experience. As a foster parent for an unwanted Golden, you will have changed the life of that dog forever. The Golden did not ask to be abandoned or neglected. He only wants to love and be loved. You are the person that will make a difference in that one special Golden's life. Are you ready to join our foster list? We're ready for you!

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



11-036 Abbit



11-040 Lady



Mia Beceiro



Shelby Flynn



Missy Hansen



Rosie Johnston



Joey Wong



Sandy Wong

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.

Dolores Lewis
Beloved mother of AGR Member
Raeann Pellegatti

Robert Eschenbacher
Beloved father-in-law of AGR Member
Pinky Eschenbacher

Bob Bornstein
President of Sooner Golden
Retriever Rescue in Oklahoma
He was a friend to everyone and a defender of
all Golden retrievers, especially those in the puppy mills

Debbe Begley
Cofounder of Arizona Golden Rescue

Debbe Begley

April 26, 1949 – June 18, 2011

Those who have given of themselves to others will live forever in every single heart they have touched. Remembering with you one life that touched so many others.



I first met Debbe Begley on January 10, 2004. We were at Thunderbird Park in Glendale attending a seminar called “Hiking with Your Dog.” At the end of the program, the instructor asked us all if we would like to go on a real hike with our dogs two weeks later. I spoke up and said my Golden Retriever rescue group was going to be walking in the *Parada del Sol* that day, so I wouldn’t be able to come. As I was walking **Rocky** back to the car, a woman – Debbe – came running after me yelling, “Rescue lady, Rescue lady! WAIT!” She wanted to know about the Rescue, so I gave her the basics and then invited her to attend the Rescue’s annual potluck picnic and funday, which was scheduled for the next day. She came, signed up to be a member and jumped into volunteering for the group with both feet and her **Khakidawg** by her side. She chaired this same event the following year and for several years afterward.

We saw each other frequently at Rescue events and became good friends. About 1½ years later, I ran for President and she for 1st Vice President, a position which oversaw all the Rescue’s events and fundraisers. We won and began working together even more closely. We had similar ideas on what Rescue should do to be successful and how to do it. We got to the point where we were so tuned into each other we often would finish each other’s sentences. We got angry at the same things, cried together over dogs that had gone to the Bridge, but most of all we laughed together. She was always the one with the calm, reasonable demeanor, keeping me from going off on tangents or from getting too hot under the collar about some issue. She wasn’t without backbone, though – cross her on anything having to do with the welfare of the dogs and you’d get an earful! Her focus was always where it should be – to do the best job we could for the dogs.

Over the next couple years, we had to fight several battles within that organization. Finally, in early 2009, both of us had had enough, so we decided it was time to form our own organization. We weren’t the only ones interested in doing that – 130 people from the original group came into our new group with us. In typical fashion, we hashed out ideas, consulted some other good friends for theirs, drew up the paperwork, wrote By-laws and got the job done – in about a week. On March 11, 2009, we filed for incorporation with the State of Arizona and applied for 501 (c) (3) status; it was granted on July 16, 2009.

A card that was sent after Debbe’s passing said, “Your loved one

lived a good life, leaving so many wonderful memories and a great example to live by.” So true! Debbe was incredibly organized.

On the day we introduced the new organization to the 30 people who attended the meeting, she came armed with an easel, large flip charts and magic markers, so that she could



Debbe, 8th from left in back row, with all others who attended AGR’s organizational meeting on March 14, 2009

present the structure and function we

had discussed for the organization, but she also wrote down ideas from those present; many of those ideas were eventually adopted as part of our operating procedure. Same thing happened at the organizational meeting we held for our first *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament*. She came prepared with a plan, but encouraged others to contribute ideas, which made each person feel important and part of the process. She had a binder or folder for every single kind of event we did with contact information, potential donor or participant lists, procedures, equipment needed, etc., so that if anyone else ever took over her job, or even the chairmanship of a single event, they would not have to start from scratch. She took the time to actually think about an event and plan for every possible contingency. She was a problem solver and a really good negotiator.

So, we were off and running. We had learned over the years that the best advertising for Golden Retriever Rescue walks on 4 feet, and the best means of reaching the public is to be visible. So, we signed up for every event that was offered to us and set up partnerships with **PACC 911**, **PetSmart** and **Choice Pet Market**.



Cheerleaders at our 2009 Bowl-a-Rama:
Liz Tataseo, Kathi Youhas, Louise Carreiro,
Kathy Blue and Debbe Begley

That year, only 4 months after forming, we participated in **PACC 911’s Bowl-a-Rama for Animal Rescue** and three weeks later hosted our first *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament*. Both events were successful beyond our wildest dreams! By the time we finished 66 hours of volunteering during the holiday season doing gift wrapping at three different

Barnes & Noble Booksellers and *Photos with Santa* at two different **PetSmarts**, we were comfortable financially and felt we could handle just about any medical condition that came our way with a dog that needed rescuing. Good thing, too, since the second dog to come to us in 2010 racked up over \$5,000 in medical bills.

We are a nonprofit, charitable organization, but we need to



Casino Nite Welcoming Committee: Deb Orwig as "Miss Kitty," John Carreiro as "Marshall Matt Dillon," and Saloon Girls Teri Guilbault, Kathi Youhas, Katie Donahue, Liz Tataseo, and Debbe Begley with Cowpoke Jimmy

maintain a considerable financial cushion in order to be prepared to handle canine medical issues, so fundraising has to be an ongoing activity. Debbe understood this better than most. She was always trying to come up with new ideas for making money. She was especially interested in planning events that could bring in people besides members, as it seems like we

always have our hand out to the members asking for donations. Our new, big event in 2010 was the *Golden Paw Saloon & Gambling Hall Casino Nite*. Debbe had kind of a wild and crazy side that many people never knew. That side really came out with *Casino Nite*. We had an "olde-time Western" theme, so she coerced me into dressing up as "Miss Kitty," and got *Bert Easley's Fun Shop* to donate "saloon girl" costumes for a half dozen other gals to wear. The entire evening was terrific fun and was a great fundraiser! We had hoped to repeat it this year, but when Debbe got sick in February and could not participate in the planning and outreach to members and the public, we had to cancel it.

Debbe loved the parades we attended almost above all else. She was

so proud to show off all the dogs we have rescued and all the beautiful Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes owned by our membership. In 2010 when the theme for the *Parada del Sol* was breast cancer awareness, her wild and crazy side put pink sequined cowgirl hats



on her head and mine and pink argyle knee socks on our legs. Our dogs and their owners all wore pink bandannas, our three cancer-survivor dogs all wore bright pink Donation Vests, and we ended up with the First Place award for the Best Nonmusical Marching

continued on p. 21

THE DEBBE BEGLEY MEMORIAL FUND

In Debbe's memory, we have established *The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. Over \$3200 has already been donated to this fund. This money will be reserved to help pay the medical bills of (1) any dog that comes to *AGR* with cancer and (2) any dog whose medical expenses exceed \$5000. To this fund, we will be dedicating the money collected for *Bowl-a-Rama* and also the revenue from our upcoming *Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner* scheduled for Sunday, November 6th. Donations to this Fund are welcome at any time.

INTERMENT CEREMONY

To give Debbe Begley a tribute she surely deserves, *Arizona Golden Rescue* invites you to attend her interment ceremony scheduled for Sunday, October 30th at 1 PM at *Resthaven Park Cemetery*, 6450 W. Northern Ave in Glendale. She wanted an honor guard of Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes to be there. Each dog that attends will receive a special commemorative bandanna and will be asked to wear them again in her honor in the *Parada del Sol* on February 11, 2012. We hope that every adopted *AGR* dog will attend this ceremony. All other Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes belonging to *AGR* members are also encouraged to attend. If you are a member but do not have a Golden, you are encouraged to attend as well. At Debbe's request, please RSVP when we issue the formal invitation at the beginning of October. Also at Debbe's request, we will have a party – she called it her final celebration party – after the ceremony.

PAWS & PASTA

A Spaghetti Dinner for Arizona Golden Rescue
 Dinner includes: Spaghetti buffet with salad, bread, dessert & beverage (coffee, tea, soda, water)

1:00pm-5:00pm
 Sunday November 6, 2011

Hosted by Bryan Foley & Nancy Wheeler of
Little Bite of Italy
 15462 N 99th Ave • Sun City, AZ (corner of 99th Ave & Greenway)

Only \$10.00 per person
 All proceeds go to Arizona Golden Rescue to help the dogs

No host bar will be open
 item raffle and 50/50 raffle
 AGR Merchandise available for sale
 Performances by various trained guest dogs

RSVP appreciated.
 Call Teri Guilbault at 623-221-8758
 or email teri.guilbault@yahoo.com
 Walk-ins also welcome.
 No advance tickets, pay at the door.



Group! This year, the theme was a patriotic one – “stomping with the troops in cowboy boots.” I bought her a pair of red, white and blue glittery sunglasses and told her turnabout was fair play – we both wore them. She wanted as many dogs as possible to join us in the parade. She made arrangements to borrow some trailers and garden wagons so the older dogs could ride rather than have to walk the 1 ½-mile route, and she got **Discount Tire** at the corner of Scottsdale Road and Oak Street where the parade started to store our decorated trailers overnight. We had 63 dogs join us for this parade!

An innovator, a go-getter, and a champion of Golden Retrievers – this was the kind of gal Debbe was. The quote at the top of this article is from a sympathy card sent to those who knew her best. If you are or have ever been a Board member or Team Manager or team participant or answered phones or written thank you letters or attended even a single event of any kind since March 14, 2009, whether you know it or not Debbe touched your heart, as she was behind every activity we’ve done. If you are one of our adopters, whether you ever met Debbe in person or not, she touched your heart, as you now have a wonderful Golden family member who is as healthy as we could make him or her thanks to Debbe’s leadership with fundraising.

As Debbe said in the final newsletter article she wrote for the May issue of *The Golden Paw*, the show must go on. It will. We have many fabulous members who care about the welfare of the dogs as much as Debbe did and who understand that in order to care for those dogs to the best of our ability we must raise the necessary funds to continue that effort. It will be done.

A photo montage celebrating Debbe Begley and her involvement in Arizona Golden Rescue
 Sincere thanks to Connie McCabe for taking so many photos of Debbe – it was hard to choose just a few from among hers and mine



Debbe loved hats – she had a whole wall full of them on hooks in her bedroom, so you can see lots of different hats in these pictures. Top row: Liz Tataseo with Debbe and dogs at 91st Ave PetSmart, which Debbe chaired monthly; Patrick Doyle and Debbe Begley were together since 2005 – Debbe always made sure her old dogs Khakidawg and Sandy could be with them, even if it meant bringing a wagon like they did for the *PetSmart Charities PetWalk* in 2010; at AGR meeting in June 2009; Deb giving Debbe a brain cell toy at *Paws At The Park* 2010; doing *The Egyptian*; wearing silly sunglasses at 2011 *Parada del Sol*; with group at PACC 911 Adopt-a-thon at Anthem 2010; Saloon Girl hat; patriotic Dr. Seuss hat at PACC 911 Bowl-a-Rama 2010; with Santa Patrick and girls; proudly walking Sandy in the *GRCA National Parade of Rescue* in Enid, OK, in 2009; with 2-headed alien toy given to her by Deb (because 2 heads are always better than 1) at 2010 Golf Tournament; at *Barnes & Noble* gift wrapping; directing her dog chorus; last outing with Sandy; with the stars now

Arizona Golden Rescue would like to sincerely thank Nick Sbordone for his in-kind donation (\$700 value) for editing and providing a video glimpse of the Debbe Begley we knew. Nick did the interview at the 2011 *Parada del Sol*. If you haven't seen this video yet, you should. The video can be viewed on our website: www.arizona-goldenrescue.org

The Final Journey for Your Pet

By Joyce Hubler

Ben Franklin said, "The only things certain in life are death and taxes." While they may be certain, we do try to avoid thinking about them for as long as possible. Of those two certainties, death is the one we do not want to think about at all... especially of a loved one. Unfortunately, as dog lovers, the vast majority of us have already had to deal with letting go of our heart dog, our best friend, our loyal companion. Perhaps we have had to go through this many times – it never gets easier. If you're reading this article, most likely you are a dog lover and you, too, will be faced with this horrible situation, if you haven't been already.

Many years ago, for his retirement, I gave my father a Beagle puppy he had always wanted. As the years passed the bond between the two became tighter and tighter until both grew gray and both became too weak to walk the woods on the Rim. Dad could not face having **Thom** put down, even though Dad knew that was what needed to happen out of love for his dog. He asked me to take **Thom** for his final trip to the vet. Although this was twenty-five years ago, I remember asking myself, "Why won't the vet come to the house so my dad could be with his beloved dog in his final moments?" It just seemed wrong to die in such a sterile, scary place.

Since that time, and over the vast stretch of years, I have lost eight beloved dogs of my own due to cancer or other terminal illnesses. Aside from the heartbreaking fact of losing my dog, I do believe the pain was compounded enormously because I had to take my dog to the vet's office, or to an emergency clinic to have that last, most important goodbye said. It never left my mind that I would rather my beloved dog die where they loved to live... in our home, on his bed surrounded by his familiar odors and toys.

Copper is over 14 years old, one of the original Arizona-rescued Golden Retrievers, and I know I will lose him one day. I don't want that day to come (YOU know what I mean). But it will. **Copper**, my Devil Dawg, is the last of my original crew. He's the one that has been with me through the death of my parents, moving... all the little arrows life has a way of throwing. And he's been there for the good times, too. He deserves so much more than a blanket on

an impersonal sterile floor, where the kind staff says, "Take as much time as you need." Besides, **Copper** HATES riding in cars – it makes him nervous and scared. I don't want his last minutes on Earth to be scary. He is too good a friend.

Recently, I heard of an alternative for animal lovers, and now we can say goodbye in the privacy of our home where our dog is comfortable. One such business is **Happy Endings**. I decided to check this out, as this is valuable information we all need to know. My phone message was returned quickly by a very compassionate Alicia Fixler, who explained that she and her husband, Dr. Michael Fixler D.V.M., opened **Happy Endings** in March 2011. I asked Alicia why they opened this business, rather than go into private practice. She told me she and her husband are both great animal lovers. They recognize that animals suffer stress coming to the vet's office and so do their distraught owners. The goal of **Happy Endings** is to take euthanasia out of the vet's office and allow an animal the peace of passing away in his own familiar surroundings. Alicia requested I look up **Happy Endings** on YellowPages.com where owners who have used their services have written reviews. She said the reviews are so kind, and the owners were so grateful for this service that their words of thanks bring tears to Alicia's eyes.

Alicia told me yesterday that they were called to put down an old and very ill small breed dog. The owners had their old dog lying on his favorite blanket on the grass in the back yard he loved so much. They had soft music playing and beautiful flowers. With the owners petting their dog he drifted off peacefully from his own familiar world, and the owners released a balloon with the Rainbow Bridge poem attached. Alicia said it was very beautiful, and the owners felt at peace.

Happy Endings In Home Pet Euthanasia is available 24 hours a day by calling 480-225-3939. They usually can respond within 24 hours and their service is Valley wide. Alicia explained that she assists her husband on the calls. Upon arrival at the house, Dr. Fixler first performs an examination and determines if the right decision is being made for euthanasia. If all agree the procedure is in the animal's best interest, a sedative is given to the dog and an IV catheter is inserted. The family is given ample time for goodbyes and the final injection is given in the catheter. **Happy Endings** works with **All Pets Great and Small** for cremation services and will transport the animal to **All Pets**. The cost, as of this writing, is \$285 for the in-home visit and procedure. The cremation is \$195 for individual cremation or \$95.00 for communal cremation. **Happy Endings** personally returns the remains to the owner about a week later. **Happy Endings** also has a website at HappyEndingsEuthanasia.com

None of us want to think about the finality of losing our friend, but it will happen. Now there is an easier way to face it.

Foster successes, foster failures are win-wins for rescued animals

By Joy Slagowski

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In animal rescue circles, my husband and I are known as “foster failures.” It’s not as bad as it sounds. Foster failures are those who take in animals temporarily for a rescue group or shelter, and then bond so tightly they end up adopting them. It’s happened to us twice.

A foster success is when you take in an animal temporarily, love it as your own, and see it off to its forever home. We just had our first success. Though the outcome was not what any of us could have predicted.

Let me preface this by saying we are experienced dog people, with strengths in rehabilitating and socializing dogs with the kinds of histories that would make them great storytellers if they could speak.

The first time we foster failed was when I was volunteering on the transportation team for Rescue A Golden of Arizona. I picked up a stray Golden Retriever mix who gave birth to 10 fat, healthy mixed-breed puppies on a couple’s acre of land. The pups were being taken in by another rescue group, so mom needed to move on, too. **Annabelle** – as she was then known – was actually feral, with little previous experience or interaction with humans. She was not aggressive, but she did need an enormous amount of work to be considered adoptable. We said we’d see her through her spay surgery and recovery and renamed her **Bella**.

At first **Bella** would not come near us, so she had a collar and leash on 24/7, enabling us to get a hold of her when needed. A week after she arrived, she wiggled out of her collar while I was walking her in the back yard and I thought I’d never get a hold of her again. My husband returned home with a plan. He rigged a clothesline to the back door, sat down on the couch and waited, holding the line. When **Bella** took a few steps into the house again, he pulled the door closed behind her. Success!

Fast forward three years and one adoption attempt – she was returned days later when she didn’t quickly transform into a happy Golden Retriever, so we adopted her. **Bella** is so attached I have to watch my step when I’m busy in the kitchen, or I might trip over her.

We met our second foster failure this past Thanksgiving, when we picked up an Australian Cattle Dog mix from the parking lot of the DMV in Surprise, just feet away from busy Bell Road. She had been there five hours, shivering next to a bag of kitchen garbage, when we stopped. We called her **Sweetie**, and she was bursting with milk after recently giving birth. But, sadly, no puppies were with her. We combed the area, looking inside that garbage bag,

under bushes, in trash cans and in dumpsters. It became apparent she was dumped alongside that bag of garbage.

We set her up with temporary housing in our garage, complete with a space heater and warm bedding. To be safe, I placed online ads and looked for lost dog signs. But no one was looking for her. **Lost Our Home Pet Foundation** director Jodi Polanski agreed to accept **Sweetie** into their Rescue group and cover her medical expenses. **Sweetie** was a bit of a mess. She had worms, an upper respiratory infection, was extremely underweight, needed vaccinations and to be spayed. Since surgery would be safer about eight weeks out from whelping, and LOHPF didn’t have a foster home for her, we agreed to foster her.



Joy said, *One of my favorite photos is of one of our walks with the whole pack when Sweetie first arrived. Amber typically NEVER leads. But on this walk, she wanted to show Sweetie (on left) the way. That’s Kahuna in back.*

Though **Sweetie** had some lessons to learn to become a house dog, she was a quick study and is the smartest dog we have ever encountered. By the time she was spayed at the end of January, we were conflicted about giving her up. So one of our other dogs made the decision for us. **Amber**, a former puppy mill breeder dog, refused to play with any other dog but her now 4-year-old son, **Happy** – until **Sweetie** arrived. In early February, **Sweetie** and **Amber** woke us up at 4 a.m. wrestling and playing. So, we became two-time foster failures. Our friends said they told us so.

On Cinco de Mayo morning, a little black dog was running northbound on Dysart Road in Surprise as I was driving to work. He was in the middle of the street when I pulled over, and called him to me. He had a collar on, but no tag. Friendly and socialized, I was sure he had just slipped out of his yard. But he also had a string elaborately tied to his collar, which he had apparently chewed through, which caused concern – he had been tied outside.

We immediately took him to our vet who confirmed he was not microchipped. We set up temporary quarters and canvassed the area with flyers, posted found dog notices on three websites, placed newspaper ads and had a flyer posted at Animal Control. We received lots of phone calls from people who had lost their dog, but none were looking for him. It was so puzzling. This little guy was neutered, housebroken, loving and had a good home at some point. He also had separation anxiety, likely the result of losing his original home, and would become distressed when left alone. Crating him when not home – something we do with new arrivals anyway for their safety, as well as ours – was mandatory.

With no permanent room at our inn, I contacted rescue groups about **Cinco**, as we called him, to see if they would take this easy adoption. But none had room. It seemed **Cinco** was going



Photo of Tabu with Ipo by Dave Martinez used with permission

to be our first freelance placement.

After waiting a week, we got **Cinco** to our vet for shots, and placed an ad in the *Daily News-Sun*, after determining **Cinco's** ideal home would be with a retiree who could devote lots of time to him. We received just one phone

call. But that's all he needed.

Tabu Kunzl of Sun City West met him the next day, and it was love at first sight. We let her borrow our crate until she could find a used one. We had discovered **Cinco** was a door dasher, and Kunzl experienced that the day he arrived when he bolted out her courtyard gate, took off down the street and ended up at a golf course snack bar. One of her first purchases was a chain choke collar, to make her feel more secure on their walks. Kunzl began spoiling him immediately, and renamed him **Ipo**, which is Hawaiian for 'sweetheart.' We were all thrilled.

As it is with the best dog stories, they all eventually have to come to an end. And we don't get to choose how long we love them. Sadly, **Ipo's** story came to a tragic close Tuesday when his choke chain got caught on the upper latch of his crate, and he was strangled. Kunzl had been gone for only an hour when she returned to find him, and rushed him to the vet. It was too late.

We never know how much time any of us will have. It's always crushing when a life is cut short, especially one that had such promise. In spite of that, we know **Ipo** was one of the lucky ones: a lost dog running in the middle of a busy street could have met a worse fate. We know this little guy was loved to pieces his final 19 days. So many others are not as fortunate. In honor of **Ipo**, and all of the other **Ipos** out there, I'd like to share these thoughts:

- Adopt, don't shop.
- Get your dog microchipped and always have it wear its collar with identification – that's its ticket home in the event it somehow gets lost.
- If you choose to use a choke collar, err on the side of caution and remove it when you are at home. Only use them for walks or training. Keep a nylon collar with identification on at all times.
- With so many animals losing their homes because of the foreclosure crisis and economy, there are countless other sweet, loving, deserving animals that are looking for a second chance. Please consider helping the rescue groups by fostering or adopting and opening your heart and home. *Sun Cities 4 Paws* even has a foster program geared toward seniors.

Whether you are a foster success – or a foster failure – it's always a win-win for the animals.

AGR member Joy Slagowski is a copy editor/page designer for the *Daily News-Sun*. She can be reached at 623-876-2514 or jslagowski@yourwestvalley.com

Ed. Note: Joy recently wrote of a happier ending: *I just found out Tabu, the woman who adopted and tragically lost our foster, **Cinco/Ipo**, is adopting a Border Collie mix who recently had 12 puppies, and is also fostering 2 of the puppies! She went through **Lost Our Home Pet Foundation**. She just got them yesterday and thinks she will keep one of the puppies, too. Hahaha! We're going to let her borrow one of our crates.*

Assistance to Others

Wallow Fire Animal Refugees

Recently, the southeastern part of Arizona was devastated by a human-caused fire now known as the Wallow Fire. Over 560,000 acres of forest were consumed by this monster fire, the worst in state history. Many dwellings were burned to the ground. During the fire's month-long siege, countless families found themselves temporarily displaced by evacuation. Many of these families had pets at home. A temporary animal shelter was set up and donations of all kinds of things were requested. At *PACC 911's Bowl-a-Rama* launch meeting on Wednesday, June 8th, a list of needed items was circulated. By Friday of that week, the entire front area of the new 10,000 sq ft training area of *Villa La Paws* was filled, and I was told that a large load had already been trailered down to the shelter. I used two of *AGR's* \$50 *Choice Pet Market* gift cards to purchase some bowls, leashes and collars. In addition, I asked if they had any dog or cat food that had recently expired or was about to expire – they literally filled my Dodge Grand Caravan with many bags of food. I also delivered a box fan donated by Liz Tataseo and four of the eight airline-style crates we had in storage. We actually got one of the crates back because it wasn't needed. We are proud to have been able to help.

Bob Bornstein and Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue

On July 1, 2011, a very important member of the Golden Retriever Rescue community passed away. Bob Bornstein was the founder (1986) and President of *Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue* in Oklahoma. For many years, he was instrumental in helping to spring Golden Retrievers from puppy mills. Five of the dogs that *AGR* adopted out in 2010 came from one of *SGRR's* puppy mill interventions: **Kamie** now **Nala**, **Nakita** now **Molly**, **Wendy** now **Izzie**, **Buddy Boy** and **Joe**. They are all now well loved members of five wonderful families. We would never have gotten these fabulous dogs had it not been for Bob Bornstein and the efforts of the *SGRR* volunteers. To honor Bob's memory, the *AGR* Board voted to send a \$500 donation to *SGRR's* *Puppy Mill Fund* to assist with future puppy mill rescues.

Avoiding Heat-Related Injuries in Dogs

by Nate Baxter, D.V.M.

excerpt reprinted with permission

The first thing that needs to be understood [about heat-related injuries] is that dogs and people are different enough that most of the information cannot cross lines. I do not profess to know what the appropriate procedures are for people other than what I learned in first aid.

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: 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 it 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.

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 (driving around so the vehicle does not overheat and the AC is more efficient).

Alcohol: I do carry it for emergencies. It is very effective at cooling due to the 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, which is propylene alcohol, not ethyl, for those of you not aware. So do not try to drink it. 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 to get a rectal glass 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. A dog panting heavily taking in large amounts of water is at risk for bloat. Due to the heavy panting, dogs will swallow air mixed with a large amount of water, and they can 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. These cases need aggressive treatment.

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 then put it in a box or small crate. Remember, evaporation can not take place in a tight space – the box will turn into a sauna and you will cook your dog.

After doing a 15-minute in-yard drill on a warm 70+ degree day, my dog was panting pretty hard and was pretty hot. She was OK but it was time to stop. Just for the heck of it I took her temp. She was 103.6°, above normal but not too bad for a dog that had just finished working. In my back yard I have a 300 gallon Rubbermaid tub filled with water. I took her to it and she jumped in and out 3-4 times. She appeared totally improved, tongue was much smaller, and eyes brighter and her full spring was back into her step. So I retook her temp and it was 104.2°, so even though she looked better she was hotter. This is a perfect lesson to show the importance of not getting a hot dog wet and then putting them in a box. The water on her skin caused the blood vessels to constrict, decreasing blood flow to the skin. Therefore the hot blood was shunted back to the dog's core and retained the heat. You may have felt the same thing, after exercising – but still being very warm – take a shower and get cooled off. As soon as you turn the shower off you start sweating again.

Teach Your Dog To Swim

By Deb Orwig

Having a pool and a dog can either be a disaster or a lot of fun. Even if it's a retriever, your dog will not intuitively know how to swim. You can help your dog learn to swim so you'll both have a great time in the pool. As with children, even after your dog knows how to swim, **never leave your dog unsupervised around a pool, especially if your pool is not fenced.**

Safety tips for dogs around pools are the same as those for children. If possible, install a see-through pool fence with a self-closing and self-locking gate. Have a pool alarm that goes off if the gate is opened. Have a ramp or ladder at the steps for ease of exit.

My pool is not fenced and cannot be fenced (there's no room), so I have taught all my resident dogs, foster dogs and visitor dogs not to go in unless I say, "Want to go for a swim?" I also have their favorite pool toys in hand when I use this "trigger," so that they know it's OK to jump in when I throw the toys in. How do I teach them not to go in? If they go in before they get the signal, I go in and haul them out and firmly say, "NO, you don't go in unless you're invited!" Usually they go in uninvited only once, maybe twice, then they learn to ignore the pool.

AGR does not recommend shaving a Golden Retriever in the summer. The coat actually insulates the dog from the heat as well as from cold. In addition, shaved dogs can get sunburned and may develop skin cancer as a result. The dog's nose, eyes, and ears can be vulnerable to sunburn also. If you and your dog spend a lot of time out by the pool, ask your vet about sunscreen for your dog.

Wait at least an hour following a meal before you allow your dog in the pool.

Control your dog in the water by using a leash or long line attached to a life jacket, a flat buckle collar, a swimming harness, or a regular harness with the leash attached from the front rather than the top.



Show your dog where the steps are and insist that he exit the pool on the steps and not try to climb out over the side. It may help orient the dog if you put an easily visible marker like a potted plant or a flag by the steps. Show him the steps from the deck and say "steps." Then take him a short distance away and repeat. Reward him with a treat or favorite toy.

When you start swimming lessons, ideally you should have a helper with one of you in the pool and one of you on the deck. Say "steps" and gently place the dog in the water with his feet on the top step. Let him relax on the top step for awhile. If you are by yourself, attach a leash or long line before you put him in the

water and stay by the side of the pool. If necessary, put your arms around him and carry him further into the pool.



Another thing you can try to help get your dog used to being in the water is to put her on a floatie. She will probably be a little nervous at first but will relax and might even doze!

Once you have coaxed the dog down to the second step, put one hand under his chest and the other under the back part of his belly to help hold his rear end up and move him off the step. His legs will automatically start paddling – he should look like he is running in the water. You may need to help him by moving his rear legs for him, because if he just uses his front legs, he will most likely sink. His neck should extend forward and his head should not point up.

If necessary, tempt him with a treat to get him into this position. It may also help the dog orient properly in the water if you give him a toy such as a Water Wubba® or a Kong® bumper that



he can carry in his mouth – carrying the toy will help him level out.

At first, stay in the shallow end and keep the lessons short – no more than ten minutes.

Once he's out of the pool for the day, rinse him off or give him a shampoo. Be sure to dry out his ears or ear infections may develop. If your dog is in the pool a lot, ask your vet if human swimmers' ear preventative drops would be OK to use on your dog. A good home remedy for preventing ear infections is mixing 1 part white vinegar with 1 part vodka. Put a couple drops in each ear after you dry out the ears. Check the dog's eyes, too, as they may become irritated by the chlorine and need to be rinsed with an eye flush.

After your dog learns to swim, don't let him overexert himself. Swimming is a physically demanding exercise, and he can easily become fatigued. Make the dog take rest breaks and watch for signs of exhaustion.

If the unthinkable happens and you find your dog motionless in the water, get him out of the water immediately. If he is not breathing, hold his rear legs up to let water drain. Put him on his side. Clear any debris from his mouth, close his mouth with your hand, and apply mouth-to-nose resuscitation and chest compressions. Take him to the vet as soon as possible even if he begins to breathe on his own.

HERE and THERE

Events from mid-April 2011
through July 2, 2011

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.



The Phoenix Pet Expo

By Deb Orwig



Jodi and Jay Koblick manned the booth most of the day

The Phoenix Pet Expo was held on May 7, 2011 at the **University of Phoenix Stadium** from 10 AM – 6 PM. This year, our booth was a corner booth on the aisle across from and at about the midpoint of the stadium side wall. There was plenty of room for our dogs to be strung out along the

wall where all the folks going to the concessions would have to pass by (photos at right and below). It



Michele, Teri, Sam and Felix with Grizzly, Blossom, Fresno, Troy, Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird and Nala



wasn't as good a spot as the one we had last year, but it was OK, as the dogs collected virtually the same amount of donations as they did last year.

We had to set up the booth

on Friday, May 6th, and for help with that I sincerely thank Tony Cotner and Bob Youhas. On Saturday, **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird** and **Troy** and I enjoyed the company of Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom** and **Fresno**; Steph Harding with **Tag**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**; Kathleen and Rich Stolz with **Riley** (photo at right); Sam and Felix Takach with **Nala**; Michele Wehry; and Bob Youhas. Tony, Dana, Gail and Bob all stayed to the bitter end to help pack up my van, and Tony drove my dogs home to my house, because there was no room to squeeze even one of them in!



Todd, Joy with Sweetie, and Michele getting kisses from Happy, who was a foster dog of hers 3 years ago

Joy and Todd Slagowski stopped by to say hello with **Happy** and **Sweetie**. Wendy and Mike Enos had **Sophie** with them – Wendy writes the "Service Paws" column for this newsletter and this was the first time we'd met them in person. Also, the Overly family stopped by with **Bella** (photo at right) to show us how terrific she looks – what a cutie!



They have now finalized **Bella's** adoption. Dan Bultman and old friend Sandee Denomme came by, too. **AGR** members Eileen Proctor (**PACC 911**), Krista Cantrell, and Joyce Weber (**Happy Tails Service Dogs**) had their own booths at the show, so we saw them as well. And we made contact with **Goober Pet Direct** and now have them as one of our sponsors. We also made numerous contacts with other vendors, one of which was a group getting started to try to provide service dogs for veterans. In the future, we may be working with them in conjunction with **Happy Tails Service Dogs**.

The show was bigger this year than in 2010, with a lot more vendors filling up almost the entire 128,000 square feet of floor space in the stadium. The aisles were wider and the booths not as crammed together, so if the crowd numbered the same as last year it didn't seem so because everything was more spread out. Added this



Connie McCabe took this picture because the dog reminded her of her Zoie, who did about the same thing several years ago at the Cynosport World Games at WestWorld – ran up to the end of the dock, stopped and wouldn't jump in



year were a Splash Dogs competition and agility competition, as well as a large area cordoned off as the Mega-Adoption area. We set up a tent in that area, too. Gail and Dana stayed there all

day and Sarah Martin spent most of her time there with **Bunny**. Tony, Steph, and Kathleen and Rich switched between areas throughout the time they were there. We got one application that day from people who stopped by that area and another application came in the following week; numerous others took our brochure and business card. Dana had kindly brought his laptop computer, so he could pull up our website and show people our available dogs. He had also put together a binder with “snapshot” profiles of each dog. The Exhibitor’s Lounge was a very nice addition this year. The vendors could go into a quiet room and get a better choice of food at lower prices than out in the main venue.



Tent group in Mega-Adoption Area: Sarah with Bunny, Gail, Riley, Dana, and Steph with Daisy Cotner and Tag



Moneybags Bunny

All our dogs wore Donation Vests and collected a total of \$264.72 in donations, only about \$13 less than last year. The difference in revenue between this year and last year came in merchandise sales. Although we had a greater variety of items and even offered some incentives such as \$1 off the cost of any magnet or toy, free



Connie with Grizzly

tennis ball with any purchase and free box of **Blue Dog Bakery** dog treats or choice of Kong® toy with any purchase over \$25, we still sold almost \$360 less in merchandise this year (\$360 vs \$638). I would like to thank Debbie Myrick for sewing 19 of the oven mitts we had on display – we did sell quite a few of those. The lower total merchandise sales may have been due to the fact that there were many more vendors offering products this year, as well as because our booth was sort of buried in the middle rather than in the corner on the first row as people came in the entrance. Because we paid for this

year’s booth space at last year’s show, we were supposed to have been guaranteed the same booth space this year, but we didn’t get it. It was a huge disappointment and more than just a little annoying.

The 2012 *Phoenix Pet Expo* will again be held at the *University of Phoenix Stadium*. The date is Saturday, April 28th. Please put it on your 2012 calendar as soon as you get one – this is not an event you’ll want to miss!



Bob, Rick and Debbie with Shiloh and Troy



Camelback VW/Subaru/Mazda

By Deb Orwig



Dana, Deb and Gail with Yoshi, Hayden, Rocky, Troy, Grizzly, Ladybird and Riley

Over Memorial Day weekend, we had a wonderful, relaxing time at Camelback VW/Subaru/Mazda at 1521 E. Camelback Rd in Phoenix. Groups of

members and dogs were set up with an information table and Donation Vests in both the VW and the Mazda/Subaru



Above: Joyce with Ripley
Below right: Liz and Katie with Gonzo, Grizzly, Joe and Jake

showrooms from 9 AM – 4 PM on Saturday and 10 AM – 4 PM on Sunday. Those who participated on either Saturday or Sunday or both included Tony



Don and Rusty with Sunshine; Sarah with Bunny; Troy, Rocky, Ladybird and Hayden

Cotner with **Daisy**; Mary Jo and John Courtney with **Ashley** and **Kate**; Katie Donahue with **Jake** and **Joe**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Sally Fetherston with **Rocky**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**;





Sally with Rocky

Joyce Hubler with **Ripley**; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine**; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly** and **Yoshi**; Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Jordan Poyak;



Kristie with Lucy, Sophie, Rocky, Hayden and Troy



Connie trying to keep her popcorn away from the dogs; we generally had quite a few kids around the group

Youhas with **Leo**. Considering that people coming to buy cars were not expecting to see a Golden Retriever Rescue group, we had a surprising amount of interest in the dogs and possible adoptions. We sincerely thank the dealership owner, Mark Exposito, and his staff for so graciously welcoming our group and for providing hamburgers and hotdogs, popcorn and soda for the group. Although we have not yet received a check, the dealership will be giving us a donation for every car they sold while we were there.



Grizzly says, "More popcorn, please!"

Kristie Rogers with **Lucy** and **Sophie**; Liz Tataseo with **Sweetie** and **Gonzo**; and Bob



Above: Bob with Leo and Patrick with Annabelle; Below: Tony with Daisy



Dog Day at the Desert Foothills Library

By Deb Orwig

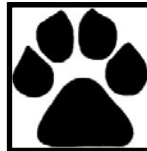
Jaime Hansen, the Children's Librarian at the **Desert Foothills Library** in Cave Creek, invited **AGR** members and their dogs to come to the library on Thursday, June 16th for their *Dog Day* program. Included in our group were Adena Astrowsky with her children, Sarah, Zachary and Gabby and her Golden boy **Charlie**; Sheila Joyce with **Holly**; Jan Newland with **Daisy Cotner**;



Back row: Jan with Daisy, Christina, Liz S, Deb with Rocky & Hayden, Liz T with Sweetie, Sheila with Holly; Front: Sarah, Zachary, Adena, Charlie, Gabby, Cynthia with Tag; Gus, Sunny, Ladybird and Troy are hidden

Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Liz and Christina Sawtschenko with **Gus** and **Sunny**; Liz Tataseo with **Sweetie**; and Cynthia Wenström with **Tag Harding**. This program was really popular during the last two summers, but this year, hardly anyone came except for our volunteers. Those few children who did come enjoyed petting

the dogs, but they were all too young to read to one of the dogs. One family did seem pretty interested in the possibility of adopting a Golden, so I gave them a brochure and left others at the library. Thanks to all our volunteers for being there.



Christmas in July: Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble

By Deb Orwig



Jackson Guilbault happy to be helping at gift wrapping

Barnes & Noble Booksellers at the Happy Valley Towne Center in north Phoenix invited **AGR** to do gift wrapping on the Friday and Saturday before Father's Day. They told us that aside from the day before Christmas, Father's Day weekend has traditionally been the busiest for sales. Why not try it? Since doing holiday season gift wrapping at various **Barnes & Noble**

stores has been one of our favorite and most lucrative activities, we decided to do it. Lucrative it was – over \$800 during the two days we were there! We were there from 11



Mary Lynn Ament with Winslow

AM – 8 PM both days. We set up the gift wrap table outside in the shade and despite the temperature, which hovered around 103° in the late afternoon, we didn't get overly hot. We had ice and cold water there for the dogs and had a terrific group of volunteers on both days. With money donated by Jackie and Dave Engelhardt, I had purchased several rolls of very nice



Manager Debbie Swistek with Troy, Rocky and Hayden



Teri with Blossom, Debbie with Shiloh and Sarah in front with Troy

“every day” wrapping paper that I thought might be appropriate for the male taste, and we had complementary rolls of ribbon. Teri Guilbault and I did the bow-making. Sarah Martin did wrapping and took lessons and ended up doing a great job on bows,

too. Sheri Fogel was our wrapper extraordinaire on Saturday during the early shift.



Rick Ball with Sampson Archer and Shiloh Ball

Joining me and Rocky, Ladybird, Hayden and Troy



Monica and son Jacob

on Friday were Monica Archer with Sampson and her youngest son Jacob; Debbie and Rick Ball with Shiloh; Mary Jo Courtney with Ashley and Kate; Teri Guilbault with Blossom;

Sarah Martin; Jan Newland brought Daisy Cotner; and Liz Tataseo came with Gonzo and Sweetie. Tony Cotner, who had been working at his turquoise mine in Nevada for the previous two weeks, pulled in around 4 PM and stayed for the rest of the day. Sandra Hansen also came in the late afternoon with Jasmine.



Sandra with Jasmine and Eileen with Cassie

On Saturday, my canine gang and I had help from Mary Lynn Ament with Winslow; Tony Cotner with Daisy; Sheri Fogel; Teri Guilbault with Fresno and Jackson; Sandra Hansen with Jasmine; Sheila Joyce with McKenna; Sarah Martin; and Eileen Proctor with Cassie. In the late afternoon, after they were finished



Jeannette with Ladybird under her arm watching toddler put money in Troy’s vest

helping at the Tempe Marketplace PetSmart Meet-and-Greet,



Mary Jo with Ashley and Kate

Gail and Dana Haywood came up to join us with Riley and Jan Newland brought Goldie Cotner. Jeannette Morrocco was driving through the parking lot on her way to another store,



Sheila brought McKenna dressed to honor all the dads

saw us outside, and ended up joining us for a couple hours.



Another bonus on Saturday was a visit by the woman who had originally rescued Fresno (at left in photo). She had seen us at the bookstore on Friday afternoon and asked about him, so I told her he would be with us on Saturday. She was very gratified to see him doing so well and looking so

good. After all, when she got him, one of his legs had been mangled and he was a mess. We had the leg amputated because it could not be repaired, but he gets along very well as a tripod.



Sandra at right back watching Tony with Jasmine while family pets Ladybird, Troy and Daisy

We had great volunteer coverage both days, got to know a couple of new volunteers, the dogs were incredibly popular as always, and thanks to everyone who came, we made a terrific amount of money! We will definitely do gift wrapping before Father’s Day again if we’re invited in the future!



Meet-and-Greets at Choice Pet Market

By Deb Orwig

AGR had five appearances at Choice Pet Market stores during the spring. We were at the Glendale store on May 14th, June 4th and July 2nd, and at the Paradise Valley store on May 22nd and June 25th. We will not be visiting the Paradise Valley store again until the weather gets cooler, as there is not much room inside the store. Instead, we have scheduled two dates each month at the Glendale store. All scheduled dates at both locations are on our

website events calendar. Please check to see if you can attend. We'd love to have your company!

We thank the store personnel for welcoming us so warmly whenever we go. We really appreciate their support and for donating a \$50 gift card to the group after each of our appearances.



Liz with Gonzo, Tony with Daisy, Dana and Gail with Riley and Deb's gang at the Glendale store

Members who helped out at the Glendale store during the past quarter include

Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Jan Newland; Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and guest dogs **Jake** and **Maggie Engelhardt**; Liz Tataseo with **Augie** and **Gonzo**; Ingrid and Karie Wilson with **Bailey**,



Kathi, Jay, Tony, Gail, Jodi and Jan



Sandy looking great at 14 1/2!

Jazzy and puppy **Sadie**; and Kathi Youhas with **Sandy**. Not all of these folks came to every Meet-and-Greet, and not all who did

come brought the same dogs every time, but we usually had three or more people and anywhere from 6-12 dogs.

At the Paradise Valley



Jay, Jodi, Gail, Dana and Tony at PV store



Micah

store on May 22nd, Tony Cotner brought **Daisy**; Gail and Dana Haywood came with **Riley**; Jodi and Jay Koblick brought little **Micah**, whom they are trying to socialize with big dogs; and I brought the usual canine crew



On June 25th, Tony with **Daisy**, Gail and Dana with **Riley** and **Ladybird**, **Troy** and I squeezed into the front corner inside the store (photo

as well as **Maggie** and **Jake Engelhardt** (photo at left), who were vacationing with me while their folks were in Italy.



at right). It was quite crowded even with the four of us and four dogs, then got even more so when two families with kids came into the store (photo at left).



During our five appearances, we collected a total of over \$257 in donations and earned five \$50 gift cards from **Choice Pet Market**.



	<p><i>Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart</i></p> <p>By Connie McCabe, Teri Guilbault, Denny Myrick and Angela Palumbo</p>
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We now do Meet-and-Greets at four different **PetSmart** stores. Connie McCabe chairs the store at 5707 W Northern Ave; Teri Guilbault chairs the one at 7290 W Bell Rd in Glendale; Denny Myrick chairs the store at 7077 E Mayo Blvd in Scottsdale; and Angela Palumbo chairs the store at Tempe Marketplace on Rio Salado Parkway. The regularly scheduled dates for all **PetSmart** store appearances are shown on our website's events calendar. Occasionally, we will change the date to accommodate **PetSmart's** request to be at the store during their National Adoption Weekends held four times a year. Usually, we meet in the afternoon on the second Sunday of every month at the Northern Ave and Bell Rd stores and on the third Saturday at Tempe Marketplace. Denny's dates for the Mayo Blvd store are on the website calendar. At the end of July, we will begin monthly Meet-and-Greets at the Agua Fria store located in the Deer Valley Center on the southwest side of 101 and I-17.

Bell Rd (Arrowhead) – Teri Guilbault



Tony and Teri with dogs; grooming salon is behind them and the PetsHotel is at the top on the right

The Arrowhead **PetSmart** at 72nd Ave/Bell Rd is a good location for our Meet-and-Greets. We set up to the left inside the doors in front of the glassed-in grooming salon and just to the right of the PetsHotel and training

classroom. As you can see in the photo at right of Jodi Koblick with **Rocky** and a customer with **Ladybird**, we are also opposite the cash registers, so literally everyone who comes into or leaves the store has to pass by our group. We always get lots of attention!



On April 10th, I brought **Blossom** and **Goldie** and we were joined by Tony Cotner



Rocky had to investigate the shopping cart



Blossom and Goldie

with **Daisy** and **Rocky**. Later in the day, Ingrid and Karie Wilson came with puppy **Sadie**. We met lots of people, two of whom were going home to fill out applications, and we took in \$71. It was a lovely afternoon.



Dana, Jared and Michelle

We had a great time on May 1, 2011 at the Arrowhead **PetSmart**. Joining me with my kids **Blossom**, **Goldie** and **Jackson**, were Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Dana Haywood with **Riley**; and my daughter, Michelle, with her friend Jared Miller. We met

lots of nice people, including a couple very interested in adopting from us, and our ambassadogs collected \$132.50 in donations. It was a heck of a day!

We had a fabulous day at the Bell Rd **PetSmart** on June 12th! Met lots of great people and collected \$541.32, which included merchandise sales, membership and adoption fees and donations. Joining me and my foster, **Sammy**, were Liz Tataseo with



Teri, Jan and Liz



Gonzo and **Augie**; Deb Orwig and her crew, **Rocky**, **Ladybird**, **Hayden** and **Troy**; Jodi Koblick with her little boy **Micah**; and Tony Cotner's sister Jan Newland with **Daisy**. Also stopping by were Dana Haywood and Sam and Felix Takach. **Sammy's** new family also came by to take him to his forever home (photo at left).

Mayo Blvd – Denny Myrick

On Saturday, April 30th from 11 AM to 2 PM, **AGR's** newest NE valley Meet-and-Greet was held at the **PetSmart** located at 7077 E. Mayo Blvd (Loop 101 and Scottsdale Rd). This Meet-and-Greet coincided with **PetSmart's** spring three-day special adoption event. Those participating were Deb Orwig and her pack consisting of **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, and **Troy**; Denny Myrick and **Jake**; Pam Spicer and **Comet**; Rich Stolz and **Riley**; and Cynthia Wenström and **Bailey**. The weather was perfect. Foot traffic into and out of the store stopped by to chat and interact with our Golden Retrievers. Donations received totaled \$171.42.



Cynthia with Bailey; Denny with Rocky, Hayden, and Jake, Troy and Ladybird; Pam with Jake and Comet; and Rich with Riley



Cynthia with Jake Myrick and her boy Bailey

On Saturday, May 28th, a monthly Meet-and-Greet was held at the Mayo Blvd **PetSmart**. The following **AGR** members and their Golden Retrievers participated: Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Tony Cotner with **Little Rocky** and **Daisy**; Pam Spicer with **Comet**; Rich Stolz with **Riley**; Cynthia

Wenström with **Bailey**; and Hannah Selznick with newly-adopted **Bela**. A total of \$247 in donations were collected, and we got one new member as well!

Tony with **Daisy** (lying down) and Little **Rocky** and Hannah with **Bela**



**PetSmart Northern –
Connic McCabe**



Above: Sheila, Pat, Karen and Karen's friend Cheryl with **Sasha**, **Tessa**, **Sunny**, **Grizzly**, **Caesar** and **Star**; at right, Pat with **Sunny**, **Bob**, **Debbe** with **Sandy**, **Sheila** with **Sasha**, **Tessa** and **Grizzly** and **Kathi** with **Miki**

April 10th was a great day – gorgeous weather, fine company and \$75.75 in donations! Joining me, **Sasha** and **Grizzly** were Karen Davis with **Caesar** and **Star**, Sheila Joyce with **Tessa** and Pat Morgan



with **Sunny**. Bob and Kathi Youhas stopped by with **Miki** and brought Debbe Begley with **Sandy**, too.

This was the last time Debbe was able to get out of the house, so it was a special day for all of us.



Sheila with **Yoshi** and **Holly**, Susan with **Lucy** and **Ricky**, and Pat with **Sunny**

We had a very nice day today, May 1st. The weather was gorgeous and **Yoshi**, **Grizzly** and I were joined by Sheila Joyce with **Holly**, Pat Morgan

with **Sunny**, and Susan Parker with fosters **Ricky** and **Lucy**. We had a steady flow of lovely families, and had a lot of interest in adopting. The fur kids collected \$110.55 and had a great time to boot. **Yoshi** really enjoyed being out and visiting again!

We had a very nice, relaxed day on June 12th, much slower than usual. Although it was over 100°, it was not too bad in the shade. We had a big bucket of ice for the dogs. They all liked it, especially



Caesar (at left), who gave us a little scare, as he apparently got the canine version of brain freeze. Thanks to Karen Davis with **Star** and



Caesar, Sheila Joyce with **Holly**, Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine** (at right in large photo), Pat Morgan with **Sunny**, Dana Haywood, and myself with **Grizzly** and foster **Winnie** (far left in large photo). We made friends and collected \$76.80!

Tempe Marketplace – Angela Palumbo

It was a beautiful day at the **PetSmart** at Tempe Marketplace on April 30th. Today was one of those special **PetSmart** National Adoption Weekends, so we were not there on our regular



Michele with **Kate** and **Ashley**, Gary, Angela with **Cheyenne** prancing in front and Tony with **Daisy**



Deb Fuller with **Vanna** and **Belle**

hugs and tell stories of the Golden they once had. A huge thanks to all who participated: Deb Orwig and her crew; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Michele Wehry with house guests **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; Deb Fuller with **Vanna**; Gary and Joyce Pence brought beautiful **Cheyenne**, who met her potential new family; Dana Haywood; and, of course, **Belle Palumbo** (who brought Angela to set up). We collected about \$85!

3rd Saturday afternoon of the month. There were lots of dogs and people. Many visited us to get their “golden”



Manager Don Tatarelli always greets us with a smile and pets the dogs



Another beautiful day in Tempe on June 18th. It seemed as though it was going to be a quiet day, but there is always a flurry of activity when the Golden Retrievers appear. Thanks to Kristie Rogers with **Lucy** and **Sophie**; Jan Newland who

brought **Rocky Cotner**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**; and **Belle Palumbo** (photo below). Special thanks to Meghan Harding who came and helped us with our Golden Retrievers and learned about Rescue. We managed to bring in about \$76!



Kristie with Sophie and Lucy and Jan with Rocky Cotner



Photos on the cover, left to right, top to bottom:

In center: Debbe Begley with Khakidawg and Sandy. **Row 1:** Jessie Parker, Goldie Guilbault, Max Carter, Chance Bailey/Correll, Big Carreiro (B), Daisy Owens, Sammie Merideth, Fargo Claypool, Molly Brogan, Emma Tataric, Mojo Henkel, Jake Engelhardt, Orion Sager, Teddy Underwood; **Row 2:** Shaggy Underwood, Alex Baselice, Duke Hansen, Dylan Moser, Halo Tolle-son, Presley Cullen, Pressley Trinh/Kraus, Jimmy Panici, Zoey Pinho, Dakota Monn, Chirpa Weber, Rex Engelhardt, Fresno Guilbault, Gracie Collins; **Row 3:** Casey Brummer, Riley Haywood, Abby Link, Luke Groholski, Sparky Street, Annie Street, Bella Bower, Maggie Hill, Bella Lechner, Ben Johnston, Newby Amlani, Tucker Gazda, Bailey Howe, Asher Podix; **Row 4:** Buddy Rivera, Penny Forsythe, Max McCormack, Honey Humphries, Sailor Lamont, Kylee Jocewicz, Clifford Esch, Keegan Haywood, Zowie Jeffries, Bunny Martin; **Row 5:** Astra Sager, Buddy Heyne, Riley Stolz, Scoobydo Leopold, Goldie Sullivan, Nick Sullivan, Diego Blakeney, Lucy Rogers, Duke Schel-lenbaum, Maggie Compise; **Row 6:** Major Pulis, Daisy Scholer, Vanna Fuller, Sunny Morgan, Tessa Joyce, Augie Tataseo, Jazzy Frarck, Whiskey and Brother Erickson, Bentley Peapenburg; **Row 7:** Izzie Kaiser, Nala Takach, Molly Turco, Joe Donahue, Buddy Boy Caldwell, Cali DeKastrozza, Jackson Guilbault, Mia Beceiro (B), 10-045 Ricky, 10-046 Lucy; **Row 8:** Murphy Dahlke, 10-048 Chase (B), Chirpa Kraus, Dasher Grieme, Fred Reynolds, Honeybear Brown, Maggie Engelhardt, Missy Hansen (B), Zoe Delisio, Jasmine Hansen, Ripley Hubler, Hazel Johnston, Grizzly McCabe/Dodson, 10-061 Louie (B); **Row 9:** 10-063 Aengus, 10-064 Lucky (B), Mandy Tapeo, Wrigley Blaker, Jasper Cargile, Lexie Bushnell, Lucinda Thompson, Bella Overly, Charlie Lofrese, Yaeger Hoag, Dillon Hoag, Sampson Archer, Liberty Jaap, Sadie Jaap; **Row 10:** Wrigley Holt, Sebastian Loesche, Mary Kate Courtney, Ashley Courtney, Angie & Missy Sell-Lee, Chance Eschenbacher, Sunshine Krause, Goldie Jordan, Kasey Beard/Konishi, Freddy Whiffin/Kirk, 11-011 Prince, Rocky Hammer, Bear Hammer, Bear Hall/Goodwin; **Row 11:** Charlie & Remi Connett, Bela Selznick, Cheyenne Davis, CJ Tucker, Chip Neill, Buster Aamodt, Ebony Wade, Bella Borman, Bauer Wayne, Winslow Ament, Colby Sigafoose, Mozart Roher, Toby Lange, 11-029 Winnie; **Row 12:** Diego Wolf, 11-031 Yogi Bear, 11-033 Tyler, Libby Fox, Sage Engelhardt, 11-036 Abbit (B), 11-037 Crystal, 11-038 Oliver, Mercedes Fontanilla, 11-040 Lady, Shad-ow Marshall, Lady Wynn, Belle Engelhardt, 11-044 Bella. B = Bridge

BOOK REVIEW By Jude Fulghum

Until Tuesday:

A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him

By Luis Carlos Montalvan with Bret Witter

ISBN: 978-1-4013-2429-2

This is a book of many levels. The obvious one, of course, is the relationship between Luis and his Golden Retriever service dog, **Tuesday**. We learn of the background of both of these two which brought them to their life together. Luis is a decorated veteran with spinal injuries and traumatic brain disorder, who, after serving in the Army for 17 years, returns to the States with more than just his physical ailments. **Tuesday**, a Golden Retriever, was put into the *Puppies Behind Bars* training program wherein he trained and bonded with two different inmates, both of whom subsequently left him. This sets up the story for two emotionally wounded individuals and their paths towards healing each other.

The centerpiece of this story is the realization for the reader of the true nature of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the lifelong grip it will hold over its sufferers. Referred to as the "war after the war," well over a third of returning veterans have this dreaded disorder, many choosing not to wade into the minefield of the VA for treatment. The world of a PTSD sufferer consists of an extremely heightened awareness of potential harm around themselves and feelings of not being safe outside. Ordinary soda cans, for example, can be viewed as possible bomb receptacles; there is rarely an escape from memories of combat, patrolling, and looking for treachery and deceit in the eyes of others. So often, it is much easier to just stay indoors and not have to confront the terrors.

This showcases precisely the need for service dogs and their importance in helping veterans negotiate the world to which they have returned and must become accustomed. *Until Tuesday* describes Luis' life upon returning from the Middle East, his training with **Tuesday**, and the next two years of adjustment to their life together. Montalvan becomes integrally involved in writing various pieces about PTSD and the war in Iraq for major news outlets. During one of his appearances, Luis has a chance meeting with Al Franken (who went on to become a Senator from Minnesota), which leads to Franken's introduction (and subsequent passage) of the Service Dogs for Veterans Act (SDVA), a milestone achievement towards the understanding of the benefit of dogs in assisting emotionally wounded veterans.

Montalvan has gone on to become one of the leading spokesmen for PTSD and the benefit of service dogs. By visiting his website, <http://luiscarlosmontalvan.com/> readers can learn more about **Tuesday** and Montalvan's writings. *Until Tuesday* is an important book in helping people understand the plight of emotionally wounded veterans and the importance service dogs play in supporting these often unsung heroes.

AKC Introduces New Therapy Dog Title

By Ron Menaker, *American Kennel Club* Chairman

I am pleased to announce an exciting new title open to all *American Kennel Club* dogs. The *AKC* Therapy Dog title, or "THD," will launch June 27th as an official *AKC* suffix title and will reward dogs and their owners that have provided ongoing community service to help improve the well-being of others.

Currently, it is estimated there are 50,000 certified and active therapy dogs in the United States. Volunteerism has exploded over the past decade, especially those with dog and owner teams working in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and at natural disasters.

The *AKC* annually recognizes an outstanding Therapy Dog as part of the annual *AKC Humane Fund Awards for Canine Excellence (ACE)*. We receive so many great nominations that we know there are many more dogs out there that deserve recognition. We have also received many requests from the fancy to award titles to therapy dogs as a way to recognize the "great work their dogs do." Additionally, earning a THD title builds on the skills taught in the *AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy* and *Canine Good Citizen* programs, which create a sound and friendly temperament needed by a successful therapy dog. The *AKC* will not certify therapy dogs. Instead, we're working with therapy dog certification organizations to recognize the work done by therapy teams. The certification organizations are the experts in this area, and their efforts should be acknowledged and appreciated. The title will be open to all *AKC* dogs that have completed a series of criteria. To qualify, dogs must be certified by a participating therapy dog certification organization and have performed a minimum of 50 community service visits.

To obtain a title an owner must complete an application along with evidence of documented visits. Application forms are available on the website at www.akc.org/akctherapydog. The program will accept documentation going back to January 1, 2000. If your dog qualifies we encourage you to apply for the title. For more information visit www.akc.org/akctherapydog or email akctherapydog@akc.org

The *American Kennel Club (AKC)* proudly celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 2009. Since 1884 the not-for-profit organization has maintained the largest registry of purebred dogs in the world, and today its rules govern more than 20,000 canine competitions each year. The *AKC* is dedicated to upholding the integrity of its registry, promoting the sport of purebred dogs and breeding for type and function. Along with its nearly 5,000 licensed and member clubs and its affiliated organizations, the *AKC* advocates for the purebred dog as a family companion, advances canine health and well-being, works to protect the rights of all dog owners and promotes responsible dog ownership. Affiliate *AKC* organizations include the *AKC Humane Fund*, *AKC Canine Health Foundation*, *AKC Companion Animal Recovery* and the *AKC Museum of the*

Dog. For more information, visit www.akc.org

Ed. note: A rescued Golden Retriever may qualify for this new *AKC* Therapy Dog title. You must obtain an ILP number for your dog by getting a letter from your vet stating that the dog is a purebred Golden. Once you have that ILP number from the *AKC*, you can compete in *AKC* agility, obedience and rally events. If your dog has been certified as a therapy dog by *Therapy Dogs International, Inc.* or *Delta Society*, you may apply to the *AKC* for the THD.

2010 Starfish Award Winners

By Carol Allen, Chairman of the *Golden Retriever Club of America's National Rescue Committee*

I am pleased to announce the Starfish Award Winners for 2010. The formal presentation will be at the *GRCA* National Specialty's Annual Meeting on September 28th in Conyers, Georgia.

PROGRAM CATEGORY: *Golden Rescue in Naples* (Fla.) for their program "The Gifted Golden." In 2009, *GRIN* changed their focus from direct rescue to fundraising and granting to other Golden Retriever Rescue programs for the care of Golden with special needs and seniors. *GRIN* has also developed a program in two Florida counties to assist individuals with some of the financial burden of caring for their senior Golden and those with special needs Golden. Mary Ellen Metro is Founder and President of *GRIN*.

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY: Judy Smith is Vet Coordinator for *Rescue A Golden of Arizona*. *Max* came into that rescue program in an advanced stage of valley fever, and it was necessary that he be euthanized. Judy felt strongly that *Max's* life and death would not be in vain, and with her impetus, the *Max Fund* was created. In addition to fundraising, Judy began the development of educational articles on valley fever. She then worked with the Board of Directors of *RAGofAZ* and the *University of Arizona* to establish the *Max Valley Fever Fund*. Funds raised will be split between *RAGofAZ* for educational purposes and the research work of Dr. Schubitz, Research Professor of Veterinary Science and Microbiology, whose focus is vaccine development for valley fever.

A word (or two) about the nominations. First, thank you to those who submitted nominations. They were many, varied and strong. Second, it is my view (although I wasn't one with the task of making selections) that any of the nominations might have won. But all those nominated programs and volunteers *did* win by being nominated by their peers and recognized. Year after year, as I contact the two or three who will receive the awards, I am told by them that the honor is in representing the thousands who rescue Golden Retrievers. As they accept the award, they are doing so for all of you.

Upcoming Events

Fore! Paws Golf Tournament

Our 3rd Annual *Fore! Paws Golf Tournament* is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th at **Camelback Golf Club**. We will have a 1 PM shotgun start with 4-person scramble format. The tournament will be followed by a fabulous dinner, which is available to nongolfers, too, so plan to join us for the day or just for dinner. If you are a golfer and register by September 1st, the cost will be \$100; after that, the cost to golf will be \$125. There is no discount for a foursome. Several levels of sponsorship are available – check them out on the golf registration website. You can register to play, to sponsor, or just to have dinner at www.golfinvite.com/agr. Dinner is included in the golfing fee, but for nongolfers who want to join us for the meal, it will cost only \$30 inclusive (\$35 after September 1st), thanks to a generous donation by our Dinner Sponsor, Tony Cotner. During dinner you will have a chance to win some spectacular raffle items and bid on some incredible silent auction items. All profits go to help our dogs, of course. We will need volunteers to help with set-up on Friday afternoon, as well as volunteers to help finish the set-up on Saturday morning, help with registration, and help with raffle ticket sales, merchandise sales and with the silent auction and check-out. Please plan to join us and contact Teri Guilbault at teri.guilbault@yahoo.com or call 623-221-8758 to let her know when you can help. Please direct questions about the tournament to our tournament cochairman Teri Turner at 480-251-6521 or by e-mail at fore.paws@yahoo.com

Glendale Firemen's Parade and Muster

Due to liability issues, animal groups are no longer allowed to walk in the *Glendale Firemen's Parade*, but we do plan to have an information booth with merchandise sales in **Murphy Park** following the parade, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 8th. We will have the booth set up by 8 AM, and the event goes until 2 PM. Please plan to join us and bring your Golden. The crowd loves our dogs, and we usually do quite well with sales and donations!



JOIN US!

September 24, 2011

**Fore! Paws
Golf Tournament**
will benefit
Arizona Golden Rescue

**GOLF! DINNER! PRIZES!
SILENT AUCTION! RAFFLE!**

4-Person Scramble Event

Registration: 11:30am - 12:45pm | Shotgun Start: 1:00pm
Individual Entry Fee: \$120 • Foursome \$500

**Register before September 1 for
special early bird rates!**
Individual Entry Fee: \$100 • Foursome \$400

Fee includes range balls, greens fees, cart and dinner catered by Camelback Inn. Silent Auction and Raffles during dinner following tournament.

Limited entries accepted

For more details and to register online:
www.golfinvite.com/AGR
Tournament contact:
480 251-6521 • fore.paws@yahoo.com



**Saturday,
September 24,
2011
Camelback
Golf Club**

Arizona Golden Rescue
www.ArizonaGoldenRescue.org • 623.566.WAGS (9247)



Franciscan Renewal Center Blessing of the Animals

This annual **PACC 911** fall event spans the weekend of October 22-23. We hope to have a booth at the **Franciscan Renewal Center** both days, but that will not be confirmed until the beginning of September. Check our website to see when we will be there and volunteer to help.



Golden Hearts



Since we formed *Arizona Golden Rescue* in March 2009, many of our members, as well as some nonmembers, have been extremely generous in helping us financially. There are lots of costs associated with an animal rescue organization and in caring for the dogs that started coming in almost before the ink was dry on the paperwork. We are so grateful to everyone who has taken a chance on our new group and 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 April 16, 2011 and July 10, 2011. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Anonymous (many and generous)
 Gina Casagrande
 Joan and Paul Cieslak
 Tony Cotner
 Lynn Crane
 Marilyn and Mark Flynn
 Teri and Jeff Guilbault
 Margaret Hargis
 Gail and Dana Haywood
 Beverly and Kevin Host
 Nancy and Dave Kimmel
 Jodi and Jay Koblick
 Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström
 Deb and Larry Orwig
 Kathy Rice (2)
 Hannah and Mitch Selznick
 Sam and Felix Takach
 Gary and Yvette Tepper
 Frank and Nancy Turco

Honorary Donations

*In Honor of **Angel Lilly**, 3 ½-year-old Golden who qualified for NADAC Agility Nationals*
 Krista Cantrell

*In Honor of Tony Cotner for the beautiful portrait of my sweet **Duke** and for the adoption fee for **Jasmine***
 Sandra Hansen

In Honor of Kirk Forsythe
 Jon and Karin Forsythe

In Honor of Deb and Larry Orwig for vacation dog care
 Jane and Casey Pulis for **Rocky** and **Major**
 Jackie and Dave Engelhardt for **Jake** and **Maggie**
 Sam and Felix Takach for **Nala** and **Simba**
 Lynn and Bruce Panici for **Jimmy** and **Sophie**

In Honor of my sister Judy Petitto for Mother's Day
 Gerri Fedio

*In Honor of **Bailey Ann Rousculp**, owners*
 Michael Rousculp and Crel Vogel
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In Honor of Michele Wehry for vacation dog care
 Mary Jo and John Courtney for **Ashley** and **Kate**

Memorial Donations

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*This donation was made in Debbe's honor before she passed away. These monies have been transferred to *The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. Debbe requested that all donations made in her honor or memory be designated to help **AGR** pay the vet bills of dogs that come in with cancer (we have had three so far, two with transmissible venereal tumor and one with a malignancy on her toe, which had to be amputated – we know there will be others)

In Memory of 11-036 Abbit

Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

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*In Memory of **Beetle Bailey***
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Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **Mia Beceiro***
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Teri and Jeff Guilbault
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*In Memory of **Sadie Orman**, beloved furkid of friend*
Bob Orman
Michele Meyer

*In Memory of **Sally Halpern***
Lyn Johnston

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Special Thanks

To **Tony Cotner** for purchasing 15 *Phoenix Mercury* tickets so that **AGR** could have a booth in the **US Airways Center** foyer preceding the *Dog Days of Summer* game on July 10th.

To all those who purchased tickets to *Casino Nite* and told **AGR** to keep the money after we had to cancel the event, or made donations to help with the loss of the nonrefundable facility reservation fee:

Debbie and Rick Ball
Tony Cotner
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From the Editor's Desk

By Deb Orwig

A publication such as this does not get done by just one person. Yes, the layout does, but columns and articles were contributed by the Board members and several others as well. Thanks to all of you!

Special thanks to Dr. Katie Donahue for compiling the *Magic Moments* section, as well as writing her own column, *The Human Connection*, and to Liz Tataseo for helping me with the *Diamonds in the Ruff* column.

Thanks also to *Eye Care for Animals* in Avondale for the information they provided for Liz Tataseo's article on vasculitis and uveitis.

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

BULK RATE MAIL

You will notice that your address label on the back cover contains the verbiage "OR CURRENT RESIDENT." The U.S. Postal Service now requires that verbiage on anything sent out by bulk rate mail. We qualify to use bulk rate mail because of our nonprofit status and because we send out more than 225 identical pieces of mail in each mailing. It is very cost effective for us to use bulk rate mail – the May issue of *The Golden Paw* cost about 28¢ each, as opposed to the \$1.48 it cost to send one copy by first class mail. However, there are some drawbacks to using bulk rate mail. First, sometimes copies do not get delivered at all (who knows why?), or they may take a week or more (especially to out-of-state recipients) to get to their destinations. Bulk rate mail is not forwarded, nor is it returned to the sender if the intended recipient no longer resides at the address on the label, which is why it is so important for you to notify us if you move.

Another "Foster Failure"

Upon becoming a "foster failure" for the 4th time in two years, Jackie Engelhardt said, *With Sage having grown used to us and our pack and feeling comfortable in her new home, we are unwilling to put her through the trauma of another adjustment. That is my brilliant excuse to adopt this gorgeous piece of Golden heaven.*

Cell Phone Recycling

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



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