



GOLDEN HEARTBEATS

A PUBLICATION OF GOLDHEART GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, INC. P.O. BOX 206, MOUNT AIRY, MD 21771 / 410-877-9697

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

WOW!!!! Spring has finally sprung. Beautiful warm sunny days, flowers popping up everywhere and taking our four-legged family members on nice long walks without that ole man winter biting at your nose. Time to clean-up the yards and time for GoldHeart to prepare for all the Christmas puppies. This is the time of year when GoldHeart gets a lot of those cute little fluffy now unwanted Christmas puppies that are "so big", "so much hair", I can't get them trained or "I just don't have that much time".

In 2009 we re-homed about 100 Goldens and will most likely exceed that number for 2010. For GoldHeart that means we will be looking for more foster homes. Without foster homes, the Goldens coming in would have to go to commercial kennels, even with the discount they give us it still creates an expense for GoldHeart. If you or anyone you know might be interested in fostering please go online and fill out the application.

Without the help of our outstanding transport team and our wonderful foster families, it would not be possible to continue our goal of "NO GOLDEN LEFT BEHIND". In return we get lots of Golden hugs and plenty of sloppy Golden kisses.

GoldHeart is sometimes faced with the task of taking in siblings or just co-dependent pairs and trying our best to keep them together. We have achieved that goal thanks to foster families and adopters who are willing to open their homes and their hearts to not 1 but 2 Goldens in need.

Makai GH #600 and Maggie GH # 601 came into the rescue in Oct 2009 when their owner passed away. They came in very scared and depressed and very obese. Maggie weighing in at 140 and Makai weighing in at 167 pounds. Thanks to a lot of TLC, exercise and a good diet Maggie weighs 117 pounds and Makai weighs around 140. About the time a wonderful forever home was found Maggie was diagnosed with cancer. Not wanting to separate them it was decided they would now stay with me long term. (*See their photos on page 4*)

Obie GH # 628 and Luke GH #629 came in March 2010 and were completely vetted and are now in a foster home learning some good manners and getting ready to find a forever home together. (*See their photos on page 9*)

Some come in with special requirements for a new forever home like Dino GH #623 because of his athletic ability he will require a fenced in yard with at least a 5' fence. (*See photos on page 4*)

CONTINUED.... ON PAGE 3

Foster Homes Needed

Take some time and read about our foster homes and our organization's goals to see why fostering a GoldHeart Golden is truly a rewarding experience like no other!

Opening your heart and home to one of the many GoldHeart Goldens needing foster care will provide lasting memories of a Goldens love, loyalty and kisses. The astounding impact you will have on a GoldHeart Goldens life is truly remarkable.

While we locate a "forever family" for your fostered Golden you will enjoy a Golden's happy smile and enthusiastic wagging tail everyday. Many of our Goldens needing a foster home may already be trained while other may need just a little love and guidance to develop skills and behaviors such as not pulling hard on a leash or sitting on command.

The GoldHeart Foster Home Team will be there to walk you through the foster care process as well as provide guidance and support every step of the way.

Any questions regarding fostering a GoldHeart Golden or to volunteer your heart and home to foster a GoldHeart Golden Retriever, please email or call the FosterHome Coordinator, Edie Galpin at the following:

foster@goldheart.org (or) 410-877-9697

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR UPCOMING EVENT

Volunteers needed to staff the Scottish/Celtic Festival on Saturday, May 8, 2010, at the Frederick (MD) County Fairgrounds from 10am - 7pm. If you are available to volunteer your time to help staff this event, please email volunteer@goldheart.org with your name and time(s) your available. Goldens are welcome at this event and we strongly encourage our volunteers to bring their Goldens, to show them off proudly!

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www.youluckydogstore.com



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410-628-6501

Scooper Hero
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Baltimore, MD 21214

410-319-6630

Toll Free 1-877-319-6630

*Mention GoldHeart & we will receive part of the proceeds.

Animal Medical Center of Bel Air
142 B North Bond Street
Bel Air, MD 21014
410-420-6555
www.doctoresra.com



Moe's Bar
Camp Hill, PA
Kristin Wade (Groomer)
www.canaltownelabs.com

Barb's Clip & Dip
Camp Hill, PA



*Golden Heartbeats
is a quarterly
publication of the
GoldHeart Golden
Retriever Rescue,
Inc. GoldHeart is
dedicated to the
rescue and
rehabilitation of
homeless Golden
Retrievers in
Northern MD,
South-Central PA,
and Delaware.*



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**REMEMBER 2010 GOLDHEART
MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE! YOUR
SUPPORT WILL HELP GOLDENS IN
NEED THROUGHOUT THE AREA!**

POLICY STATEMENT: GOLDEN HEARTBEATS is a non-profit newsletter published solely for the information and pleasure of the members of the GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the officers and members of the organization. Always check with your veterinarian before administering any medications or treatments to your dog. To submit material for publication in GOLDEN HEARTBEATS, please send to GoldHeart, P.O. Box 206, Mount Airy, MD 21771, or email: secretary@goldheart.org.

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UPCOMING GOLDHEART EVENTS & INFORMATION



Pup-E-Palooza

(Pennsylvania)

Date: April 25, 2010

Time: 12 - 4 pm

Location: Brinser Field
Elizabethtown College
Campus

1 Alpha Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
Elizabethtown College,
Brinser

Live Music

Raffles

Plus much more....



Frederick Scottish Celtic Festival

(Maryland)

Date: May, 8 2010

Time: 10 am - 7 pm

Location: Frederick
Fairgrounds 797 East
Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701

A festival celebrating
the Scottish and Irish
heritage.

Additional info can be
found at the following
website:

www.sasmm.com



Shiloh Vets Open House

(Pennsylvania)

Date: May, 15 2010

Time: 12 - 3 pm

Location:
110 Morgan Lane,
York PA

**Check out the
GoldHeart
website for
upcoming events
in-between
Golden Heartbeat
Publications!**



Dog Day in the Park

(Pennsylvania)

Date: May, 16 2010

Time: 10 am - 4 pm

Location:
John Rudy Park
400 Mundis Race
Road, York, PA

www.goldheart.org



DogFest

(Maryland)

Date: June 19, 2010

Time: 9 am - 6 pm

Location:
Maryland State
Fairgrounds
Timonium, MD

Rain Date June 20, 2010

**TO VOLUNTEER
FOR ANY OF
THESE EVENTS,
EMAIL:
volunteer@goldheart.org**

PRESIDENT LETTER TO MEMBERS - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Last but not least we have the famous Archie GH # 611. Archie came to us from the SPCA in Maryland and was diagnosed with a Grade 6 heart murmur. After being taken to the University of Pa. he was then diagnosed with a heart defect that is causing the heart murmur. There is no surgery to correct what is called a Double Chambered Right Ventricle. He will need a yearly cardiac check-up which GoldHeart will pay for. He will also need a very special forever family according to his foster mom (me). (*Photo on page 4*)

With so many Goldens coming in all the time fundraising is a part of GoldHeart's daily life. We are always trying to find ways to raise money to make sure everyone gets the proper vet care before they go to their forever homes. We have quite a few events coming up:

April 25 2010 -Pup-E-Palooza (Pa.)

May 8 2010—Scottish Celtic Festival (Md)

May 15 2010—Shiloh Vets Open House (Pa.)

May 16 2010—Dog Day in the Park (Pa.)

Please continue to check the web site for upcoming events and times. If you can volunteer for any event please e-mail volunteer@goldheart.org. We are always open to suggestions for fundraisers.

We also encourage you to bring your adopted dogs to any event allowing your pets because we all love to see how well our furry family members are doing.

I would also like to thank everyone who responded to our GoldHeart Wish List and kindly donated many things on that list. I have asked for the Wish List to run in the newsletter because as you know the Goldens never stop coming in.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who works so hard to keep GoldHeart running as smoothly and efficiently as possible. They are: The entire GoldHeart Board (past and present), the transport teams, the fundraising teams and all the members and volunteers who give hours and hours of precious time and a thank you to the families of these folks who understand our devotion to the rescue and what it means to have "NO GOLDEN LEFT BEHIND"

Thank you and I hope to see a lot of folks at the fundraisers this year,

**Barbara Schaefer
President**

GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc.



HAPPY ENDING FOR ROSIE

Once upon a time in the far reaches of Westminster, Maryland lived a family who loved dogs. They had lost their beloved canine companion back in 2007 from natural causes, after spending 14 years with them. Taking nearly 2 years to grieve for their gone-but-never-forgotten friend, the family decided it was time to bring new life into the home. Because their last dog had been a Golden Retriever mix, they wanted to stay with the breed. They also didn't want to "buy" a dog, not when there were already so many unwanted animals out in the world, so they searched for a rescue. GoldHeart popped up to them on a search engine--gotta love the Internet. After sending in an application, the family waited on pins-and-needles for weeks when the agency contacted them to set up a home interview. They aced it, of course! Then the wonderful news, they were APPROVED!!!

I have to say, that was one of THE best days of my life. --This is Rose's mommy, by the way, who was elected to speak for the whole family.-- After getting that great news, I immediately started searching the website and the broadcast emails about intakes. Rosie caught my eye right away. She was a little younger than we had been looking for, but one look at her picture and the heart-rending bio, I had to reconsider. It's seems she'd been rescued along with her brother, Winston--hope he's enjoying his new home--from people that were neglecting them. Poor Rosie was underweight from being housed with many other dogs bigger than herself. Food hogs!! I called her foster mom, and bugged her with lots of questions--and I was hooked. We set up a time to meet and as soon as I pulled up in the driveway, I knew she'd be the one. Rosie and her foster sister, Annie, a border collie, were running in the yard and I could tell that just after 2 weeks with the foster home, Rose had gained some weight. It looked good on her. They came over to greet us as the foster mom and I talked, and as soon as I sat down on the driveway, Rosie crawled into my lap and gave me sloppy puppy kisses. Be still my heart! I was a goner. I was in LOVE! I'm going to assume that Rosie was saying the same with all those wet kisses. So, of course, I took her.

We brought her home on the 4th of July weekend, giving me 4 whole days with her to acclimate. She was a little shy at first, understandable considering the new surroundings, and stayed close to my side. She was my furry shadow for the first couple of weeks, but she gradually became more comfortable after learning the daily routine. She's really blossomed in the time she's been with us. Here are some of the things we've learned together: Fetch is the best-est game EVER. Rosie will carry the ball around EVERYWHERE if you let her. Swimming is fun. Snow is lots of fun. And couches are comfy places to sleep.

Most of us in the household work all day, the only one being home is my 82 year old grandfather. Rosie is his faithful friend during those hours, watching TV with him. Her favorite part is when he takes her out during the day to play fetch. Then when my Dad gets home, she cleaves to him. Again, he takes her out to play fetch with her--I'm not exaggerating about how much she likes this game--then spoils her with games of wrestle "I'm gonna get the squeaker" when she comes in. But I'm her most favorite person. Boy, what a rush that feeling is, seeing that tail go a hundred miles an hour when I get home. I take her out and play with her, AGAIN. When it's time to sleep she curls up in bed with me.

Our favorite times together are our trips. She loves car rides, has made a trip up to Connecticut with me to see family, and has gone to Wisconsin to visit more family. Rosie loves children, is very forgiving if they step on her, and is still learning it's not nice to knock over little 4 year olds. Remember when I said she loves to swim? With our aunt in WI, we had Rosie out on a speedboat--which she took to like a champ--then we all dived off the boat into the water, with her paddling after us.

Like all stories there must be an end, so I will simply say...and she lived happily ever after. Thank you everyone at GoldHeart!

Rosie's Mom, Tiffany



GoldHeart Goldens (*Mentioned in President Letter*)



Maggie - GH 601



Makai - GH 600



Archie - GH 611



Dino - GH 623



Remembering Yogi



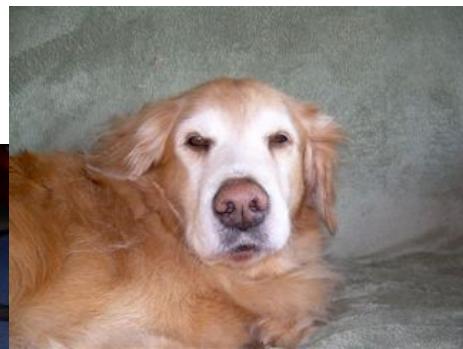
In January of 2008 I received a phone call from John Williams, the former president of GoldHeart, asking whether I would be interested in taking on another long-term foster. It was a sad story of two Golden companions being abandoned by their owners, who left them in a garage with only the neighbor to feed them and check in on them. After giving it some thought (about 30 seconds) I said yes, gladly. We met the temporary foster parents in the parking lot of a nearby mall. They opened the back door of their SUV and out jumped one of the most beautiful sights my eyes had ever seen. Yogi! He was golden, fuzzy and very very proud. We took him home and introduced him to our two Goldens. There was a short adjustment period, but after everyone understood the pecking order, there was complete harmony.

Within days of bringing Yogi home, things started to look different around our house. We would come home to a slew of clothing, shoes or objects that had been moved from their place to a place where Yogi decided they were going to be. Many times we would be relaxing for the evening and Yogi would go to the bedroom and retrieve something from the hamper and bring it to us. When we would come home from work, Yogi would greet us at the door sitting with one paw up. We would always stroke him and tell him

what a good boy he was, and a wonderful little groan (or purr, as I liked to call it) would follow.

We spent the next year and a half just amazed at how smart he was; how adorable he was; how affectionate he was; how we could not imagine our lives without him. Unfortunately, in July of 2009, we found a lump in Yogi's throat that was soon diagnosed as lymphoma. I learned as much about this disease as I could. We took him to a speciality hospital an hour and a half away. I was frantic to find someone to help. We had him x-rayed, scanned, probed, and stuck. Ultimately, our beautiful boy lost control of his hind legs and had great difficulty getting up and walking without falling over. This was the time that I could no longer allow the proud boy that I had seen jump out of an SUV continue to suffer and lose his dignity. On August 19. 2009, we helped Yogi to cross the rainbow bridge. It was a very dark, sad day for us. Our grief was overwhelming. We wondered why he was sent to us only to be taken away so soon. Even though our time with Yogi was way too short, we feel so blessed to have gotten to know, care for, and love such a special boy. I truly believe we will meet again.

Rhonda (Yogi's mom)



A MESSAGE FROM GOLDHEART'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear GoldHeart members and supporters,

The economy is taking its toll on everyone and GoldHeart is no exception, so we are asking for help. We have made a wish list. Below you will find a list of things that we are in desperate need of:

- Flea and tick medication (Frontline, K-9 Advantix - please nothing off of the grocery store shelves as these have been known to cause neurological issues)
- Heartworm medication such as Interceptor or Sentinel for weight ranges of 50-100 lbs.
- Mailing envelopes (at least 10 x 13)
- Postage stamps
- Copier paper
- Gift cards to pet stores or online pet pharmacies (increments of \$10.00 (examples: PetSmart or Petco (redeemable in Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania))
- Dog shampoo
- Grooming supplies
- Gentle Leader Easy Walk Harnesses (for large and extra-large dogs)
- Joint supplements for foster homes, especially for our long-term fosters! One particular supplement called Nupro-Silver, is amazing! It can be ordered through www.usbones.com, which will give a percentage of sales back to GoldHeart when you select GoldHeart when entering the site, as your "REWARDS Fundraising Partner"! Also, Move Free Joint Supplement is great and can be purchased at Wal-Mart or any drug store
- Vitamins/Supplements
- Quality dog treats

These are supplies that GoldHeart uses year-round because, as you know, the dogs never stop coming in. We take in, on average, 100 dogs a year!!



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO RECENTLY DONATED ITEMS & FUNDS TOWARDS THE GOLDHEART WISH LIST!

**Lee James
Kathryn Bell
Tom & Kathy Carper
Valarie Lucas
Tom & Mary Ann Long
John & Barbara Wagner
Mary Forte
Wendy Garcia
Sharon Meirose
Terry Langelan**

EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK:

"WHY GOLDENS DO THAT, A COLLECTION OF CURIOUS GOLDEN RETRIEVER BEHAVIORS"

(Pages 35 & 37) Written by: Tom Davis

Why do Goldens Yip and Twitch While Sleeping?

We're all familiar with this: our dogs twitching, jerking, "paddling," yipping, whimpering, woofing, and so on while sound asleep. It's often kind of comical-also goofily endearing-and putting two-and-two together from our own experience we assume they must be having a particularly vivid dream: chasing a cat up a tree, romping in the park with the kids, or flushing a big rooster pheasant, for example. Which is exactly what's happening, although the science that proves it is of fairly recent vintage. After all, it's not as if you can wake up a dog, even one as communicative as a golden retriever , and ask him to relate the details of his dream.

The phase of sleep in which dogs twitch, yip, etc., is known as rapid eye movement (REM) sleep. If you compare an EEG reading taken during REM sleep with one taken while the dog is fully awake, the results are almost identical. What scientists have concluded from this is that dogs are conscious during REM sleep, which leads me to ponder the unanswerable question of whether they're able to distinguish between their "dream" life and their "real" life. (As if we humans invariably have a firm grasp on that.) Another really interesting thing is that during REM sleep the large voluntary muscles are essentially paralyzed-the reason dogs merely twitch instead of galloping around the room bouncing off wall, furniture, and what have you.

Davis, Tom. Why Goldens Do That, A Collection of Curious Golden Retriever Behaviors.
Wisconsin: Willow Creek Press, 2005.

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS BILL

There is a Bill proposed in Maryland that would END the sale of puppies in PET STORES in Maryland. This is HUGE! What this means is that the Puppy Mills, who are responsible for the inhumane treatment and torture of the dogs in their care, will no longer be able to sell their puppies to pet stores, their greatest source of income, thereby **CLOSING PUPPY MILLS** and ending the suffering of countless thousands of dogs & puppies in their care. (for information on puppy mills, go to: www.closepuppymills.com)

This is monumental and for us animal lovers, and it will warm your heart to know that you could be stopping the suffering of SO MANY DOGS AND PUPPIES.

PLEASE: CALL, e-mail & write to your state senators and ask them to SUPPORT or vote IN FAVOR OF: Bill # S.B. 505.

BILL: # S.B.-505 - would end the sale of puppies of pet stores in Maryland.

** We need this law passed to protect the helpless dogs and also the CONSUMERS who pay dearly with their heartache & their wallets when purchasing a puppy from a pet store.**

** HINT: Sometimes if the politicians think it's a bill to protect CONSUMERS, they may more readily vote in favor of it.**

To find your state senators, go to www.mdelect/electedofficials ...put your address in the box under the map & your senator's info will come up in the left column.

THANK YOU SO MUCH fellow animal lovers & please ACT QUICKLY! This bill may be voted on ANY DAY NOW!

RESCUE ROADIES

"The Adventures of Two GoldHeart Transporters"
By Al Bisasky

When you are an old retired couple like Ellen and I, your life is supposed to be filled with doing fun stuff. Not that our home life isn't fun. What could be more fun than living with three grown children: "Helpless", "Hapless" and "Hopeless" (the names are interchangeable); and one daughter's fiancé, "Homeless". Now, throw in two screwball Golden Retriever brothers who have gone from the consummate poor little orphaned lost boys to the poster boys for "Adopt a Canine Couch Potato". At least *they* get along, which is more than I can say for the four two-legged species living here. Tilghman & Choptank may demand a lot of love and attention, but they never ask for money.

So, any opportunity for Ellen and me to escape this heaven on earth (aka The Nuthouse) is taken advantage of to the fullest. We love to go out on dates. The grocery store, Home Depot, the doctor's, the dentist, they're all dates to us. Depending on the errand and how long we'll be, The Boys often go with us. Nissan was spot on, "Dogs love trucks." All you have to do is say the words truck and ride and they can't get out the door fast enough.

We also like to take day trips; just the two of us. We stop for breakfast and/or lunch/dinner, see the sights and just enjoy each other's company. For the two of us, transporting the Goldens is not so much a labor of love as it is a love of the labor. Not only do we have fun, we are given the opportunity to experience the love and affection of these truly wonderful canines, even if it's only for a few hours. We seem to bond with every Golden that we transport.

Ellen and I work as team: she does the driving and I am the navigator, wireless operator, look out, dog handler and flight attendant. That means I have to watch the GPS, navigate, give instructions to the pilot, pet and give belly rubs to the "passenger", talk to the passenger, ensure that the passenger is comfortable, hand out cookies and water to the passenger, locate areas for potty breaks and ensure that the pilot is supplied with Diet Cokes. Oh and occasionally wipe slobber out of my ear when the passenger wants to show appreciation or wants their head scratched or belly rubbed. Ellen, on the other hand, turns on the autopilot and enjoys the scenery. Once in a while, I get a break when the poor little orphans decide to nap. They're like little kids; take them for a ride, they fall asleep.

Thus far, all of our transports have been good to excellent riders, although a couple have been a bit difficult to get into the truck. They usually sit up, look around and stick their heads between the seats. They are either trying to see where we're going or check the oil pressure gauge, I don't know which. Many seem actually relieved to be away from the situation that they were in. It's almost like they know that they are being rescued.

Each and every transport has been a pure pleasure. While some have been very "energetic", there hasn't been one that was ornery or misbehaved to the point of being a problem. Well, there was that one time when we transported Ace and Archie, two twelve

week out pups. Now, you would think that transporting two little babies would be a lot of fun, right? WRONG! One puppy may be fun, but put two of them together in a pickup truck crew cab and you have shear mayhem. It was like tossing in two live grenades. These two FMD's (Fur-balls of Mass Destruction) insisted that they were going climb up front. After a half an hour of repeated assaults, they finally gave up. Then Archie decided he was hungry and tried to eat Ellen's seat belt. Finally, one settled down to nap. The trouble was the other one decided he wanted to lay down in the same spot. This resulted in a full scale war for what space belonged to whom. Like all babies, Ace urped up his breakfast. Then the two decided to practice their paw-to-paw combat skills. I turned around and told them, "Settle down! Don't make me come back there."

Our first stop was at Barb's to drop off Archie. Barb's Golden quintet was on the back porch staring in at the new arrival. I told Archie, "You see those big dogs out there? Do you know what they eat? They eat little puppy dogs who don't behave themselves."

With Archie safely in Barb's loving care, we proceeded to Beth's with Ace who was good as gold (no pun intended) for the rest of the trip. When we arrived at Beth's Ace went right up to the door and pranced in like he owned the place, with a "Well, here I am" look on his face. He immediately took to Cora, Beth's other foster. I understand that Cora was an excellent mentor for Ace.

It was a learning experience for which we were not completely prepared. However, we'll be prepared next time. Here are some suggestions for transporting more than one puppy at a time:

- Take a supply of chew toys.
- Handcuffs and leg irons come in handy or a large roll of duct tape.
- Carry a tranquilizer gun. The kind that they use to sedate elephants.
- To handle or pet the puppies, wear a pair of lacrosse gloves. Puppy teeth are sharper than those of 20 foot great white shark. Chain mail is also effective.
- Place stickers on the front, rear and sides of your vehicle that state, "Caution: Wild Animals on Board" or "Danger: Explosives".

All joking aside, being a "Transport Angel", as Edie refers to her team of canine carriers, is one of the most satisfying and enjoyable facets of Golden Retriever Rescue. It gives you a wonderful feeling of accomplishment and being a part of a team. If you collect the Golden from the give-up owners, you are the first link in the chain that puts these unwanted orphans on the road to their forever home where they will be cared for and loved like every dog should be.

*Happy trails and wagging tails to all of GoldHeart's
"Rescue Roadies"*

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Folder's.com (thank you for donating the much needed folders to us)

Dirty Dog MakeOver (thank you Annette for grooming the Pa. foster dogs for free)

Black Dog Motorcycle (thank you Mike and Kim for letting us sell the Christmas trees on your lot)

Bon Ton (thank you Susan Lynn for inviting us to Community Days to do fund raising)



WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS FOR THE 2011

GOLDHEART CALENDAR

IF YOU HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR
GOLDHEART GOLDEN FUR-BABY FOR THE
CALENDAR PLEASE SUBMIT THEM

BY EMAIL TO: jile2@msn.com

(HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS ONLY
PLEASE, TO ENSURE PROPER ENLARGING & PRINTING)



Check out the GoldHeart website for updates between Newsletter publications for additional upcoming events and GoldHeart news!

GOLDHEART'S EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

Requests for reimbursement for authorized expenses must be submitted to the Treasurer within 90 days from the date the expense was incurred (date on receipt).

**DO YOU HAVE A STORY,
CREATIVE IDEA OR
HELPFUL HINT THAT YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?**

LET US KNOW AT GOLDEN
HEARTBEATS SO THAT WE
CAN SHARE IT WITH ALL
THE GOLDHEART
MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS.

EMAIL INFO TO
Heather Patterson:
ghgtk@comcast.net



PET SITTING EXCHANGE

If you are interested in participating in a private vacation pet sitting exchange, please contact Jen by phone or email:

charm_link@yahoo.com (or) 443-798-1407

For legal and liability reasons, GoldHeart cannot officially sponsor this exchange, but Jen is glad to assist by referring interested folks to each other!

We Salute the GoldHeart Foster Homes!!

FOSTER HOMES ARE THE KEY INGREDIENT TO GOLDHEART'S SUCCESS! WITHOUT THEM, WE WOULD BE OUT OF BUSINESS! A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS AS WELL AS ALL THE GOLDENS THAT YOU HAVE HELPED BY FOSTERING!

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In Appreciation

We would like to thank the following special folks & volunteers who have donated their time & desperately needed financial support for GoldHeart!

Acquino, Steve & Terry	Fleischer, Meagan & Nathan	Maher, Leah	Sabenorio, Suemeng & Jules
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Finkle, Brenda & Scott	Long, Tom & Mary Ann	Ruell, Carol	Zalewski, Karen & Michael
Fisher, Connie & Dave	Madden, Katie	Russell, Thomas	Zawoysky, Vicki

GoldHeart Goldens Looking for Forever Homes

(Mentioned in President's Letter)



Obie - GH 628



Luke & Obie



Luke - GH 629



Adopting or Fostering A “Golden Oldie”...Worth Considering!

(Written by Mary Ann and Tom Long)

GOLDHEART GOLDENS - MOLLY (GH271) & HALEY (GH456)

When an opportunity comes along to offer a dog a home, it's hard to say no...particularly when you look into the soulful eyes of a Golden Retriever. What makes it even harder, particularly for us, is when they are the eyes of an older Golden who – for any number of reasons – was surrendered by their family of many years. Such was our case, not once but twice.

“Make room for Molly!”

This sort of became our battle cry warning to our Golden Retrievers, Belle & Brady (GH 154) as if to warn them they'd have to start sharing their toys and food! Molly came to us as a result of a family who no longer wanted their 13 year old. We'll not debate their rationale, nor be concerned with them. They made their unfortunate decision and betrayed their companion by discarding her. What we found in their surrender was a beautiful blonde and extremely loving 13 year young Golden who quickly bonded with Mary Ann. Molly would push past our other two Goldens to gain Mary Ann's affection...or as I often witnessed, the other way around! You might call it a “mutual rescue”. In any event, it's what Mary Ann would describe as the greatest feeling in the world!

By becoming a long term foster family for Molly, we gained the trust and affection of a girl who just wanted to bond and be part of the family. And so she was! With all her quirks, habits and foibles she became part of the Long family. And so it was to be, but only for 8 months. Molly developed untreatable cancer in her airway and throat, so her time came to cross the Rainbow Bridge. Some would argue that it was a heart-wrenching sadness to only have her for 8 months. Why would we have opened our home and hearts for such a short time? The answer's easy. So we could give her a loving home for her final 8 months on Earth. So we could cherish a LIFETIME of memories from 8 months with Molly. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 11](#)



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10) "Would we do it again? Yes...in fact, we DID!"

Another easy answer. And so we did again when an uncertain fate awaited Haley. This Golden was not what you would call a beauty. Far from it, in fact. But the eyes. Oh, those eyes! Haley was abandoned and locked away in a garage, most likely left to die by her long-time family, who once again didn't want to deal with an older Golden. This 13 year old suffered from malnourishment, an untreated cyst, double ear infections, possible cataracts, skin rashes and some really funky smells. After 9 days in the care of a vet who wouldn't give up, we got the call to see if we'd "re-up" and take in another long term foster. "Sure!" was our answer. So we arrived at the vet's office to find this scarred and shaved Golden. She faced weeks of medication and treatments. To the vet's disbelief, we gladly loaded her in our car and headed back to Pennsylvania. And so began a new set of memories with yet another "Golden Oldie". Not only did she recover from her outward abuse, but her timidity and shyness faded as well. Within 6 months, we had a beautiful young lady who became "Miss April" in Goldheart's calendar in 2009! Her gorgeous coat returned, her eyes cleared, her cyst removal was a complete success, and no more infections. Moreover, she'd go toe-to-toe in tug of war battles with our 95 pound bruiser, Brady over shared toys! And the memories...the memories we'll carry with us forever.

After more than 2 years with our girl, we lost Haley only 4 weeks ago to a failed liver. At one point our vet told us it could be weeks, or perhaps a couple of months. The strong will of this lady became apparent, as she lived another 6 months after the diagnosis...not anxious to leave her family. And when the time came to cross The Rainbow Bridge, we sat with our Haley and hugged her as she passed quietly. It was a final kindness we could give her for all she showed us. She demonstrated how to trust in the absence of reason, how to love despite not always being loved, how to play despite pain and hardship. These are all things we never would've experienced had we not opened our hearts and home to this lovely older Golden.

"How can you help?"

Have you experienced the love of a Golden Retriever? If so, then you know age is not a factor. Consider opening your heart and home to accept one into your life. As owners of two older Goldens currently (Belle and Brady) we would hope that their love and affection could be shared with others if we – for some unforeseen reason – could no longer care for them. We know the love they have to give and the memories they create. We know any family would be enriched by their love. And so is the case with any Golden Retriever who needs a home. And depending on circumstances, long term fostering help for an older Golden may be available along the way to help make the financial commitment easier when welcoming your new family member.

"Today's lesson"

It's one we've learned through opening our home to two Golden Oldies...old is a state of mind and time spent with a Golden can't be necessarily measured in days, weeks or months. You have your pet for as long as you do...8 months, 2 years, or 15 years. You could lose them at a young age or you could lose them of old age. There are no guarantees except for one. And that one guarantee is that you'll be given loving memories as long as you open your heart and home. And those "Golden Oldies" will love you just as hard as a young pup will...and those memories are timeless.

***Author Sidenote:** I have to believe that Molly and Haley are watching me write this article and are at The Rainbow Bridge waiting for us. Dido's song "Thank You For The Best Day of My Life" came on the radio as I wrote the last paragraph. Thank YOU, ladies...until we meet again.*

REMEMBERING MIKEY

Spirited Mikey passed today from complications from Erlichia and Lyme infection, causing acute kidney and liver failure. Headstrong and smart as hell, and a wicked influence on his best buddy Tory, Mikey loved to bark warnings in our house at one and all, and then lick 'em when the guests came in. Mikey even grew to tolerate our cat, Boh, and adored coming to work at Mark Downs, Steve Rosen's office furniture store in Cockeysville, MD.

He most loved running free with Tory, or in his new fenced-in yard, and coming back with whatever treasures he might have found, be it deer skulls or interesting "mud." He was the first dog we ever had that could tell time, waking us every morning at 6 AM and coming to find us at 5 PM for meals. Mikey was our first true "rescue," we having adopted two other Goldens privately and raising a third from puppyhood.

Much appreciation to GoldHeart for finding us, and Mikey, and placing him with us for these 4 wonderful years.



GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc.

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Newsletter Material Submission Deadline

If you have material that you would like to submit for consideration for the Summer 2010 newsletter, please submit it by **June 1, 2010**. You may email any material to Heather Patterson at:

ghgtk@comcast.net

Or by mail to:

GoldHeart
P.O. Box 206
Mount Airy, MD 21771

About GoldHeart:

HISTORY

GoldHeart was started in 1999 by a small, dedicated group of volunteers with an undying love for Golden Retrievers. The initial GoldHeart volunteers were members of the Golden Retriever Rescue Education and Training (GRREAT), complementing GRREAT's efforts by concentrating GoldHeart's mission in the northern Maryland, south-central Pennsylvania and Delaware areas.

During the first five years of its existence, GoldHeart volunteers successfully placed nearly 300 Golden Retrievers in "forever homes", with this year promising to be our busiest year yet.

GoldHeart has grown to have over 200 members with an active group of 12 to 15 core volunteers who perform the bulk of the rescue efforts.

MISSION

GoldHeart, Golden Retriever Rescue and its network of volunteers are dedicated to the rescue of unwanted, abused, neglected and displaced Golden Retrievers. We provide Goldens in need with a temporary safe haven in our foster homes where they receive love, food, grooming, medical treatment, and some training. During this time their temperament is evaluated to determine the best home for their personalities and ultimately they are relocated to loving adoptive "forever homes".

GoldHeart volunteers work to foster a public sentiment of humanity and gentleness toward Golden Retrievers and all other animal. They encourage and promote responsible pet ownership, do all within their power to reduce the pet overpopulation and will work to encourage humane treatment and care of all animals through education and spay/neuter advocacy.

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