

Reaching out to you with...



The Golden Paw

Volume IV Number 1

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Humorous Moments During the Holidays...



Make up your own captions for these great photos if you want to, but if you'd like to see ours, go to page 10

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Masthead photo is of **11-039 Mercedes Fontanilla**

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Editor's Assistant's Note



Hello, everyone. My name is **Mufasa** – you know, after the daddy lion in *The Lion King*. It's a good name 'cause I look regal and noble like he does. My mom, the editor of this newsletter, calls me **Fasa** (that's FAH-sah) most of the time, but when I hear **MuFASA** I know she means business! She says I'm "a work in progress," so my main job is going

to be passing along training and behavior tips so you can help your dog avoid getting into the same trouble I get into. My mentor was **Rocky**, but in late November, he went somewhere called the Rainbow Bridge. Mom says he is having so much fun there he won't be coming back, so I have to take over where he left off.

Mom and Dad started off just fostering me, so I will tell you a little about my foster experience. It was the pits. You see, I had heartworm when I was rescued by *Arizona Golden Rescue*. It is a really bad disease that is transmitted by mosquitoes from one dog to another. But you can keep your dog from getting it by giving him or her Heartgard® or Interceptor® every month and having a heartworm test done every year. Some people in Arizona believe that heartworm is so uncommon here that they shouldn't bother with this medication and testing. But I am living proof that isn't so. Had **AGR** not tested me for heartworm when I was rescued, no one would have known I had it because I had not developed any symptoms yet. By the time symptoms manifested, it might have been too late to save me. Oh, my goodness!

The treatment was not fun, but the alternative (eventual death because my heart was being strangled by the heartworms) would have been worse. I had to have two painful injections in my haunch 24 hours apart. During the 24 hours after each one, a vet tech had to take my temperature and monitor my blood pressure every hour so the vet could treat me right away if I started to crash. Fortunately, I didn't.

After the second treatment, my foster mom picked me up from the vet's and drove me to her house. I got sick in the car because I was so nervous. Yuk. When we got to the house, she took me outside on leash and I made a big dump out there. Then we went into the laundry room and I had to go into a big crate. The vet had told her I could not be allowed to get excited, so for the next month, all I saw was the laundry room, the crate, the back yard (on leash) and my foster mom and dad (and they basically ignored me). No other company. No toys. Bor...ing. Then one day she opened the laundry room door and in bounced FOUR other furkids who look

something like me. I got so excited I couldn't wait to get out of the crate, so I peed in there. Oops. Turns out that they are all great company, they all love to play with toys, and best of all, they all love to play with ME.

Not too long after I came out of isolation, Mom found out that **Rocky** had a mass in one lung. He had been coughing off and on all summer, so she had him tested for valley fever. When that test came back negative, the vet did a chest X-ray and saw the tumor. It was right about then that Mom and Dad decided I had to become a permanent member of the household. Foster failure #9 for the Orwigs: **Barley, Bruno, Rocky, Hayden, Kokomo, Ben, Troy, Ladybird** and **Mufasa**. What a lineup! We could have a great baseball team if all of them were still living with us.

One of the first things I heard – and I hear it multiple times every day – is "leave it." Mom says that is one of the most important commands a dog needs to learn, especially if the dog's owner has the intention of getting the dog certified to do therapy work. I now know that "leave it" means to drop whatever is in my mouth or not pick it up if I haven't already. I am not allowed to take toys out in the yard, because the first few times I did that I dropped them into this gigantic puddle that is always out there (Mom calls it a pool). That was fun – they made cool noises when they plopped into the puddle. But she told me that indoor toys are not pool toys and that in the summer when it is warm she promises she will let me play with the pool toys. So, now I drop the toys at the door before going outside. She tells me the next thing I have to learn is to put all my toys back in the toy bin. She says she is going to call Peter Wong to help her learn how to teach a dog to do that. Maybe by the time you read the May issue I will have learned that trick!

Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President
dorwigaz@cox.net



Where to start? There are so many people who deserve thanks and special mention for all they have done for *Arizona Golden Rescue* and for me, personally.

First, to all who have sent me messages of sympathy and to the many of you who made donations to **AGR** in memory of **Rocky**, thank you so much. **Rocky** was my shadow for 11 ½ years. In fact, he was the one who made me realize that if you have a Golden you can never even use the bathroom alone! The holiday season was difficult for me to get through without him, especially when we did the gift wrapping at the Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** store. The staff there considered **Rocky** their store mascot, as he had done an after-school reading program with **Terramar**

Elementary students twice a week in 2007-2008 and once a week every summer since. In fact, when I took him there the Tuesday before Thanksgiving just to confirm our holiday gift wrap schedule, the manager called an all-hands meeting at the Customer Service desk so all the staff members could say hello to him.

We have a new boy in our pack now, **Mufasa**. He is not a replacement for **Rocky** – no dog will ever replace **Rocky**, as he was unique – but our pack now feels complete again. **Mufasa**, with his puppy antics and I'm-going-to-smother-you-with-kisses personality, has done a lot to improve the atmosphere in our house. As you may have noticed, he has taken over **Rocky's** position as Editor's Assistant.

Kathy Blue has been doing Rescue Intake for about 12 years. She started with another group, then joined **AGR** when we formed in March 2009. Due to needing – and wanting – to spend more time with her 93-year-old dad who is not in the best of health, Kathy has had to resign from her Intake position. We will miss her experience and expertise with this most important job and thank her sincerely for her years of service to Rescue. We have had Intake set up on a rotating schedule of a week "on" then two weeks "off"; with Kathy gone, Michele Wehry and Judy Petitto have to be "on" every other week. Judy is also dealing with a parent in poor health and Michele has been spending a lot of time working out the details of our trip to El Paso, so it has been a busy and stressful time for our Intake personnel. We would like to train at least two more volunteers to do Intake, so that each is "on" only once every four weeks. If you are interested, please contact Liz Tataseo at e.tataseo@yahoo.com or call her at 602-938-5927.

Thanks to all **AGR** volunteers who chaired an event during the last three months, especially those during the holiday season. Beverly Ruth handled the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** gift wrapping and Kathi Youhas chaired the Happy Valley location; both did a great job! Larry Jessup did an absolutely spectacular job of lining up volunteers to help with our all-day stint at the Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** – we had 51 volunteers there throughout the day! It's hard to say no to Larry when he calls you on the phone and asks for your help! Connie McCabe and Angela Palumbo also did a fabulous job chairing the **PetSmart Photos with Santa** at the Arrowhead and Tempe Marketplace stores, respectively. The efforts of the photographers, helper elves and Donation Dogs brought in over \$4,000! Fantastic!

We were invited to have a group at the Grand Opening of yet another **Choice Pet Market**, this one in Chandler. Thanks to Dana and Gail Haywood, who offered to chair that location with several good helpers that day. They will be doing a Meet-and-Greet at this location once a month. Please check the website calendar for dates and times.

Mary Jo Courtney and Teri Guilbault spent much of their spare time during the holiday season writing thank you letters to monetary and item donors, respectively. Mary Jo had already written letters for monetary donations that were given to **AGR** during the first third of

the year, but the end of the year is especially busy for donations, so she had a lot of them to do. Teri did all the letters for the golf tournament donations. Thanks to both of you! This year we are going to wait to do most all the donation acknowledgment letters until the end of the year. It does not make good sense financially to send out more than one letter to people who make more than one donation during the year (that includes a lot of you). If the letters are sent out early in the year for donations made then, some lose the letter or forget they have it. We want everyone who donates to be able to get tax deductions for their kindness. So, if you do receive a thank you letter, please put it away with your other tax documents and receipts until you need to prepare your tax return next year.

Our Celebration Party on January 15th was great fun, but it never would have come off in a clean, organized house without help from Kathi Youhas. Kathi helped me put away Christmas decorations and set up tables in the garage with all the **AGR** merchandise. She also came over two days after the party and put away all the merchandise! Thanks for all that, Kathi!

Our annual meeting, picnic and family fun day – our *Paws At The Park* – is scheduled for Sunday, March 11th, the actual anniversary of our incorporation! Festivities begin at 11 AM and go until 3 PM. We will have a barbecue lunch (cost is \$7 per person paid in advance, \$10 at the event), a short membership meeting in the middle of the day and lots of fun activities. It will take place at Sahuaro Ranch Park on 59th Ave in Glendale. Last year, over 100 people and at least that many dogs attended – you will never see so many beautiful Golden, Golden mixes and Golden-hearts-in-the-witness-protection-program all in one place at one time. It's a fantastic sight and a really fun day, so please plan to attend with your family and dogs.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

We will have our annual election of officers of the Board at the *Paws At The Park* event. If you would like to be considered for one of our five Board positions, please send a resumé to Deb Orwig no later than February 26, 2012.

Team Managers are appointed by the Board. If you are interested in being a Team Manager or being a member of one of our action teams (see inside cover of this newsletter), please send a message to Liz Tataseo at e.tataseo@yahoo.com or call her at 602-938-5927.

One of the best ways to show love and spend quality time with your dog is to teach them new tricks. It will take some time and practice, but it will provide great mental stimulation and help keep your dog engaged and not bored.



Great Happenings

By Teri Guilbault, Director of Operations
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Second Time Around

By Liz Tataseo, Director of Dog Care
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Leaping into the New Year with Exciting Events

Happy New Year everyone! It's hard to believe that we are now at the beginning of 2012! Where did the last year go?

I want to extend a HUGE personal thank you to everyone involved with our incredible organization! Please give yourselves a pat on the back for everything that you did for **AGR** in 2011, whether it was becoming a member for the first time or renewing your membership, all the way up to holding a Director seat with our organization. Each and every one of you was wonderful, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for doing whatever you did to help us bring 98 Golden and Golden mixes into Rescue and then into their wonderful forever homes!

We did a lot of work over the holiday season to collect donations to help with the medical needs of our rescues. To say that we did an incredible job is an understatement. We gift wrapped at **Barnes & Noble** Arrowhead in Glendale, **Barnes & Noble** at the I-17/Happy Valley location in Phoenix and the **Barnes & Noble** at Tempe Marketplace. We had *Photos with Santa* at the **PetSmart** locations at Arrowhead and Tempe Marketplace. We took in a total of \$14,634.77 in donations! Unbelievable! We now have a little cushion in the bank to help out our 2012 rescues, but unfortunately, the money to vet our Golden friends goes fast.

If you came out during the last several weeks and participated at one of these events, I know you had a great time! Holiday fundraising is so wonderful because we get to spend time with each other and our fabulous dogs and meet lots of new people. We've already received applications to adopt from people who stopped by to say hello last month. But wait! There's always more! Please check out our events calendar on our website and you'll see that we have lots of Meet-and-Greets lined up for 2012 at **PetSmarts** and **Choice Pet Markets** all over the Valley. The **PACC911** event in Anthem is set for Saturday, February 4th; *Parada Del Sol* Parade and the *Trail's End Block Party* are on Saturday, February 11th, the **PetSmart Charities Pet Walk** at Tempe Town Lake is on Sunday, February 19th, and our *Paws At The Park* annual picnic is Sunday, March 11th. I'll be sending out little reminders along the way, but I'd love to see each and every one of you at one or as many events as possible. Some of these are really easy fundraising opportunities for us that will help us earn lots of donations for our dogs. On behalf of our Golden and mostly-Golden friends, thanks again for your continued support!

Road to Rescue: Another Option To Help a Golden

In the short life of **AGR**, we have brought in several very senior dogs, as well as some Golden mixes that had significant medical conditions that could not be cured, but each dog could be given a good quality of life for as long as they had left with the proper care. Usually, a wonderful foster took care of these dogs and made sure they received their medication, correct food and made it to all their vet visits. They, of course, fell in love with their dogs, but the prohibitive cost of caring for the dogs was a major stumbling block to actually adopting.

In order to ensure that the dogs and their loving fosters did not have to be separated but could become "official", the Board instituted the Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption category (GPHA). Dogs 12 and over and/or with a severe, chronic medical condition could, if the foster wished, be adopted for \$1.00. **Arizona Golden Rescue** would be responsible for the medical care of the dog and the foster would continue to maintain daily care and ensure that the dog received his medication and vet visits. Each case would be decided by the Board. This adoption category would never preclude someone who had the resources from adopting a similar dog and caring for its medical needs, if they desired.

We have many adopters who have sought out senior dogs or dogs with chronic conditions and assumed those duties by taking care of all the dog's needs. They have been rewarded with much love and joyful kisses by their wonderful seniors. We can never thank them enough – they are wonderful angels. This GPHA category is strictly for the elderly and infirm dog or one in which the medical condition is going to mean a shorter life than expected and requires numerous vet visits for their care. We recently approved two dogs for this category: **Ricky**, a senior dog with mega colon, valley fever, thyroid problems and nodules on his spleen; and **Tatum**, a senior girl, 12+ years old, found as a stray and malnourished, with major fusion of spinal vertebrae and arthritis; she also came down with a urinary tract infection that hampered her recovery. Both dogs need daily medication and constant observation to make sure all is well.

We always have dogs that do not fall into this extreme category but do need a foster to tend to their needs for a short while or weeks or even months until a permanent family can be determined. It may be a very active senior or young pup who needs training or a dog we know nothing about but need to evaluate before we can place

him. Help a dog and get lots of kisses and love by fostering. Who knows, you may end up being a foster failure like the rest of us and find “The Dog” you have always wanted – or “Dogs” as the case may be. Fill out the online application or reactivate your old application and join the Golden Foster Brigade.



The Information Highway

By Dana Haywood,
Director of Information Management
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AGR continued to grow and evolve last year, both in the number of dogs that we rescued and also by changes in the way we handled our information. We rescued 98 dogs in 2011, a 27% increase over the number of dogs we rescued in 2010, which was 77. I want to personally thank everyone involved in the rescue of these wonderful creatures. There are so many long hours that all our teams devote to rescuing these dogs and making sure they go to the right homes as healthy as they can be.

The way we handled information changed dramatically over this last year. One of the first things we did was transition from a standard phone line with voice mail capabilities only to a VOIP telephone line (Voice Over Internet Protocol). This not only saved us over \$40 per month, but also gave us more capabilities. We added “live” answering on the telephone with my wife, Gail, taking on the volunteer responsibilities of personally answering the phone from 8 AM till 8 PM seven days a week. One of the additional capabilities of our new phone service allows for a simultaneous call routing to Gail’s cell phone so that she can answer calls when she is away from the house. Anyone who has seen her at Meet-and-Greets may have noticed her answering calls and sometimes even passing the calls over to other members who happen to be at the Meet-and-Greets.

We changed our website significantly, adding online applications and additional online payment methods. We also changed the way we display the Adoptable Dogs and Success Stories pages. We enlisted the services of RescueGroups.org to provide an interface to the major adoption portals on the web, while also providing us with unique content on our website.

One of the challenges in the information field that **AGR** has faced since its inception was a way to coordinate information that is needed to operate this rescue organization and to have all facets of the information interface smoothly. We have used Google-Docs for many reports for Intake and Placement, and we have had to manually update spreadsheets for contact information, membership rosters and other reports from home evaluations and health care, just to mention a few. We finally now have a workable database that is near completion, but very much usable at this time, to

merge almost all information needs that we have into one place.

More changes are coming in 2012. By the time you read this newsletter, we should have our new online Shopping Mall in operation. Just about any online shopping that you do now can be done through our new “e-Mall” interface with a percentage of everything you buy through our link going to **Arizona Golden Rescue**. The most interesting part of this is that it does not cost you any more to purchase anything using our link than you would pay if you went directly to the store’s site without using our link. The reason retailers are willing to do this is that it brings more business to them, and the more they sell online the less overhead they pay to market their merchandise. Being a volunteer nonprofit organization means we are always trying to find new ways to raise funds for our dogs’ care. This is a great way for you to support **AGR** financially without costing yourself any more money than you may already be spending.

Here are some links that should be available soon:



GoodSearch is a **Yahoo**-powered search engine that donates a penny per search to American charities and schools designated by its users. If you select **GoodSearch** as your default search engine, **AGR** will receive a penny every time you use it to search the Internet. Please see the box on page 7 for instructions for setting up **GoodSearch** as your primary search engine.



GoodShop: You can shop at hundreds of major-name stores that have made agreements to provide donations to nonprofits by using **GoodShop**. Each store will list the percentage that they donate. You can also find coupons and discounts available by shopping online.



GoodDining: The **GoodDining** Program allows members to earn donations for **Arizona Golden Rescue** at thousands of participating restaurants, bars and clubs. It’s an easy-to-use program that’s totally discreet and allows members to earn donations coast-to-coast when they visit participating businesses.



Smart Betty: **AGR** will be partnering with a new service to the Phoenix area. **Smart Betty** offers amazing deals with discounts of as much as 50-90% off local, handpicked businesses. When you purchase an online deal from **Smart Betty** through the **AGR-eMall** shopping page, **Smart Betty** will give 10% to **AGR**. It’s social buying with a social conscience.

We will be using the power of social media such as Facebook to help raise support for **AGR**. I am in the process of creating a new domain name for our shopping adventures. It will have the simple name of **AGR-eMall.com** and will directly link to our shopping page. We will share this link on Facebook – hopefully many of you who use

Facebook will tell your Facebook friends to use our shopping link to help our cause. Imagine how many people we can reach out to if we go beyond our membership for this new venture. Hopefully, with this short web URL, people will be willing to try it.

In addition to these services we are adding other online stores:

Reading Glasses Galore has partnered with us to provide **AGR** with 10% of any purchase made through the link from our website.

Dog Mom's Bakery: Rescue is important to **Dog Mom's Bakery**. This company wants to help animals in need and be able to offer you a way to help them, too. Their Rescue Rewards Program allows you to support **AGR** when you purchase their products through our link. **Dog Mom's Bakery** donates 20% of their monthly sales from our link to **AGR** when **AGR** supporters purchase their products.

Golden Paws Wine: There will be a link on our website to purchase our own "Golden Paws" branded wines. There will be six different wines available, and the labels will sport photos of **AGR**-rescued dogs!

Coming soon will be a storefront for our embroidered **AGR** clothing items. Included will be many of the items that many of you may have already seen or purchased. Polo shirts, sweatshirts, shopping bags and other items will be available online through our link with **Anchor Embroidery & Silkscreen**. In addition, we are working on possibly selling through the website **AGR** merchandise that you would normally purchase at **AGR** events.

We will also be putting the final touches on our Rainbow Bridge page. Dogs who have gone to the Rainbow Bridge will be posted in this area and owners of these dogs can submit a memorial story. There is no charge to post any dog that has gone to the Bridge, but if you wish to make a memorial donation in the dog's name it would be graciously accepted; there is a link available which will allow you to do that right from the Bridge page. We will also be including non-**AGR** dogs who belonged to **AGR** members. We are working on a type of membership for dogs so they can become honorary members of **AGR**.

As you can see, we have been really busy this past year and we welcome new volunteers to help out. Let's all work to make 2012 an even better year!

At right, you will read Katie's last column as a Board member. She has found the commitments of completing her medical residency too much (often has to work upwards of 90 hours a week) to allow her adequate time. Also, the distance between Phoenix and Oceanside would have precluded her attendance at many of our events even if she had the time to come, which she has not. We wish her the best, thank her for her service to AGR and hope she will visit when she can. The Board has appointed Connie McCabe to the Human Resources Director position.

Setting GoodSearch as your default search engine:

Enter the **Arizona Golden Rescue** website, www.arizonagoldenrescue.org, from your current browser. On the home page, click on the **GoodSearch.com** box. This will take you to the **GoodSearch** site. While there you will notice at the top of your web browser the opportunity to **Add GoodSearch** to your browser. Click on this box. After that, do the following depending on which browser you use:

Mozilla Firefox: to change the default search engine for the **Firefox** search bar, click the drop down arrow next to the search engine icon and select a search engine (you can see your current default search engine in bold). **Firefox** will remember your choice and use the selected search engine from now on (until you change it again).

Google Chrome:

1. Navigate: Settings (icon) → Options and click "Manage" next to your "Default search engine"
2. Select your preferred search engine from the list and click "Make Default" button.

Internet Explorer: If you are using **Internet Explorer 8**, your default search engine is likely to be Bing. Here's how you can change that: In the search bar, there is a small arrow to the right of the search icon (magnifying glass). Click the arrow and then select "Manage search engines". Select the search provider that you'd like to set as default here. Click on "Set as Default" button.

The Human Connection

By Katie Donahue, D.O.

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People always ask me how I manage with three dogs and a job that involves me being at the hospital 80 hours a week. I frequently wonder that myself. Just this past month, I was on a rotation which required me to be at work at 0500, and work happened to be an hour drive away from my house. The first time my alarm went off at 0330 my dogs looked at me as if I had lost my mind. They were very happy to see me when I rolled in the door 14 hours later. I had this schedule for 6 weeks until January 19th, and I think **Ginger, Jake, Joe**, and I are going to have a party when I'm finished. Am I on drugs? The dogs think I am. Would I encourage anyone to choose this lifestyle? Certainly not. Would I choose a different lifestyle? Certainly not.

No, I don't walk the dogs before I leave for work; I walk them when I come home. Yes, I live in a house that's way too large for just one person, but I have a fenced yard and a dog door so the dogs aren't stuck inside all day. Yes, every once in awhile I come home and find I'm missing a textbook – part of it is stuck to **Joe's** nose, the rest is in the yard being chewed on by **Jake**, and **Ginger's** sitting on the couch with a smile on her face, but fortunately *Amazon.com* (which you can reach through our website's *Good-Shop* link) has good deals on textbooks.

I yell and throw a temper tantrum and stomp my feet; then I pick up all the little pieces of paper and take the dogs for a walk. Because it's not really their fault they got bored and got into mischief. I went away for a long time and did not provide them with enough entertainment prior to my departure. If I'm going to be gone that long, they need some type of entertainment and exercise, or else they'll find their own. There are days when I come home from work and all I want to do is die on my couch, but that's not really an option when three wet noses are poking me and want to play wrestle-mania 37. There are times when I really need to study and all I end up with is **Ginger-slobber** all over my textbook. And there are times like right now when I really need to finish this article because I have about 30 minutes of functioning brain time left before I fall into a post-call stupor and **Ginger** is attempting to help me type. In case you hadn't guessed, I'm using the backspace key a lot.

And then there are days when I come home from work, the day was even worse than usual, and there are still three wet noses who want to play wrestle-mania 37. Or, the rare occasions when I have days off and can take the dogs places – they don't know what to do with themselves since I've been home all day. Or, the really special occasions when we make the trip to Phoenix for *AGR* events and they get to see all their doggy friends and people friends and have their pictures taken and wear their special *AGR* vests and get lots of attention. **Ginger, Jake, Joe**, and I have a deal: they don't eat too many textbooks, we play wrestle-mania and go to Phoenix. And sometimes they get to sleep in the bed...they make great toe warmers.

What does any of this have to do with this quarter's volunteering theme? If you're thinking, can I foster? Do I really have time to foster? The answer is yes. Unless you really do work 80 hours a week, live by yourself, and can barely keep yourself alive, then I really wouldn't recommend it. Are two or three dogs much more challenging than just one? Not really. The adjustment from one to two is big, but after that, it's just one more head to pet, one more bowl to fill, one more cookie to give out. Many of our fosters do require some extra socialization and a little bit of obedience training, but we all know how well Golden Retrievers learn from each other and from positive feedback. Many of our fosters come with excellent manners and just need a place to stay prior to going to their forever home. If you can walk one well-behaved dog on a leash you can definitely walk two. When I'm really tired (or really lazy) I'll walk all three. While we look like something resembling a circus

act, it works for us and we haven't broken any bones yet.

So, definitely think about fostering as a volunteer job. Don't think about doctor school (that's another article). You may even be a foster failure and find your next family member!

Health and Safety

By Teri Guilbault, Health Care Manager
teri.guilbault@yahoo.com

Ticks

When you watch your dog, do you notice that he's constantly scratching or shaking his head or licking his paws? You probably think maybe it's just because there's some dry skin or allergies, but the itching and scratching could also be caused by a tick... or several. In the last few months, we've had a few of our wonderful rescues come in with ticks; recently one dog tested positive for tick fever and anaplasmosis, which is very uncommon here but is another form of tick fever.

In our area, the brown dog tick is very common. Both the above tick-borne diseases are curable if treated with the antibiotic doxycycline, but these diseases can make your dog sick with fever, lethargy, and other flu-like symptoms. Failure to treat a dog for these diseases can cause death, so it's really important to keep a watchful eye out for these little critters.

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

Ticks can be relatively small or can end up being about the size of a lima bean if they've been feeding off your dog and are fully engorged, but they need to be removed and disposed of quickly and safely. If you're not sure what to do, the following is a quick and easy guide to help you:

- Grab the tick by the head or mouth parts right where they enter the skin. Do not grasp the tick by the body.
- Without jerking, pull firmly and steadily directly outward. Do not twist the tick as you are pulling.
- Petroleum jelly, a hot match, or alcohol will NOT cause the

tick to ‘back out.’ In fact, these irritants may cause the tick to deposit more disease-carrying saliva in the wound.

- After removing the tick, place it in a jar of alcohol to kill it. Ticks are NOT killed by flushing them down the toilet.
- Clean the bite wound with a disinfectant. If you want to, apply a small amount of triple antibiotic ointment.
- Wash your hands thoroughly.

To remove an attached tick, use a pair of fine-tipped tweezers or special tick removal instruments. These devices allow one to remove the tick without squeezing the tick body. This is important, as you do not want to crush the tick and force harmful bacteria to leave the tick and enter your pet’s bloodstream.

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

The Financial Picture
By Deb Orwig

As Teri mentioned in her column on page 5, *Arizona Golden Rescue* volunteers did a fantastic job raising money during the 2011 holiday season. But we have done an absolutely incredible job since our incorporation on March 11, 2009 – in that 2 1/2-months-shy-of-three years, our total income has been **\$435,680.14!** We are extremely lucky to have such dedicated and caring volunteers and supporters! We all have a common goal: to do the best we can for the dogs that come into our care. And we have the wherewithal to do it without worrying about whether we can pay a vet bill. A huge thank you to every one of you reading this newsletter. Each of you has contributed to our success in some way.

We need to keep up the momentum, though, as we move through 2012. We have some new fundraisers planned, as well as the tried-and-true ones we have done each year. New on the docket will be an organization-wide garage sale on Friday-Saturday, March 30-31. Also, on Wednesday, April 11th, we all need to plan to visit one of the 7 Arizona locations of *California Pizza Kitchen* with the enclosed flyer in hand (you must take the flyer in order for *AGR* to get credit). They are hosting our organization at their restaurants and will be giving us 20% of their revenue for that day, all day, at all 7 restaurants – there is even one in Tucson, so you folks down south can participate,

too!

If any of you have any other new ideas that might bring in some cash, please contact Teri Guilbault at teri.guilbault@yahoo.com or call her at 623-221-8758.

Quite a few of you indicated on your membership application that you are interested in helping with fundraising. You can do this in

Reporting period: January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

Total Assets as of January 31, 2012: \$111,778.36

	Income	Expense
Adoptions	\$28,354.00	\$ 281.48
Bank Charges		19.63
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	5,620.00	3,406.67
Credit Card & PayPal & Intuit		1,268.66
Donations	51,351.96	
Debbe Begley Memorial Fund ¹	9,809.03	
Dues and Subscriptions (Quickbooks Online)		274.56
Event Expense		1,077.31
Golf Tournament 2011	37,357.25	9,809.20
Grants ²	5,000.00	500.00
Insurance		252.00
Interest	62.44	
Legal & Professional Fees		1,450.00
Memberships	12,485.00	
Merchandise	7,809.15	3,810.92
Newsletter Subscriptions	32.00	
Office Expenses & Misc.		851.92
<i>Paws At The Park Picnic 2011</i> ³	623.00	34.48
<i>PetSmart Charities PetWalk</i>	850.00	
Postage & Shipping		1,711.53
Santa Claws Photos taken in 2010	1,120.00	
Stationery & Printing		5,165.82
Storage Facility Rental		1,190.00
Telephone		471.04
Tickets, <i>Coyotes & Phx Mercury</i>	280.00	250.00
Tickets, Raffle	1,570.00	
Vet and Dog-related Expenses:		
Boarding		891.76
Collars, leashes, collar tags		1,087.41
Medallions		103.95
Microchip & Heartgard® expenses		1,334.68
Veterinary services		88,308.98
TOTAL	\$162,323.83	\$123,552.00

NET INCOME: \$38,771.83

Checking Account on 01-31-12: \$47,372.25

Savings Account on 01-31-12: \$53,859.08

The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 1-18-12: \$10,547.03

¹ Debbe Begley Memorial Fund includes income from *Bowl-a-Rama* (\$3238.66) and *Paws & Pasta Dinner* (\$1,955) as well as other donations

² Grant expense was a \$500 donation *AGR* made to *Sooner Golden Retriever Rescue* in memory of their Founder & President Bob Bornstein

³ Income does not include raffle ticket sales

a big way by chairing or serving on the committee of one of our fundraising events, or in a less-involved way by donating money to our direct money-makers such as the **PetSmart Charities Pet-Walk** on February 21st or the **Bowl-a-Rama** on August 4th. Let us hear from you!



Service Paws

By Wendy Enos
wendyenos@cox.net

2012 HERO DOG AWARDS

It goes without saying that anyone who depends on a service dog considers his own dog a hero. From the moment the team is paired up, the dog performs a myriad of different specially-trained tasks in addition to preserving the safety and independence of a person with a disability. Without question, a service dog is heroic every day!

But service dogs certainly aren't the only heroes in the dog world. Law enforcement, therapy, hearing, military, guide, and search-and-rescue canines are all eligible for nomination in the 2012 **American Humane Association Hero Dog Awards™**. This second annual event recognizes "ordinary dogs who do extraordinary things" and accepts nomination entries until March 26, 2012.

In 2011, the first American Hero Dog Award went to **Roselle**, a guide dog who led her blind master down 78 flights of stairs in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Finalists are awarded funds to be donated to the nominee's charity partner, selected at the time of entry. **Sophie** and I chose, of course, **Happy Tails Service Dogs**. A full list of all charity partners, as well as a nomination form and detailed information, are available online at www.herodogawards.org Please take a few moments to check out this special event.

Editor's Note: Joyce Weber, President of Happy Tails Service Dogs and a member of Arizona Golden Rescue, let us know that as of press time, five Happy Tails graduate teams have been nominated for these awards. Two other teams besides Wendy and Sophie are also AGR members: Fred Brown and Sassy and Pam Munici and Sam. To read about all the nominees, go to <http://www.herodogawards.org/contestants/> The nominations close on March 26th. The public is invited to vote between April 1st and June 30th at <http://www.herodogawards.org/> We wish you all the best of luck!

Running and playing with your dog is another great way to fight boredom. Fetch, wrestling, or racing are simple ways to tire out your dogs before you leave so they will take a long nap when you go instead of pacing around an empty house.

Let's 'Paws' To Do Some Spring Cleaning

Teri Guilbault, Director of Operations

Spring is always a great time to clear out the cobwebs from the winter and clean out the closets. Why not "paws" for a moment and think about doing your spring cleaning a little early, and pack up all those items that you no longer use, whether big or small, and donate them to **Arizona Golden Rescue**? On Friday and Saturday, March 30th and 31st, **Arizona Golden Rescue** will host a really big garage sale at **EASY STREET AUTO SALES**, 11234 W. Michigan Avenue, Youngtown, Arizona. **Easy Street Auto Sales** is owned by one of our members, Pery Ruth, and he has graciously offered to let us use this location for our event. There really is no item too big or too small for this garage sale, so items as small as nail polish or perfumes, or as large as furniture pieces and anything in between are welcome! Got stuff in your garage that you no longer use like garden tools, bikes or holiday decorations? We'll take those, too! Members, including family and friends who have items they'd like to donate, can drop off their items at this location beginning March 1st. We will also have an East Valley drop-off location at Jackie & Dave Engelhardt's house, 5833 S. Kenwood Lane, Tempe, where people who live in that area can bring their items. Contact Dave at spearhead44@hotmail.com For additional information on dropping off items at the Youngtown location, please contact Beverly Ruth at allwaysonthego@msn.com If you're in the North Valley or Northwest Valley area, you can drop off items at Deb Orwig's house, 5814 W Del Lago Circle, Glendale; contact Deb at dorwigaz@cox.net There is no need to worry about sorting and pricing – **AGR** volunteers will do it for you. The more items that we have the bigger the sale and the bigger **AGR's** proceeds will be, so start looking through your cupboards and closets now. We will be sending out email reminders and additional information on setup and sale times, so if you would also like to volunteer to sort and price or help at the actual sale, or if you just want to come on out to browse and shop, please mark your calendars. We would LOVE to see you there!

Holiday Humor (front cover) Captions

Left to right, top row: holiday headgear modeled by **Holly** and **McKenna Joyce**; **Krissie Youhas**; Nick Dodson; Kathi Youhas; **Hayden Orwig**; **NinAnnie Wehry**; 2nd row: **Lily** the Pug; **Leo Youhas**; **Troy Orwig** – Help, the hat slipped!; **Buddy Miller** wearing his "money harness" at Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** gift wrapping session – he was too little for even the smallest Donation Vest, so we improvised; Santa Patrick with **Ozzie** and **Emma** smiling like jack-o'-lanterns; Debbie Swistek, manager at Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble**, getting **Hayden** kisses; 3rd row: **Baby** wanted to curl up in Santa's lap; **Barkley** had the best smile; Want to fly, **Willis**?; **Sol** wasn't at all sure he liked Santa Nick; **Holly** the cat was sure she didn't – or maybe it was the reindeer antlers she didn't like! bottom row: **Spriggins** wanted to be in Santa Phil's lap; **Jake** was very unhappy to be there; **Sammy** wanted Santa Don's chair – guess who got it? Ilan Wieser enjoying a rest break in a pile of dogs.

MAGIC MOMENTS

By Katie Donahue, D.O. and Liz Tataseo

Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for; perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of Arizona Golden Rescue's Magic Moments from October 11, 2011 through January 15, 2012. All adoptions finalized after January 15th will be in the next issue.



10-065 Miss Mandy came back into Rescue when her first placement didn't work out. We were able to place her with Barbara in Tempe and they have become best friends. Barbara made her first acquaintance with *Arizona Golden Rescue* at one of our Meet-and-Greets at **PetSmart** in Tempe Marketplace. She was actually looking to adopt a

dog when she was introduced to **Mandy**. She went home, rushed in her Foster/FWITA application, and **Mandy** went to live with her shortly thereafter. **Mandy** and Barbara are now enjoying each other's company, obedience training and twice-daily walks. Barbara writes: *As soon as I met Mandy at her foster mom's house, I knew she would be coming home with me. She is such a sweet dog and gets along with everyone (except the ducks at the park and the rabbits in the yard). Mandy loves to go on walks twice a day – she's a four-legged alarm clock when it's exercise time! We're going to school to learn some new commands, so we are hoping older dogs CAN learn new tricks (she's somewhere around 8-9 years old). Mandy had been adopted before, but it didn't work out, and while I am sorry that she had to move around so much, I am really thankful that we found each other. She's very happy in her new home, and she plans to stay in this one forever.*

11-006 Chance is another one of our friends that came back to us when his initial placement didn't work out. This 4-year-old Golden mix needed some additional vetting upon his return and needed to actually receive his fluconazole for his valley fever. He spent quite some time with foster mom Pinky; she said he was a joy to have. After a wary start, he made friends with the resident dogs and Pinky's adult son. He's also



been able to stop the fluconazole, as his valley fever titer has come down significantly. In October, **Chance** went home with his new family, Mary and John in Green Valley. He still has a little nervous-

ness on his walks and is cautious of strangers, but Mary and John are working on his manners. We wish them a happy life together and a great start to the New Year!



11-054 Buddy is a small, 6-year-old male who was rescued from the West-side **MCACCS** shelter. He spent some time at foster mom Beverly's house before going to his forever home with Barbara in Surprise. He met her two Shih-tzus, her cat, her horse, and a parrot that enjoys talking to everyone in its vicinity. After a rocky start during which **Buddy** recovered from

diarrhea, ear infections, and an ulcer in his eye, he has settled in quite well. For several months, he required eye ointment which Barbara diligently applied even when **Buddy** was ready to throw in the towel. **Buddy** is now enjoying his friends the Shih-tzus, and Barbara is considering getting him a Golden Retriever-sized companion. Barbara owns **Sun Valley Quilts** in Sun City, and **Buddy** goes to work with her regularly – the quilters just love him!

11-058 Zoe is an 8-year-old red Golden who came to us when her housing situation changed. She is a mellow, middle-aged lady and likes everything including cats – her prior home had several. She is slightly bothered by loud noises, but we'll forgive her. She did need some dental work and was diagnosed with early onset cataracts. These may or may not progress, but **Zoe** gets around quite well regardless. She is now living with Eileen and Jim in Springerville. **Zoe** was quite pleased with this arrangement, as Eileen and Jim have a kitty, Sammy, she can snuggle with after play time. Eileen and Jim were quite pleased with this situation as well. They feel **Zoe** has fit right in as if she's always been a part of their lives. We wish them a great life together.





11-062 Splash, now known as **Trip**, is a large, 4-year-old red Golden who now sports only three legs. His previous family surrendered him to **AGR** when they were unable to afford the treatment necessary for his valley fever. Most Golden Retrievers with valley fever require daily oral medication for several months to help treat this soil-born fungus. Unfortunately, **Trip's** case

was rather advanced – the fungus had invaded the bone in his right rear leg. As you may have read in the November 2011 newsletter's *Diamonds in the Ruff*, **Trip** had his leg amputated to improve his health and mobility. He was no longer using the leg, and the valley fever-infected bone was serving as a nidus for continued infection and pain. **Trip** is doing very well without his leg, though he's still taking fluconazole for the valley fever. He has made numerous visits to Meet-and-Greets and *Photos with Santa*. He has been adopted by his foster mom Liz. **Trip** now lives in a home full of Golden Retrievers and enjoys quality time with **Gonzo**, **Cooper**, **Sweetie**, and **Augie**. He likes to snuggle with mom, too, every once in awhile.

11-065 Goldie is a very sweet young girl who was found as a stray. When no one came forward to claim her, her finders contacted **AGR**. Before going to her forever home, **Goldie** took a detour to the vet. She had her teeth cleaned and bilateral ear infections treated. Her ear infections were so severe that both of her eardrums had perforated. She had her ear drums repaired and it appears



her hearing is normal. Initially, she showed some nervousness around other dogs but, after working with Teryl, our behaviorist, she is well behaved on walks with parents Romelle and Dick. She has settled in quite well with her new parents in Sun Lakes and enjoys meeting visitors to their home. They write: *Goldie has been in 7th heaven ever since we picked her up. She is like Velcro to both of us. She now has about 5 toys that she moves around all day long. She especially loves her duckie (Real Bird Dog). She had a litter prior to being picked up, and I think these toys are her babies. She has learned to walk on a leash but was very apprehensive about other dogs. Tended to growl when she got too close. Now when she sees another dog she sits automatically and waits for a treat. She has even learned to sit and wait for a treat along the walk even if there aren't any other dogs. Very smart dog. She had ear surgery prior to her adoption and there isn't any problem with her hearing. She isn't a barker and she is the calmest Golden we have had. She just loves being very close to us. She is house-trained and sleeps through the night. She LOVES everyone who comes to visit her but doesn't jump up on them, just extends her paw. We can trust her with the run of the house when we are gone. This angel is such a blessing to us. Thank you.*

11-066 Luke is a stunning 6-year-old male who came in when his original owners were moving to an apartment and were not able to take him. He had a beautiful face when he first joined **AGR**, but the rest of him needed a little work. **Luke** was significantly underweight – by about 20 pounds. He had uncorrected cryptorchidism – one of his testicles had not descended from his abdomen. This



was corrected when he was neutered. He required a dental and surgical removal of an epulis, which is an overgrowth of fibrous tissue on the gum line. These growths can occasionally be cancerous but, fortunately for **Luke**, his was benign. He also has cholesterol deposits on his left cornea which has reduced the vision in that eye. It doesn't appear to bother him though. **Luke** compensates well with his right eye and the remaining vision in his left. He is currently receiving eye drops which may help dissolve the deposits and, once he reaches his goal weight, he'll start on a low-fat diet to help prevent additional deposits from forming. Fortunately for **Luke**, he found his forever home on his way home from the vet. Foster mom Kathy decided on the drive home that **Luke** was destined to stay with her. After the recent loss of her **Russ T**, she felt the need to have another manly-man Golden in the house and **Luke** fit the bill. Kathy has shuttled him back and forth to his appointments, ensured he's gotten all his necessary medications, and provided him a nutritious diet of high calorie food to help him regain weight. He now enjoys being spoiled rotten by Kathy and is back to being the stunning dog he should be.



11-067 Sierra came in from the same home as **Luke** but, fortunately, did not have as many medical issues. She too needed to gain some weight. She also needed to work on her obedience, as she was not as well behaved as **Luke**. **AGR** was able to find a fantastic home for her as well. **Sierra** is living with June and Frank in Phoenix and has made herself right at home. She enjoys jumping in and out of

their pool to fetch her tennis ball and has made fast friends with everyone in the neighborhood. She also loves to have her long blond hair brushed. June and Frank write: *It has been two weeks since we rescued Sierra and brought her into our home. From our initial contact with Sierra we knew we had found the right dog. Sierra was a bit nervous when we first brought her home, but every day we saw her becoming more and more comfortable in her new surroundings. She would come over to one of us and give us a little lick on the arm as if she was saying 'thank you for bringing me home with you!' Sierra has adjusted quite nicely. She follows us around the house and loves to be outdoors playing with her ball and taking a plunge into the pool to retrieve it. In the morning, Sierra follows Dad out to the kitchen to help him make a cup of coffee. Then she'll come back in and hop onto the bed with her front paws to give Mom a 'snoozle' as if to say*

'wake up, coffee's ready!' When not swimming, **Sierra** loves to take long walks around the neighborhood exploring all the new scents and meeting her fellow canines. Everyone we meet along our path now knows **Sierra** by name, and we stop so she can say hello and have a petting. **Sierra** is very smart and very well behaved - she is very eager to receive and give love and will come over to lay her head on our knees until she gets a scratch behind the ears. She loves being brushed and groomed as well - she'll stand very still for us while we are brushing her. **Sierra** was a bit on the thin side when she first came into our home, but she is eating well and is filling out nicely now. **Sierra** is a beautiful dog and we love having her as a part of our lives.



11-068 Lexi also came in with **Luke** and **Sierra**. She is an 8-year-old red girl and was the submissive member of the pack. Fortunately, she's also quite happy-go-lucky and not a complicated foster placement. **AGR** initially placed her as a foster with Pam and Jerry in Scottsdale while she recovered from surgery; she had a large benign tumor on her side. **Lexi** is such a sweet young lady

that she quickly won them over and, on their first attempt at fostering, they became foster-failures. About 10 days after moving in, Pam let us know **Lexi** would not be moving out, and this was after **Lexi** had up-chucked an entire sock into the middle of the floor. Apparently the sock had been in **Lexi's** innards for quite a while, and once she relieved herself of it she carried on her normal daily routine. It must be true love if **Lexi** got to stay after sock-vomit! Pam sent this note about their new life with **Lexi**: *What started as an offer to foster Lexi quickly turned into a foster failure when we decided that she was just too sweet to give up. She has settled so nicely into her new home and no longer feels she has to fight for attention or affection (when she first came here all you had to do was LOOK at her and she began to wag her tail). Lexi is an 8-year-old with the energy of a puppy. She loves to play in the yard (along with our other Golden) chasing balls, lizards, birds and anything else that moves. She quickly discovered the pool and is very enthusiastic about the water. She is still learning her leash manners but seems to be a quick study and enjoys her daily walks. We could not have asked for a better dog than Lexi. She is sweet, energetic, affectionate, and a delightful addition to our family. We will cherish her as long as she is with us.*



11-069 Tylon, now known as **Charley**, is a beautiful 8-month-old Goldendoodle puppy. He's also a very large, very active Goldendoodle puppy. His original owners were unable to keep him, as they were moving into an apartment. Puppies in general are high energy, need lots of attention, lots of training, and, like all dogs, lots of love. **Charley** is no exception. In fact, he needed just a little extra

of everything because of his size. We were able to place him with Tara in Phoenix. She was undaunted by his size as she also volunteers with Mastiff rescue. **Charley** is now enjoying life with his new family, attending obedience class twice a week. We wish them a great new life together!



11-070 Jake is a 2-year-old red Golden whose original owners were not able to keep him secondary to family illness. He is a typical happy Golden, very sweet and loving. **AGR** placed him with Kathy and her resident cat in Phoenix. Initially, the cat was not very thrilled to have a big goofy Golden moving in, but they have gotten over their differences. **Jake** and his new feline friend now enjoy playing together on a regular basis. **Jake** also enjoys daily walks in the neighborhood now that the weather is slightly cooler. We wish Kathy, **Jake** and their feline companion many years of happiness together.

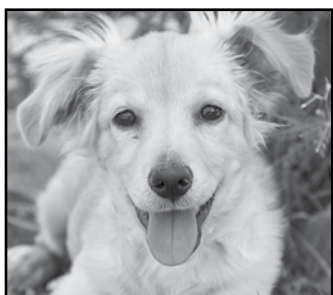
11-071 Jade is a 4-year-old mostly Golden female who lived at the same home as **Jake**. Their original family was very sad to see both of them go, but they knew given their circumstances, they would be unable to care for both **Jake** and **Jade**. **Jade** is a gorgeous blonde with highlights on her chest and tail and has that fabulous Golden tail feathering. She also has the nose-to-elbow nudge down pat and suffers from a severe case of Golden paw disease and will bat her people constantly when she wants attention. She has happily moved in with Valerie and Michael in Phoenix and has made herself at home with their furry zoo. Valerie writes: *My name is Jade. I have a new home with my new mom and dad and have 5 sister cats, 1 brother cat and a sister dog. I love them all very much. I am not any trouble. My mom takes me for a walk with my sister dog Peaches every morning. It is really nice to have a permanent family that loves me so much. I give them lots of kisses to show that I love them too.*



11-072 Murphy is just a monster of a Golden. His original owners were moving to a smaller home and not able to take such a large dog. Additionally, he, like many Golden, suffered from chronic ear infections and his owners were not able to afford the medication necessary to treat him. **AGR** was able to place **Mr. Murphy** with Rusty and Cherri in Mesa where

he'd have plenty of room to run around and also get regular exercise to lose about 5 pounds. When Dana and Gail first brought

Murphy to his new home, he was not sure he wanted to get out of their car. Then he realized there were children in the house. As soon as he saw the kids, he was all about moving in and getting settled. Fortunately, the kids were all about him as well and were ready to go dog toy shopping right away! With regular exercise, **Murphy** is working on his waistline, and he now has his ear infections cleared up and under control. His dad Rusty sent us this note: ***Murphy** is doing awesome! He has fit in with our family great. **Murphy** is pretty much the king of our home. He is by far the best dog that Cherri or I have ever had and all of us love him dearly! We all know what it is like to have a Velcro dog, and we wouldn't have it any other way! Thanks, again, for all that you and your organization do. We are so glad that we found you guys and **Murphy**.*



11-073 Caleb, now known as **Buddy**, is an adorable Golden mix. He was rescued from the shelter at just 17 weeks old. How anyone let this cute little guy end up in the shelter beats the daylight out of me. I'm just glad we got him out and to a great home with Sandra in Chandler, where he is doing very well. He enjoys his daily walks

with mom Sandra and sports a fancy halter which helps harness some of his puppy exuberance. **Buddy** also enjoys just plain running around and acting crazy. Sandra says one of his favorite things is to run in large circles. I'm sure it helps tire out this little guy. Sandra brought **Buddy** to the holiday gift wrapping extravaganza at the Tempe Marketplace *Barnes & Noble*. Since we didn't have a Donation Vest small enough for him, Deb suggested that Sandra just stick a dollar bill under the harness strap. At the end of the evening, **Buddy** had collected so many dollars, he looked like a porcupine (see cover photo 2nd row, 3rd from right)!

11-074 Gracie is a very sweet, docile dream girl. This almost-10-year-old came to *AGR* because her original owner was no longer able to care for her. **Gracie** knows her basic commands, enjoys playing doggie games, and loves to swim. Her one fault is that she's on the plump side. That was no problem for her new parents Ward and Linda. They were quite happy for her to move in and are working on her weight loss for the New Year. **Gracie** herself was so excited about having a new home, she wrote us this letter: *This will be the bestest holiday ever! I found a new home, a new Mom and Dad and tons of new neighborhood friends! It's so cool! Thank you, thank you, thank you for finding Linda and Ward for me. When I first met them, I didn't even "paws" – I ran right to them. I knew we were meant for each other from the moment I first saw them! I must admit,*



*however, it was a tad "ruff" in the beginning... I had to teach my new Mom and Dad the commands that I already knew and they keep trying to teach me THEIR commands. Don't they know you can't teach an old dog new tricks? (They keep telling me that's not true). I love my new toys, going to the doggie park, riding in the back seat of the car with the windows down and the wind blowing through my long blond hair; getting kisses from Linda and Ward, having my tummy, head and ears scratched, and being brushed. Ah-h-h yes, it's good to be a dog... especially a rescued Golden! Yes, this will be a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas now that I've found new parents who LOVE me to no end... and I LOVE them. "God bless us everyone." And God bless **Arizona Golden Rescue!** Love, **Gracie** (a.k.a. *Jersey*).*

11-075 Lola is a lovely young girl who was found as a stray. **Lola** is between 1 and 2 years old and is a beautiful golden color. She'll be truly stunning when all of her feathers come in when she's fully grown. She also has a fabulous smile that she loves to show off. Her finders were not able to keep her and they requested *AGR* find just the right home for her. We placed her with Keri and Tony in Gilbert and both they and **Lola** couldn't be happier. She greets them every day with her happy smile and a hug. Her family writes: ***Lola** is a little lover! I can say without a doubt, she is the sweetest dog I have ever known. **Lola** literally greets us with smiles by gently showing her teeth; she gives us hugs and is a perfectly-behaved pupper inside our house. **Lola** gets along so well with my boys and loves to play ball with them. She loves her naps and is overall one mellow youngster! We love her and can't believe how lucky we were to have adopted **Lola!** Thank you so much to all the volunteers who help rescue these gorgeous dogs! I can't imagine how anyone could give one up, but I'd like to thank them!*



11-076 Bruno is a very mellow 11-year-old gentleman who came to us because his family was no longer able to care for him. He is quite spry for an older dog and able to leap into tall SUVs in a single bound. He also enjoys twice-daily walks and frequent games of fetch. **Bruno** is sharing his golden years with Bob and Carol in Strawberry and they are very pleased to have him. Bob informed us that we might have to enlist the assistance of the National Guard should we need to rehome **Bruno**, and we should proceed with the finalization of his adoption ASAP. Dad also writes: ***Bruno**, despite losing his family, has adopted us without reservation. He is a very spry, alert 11-year-old who wears me out chasing tennis balls and loves his walks around our countryside. We could not ask for a more loving, attentive, playful*



and well-trained companion. Only one problem he thinks he has to share the couch with me when I take a nap.



11-078 Lucky, now known as **Duke**, is a very active, very energetic 7-month-old blond boy who came to us because his original owner was not able to care for such an exuberant puppy. **Duke** originally lived with another dog and his puppy ways were upsetting the more mellow resident. We were able to place him with Stephen and Marsha in Glendale and just two days later they were

ready to finalize his adoption! Several years ago they lost their senior Golden and had not been ready for another dog until now. Once **Duke** set foot in their house, they knew they had waited long enough. **Duke's** puppy energy has revitalized their home. We wish them a long and happy life together!

11-079 Magic, now known as **Jackson**, is a lanky 1-year-old Golden mix. His coat is a glossy black and, while his tail feathers are mostly in, he's still growing the feathers on the backs of his legs. **Jackson** is the second dog rescued by **AGR** to have suffered from the very preventable parvo virus. Unfortunately, he was never vaccinated against it as a puppy and he must have contracted it during his stay at the shelter. It's highly contagious when dogs are kept in close contact. We discovered he had developed parvo while he was being boarded and were able to place him in isolation to prevent him from spreading the virus to any other dogs. We were also able to treat him before he became dehydrated or septic from bacteria moving from his intestine to his blood stream. Regrettably, he, like **Tucker** our other parvo puppy, developed intussusception, a telescoping of the intestine in upon itself. He required surgery and had approximately one foot of intestine removed. **Jackson**, also like **Tucker**, did very well after his surgery, started eating again, and is acting like a normal puppy. He did have some residual gut issues and had a battle with diarrhea, but that has resolved. After he was cleared by the vet, we were able to place him with Carol and Don in Flagstaff. They were immediately taken with him. He made fast friends with their resident Golden **Sundance** and a bulldog named **Lucy** that they were pet-sitting. Even their vet wanted to know if he could go home with **Jackson!** **Jackson** has flourished in his new home and his parents couldn't be more pleased. Carol writes: **Jackson** came into our lives the day after Thanksgiving and we've been thankful ever since. **Jackson** is an active one-year-old that has been through a lot in his short lifetime. He now lives in Flagstaff and there's a lot to explore and learn in this town! First, there were the horses! They are like pretty big dogs; but he knew instinctively not to chase them, or play behind their rear legs. He



only really pays attention to them now when he's in front of their feeders and **Jackson** can jump up and they "nose" each other. Then there is the wildlife behind the glass doors: squirrels, birds, bunnies (his personal favorite!), mice and even cows for neighbors. He is SO interested in all the animals! Very alert, amazed and probably somewhat bewildered by all the action! Lastly, there's this white stuff that is so much fun to play in. At first he wasn't so sure he liked the cold on his paws, but it didn't take long to play wildly in the snow with his older brother. After a vet visit today and a good report on his health, **Jackson** is now 45.85 pounds (up ten pounds in a month!). He sits, stays, lies down, walks well on leash, plays fetch, "leave it", and usually comes (unless something of much more interest gets his attention). He's constantly making us laugh, and we're always amazed at what he'll find next to explore. Although **Jackson** is still a puppy and acts like one, he's never done any of the bad puppy things like chewing anything up. For that matter, he's never done anything wrong. He's sweet, obedient, gentle, feisty, strong and wonderful! **Jackson** is named after a Masai warrior that we met 15 years ago in Kenya. That **Jackson** was kind, gentle, fierce and unforgettable till this day. Our **Jackson** would make his namesake proud. We are so fortunate to now have both **Jacksons** in our lives.

11-081 Toby, now **Benzo**, came to **AGR** from the **Arizona Humane Society**. Not only did **Benzo** need antibiotics for a dental infection, but he was in desperate need of the green bean diet. He originally weighed in at 95 lbs and should weigh approximately 70 lbs. At only 6 years old, he has severe arthritis of both rear knees and walks with a painful gait. A visit to the vet before going to his forever home yielded antibiotics for his tooth and a prescription for weight loss. Fortunately, his new mom, Maggie, has a pool at her house and some hydrotherapy may help **Benzo** with both weight loss and strengthening his rear legs. Upon arrival at his new home, **Benzo** was all about the hydrotherapy as he promptly fell into the pool and needed to be guided out. But no harm, no foul. Maggie was happy to dry him off and he was happy to soak up all the affection, complete with a big Golden grin on his face. **Benzo** doesn't get to keep his pool and green beans to himself though; he now shares his home with three cats that enjoy curling up with him after he's completed his exercise for the day. We wish him a happy and slim life with his new family!

11-082 Jackson is a high energy 20-month-old who was turned into **AGR** because his surrendering owner was moving to an apartment. He did the puppy thing and got into her son's toys and chewed them, as well as ate socks if he could get them. **Jackson** loves to swim and play ball; he carries around a soccer



only really pays attention to them now when he's in front of their feeders and **Jackson** can jump up and they "nose" each other. Then there is the wildlife behind the glass doors: squirrels, birds, bunnies (his personal favorite!), mice and even cows for neighbors. He is SO interested in all the animals! Very alert, amazed and probably somewhat bewildered by all the action! Lastly, there's this white stuff that is so much fun to play in. At first he wasn't so sure he liked the cold on his paws, but it didn't take long to play wildly in the snow with his older brother. After a vet visit today and a good report on his health, **Jackson** is now 45.85 pounds (up ten pounds in a month!). He sits, stays, lies down, walks well on leash, plays fetch, "leave it", and usually comes (unless something of much more interest gets his attention). He's constantly making us laugh, and we're always amazed at what he'll find next to explore. Although **Jackson** is still a puppy and acts like one, he's never done any of the bad puppy things like chewing anything up. For that matter, he's never done anything wrong. He's sweet, obedient, gentle, feisty, strong and wonderful! **Jackson** is named after a Masai warrior that we met 15 years ago in Kenya. That **Jackson** was kind, gentle, fierce and unforgettable till this day. Our **Jackson** would make his namesake proud. We are so fortunate to now have both **Jacksons** in our lives.

ball when outside. He is a very happy guy with loads of energy. His new family, Sherri and Clint in Glendale, said **Jackson's arrival into our family has made us complete and balanced. Jackson loves the water and it does not matter how cold it is – if he has access he will swim laps in our pool. He comes to us loving to go for walks, play ball and run around with our two sons. He is still learning patience and manners, as he tries to counter surf if we are not looking and leave food out. But he is such a loving animal and just wants to be around the family. He is 80 lbs of pure love. Thank you so much for bringing him into our family.**

11-084 Simba and **11-085 Lilo** were littermates who needed to be surrendered because their owner had to move out of her present home. According to **Simba**, *My sister Lilo and I are the perfect pair.*



I'm blonde, she's brunette. I'm the leader and she's my best friend.



We are three years old and have been together our whole lives and must stay together. We even sleep together in our crate. We are obedient, playful, loving and smart. We enjoy the company of children

and get along with other animals, even cats. We are energetic and enjoy walks, but we are also mature enough to be able to chill out in the house with our people. We know the house rules and are no trouble at all. All we ask is to be with our family and each other and share the love. Their new mom loves their size and that they are love bugs who want to be petted and loved. They sleep in the bedroom and do not hassle the resident cat. They still have some issues to overcome – Lilo is very anxious around men – but have come a long way.



11-086 Sam, a 14-month-old puppy, was too active for his owner. He had the run of two fenced acres, but he had done some destructive chewing of the copper tubing on the spa and wiring of a satellite dish. **Sam** was picked up from his 395-miles-away-from-the-Valley home and taken in for his vetting and then off to his new permanent home. His new mom says, **Sam has been such a wonderful addition to our family!**

His personality fit right in with our other Golden, Dakota. They are always playing and having fun. Sam is very much a cuddler and likes to sleep in our bed with Dakota. I can't say they always leave room for me! He may have come from a home with little to no attention but has come into one where he is often the center of attention. He is very lovable, and our hearts have grown even more since we've had him. We look forward to years with him! We love him very much and he really loves his furry brother.

11-087 Winnie was a return to Rescue because her previous adopter had to move and take care of family. **Winnie** hit the jackpot and returned to her former fosters, Connie and Nick in Glendale. **Winnie**, who has slimmed down since her initial intake, is a swimmer, loves to play with her fur siblings and wants to be where the action is. She is much loved by her forever family. Connie wrote, *We knew when we fostered "Winnie the Poop" the first time this summer that she was something special. She had the distinctive Toller coloring and eyes, but with the Golden size. And such a fun personality! However, we had decided that we were not going to adopt any more dogs for awhile, since we were hoping travel plans were in the near future and didn't want to add to the pack. We were happy when she found a good home but missed her very much, and I really regretted having given her up. So we were even happier a few months later when the adopter, due to changes in her circumstances, returned Winnie to AGR. She fit right back in, playing with Grizzly and Sasha as if they had been together forever. She even managed to sneak a toy away from Yoshi from time to time. There was never any problem with sharing food and toys, and even though Winnie, Sasha and Grizzly are constantly pushing each other aside for attention, there are no conflicts and everyone gets along beautifully. So, after a few weeks of having her back as a foster, I said to Nick at breakfast, "What would you think about adopting Winnie, as she fits in so well here?" He just nonchalantly looked at me over the paper and said, "I thought we already had." Winnie has so much personality, it's hard to believe that her owners turned her in to the shelter. I love the way she uses her front paws to box toys out of Sasha's mouth and how intently she stares at us when she wants a treat or to play. Her eyes are really compelling and I swear she communicates with them! She is wonderful at the Meet-and-Greets too, and loves to jump up on any empty chair to get closer to the action. Winnie clearly enjoys being part of the pack and it's so cute to see her with Sasha, Grizzly and sometimes even Yoshi watching at the front window when we get home. So once again, we have a perfect four-pack.*



Winnie clearly enjoys being part of the pack and it's so cute to see her with Sasha, Grizzly and sometimes even Yoshi watching at the front window when we get home. So once again, we have a perfect four-pack.



11-089 Samson, who is back to being called **Jack**, his original name, is also a return to Rescue. He had to be rehomed because the son developed severe allergies and the family may be moving. **Jack** went to his forever home with his new fur sister **Sierra** and new mom who were missing their beloved **Max**. His new mom relates: **Jack is sleeping beside my bed, while**

Sierra is on the bed. I had trouble getting them up this morning; they wanted to sleep in! I left Jack loose in the house for a few hours yesterday and left Sierra in my bedroom. He was fine. Jack isn't quite the pushover that Max was (I think Max just did his

own thing and pretended she was in charge) but they're doing fine together. My friends who were here for Christmas said that **Sierra** is noticeably happier, and they're right. I got two toys out and **Jack** won't let her take his but he just hangs on, no growling. But, he doesn't take hers. So they can both have a toy.



11-091 Matt, now **Keller**, is a beautiful young puppy who was relinquished to **AGR** as the last of a litter of puppies. One reason he was left was because **Matt** was born blind – his eyes never developed properly – otherwise he was a healthy puppy. He was immediately snapped up by a family who realized he would grow

into a big beautiful Golden regardless of his lack of sight. Renamed **Keller**, he “wrote” to us: *Hi, I'm Matt, now known as Keller, and twelve weeks old. As you can probably guess, I had a pair of Angels swoop me off into their arms to love me forever even without sight. I can't see them because I'm blind for life, but I feel their beauty. They are the most beautiful Mom and Dad ever and they gave me sight now... I can see what LOVE looks like and it looks like a Miracle! Oh, and I have to add that I can see cookies, too, and they are just fabulous!*



11-092 Maggie is a lovely Golden mix that found herself surrendered to the **Pima County Animal Shelter** because she likes to dig out of her yard. Thanks to **AGR's** southern members, especially Jane, **Maggie** was rescued in the nick of time and fostered for a short while in Tucson. **Maggie** traveled to Glendale and was fostered briefly before going to her forever home. Her new mom, Mi-

chelle, was just delighted to have a calm, mature, sweet girl. Her new mom says: *Maggie is doing just great! She's very good in the house. No counter surfing or trash picking or anything like that. She's very calm and gentle and loves people and pets. My whole extended family just loves her. She's picked her "potty patches" (different for #1 and #2) out back and we can even have her off leash in the back now. We've gone for a number of walks and each time she is doing better and better on the leash.*



11-096 Selah is a beautiful 5 ½-year-old light red Golden. Her former family raised her from a pup, but work circumstances dictated their absence for 12 hours a day. **Selah** developed destructive separation anxiety, so they had to give her up. An ideal home for her would be with a retired couple, home most of the time, perhaps with another Golden, and who were look-

ing for a companion Golden. Luckily, exactly that profile happened to exist in Sun City. Rusty and Don instantly said Yes! when told of her availability and circumstances. Her new forever home folks changed her name to **Stormy**, anticipating some training difficulties that have not materialized yet. Don wrote, *All she has really needed is love and attention. In fact, Stormy quickly adjusted to her new home and to Sunshine, our other rescued Golden. Stormy lets everyone know how happy she is with her constantly wagging tail and adoring eyes. She is also adjusting to her new green bean diet so she can trim down from her present 92 pounds. Fortunately, she has a large yard for running and playing. She is well mannered and enjoys her daily walks and meeting her new neighbors. She doesn't object to her pills for valley fever either. This sweet beauty has already charmed people at a recent PetSmart Meet-and-Greet. It turns out that having two Golden does not "double the trouble." Rather, it doubles the FUN! With both Sunshine and Stormy, it looks like great weather ahead!*

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 November issue, we featured **11-021 Buster**, **11-048 Trina**, **11-061 Maxx** and **11-062 Splash**. To follow up... **Buster's** allergies are under better control now. **Trina** was brought to a couple of events during the holidays and she looks fabulous – you can now tell that she has some Golden in her! **Maxx** is recovering from his first hip replacement surgery and is scheduled to have the second hip done after February 1st. **Splash**, renamed **Trip**, is getting along just fine on three legs and has been to many Meet-and-Greets and gift wrapping events since his amputation healed. He always gets the sympathy donation once people realize he has only three legs!

Fortunately, there were only two dogs that had significant medical costs during the past quarter.

One-year-old **11-079 Magic**, now called **Jackson**, came to **AGR** from the county shelter where he had contracted the dreaded parvo virus. He was kept in isolation at **AMSC** and seemed to be doing well, but then he developed the complication of intussusception, a condition where the intestine telescopes in on itself. Surgery had to be done immediately or **Jackson** would have died. His total vet bill was over \$8100. His adopters, Carol and Don in Flagstaff, have already made a generous donation above and beyond **Jackson's** adoption fee. If anyone else would like to be a Diamond Donor for **Jackson**, we would gladly accept your support.

Four-year-old **12-008 Summer** came to us with the group from El Paso. She had a lump on her side that was about the size of the

last knuckle of your thumb. The vet didn't like the feel of it (hard, nonmovable). A needle aspirate biopsy came back inconclusive, so we had the lump removed. Fortunately, it was determined to be a benign irritable mass resulting from some kind of trauma to the area (like maybe someone had kicked her in her side). We will not have to worry now about **Summer** possibly having a cancerous tumor at her young age, but we will have to pay her vet bill of \$1775. If you would like to help us out with this bill, you will be listed as a Diamond Donor for **Summer** in our May newsletter.



*From the Front of the Bus
The "Southern Pawspitality" Group Transport*

By Deb Orwig



Dark and early at 5:30 AM on Friday, January 6, 2012, Teri Guilbault and I set off for El Paso. It was one of the most uneventful long-distance trips I have taken on behalf of or with dogs! The weather was perfect and traffic was generally light. My minivan was loaded with one huge crate and three smaller ones, as well as snacks and beverages for us. We were planning to bring back five dogs from **Golden Retriever Rescue of El Paso (GRREP)**. Their President, Connie Jimenez, had contacted us in mid-December to ask if we could take some of their rescued dogs, as they were overwhelmed with the number of Golden Retrievers that were coming into their program. We had quite a few approved applicants, so we agreed.

It took three weeks for our Placement Manager, Michele Wehry, and the rest of us to finalize all the details of the trip. At least, I thought they were finalized until I got a call from Michele about



8:30 AM when we were nearing the Arizona/New Mexico border. She asked if we could also bring back a 6th dog (**Summer**). I told her we would if we could fit her into the big crate with two other dogs. Fortunately, we were able to do that, as the three girls who rode

back to Phoenix in that crate were all on the small side.

We arrived at **Howl A Day Inn** in El Paso, which was conveniently located just over the Texas/New Mexico border about 20 miles south of Las Cruces, NM. At 12:15 PM when we arrived, Connie met us there with the owner of the kennel. All the dogs except for **Celina**, who had just



been spayed the day before, were out running around in the large kennel play yard with about 30 other dogs of all sorts, so we knew right away that all of them were dog friendly. Teri took care of the paper-



work for the transfer of dogs from **GRREP** to **AGR**, while I unfolded the crates and got them set up in the car with crate pads and water bowls. It was a tight fit, but we managed, although Teri and I drove back with the seats pulled all the way up and our knees under our chins!

We loaded everyone up and off we drove, stopping for gas in Lordsburg, NM, and at a rest stop just over the NM/AZ border. Only one of the girls was willing to pee – the rest just wanted to nose around, so we were there only about 15 minutes. At 7:45 PM, we pulled into Teryl Hall's driveway, horn beeping and headlights flashing. I'm sure the neighbors would have wondered what was going on had



GRREP President Connie Jimenez checking out the crate arrangements



Kathi, Teri, Deb, Liz, Dana and Mary Lynn just after the dogs arrived in Phoenix

Jude Kettunen, Connie McCabe, Liz Tataseo and Kathi and Bob Youhas, and Teryl, of course.

Our volunteers got the dogs out of the car and monitored them in Teryl's large back yard, while others unloaded the crates and got them set up in Teryl's garage where the dogs were going to spend the night. Teryl



Dana being slobbered with kisses

had pizza delivered for Teri and me – thanks so much, Teryl! All we had to eat all day was junk snacks, so that was great! Connie took photos, of course. After the dogs had run around for a half hour or so shaking their legs out and doing their business, we brought them into the garage one at a time and fed them. Then we let them run around a little more before we bedded them down for the night.



Bobby enjoying being free!

Teryl, *AGR's* behavioral Wonder Woman, took care of all the dogs (in addition to her own six) by herself in the morning, letting them out to potty and feeding them all. The families that had been chosen for these dogs were asked to be at Teryl's at 9 AM, but two



of them were waiting outside the front of Teryl's house when I

got there at 8:40. They were so excited about getting their dogs that they had come early, and they were even more excited when they were introduced to their new family members! Sometimes I have wished we could do all adoptions as we did this group adoption – it is so thrilling and heartwarming



to see the response of a whole group of adopters to their new friends! And it's just so fantastic to watch 6 smiling Golden Retrievers running around in a big back yard and having a grand time!

Top right curving down left then right again: 12-003 Nina now Bella; 12-004 Redd now Hogan; 12-005 Martie now Bailey; 12-006 Celina now Stella; 12-007 Bobby; 12-008 Summer now Morgan



Each family* was introduced to their dog and was asked to sign the adoption paperwork that Liz had prepared. They were given goodie bags with tennis balls, two toys and a 5# bag of *Natural Balance* Potato and Duck Formula dog food and off they went.



At the rest stop the previous day, **Nina** had coughed a few times. She did it again in the morning, so we thought she had



probably come down with kennel cough. Her family stopped by *AMSC* on their way home. The vet agreed and gave her antibiotics to prevent secondary infections from developing.

Upon examining her, the vet also noticed that two of her teeth were broken with the pulp exposed, so **Nina** will be having a dental with extraction soon. We then contacted the other four families and urged them to get their dogs to one of our vets for a checkup in the next few days, as they were all in close proximity to **Nina** on the drive to Phoenix. Fortunately, none of the rest of them got the disease.



Connie McCabe took such wonderful photos of all the dogs, as she always does; she really liked the two boys, especially Bobby

The dogs from El Paso are a truly nice, congenial bunch of Golden Retrievers aptly now called the "Southern Pawspitality" group. **Nina** will require some dental work, and **Summer** had a lump that had to be removed. Otherwise, they all seem healthy and happy. We are glad we were able to get these dogs from *GRREP* and thank them for their cooperation in helping to rehome these six Golden Retrievers.

* Editor's Note: Due to confidentiality concerns, it is our policy not to definitively identify the adopters of our rescued dogs.

Cool Tips

Put a stop to smelly "pet toots": You couldn't resist when your furry friend begged for table scraps, but the rich food caused a bout of gas. To ease his (and your) discomfort, add a dollop of plain yogurt to his food. Yogurt's digestion-enhancing probiotics keep gas-producing gut bacteria in check, quickly reducing flatulence. The vet-advised dose: 1/4 tsp daily for cats and small dogs, 1 tsp for dogs 15-20 pounds and 1 Tbsp for larger dogs.

End itching with this laundry add-in: To eliminate funky "dog smell," you wash your pup's bedding more frequently, but the chemicals in fabric softeners can trigger allergy symptoms like itching and shedding. Stop the cycle by adding 1/2 cup of white vinegar to the rinse cycle when laundering blankets and beds. Vinegar's mild acetic acid is nonirritating to canine skin and will effectively neutralize odors in the wash.

OVER THE RAINBOW

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



Missyshine Bultman



Hannah Fisher



Rocky Orwig



Annie Pellegatti



Bauer Wayne



Max Wieser



11-077 Baxter



11-080 Thor

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.

Mary Fortuna

Beloved mother of AGR Member Judy Petitto

Ethel Guilbault

Beloved mother of AGR Member Jeff Guilbault

Walt Holgate

Beloved father of AGR Member Cam Hunter

Elinor "Elly" Raymer

A friend of all Golden Retrievers and Golden owners

Those we hold most dear never truly leave us...

They live on in the kindness they showed,

The comfort they shared

And the love they brought into our lives.

~ Isabel Norton

HERE and THERE

*Events from October 9, 2011
through January 15, 2012*

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

Gonzo and **Riley**; Diane and Jim Henkel with **Bella** and **Winston**; Ronnie and Brendan Jaap with **Liberty** and **Sadie**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Deb Orwig with **Hayden** and **Ladybird**; Judy Petitto with **Sandy**; Michele Wehry; and Kathi Youhas with **Krissie** and **Leo**.



Joining the group on Sunday were Kathy Blue with **Luke** (at left); Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Mary Jo and John Courtney with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; Karin and Rachel Forsythe; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Deb



Tony, Michele and Mary Jo with Ashley and Mary Kate

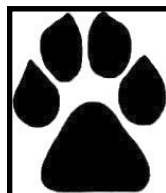
Orwig with **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**; Michele Wehry; and Kathi and Bob Youhas. Our most recent rescue puppy, **Caleb**, also joined us for a short time, and boy, he is just too stinkin' cute! His foster family decided they just couldn't let him go, so they've adopted him and changed his name to **Buddy**.



Quite a few people including a local photojournalist took pictures of the Orwig gang with the priest

People stopped by just to say hello; others were prospective applicants looking for that special Golden; and some just wanted to thank us for what we do and put a little money in the donation jar. We took home a total of \$213.60 for the weekend which included \$80 in donations and \$133 in merchandise sales (\$60 of which was for the cold neck coolers that we sold on Sunday for \$5 each). Boy, if we

would have only known, we could have made a killing with those coolers on Saturday since it was so hot and dusty! Next time we will be ready! Thanks again to everyone who helped us out this weekend. I know you all went home hot, tired and dirty, but it was well worth the effort!



*Blessing of the Animals
at Franciscan Renewal Center*

By Teri Guilbault



Teri, Jim, Diane and Tony were present for the morning shift on Saturday

On Saturday and Sunday October 22nd and 23rd, we spent a hot, sunny (and dusty/dirty) weekend at the **Franciscan Renewal Center** in Scottsdale for **PACC 911's** annual *Blessing of the Animals*. Even though it was a lot warmer than usual for this time of year, lots of people attended with their animals, as well as folks

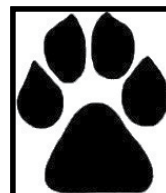
who came looking for a new friend to bring home. Among all of the rescue groups that participated, 268 animals were adopted into their forever homes! Awesome!

We had lots of activity at our booth over the weekend. A HUGE thank you goes to Deb Orwig, Tony Cotner, and Kathi and Bob Youhas, who set up and closed down on Saturday, and opened the booth and did the final clean-up and tear down on Sunday. Deb, Tony and Kathi also stayed for the entire event both days! You guys rock!



Ronnie and Brendan Jaap brought Liberty (Golden) and Sadie (Shepherd mix)

AGR members who came on Saturday to help promote our group included Mary Lynn Ament with **Hoagie** and **Winslow**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Teri Guilbault with **Fresno** and **Goldie**; Gail and Dana Haywood with



*Memorial Service and Party
in Memory of Debbie Begley*

By Deb Orwig

Debbie Begley, **AGR's** Cofounder (with Deb Orwig), who passed away on June 18, 2011, would have loved the service and party we held in her memory on October 30, 2011. In fact, since the day was so perfect weatherwise, many of us thought she had something to do with it! Many thanks to Kathi Youhas for coordinating the ceremony at **Resthaven Cemetery** on Northern Ave in Glen-



Part of the crowd listening to the service at the cemetery

dale. She honored Debbe's requests to the letter. Debbe's boss from the days she worked for **National City Mortgage**, William Judd, was the officiant. Debbe's brother, Jack Begley, spoke about their growing-up days in Glendale (yes, Debbe was an Arizona native). A good friend of Debbe's from many years ago, Barbara Warren, came and related some funny stories of their younger days. She brought with her a Chilly Willy stuffed toy that Debbe gave her. Debbe's son, Dan Diamond, who lives in Alaska, was there along with Debbe's half brother Bill Grissom and his wife, Darlene, from Texas and several other relatives. Deb Orwig related the story of how she and Debbe met, with Debbe running after her in a parking lot after a workshop on hiking with your dog that both had attended. Michele Wehry wrapped up the guest comments with thoughts about Debbe's impact on Rescue. Just before the end of the service, Kathi did a Candle Ceremony similar to the one done every year at the *Goldstock* weekend in Pennsylvania. She had four candles available and asked Joyce Hubler, Connie McCabe, Deb Orwig, and Bob Youhas, **AGR** members who were most influential in Debbe's recent life, to light them in succession as Katie Donahue tried to read the words without sobbing too much. The words for the candle ceremony came from some literature that was sent to Kathi by **Banner Hospice Bereavement Services**. The phrases were originally intended to help people get through the holidays, but Kathi thought they were perfect for Debbe's service.

Joyce: *The light of this first candle represents our grief. The pain of our loss is intense, but it reminds us of the depth of our love for Debbe.*

Connie: *The light of this second candle represents our courage to confront our sorrow; to comfort each other; to change our lives.*

Deb: *This third candle is a light to all of our memories of Debbe. To the times we laughed, the times we cried, the times we were angry with each other, the silly things we did, the caring and the joy Debbe gave us.*

Bob: *This fourth candle is the light of our love. Day by day we give thanks for the gift her life brought to each of us. We will love her always.*

Arizona Golden Rescue members made up the majority of the crowd. As Debbe had wanted, everyone wore bright, happy colors – in fact, every color of the rainbow was represented by someone. Seventy-three Golden Retrievers, Golden mixes and Golden Retrievers-at-heart formed an Honor Guard. Each was given a black bandanna with the **AGR** logo and the words *In Lov-*



Deb Orwig led the Honor Guard with Jake Engelhardt, a vacation guest of the Orwigs at the time



Memory Table at Sahuaro Ranch Park

ing Memory of Debbe Begley. The bandannas were made by Deb Orwig and Jan Newland and embroidered by **Anchor Embroidery and Silkscreen**. Each dog was walked past the memorial table to pay their respects. No barking, no whining, no nothing from all those well-behaved dogs – the cemetery owner was impressed!

After the service, we congregated for a barbecue at **Sahuaro Ranch Park**. Carrie and Casey Pulis very graciously stayed at the Park during the ceremony and got all the food arranged and beverages iced down. Casey, Jeff Guilbault and Dave Kimmel cooked the burgers and hotdogs. During the party, we played musical selections that Debbe had requested, and thanks to a wonderful donation of a new sound system by Dave and Nancy Kimmel, everyone was able to enjoy the music. It was a wonderful, fun event with lots of good friends in attendance and would have pleased Debbe immensely. Thanks to all of you who came to honor her that day.



Paws & Pasta Dinner

By Teri Guilbault



The weather was perfect for dining alfresco

Sunday, November 6, 2011 was an incredible day for our fall *Paws & Pasta Dinner* fundraiser. This year, all proceeds from the dinner benefitted *The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*. Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler, owners of **The Little Bite of Italy Restaurant** in Sun City, Arizona, were very generous to us, as they are every year, and opened their doors to us for this event.



Volunteer Group: Deb, Sandy, Liz, Teri, Dana, Gail, Teryl, Mary Lynn, Tony and Beverly

The food was fabulous, with a menu consisting of spaghetti and meat sauce (meatless was also available for those who asked), salad, breadsticks that were out of this world, and wonderful desserts big enough to share! Soda and water were also provided, and there was a cash bar for those who wanted "just a little extra" with their dinner. Thanks to Sandy Fullington for donating the meat for the sauce!

We served 165 terrific dinners, and sold *AGR* merchandise, clothing and calendars. We held three different raffles: a 50/50 raffle where the winner, *AGR* member Linda Taylor, took



home \$50; a Royal Canin raffle where the winner, also Linda Taylor (at left), received Royal Canin dog food for 6 months valued at approximately \$400; and our *AGR* raffle which



displayed really nice items ranging from lovely picture frames to a cordless drill. The Royal Canin dog food was donated by Kristen and Allen Smith, owners of *Sun City Pet Market*. We also had some really great silent auction items that our attendees had a chance to bid on. While we were there, we also received two membership renewals and one new membership, and Golden Retriever **11-082 Jackson** went to his new forever home.



Special thanks go to all our wonderful volunteers: Mary Lynn Ament; Barbara Connoyer with **Buddy**; Bryan Foley; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Karin and Rachel Forsythe; Sandy and Gary Fullington with **Nicki**; Teri, Jeff and Michelle Guilbault; Teryl Hall; Gail and Dana Haywood; Joyce Hubler; Connie McCabe;



Barbara with Buddy, unknown lady with Troy, and Casey with Ladybird

Jared Miller; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Hayden, Ladybird and Troy**; Carrie and Casey Pulis; Beverly Ruth; Joy and Todd Slagowski with **Happy, Kahuna and Sweetie**; Allen and Kristen Smith from *Sun City Pet Market*; Liz Tataseo; and Linda Taylor with **Daisy and Honeybear**.

All dinner fees, raffle and silent auction proceeds, and donations, total of \$2,441, went into *The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*, and \$1,016 was raised by merchandise sales, memberships and an adoption fee for the *AGR* General Fund for a grand total of \$3,457.



Stress Relief at GCU

By Deb Orwig

For the second time in 2011, Beth Jamison, Disabilities Services Administrator at *Grand Canyon University*, invited *Arizona Golden Rescue* to provide some stress relief for *GCU* students and staff. The first time was during spring semester midterms; this time was during fall semester finals. Our first scheduled date, December 12th, was rained out, so we went on Wednesday, December 14th. Only a few *AGR* volunteers were able to make the revised date,



The media center had advertised on the jumbotrons and by student email for two weeks that *AGR* was coming



but the sizable number of students and staff who showed up to pet the dogs really appreciated those who were there. We were there from 9 AM - 1 PM and some of the students stayed for as long as three hours just petting the dogs.

Many said they had a dog at home but hadn't seen their dog since before coming to the University in August. Attending were Bill Atkinson with **Sam**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Larry Jessup with **Honeybear**; Deb Orwig with **Hayden, Ladybird and Troy**; and Kathi Youhas with **Krissie**. The dogs were dressed in holiday party collars and Santa hats but we did not put on Donation Vests – it wasn't a fundraising



Student with Sam



Staff member with Honeybear

event, just a fundraising one. One of the staff members gave us a \$20 donation anyway, though, which was very nice! We will be happy to go back there during midterm week in February.



This little girl was enamored with Krissie

Hopefully, the weather will be nicer and the students will be able to play with the dogs on the big lawn on the east side of the College of Education building where we met in December. Thanks to all who came.



Meet-and-Greets at Choice Pet Market

By Deb Orwig



Our final fall visit to **Choice Pet Market** in Glendale was on November 5th (we reported on our October 1st visit in the November newsletter). Attending were Mary Lynn Ament with

Hoogie and **Winslow**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Jodi Koblick with **Shea**; Deb Orwig with **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; and Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Trip**. Dana Haywood was in the area on business and stopped by for awhile. It was a chilly day – I guess November is sup-



Tony always draws a crowd when he has something to eat, because he usually gives the dogs a piece -- they all love apples!

posed to be – so there were not as many visitors to **Choice Pet Market** as we usually see, but of course our dogs loved the attention from those who gave it. We sold two calendars and collected \$70 in donations.



A store employee was trying to find a home for this little kitten; she must've figured the holiday outfit made the cat more attractive, but she had not found it a new home by the time we left



On December 3rd, we were invited to be present for the Grand Opening of the newest of the five **Choice Pet Market** stores, this one at 2915 W Ray Rd in Chandler. We had a nice group consisting of Dave and Jackie Engelhardt with **Rex** and **Sage**; Jim and

Diane Henkel with **Bella** and **Winston**; Jeff Sager with **Ori-on**; Bob Graf-fius and daughter Hayden with **Sara** (below in photo with



Diane, Jim, Gail, Dana and Darrell with dogs



(chaired by Dana and Gail) at this store beginning in February. Please check the website events calendar for dates and join us!

Santa); Darrell Marshall with **Shadow**; Angela Palumbo and daughter Michelle without a dog; and Dana and Gail Haywood with **Ri-ley**. Even Santa was there to take photos with the kids and dogs! We were busy meeting and greeting the crowd all day – we collected \$132.50 in donations and sold nine calendars for an additional \$90! It was a fun day! We hope to be doing monthly Meet-and-Greets



Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart

We now do Meet-and-Greets at five different **PetSmart** stores. Connie McCabe, our overall **PetSmart** chairman and liaison, chairs the store at 5707 W Northern Ave, Glendale; Teri Guilbault chairs the Arrowhead store at 7290 W Bell Rd in Glendale; Denny Myrick chairs the store at 7077 E Mayo Blvd in Scottsdale; Deb Orwig handles the Agua Fria store at 27th Ave/101 in Phoenix; 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 from noon to 4 PM at Tempe Marketplace. Denny's dates for the Mayo Blvd store are on the

website calendar – he tries to fit them in around other events we have scheduled. We will usually be at the Agua Fria store on the last Saturday of each month.

Agua Fria (I-17/L101) – Deb Orwig



On October 29th, Tony Cotner with **Daisy**, Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**, and Liz Tataseo attended along with me, **Ladybird** and **Troy**. Liz had picked up **Toby**, now called **Benzo**, from *Academy West Animal Hospital* to transfer him to

Dana for his eventual ride to his new mom in Mesa. **Toby** was with us for most of the afternoon. He was a great Meeter-Greeter and especially liked the kids who came by to pet him. We collected \$185.58 in donations and had a good time even though we were a small group.



Joining me with **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird** and **Troy** on November 19th were Mary Lynn Ament with **Hoagie** and **Winslow**, Tony Cotner with **Daisy**, and Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**. Liz Tataseo had picked up **Magic**, now called **Jackson**, from *AMSC* and brought him along to the Meet-and-Greet so that



Connie McCabe could pick him up there and do the subsequent transfer to his new family in Flagstaff.

Since it was the weekend before Thanksgiving, **Troy** wore his Indian chief headdress and **Ladybird** had on a harvest-colors party collar



Jackson was very friendly, got along with everybody and was a terrific Meeter-Greeter (photo above)! We met a lot of great people, a couple of whom later applied to adopt, and we collected \$177.40 in donations plus one calendar for a total of \$187.40.



Bell Rd (Arrowhead) – Teri Guilbault

Due to a schedule conflict, Teri was unable to do her normal hostess job at this store on October 9th. Those who attended were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and

Rocky; Deb Orwig with **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird** and **Troy**; and Liz Tataseo, who came dogless. The customers gave the dogs plenty of attention and vice versa; we collected \$61 in donations.

We were again at this *PetSmart* without Teri on Sunday, November 13th. It was an unusually not-busy day at this store, as we collected only \$33.84 in donations. Tony, Deb and Liz attended with their regular canine crew (Liz brought **Sweetie** this



time). Gail and Dana Haywood picked up littermates **Lilo** and **Simba** from their surrendering owner in Mesa and brought them along so that they could be taken to their new home in Glendale. Such dog transfers are actually quite common, as the Haywoods almost always come to West Valley events from their home in Apache Junction. In fact, during 2011, they



put almost 6700 miles on their vehicle driving to *AGR* events and doing dog transports! We thank them for their dedication! **Lilo** (the black one) was a little timid at first – **Simba** is definitely the alpha of the pair – but did relax after awhile and seemed to enjoy herself, especially if kids came by.

Mayo Blvd – Denny Myrick

In the fall, we visited the Mayo Blvd store on October 8th and November 12th. In October, those who attended included left to right in photo: Debra Rothwell



with **Sassi**; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Stephanie Harding with **Tag**; Mike Lane with **Bailey**; Rich Stolz with **Riley**; and Hannah Selznick with **Bela**. Pam Spicer was also there dogless as a floater and photographer. Her help as a floater is tremendous. She watches **Jake** while I am talking to people about *AGR*. We collected \$156 in donations.

Outside on a beautiful fall day in November, the following volunteers attended the Meet-and-Greet: Mary Lynn Ament with **Winslow** and **Hoagie**; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Deb Orwig with **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird** and **Troy**; Debra Rothwell with



Sassi; Pam Spicer brought newly-



Denny and friend-and-neighbor Pam with Lexi and Jake; Denny got Pam to join AGR, then she decided she'd try fostering; next thing we knew she had adopted! Ah, so it goes!

adopted Lexi; Rich Stolz with Riley; and Liz Tataseo came with Gonzo and Trip. Our twelve beautiful Golden Retrievers pried open the pocketbooks of the PetSmart shoppers resulting in the largest amount collected during the seven months of Meet-and-Greets at this location, a total of \$206.09 in donations and an additional \$50 in calendar sales. Excellent job everyone!

Northern Ave – Connie McCabe



We had a great group on October 9th! From left to right in the photo: Sandra Hansen and Jasmine

– Jasmine has come SUCH a long way; not only has she lost a ton of weight, but she was downright pleasant to the other dogs today, even allowing Sunny to walk on her face. Next is Karen Davis hugging Star, who was exceptionally hungry today. Karen is also holding Ricky and Caesar – Ricky has become a real charmer at these events, too; Caesar is always perfect. Then there is Pat Morgan with her gorgeous Sunny, who was actually a little feisty today (maybe it was the cooler weather). She is also holding Grizzly for me. Grizzly was his usual pushy “pet ME” self. Susan Parker, on the right, brought her “terrors,” Jack and Jo Jo, along with Ricky. We had a very nice turnout, with \$88.90 in donations.



This cute little boy delightedly went around and petted every dog; here he is with Sunny

We had a nice day on November 13th, met a lot of people and collected \$98 in donations and calendar sales. Many thanks to Mary Lynn Ament with Hoagie and Winslow and Karen Davis with Caesar and Star. We were joined by Karen’s friend Cheryl with



Cricket. Of course, Grizzly was there with me. I do love to do Meet-and-Greets at this store. Not the richest, but some of the nicest, most generous people, especially the children, who will drop their allowance of

quarters, dimes, nickels or pennies into the Donation Vests. The change really adds up!

Tempe Marketplace – Angela Palumbo

Thank you to all who came out to our Meet-and-Greet on Saturday, October 15, 2011: Mary Lynn Ament with Hoagie and Winslow; Tony Cotner with Daisy and Rocky;



Stephanie Harding; Diane Henkel with Bella; Michele Wehry with NinAnnie; Michelle Palumbo; and of course, my girl Ms. Belle. Barbara Brownlee also stopped by for awhile with her newly-adopted girl Mandy (at left in photo), who made immediate friends with Belle. It was a beautiful day. It was a beautiful day that started out slow but finished with a big \$150! Thanks to all, especially to Michele, who took lots of photos!



Carrie with Tony’s boy Rocky and children

Saturday, November 12, 2011, we had our usual crew but with the addition of



As a sign in our vet’s office says, Dogs welcome, children must be on leash!

delightful Carrie Pulis: Tony Cotner with Daisy and Rocky; Diane and Jim Henkel with Bella and Winston; Gail and Dana Haywood with Riley; Angela and Michelle Palumbo with Belle. It was a nice day and we managed to take in about \$78.

Holiday Season 2011

Our spectacular holiday season began on Black Friday and extended through Christmas Eve. We had eight 11 AM - 5 PM *Photos with Santa* engagements at two different **PetSmart** stores, twelve gift wrapping sessions at **Barnes & Noble** stores, manned a booth at the *Holiday Pet Festival* at *WestWorld* and attended the Grand Opening of the fifth **Choice Pet Market** store at 2915 W Ray Rd in Chandler (see page 24). Saturday, December 17th was especially hectic – we wrapped gifts at both the Happy Valley and the Tempe Marketplace **Barnes & Noble** stores and took *Photos with Santa* at both Arrowhead and Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart** stores. The rest of the season was busy when we were working, but we didn't work nearly as many hours as we did in 2010 and we made more money. Debbie Begley always used to urge us to work smarter, not harder, and we did that in 2011 by scheduling only afternoon gift wrap sessions, except for Christmas Eve day when we wrapped from 9 AM - 6 PM. Our sincere thanks to all volunteers who helped **AGR** have the best year ever! Special thanks to Connie McCabe, Angela and Michelle Palumbo and Joy Slagowski, who were our *Santa* photographers; to Nick Dodson, Patrick Doyle, Jeff Guilbault, Dana Haywood, Phil Leavitt, Jeff Sager, Don Thompson and Bob Youhas, who were our Santas,; and to Larry Jessup, Beverly Ruth and Kathi Youhas, who chaired our gift wrapping events. You were all fantastic!



Connie McCabe, Nick Dodson as Santa, and their adopted AGR dog Grizzly

Connie McCabe chaired the Arrowhead **PetSmart** *Photos with Santa*. She wrote the following:

Saturday, December 3rd:

Our morning crew consisted of Santa Nick Dodson and myself as photographer, with elves Cara Holland and Liz Tataseo. Doris Van Benschoten, Jack Craven and Joyce Hubler

wrangled **Grizzly, Ripley and Trip** outside. It's so nice to see Doris as a donation "go-getter" again. She is not even a member but loves to come help work the crowd, and she always gets us great donations! We had a wonderful day and the store was super in having supplies



Doris and Jack with Trip and Grizzly; having Donation Dogs outside this year was a great idea!



First shift on December 3rd
back: Jack, Cara, Santa Nick; front: Doris with Grizzly, Ripley with Joyce and Trip with Liz

ready for us. Special thanks to Nick for helping me drag everything there and set up, then go out and get lunch for me before he got to go home.

The afternoon shift was Don Thompson returning this year as Santa; Joy Slagowski once again as photographer; Cara Holland (doing a double shift, thank you!), cheery



Santa Don with wife Carol and their adopted AGR dog Lucy



Second shift on December 3rd:
Liz with Augie and Gonzo, Sheila, Santa Don, Joy with Happy; in front Jack, Cara and Grizzly

Sheila Joyce and myself as elves. Jack Craven also stayed for the second shift and was dog handler again with **Grizzly**. **Happy** was there, too, but decided he needed to be safe inside with Joy. Liz brought **Augie** and **Gonzo** as well.

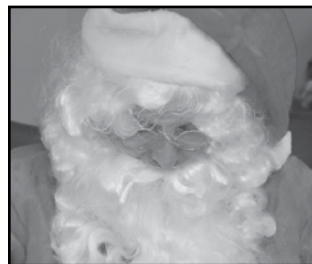
During the day, we took 34 photos, worth \$170, plus the dogs were the stars – they collected just shy of \$400! Jack Craven kicked in the extra to bring it to a full \$400 (Deb hates that pesky change!). We also sold 5 calendars. So, we collected \$570 total, a great start for the holidays!

Sunday, December 4th:

Many thanks to the morning crew: Santa Phil Leavitt; myself as photographer; elf Cricket Forstrum; Pat Morgan with **Sunny**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas as wranglers for **Krissie** and **Leo**. We had



First shift on December 4th: in back, Pat and Santa Phil; front, Cricket, Kathi with Krissie, and Bob with Leo



a terrific shift! And Santa Phil (at left) always manages to catch a few winks in between customers.

In the afternoon we had Bob Youhas as Santa, myself as photographer, Teri Turner and Cynthia Wenström as elves, and Kathi

Youhas continuing to collect donations with **Leo** and **Krissie**. We took only 24 photos, worth \$120, but the donation dogs **Krissie**, **Leo** and **Sunny** gathered \$406.48, which included the sale of 5 calendars. Plus, we had a special \$200 donation inside from Stephanie Harding, Mike Lane and Cynthia Wenström. That donation will also be employer-matched, so it's really worth \$400, for a grand total of \$926.48 for the day. Thank you, Nick, for bringing lunch and helping me clean up! Sorry, we didn't get a photo of the afternoon shift, but at left is the best family photo of the day, the Slagowski clan!



employer-matched, so it's really worth \$400, for a grand total of \$926.48 for the day. Thank you, Nick, for bringing lunch and helping me clean up! Sorry, we didn't get a photo of the afternoon shift, but at left is the best family photo of the day, the Slagowski clan!

Saturday, December 10th:

Santa Nick Dodson returned for the morning shift setup and Santa duties, along with myself as photographer, Melissa Carter and Liz Tataseo as elves, and Susan Parker as wrangler for **Grizzly**, **Ricky** and **Trip**. Melissa came all the way up from Tucson for the whole day to help, and to pick up her handsome **Jack**!



First shift December 10th: Liz, Connie, Santa Nick, Melissa, and Susan; dogs are Trip, Grizzly and Ricky



Second shift December 10th: in back, Michelle, Santa Jeff, Jared, and Joy; in front, Blossom, Grizzly and Melissa

In the afternoon we had Santa Jeff Guilbault, Joy Slagowski as photographer, elves Melissa Carter and myself, and Michelle and Jared Miller as wranglers for **Blossom** and **Grizzly**. The donation dogs collected \$389.94, which included the sale of 5 calendars. We took 34 photos for a total of \$559.94 for the day, and had a really great time – lots of interesting pets and people!

Sunday, December 11th:

Our best day yet for photos! Patrick Doyle was a real trooper and worked both shifts as Santa, a very tough job. But he loves it, and it really shows in the photos. I was photographer in the morning, while our morning elves were



First shift December 11th: John, Mary Kate with Mary Jo, Santa Patrick, Connie and Liz with Sweetie

Mary Jo Courtney and Liz Tataseo (again!). John Courtney wrangled **Mary Kate** and **Sweetie**, our beautiful morning donation girls. We also had a new helper, Tyler Sauer, who handled **Grizzly**.

Joy Slagowski was our afternoon photographer and Cara Holland and myself were elves. Todd Slagowski wrangled **Bella** and **Sweetie**, our popular afternoon donation dogs. New volunteers Kathryn and John Vanderhoof kept track of **Grizzly**, who stayed as



Second shift December 11th: Todd with Bella, Kathryn, Santa Patrick with Grizzly, John, Joy with Sweetie and Cara in front

a donation dog – just try and get that ham to go home! A big thank you to Nick for helping me set up in the morning and coming back to bring me lunch. And then coming back again to help pack up!

We took a whopping 52 photos, worth \$260, and collected \$337.23 in donations, including the sale of 2 calendars, for a total of \$597.23 for the day.

Saturday, December 17th:



First shift December 17th: Karen with Star and Caesar, Santa Jeff with Grizzly, Anne with Sally and Susan

Heartfelt thanks to Saturday's morning crew: Jeff Guilbault, once again Santa; myself as photographer; Karen Davis as elf; Anne Kowalski as wrangler for **Sally** and **Grizzly**; and Susan Parker as wrangler for **Caesar** and **Star**. We had a terrific time – so many fun photos!

In the afternoon we had Bob Youhas as Santa; Joy Slagowski as fantastic photographer; myself as elf; Pat Morgan and Todd Slagowski as dog wranglers again; and donation dogs **Grizzly**, **Sunny**, **Happy** and **Sweetie**. It's a good thing those dogs like to work! They collected \$407.32, including the sale of 3 calendars. We took 39 photos worth \$195 for a total of \$602.32 for the day. Thank you, Nick, for lunch again!



This one takes the cake: someone wanted a photo of their stuffed coyote with Santa Bob -- can't blame Bob for not really holding the animal! Sorry, no photo of the second shift people

Sunday, December 18th:

We have such a great time at these events, plus it's an excuse to

not have to go Christmas shopping! A huge thank you to our “last day” Santa crew, especially to Nick Dodson, who helped me set up and break down every day, and brought me lunch every single shift change, even if he wasn’t there as Santa!



First shift December 18th: Kathi with Krissie, Eileen, Santa Nick with Grizzly, Jeanne, and Bob with Leo

Nick was a terrific Santa in the morning, I was photographer and Eileen Proctor and Jeanne Hopkins were wonderful elves! Also thanks to Bob and Kathi Youhas, who stayed out in the nasty weather as long as they possibly could before coming in. They wrangled **Grizzly, Leo and Krissie** all day – they had the best time of all!

Another big thank you to Jeff Guilbault, who stepped up to be Santa again in the afternoon. Joy was afternoon photographer and did her usual wonderful job. Both Eileen and Jeanne stayed to help me as elves during the second shift, too, and I really appreciated it. This was Jeanne’s first Santa gig and she was terrific. Eileen always shines!



Second shift December 18th: Kathi with Krissie, Eileen, Santa Jeff, Joy, Jeanne and Bob with Grizzly

In spite of the really nasty weather we took 41 photos and still collected \$216.50 in donations, including 2 calendar sales, for a total of \$431.50 for the day.



Cutest photo of Santa with a child

I am very proud to report that thanks to everyone’s hard work, we made a total of **\$3682.47** at the Arrowhead store! Plus, I know we made a lot of new friends, including Michelle Nicholas, who has since adopted **Maggie**. I sincerely hope to see you ALL again next year – you were all wonderful! And thank you to



Another amazing family group photo – there are NINE Maltese in this picture; they are all looking at the photographer and so are all the humans!

all the **AGR** members who brought their dogs for photos, especially Joyce Johnston, who drove all the way from Sun Lakes, and the Courtneys who came down from Anthem.

Angela Palumbo chaired the two dates on which *Photos with Santa* were taken at the Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart**. Her Santas included Dana Haywood and Jeff Sager. Unfortunately, only a few photos were taken outside the store. Those were shot by Michele Wehry. Here is what Angela wrote about their experiences:



Angela, Santa Dana, Michelle



Darrell and Shadow with friend, Gail, Riley and Santa Dana

Sunday, December 11th:

It was a brisk day and everyone was in the holiday spirit! Jeff Sager as Santa (first shift); Dana Haywood as Santa (second

shift); attendees were Diane and Jim Henkel with **Bella and Winston**; Julie and Paul Berman with **Lille**; Ruth Pulliam; Darrell Marshall with **Shadow**; Dana, Gail and **Riley** Haywood; and Michele Wehry with **Johnny and NinAnnie** (afternoon). Michelle and Angela Palumbo were the photographers. We took 28 photos (28 x \$5 = \$140), collected \$352.15 in donations and sold 6 calendars for a total of \$492.15.



Santa Dana with children; some people have realized that it costs less and there is less wait time for a photo with Santa at PetSmart than for a photo at one of the malls

Saturday, December 17th: We had another great day! We took 25 photos, sold 8 calendars, and collected lots of donations, bringing the total to \$465.76! Thank you to all the helpers and Santas: Candy and Jerry Caldwell with **Buddy Boy**; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Dana, Gail and **Riley** Haywood; Jackie and Dave Engelhardt with **Sage and Rex**; Maggie Muller with **Benzo**; Deb Fuller and Michelle Palumbo. I think I got you all... I was inside doing photos most of the time... and oh yes, thank you to the “unknown” **AGR** member and her dog, who came, collected some money and realized they were supposed to be at the **Barnes & Noble** across the parking lot! We appreciated their help!

The total earnings in Tempe, \$957.91, brought our *Photos with Santa* total to **\$4640.38**, the best we’ve ever done during the holidays! Tempe Marketplace **PetSmart** would like us to do more than two dates in 2012. If you are a decent photographer (they provide all the equipment, although it helps if you have your own good digital camera) and would be willing to do one or more of the weekend dates that Angela cannot do, please contact us. We will also need some “elf helpers” and Donation Dogs for the extra dates.

Gift Wrapping Extravaganza

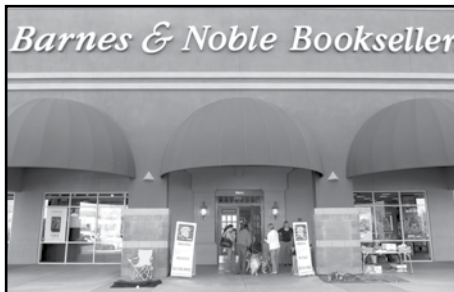
By Deb Orwig



Wrapping gifts during the holiday season just seems like a fitting thing to do. It is fun, and it is a great fundraiser! During our 12 gift wrapping appearances where our volunteers worked for a total of 68.5 hours at one of the **Barnes & Noble Booksellers**, we collected a total of **\$8524.30** in donations and generated an additional **\$620** from the sale of 62 calendars! That's

over \$133 per

hour! Pretty good rate of pay, if you ask me! Thanks to Beverly Ruth for chairing the Arrowhead store, to Kathi Youhas for handling the Happy Valley location, and to Larry Jessup for chairing the Tempe Marketplace store. Spectacular job, everyone! We tried to get photos of all who volunteered, and we apologize if we missed anyone.



Aaron and Amber Cargile with Jasper and Zoe

I am not going to list the volunteer groups at each store on each date – there were too many in numbers and many in repeat volunteers! Suffice it to say that the following **AGR** members made one or more appearances at one or more of the **Barnes & Noble** stores:



Blossom Guilbault

Mary Lynn Ament with **Hoagie** and **Winslow**; Linda and Bill Atkinson with **Sam**; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Stephanie Beard and Wille Konishi with **Kasey**; Crystal Blaker with Goldendoodle **Wrigley** and Crystal's mom Sharonne Smith; Amber and son Aaron Cargile with **Jasper** and **Zoe**; Becky Childs with her daughters Saraya Childs



Cynthia Wenström with Bailey



Rae Pellegatti with Casey and Kathi Youhas with Krissie



Tony Cotner and Mary Lynn Ament with Hayden Orwig, Winslow Ament, Daisy Cotner, Rocky Cotner, Ladybird Orwig and Hoagie Ament

Deb Fuller; Sandy Fullington; Mary Gazda with **Tucker**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom, Fresno, Goldie** and **Jackson**; Teryl Hall



Bob and Darrell Johnson with Holly and Beau



Jackie Sigafosse with Colby



Trina Kearney



Gail, Riley and Dana Haywood

and Katrina Looney; Tony Cotner with **Daisy, Goldie** and **Rocky**; Kathy Davidson and daughter Mary with **Jake**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Mary and Bert Engstrom with **Marley** and **Misty**; Sheri Fogel; Cricket Forstrom with **Kelly**; Karin, Jacob and Rachel Forsythe with Jacob's friend Michael Sutura; Bryan Fox with **Libby** and friend Sybil Adler;



The Wieser family with Nala and Max

and Trystan Schuff with **Napoleon** and **Sol** or **Rosie** and **Cobbler Masani**; Leea



Dexter Ruth

Hamilton and A r a i a Johnson, students



Oliver Ruth

from **Sequoia Academy Arts**; Sandra Hansen with **Tatum**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley** and sometimes also **Trina Kearney**;

Diane, Jim and Eric Henkel with **Bella** and **Winston**; Jennifer, Brian and Lauren Huddleston with **Duke**; Larry Jessup with **Honeybear**; Bob Johnson with **Holly**; Darrell Johnson with **Beau**; Joyce John-



We didn't have much time for group shots but we did get this one at Happy Valley: back, Jodi, Jay, Kathi with Kris-sie, Liz with Gonzo and Trip, Rocky Orwig behind Liz, Jude with Bear, Tony with Daisy barely showing; front, Bob with Leo and Ladybird, Teri with Jackson and Troy, Dana with Riley, and Gail

ston; Sheila Joyce with **Holly, McKenna** and **Tessa**; Jude Kettunen with **Bellbear** or **Mr. Bear**; Nancy and Dave Kimmel with **Sadie** and **Trooper**; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine**; Sherry Landwehr; Kim Lindenmeyer with

Aspen and **Indy**; Jan Lutich and friend Tracy Schwetzer with Goldendoodle **Tucker**; Sarah Martin with **Bunny**;



Jackson Guilbault



Robin and Cindy, Happy Valley store employees, dispensing treats

D a w n Massani; Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**,

Sasha, and **Winnie**; Michele Meyer with **Abigail**; Michelle and Jared Miller; Sandra Miller with **Buddy** (a.k.a. **Caleb**); Maggie Muller with **Benzo**;



Rusty and Don Krause with Sunshine



Rocky Orwig

Hayden, **Ladybird** and **Troy**; Erin Orwig; Angela Palumbo; Raeann Pellegatti with **Casey**; Joyce Pence with foster girl **Bailey**; Jackie and Gabby Pinho; Eileen Proctor; Jane and Casey Pulis with **Major** and **Rocky**; Bernie Quick with **Mylee** or **Sarj**; Kathy and Kelly Rice; Christine Ringer; Mary and Art Rivera; Laura Rivers with **Bella**; Beverly and



Bernie Quick with Sarj



Only other group shot we managed; Liz Sawtschenko with Sunny and Gus; Liz Tataseo with Sweetie and Trip; Sharonne Smith; Crystal Blaker with Wrigley; Jade Shaffer; Truls Bache; Sarah Martin with Bunny; Tony Cotner; Bill and Linda Atkinson with Sam; Deb Orwig with Hayden; Sherry Landwehr; Dana and Gail Haywood with Riley

Perry Ruth with **Dexter** and foster boy **Oli- iver** (whom they have now adopted); Liz Sawtschenko with **Gus** and **Sunny**; Dee



Crystal Blaker with Goldendoodle Wrigley



Jude Kettunen with Bellbear



Jade Shaffer, dog wrangler

Scheckel and niece Rachel Prescott;

Kari Schulz with **Lola**; Hannah Selznick with



Linda Taylor with Daisy



Sam Atkinson

Bela; Jackie Sigafosse with **Colby**; Joy and Todd Slagowski with **Bella, Cody, Happy, Kahuna** and **Sweetie**;



Fresno Guilbault

Rich Stolz with **Riley**; Fran Strock; Liz Tataseo with **Augie, Gonzo, Sweetie** and **Trip**; Linda Taylor with **Daisy**;



Mylee Quick



Sarah Martin with Troy Orwig



Dog wranglers Saraya Childs and Katrina Looney

Cindy Tigges with **Charm**; Taryn Tigges and Taryn's friend Melissa Grisamore; Frank



Beverly Ruth, Sandy Fullington and Michelle Nicholas with Ladybird Orwig and Rocky and Daisy Cotner

Turco with Molly; Davi Volp with Emma; Amanda and Michael Wade with Riley (a.k.a. Ebony) and Hagrid the Bull Mastiff; Michele Wehry with NinAnnie and foster boy Johnny; Cynthia Wenström with Bailey; Sharon and Philip Wieser and sons Mar-

cus and Ilan with Nala and Max; and Kathi and Bob Youhas with Krissie and Leo. I sincerely hope I have not forgotten anyone! This may look like our whole membership list! Actually, it is far from that, but it was a fantastic turnout! Most of those listed with multiple dogs did



Liz Tataseo with Gonzo and Trip; Dawn Massani; Trystan Schuff; Teryl Hall with Napoleon and Sol; seated at right Mary Lynn Ament with Winslow and Hoagie

in the Career Center at Cactus High School and Jan's emailing all the high schools in the Peoria School District, quite a few high school



Mary Engstrom with Misty

students came to help. They were terrific at dog wrangling and collecting donations! Thanks to all of them and Jan, too, for sending out our plea for help. The following students volunteered on one or more dates: Truls Bache, Alexa D'Angelo, Jesse Davidson, Vicki Garcia, Katlyn and Kristina Hull, Jessica



Sheri Fogel and Jodi Koblick wrapping



Sheila Joyce and dogs



Huddleston family with Duke

not bring all the dogs to each session.

Thanks to Teri Guilbault's contact with Jan Howard



Rachel Forsythe with Hayden Orwig



Koch, Anissa Saenz-Ochoa, Arianna Saenz, Jade Shaffer, Matt Shlaimon, Haley Silvertson, Mary Thomas, and Taylor Whittaker. The high schools represented were Cactus, Centennial, Liberty, and Sunrise Mountain. We thank them all for their service and hope they had fun.

Helpers from Centennial High School

Tempe Marketplace Barnes & Noble on December 17th



Top row: Lighted tree in Tempe Marketplace courtyard near our wrapping station; outdoor wrapping station; Maggie Muller with Benzo; 2nd row: Gabby and Jackie Pinho at inside wrapping station; Stephanie Beard and Wille Konishi with Kasey; 3rd row: Davi Volp with Emma; Frank Turco with Molly; Yes, the money goes there!; 4th row: Jan Lutch, Tracy Schwetzer with Tucker and Bryan Fox with Libby; Kari Schultz with Lola; Kathy and Mary Davidson with Jake



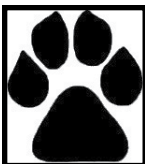
Kelly and Kathy Rice; Laura Rivers with Bella; Casey and Jane Pulis with Rocky and Major; Nancy and Dave Kimmel and Gail Haywood with Daisy Cotner, Sadie and Trooper Kimmel, Rocky Cotner on Dave's lap and Riley Haywood; Rich Stolz with his boy Riley



Michele Meyer with Abigail; Deb Fuller with Troy Orwig and Mary Gazda with Tucker; Terry Oline standing at left and Tony Cotner seated talking with visitor as Mary Rivera listens; Amanda Wade with Riley; inside evening wrapping crew of Angela Palumbo, Leea Hamilton, Araia Johnson and Sandra Miller



Rachel Prescott with Hayden Orwig and Joyce Johnston; Terry Oline with Shanley; Art Rivera with Ladybird Orwig; Cricket Forstrom with Kelly and Kim Lindemeyer with Indy; Joyce Pence with foster girl Bailey and Larry Jessup with Honeybear; Sandra Miller with Buddy



Holiday Pet Festival at WestWorld

By Deb Orwig



Jodi Koblick in the booth

The *Holiday Pet Festival* held at *WestWorld* on December 3rd was sponsored by *Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary* in conjunction with *PetSmart Charities*. This was the second year of this show. The number of vendors was greater this year but attendance by the public was, unfortunately, down from last year because of the weather. It was

raining on and off all day, and at times it even hailed, which made it almost impossible to hear any kind of conversation inside the cavern-



Katie Partin and Patrick Doyle watching Annabelle move toward a Great Dane; she decided she didn't like him

Only one of the ten ornaments I prepared for the Wish Trees got any attention – someone donated a tug toy and some tennis balls for one of the “ornament dogs.” We had two really nice items in the silent auction: one basket had a cheetah theme – valued at \$150, it sold for \$90 – and the other, which had the theme of “Honor our Military Heroes” did not sell at all (I wasn't going to let a \$250 basket of items go for \$35). However, we did fairly well with merchandise sales (\$495) and donations (\$298), a total of \$793. The booth cost us \$350, but we are supposed to be getting some of that (perhaps as much as half) back once *Tranquility*



John Partin with Rocky Cotner



Beth Chaffee and Valerie Mylowe arrived together and took Troy and Ladybird for awhile



Tony Cotner and Teri Guilbault in booth with Rocky Cotner and Blossom and Goldie Guilbault

Trail settles their accounts with **PetSmart Charities**. It is an excellent show, though, and well worth attending. There is a great variety of vendors, many of whom do not attend any other local events, so their merchandise is fresh and interesting. About midday during the show, **PetSmart Charities** ran a doggie fashion show. They came to our booth to ask for participants. **Ladybird** modeled a sweater; **Troy** wore some reindeer antlers that had flashing lights; and **Hayden**, bringing up the rear of the fashion parade, wore a Santa suit. **PetSmart** donated the outfits to us afterward. **Tranquility Trail** volunteers were fantastic! On Friday, December 2nd, Tony Cotner, Jude Kettunen, Bob Youhas and I had help unloading and getting everything to the booth and were able to set up the entire booth in about an hour. Saturday morning all we had to do was arrange our merchandise on the tables and we were ready for the day. Volunteers joining me with **Hayden**, **Ladybird** and **Troy** during the day included Mary Lynn Ament with **Hoagie** and **Winslow**; Beth Chaffee; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky**; Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom** and **Goldie**; Teryl Hall; Rusty Haller and Cheri Beuke with their children and **Murphy**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; Jude Kettunen with **Bear**; Jodi Koblick; Rusty and Don Krause with **Sunshine**; Dawn Massani with **Rosie** and **Cobbler**; Valerie Mylowe; Denny Myrick with **Jake**; Katie and John Partin; Pam Spicer with **Lexi**; and Bob and Kathi Youhas. Gail and Dana had already hosted one event until 3 PM,



Rusty Haller and Cheri Beuke with their kids and Murphy

the Grand Opening of the Chandler **Choice Pet Market**, but they arrived at 3:30 and stayed to help break down the booth. Kathi and Bob came dogless in the afternoon so that they could help bring some of the booth equipment and merchandise back to my house. Thanks everyone!



Cheetah-theme basket



Dawn Massani with Rosie, Teryl Hall with Ladybird and Cobbler, and Bob Youhas



Tired after a long day, Daisy Cotner said, Is it time to leave yet?

Membership Matters

By Deb Orwig

Dave Evans and his fiancée Lauren were at an *Arizona Cardinals* football game on October 23rd when Lauren went into labor! You can see Dave's ticket in this photo of baby Gavin, who checked in just after midnight on October 24th. What a memento – that's a game they'll never forget being at, but we'll bet that they don't know if the *Cardinals* won or not! They were the big winners, though, with 8 lb+ Gavin. **Prince** and **Cisco** are both doing well with a baby in the house. Dave has had an offer of a job with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Department conditional upon him passing a physical and a polygraph, which he expects will just be formalities. The Sheriff's staff is apparently looking forward to having a second drug-detection dog and his handler on their staff! Best wishes to all of you!



On October 30th, Joy Slagowski announced that her Golden **Happy** and her cattle dog/heeler mix **Sweetie** both passed their CGC and TDI evaluations. They were evaluated with Joy as individuals and paired as a team. Joy just got her assignment to do a read-to-the-dog program at **West Point Elementary** in Surprise. Congratulations!



Michelle Guilbault and Jared Miller were married on November 12, 2011 at a lovely outdoor ceremony at 2 PM in the Sun City Grand fountain court. The best of the most to you both! Michelle and Jared now have a Household Membership in **AGR** – we're sure to see them at events!

Kathi and Bob Youhas have recently become great-grandparents for the first time. Their granddaughter, Amanda Youhas, gave birth to 8 lb-1 oz Cooper Matthew Hisle on November 22, 2011.



They live in the Denver area with Amanda's significant other James Hisle. Congratulations to all!

On December 5th, Sheila Joyce wrote: *At the Cardinals-Cowboys game yesterday, my daughter, Allie, was named the 2011 Arizona Cardinals Pro Bowl Cheerleader! It's a big deal, and we are really excited! She will spend a week in Hawaii for the Pro Bowl, and then the Pro Bowl Cheerleaders go to Guam to perform for the troops. More stuff should be up on www.azcardinals.com! Wooahoo!*



Upcoming Events



February 11, 2012, 10 AM; meet at corner of Oak St/ Scottsdale Rd in Scottsdale at 8:30 AM; parade goes 1.5 miles north to Indian School Rd, then we have a booth at Trail's End until 5 PM. Hope you were able to join us!

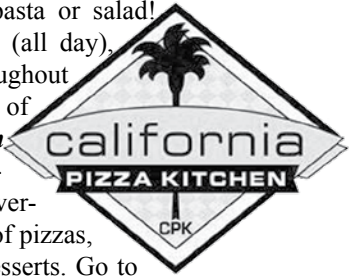
Sunday, February 19, 2012, 9 AM - 2 PM, Tempe Town Lake at 620 N. Mill Ave, Tempe. Please join us with your dogs for **PetSmart's** annual



People Saving Pets Walk. This is a great opportunity to get some fresh air and exercise and help garner donations for **Arizona Golden Rescue** while you're at it. To join our **AGR** team, please visit http://pschar.convio.net/site/TR/Walk/General?fr_id=1160&pg=entry and sign up today. All walk participation fees and donations that we can collect from this event will go directly to our organization, so please talk to your relatives, friends and neighbors and ask them to sponsor you as you walk. If you can't walk with us on the 19th, that's okay too. You and your friends can simply send a donation directly to **AGR** earmarked as a **PetSmart People Saving Pets Walk** donation, as there is a significant delay in getting the money to our organization and letting it work for our vet bills if it goes to **PetSmart** first. It's that easy. If you have questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Teri Guilbault at teri.guilbault@yahoo.com Thanks for your support!

California Pizza Kitchen FUNdraiser

Almost everyone likes pizza, pasta or salad! On Wednesday, April 11, 2012 (all day), **California Pizza Kitchens** throughout Arizona will be donating 20% of your check to **Arizona Golden Rescue!** Purchases include dine-in, take-out, catering and all beverages! They offer a wide variety of pizzas, pastas, salads, appetizers and desserts. Go to www.cpk.com to see the selection. You can even order online, but whether you order online or go to one of the seven restaurants, **you must bring the flyer enclosed with this newsletter** with you in order for **AGR** to get the credit and the donation! All Arizona locations of **California Pizza Kitchen** are cooperating in this fundraiser for us, so please support it by going to the one nearest you – there's even one in Tucson, so you southern members can get into the action, too! Here are the locations:



- Biltmore Fashion Park, 2400 E. Camelback Rd, Phx
- Chandler Mall, 3163 W. Chandler Blvd, Chandler
- Village Square @ Dana Park, 1850 S. Val Vista Dr, Mesa
- Desert Ridge, 21001 N. Tatum Rd, Phx
- Scottsdale, 10100 N. Scottsdale Rd
- Tempe Marketplace, 2000 E. Rio Salado Pkwy, Tempe
- Tucson Mall, 4500 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson

EAT GOOD STUFF AND HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR AGR!

The 2012 Phoenix Pet Expo
April 28, 2012
University of Phoenix Stadium
10 AM – 6 PM



Huge pet expo with hundreds of vendors and rescue groups including **AGR**. Shorty Rossi and Hercules from Animal Planet's "Pit Boss" will be there!

Fabulous prize giveaways, free pet nail trims, agility demos!

Volunteers needed to work either of two shifts:
9:30 AM to 2:00 PM or 2 PM – 6 PM plus cleanup

Parking is free; admission is free!

If you bring your dog(s) which we hope you will, you must also bring proof of current vaccinations

Please contact Teri Guilbault at teri.guilbault@yahoo.com or 623-221-8758 if you can help.

P.E.T. Pantry

By Cynthia Wenström

Some of you have heard tidbits of my experience as a Scottsdale Leadership participant during the past year, a program to build community stewardship and future leaders. Similar programs are found in many cities in the Valley and throughout the country. To say the experience has been tremendous is an understatement, but it is possibly dwarfed by our Pay It Forward team project. My team created the P.E.T. (Pets Eat Too) Pantry, and our slogan is “Keeping Pets with their People.”

P.E.T. Pantry serves as a supportive program of the *Vista del Camino Food Bank* in Scottsdale, Arizona. P.E.T. Pantry provides pet food and information to *Vista del Camino* clients through *Vista del Camino's* regular food bank operations, to assist people in caring for their pets during times of financial crisis.

If you will take just a moment to visit our website, you can learn about the value P.E.T. Pantry brings to our pets in need and the people who love them. In particular, I am asking for your support in three ways:

- Please LIKE P.E.T. Pantry on Facebook
- Please ask your Facebook friends to LIKE us too; it is just a simple click, and gets the word out to many
- Please consider a donation – all donations are eligible for a tax receipt through the Scottsdale 501 (c) (3) charity *Concerned Citizens for Community Health (CCCH)*; simply go to the Donate link and scroll down to ‘donate for pet owners in need’

Please access our website (www.scottsdalepetpantry.org) with your browser. You may link to our video and Facebook page from the website.

Thank you for helping to get the word out and helping to keep pets with their people with your clicks and donations.

Editor's Note: I have seen the video Cynthia mentions, and it is inspiring! Cynthia is a founding member of Arizona Golden Rescue. You can reach her at cwenstrom@cox.net or by calling 602-300-1016.

*Ode By A Stray**

There I sat, alone and afraid,
You got a call and came right to my aid.
You bundled me up
with blankets and love.
And, when I needed it most,
you gave me a hug.

I learned that the world was not all that
scary and cold.
That sometimes there is someone
to have and to hold.

You taught me what love is, you helped me to mend.
You loved me and healed me and became my first friend.

And just when I thought you'd done all you do,
There came along not one new lesson, but two.
First you said, “Sweetheart, you're ready to go.
I've done all I can, and you've learned all I know.”

Then you bundled me up with a blanket and kiss.
Along came a new family, they even have kids!
They took me to their home, forever to stay.
At first I thought you sent me away.

Then that second lesson became perfectly clear.
No matter how far, you will always be near.
And so, Foster Mom, you know I've moved on.
I have a new home, with toys and a lawn.

But I'll never forget what I learned that first day.
You never really give your fosters away.

You gave me these thoughts to remember you by.
We may never meet again, and now I know why.

You'll remember I lived with you for a time.
I may not be yours, but you'll always be mine.

~ Author Unknown

** Editor's Note: This poem came to me without a title, so I created one*

Cool Tip

Taming a “jumper”: Training to break the jump-up-on-you-when-you-come-in-the-door habit takes time. However, try this trick: take your dog to the door with a few favorite toys and play several quick rounds of indoor “fetch,” tossing the objects away from the entrance. Repeat the game when someone comes to the door (keep a few toys by the back door, too, if you come in that way). Your dog will bound in the opposite direction and then head back to you with the toy so you'll play again, instead of pouncing on your guest or you.

You can find lots of puzzle games that will keep your dog entertained. But, if you want to save some money, you can simply put some food or treats into a box that your dog must open to get at.



Golden Hearts



Since we formed *Arizona Golden Rescue* in March 2009, many members as well as nonmembers have been extremely generous in helping us financially. There are lots of costs associated with an animal rescue organization 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 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 October 11, 2011 and January 15, 2012. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

General Donations from the Heart

Mary Lynn and Matthew Ament
 William Anderson
 Anonymous (many and generous)
 Richard Bird
 Betsy and Fred Brown
 David L. Buterbaugh, P.C.
 Patricia Cano
 Linda and Ward Case
 Roger Crossley
 Deborah Dashney
 Bart Dee
 Mitra Delpazir
 Judy and Mark Doseck
 Sarah Drummond
 Marian Fix
 LaBelle (Cricket) Forstrom
 Shannon and Robert Graffius
 Janie and Rich Hannes
 Yai Hernlund
 Terri and Dave Hill
The Hypnotic Chronic
 Laura and Blake Inlow
 Lauri Johnson
 Marsha and Steve Kleinz
 Mike Lane
 Linda and Jim Lee
 Michele McConnell
 Geraldine McHugh
 Lynn Medeiros
 Christopher Moreno
 Maggie Muller
 Casandra Northrup
 Raeann Pellegatti
 Richard Potts
 Mary and Art Rivera
 Jennifer Rogers
 Walter Rogers
 Lynn and Frederic Ruth
 Kristen Scheckel

Joy and Todd Slagowski
 Janet Smigielski
 Lee Stamper
 Fran and Jan Strock
 Betty J. Thompson
 Brenda Johnson-Vantussenbroek and
 Dave Vantussenbroek
 Anna Vasilas
 Patricia and William Weikart
 Travis Wilson

“Change the Life of a Golden” Change Collection
 from Aluminum Can Recycling
 Deb and Larry Orwig

Honorary Donations

*In Honor of **Bela Selznick***

Hannah and Mitch Selznick

*In Honor of **Connie McCabe** for taking our Christmas photo*

Karen and Phil Davis

*In Honor of **Deb and Larry Orwig** for vacation dog care*

Debbie and Rick Ball
 Jackie and Dave Engelhardt
 Lynn and Bruce Panici

*In Honor of **Rocky and Friends** After School Reading Program
 at **Desert Foothills Children’s Library** in Cave Creek*

Anna and Ronald Hoffman
 Martha McDowell
 Sylvia Wermes

*In Honor of “super fixit man” **Todd Slagowski***

Sheila Joyce

*In Honor of **11-007 Sunshine** at Holiday Pet Festival*

Rusty and Don Krause

In Honor of 11-079 Jackson and for all AGR does
Carol Gora and Don Woods

In Honor of AGR-rescued dogs to help with medical expenses
Pat Morgan

In Honor of 10-068 Lexie
Lisa and Wayne Bushnell

In Honor of Amy Gruenewald for Christmas
Elizabeth Catherine Gruenewald

In Honor of the AGR Board members for Christmas
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Susan Parker

Memorial Donations

In Memory of 11-077 Baxter and 11-080 Thor
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson

In Memory of Shasta Bushnell
Lisa and Wayne Bushnell

In Memory of Mellow Fenkner, beloved Golden of Carole and Don Fenkner
Debbie and Rick Ball

In Memory of Rocky Orwig
Debbie and Rick Ball
Kathy Blue
Mary Jo and John Courtney
Karen and Phil Davis
Katie Donahue, D.O.
Mary and Bert Engstrom
Val Ferguson, Tom Eckhard and the staff at
Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital
Teri and Jeff Guilbault
Teryl Hall
Ron Hammer
Sheila Joyce
Jodi and Jay Koblick
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson
Deb and Larry Orwig
Barbara and Bud Owings
Pam Spicer
Liz Tataseo
Cynthia Wenström
Robin Widom
Kathi and Bob Youhas

In Memory of Buddy Rivera
Mary and Art Rivera

In Memory of Kevin Gustafson, a former employee of Sherwin-Williams Co.
Debbie and Rick Ball

In Memory of Debbe Begley – donations deposited in The Debbe Begley Memorial Fund since October 1, 2011
Linda and Bill Atkinson
Beth Chaffee
Kathy Chapman
Joan and Paul Cieslak
Mary Jo and John Courtney
Katie Donahue, D.O.
Mary and Bert Engstrom
Darlene and Bill Grissom
Teryl Hall
Despina Hardy
Diane and Jim Henkel
Peter and Phyllis Lee
Natalie O’Neal
Dr. Charles Pullen, D.V.M.
Sue and Jim Strong
Peter and Anna Wong

Corporate Donors and Sponsors

American Express Charitable Fund

American Express Company Employee Giving Program

Anchor Embroidery & Silkscreen

Choice Pet Market

Golden Retriever Foundation – April Fund
Grant to help with medical expenses of
Mufasa, Goldie, Maxx, Splash, and Buster

GoodSearch

PACC911

PetSmart Charities for 4th Quarter 2011 Adoption Rewards including September’s and November’s National Adoption Weekends adoption finalizations

The Austin Centers for Exceptional Students, Inc.



Diamond Donors

Diamond Donors for 11-011 Prince

Catheryn Creno
Avivah Fluhr
Diedre Hamill
Sheila Joyce

Joy and Todd Slagowski*
Cathy Sullivan

* Joy and Todd hosted a doggie pool party; instead of asking the attendees to bring a food contribution, they asked for a financial donation to go towards **Prince's** medical expenses

Diamond Donors for 11-056 Mufasa

Deb and Larry Orwig

Diamond Donors for 11-094 Elsa and 11-095 Howard to help with medical expenses

Jeannette and David Morrocco

Special Thanks

To **Doreen Howe** for donating a large wire crate

To **Teryl Hall** for paying for a grooming for **12-010 Bella**

To **Joyce Hubler** for paying for a grooming for **11-093 Blue** before he went to his forever home

To **Connie LaBuhn** for donating three signed, numbered, framed prints of Golden Retrievers by artist Darlene Wilson

To **Sanja and Admir Tetric** for donating a large wire crate

Cool Tips

Outsmart a pill-wary pooch: Hiding pills inside a treat is *supposed* to get the dog to gobble them down. But some are able to eat the goodie, then spit the pill out! Try giving the pill-packed morsel while dangling another treat in front of the dog. Your pooch will be so eager to get to the second helping, he'll swallow the first without hesitation. Then you can feed him the second treat, confident that he's been successfully dosed.

Itchy spider or bug bite: If your dog gets bitten by a spider or insect that causes an itchy or irritated spot to form, try this itch-and pain-soothing remedy. Soak a cotton ball in ammonia and use it to gently dab the bite, then rinse the spot with water. The alkaline ammonia will neutralize the primarily acidic spider-bite toxins. Voilà! Instant relief from itching and burning.

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!

Thanks to Carol Thompson for submitting the *Cool Tips* that are on pages 19, 36 and 39.

Special thanks to Liz Tataseo for helping Katie Donahue compile the *Magic Moments* section, as well as writing her own column, *The Road to Rescue*. I also thank Liz for her help in getting the November issue of *The Golden Paw* ready for mailing.

Proofreading before publication is essential. For that daunting task, I thank Jude Fulghum, Teri Guilbault, Erin Orwig, Larry 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 November issue of *The Golden Paw* cost about 33¢ each, as opposed to the \$1.68 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.

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