



G.R.E.A.T. NEWS Volume 10, March 2007

(Brought to you by the Golden Retriever Emergency Assistance Team!)

GOLDENFEST, 2007

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH, DOGWOOD PARK
7407 SALISBURY ROAD, JACKSONVILLE (near Dave & Busters)
1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

Admission:

**\$10.00 admits one golden retriever and your family
\$5.00 admits each additional golden retriever**

**Admission includes snacks, drinks, activities and
full access to Dogwood Park, including Bow-Wow Lake!**

Bring your lawn chairs!

Blessing of the Goldens!

Silent Auction!

Please join us as we celebrate our love for Golden Retrievers! Everyone is invited!

Last year, nearly 100 Goldens attended. Contests include: Tennis Ball Toss, Best Trick, Newspaper Retrieve, and Most Obedient! Don't let your Golden be left out! Not familiar with the park? Visit www.jaxdogs.com.

A G.R.E.A.T. Golden Angel

Special thanks to our friend, Caroline, who requested monetary donations for G.R.E.A.T. Rescue, rather than gifts for her 10th birthday! Thanks to her generosity and those of family and friends, Caroline donated \$320 to our rescue. Caroline and her family adopted Lucy from G.R.E.A.T. Rescue five years ago and this donation is in honor of her beloved Lucy. Thanks, Caroline, for your thoughtful and very generous donation....and Happy Birthday To You!



A special thank you to those who made our annual Holiday Gifts Drive such an astounding success raising \$3,488.99 for G.R.E.A.T. Rescue!

Rick and Mary Alice Lane
Sulzbacher & Lane, Inc.
Gail and Gary Howalt
Merline and Nelson Harbin
P. Jeremy Smith, Jr.
Pat & John Geringer
Jackie and Bob Hammesfahr
Ann and Ed Olive & Morgan
Susan Keegan in memory of Paddy
Sharon Morrisey
Ellen & John Joyce
Steven Glass
Donna Edison
Swisher International, Inc.
Judi & Reed Brown
Mollie & Scott Henry & Friday
Kathy & Austin Barbour
Barbara Hunter in memory of Crackers
Margaret Nottle
Suzy McDonald
Shannon Kelly
Staci & Craig Brown in memory
Of Cassie
Edna Lu Dorminy in honor of
Sheri Scarborough

Chris Ann Gibbs
Georgette Romero
Sarah Woods & Nala
Joan & Jerry Kula
W. Thomas Hensley
Joanie & Lincoln Mitchell
Charlene Dylewski
Lori Bailey
James D. Cary
Sue Pedone
Jennifer & John Swanson & Hannah
Sue & Bill Van Abs
Martha Havens
Sarah Carey
Rebecca Head & Emma
Sharon Gogerty
Kathleen Langan & Mark Bloember
Samantha & Bernard Wells
Lisa West
Julie Malone
Stacy & Ken Cruikshand at Bark Avenue
Pet Boutique
Cynthia & David Stroud in memory of Lucky
Mary Lee & Stan Miller in memory of Maxwell



New Additions to the G.R.E.A.T. Family!

William Martin - Daisy
Megan & Dean Sullivan - Emily
Mary and Martin Kinnerk - Belle
Joanne Smith – Bentley
Mark Agnello - Susie
Allison Thompson – Jake
Beth and Scott Helfrich – Einstein
Joyce and Ron Johnson - Nugget
Ginger & Scott Brown – Gabby

Ann Godbold - Abby
Susie & Marty Nelson - Gallagher
Judith Ham - Kirby
Monica and Chris Fleming - Lilly
Mary Dominquez - Griffin
Debbie & Bob White - Delores
Margaret & Robert Jones - Gracie
Jamie Richardson - Edison
Carol Schwob – Amber and Arthur





Our Condolences to.....

Ginger and Scott Brown and their daughters on the loss of their beloved Golden Retriever, Cassie, who crossed the Rainbow Bridge on January 9th at 13 years of age. Cassie was the daughter of Reed and Judi Brown's Katie (1990-2006) and sister of their Brooke.

Dawn Wright and her husband on the recent passing of the G.R.E.A.T Golden, Ferris, who was rescued from Jacksonville Animal Care and Control two years ago. Ferris initially was their foster dog, but his charm and personality captured their hearts and they adopted him.

Dawn shared the following with us.

My Fishing Buddy, Ferris

Ferris was a big golden (mix) boy who came into our lives approximately 2 years ago. I had decided to do senior golden retriever rescue. I was going to be the person who fostered old unwanted goldens in her home and provide them with a place to be until it was time to leave. Little did I know this was going to be harder than previously thought. Ferris was a site for sore eyes when he arrived. He had surgery to remove a tumor and was wearing a cone around his neck. This cone had provided a really neat place for him to deposit his mixture of slobber and water ooze. His hair looked like it had been cut with a pair of scissors and someone had left his thick coat around his neck and tail. Ferris looked like a very skinny lion! I knew it would be a while before he would be in shape for adoption.

Over time his hair grew out and his scars healed. A couple came by to see if he would be a fit for their family. They told my husband they were looking for one with a little more energy. Ferris never gained muscle mass or weight and would never be overly energetic. His level of excitement did increase at feeding time and when I would reach for his leash to take him for a short walk. Ferris' walks were short and sometimes one of us would have to run ahead and get the truck to pick him up. He was older than originally thought and his estimate age was increased from 8 to 10-12. We knew we would never know his history but we decided his future was ours and we adopted him from the rescue.

Ferris never chased balls or played as young dogs do, but he did become my fishing buddy. Ferris had a love for fishing. We would fish at the end of the dock and he would sit and anticipate what we would reel in next. Normally a crab, but on occasion it would be a red belly. Those were the best!! We would play kiss the fish and then set it free.

This past New Years we decided to take a trip to the Keys. We knew it would likely be our last with us all together. Our oldest Golden was diagnosed with early stages of kidney failure and Ferris had nasal cancer. Ferris, two other Goldens, and one Italian Greyhound were loaded into a very small Toyota truck and off to the Keys we went. We rang in New Years all together....we stuffed our bellies and by 8:00 p.m. we were asleep on the floor.

Ferris hung in for some time after, but it reached a point where we needed to make a decision. Ferris could no longer sleep and was having problems breathing. He had lost sleep for several days. We took him for another evaluation and the cancer had started to enter the back of his throat. It was time to say good-bye. My husband went into the room to comfort him on his final journey and to let him know he was not alone. We went home that evening and pulled out our "Last Flight Out" glasses and sat at the end of the dock and toasted Ferris and to the day that I brought him home for one last fishing trip.



Scottish Highland Games

We had a ball at the NE Florida Highland Games on February 24! Golden Retrievers were developed in Scotland and we've enjoyed having a booth at the games for several years! We especially love the Scottish parade! Thanks to all of you who came out!

G.R.E.A.T Rescue of NE Florida, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 not-for-profit organization. Please address any communications to greatrescue@comcast.net or Post Office Box 600878, Jacksonville, FL 32260-0878 or by telephone at (904) 501-6899.



Have You Seen Our Website Lately?



www.greatrescue.org

Thanks to all of you who are directing individuals to our website. We added a "counter" to it less than one year ago and we just reached a milestone of 10,000 hits! Most of our applications are received thru the site, so this has been a true blessing for G.R.E.A.T. Rescue. A special thanks to Kathy Kohlbeck who works on the website continually.



G.R.E.A.T. Rescue welcomes Karen Frigo as a Board Member! Karen works in the dental field and enjoys boating, running, and hanging out with her pets! She's been an active part of G.R.E.A.T. Rescue for quite some time and has been a tremendous help in many areas of the rescue. She is currently fostering 2 female Goldens for us, Faith and Hope, who will need extensive medical attention before they are ready for adoption. Karen's household includes 3 goldens, 1 dachshund, and a cat!



DON'T FORGET TO TAKE CARE OF THE SENIORS!
(from Pedigree.com)



Ramp it up....If your dog is having trouble jumping into the back seat of your car, you may want to put a ramp or steps next to it. You may also want to do the same next to the couch. After all, there's no point watching TV without your best friend, is there?

If you find your dog sliding around on slippery floors (i.e. tile or wood), rubber-backed mats can help.

Dish it up...Raised food and water dishes are a treat to tall dogs and older dogs alike. Mop up spilled water around feeding bowls so your dog won't slip and fall.

THOSE PESKY MOSQUITOES



One of the most life-threatening issues for Goldens, and all dogs, is heartworm disease. Those pesky Florida mosquitoes will be out in full force before we know it. The best defense against heartworm disease – is prevention.

All it takes is one bite from a carrier mosquito for your dog to become infected with larvae that eventually develop into organ-damaging heartworms. Protect your pet by first making sure he's free of heartworm disease with a test performed by your Veterinarian. Then, have your Vet. prescribe a preventive medication that's well suited to your dog. Heartworm-preventing medication must be given year-round. (adapted from DogAge Tip of the Week)



WE NEED YOU!

We continue to be in desperate need of foster families. Please help us if you can

Being a G.R.E.A.T. foster may be one of the most rewarding experiences you have had in a very long time. It's cost-free, fun, rewarding and generous and you will make new friends, receive lots of smooches, gain a new bed partner and watch a neglected, lovable Golden Retriever blossom and bloom before your very eyes! More than likely, someone "fostered" your rescued Golden before it came home with you.

Here's how it works. GREAT brings a dog into our rescue from a home or shelter, has the dog examined, vaccinated, bathed and given medical and temperament evaluations by one of our rescue veterinarians and staff. About 50% of our dogs will need additional care such as spay/neuter, treatment for heart worm, skin or ear infections, surgery, etc. We simply ask our foster family to follow through on Vet appointments, at NO COST to them. While in your care, you will treat the dog as you would your own-you know with lots of praise, correction, good food, care and endless amounts of love. In no time at all, your fostered Golden will gain confidence and good health and will not only improve but will thrive!!!

Fun Dog Quotes

"When a man's best friend is his dog, that dog has a problem."

-- *Edward Abbey*

"We give dogs time we can spare, space we can spare and love we can spare. And in return, dogs give us their all. It's the best deal man has ever made"

--*M. Facklam*

"Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea."

-- *Robert A. Heinlein*

"Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot about puppies."

-- *Gene Hill*

"Anybody who doesn't know what soap tastes like never washed a dog."

--*Franklin P. Jones*

"No one appreciates the very special genius of your conversation as the dog does."

-- *Christopher Morley*

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went."

--*Will Rogers*

"The average dog is a nicer person than the average person."

--*Andrew A. Rooney*

"I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a weird religious cult."

-- *Rita Rudner*

"There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face."

-- *Ben Williams*

"Cat's motto No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look like the dog did it."

-- *Unknown*

"If your dog is fat, you aren't getting enough exercise."

--*Unknown*

"Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of his tail."

-- *Unknown*

"Some days you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant."

-- *Unknown*

"Things that upset a terrier may pass virtually unnoticed by a Great Dane."

-- *Unknown*

"In dog years, I'm dead."

-- *Unknown*



GoldenFest Silent Auction

We're in need of items to be used for the Silent Auction at our upcoming GoldenFest. New items for dogs, as well as their owners are welcome. Gift certificates are especially sought after by our buyers and appreciated! Please call Sheri at (904) 379-9856 if you can help.



Please join us in congratulating Kathy and Austin Barbour, who welcomed baby Tyler to their family! Kathy has been a Board Member with the Rescue for many years.

Please join us in congratulating Drs. Dee and Bill Schoenborn on the birth of their son, Michael! "Dr. Dee" Schoenborn is one of our wonderful Rescue Vets at VCA Briarcliff Animal Hospital!

Dog Jokes...(from www.aha.com)

Q: What do you get if you cross a dog with the Concorde?

A: A jet setter!

Q: Where do Eskimos train their dogs?

A: In the mush room!

Q: Why did the snowman call his dog Frost?

A: Because frost bites!

Q: What do you call an alcoholic dog?

A: A whiner!

Q: What is the difference between Father Christmas and a warm dog?

A: Father Christmas wears a whole suit, a dog just pants!

Q: Why don't dogs make good dancers?

A: Because they have two left feet!

Q: What do you do if your dog eats your pen?

A: Use a pencil instead

Q: What kind of dog does Dracula have?

A: A bloodhound!