

Reaching out to you with...



# The Golden Paw

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## Humorous and Heartwarming Moments During the Holiday Season



Left to right top: *I really don't want to be here; Who cares about Santa? I love my mom; Santa... me? You must be kidding!; You're an OK guy for a Santa; Whisper what you want in my ear; Are we gonna fight first?; Geez, can't I even have some biscuits? Lower row: Do my whiskers tickle as much as yours do?; Oops, wrong end of the cat!; Joe loves the babies*



*The eyes are the windows of the soul.*  
~ English proverb



*Who's who?*  
See page 22

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**TEAMS AND VOLUNTEERS cont.**

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Masthead photo is of **Lucy Rogers**

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*Editor's Assistant's Note*

At the beginning of January, my mom drove me to the elementary school where I am privileged to help some second and third graders work on improving their reading skills. I listen to the kids read stories to me. Sometimes I hear the same story several times in one day. But that's OK, because each child makes the story sound

a little different. Many of the children show me the pictures in their books. I like that, too, because a lot of the stories are about animals, which are my favorite. The children also write me letters and make cards for me, and those are nice as well. As we were leaving the school that day, a staff member who is relatively new at the school, and who usually isn't in her office when I'm visiting, came over to pet me and called me "Lucky." I was going to correct her, but I quickly realized that, although my name is **Rocky**, I am lucky! So, I just wagged my tail and smiled at her.

Yes, I am lucky. Lucky because I was rescued and now live with a wonderful family. My family has taken good care of me for 10 ½ years. They have given me good-tasting nutritious meals twice a day, treats (only little ones twice a day), toys, training and companionship. Once a year, they take me for a check-up by my veterinarian. I am tested for valley fever and heartworm, even though I get Heartgard® every month. When I was 8 years old, they did a senior panel blood test so that they would have a baseline to compare other tests with as I get older. They don't give me DHPP vaccines any more, but they do have titer tests run to be sure that I am still protected against distemper and parvovirus. They have made me feel confident, loved and, most of all, safe.

When I came to them at 15 months of age with the label "hyper, destructive and unmanageable," my mom made a deal with me that if I learned to behave she would never leave me by myself again. When she heard that my original owner kept me in a back yard by myself, she realized I must've been acting out because I had some pretty severe separation anxiety, as well as no training. She provided the necessary training – we went to class after class after class and practiced every day. In some of those classes, we even got to do some really fun things called agility exercises. We learned to go up and down an A-frame, to walk across a narrow board, to weave around some stationary poles, to go through an open tunnel and one that looked closed, too, and even to go over a see-saw. Learning to use the agility equipment taught me to have confidence in myself. I passed the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test and also the Therapy Dogs International test, so now I am a certified therapy dog. To this day, she has never left me by myself.

I have always been with her or with other family members or with human or canine friends. When people comment on how well behaved I am and ask where she trained me, she replies, "Every day is a training day in our house." It's the truth – she doesn't let any of my canine pack (four of us plus usually a foster or one or more canine houseguests) get away with anything she doesn't want us to do! Consistent and persistent – I'll give her that! She tells us where she is going when she leaves and gives us an idea of when she will be back. We're always right there by the laundry room door when she comes home.

Lucky, yes, I am very lucky, and I don't mind a bit if someone uses that as my name!

Mom says there is some really good information in this issue about canine health and safety. We hope suggestions from the articles will help you keep your dog healthy and safe.

*Wags and Woofs*

By Deb Orwig, President  
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What a fabulous fourth quarter we had, a terrific end to a wonderful year! During the year 2010, we saved the lives of 77 dogs. We paid out almost \$94,000 for vet bills, yet we still ended the year with a net operating income of over \$24,200 and, as of January 1, 2011, a total of over \$66,700 in the bank! Fantastic!

This achievement could not have been accomplished without the help of many of you before and during the holiday season. Not only did many of you donate money, you donated your precious time to come to one or more of our 4<sup>th</sup>-quarter events. We appreciate the donations, surely, but we also greatly value the contributions of your time, especially during a season that is so busy for everyone.

Despite the task of caring for an invalid dog (**Sandy**) who broke her leg in August, and despite dealing with the unexpected loss in December of her **Khakidawg**, Debbe Begley admirably managed to coordinate and attend the **Franciscan Renewal Center** event, the **Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner**, the **Challenger Space Center** event, and 6 gift wrap dates at the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble**. Debbe, you are incredible – thank you so much for your efforts!

December 4<sup>th</sup> was an especially challenging day, as we had already booked two gift wrap gigs and Santa Photos at two different **PetSmart** locations when we were invited to have a booth at the **Holiday Pet Festival** at **WestWorld** and to participate in the Grand Opening of **Choice Pet Market's** newest store at Tatum Rd/Shea Blvd in Paradise Valley. Debbe and I conferred and decided that, yes, our wonderful volunteers would step up to

the plate and help us staff the six different events on that date. You did, and we appreciate all 47 of you who helped at one event or another. Debbe chaired the Arrowhead *Barnes & Noble*; Cynthia Wenström, with help from Liz Tataseo, managed Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*; Cindy Tigges chaired *Choice Pet Market*; Connie McCabe coordinated the Westside *PetSmart* Santa Photos; Angela Palumbo did the Eastside *PetSmart* Santa Photos; and I handled the *Holiday Pet Festival*.

Connie McCabe and Angela Palumbo and their crews admirably handled Photos with Santa at several different *PetSmart* stores. Connie coordinated the appearances at 91<sup>st</sup> Ave, Northern Ave, and Bell Rd, and Angela did the Tempe Marketplace store. Thank you both so much, and thanks to your many helpers as well! Please read the articles on pages 28 - 32 for details.

Many other volunteers made our holiday season especially great. Please read through the various event wrap-up articles on pages 28 - 36. Hopefully, we did not neglect to mention anyone who attended. You all helped us exceed our goal of raising \$12,000 during the holiday season.

Special thanks to Mary Jo Courtney and Debbe Begley, both of whom spent many hours after Christmas helping me write and send out almost 400 thank you letters to donors of cash and items. Mary Jo had already sent letters to everyone who had donated cash through the first half of the year. But it was a huge job to acknowledge the donations of all the items that came in for Casino Nite and the golf tournament, as well as all the cash donations for the last half of 2010, including those for the Bowl-a-Rama.

Many thanks also to Liz Tataseo for keeping up with all the dog statistics and costs for 2010. Due to her diligence, it took me hardly any time to complete the annual survey required by the *Golden Retriever Club of America's National Rescue Committee*. We are obligated to submit the survey information if we want to qualify for grants from the *Golden Retriever Foundation*, including April Fund grants.

In 2010, we received the maximum allowed an individual rescue group of \$5,000 in grant monies from the April Fund, thanks to the efforts of our grant writer Karin Forsythe. Karin also brought in another \$653.87 from the *Pedigree Foundation*. Thanks also to Karin's efforts, we received \$44 from our cell phone recycling program. If you get a new phone, please turn your old one in to us, and we will turn it into cash!

Thanks go to Nick Dodson as well, as he has been diligently and persistently trying to get a suitable database established for *AGR*. Member Jeff Sager and a personal friend of Nick's, Dan Browning, spent many hours of volunteer time creating the initial template. We have hired *The Cyber Image* to complete the work and hope that we will have a working database by the time you read this. Many

thanks to Jeff, Dan and Nick for all their efforts.

I would also like to thank Mike Lane, who applied to his employer, *Bank of America*, for matching funds for the donations he made. In addition, Shana Pirtle introduced *Arizona Golden Rescue* to employees at *American Express* where she works, and several of them chose *AGR* as the beneficiary of regular payroll deductions as part of the *AMEX Employee Giving Program*. If you work for a company, please check with your Human Resources Department to see if the company will match donations to nonprofit charitable organizations like *AGR*, or if they have a program such as the one at *American Express*, which matches payroll deduction donations of their employees.

### Who Let the Dogs Out?

By Debbe Begley, Director of Operations  
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2010 was a very good year for *Arizona Golden Rescue*. All of our public appearances and fundraising events were very successful. However, the year was not without its challenges and pitfalls. I would like to take this opportunity to renew my commitment to *AGR* and start the year off with a positive outlook for continued success. I hope that my New Year's resolutions will encourage all of our members to do the same, as our success depends on the efforts of our entire membership.

### New Year's Resolutions

**Membership.** I will renew my membership when it comes due and increase my level of support if I am able to, or at least add a little extra as a donation.

**Support AGR.** I will support *Arizona Golden Rescue* in any way that I can. I will look for ways to contribute financially by adding a donation of \$5 or \$10 monthly to my budget, or make larger donations periodically. I will also look through my closets and cabinets for items that I have purchased or received as gifts and have not used, and I will donate these items so that they may be used in our raffles and auctions. I will assess my skills, knowledge and talents and offer to utilize them in ways that will benefit our organization.

**Visibility.** I will proudly display an *AGR* decal or magnet on my vehicle and carry business cards and brochures with me at all times in order to attract attention and promote our rescue efforts in my daily travels.

**Donations.** I will carry Donation Request letters and receipts with me at all times and take every opportunity throughout the year to

ask for donations for our auctions and raffles. We all have favorite restaurants, hair salons and stores where we have some rapport with the managers and should always seize the opportunity to ask them to support our organization. This will help keep us well stocked with great items for our events while easing the burden on the fundraising committees.

**Website Updates.** I will update the Website Calendar of Events during the first week of the month prior to the beginning of each quarter of the year. This should give all of our members sufficient time to plan to attend. There will be times when events need to be added or changed throughout the year as more opportunities for public appearances present themselves. I urge all of you to check the website calendar often in order to stay informed of our activities.

**Attending Events.** I will attend as many activities and events as possible. This is not only a commitment to be involved but is a great social outlet for me and my dogs, who love to go out and spend time with their friends.

**R.S.V.P. – “Repondez s’il vous plait” – “Please Reply.”** A dying art. An act of courtesy that seems to have gotten lost in our busy, hectic lives. I recently read an article that said that our younger generation does not even know what R.S.V.P. means or how important it is to the person planning an event. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend all our activities and events. Regularly scheduled Meet-and-Greets at **PetSmart** and **Choice Pet Market**, the **PACC911** Adopt-a-thons and other activities are of great importance to our organization. These help us attract new members, potential fosters and adopters and promote our rescue efforts. Some of these events have limited space. It is very helpful to the chairperson of the event to know if there will be enough volunteers to staff the event but not so many that they are overcrowded. Major events that require the booking of a venue and food service absolutely require an R.S.V.P. It is impossible to successfully plan an event and order sufficient food and supplies if the chairperson does not know how many guests will be attending. I will always R.S.V.P. promptly to all activities and events.

**Yahoo group.** I am a subscriber to ArizonaGoldenRescue@yahoo.com This is our first choice of communication to our members. I would like to encourage all of you to also subscribe, so that you can take advantage of the valuable information that is shared by others.

**E-Mail Etiquette.** When sending out messages to a group of recipients, I will address the message to myself and put all of the recipients in “Blind Copy.” With identity theft and computer hacking on the rise, it is not a wise idea to display e-mail addresses to the whole world – you never know where they may end up. As I reply to received messages, I will reply only to the sender unless I really want my reply to be seen by all recipients. I really do not need my Inbox filled up with chit-chat between two people

that has nothing to do with me, and I am sure that you all feel the same way. I will strive to keep my messages short, to the point and informative. They will always start with “Please” and end with “Thank you.” Even though our e-mails are electronic communications, they should always be polite.

**Planning and Scheduling.** As Director of Operations for **AGR**, my responsibilities include the planning and scheduling of all of our activities and events. I do not take this task lightly. A great deal of research goes into selecting the venue, choosing the date and determining the cost. My goal is to always plan our events with all members in mind in order to improve attendance. I do, however, have to work around a variety of restrictions. Available dates, cost, sufficient space, ample parking and city ordinances all have to be considered. I will continue to strive to plan our events with the utmost convenience and affordability for all members. Your attendance and help are vital to the success of our efforts.

**Accepting Help.** I will always be open minded to suggestions to improve our events and activities and will always appreciate all of our wonderful volunteers who offer to help. I know that all of you have special talents that are of great value to our organization.

I am proud to be an active and valuable member of **Arizona Golden Rescue** and will continue to work as efficiently as possible in order to ensure our continued success. With the efforts of all of us as a group, no Golden or Golden mix will be left behind.

## Second Time Around

By Liz Tataseo, Director of Dog Care  
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### Safety First, or How I Learned To Be Neater!

Baking cookies for the holidays is always a fun activity, or so I thought. When you have one counter surfer, it usually just means being alert, but having two of them means, uh oh, where did all the cookie dough go? Never, never, never leave the room even for two minutes for a call of nature, even if you think you have the cookie sheet far enough away from the reach of Golden paws and jaws. They can reach it, especially if they work together. After a call to the vet about the toxicity of raw chocolate chip cookie dough, I continued on. Now all cookies reside on the top of the fridge. All dogs were OK, and the other three were wondering when they would get theirs.

Having dogs, like having children, means making sure your home and surroundings are safe. Dogs are curious and a new dog in a new home can get into a lot of trouble. It is like having a new puppy – wait, I just had one and it made me take another look around the

house so he would be safe. Puppies and most Golden retrievers love to put anything and everything in their mouths, so pick up clothes, paper, small objects and anything else they can get their jaws around. Close doors or block off rooms that are not used during the day, so they are not tempted to nose around. Pick up stuff all the time. Put waste paper baskets under the sink or have covered containers. Golden retrievers love tissues, paper towels and, of course, anything that smells enticing. The famous line, “they just have to learn,” is worthless. Why set them up for failure? Be proactive. Plus, you won’t have all those expensive vet bills when something stuck in your dog’s intestines has to be removed.

What about outside? Have you checked your fence and gate? Are they secure – no holes or broken slats that a dog can work on to make a bigger hole? Do you have toxic plants or decorative gravel or ground cover that a curious or bored dog can ingest? How about the pool? Have you taught your dog how to get in and out, or would a fence be a good investment? Even dogs that don’t like to swim can fall in.

In your car, is your dog secure when you travel? A portable kennel or tie-down will help keep a dog from interfering with your driving or from being tossed around if an accident happens.

We’ve covered some of the common environmental issues that need to be addressed if you want your dog to be safe, but what about your dog’s weight? Is your dog pleasingly plump? Broad across his or her back? Dogs are healthier and have longer life expectations if they don’t carry around excess weight, and a reasonable weight is easier on their joints as they age. Feed a good-quality food, don’t feed them people food, and watch the treats. Take them for walks or hiking – the exercise is good for both of you. Make sure you give them their once-a-month heartworm medication. We have had rescued dogs come in with heartworm disease, so don’t think it can’t happen in Arizona.

Make sure your dogs are up to date on their vaccinations.

Check your dogs for lumps and bumps periodically and let your vet know if you find any; a simple needle biopsy and a look under the microscope can tell if such are harmless. Most are probably fatty lipomas, but some can be very bad. The sooner your dog is treated, the better the chance for a long life.

Senior dogs need a comfortable place to rest and non-slippery floors to walk on. It is harder for them to get up and walk around if they don’t have good traction. If you have tile or wood floors, place some throw rugs around for them to get better footing. An annual senior wellness exam once your dog reaches eight years of age can catch health issues before they become life threatening.

While fruits and vegetables are good for dogs, some are toxic, such as grapes and raisins. Other foods that are harmful or toxic include:

chocolate (especially dark), caffeine, onions, garlic, macadamia nuts, baby food, bones, fat trimmed from meat, milk, raw eggs, and raw fish. Please see a more complete list of foods and toxic plants on pages 15 - 16. Get more information from [www.risingwoods.org/OURFAMILY/THEDOGS/knownotoxicfoodsfordogs.htm](http://www.risingwoods.org/OURFAMILY/THEDOGS/knownotoxicfoodsfordogs.htm) Sounds like a daunting task, but it is mostly common sense to keep your furry family members healthy and safe.

Dogs often come into Rescue with “issues” that need to be addressed. A good training/obedience program helps socialize your dog, helps the dog bond with you, and makes it easier to keep him/her safe, as he/she is more likely to listen to you in an emergency or unusual situation.

My dogs have taught me many things over the years, and I never guessed one would be to become a neater housekeeper – at least for those things that fit into their mouths. The fur still flies around the house unabated in both blond and red form.

## *The Information Highway*

By Nick Dodson,  
Director of Information Management  
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Our database is being finished by a professional company, *The Cyber Image*. We’ll be getting a preliminary look at it in mid-January. After consultation with us, they will continue with the development, estimated to take approximately six more weeks. We are fortunate that they are charging us their nonprofit rate, which is about half their usual fee. This company will be able to provide any additional features that we desire after the initial development phase, so eventually all should have what they need to accomplish their duties and goals for *AGR*. It’s been a long time coming but the launching is in sight, and I’m confident that we will be well served by the result.

Our website continues to function well thanks to our outstanding webmaster Ryan Englin. I’ve heard nothing but compliments about his work. If there is anything you would like added, changed, or perhaps deleted from our site, please let me know your wishes and I’ll see what can be done for you.

## *GoodSearch and GoodShop*

Do you ever surf the Internet for information? Do you shop at major retailers online? If your answer is YES to either or both of these questions, please answer a third question: Do you do your surfing or shopping through GoodSearch.com? If you do and you designate *Arizona Golden Rescue* as your beneficiary, we will get “points” every time you click; if you actually place an order at one

of the retailers that participate (there are hundreds), **AGR** will get 2.5% of the sale; you will not pay a higher price as a result, either. In 2010, we received a check for \$15.99 from **GoodSearch**. That translates to 1599 clicks. We can do a lot better than that in 2011 if all of you will use **GoodSearch** instead of **Google** or another search engine. If you do online shopping, go through **GoodShop** to get to the retailer you're looking for – chances are they will be a participating vendor – and **AGR** will benefit from your purchase.

## The Human Connection

By Deb Orwig

### An Opportunity To Make a Difference

Recently, *The Arizona Republic* chose Volunteers as the 2010 Arizonan of the Year. The article which described this choice appeared in the newspaper on December 26, 2010: *The honor goes to many people – old and young, female and male, rich and poor, liberal and conservative. It goes to people who may look, think and act differently. They are united by a shared understanding of the importance of civic engagement. They care. They get involved... One out of every three people in Arizona is a volunteer... well above the national average... If we didn't have volunteers, we couldn't exist.*

The same could be said for **Arizona Golden Rescue**. We are an all-volunteer organization. We depend on the active involvement of our members to do what needs to be done to support our rescued dogs. This work requires more than just a handful of people. The *Republic* article also points out that *Compassion benefits both the giver and receiver in many intangible ways. And time? That's a finite and precious resource. To devote hours to helping other people is an act of pure faith in the human capacity to change, improve, invent, overcome... volunteers are also "filling their own cup"... because they get a deep sense of personal satisfaction from helping. They feel connected to their communities. That connection makes a community feel friendlier and more welcoming. Are you someone who can reach out to others in a friendly way and help them connect to the AGR community?*

Due to increasing and time-consuming family and job commitments, Louise Carreiro, who has been our wonderful Human Resources Director since our formation, has had to step down from this Executive Board position. We are looking for a friendly, outgoing person whose main responsibility will be reaching out to new and continuing members and encouraging them to become more involved in **Arizona Golden Rescue**. This position will require phone calls and e-mail follow-ups. You will not have to attend every **AGR** event (none of us do that), but you should try

to get to as many as possible. Your attendance at monthly Board meetings will be expected. You will work closely with our Membership Manager, Kathy Blue, to be sure we have all necessary information on each member and help with renewal reminders. Another responsibility of this job is to arrange for a date, location and a speaker/program for membership meetings (perhaps once a quarter) and to publicize such to the membership. If the chairman of an upcoming event needs volunteers, you will need to help find staffing for the event. Does this job description sound like something you could do? If so, please contact Deb Orwig at 623-693-0589 or by e-mail at [dorwigaz@cox.net](mailto:dorwigaz@cox.net) as soon as possible.

## Health and Safety

By Teri Guilbault,  
Health Care Manager  
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### New Year's Resolutions and Your Pet

It's that time of year when we tend to make our New Year's resolutions. We'll maybe do something more or less, or try not to do something at all. We might even resolve to actively keep up with some good habits we've had in the past. When considering these dos and don'ts for 2011, please remember to include your dogs. In the last few months, we have treated two cases of heartworm that were discovered when some of our precious rescues were turned over to us. We have also been treating several cases of valley fever. Fortunately, none of these cases was so severe we couldn't look forward to a happy ending, but sometimes testing for these diseases and using preventatives (for heartworm) can save you both financial strain and, more importantly, the loss of a beloved pet.

Our family is diligent about making sure our Golden Retrievers are tested annually for both heartworm and valley fever. Even so, we recently discovered that one of them, six months after testing negative for valley fever, tested positive for the disease when I took him to our vet for an exam after he developed a slight cough. He is currently in treatment and doing well. We are all susceptible to valley fever. Dogs are more so, as they breathe closer to the dirt and love to dig and roll around in it. Although heartworm isn't as common in the Valley as elsewhere in the country, mosquitoes, which carry the parasites, are out there and can pass them on to our animals.

So, tack on an additional resolution this year. Please make sure to test your pets for heartworm and valley fever at their annual exams. If your pet shows signs of potential valley fever, even if they were tested only months prior, have them tested again. If you already do this, please resolve to keep doing it. Keeping our pets healthy and happy is always a good habit NOT to break. Happy New Year!

## Service Paws

By Wendy Enos  
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### Getting It Straight: It's a Service Dog's Life

Imagine your puppy's ideal life, carefree with perpetual playtime, naptime, and chowtime. She gets special praise, loving, or treats when she does something that pleases you, and her life just couldn't get any better.

Now, throw in service dog training where, all of a sudden, her playful games have turned into commands which quickly invade her playtime. Hours each day for the next couple of years, she drills and works hard to master these commands.

Then it's time to go to work, every day, all day long, and on call 24/7. Working or not, she's never allowed to do most things other dogs get to do... no barking, no eating people food, no sniffing, and no chasing cats, birds, or other small creatures.

These are many people's sad misconceptions of the life of a service dog, so let's look at it from a different angle... **Sophie's** point of view.

"Don't feel sorry for me," she'd tell you. "I've got it made. Sure, service dog training was rigorous and tough... for Wendy, but not for me. I made friends and played new games like 'brace' and 'touch' and 'pull.' And then I got to spend hours each day playing those games at home with her. She always made them fun! My life as a service dog is awesome! I meet and get fussed over by new people every time I work, and go for more car rides and outings than any other dog I know. Sometimes my work is tedious and boring, but I get to be right at the side of the most precious person in the world to me. I walk store aisles with her, lie underneath the pew in front of her at church, and snuggle up underneath the table at restaurants. I'll admit I don't understand why she won't share her food with me, but, after we leave, she makes sure I get a high-end paycheck, like a Beggin' Strip® or half a string cheese, and that's just mighty fine with me!"

Another common misconception is that service dogs are never allowed to be regular dogs, do dog things, or enjoy a dog's life. *Au contraire* – you should see **Sophie's** toy box, the holes she has dug in the back yard, and claw marks on the walls of the barn and the garden where she has gotten carried away chasing geckos and the occasional mouse. Her treat jars are always full, and heaven help us if we run out of string cheese or peanut butter, her ultimate treats! Oh, she's a regular dog, all right!

I believe she'd agree that her greatest treat, far surpassing any other, is the satisfaction she gets for a job well done. Looking into her eyes after she has caught me during a fall, picked up something I dropped, or walked me safely across a crowded intersection, I've seen a sparkle of pride! She'll take praise and a hug over a biscuit any day!



Wendy is an *AGR* member; **Sophie** is her service dog.



Dear *AGR*,

My mother always said, "Never say never!" and as usual, she was right. When we lost our precious Golden girl **Emma Sue** in February 2010, I was convinced that she would be our last. Having just begun retirement and with emotions still raw, why set ourselves up for more heartache? We'd just go without furkids and be totally free to come and go. Don, however, could not settle with this. He told me he was activating our application –

"Just be open to the idea of adoption, but foster first." Then came the call from Michele: a 1-year-old female with severe bilateral hip deformity, no sockets in either hip. Michele said that Don and I were selected to foster with intent to adopt because we were both home, no children, and no other dogs. We would be able to provide a quiet environment for this Golden girl facing two major surgeries. Don took the call and relayed the information to me. He was ready to "meet and greet!" Okay, I thought we could foster her and get her through the surgeries, but adopt? I wasn't so sure about that. Don said yes, yes, yes! He was so ready to love again. But me? I wasn't against helping this young Golden, but my heart still ached for **Emma**. I wasn't even able to say her name without crying, even after 10 months had passed. The meeting was arranged. We met her, a sweet beautiful Golden girl two weeks from her first birthday. She worked her magic and brought life back into our home. Within days I was able to say **Emma's** name without tears. My heart wasn't aching anymore. She made us laugh every single day, with her puppy antics. We were in love again and her name was **Lucinda – Lucy**. We were so thrilled with our 'new love' that we sent out announcements! After all, we hadn't had a puppy in 13 years! The announcement proclaimed her angelic disposition, hence her name, **Lucinda Angelica**. **Lucy** had her first surgery 3 weeks after she came to us and had no problems. She was a perfect patient! She is scheduled for her second surgery January 25<sup>th</sup>, and though it makes me sick to my stomach to think of her going through it again, her reward will be worth it. She will



then have two good hips. She will be able to jump, climb steps and be pain free. Our house is normal again. Toys are scattered everywhere. Dog fur is noticeable here and there. It is obvious that a Golden lives here, a Golden girl that is loved and cherished, as they all deserve to be. The question remains... Who rescued whom?

~ Carol and Don



Dear AGR,

Enclosed is a donation in memory of **Zane Hill** and our puppy (who was not a Golden Retriever) **Annie Fellner**. **Zane** was our neighbor in Munds Park, and he and **Annie** were great friends. When they took walks together, **Zane** was her protector because our little **Annie** was deaf. Our precious **Annie** crossed over the Bridge on May 23, 2010, and now her friend **Zane**, who passed on December 24, 2010, is again watching over her. Your organization does so many wonderful things. Dave Hill always let me read your newsletter and so many stories brought tears to my eyes.

Sincerely, Diane & Jim Fellner



Dear AGR,

Please accept our donation of \$1,000 to **Arizona Golden Rescue**. Your organization helps support some of the most wonderful dogs in the world – like our **Mikey**, **Sadie** and **Danbi**! We love our dogs as parts of our family and are grateful each day for their company and comfort. Your contribution and volunteer work help keep our favorite friends safe and secure in a changing and dangerous world. Thank you all for what you do. You truly have “hearts of gold.”

~ Francie Austin (person of

Goldens **Danbi**, and **Misty** and **Daisy** waiting at the Bridge)  
and Melissa Austin Button (person of Goldens **Mikey**  
and **Sadie**, and **Riley** waiting at the Bridge)



Dear AGR,

I can't tell you how grateful my family and I are to your organization for what you are doing for our dogs. I recently received a great job opportunity with Amazon that requires that we move to the Ashburn, Virginia area outside of Washington, DC for 2 years, then on to Seattle. The move is paid for, but due to being placed in temporary corporate housing and then not sure where we will be renting – we are only able to take three pets, and we have 3 dogs and 3 cats. Since we have to move the pets via carry-ons on the airplane, only the smallest are going to be able to go. We have searched high and low trying to find someone who could take both **Liberty** and **Sadie** [not a Golden] and keep them together. We were unable to find anyone, and I had all but given up hope until I called your organization. You were so helpful and caring – it was truly a Godsend to have been able to contact you, and I can't wait to meet you this afternoon when I bring the dogs by. Once again, thank you very much.

~ Jeff

## The Financial Picture

### Reporting period: January 1, 2010 - Dec 31, 2010

Total Assets as of January 1, 2011: \$66,725.19

	Income	Expense
Adoptions	\$21,732.00	2,167.00
Bowl-a-Rama	4,948.75	
Bank, Legal & Professional Fees		671.74
Calendars – sales & sponsorships	6,310.00	3,406.88
Casino Nite	17,341.11	7,853.85
Credit Card & PayPal Processing		1,453.05
Donations	42,054.76	
Dues and Subscriptions (Quickbooks Online)		130.30
Event Expense <sup>1</sup>		2,049.00
Golf Tournament	38,476.62	6,762.97
Grants	5,853.87	
Insurance		240.00
Interest	12.42	
Memberships	9,745.00	
Merchandise	7,265.05	7,566.99
Newsletter Subscriptions	12.00	
Office Expenses & Misc.		829.94
Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner	1,400.00	
Paws At The Park Picnic 2010 <sup>2</sup>	904.42	372.00
<b>PetSmart Charities</b> PetWalk	4,342.00	
<b>Phoenix Mercury</b> Tickets	820.00	410.00
Postage & Shipping	8.80	1,935.33
Printing and Stationery		3,670.37
Promotional		25.00
Raffle	799.00	
Santa Claws Photos taken in 2009 <sup>3</sup>	605.00	
Storage Facility		319.27
Supplies		435.84
Telephone		647.96
Vet and dog-related expenses:		
Boarding		402.00
Collars, leashes, collar tags		1,901.97
Microchip expenses		947.99
Transport expenses (for out-of-state rescues)		283.13
Veterinary services		93,882.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$162,630.08</b>	<b>138,365.34</b>
<b>NET INCOME: \$24,264.74</b>		

Checking Account on 12-31-10: \$33,865.40

Savings Account on 12-31-10: \$32,859.79

<sup>1</sup> Phoenix Pet Expo 2010 and 2011 booth fee; Casino Nite 2011 deposit; 2011

Parada del Sol fee; 2010 Holiday Pet Festival booth fee; 2011 PATP park fee

<sup>2</sup> Income from merchandise sales and the raffle at the event are included in the Merchandise Income and Raffle categories

<sup>3</sup> Revenue from 2009 was received in Feb. 2010; 2010's revenue is pending

## MAGIC MOMENTS

By Dr. Katie Donahue

*Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for, perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of Arizona Golden Rescue's Magic Moments from October 5, 2010 through January 5, 2011.*



**10-047: Murphy** is a 4-year-old male Golden mix who saw the light at the end of the tunnel when he walked off the e-list and out the shelter doors. His chauffeur, Nick, took him to foster Erin in Mesa. Nick later described Erin as a goddess, as she was not perturbed by **Murphy's** desire to mark anything larger than a blade of grass, including the wall

in Erin's house. Erin had actually anticipated this and took it in stride, figuring she would have to dissuade **Murphy** from his marking tendencies as he was not yet neutered. **Murphy** had his vet work done, started working on obedience with Erin, and has become a very happy boy. Erin went for an out-of-state trip without **Murphy** in the fall and, though she had a lovely time, she felt something was missing. When she returned home, she realized that something was **Murphy**. Though she was initially only going to foster **Murphy**, Erin has joined the ranks of the "foster failures." She writes: *I am back in AZ after a wonderful vacation at home with my family. One thing was not right while I was home however; **Murphy** wasn't there. I missed him. I have decided that we were meant to be, and I would like to officially adopt him. I think he is ecstatic about the decision. He is a changed dog since he walked into my house on June 13<sup>th</sup>; instead of being defensive he is a big lover, and I can't live without him. We wish Erin and **Murphy** a happy new life together!*

**10-053: Miss Maggie** is a beautiful 10-year-old girl. She was one of the sweet seniors featured in our November issue. She came to **AGR** from a very sad situation: her family was losing their home, her mom was going one place for care and her two-legged siblings were going into foster care themselves. **Maggie** moved in with foster Joyce for several months



to recover her spirit and recover from some doggie ills. She has

an underactive thyroid, which has required several changes in her medication, and she had some hot spots on her belly that needed care. But perhaps her biggest issue, and we mean biggest, was small-framed **Maggie** weighed in at 77 pounds. A dog of her size should weigh 50-55 pounds. **Maggie** and the green bean diet became good friends. A healthy diet and exercise combined with the right thyroid medication has turned her into the incredible shrinking dog. Dave met **Maggie** at one of our events and decided she simply had to move in with him and his wife Jackie and their two other adopted Golden. **Maggie** joined Golden brothers **Rex** and **Jake**, and all three of them enjoy their green beans and daily walks. We hear the boys like having a sister.



**10-054 Missy** (left in photo) and **10-056 Jasmine** (right in photo) are a Golden and a Golden-at-heart pair of sisters relinquished to **Arizona Golden Rescue** by a couple's adult children when their parents died. The family

was very happy **AGR** was able to keep the girls together, as they are very bonded and family members would have been able to take only one apiece. **Missy** is a 10-year-old Golden and, unfortunately, she has several medical issues. She was grossly overweight, had several odd lumps that needed to be removed, and a growth on her toe. The growth on her toe turned out to be the most serious of her issues as, after amputation, it was diagnosed as malignant melanoma. She also had a palpable lymph node near that lesion. Upon initial aspiration, the results did not look promising for **Missy** but, after reaspiration, she received a tentative all-clear. Her sister **Jasmine** is a 6- or 7-year-old Golden/Lab mix with fewer medical problems but a significantly larger weight issue. **Jasmine** tipped the scales at 101.9 pounds! While **Missy** was recovering from surgery, **Jasmine** was working on her green bean diet and getting lots of exercise. She has lost 24 pounds since moving in with foster mom Sandra in July. Sandra has also joined the ranks

of “foster failures,” as she and her cats have decided **Missy** and **Jasmine** should stay with them forever. Happy new life, girls!



**10-057:** Sometimes what we intend to do and what we end up doing are two totally different things. Joyce rescued **Ripley**, a 3-month-old Golden female, from a family who was giving her away. They had not realized the time and attention a Golden puppy requires. Joyce only intended to foster **Ripley** until a suitable

forever home could be found, as she has a senior dog, as well as family commitments that take up much of her time. Well, within 72 hours, **Ripley** and her puppy smile had won over Joyce, her son, and her 12-year-old Golden **Copper**. She has been a breath of fresh air in Joyce's house. Joyce could not be happier with her decision to keep **Ripley** and looks forward to many more years with her expanded Golden family.

**10-060:** **Grizzly** is a 7-year-old gentleman who came down to the Valley from Payson. He was collected as a stray by the **Central Arizona Humane Society**. As they had no room for him, they asked **Arizona Golden Rescue** if we would be willing to find him a new home. Fortunately, the right home was not too far away. His foster parents Nick and Connie quickly became his adoptive parents. **Grizzly** is a beautiful shade of red, has excellent manners, and fit right in at Nick and Connie's retreat for senior Golden Retrievers. After one day Connie was tempted to rename him “Perfect.” Nick wanted to rename him Diablo, as he had two bald patches on his head that looked as if horns had fallen off. They stuck with **Grizzly**. He has been a fantastic ambassador at all of Connie's **PetSmart** events and made many friends at his appearances at **PetSmart's Photos with Santa**. His golden paw is even famous as the mascot for our **Golden Paw** newsletter. We wish him much happiness at his new house.



**10-062:** **Sunshine** is a beautiful 7-year-old female who came to us via a good Samaritan. Diane rescued her from her previous owner who was giving her away at a local **PetSmart**. Fortunately for **Sunshine**, Diane's parents own the **West Olive Animal Hospital** and they were able to get **Sunshine** vet care she urgently needed. **Sunshine** was developing pyometra, which is

an infection of the lining of the uterus. She was spayed, the most

appropriate treatment, and brought up to date on her vaccinations. **Sunshine** is a sweet, mellow girl who loves to be with her people and gets along well with other dogs and cats. After spending time with foster mom Diane, Kathi and Bob took her to her new home in Scottsdale with Vanessa and Chris and their four children. Unfortunately, after additional vet visits, **Sunshine** tested positive for heartworm which required even more trips to the vet and a month of quiet rest. She has successfully completed her treatment and fits in very well with her new family. She is a bit shy, but warmed up to them quite well and is enjoying her new life. One of the children was terrified of dogs before **Sunshine** arrived. Now, she loves her **Sunshine**.

**10-067:** In September we sprung a young male Golden from the Westside shelter. Christened **Toby**, this 1-year-old was covered with ticks and needed to be dipped and shaved to remove them all. After his routine vet work and neutering, he went to Anthem and moved in with Amber, Mike, and their two children. He also joined their other Golden child, **Zoe**. Renamed **Jasper**,



he and **Zoe** made fast friends and found a bunkmate in Amber and Mike's son. Unfortunately, within a few days of his arrival, he developed bilateral pneumonia that had quickly segued from kennel cough; he returned to the vet for several days of intravenous antibiotics and fluids. This bug seems to have been making the rounds through the fall and almost took out several of **Arizona Golden Rescue's** dogs. After a few days of close supervision, **Jasper** was ready to head back home for more one-on-one TLC. His new family is totally in love with him and are very pleased with the addition to their family. **Jasper's** mom says he is an awesome dog who is very gentle and loving. She also says, *the name Jasper means “bringing treasure” and we sure feel like we hit the jackpot!*



**10-071:** **Charlie Brown** is a 2-year-old red Golden who came to us because he and his brother couldn't decide who was going to be in charge. Unfortunately, **Charlie's** brother was larger than he is, so poor **Charlie** was losing the argument. His original family loved him very much and, out of concern for his well-being, asked **Arizona Golden Rescue** to find **Charlie** a home where

he could safely enjoy himself. Our placement team suggested Ginny and Rick's family in Phoenix. They, their three children, and their Shih Tzu mix were quite pleased to make his acquaintance. **Charlie** even made fast friends with the family's cat and curled up with it. **Charlie** spent the evening sleeping with his new parents and woke up the next morning ready to start his new life with his new family. We wish them all the best.

## Diamonds in the Ruff

By Dr. Katie Donahue

*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 **10-052 Honeybear**, **10-054 Missy**, **10-062 Sunshine**, **10-064 Lucky**, **10-067 Jasper** and **10-068 Lexie**. To follow up... All are doing very well except **Lucky**, whom we lost. He was in terrible shape when he came into Rescue and, despite all we did for him (to the tune of over \$8,600), it wasn't enough to save his life. **Honeybear**, **Missy**, **Sunshine** and **Jasper** have all been adopted. We are still looking for a forever home for **Lexie**. Six-year-old **Lexie** is a Golden/Aussie mix. Now that her coat is growing out, she is looking more like a black Golden. She loves to play ball and is friendly with people and non-alpha dogs but does not like cats. She is house trained and leash trained. She has not developed any more bladder stones, because she is on a special prescription diet food. We expect her to remain fine if she is kept on this food. Do you have a home that would be good for **Lexie**? Please let us know.



**10-030 Scooby** came to Arizona in May 2010, making the journey from Texas with eight other dogs. **Scooby** needed the most vet work by far of all of his traveling companions. He had bilateral hip dysplasia. Complicating his congenital condition, he was grossly overweight, tipping the scales at 88 pounds – a dog with his frame should weigh no more

than 70. **Scooby** went to his first fosters, Kay and Michelle, and had one hip repaired in May. After a complete recovery, he moved to another foster, Liz, and had his second hip repaired in November. Like **Lucinda** – you'll read about her next – **Scooby** had a bilateral FHO or femoral head ostectomy. **Scooby** has since moved to his forever home with mom Pat and has acquired a new name, **Sunny**, because of his sunny disposition. He is again recovering well from this hip surgery. Pat is eagerly anticipating the all-clear from the orthopedic surgeon so **Sunny** can make his debut as an *Arizona Golden Rescue* ambassadog at the many events Pat attends. **Sunny** is also looking forward to wearing a Donation Dog vest and helping to collect donations to offset his almost \$6,000 vet bill.

**10-069 Lucinda** is a beautiful 12-month-old girl with severe bilateral hip dysplasia. **Lucy's** hips are so bad she essentially has no hip sockets on either of her back legs. Her original owners were not able to cover the cost of the extensive surgical treatment needed to provide her with a normal, active, relatively pain-free

life. They requested *Arizona Golden Rescue* rehome her and asked that she get the medical attention she needed. **AGR** has placed her with FWITA parents Don and Carol; they have seen her through one hip procedure; the second is planned for January 25<sup>th</sup>. **Lucinda** needed a bilateral FHO or femoral head ostectomy. In this procedure, the head of the femur, or the ball that fits into the ball-and-socket joint that forms the hip, is removed. The muscles and ligaments are left in place to support the hip joint, and the patient returns to almost completely normal activity when healed. Without the femoral head, or ball, grinding into the acetabulum, or hip socket, the patient's pain is significantly reduced. Recovery time for each of **Lucy's** hips is 8-12 weeks. Total cost: approximately \$2,900 for each hip. But like the commercial says, seeing **Lucy** pain free: priceless.



**10-070: Bella** is a 5-year-old Goldendoodle who came to **AGR** because her original owners had some job changes, had to down-size to an apartment, and were not able to afford the cost of veterinary workup for **Bella's** newly-developed seizures. **Bella** is currently with a foster as we try to determine the cause of her seizures. She has had

numerous tests with negative results: no valley fever, no tick fever, normal thyroid, had a lymph node aspiration, tried different meds, tried different foods, all with no change. She continues to have intermittent seizures. In between her seizures, she's happy, playful, very smart, and looking for her forever home. **Bella** is next going to see a veterinary neurologist for further evaluation. Hopefully some light can be shed on her condition. Her vet costs have totaled about \$1,000 so far, and, as you may guess, the neurological workup will significantly add to that figure.

**10-073: Dillon** is a 4-year-old Yellow Lab/Golden Retriever mix who came in to **AGR** as a part of a pair with his also-4-year-old Golden Retriever brother **Yeager**. Their original owner passed away and her adult children wanted the dogs to stay together, as they had been together all their lives. We were able to place them with



Angela and her children in Yuma over Thanksgiving weekend. Their family, expanded by two, had even more to be thankful for this year. Unfortunately, **Dillon** tested positive for heartworm. He is in good health otherwise and will hopefully have an uneventful recovery. **Dillon** began his

treatment in mid-January; his anticipated vet bill is approximately \$1,000.

## Emergency Preparedness

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

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

### Be Prepared with a Disaster Plan

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

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

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

#### 1. Have a safe place to take your pets.

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

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

an impending disaster, call ahead for reservations.

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

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

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

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

Medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container) and a first aid kit.

Sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape.

Current photos of your pets in case they get lost.

Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener.

Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.

Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

#### 3. Know what to do as a disaster approaches.

Often, warnings are issued hours, even days, in advance. At the first hint of disaster, act to protect your pets.

Call ahead to confirm emergency shelter arrangements for you and your pets.

Check to be sure your pet disaster supplies are ready to take at a moment's notice.

Bring all pets into the house so that you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry.

Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars and securely fastened, up-to-date identification. Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area. You can buy temporary tags or put adhesive tape on the back of your pet's ID tag, adding information with an indelible pen.

You may not be home when the evacuation order comes. Find out

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Other resources:

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

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

<http://www.uan.org/ears/index.html>

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

<http://www.onestorm.org/prepare/evacuation-shelters/petfriendly/ProtectPetsEmergency.aspx>

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html>

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

National Animal Poison Control Center: In emergency situations, pets could be poisoned by exposure to harmful chemicals, products, or foods. For information on protecting your pets, visit the Animal Poison Control Center's website: <http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/>

#### HEALTH TIP

Regularly wash your pet's food and water bowls in the dishwasher or with antibacterial soap to avoid transmission of bacteria, especially *Salmonella*, to pets or people.

poison-control/ If you suspect that your pet has been poisoned, call toll-free 1-888-426-4435 (calls are answered 24/7; credit card needed for consultation).

### Toxic Plants

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

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

**BOARD ELECTION AT MARCH 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MTG**  
**If you are interested in serving on the AGR Board of Directors in any position, please let us know ASAP.**

## ASPCA'S Top Ten Pet Poisons

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

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

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

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

**House Plants** – many varieties (see list of Toxic Plants).

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

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

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

**Heavy Metals** – lead, zinc and mercury, not music! Lead is especially pernicious, and pets are exposed to it through many sources, including consumer products, paint chips, linoleum, and lead dust produced when surfaces in older homes are scraped or sanded.

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

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

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

## Items To Avoid For Your Dogs

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

**Alcoholic beverages** – can cause intoxication, coma, and death

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Citrus oil extracts** – can cause vomiting

<sup>1</sup> **Cocoa bean mulch** – smells enticing like chocolate but is extremely toxic

**Fat trimmings** – can cause pancreatitis

<sup>6</sup> **Grapes and raisins** – contain an unknown toxin which can damage the kidneys

**Hops** – unknown compound causes panting, increased heart rate, elevated temperature, seizures, and death

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup> **Paint balls** – paint type is toxic

<sup>9</sup> **Pennies** – copper is toxic to dogs; can get caught in throat

**Persimmons** – seeds can cause intestinal obstruction and enteritis

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

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

<sup>5</sup> **Potpourri** – often has some toxic plant materials mixed in

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

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

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

<sup>7</sup> **Slug bait** – extremely toxic to dogs

<sup>10</sup> **String, yarn, ribbon, cassette tape and other similar items** –

can get caught in throat or become trapped in the digestive system and require surgery for removal; called a “string foreign body”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Help for Extraordinary Vet Expenses

If your pet does get into something toxic or develops a serious illness that requires extraordinary veterinary intervention and leaves you with incredibly large bills to pay, consider asking your vet if he/she supports Care Credit®. Some vets offer this and some do not. It is basically a no-interest loan that can be granted for payment of extraordinary veterinary and some human dental and medical bills. The CareCredit® company's roster of participating vets includes many specialists. If you access their website (<http://www.carecredit.com/vetmed/>), you can determine if your vet or the specialist you intend to consult is a participating vet. Several of our members/adopters have taken advantage of CareCredit® and have been very appreciative to know about it. **AGR's** main veterinarians all offer it.

#### Pet Insurance

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



# OVER THE RAINBOW

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



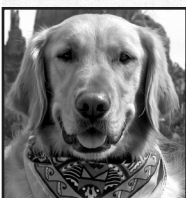
KhakiDawg  
Begley/Doyle

Damele  
Cotner



Dexter  
Courtney

Conrad  
Donahue



Zane Hill

Jake  
Lindenmeyer



Zoie  
McCabe/Dodson

Dixie  
Morgan



## 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.

## A Message from KhakiDawg

By now you all know that I am no longer there on the Earthly Plane with you. I did not want to leave because I love my mom and dad so much and I know how much they love me and will miss me, but we do not have any choice in these matters. When our name is called, we have to go.

As I drifted away, feeling Mom's arms around me, it was very peaceful. I wasn't quite sure what was happening. I looked around as I entered a big beautiful meadow and saw this old man walking toward me. When he got closer, he looked down at me and in a very soft, kind voice he said, "You must be KhakiDawg?"

I nodded, "Yes, I am."

"My daughter said you were coming and asked me to meet you and show you around," he explained.

"Oh my goodness!" I exclaimed, "You are my mom's father. She told me all about you and said that I should never be scared because you would always be looking out for us. Wow, what is this place?"

His kind eyes looked around and he said, "This is where the Rainbow Bridge is. See it over there? You get to hang out here while you wait for your loved ones to pass through to get you. Then you can cross over the Bridge together."

"Do we have to wait very long?" I asked. "I miss her so much already."

"We don't measure time in Earth years up here," he answered. "I have been here 43 years, but it seems like a blink of an eye. We are very busy around here watching over our loved ones, so the wait is not a big deal." He looked down at a goofy-looking Airedale sitting beside him. "This is **Elvis**. He was our family dog when your mom was just a little girl. He got here a little bit before me. He is waiting for either her or one of her brothers to come by and get him."

Then he motioned to a little Sheltie sitting on the other side of him. "I think you know who this is!"

I looked at her and immediately I knew. "You are **Rusty**. You were my mom's dog right before me."

"Yes, I was," she said. "It is good to finally meet you in person. You did a great job kiddo. I knew you would. I got to stay with her for 18 years, and when I had to leave, I knew she would need a very special friend to take my place. That is why I chose you. We have all been watching you, and you sure did step up to the plate with your assignment. We are very proud of you."

"What is going to happen to her now?" I looked back over my shoulder and could see my mom crying. "She is so sad."

"Let me explain how love works," **Rusty** went on. "Down there love is more physical. We need to be able to feel and touch those that we love. So it is really hard when we have to leave, and it takes time for those left behind to be able to continue to feel the love that we leave in their hearts even though they can no longer see us and touch us. She will be OK after awhile. She still has **Sandy** and **Annabelle** there with her; her two brothers, sons, grandkids, and she and Patrick have each other, as well as all of their friends around them. There will be other dogs too. We will send her some more when she is ready. But for now, we have to let her grieve. You would do the same thing if she left before you did. Look around at all of the pets that are here waiting for their people. I think you probably know quite a few of them."

I turned my head to look out over the beautiful meadow at all of the other animals. I saw dogs, cats, horses and even some birds. They were all playing, napping, splashing in the pond and just hanging out with each other. I recognized so many of my friends that came up here before me. Oh wow, there is **McDuff**! He was my very first dog friend/housemate when we lived on the ranch in New Mexico. I was just a little kid dog then and he was my mentor. He taught me all kinds of very important dog stuff because he was older and wiser. He had lived his whole life on a ranch and knew how to be a strong, confident dog. He told me the difference between 'Stranger

Danger' barking and silly barking, made sure I knew not to get too close to the horses' feet so I wouldn't get stepped on, and to not leave my own yard without permission. He helped me grow up to be a confident self-assured dog like him so I could take good care of my mom. Not all kid dogs get to have someone like him to help them learn the life lesson. I can go and thank him now for helping me grow up to be the great dog that I became. Hey, look who is trotting up behind him, **Champ**, my horse friend. He and **JoJo** used to play tag with me out in the pasture. At first I was afraid of them because they were so big and their feet made a loud noise when they chased me. Boy did we have some fun! Look, here comes black cat **Clancy** and my cat buddy **Sundown**. Geez, this place is like a party. I see so many of my friends here.

Look over there. There are Uncle Jack's two **Dukes**, and there is the entire McCabe-Dodson Pack: **Goldie, Cookie, Brandy, Majyk, Logan** and **Zoie**. Wow, over there are the Orwig Dogs, **Bruno, Kokomo** and some that I didn't even know. "Where is **Ben**, Mr. Begley? I don't see him. I walked beside him in my very first parade when we first met the rescue people."

"**Ben** came by not too long ago," he replied. "But he didn't have to stay too long because even though he had people that loved him when he left, the couple who had loved him almost his entire life was already here waiting for him. They went over the Bridge together."

I looked back at the dogs and cats out in the meadow. I could see **Mazie** and **Damon Youhas**. Is that **Bennie** over there? I could also see all of the dogs that belonged to the rescue people that we worked with. There is **Honey, Bronco, Luka** and **Pele Tataseo, Chelsea** and **Morgan Wenström-Lane, Bruno Holland, Ralli Ball, Daisy Blean, Pepper, Sandy** and **Bear Joyce** and **Allie Guilbault**. Hey, there is my old friend **Willow Armijo** with her housemates **Grifnd** and **Trevor**. I remember her. We went dog furniture shopping with our moms at **WestWorld** one year. There is **Duke Hansen**. He has the softest fur for a boy dog. Look, it's **CindyLouWho Wehry**. "Is she still blind, Mr. Begley?"

"No **Khaki**, when you guys get here, everyone is perfect. There is no pain, no sickness, not even cancer or brain tumors like you had. See, you have fur on your leg again."

"Wow!" I exclaimed. "So, does that mean that **Beetle Bailey** and all of the other sick dogs that came up here are all well again?"

"That's right. **Khaki**, you leave all of the junk behind. Look over there at **Conrad Donahue**. Doesn't he look great? And there are the Hubler kids, **Spike, Wrangler, Megan, Charlie** and **Lucy**. They are all just fine."

"Boy, this really is a wonderful place to hang out waiting for our people. Are Patrick's dogs **Cassie** and **Tasha** here, too?"

"Yes they are, **Khaki**. They are out there in the meadow. You will meet them, I'm sure."

"Mr. Begley, can I ask you a question?"

"Sure **Khaki**, but please call me Walt."

"OK, Mr. Walt. Can we ever go back to visit from time to time? I know Mom would love to see me again."

"No **Khaki**, you can't. You see, that is how dying works. That beautiful red furry body you were walking around in got worn out. Bodies don't last forever, so you have to move out of them. What you have now is your spirit and your soul. You can sneak down once in awhile and make your presence known by brushing up next to her or snuggling by her while she is sleeping, but you have to be careful to not knock over anything or be seen."

"What would happen if she sees me?"

"I have visited many times over the years. I was there when each of her sons was born, Daniel and Michael. I was even there when her granddaughter Chelsea was born. But I got busted. I was so caught up in wrapping my love around Dan and that beautiful baby that I let her see me. What a mess. She was so startled that she fell down and the nurses had to help her up. So you see, you really haven't gone very far away, and you can still let her know that you are near her. You just can't let her see you or touch you. You go on now and see your friends. **Elvis** and **Rusty** will show you around. If you need anything, I will be right here."

"Just one more question, Mr. Walt. Is there any way I can let Mom know that I arrived here safely? I would like for her to know that I am fine and I will wait right here for her."

"You just did, **Khaki**. Welcome to Heaven!"

### DIABETES IN DOGS

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

### Reflections On Old Gold

By Kathy Blue

In loving memory of my **Sally**  
and all our heartdogs who will never be forgotten

White faces kept in heart places,  
a gift for us to share  
Every day that they gave us  
such devoted love and care.

Special moments last through time  
much more than words can say.  
Beautiful heartdog who was mine,  
I reflect on that today.

Angel eyes so wise and deep,  
muzzle soft, kisses sweet,  
happy murmurs while you sleep,  
that "look", please... one more treat.

No matter how very hard my day,  
cares and worries seemed to fade  
with hugs and roos, rest and play  
safe in the bond we had made.

You loved me and forgave me for  
my selfish worldly ways.  
I could not have asked for more  
if I searched for all my days.

I think they'd tell us if they could,  
do not weep for me.  
What we had was rare and good  
and now we're running free.

You gave us strength and purpose  
to explore our world and grow.  
Then you gently freed us  
with tears and love we know.

We left our love within your heart.  
So remember us this way;  
share that love while we're apart  
'til we reunite one day.

### ONLINE PET MEDS

Online ordering of pet meds can get you expired meds, counterfeit, incorrect prescriptions, etc. Companies that are legitimate and safe are registered with VIPPS. When you have multiple dogs, it is much cheaper to buy Frontline®, Heartgard® and other prescriptions online, unless your vet is willing to price match. Link for safe online pet med ordering: <http://www.nabp.net/programs/accreditation/vet-vipps/find-a-vet-vipps-online-pharmacy/>

## Fozzie - Four Legs Helping Two

By Cynthia Wenström



Fozzie in training

Hi, my name is **Fozzie** and I am a Golden Retriever, the same as most of you. In the next few minutes I'll explain how my 'failure' turned in to a Golden life of service and joy for me and the people I meet.

It was WWII when nurses first brought their dogs into meet and greet the wounded soldiers. People love dogs and we love people, it's a perfect match! Throughout various conflicts and wars, we canines have

been there to bring smiles to the troops' faces, while often being military workers as well.

Fast forward to September 11, 2001 and the tragic events that unfolded. It was Cindy Ehlers and her canine partner **Tikva**, a Keeshond, who made history with their heroic efforts at Ground Zero searching the rubble for survivors, while bringing comfort to workers and survivors. From that tragedy sprang the path for my life as a crisis canine.

In 1975, the Scottsdale Police Department (SPD) created its Crisis Unit, now known as Police Crisis Intervention Section (PCIS). The unit's purpose was and is to provide crisis intervention and community education in response to police referrals and citizen requests.

Earlier I alluded to my 'failure' – let me explain. I was born in Michigan on a cold winter day, January 2, 2007. As a young student, I studied hard and was all set to enter a special program to earn my place at someone's side as an Assistance Dog. During an exam, my hips proved unfit for the rigors of an Assistance Dog's life – I was very sad. But, **Paws With A Cause** (a Michigan school) heard the SPD was searching for a wonderful dog to work with their crisis team. ...enter **Fozzie** 'The Wonder Dog' (that's what I like to call myself)!

While I failed as a service dog, I have excelled as a Crisis Intervention Canine. In fact, the SPD is the first agency in the country to have a full-time Canine Crisis Response Team. Of course, they would select a wonderful, cuddly Golden Retriever, so that's how I earned my tremendous position with the SPD.

You may wonder, *So what do you do, Fozzie, which makes you such a wonderful Golden Retriever?* Well, my day begins about 8 AM with breakfast and brushing my lovely coat. Then Anthony (my human partner) and I head to the office to check e-mails

and prepare for a day of service to humans-in-need. We have an equipment check list, including a canine trauma kit, and we ensure that there is ample water and food for me and my protective shoes for working in the heat, in the cold, and in the desert... we are never certain where or when we may be called into action, so we are always prepared.

Anthony and I work 4/10s (4 days/10 hours each), and we are on call 24/7 every 6 weeks. In our line of work we can be called at any time, day or night. You may wonder, *Why did you team up with Anthony Pagliuca (Pal-ee-oooh-ka), Fozzie?* Glad you asked! Anthony has a Masters in Counseling and has worked with the Crisis Unit even longer than I have! He knows his stuff and together we bring grief, crisis and trauma counseling to the field where citizens, law enforcement and fire department personnel need us. I, **Fozzie** The Wonder Dog, bring the *teddy bear* factor. People of all ages hug me, tell me, *You're so handsome, so soft*, they bury their faces and tears into my long golden coat, and I am honored to bring them comfort. Anthony and I have a goal: to bring calm to incidences of trauma and crisis.

Through my gentle way and ability to accept and give unconditional love, I help people open up, to release their sadness and often-times talk about the crisis or trauma they've just experienced. In this way I assist the police officers so a distressed victim may better communicate and answer questions, which is a big benefit allowing the officers to do their job. My first call was a fatal traffic collision, and Anthony and I have been to many scenes since, requiring my confident calm and his counseling skills.

In other crisis situations my partner and I also assist the fire and police personnel by offering them the same sort of support. The 'CSI' crime scene investigators, seasoned officers, rookies and fire people all receive my unconditional love and comfort. I provide a pressure release as we all work long hours at crises, crime and accident scenes.

Just one more story to share. Since I began my career, I have a 'canine brother' named **Topaz**; he's a Yellow Labrador Retriever also from the Michigan school. He and his human partners have a similar full-time position with the Glendale Fire Department. **Topaz** and I are best friends, and we grew up in the same great home in Grand Rapids. We were so excited to meet up in Arizona, both of us in new and exciting careers in public safety!

Since Scottsdale began its program, Anthony and I have shared our program's success with many cities around the country. Again, the canine/human connection is incredible, wouldn't you agree?!



Fozzie  
Scottsdale Police  
Crisis Intervention  
Canine

As a Golden Retriever, I am fortunate to have an important position with the police department as a ‘Psychological Paramedic’ and to work with my human partner Anthony. If you are ever in need, I hope to see you as I am dressed for work in my service cape, ready to give you comfort and love. But, long before that happens, I hope to meet you and your humans at a local charity or police department event. [Ed. Note: We have invited Anthony and **Fozzie** to attend our Paws At The Park event on Sunday, March 13, 2011.]

**Fozzie** shared his story through his partner and interpreter Anthony Pagliuca. The Scottsdale Police Crisis Intervention Section is a unique and valuable program. If you wish to contact **Fozzie** and Anthony, you may reach them at [apagliuca@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:apagliuca@scottsdaleaz.gov)

Cynthia Wenström is a founding member of **Arizona Golden Rescue (AGR)**. She and her husband Mike share their lives with two beautiful rescued Golden Retrievers and volunteer with **AGR**. Cynthia is also an active member with the **Citizens Police Academy Alumni of Scottsdale (CiPAAS)**, participates in the Citizen Ride-Along program and has volunteered with the SPD K-9 Unit in training exercises.



**People Saving Pets™**

by Deb Orwig

On January 19, 2011, Debbie Begley and I attended a presentation about a new nonprofit organization called **People Saving Pets™**. This organization will provide animal rescue organizations with additional resources to draw upon for support in their rescue efforts. **AGR** has been approved as a partner for the **People Saving Pets™** campaign. Their goal, quite simply, is to put an end to pet homelessness, so of course, they intend to be extremely supportive of animal rescue organizations, as adopting is at the heart of ending pet homelessness. They are launching this campaign in only two cities, Phoenix and Oklahoma City, but they have plans to eventually take it nationwide. For now, though, our partnership with **People Saving Pets™** will provide us with some powerful advertising both in print media circulated locally and in paid TV ads, as well as for increased opportunities to recruit new volunteers and new donors.

**People Saving Pets™** costs our group nothing, and we think it has the power to engage the entire community in our cause. The **People Saving Pets™** movement is empowered by **PetSmart Charities**, the largest funder in animal welfare in the United States. An independent 501(c)(3) organization, **People Saving Pets™** has a mission to create and support programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. **PetSmart Charities** created and funds the program, including the development of the advertising, branded marketing materials and

all tools available to the partners. **PetSmart Charities** is also leading communications with **PetSmart** associates across the country and sharing the concept with **PetSmart** customers.

As part of our Pet Partnership with **People Saving Pets™**, we will have access to their Volunteer Network powered by VolunteerMatch. We will also be receiving a \$1,000 credit for spays and neuters of incoming rescued dogs that have not yet been “fixed.” Spaying/neutering is the key to reducing the overpopulation of homeless pets, as it prevents the birth of unwanted pets. Statistics show that for every one pet we spay/neuter, we keep approximately 55 unwanted puppies or kittens from potentially entering a shelter. Right from the get-go, **AGR** has had a policy to spay/neuter every dog that comes into our care. Our Intake Team members could tell you that it is not uncommon for Intake to get a call or e-mail from someone wanting a rescued dog to use as a breeder dog. Of course, we tell these folks that we spay/neuter all our dogs. Because we have this policy in place, we immediately qualified for the highest adoption reward compensation (\$15 per adoption) from **PetSmart Charities**, and now we qualify as Pet Partners with **People Saving Pets™**.

**People Saving Pets™** was created to bring together people who want to help end pet homelessness. Their goals are a mirror of goals **AGR** has already had in place: to celebrate the joy pets bring to our lives; to help us understand the issue of pet homelessness and give us easy ways to make a difference; to fundamentally change how our communities think about and value homeless pets; to inspire people who love pets to take action working together with the same goal – saving the lives of homeless pets. As members of **AGR**, you are already helping us achieve these goals. Those of you who are **AGR** adopters are special people who have brought us one step further in our goal to “Leave No Golden Behind.”

### How can you help in the campaign to end pet homelessness?

**Join the cause:** visit <http://www.peoplesavingpets.org> to sign up and join us in the effort to end pet homelessness.

**Share the news:** Spread the word about **People Saving Pets™** by inviting your friends and family to join. We soon hope to have a link established on our Facebook page to their site. Share your commitment to save pets lives with your Facebook friends and Twitter followers.

**Adopt a pet.**

Be sure all your resident dogs and cats are **spayed/neutered**.

**Volunteer:** **AGR** can use your help! Let us know about your talents and your areas of interest.

**Donate:** if you don’t have time to volunteer but you still want to help, send us a donation.

**HERE and THERE**  
 Events from mid-October 2010  
 through mid-January 2011

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

**Franciscan Renewal Center  
 Blessing of the Animals**

By Debbe Begley



The lines for animals to be blessed split our tent, so everyone saw our furkids and our merchandise

**PACC 911** and many rescue groups banded together for the annual *Blessing of the Animals* at the **Franciscan Renewal Center** on Lincoln Drive in Scottsdale on Saturday October 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup>. We had a great booth space right out in the center of the venue on Sunday. Everyone had to walk past us so we enjoyed

chatting with a lot of people. The day's volunteers were Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Khaki, Sandy** and **Annabelle**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Teryl Hall brought foster **Aengus**; and Sandra Hansen came with **Jasmine** and **Missy**. Gail and Dana Haywood were there with **Riley** and **Keegan**; and Joyce Johnston brought foster **Hazel**. Deb Orwig came with **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird, Troy** and foster **Joe**; Susan Parker brought fosters **Ricky** and **Lucy**; and Joy and Todd Slagowski dropped by with **Amber, Happy** and **Bella**. Our group also included Liz Tataseo and Michele Wehry, dressed as Superwoman (how appropriate) with foster **Maggie**; Cynthia Wenström brought **Tag**; and Kathi and Bob Youhas came with **Leo, Krissie** and **Miki**. Dave Engelhardt, who came with **Rex**, fell in love with **Maggie**, so he applied to adopt her the next day.



Michele



Tag getting blessed

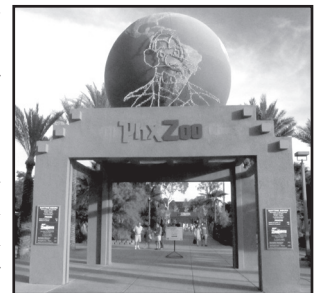
The weather was perfect, and we had a great day showing off all of the foster dogs to potential adopters. Our merchandise sales brought in \$151, and we collected \$39 in donations for a total of \$190. This is always a well-attended event, and we enjoy being there. **PACC 911's Spring Fling Adopt-a-**

**thon** will be held at this site on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be there on that date for a day of fun and adoptions.

**Phoenix Zoo Adopt-a-thon**

By Deb Orwig

The **Phoenix Zoo** held a *Rescue Adopt-a-thon* on November 6<sup>th</sup>. We were among the small number of groups invited to participate. Joining me and my gang (**Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird, Troy** and foster **Joe**) were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Rocky** and Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**. We set up our



Hayden and Rocky with Zoo Critter

canopies and had a lovely, laid-back, relaxing day with steady visitors in an area just west of the Zoo entrance. Of course, everyone wanted to pet the dogs! We were not allowed to accept donations or sell merchandise, but we did pass out lots of literature. A couple weeks later,

**AGR** got adoption and membership applications from one of the ladies we met at the Zoo event. Hopefully, we'll be able to place a dog with her this year. Our thanks to Betsy Seibert, the **Phoenix Zoo** Event Coordinator, who invited us to attend.



Zoo event attendees visiting with Dana, Gail and Tony, Riley, Rocky and Daisy

COVER: Santa Eyes Top: Jeff Guilbault, Patrick Doyle, Nick Dodson  
 Middle: Phil Leavitt, Bob Youhas; Bottom: Dana Haywood, **Rocky** Orwig

## Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner

By Debbe Begley



On Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup>, we held our first annual *Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner*. It was hosted by Brian Foley and Nancy Wheeler (at left), proprietors of *Little Bite of Italy* in Sun City, and co-chaired by Sandy Fullington and Debbe Begley.

The food was great, the weather was perfect and everyone had a fabulous time! Brian and Nancy prepared a wonderful buffet dinner, which included a



Daisy really wanted the chocolate cake!

The dogs who came to greet the public were, of course, a huge hit. Joining us were **Sandy, Khaki and Annabelle Begley/Doyle; Daisy Cotner; Nicky, Petey and Houston Fullington; and Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird and Troy Orwig** with foster brother **Joe**.

Peter Wong did a couple of performances with **Joey**, his very well-trained dog, who is so much fun to watch! Peter has taught him to mail a letter, pick up his toys and put them away, roll on a barrel, add and subtract and many other behaviors.



As directed by Peter, Joey chooses the giraffe from among seven other stuffed animals

**Hank**, the K-9 Dog from Phoenix Police Department, also made an appearance with his handler, Officer Mary Zielinski.



Phoenix PD Officer Zielinski and K-9 Hank

We had our merchandise on display and sold \$210 worth. We also held two 50/50 raffles. Hazel Sutko won \$75 in the first drawing and Tony Cotner won \$38.50 in the second. Both generously donated their winnings back to **AGR**. In addition, we received \$292.50 in anonymous donations thanks to all the dogs that were wearing Donation Vests and schmoozing the crowd, especially those who were dining *al fresco*.



Hayden giving Sandy Fullington a hug with a pocketful of cash

The event was nicely attended, and we served 138 dinners; the \$10-per-dinner charge was donated to **AGR** by Brian and Nancy. Our total income for the day was a fantastic \$1,996! We hope to be able to do this again in 2011 and encourage more of our members to attend.

## Challenger Space Center Space Buddies Day

By Debbe Begley

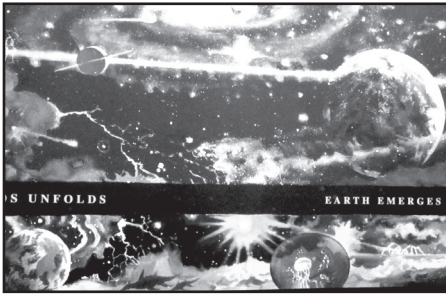


A birthday party group came out on the patio to visit the dogs

We were invited to participate in the *Space Buddies Adoption and Pet Day* at the **Challenger Space Center** in Peoria on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. We packed up our crew and all of our merchandise (we had even gotten some really cool Space Aliens dog toys to sell; we still have almost all of them left) and off we went.

The day was rather quiet. The **Challenger Space Center** is a very interesting museum and a great place for kids' groups and families. There are some informative displays and a huge mural depicting the history of the Earth and space travel. In addition, works by renowned artist Robert T. McCall are featured throughout the facility, as is memorabilia of the **Challenger** space shuttle.





The **Challenger Space Center** staff went out of their way to make us feel welcome. We did not get very much foot traffic, despite the fact that anyone entering the facility had to cross a

bridge from which our group and merchandise display were readily visible (photo at right). We still enjoyed the day, though, visiting with each other and swapping dog stories.



In attendance were Debbie Begley with **Khaki** and **Sandy**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Gail and Dana Haywood with **Riley**; and Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Leo**, **Miki** and **Krissie**. Deb Orwig was there with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Troy**, **Ladybird** and foster

**Joe**; and so were Teri Guilbault with **Blossom** and **Fresno**; and Liz Tataseo with **Sweetie**. Rick and Debbie Ball joined us with **Shiloh**; and so did Liz Sawtschenko with **Gus** and **Sunny**. New members Jill and Hayley Donovan (at left) came to help; and Karin and Rachel Forsythe also stopped by for awhile.



customers, as well as from people just strolling by the attractive storefront, have been great, too. We thank **Choice Pet Market** for their terrific support! We encourage you to shop there if you are anywhere within a reasonable distance of any store (there is a third one at 72<sup>nd</sup> St/Shea Blvd in Scottsdale).

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, my canine gang of **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and foster **Joe** and I were joined by my house



guests for ten days **Jimmy** and **Sophie**. Yes, the infamous **Jimmy**, who was my foster for 10 months, is doing very well in his new



home with his Golden "sister" **Sophie**. Adding to the pile of dogs for **Joe** to bury himself in were **Daisy Cotner** (with Tony), **Goldie Guilbault** (with Teri), **Daisy Taylor-Owens** (with Linda, photo at left), **Augie** and **Gonzo Tataseo** (with Liz), and **Bailey** and **Jazzy**



**Wilson** (with Ingrid). Jay and Jodi Koblick also came to help wrangle the dogs. We collected \$104, sold two calendars, and passed out some literature.

Daisy Owens had the right idea about donations even though we didn't have a Donation Vest for her to wear

## Meet-and-Greets at Choice Pet Market

By Deb Orwig

**Choice Pet Market** at 67<sup>th</sup> Ave and Beardsley Rd in Glendale has been a wonderful venue for regular Meet-and-Greets. This past quarter, we were there on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. We were also invited to participate in the Grand Opening celebration of their newest store at Tatum Blvd/Shea Blvd in Phoenix on December 4<sup>th</sup>. We have adopted two dogs to families who met us at the Glendale store and have received numerous applications from others. We are hoping our monthly presence at the Phoenix store will generate even more. **Choice Pet Market** gives **AGR** a \$50 gift card every time we set up there and a 20% discount on anything we buy. All **AGR** members also get a perpetual discount on **Choice Pet Market** merchandise; once your name is in their computer, you will get the discount at any of their three stores. The donations that come from **Choice Pet Market**



On October 17<sup>th</sup>, we collected \$142 and sold 2 calendars. Joining me with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy**, foster **Joe** and house guests **Jimmy**

and **Sophie** were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Rae Pellegatti; and Liz Tataseo with **Augie** and **Gonzo**. "Land sharks" **Jimmy**, **Little Rocky** and **Augie** had fun playing "mouth wars."







On November 13<sup>th</sup>, I had the assistance of Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Hayley Donovan, who joined as a new member; and my canine crew of **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird, Troy,** a n d foster

**Joe.** Bert Humphries stopped by with **Bailey** and **Honey**. We collected \$73 and sold 4 calendars. We met the very pleasant new store manager, Dylan Corey, who got welcomed with a kiss from smoochy-poochy **Hayden**.



Back: Charm, Rocky, Casey, Jane with Major  
Front: Deb with Vanna, Jeff with Casey Jo and Tom with Maggie Mae

Deb Fuller with **Vanna**; and Casey and Jane Pulis with **Major** and **Rocky**.

The store's nearest neighbors are a **Trader Joe's** and a **Whole Foods Market**, along with several other smaller stores. It's a

terrific location, and we will be doing regular monthly appearances there from 10 AM - 2 PM on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, February 26<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>. We'll see how these go before we schedule more for the rest of the year. Please come join us if you live anywhere within a reasonable driving distance.

Cricket talking Rescue



We set up outside on November 21<sup>st</sup> but moved inside when it started to rain. With me and my ca-

nine crew of five were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Hayley Donovan; Sandra Hansen with **Missy** and **Jasmine**; Jay and Jodi Koblick; and Liz Tataseo with **Augie** and **Gonzo**. We also had help from Sophia Jackson (photo at right), a student who had to do some community service hours for a local high school. We collected \$65 and sold 1 calendar.



On December 4<sup>th</sup>, we were privileged to be included with a few other animal rescue groups in the Grand Opening celebration of **Choice Pet Market's** newest store located at 10810 N. Tatum Rd, Phoenix, which is on the northwest corner of Tatum and She a

Blvds. Cindy Tigges was gracious enough to offer to chair our appearance on this date. Joining her with her Golden **Charm** were Candy Caldwell with **Buddy Boy**; Tom Compise and his friend Jeff with **Maggie Mae** and **Casey Jo**; Cricket Forstrom with **Hoover** and **Kelly**;



Candy and Buddy Boy making his debut as an ambassador

### Need Pet Door Installation?

**Choice Pet Market** manager Adam Avigdor has asked us to let you know that his cousin now offers pet door installation (**Pet Door Services**) Valleywide at reasonable rates with professional staff. They provide and install any style and size doors. For more information, please contact Danny Dayan at 877-750-8787 or email Adam at Adam@choicepet.com

### Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart Stores

By Connie McCabe, Debbie Begley, Teri Guilbault and Angela Palumbo

We now do Meet-and-Greets at four different **PetSmart** stores. On the Westside, once a month we set up at 57<sup>th</sup> Ave/Northern Ave, 91<sup>st</sup> Ave between Olive and Peoria Aves, and Lake Pleasant Pkwy/Happy Valley Rd. In the East Valley, we are at **Tempe Marketplace** (1900 E Rio Salado Pkwy) in Tempe once a month. All stores are good venues where we can spread the word about our organization and meet potential adoptive families. We thank Connie McCabe for chairing the 57<sup>th</sup> Ave store, Debbie Begley for chairing the 91<sup>st</sup> Ave store, Teri Guilbault for chairing the Happy Valley Rd store and Angela Palumbo for chairing the **Tempe Marketplace** store. Please offer to help when and where you can – the schedule of appearances is on our website calendar.

Since we do the **PetSmart** Meet-and-Greets only once a month at each store and we do not do them in December because of all the Santa Photos engagements, we have only October and November to report. We also want to mention that beginning in January, we will be rotating the Bell Rd store with the 91<sup>st</sup> Ave and Northern Ave stores. Each month, we will do two out of these three on the second Sunday of the month from 1 - 5 PM. Please check the website calendar for locations.

In October, Tony Cotner, Deb Orwig and Liz Tataseo were at the Northern Ave store. Tony brought **Daisy** and **Little Rocky** and Deb had **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird, Troy**, foster **Joe** and house guests **Jimmy** and **Sophie**. Liz came dogless, which was actually a big help. They collected \$106 and sold two calendars. The group at the 91<sup>st</sup> Ave store included Debbie Ball, Debbe Begley and Kathi and Bob Youhas. **Shiloh, Sandy, Khakidawg, and Annabelle, Miki, Leo** and **Krissie** were there as our ambassadogs and helped collect \$109. At **Tempe Marketplace**, we took in \$106 and also sold 3 calendars. Attending were Angela and Michelle Palumbo; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**; Joyce Johnston with **Ben** and **Hazel**; Deb Orwig with **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird, Troy, Joe, Jimmy** and **Sophie**; and Ingrid and Karie Wilson with **Bailey, Izzy** and **Jazzy**. Teri

Guilbault handled the Lake Pleasant/Happy Valley **PetSmart** with **Blossom, Fresno** and **Goldie**. She said, *We were joined by Tony Cotner with **Daisy**, Sandra Hansen with **Missy**, and Jodi Koblick. Deb Orwig and her entire pack – **Rocky, Hayden, Ladybird and Troy** – even managed to stop by on her way back from a trip to Yuma. It was a lovely afternoon and we chatted with lots of people; however, we only managed to collect \$20. We will take what we can get, though.*

For November, Connie reported: *Many thanks to Nick for setting up, as I didn't get back from the Pet Walk in time to be there at 1 PM. **Griz** joined me, in addition to walking the Pet Walk, and **Yoshi** came to his first **PetSmart** since last winter. His wound is still ugly, but is doing very well. **Sasha** and **Zoie** needed a rest from the Pet Walk and stayed home. We were joined by Susan Parker with fosters **Ricky** and **Lucy**. **Ricky** warmed up to the crowd quickly, but **Lucy** took a little longer. It was a great social experience for her, and there were several people she came out to greet. We were also joined by Karen Davis with **Star** and **Caesar**, and also her friend, Cheryl Franklin, who was looking to adopt a small dog from a Rescue there. She found a great little friend, who had been a puppy mill breeder. Congratulations to Cheryl and **Ming**. We collected \$97.17 and it was a beautiful day!*

### Cell Phones

1) Veterans, active-duty personnel, and non-military age 65 and older may be eligible for a 10-15% discount cell phone plan. **Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile** and **Sprint** all have such programs, but you have to ask and not give up if the first employee you speak with says the company doesn't have such a program. Most services require a military identification card, veteran identification card or military discharge papers as proof of veteran status. Some companies require online registration to get the discount. It never hurts to ask, and you may save a few \$\$, which, of course, you could then donate to **AGR**!

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

### Symptoms You Should Not Ignore

Pacing and restlessness  
 Unproductive retching  
 Collapse or fainting  
 Pale gums  
 Lethargy or weakness  
 Not eating or loss of appetite  
 Losing weight  
 Breathing problems or trouble breathing  
 Red eye  
 Jaundice  
 Trouble urinating  
 Excessive drinking and urination  
 Fever  
 Seizure  
 Bruising and bleeding  
 Coughing  
 Bloating or distended abdomen  
 Bloody diarrhea, bloody urine, or bloody vomit  
 Bite wounds

**CALL  
 YOUR  
 VET!**

Photos on page 27: Top, Annabelle Begley/Doyle, Connie McCabe & Grizzly, 2nd Row: Ben Johnston; Group with Bob Youhas, Kathi Youhas & Debbe Begley with Leo, Krissie, Rocky, Ladybird & Hayden; Caesar & Star Davis; Hayden Orwig with baby; Riley Haywood; Deb Orwig, 3rd Row: Karen Davis; Daisy Cotner; Diane Henkel with Winston; Fresno Guilbault; Grizzly McCabe/Dodson; John Gunby with Ingrid; Krissie Youhas. 4th Row: Patrick Doyle; Sophie Panici; Jim Henkel; Jimmy Panici; Orwig foster Joe; Teri Guilbault; Khakidawg Begley/Doyle. 5th Row: Don Tatarelli, Manager at **Tempe Marketplace PetSmart**; Susan Parker; Ladybird Orwig; Group with Liz Tataseo & Tony Cotner, Hayden, Troy, Rocky, Joe, Jimmy, Sophie & Daisy; Johnston foster Hazel. 6th Row: Jodi & Jay Koblick; Gonzo Tataseo; Rocky Orwig; Ingrid & Karie Wilson with Bailey, Jazzy & Izzy; Augie Tataseo; Leo Youhas. Row 7: Miki Youhas; Group with Michelle Palumbo, Angela Palumbo, Gail Haywood & Dana Haywood with Daisy, Sophie, Riley, Ladybird, Troy & Rocky; Tony Cotner with Little Rocky; Yoshi McCabe/Dodson; Parker fosters Lucy & Ricky; Sandy Begley/Doyle. Our apologies if anyone who worked at any **PetSmart** store in October or November is not shown – it would be because we had no usable photo.



## Holiday Pet Festival at WestWorld

By Deb Orwig

The *Holiday Pet Festival* at *WestWorld* on December 4<sup>th</sup> was sponsored by *Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary* in Scottsdale. It was a spectacular first-time event that we hope will be repeated annually. There were 99 vendors and rescue organizations listed in the program, but I think there were actually a few more than that on the day of the event. Several of the retail vendors were new to me and had some great merchandise. Major supporters of the event were *Petco* and *Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc.* They had goody bag give-aways at their booth and a choice of stuffed animals for everyone coming in the front entrance. The attendance was estimated at over 6,000 for this one-day show!



We had a great corner booth on the second aisle in from the entrance. Throughout most of the day, we had thirteen dogs representing *AGR*, each wearing a Holiday Donation

Vest, and the crowd loved them! Attending were Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Tony's sisters Jan Newland and Jennifer Gittings; Katie Donahue with **Conrad**, **Ginger** and **Jake**; Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**; Teryl Hall and Trystan Schuff with **Amigo**; and Dawn Massani with **Rosie**. I had **Rocky**,



Gail and Katie wrangled all the dogs while the rest of us packed up the booth

**Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and foster **Joe** with me. Jodi Koblick came dogless and was a huge help with merchandise sales all day. Kathi and Bob Youhas helped Katie and me with the booth set-up on Friday and came back late afternoon on Saturday to help us break down the booth and transport everything back to my house.

During the show we sold our merchandise (\$418.51) and also offered free gift wrapping. The only one to take advantage of the latter was the vendor directly across the aisle from us, *Just Around the Corner Pet Sitting*. She sent her husband home to get their holiday gifts – 29 in all – which he brought back in a huge tub. Jan Newland (photo at top right) and I spent about an hour wrapping them all, and the vendor very kindly gave us \$50.

In addition to offering us the booth space, *Tranquility Trail* also gave us the opportunity to decorate their Wish Trees with 15 ornaments and to have two items in a silent auction. I made Golden Retriever-shaped ornaments for each



*AGR*

foster dog. A total of 5 ornaments were taken and either cash toward vet bills or specific items requested were donated. A kind lady purchased a beautiful, plush dog bed for **Hazel**. **Joe** got a large collection of soft toys. We received cash donations from two others. Another wonderful lady, *AGR* member Linda Knight, not only purchased an orthopedic bed for **Scooby**, she also gave

us money to help with **Lucinda's** and **Jasper's** medical bills. Our two silent auction items, *Photo Center* and *Out of Africa*, which we did not use for Casino Nite or the golf tournament, generated \$225, which was \$76 more than our booth fee for the event. We collected \$323.77 in donations in addition to the \$50 we were given for the gift wrapping, which gave us a profit for the day of over \$1400!

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help at this event, as well as the five others (*Choice Pet Market's* Grand Opening, gift wrapping at two *Barnes & Noble Booksellers*, and *Photos with Santa* at two *PetSmart* stores) we had going that day. The day was a tremendous success!

## Santa Claws - Photos with Santa at PetSmart

It has been a holiday tradition for many years for Connie McCabe to chair *Photos with Santa* at *PetSmart*. Customers come back year after year because the photos Connie takes are so good. Not only do the people get the 5" x 7" *PetSmart* print and a frame, Connie puts the photos she takes with her own camera in an online album, so customers can get more copies made or use the picture for holiday photo greeting cards. A few years ago, Connie got Joy Slagowski, also an excellent photographer with a good camera, to do some of the photo sessions, too. For 2010, Connie arranged for 5 weekend dates at three different stores. Due to our relatively new association with the *Tempe Marketplace PetSmart*, Angela Palumbo offered to test the *Photos with Santa* market there, and booked two weekend dates. Our thanks to everyone who helped at any of the stores.

**Santa Photos 2010, Westside – Connie McCabe**

I really want to thank everyone who gave up so much of their precious holiday time to help with all of the *AGR* events, especially the Santa photos, of course. This was an incredibly tough year for many of us emotionally and financially. Despite the heartaches, we managed to keep busy and raise a lot of much-needed funds for Rescue.



*Saturday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – 91<sup>st</sup> Ave/Peoria Ave store.* This was Jeff Guilbault’s first Santa stint, and he did exceptionally well. I don’t think he knew ahead of time how hard it is to sit in that hot costume for three hours without a break. We didn’t scare him off though – he did come back for another one! Carolyn Blean and Denise Padavano can be counted on every year to be a HUGE help with the photos, dogs and people. Don Thompson, who usually is a

Santa, was just as helpful as an elf this year, plus it was terrific to see him! I was the morning photographer, and was joined by Melissa Carter from Tucson, who adopted our **Sierra** and **Max** earlier this year. She brought **Max** and stayed for two shifts to take him around in his Holiday Donation Vest. I missed so much having our **Zoie** as the Donation Dog, but it helped to have **Max** there and to see how magnificent he looks. His coat has really come in after having been on the thyroid meds now for close to a year. Melissa almost lost **Max** in November to liver issues stemming from autoimmune problems, but he has made a full recovery and has never looked as good as he does now. On a side note, they stayed for dinner and as we were talking, **Max** disappeared for just a few minutes. Melissa found him in my dad’s room, where he had polished off a bag of M&M’s and was beginning to work on the empty bag itself. **Max** is **Max**, and we will always love his unfettered spirit. Thankfully, so does Melissa!



Sheila Joyce brought **Holly**, **Tessa** and **McKenna** for photos in the morning. Joy Slagowski was the super photographer in the afternoon, and she had a fun time, too, I could tell, even though it was a slow day. You really can’t help but have a good time meeting all of the nice people and pets.

Our afternoon Santa was Patrick Doyle, whose wonderful smile lights up all of the photos he is in. Sheila Joyce and I served as the afternoon elves. Bob and Kathi Youhas brought **Krissie**, **Leo** and **Miki** for their Christmas photos. Debbie Begley and Patrick Doyle

brought **Annabelle**, **Khakidawg** and **Sandy** for theirs, too, before Patrick started his shift. As you may know, **Khaki** passed away the following week, which made her photo even more precious to Debbie and Patrick. Although fun, it was a slow day, and we only did 19 photos, which works out to \$95, plus \$33 in donations and \$80 in calendar sales, for a total of \$208 for the day. This is the URL to Saturday’s photos in case you missed them: [http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=790091343903%3A1975249072&sourceId=533754321803&cm\\_mmc=eMail\\_-\\_Share\\_-\\_Photos\\_-\\_Share\\_](http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=790091343903%3A1975249072&sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Share_)



*Sunday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> – 91<sup>st</sup> Ave/Peoria Ave store.* In the morning, Bob and Kathi Youhas got there even before I did and had everything set up and ready when I arrived. Thank you! Bob played Santa and Kathi helped with the dogs and people. Eileen Proctor (photo below) was elf extraordinaire, as always. Eileen brings so

much enthusiasm to the event! I love to see her work the crowd. Joy Slagowski took great photos, of course, especially capturing some really good ones of the Orwig gang and Katie Donahue’s crew (at left). Sadly, Katie’s **Conrad** passed away unexpectedly on the following Tuesday. We are grateful that she brought him in Sunday, as he originally was not supposed to get photos taken that day. You never know



what will happen tomorrow, so give everyone big hugs today and every day! Our **Grizzly** was the donation dog and really sucked up all the attention he could and managed to collect \$35 in donations for the day (he worked two shifts). In the afternoon, I did the photography, while my favorite Santa, “Saint Nick” Dodson, took over as the Big Guy. He pretends that he doesn’t really love the job, but you can see differently. He really shines in December. We were joined by Liz Tataseo, whose help is irreplaceable – she can do everything and remains calm no matter what! John and Mary Jo Courtney also came to help in the afternoon, even though John was still in pain from his recent hip replacement. What a trooper!





I had the pleasure of taking Joy's photo with Todd and her canine crew of 7. Not perfect, but pretty good. Here, you can see one of the "before" photos at left and the result right after (photo below). We

had everyone in the store standing around laughing, and I think we made their day! Pat Morgan brought her beautiful and sweet **Dixie**, who had inoperable lung cancer.



Pat knew that **Dixie's** time was coming soon, and we were glad she was able to bring her in when she did, as **Dixie** joined her **PetSmart** partner, **Zoie**, at the Bridge just a few days later. A better day than yesterday, we took 23 photos (worth \$115), sold 6 calendars and took in

\$35 in donations for a total of \$210. If you missed the photos, here is the URL: [http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=508018843903%3A1003995111&sourceId=533754321803&cm\\_mmc=eMail\\_-\\_Share\\_-\\_Photos\\_-\\_Sharee\\_](http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=508018843903%3A1003995111&sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Sharee_)

*Saturday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> – 57<sup>th</sup> Ave/Northern Ave store.* Many thanks to first shift volunteers Karen Davis as her usual wonderful elf, Jeff Guilbault returning as Santa, Liz Tataseo and Teri Turner as fantastic elves, myself as photographer and our boy



**Grizzly** as ambassadog. It was a little slow in the morning, but the afternoon picked up quite a bit, thanks to elves Beverly and Jessica Ruth, Santa Phil Leavitt, photographer Joy Slagowski, myself as elf and **Grizzly**, the donation dog. I LOVE Santa Phil – he really looks the part once he

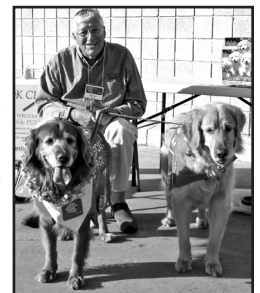
is in costume, with just the merriest twinkle in his eyes. Joy caught some really adorable photos – be sure to check out the gallery if you have not yet done so. We were able to get some nice photos of Teri and Rob Turner with **Rocket** and **Jack**, Liz with **Augie** and **Gonzo**, and **Lucinda** and Don (with Don as a "temp" Santa at the end of the day). Susan Parker also came with **Jo**, **Jack**, **Lucy** and **Ricky**. We did much better than last weekend: took 33 photos, sold 11 calendars and collected almost \$50 in donations. Total \$324.52. Here is the URL to the album: [http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=555134473903%3A645060967&sourceId=533754321803&cm\\_mmc=eMail\\_-\\_Share\\_-\\_Photos\\_-\\_Sharee\\_](http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=555134473903%3A645060967&sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Sharee_)

*Saturday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> – 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave/Bell Rd store.* This was our best day this year by far, thanks to first shift Patrick Doyle as Santa, myself as photographer, Karen Davis and Cara Holland as indispensable elves, and Jack Craven and Doris VanBenschoten (photo at right) the donation queen, as **Grizzlydog** wranglers. Second shift (photo left below) was Phil Leavitt as Santa, Joy as photographer, myself and Linda Atkinson as helpers and Bill Atkinson as **Grizzly** and



**Sammy** wrangler (photo at right below). Extra kudos to Linda and Bill on two counts. I mistakenly put them down to work that afternoon, even though they really had requested the morning, but they graciously worked the afternoon instead. Plus, we had a backlog of customers for a

while when the printer was down. Some of the customers had to leave, and Linda and Bill were so very kind as to hand deliver the photos to one of the people in Goodyear, even though they don't live that close! A big thank you! And a HUGE thank you to Joy for the fantastic apple pie! We took 38 photos (worth \$190) and received \$371.80 in donations (including 4 calendar sales) for a total of \$561 for the day. Many thanks to Joyce Johnston who came all the way from Sun Lakes with



**Rosie**, **Ben** and **Hazel**. Liz brought **Sweetie** and **Brandi**, and Pat Morgan brought her new adoptee, **Scooby** (now thankfully known as **Sunny**). And how could I forget my wonderful husband, Nick Dodson, for helping set up, tear down and **Grizzly**-wrangle, too, in the afternoon. If you missed the photos, here is the URL: [http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=391953304903%3A1887534498&sourceId=533754321803&cm\\_mmc=eMail\\_-\\_Share\\_-\\_Photos\\_-\\_Sharee\\_](http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=391953304903%3A1887534498&sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Sharee_)



Sunday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> – 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave/ Bell Rd store. Thanks to Jeff Guilbault as morning Santa, myself as photographer, Ingrid and Karie Wilson as WONDERFUL elves, and Susan Parker (photo at right) as the excellent **Ricky**



wrangler, we had an awesome, busy morning. Many thanks to Liz Tataseo for bringing **Cooper** and her camera, and Mary Jo and John Courtney, who brought **Bella**. Jeff was surprised by a visit from his granddaughter and family. It was a surprise for her, too. She talked to “Santa” for quite awhile before she figured out that it was really Grandpa.



In the afternoon, Nick Dodson was Santa and Joy was the photographer (she offered to help again when we would be quite busy). Todd helped too, and Pat Morgan was our main elf, while I worked with getting, the dogs’ attention and printing. We had some really cool dogs today, too. Ingrid brought her family including her three dogs, **Izzy, Bailey and Jazzy**. She

also had two beautiful foster strays, **Buddy and Jack**, that Karie had found wandering by themselves at a Flagstaff dog park (they found the owner and the boys were home for Christmas). Near the end of the day we ran out of frames, so the store offered the customers a nice “special” where they got two prints instead of one, plus it was only \$5, all of which **PetSmart** donated to us! Union Santa clocked out just after 5 PM. Then we had several more people show up and did their photos without the big guy. By the end of the day, we had taken 41 photos (\$205) and **Ricky** collected \$150 in donations, including sale of 2 calendars, for a total of \$355. If you have not seen the photos go to: [http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=450310804903%3A1790930290&sourceId=533754321803&cm\\_mmc=eMail\\_-\\_Share\\_-\\_Photos\\_-\\_Share\\_](http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/shareRedirectSwitchBoard.jsp?token=450310804903%3A1790930290&sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail_-_Share_-_Photos_-_Share_)

Great job, everyone – thank you once again for giving up your precious holiday time. See you next year, I hope!

**Santa Photos 2010, Eastside – Angela Palumbo**

For a first-time event, Santa Photos at the **Tempe Marketplace PetSmart** did fairly well. The two dates Angela arranged were Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks so much to Dana Haywood, who played Santa all day on



the 5<sup>th</sup> (after having been at the **Holiday Pet Festival** all day on the 4<sup>th</sup>!) and shared the Santa duty with Jeff Sager on the 18<sup>th</sup>. On the 5<sup>th</sup>, Gail Haywood with **Riley** as Donation Dog worked with Dave Engelhardt and **Rex** as another Donation Dog in the morning and by themselves in the afternoon. Angela’s

daughter, Michelle, helped Angela check in the customers and take the photos.



Michelle, Santa Dana, Angela

On December 5<sup>th</sup>, Angela and crew took 14 photos and collected \$165.17 in donations! On the 18<sup>th</sup>, Angela wrote:

*Thanks to my volunteers: Jeff Sager (Santa, 1<sup>st</sup> shift – sorry, I didn’t get a photo); Dana Haywood*



Maggie



Dave Engelhardt with Maggie and

*(Santa, 2<sup>nd</sup> shift); Gail Haywood with Riley; Rex; Michele Wehry (at left); Tony Cotner with Rocky and Daisy; Deb Fuller (my very helpful elf –*



Rex doing his job



*sorry, no photo); and Michelle Palumbo (my other photographer). Thanks to all of you! We took 34 photos (\$170), collected*



A group of Greyhounds came dressed to the nines



Goodnight and sweet dreams, all you Santas. You all worked very hard! Thank You!

\$228 in donations and sold 8 calendars. Day total: \$478. Way to go! A very special thanks to the Haywoods. They have been with me for EVERY photo session! Couldn't have done it without you!

Everyone who volunteered at each of the stores made a great team! Hopefully next year, we will have more folks in the East Valley who will be willing and able to help.



### Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Gift wrapping appearances by **AGR** in 2010 were coordinated by Debbe Begley at Arrowhead, Deb Orwig at Happy Valley, Cynthia Wenström on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Happy Valley and Larry Jessup at **Tempe Marketplace**. All were very successful. We had many, many volunteers, and had two new member families join at Arrowhead and then come to help at our last gig there. It was a wonderful holiday season! We apologize that we did not get photos of everyone who attended.

#### Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** – Debbe Begley

This year we scheduled fewer dates but still managed to meet our goal. Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup>, we had the afternoon shift from 1 PM – 5 PM. Our gift wrap table was staffed by Debbe Begley with **Khakidawg** and **Sandy**; Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Miki**, **Leo** and **Krissie**; Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Troy**, **Ladybird** and foster **Joe**; and Bill and Linda Atkinson with **Sam**. Rick and Debbie Ball came with **Shiloh**, Liz Tataseo brought **Augie** and **Gonzo**, and Tony Cotner brought **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**. Sandy Fullington was there to help wrap and Gary Fullington arrived a bit later with **Nicky**. Gail and Dana Haywood brought **Riley**. We also had some



Back: Gail, Liz, Bob, Debbe, Cody, Tony, Dana with Riley, Kathi with Miki, Debbie & Rick with Shiloh; Front: Gonzo and Leo (both barely visible), Rocky, Hayden, Troy, Daisy with Jordan, Raymond, Bill, Sammy and Linda



Sandy Fullington with Nicky

student volunteers from Peoria High with us for the day. They included J O R -



Rocky Cotner, otherwise known as Little Rocky, in a Donation Vest ready to go to work; this year, we had vests for every dog that volunteered

dan and Cody Miller and Raymond Quiban. We only wrapped two gifts all day, but sold five calendars, three party collars and a magnet. That doesn't sound like much, but we brought home \$518.50!



Sandy and Khakidawg

We returned to the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** on Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> for a morning shift, 9 AM – 1 PM. That



day was staffed by Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Khaki**, **Sandy** and **Annabelle**; Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Miki**, **Leo** and **Krissie**; Debbie Ball with **Shiloh**; and Karen Forsythe with **Penny**. Larry Jessup joined us with **Honeybear** (photo at left); Ingrid Wilson brought **Bailey**; and Sandy Fullington came without dogs to help wrap. It was a nice morn-

ing. We wrapped 14 gifts, sold 4 calendars and came home with \$289.98.

We were at Arrowhead again on the 5<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 5 PM. The group for that day consisted of Debbe Begley with **Khakidawg** and **Sandy**, Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**; Debbie Ball with **Shiloh**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; and Bill and Linda Atkinson with **Sam** (photo at right). Deb Orwig brought **Rocky**, **Hayden**,



**Troy**, **Ladybird**



Katie in back with Conrad, Jake and Ginger; Teryl and Trystan in front with Hayden, Rocky and Troy

and foster **Joe**. Katie Donahue, who was up from Yuma with **Conrad**, **Ginger** and **Jake**, also helped out. Bob and Kathi Youhas came dogless, as did Teryl Hall and Trystan Schuff, so we had plenty of wrappers and dog wranglers. We wrapped 13 gifts, sold 2 calendars and took home \$272.63.





Katie and Hayley in back; Cynthia in front with Bailey

Our next date at the Arrowhead *Barnes & Noble* was Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup>. The day's staff included Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Sandy** and **Annabelle**; Tony Cotner with **Daisy**; Katie Donahue with **Ginger**, **Jake** and foster **Joe**; Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Leo**, **Krissie**



(at right) and **Miki**; and Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey**. Jodi Koblick and Sandy Fullington joined us dogless, as did new members Jill and Hayley Donovan. We had a very busy day wrapping about 45 gifts and sold 3 calendars. Our efforts rewarded us with \$460.



We went back the next day, Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. The crew for that day included Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Sandy** and **Annabelle**; Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Leo**, **Miki** and **Krissie**; Liz Tataseo with **Gonzo** and **Augie**; and Bill and Linda Atkinson with **Sam**. Sue Strong also joined us with **Jake** and **Joey** (at left), and Michelle and Jeff Guilbault brought **Blossom**. Our dogless volunteers were Jay and Jodi Koblick, Karin and Rachel Forsythe and

their neighbor Zach Novak, Teryl Hall, Tristan Schuff and Teri Guilbault. We were very busy all afternoon, wrapping 51 gifts. We also sold 3 calendars and 1 leash. By the end of the day, the donation jar contained \$547.03.



Sheila with Tessa and McKenna

We picked up an extra date on Tuesday December 21<sup>st</sup> due to a cancellation.



This turned out to be a very good day for us as it was very busy. The day's volunteers were Debbe Begley with **Sandy**; Bob and Kathi Youhas with **Leo**, **Krissie** and **Miki**; Sheila Joyce with **Holly** and **McKenna**; Karen Davis with **Caesar** (at left); Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; and new member Linda Milner with **Molly** (at right). Deb Orwig rounded out the group with the



Orwig pack, **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and foster **Joe**, along with her holiday guest dogs, **Ginger** and **Jake Donahue** and **Shiloh Ball**. The dogless volunteers included Teryl Hall, Karin, Rachel and Jacob Forsythe and Liz Tataseo. We only wrapped about 30 gifts and sold 2 calendars but the donations for the day totaled \$881.20.



Karin with Bailey and Penny

The last day of our gift wrapping sessions was Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a huge

crowd of volunteers there. We started off the morning with Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Sandy** and **Annabelle**; Sheila Joyce with **McKenna**, **Holly** and **Tessa**; Cynthia Wenström with **Tag**; Teri Guilbault with **Jackson**; and Tony Cotner with **Little Rocky** and **Daisy**. Joining the group were Linda and John Milner with **Molly**; Liz Tataseo with **Sweetie**; and Dana and Gail Haywood with **Riley**. Deb Orwig brought the whole pack with her, **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy**, foster **Joe** and guest dogs **Ginger** and **Jake Donahue** and **Shiloh Ball**. Peter Wong came



Beverly, Tony and Teryl



Todd and Joy, Liz, and Jay

*'Twas the day before Christmas  
And out in the mall  
The shoppers were there  
And making a haul.  
They came by the bookstore  
And shouted with glee  
"The Golden's are here  
We have to go see!"  
They brought us their gifts  
To wrap and make bows  
While they played with the dogs  
And got fur on their clothes.  
The dogs were all wearing  
A vest and a collar  
Out came the wallets  
Each one got a dollar.  
Some got a five, a ten or a twenty  
The jar was overflowing  
With donations aplenty.  
By the end of the day  
The dogs were worn out  
We counted the money  
And gave a big shout!  
\$1802.87 to add to our goal  
Gift Wrap and Santa Photos raised  
\$12,287.29 by our group as a whole.*



by later with **Sandy** and **Joey**, as did Todd and Joy Slagowski with **Happy**, **Amber** and **Bella**. Karin Forsythe brought **Bailey** and **Penny**; and Larry Jesup had **Honeybear** with him. Sandra Hansen came later in the afternoon with **Missy** and **Jasmine** (at left), and so did Connie McCabe with **Grizzly**, **Yoshi** and **Sasha** (at right).



Our dogless wrappers and wranglers for the day were

Jodi Koblick, new member Fran Strock, Teryl Hall and Beverly Ruth. It was a crazy day. We lost track of how many gifts we wrapped after we reached 180



Jodi Koblick and Fran Strock wrapped lots of gifts

mid-afternoon, and we were busy right up to 6 PM when the store closed. The dogs were working the crowd as they always do, and the donation jars and pockets filled up quickly.



This was not the largest box Debbe wrapped

Our total for the day came to \$1802.87!



This package contained a Coach handbag and wallet; Deb made an appropriately gorgeous double bow with red and gold ribbon to accent the red foil paper she used on the box. The customer gave us \$50 for it!

The total for the Arrowhead location amounted to \$4,769.20. Each year we get better and better at this, and it continues to reward us with the much-needed funds to help more and more Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes that need us.



Joe, tired but happy, says, *Great job, everyone!*

Thank you all for your dedication and help, and

a great big WOOF! to all of the dogs that share their unconditional love and holiday cheer to all of our generous supporters.

Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* – Deb Orwig

We started off the holiday season gift wrapping on Black Friday afternoon at the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*. In 4 hours, we took in \$455.25 in donations and sold 3 calendars but wrapped only ten gifts for a total of \$485.25 – that's over \$113 per hour! In attendance were Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shiloh**; Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle



with **Annabelle**, **Khakidawg** and **Sandy**; **Cheyenne** (a student

volunteer); Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Little Rocky**; Sandra Hansen with **Missy** and **Jasmine**; Drew and Kelly Nellis; and Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and foster **Joe**. Rae Pellegatti brought **Aengus**; Liz Tataseo brought **Augie** and **Gonzo**; and Cynthia Wenström came with **Bailey**.

The next day, we were also there from 1 - 7 PM and did even better, taking in 595.11! Total of \$1085.36 for the two days at Happy Valley! We wrapped 4 gifts all



Hayley and Damele

day. We were originally scheduled to be there only until 5 PM but were invited to stay longer, as the group that was supposed to come at 5 PM cancelled. In addition to the great donations, we also had two adoption applications turned in. Helping out were Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Annabelle**, **Khakidawg** and **Sandy**;

Tony Cotner with **Daisy** and **Damele**; **Cheyenne**; Hayley Donovan; Teri Guilbault; Sandra Hansen with **Jasmine** and **Missy**; Deb Orwig



Karin with Aengus and Tony with Daisy



Sandra and Teri with Missy, Sweetie and Jasmine

with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy** and foster **Joe**; Rae Pellegatti dropped off **Aengus**, stayed for a little while then came back and picked him up to take home – Karin Forsythe handled him in the interim; Liz Tataseo came with **Sweetie**; Sharon,

Philip, Marcus and Ilan Wieser brought **Max** (looking great at age 12 at right) and **Nala**; and Bob and Kathi Youhas came with **Krissie**, **Leo** and **Miki**. We had a lot of fun socializing with each other and the dogs and talking with the bookstore customers.



Katie, Liz and Teryl with dogs; notice that Joe is right in the middle between Ladybird and Hayden, his comfort zone

The last gig that I coordinated was on December 18<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 5 PM, and it was our best day of the season there. We collected \$790 in donations and sold 3 calendars for a total of \$820 in 4 hours! I think we wrapped about 20 gifts. Thanks to everyone who helped: Debbe Begley and Patrick Doyle with **Sandy** and **Annabelle**, who came after their morning stint at the Arrow-

head store; Katie Donahue with **Jake** and **Ginger**; Karin and Jacob Forsythe (terrific dog wranglers); Teri and Michelle Guilbault with **Fresno** and **Jackson** (Michelle at right with dogs); Teryl Hall and Trystan Schuff (terrific dog wranglers, package wrappers and bow-tie-ers); Deb Orwig with **Rocky**, **Hayden**, **Ladybird**, **Troy**, foster **Joe** and holiday guest **Shiloh Ball**; and Liz Tataseo with **Sweetie**. One of Rocky's reading buddies from 4 years ago, when we were coming to this store twice a week, showed up with his mom. It was really nice to see them again.



Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** – Cynthia Wenström



Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** was a great opportunity for everyone who attended, and especially for the incoming **AGR** Golden, with the event earning over \$336. The date marked the first event for members Dave and Jeannette Morrocco since moving back to Arizona (and back to the warmth) from



Ciara Franklin with Blossom, Michelle Franklin with Cooper and Karin Forsythe with Aengus

Syracuse. The afternoon was filled with holiday shoppers, young and old, all happy to receive free

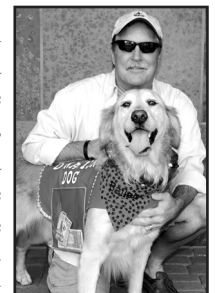


Augie and Gonzo's surprise



Dave and Jeannette with Aengus

hugs and kisses from our Golden. One little visitor even arrived in his own carrying bag and was a **BIG** surprise to the working Golden! This team of Golden touched the hearts of everyone who stopped by, and the **AGR** members had the opportunity to speak with holiday shoppers and wrap gifts early in the season. Volunteering for the event were: Louise Carreiro; Sheri Fogel; Karin Forsythe with foster **Aengus**; first-time volun-



Mike and Bailey



Louise waiting for Sheri to wrap so she can do the bow

teers Ciara and Michelle Franklin with **Cooper**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Mike Lane with **Bailey**; Dave and Jeannette Morrocco; Liz Tataseo with **Augie** and **Gonzo**; and I brought **Tag**. Special thanks to Liz Tataseo for picking up all the wrapping supplies from Deb Orwig's house and transporting them to and from Happy Valley.



Since the photographer rarely gets into any photos, I have included this one I took of Cynthia with Tag, Troy, Hayden and Rocky at the Arrowhead store

ters Ciara and Michelle Franklin with **Cooper**; Teri Guilbault with **Blossom**; Mike Lane with **Bailey**; Dave and Jeannette Morrocco; Liz Tataseo with **Augie** and **Gonzo**; and I brought **Tag**. Special thanks to Liz Tataseo for picking up all the wrapping supplies from Deb Orwig's house and transporting them to and from Happy Valley.

Holiday Headgear



McKenna (top), Sweetie (right)



Troy (left), Krissie (top)

## Children's Dental Village Holiday Celebration

by Deb Orwig

**Children's Dental Village**, at 7360 S. McClintock Dr., Tempe, is a fabulous complex for children's dental work. To help relax and entertain the children who go there, they have a resident therapy-certified Golden Retriever named **Sunshine**. **Sunshine's** sister was also there for many years but passed away last fall. **Sunshine** herself is 13 years old. She is almost blind, deaf and rather creaky, but the children love her anyway, and she loves their attention.

I was invited as a representative of **Arizona Golden Rescue** to attend their annual holiday party on December 9<sup>th</sup> with two of my therapy-certified Golden Retrievers. When I arrived with **Hayden** and **Ladybird**, I was astounded at the extent of this "party." Many tables were set up in the large parking lot adjacent to the clinic. They were attractively decorated with pawprint dog bowls and pawprint fabric. There was a huge display of food – pizza, salads, desserts, beverages and even a chocolate fountain! It was basically an all-you-can-eat buffet. Wow!

The only other group they chose to honor was **Gabriel's Angels**. We were invited to have our banner and literature in the breezeway near the clinic. A collection of dog treats, toys, cash and even a small dog bed had been made for us in advance, so I came home with lots of nice stuff. They had a guy there making balloon animals and, of course, a visit from Santa. The dogs (**Sunshine**, mine and a Black Lab from **Gabriel's Angels**) were a huge hit with the several hundred people who attended. A few weeks later, we received a very generous cash donation from the clinic staff. What a wonderful holiday gift! We thank **Children's Dental Village** for choosing **AGR** as a beneficiary of their largess.

## Membership Meeting in Nov. 2010

Dr. Kim Hillers, a canine oncology specialist, was the speaker at our November 14<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting. The topic of her excellent presentation was "What to do about lumps and bumps: A general discussion of cancer in animals." The bottom line is if you find a lump or bump on your dog, you should get it checked by your vet. Many lumps are benign fatty tumors called lipomas, but many turn out to be malignant growths of one kind or another. The earlier you find a malignancy, the greater the chance it will be treatable either by surgery, chemo, radiation or a combination of these. We sincerely thank Dr. Hillers for coming. She practices at **Animal Specialty Group** in Scottsdale and at **Southwest Veterinary Oncology** in Glendale.

## Upcoming Events

By Debbe Begley



### Paws at the Park

Annual Picnic and Membership Meeting  
Sunday, March 13, 2011  
10 AM – 4 PM  
Papago Park  
Curry Rd & College Rd, Tempe  
Cost \$7 per person  
(Kids under 12 eat free)  
Lunch: hotdogs & hamburgers  
and all the fixings

Annual Membership Meeting  
2011 Election of Board Members  
Rainbow Bridge Ceremony  
Parade of Rescue  
Raffle/Silent Auction  
Vendors of pet-related information and items  
**AGR** merchandise sales  
Dogs and other family members welcome!

Mark the date on your calendar  
Please respond promptly when the online invitation is issued.

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

### Golden Paw Saloon and Gambling Hall

#### Casino Nite

Saturday, May 7, 2011

6 PM – 11 PM

\$50 per person

El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium

Dinner/Dancing

Gambling

Raffle and Auction

Mark the date on your calendar!

Please respond promptly when the online invitation is issued.



### Phoenix Pet Expo

Saturday, May 7, 2011

University of Phoenix Stadium

10 AM – 6 PM

This is a huge pet expo! Everyone will be there including **AGR**.

Yes, it is the same day as our Casino Nite.

We will need volunteers who do not plan to attend Casino Nite to work the afternoon shift – 2 PM - 6 PM and clean-up – at the Pet Expo.

Please contact Debbe Begley at khakidawg@cox.net or call 602-290-9787 if you can help.



## Golden Hearts



Since we formed *Arizona Golden Rescue* in March 2009, many of our members, as well as some nonmembers, have been extremely generous in helping us financially. There are lots of costs associated with an animal rescue organization and in caring for the dogs that started coming in almost before the ink was dry on the paperwork. We are so grateful to everyone who has taken a chance on our new group and has given us their support. You all truly have hearts of gold! All donations to *AGR* are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between October 5, 2010 and January 18, 2011. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted.

*General Donations from the Heart*

Anonymous (many and generous)  
 Bonnie Burrows  
 Ronna Colbert  
 Matthew Cook  
 Tony Cotner  
 Mary Jo & John Courtney  
 Gerald Dohner  
 Katie Donahue  
 Jackie & Dave Engelhardt  
 Linda Hangin  
 Diane & Jim Henkel  
***Just Around The Corner Pet Sitting*** (Theresa)  
 Patrick Keown  
 L. Ruthe Leone  
 Naomi Lovallo  
 Vivian Machen  
 Arthur & Mary Rivera  
 Richard & Kathleen Stolz  
 Rebecca & John Sullivan  
 Betty J. Thompson  
 Teri & Rob Turner  
 Sharon & Philip Wieser  
 Peter & Anna Wong  
 Steve & Mary Ybarra

*Donation of change collected in 2010  
 from The Orwig Gang  
 to Change the Life of a Golden*

*Donation of 50/50 Raffle Wins at  
 Paws & Pasta Spaghetti Dinner*

Tony Cotner  
 Hazel Sutko

*Honorary Donations*

*In Honor of Charlie*  
 Jane Williams & Thomas Lakeman

*In Honor of our parents, Irene & J.T. Peterson, for  
 Christmas from Debbie and Paul*  
 Paul & Deborah Peterson

*In the names of our children, Sara and Jeff, for Christmas*  
 Paul & Deborah Peterson

*In Honor of Connie McCabe for PowerPoint artwork*  
 Cindy & Gary Tigges

*In Honor of Connie McCabe for taking our family  
 Christmas portrait*  
 Karen & Phil Davis

*In Honor of Deb & Larry Orwig for vacation dog care for  
 Shiloh*  
 Debbie & Rick Ball

*In Honor of Deb & Larry Orwig for vacation dog care for  
 Ginger and Jake*  
 Katie Donahue

*In Honor of Deb & Larry Orwig for vacation dog care for  
 Honeybear*  
 Larry Jessup

*Memorial Donations*

*In Memory of Damele Cotner*  
 Tony Cotner  
 Katie Donahue  
 Teri & Jeff Guilbault  
 Teryl Hall  
 Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
 Deb & Larry Orwig  
 Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **Khakidawg Begley / Doyle***

Tony Cotner  
Katie Donahue  
Bert & Mary Engstrom  
Teri & Jeff Guilbault  
Teryl Hall  
Sheila Joyce  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig  
Liz Tataseo  
Kathi & Bob Youhas

*In Memory of **Dexter Courtney***

Brenda Mason  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Conrad Donahue***

Tony Cotner  
Katie Donahue  
Teri & Jeff Guilbault  
Teryl Hall  
Sheila Joyce  
Deb & Larry Orwig  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **Cosmo Flynn***

Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson

*In Memory of **Sophie Gallo***

Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson

*In Memory of **Zane Hill***

Jim & Diane Fellner – for **Zane** and for our **Annie**  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Jake Lindenmeyer***

Greg Korycki & Carrie Foust  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Zoie McCabe / Dodson***

Tony Cotner  
Karen & Phil Davis  
Katie Donahue  
Teri & Jeff Guilbault  
Teryl Hall  
Sheila Joyce  
Marsha & Stephen Kleinz  
Greg Korycki & Carrie Foust  
Mike Lane & Cynthia Wenström  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig  
Liz Tataseo

*In Memory of **Dixie Morgan***

Tony Cotner  
Teryl Hall  
Connie McCabe & Nick Dodson  
Deb & Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Tucker Morrocco***

Dave & Jeannette Morrocco  
Cynthia Wenström & Mike Lane

*In Memory of **Sydney Murphy***

Deb & Larry Orwig

*In Memory of **Morgan Wenström-Lane***

Dave & Jeannette Morrocco  
Deb & Larry Orwig  
Cynthia Wenström & Mike Lane

*Corporate Donors*

*American Express Charitable Fund*

*American Express Company Employee Giving Program*

*Bank of America Foundation Matching Funds*

In Honor of Mike Lane's volunteer contribution

*Children's Dental Village*

on behalf of "EV Dental Hyg"

*Choice Pet Market*

*GoodSearch*

*GRC Wireless*

*PetSmart Charities for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2010 Adoption Rewards*

*The Austin Center for Exceptional Students*

Francie Austin and Melissa Austin Button

*Diamond Donors*

*Diamond Donors for 10-030 Scooby*

Michelle Bailey & Kay Correll

*Diamond Donor for 10-056 Jasmine*

Tony Cotner

*Diamond Donor for 10-067 Jasper*

Linda Knight

*Diamond Donor for 10-069 Lucinda*

Linda Knight

*Gift Memberships*

Rae & Mike Pellegatti for Jeff Pellegatti

## Golf Tournament Donations

These donations came in after the November *Golden Paw* went to press

Alan & Katherine Fisher  
**Goldman, Sachs & Co., Inc.**  
 Arnold Kraus

## Grants

### Golden Retriever Foundation

to help with medical expenses for

**Missy, Toby, Ricky, Mia, Jimmy, Playdoh, Lucy, Lucky,  
 Sandy, Lexie, Honeybear, Penny and Sunshine**

### Pedigree Adoption Drive Foundation

to help dogs in need find loving homes

### Phoenix Animal Care Coalition

## New Amber Level Members

Dave & Terri Hill  
 Laura & Preston Post

## One-for-One Sponsors

For **10-030 Scooby**: Kim Short

For **10-058 Hazel**: Joyce Johnston

For **10-062 Sunshine**: Kevin & Sharon Doyle

Purchase of an orthopedic bed for **10-030 Scooby**: Linda Knight

Purchase of a soft toy collection for **10-040 Joe**: Sharon Zellman

Purchase of a nice cushy bed for **10-058 Hazel**: Sharon Zellman

## Special Thanks

To **Larry Jessup** for the donation of a large airline-style crate  
 To the staff and clients at **Children's Dental Village** in Tempe for  
 donations and support

To **Villa La Paws, 10640 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> St, Phoenix**, for allowing us  
 to use their facility for our Nov. Membership Meeting

To **Pete 'N Macs, 1675 W Happy Valley Rd, Phoenix**, for their  
 generously giving us two weeks free boarding for rescued dogs

### MOVED? CHANGED YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

Due to the size of our mailing list, we now qualify for a bulk rate mailing permit. **Please be sure to notify us if you move, because bulk rate mail is not forwarded.** We want to keep in touch. Please let us know if you change your e-mail address.

## From the Editor's Desk

By Deb Orwig

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

Special thanks to Dr. Katie Donahue for compiling the *Magic Moments* section and the *Diamonds in the Ruff* section.

Proofreading before publication is essential. For that daunting task, I thank Dr. Katie Donahue, Jude Fulghum, Teri and Michelle Guilbault, Erin Orwig, Liz Tataseo and Carol & Don Thompson and Kathi Youhas.

Once the publication comes back from the printer, *Arizona Correctional Industries* in Perryville, every copy must be paged through to be sure there are no collating and/or printing errors and mailing labels must be applied. Thanks to Liz Tataseo for helping me with the mailing preparation for the November 2010 issue.

## Cancer in Dogs

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

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

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

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



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