

# Golden Heartbeats – Spring 2015



**A PUBLICATION OF GOLDHEART GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE, INC. P.O. BOX 522 OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117 PHONE: 410-877-9697 WEBSITE: WWW.GOLDHEART.ORG**

## A Letter From The President

Well, it looks like Old Man Winter may just be getting ready to let go. As predicted it was a long cold one. Hoping to see warm weather soon.

### HOW DO YOU DO THIS ALL THE TIME?

It was quite a busy winter for the GoldHeart intake team. We took in 9 dogs in Nov. 2 in Dec. None in Jan. but took in 12 in Feb. and 7 in March. Right now there are 5 in the wings waiting to come in and no one has stepped up. As usual we never have enough foster homes to go around. Vacation season is right around the corner and for some reason folks find it easier to just give up their pets rather than pay to have someone watch them. We get those calls a lot. Top reasons we hear for give up are:

1. Moving, dog can't go
2. New baby
3. No time
4. We want to travel

I have had some people ask me "How do you do this all the time?" "How do people just give up their pets"? I tell them that the hardest part of rescue is to not judge that person who is having to give up their pets. You are not in their shoes. For some families it is the most devastating thing they have ever had to do. I feel those are the families that absolutely love their pet but know it is the right thing to do. That's when I put a new leash and collar on the dog and I walk away with their pet and try to hide my tears so as not to upset the family even more. Most times that is the family that stays in touch with GoldHeart for years hoping for a bit of news on the loved one they had to give up.

So now we are back to the shortage of foster homes. If you, as a member or any friends or family would like information on fostering one of these precious 4 legged friends in need of a soft place to land for a little while please let any of the GoldHeart board members know. We always welcome new foster families.

We also have a few events coming up over the year. If you can volunteer at any of these events please check the GoldHeart calendar and contact the person in charge of that event. One big event will be the Crab Feast on Aug. 1, 2015. Please contact Donna Blake the treasurer, if you can help with that event. It is an evening of good food and fun for all.

We have had a lot of GoldHeart family members lose their precious furry kids this year and our hearts go out to them. We have all been in their shoes at one time or another. It is always so hard to say good-bye. What a great thing to know they await us at the Rainbow Bridge.

Here is hoping that April showers bring those May flowers and not bring us a bunch of goldens in need of new homes. Our goal is to someday not need the rescue business at all. Wouldn't that be great, to never have another homeless animal in this world.

Thank you all for always being there for GoldHeart

Barbara Schaefer

President

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SHOES, SHOES, AND MORE SHOES!!!



GoldHeart is participating in a used shoe drive set up for WoofTrax. These are the folks that donate money to rescues for the folks that walk their dogs and use the free WalkADog app on your phone. These used shoes will be collected and then donated to men, women and children in need.

Acceptable items are shoes of all types, cleats, rollerblades, slippers, boots and sneakers of all sizes for men, women and children.

The fundraiser starts now and runs until the end of April. WE NEED TO COLLECT 2500 PAIRS OF USED SHOES. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used for the homeless and unwanted goldens that come into our rescue every day.

You can contact any board member @ [goldheart\\_board@goldheart.org](mailto:goldheart_board@goldheart.org) - Someone will arrange a time and place for pick-up of the donated shoes. Thank you for

## OR.....YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR SHOES!

GoldHeart member, Margaret Wallace has agreed to man a drop-off location for our shoe drive.

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 18 from 10AM to 12PM

**WHERE:** Meadowbrook Park – at the end of Long Gate Parkway, Ellicott City, MD

**From points North:** 1<sup>st</sup> exit going south off of Rt. 100 – continue straight off of the exit ramp to park; do not continue around circle.

**From points South:** Last exit going north on Rt. 100 – turn left at top of ramp and follow to end of park entrance.

**Drop Off Point:** Margaret will be in the Dark Grey Toyota Venza with PA tags, will have GoldHeart Logo in the front window for ID. Margaret will be located just inside the park entrance. Her email address is: [Margaret.Wallace913@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.Wallace913@gmail.com) if you need to contact her.

Additional Drop Off Locations:

13 Paterwal Ct, Reistertown, MD – now thru April 4<sup>th</sup> (front porch) --- 1323 Calvert Road, Chester, MD – now thru April 11 (carport door area) --- 56 Messina Court, Shrewsbury, MD – now thru April 25<sup>th</sup> (front porch) --- 2801 Lisburn Rd, Camp Hill, PA – now thru April 25<sup>th</sup> (front porch) --- 9482 Seven Courts Dr, Nottingham, MD – now thru April 30<sup>th</sup> (front porch)



## **CRAB FEAST CHALLENGE**

Hello Everyone,

This is GoldHeart treasurer, Donna Blake. It is getting to be that time of year again that work begins on our annual crab feast fundraiser. This year's feast is Saturday, August 1, 2015 from 7-11pm and is once again being held at Columbus Gardens in Perry Hall, MD. Back by popular demand is the band "Past Forward" featuring GoldHeart's own Bob Heil.

This year we are issuing a Crab Feast Challenge.

While we are always looking to our membership to buy tickets and bring friends, we are hoping that our membership can step up this year and everyone do their best to contribute a Silent Auction Item or Door Prize. Please just send me a reply email with what you can donate

(tax deductible letters can be provided) NLT May 31. I will work with you to complete the bidding paperwork for your donation and coordinate getting it to the event.

Need ideas? Here are some of our past hot items...

- \*condo at the beach or in the mountains

- \*sporting or theatre tickets

- \*baskets of wine or baked items

- \*goodies for our furry friends

You can also commit to providing gift cards and/or gift certificates, plush animals, plants and wine/beer for the plant wheel.

Can you Volunteer the day of the event? We need volunteers to work the event and to help in the preparations. If you are planning on attending and can do a shift on the wheel, sell 50/50 tickets or Sports Memorabilia raffle tickets, or just want to help with whatever else may come up as we go along, let us know. If we have enough volunteers, we can take shifts so everyone enjoys the event. Once everyone responds, I will be getting back to you on volunteer opportunities. Even if you only have a little time, we can certainly find something you can help with.

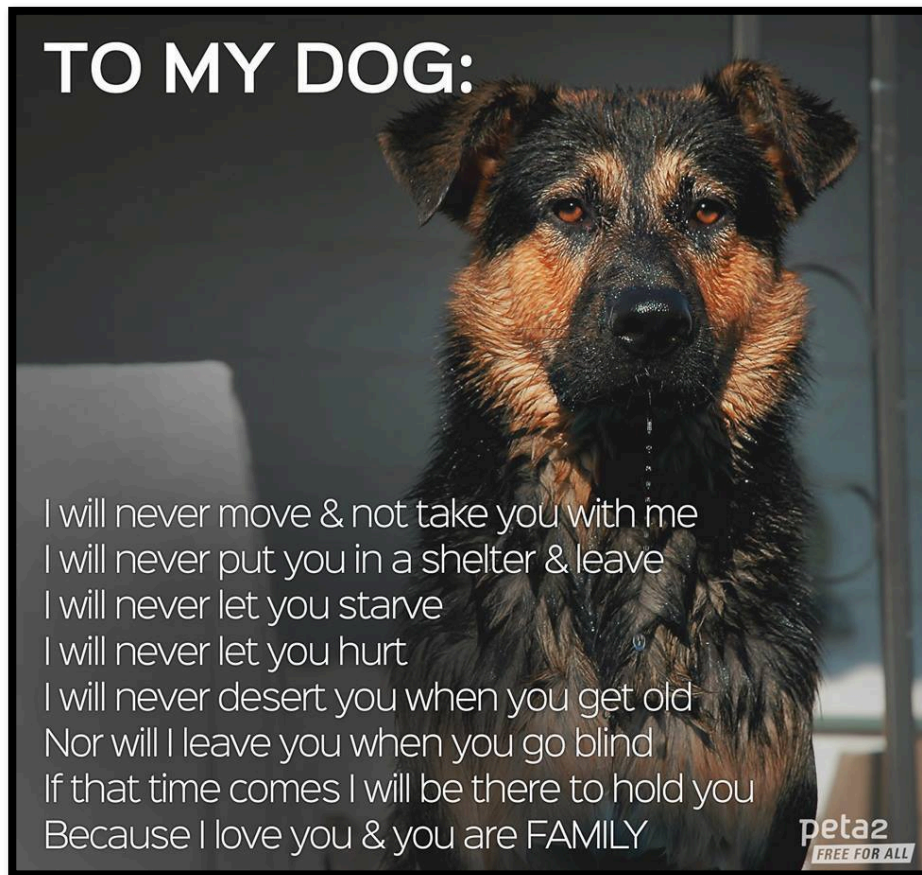
Please help me in making this another sell out year. Only 185 tickets will be sold so if you know you plan on attending, you can also email me and I will put your name on the list for when tickets are available.

Please contact me at [treasurer@goldheart.org](mailto:treasurer@goldheart.org) if you have any questions or can help us out. Remember, all proceeds go towards our beloved golden retrievers. Thank you all in advance.



## **Who rescued who?**





## 2016 CALENDAR DOGS WANTED!

Do you have a great photo or series of pictures of your GoldHeart Rescue(s) that we can feature in next year's calendar? If so, we would love to hear from you. See below for more information and submittal instructions.

**Monthly Slots:** Will be filled on a first-in basis that meet the requirements below. To be fair to all our furry kids, Golden(s) that appeared within the past two years (2014-2015) will not be considered this year. Families with multiple pups can certainly be considered for inclusion together.

**Memorial Page:** For GoldHeart Golden(s) who crossed over the rainbow bridge that were not included last year, or if not previously featured, please submit a picture with the Dog's name and GoldHeart number. (designate for Memorial Calendar page in your email)

For Monthly Slot consideration, please email the following to: [calendargoldheart@gmail.com](mailto:calendargoldheart@gmail.com), and if you have multiple pups, just include information for all dogs featured in your pictures(s)

1. Dog's Name
2. GoldHeart # (from adoption paperwork)
3. When you adopted for GoldHeart (month/year – from adoption paperwork)
4. Age (as of July 1, 2015)
5. A sentence or two that others would enjoy hearing about your Golden, and/or what makes your furry family member special
6. Your family last name(s) to include in the calendar post.
7. Photo(s) – attach your high resolution photo(s) to the email. These are required for sharp reproduction in our calendar, otherwise the printing quality is very poor. Pictures should be taken at the highest resolution setting on the camera (minimum 300 DPI). Gmail will allow up to 25MB in attachments. If necessary, send multiple emails.

Thanks.



## Goldens...

### Get all the chicks!!!



#### THE REASON

I would've died that day if not for you. I would've given up on life if not for your kind eyes. I would've used my teeth in fear if not for your gentle hands. I would have left this life believing that all humans don't care. Believing there is no such thing as fur that isn't matted, skin that isn't flea bitten, good food and enough of it. Beds to sleep on, someone to love me, so show me that I deserve love just because I exist. Your kind eyes, your loving smile, your gentle hands.....Your big heart saved me.

You saved me from the terror of the pound, soothing away the memories of my old life. You have taught me what it means to be loved. I have seen you do the same for other dogs like me. I have heard you ask yourself in times of

despair why you do it. When there is no money, no more room, no more homes. You open your heart a little bigger, stretch the money a little tighter, make just one more room....to save one more like me.

I tell you with the gratitude and love that shines in my eyes. In the best way I know how, reminding you why you go on trying.

I am the reason. The dogs before me are the reason, as the ones who come after. Our lives would have been wasted, our love never given.

We would die if not for you!

#### Hey foster parents.....

**Tell us your story, your happy endings, your inside scoop on your new four legged family members. We love hearing from you. We love hearing the "happy tails" that come with adopting a Golden. Send in your pictures and stories to: [mmartinez@atlanticbb.net](mailto:mmartinez@atlanticbb.net).**

**Thanks.**

## Volunteer Foster List Update

Hi Everyone:

Yes, it's me, Barb Schaefer, the pesky president of GoldHeart. It has been brought to my attention that even though we have quite a few people on our foster home list, that the same people keep offering to foster.

As you know, we never have enough foster homes. We have been lucky enough to not have turned any dogs away because some of our foster homes are willing to take on more than one foster at a time. This has been a blessing. Some foster homes get tied up with one foster who needs a lot of medical care and therefore are not able to take on another foster.

I am asking everyone and anyone who is already on our foster home list to let the intake coordinator Carol Ruell know that you want to remain on the foster home list or to please remove you from the list. Even if you could only do an emergency foster for a day or so, this helps us avoid putting that incoming dog in a kennel situation which costs the rescue money. Some families that are on the list never respond and that's okay. We just don't want to bother you with the emails.

I am asking the members at this point to specify what they would be interested in doing, fostering, emergency foster (1 or 2 days), volunteering for events, transports, home visits, dog sitting for a foster home who is going away.

For fostering and helping with transports, please notify: Carol Ruell @ [carolruell@yahoo.com](mailto:carolruell@yahoo.com)

Volunteering in Maryland: Looking for someone to volunteer for Maryland. Contact GoldHeart if interested.

Volunteering in PA: Barb Schaefer @ [president@goldheart.org](mailto:president@goldheart.org)

As always, thank you for everything that you always do for GoldHeart.....Barb Schaefer – President - GoldHeart

## CROSSING OVER THE RAINBOW BRIDGE



HANNA (GH515)

Hanna had been sick for three weeks. What was thought and hoped to be pneumonia, was probably a tumor in or at the base of the heart. We had her hospitalized at the vet's and at Pet ER. She took a turn for the worse on a Saturday, and was re-Xrayed. Her chest was filled with fluid and probably metastasis. We decided to put her to sleep to stop her suffering. Hanna was such a gentle, sweet dog. We will never find another like her. I am grateful to have spent almost 5 years with her. I had expected to have more time with her. She was such an important part of our lives. We miss her



On Monday, December 22, we said goodbye to Christy after being a part of the Mahr family for 13+ years. It was just days before 9/11 when we as a young family welcomed her into our home. We are thankful to GoldHeart and the part you played in such a blessing to come our way.

We had been looking within GoldHeart for almost 6 months and were getting discouraged, maybe even frustrated that we hadn't found a dog that we and you felt comfortable was a good fit – we had a 3 year old at the time. Well, the patience paid off as Christy was the best dog we ever could have imagined for our family. She was always with us inside or outside the house and her yard was her haven.

She was 14 years and 3 months old – a long and beautiful life. Up until the end, her mind and disposition continued to be one of loyalty and love. Her body just couldn't go on. We had years of joy and experiences, and will treasure the memories we have.

We noticed the ID numbers are above 900 and are happy to see that your good work continues and that many other families are touched in the same way we were.....The Mahr Family



**CHRISTY (GH083)**



**GENNY (GH707)**

Pooh was Genny's favorite toy. She was a sweet and gentle dog. Beloved by her family and her sister Natty.....Kathy Holmes

Leigh and I adopted Rilee from GoldHeart in June of 2010 and when we brought Rilee home, Sunny was there to welcome Rilee to her new home and family. At that time, Sunny was 11 years old and Rilee, was rambunctious as she was, immediately recognized Sunny as her elder almost like she was her mother. For 5 ½ years, Sunny and Rilee were inseparable and shared a love of the water. The two would swim all day long. Sunny entered our family 16 ½ years ago, pure Golden puppy. Leigh and I with two young boys never had a dog before, so back then we really didn't know that an incredible impact that little puppy would have on our family. We all grew up together and along the way, Sunny was always with us spreading her Golden love on us all. As a tear comes down my face, I struggle to put into words just how much we loved Sunny, and how she gave that love to us for all those years.....Ken



**SUNNY**

**MAC (GH255)****The Mayor of Dogtown – Mac (GH255) 1998-2015**

When I first met Mac, he was in a tiny studio apartment in a not-so-nice area of Baltimore. He was 6 years old. He was excited to meet me and my other golden Indie, but settled down for a few short minutes to plonk his butt on my feet and gaze lovingly into my eyes and BAM! I fell in love. Mac continued to love us for the next 10 years and 3 months.

He was a dog with a huge personality and I say if a dog ever had ADD then Mac was it. Always sniffing, always doing, always running, always saying hello, which is how Mac came to get the name “The Mayor of Dogtown”. He wanted to “talk” and “shake hands” with everyone and anyone he met. Our friends loved him, our family loved him, the neighbors

(and their kids) loved him.

Mac adored his “big sister” Indie. From the moment he set eyes on her he would follow her around, pester her by grabbing on to her tail and pulling so she would play, and laying down next to her to sleep. They had been together for 3 years when Indie was diagnosed with cancer. During one particularly uncomfortable night for all of us, he lay down next to her, put his paw on hers and leant against her. I swear I saw him whispering in her ear – “I’ll be OK. You can go if you want to”.

Mac was obsessed with tennis balls; and I mean Obsessed! Especially the bright yellow new ones. We had a big bag that we would keep on the book shelf in the kitchen. He would bark at them until we gave him one. Eventually I hid them behind the books, so he couldn’t see them. About 3 years later, he was in the kitchen one day barking at the bookshelf. He continued to do this for about 2 or 3 months – I thought it was mice, but whenever I checked it out there was nothing there. Finally, I stuck my hand in behind the books where he was looking and there – yes you guessed it – I pulled out a half full bag of tennis balls, and he went nuts!

One morning, when Mac was around 12, he couldn’t stand up. We rushed him to the vet and then to an oncologist, an orthopedist and a neurologist... in that order. After a thorough exam, x-rays, a sonogram, an MRI and spinal tap, he was diagnosed with Rocky Mountain Spotted fever. An aggressive course of antibiotics knocked it out of him, but he remained with the long-lasting effects that made his hind quarters weak. He did fine for a while but old age caught up with him and along with his arthritis, he began to slow down. He still did the sniffing, the doing, the running, the saying hello, just a tad more slowly.

As the years went on he was still full of joy and love, still playing with his brother. We took him to rehab on a regular basis, getting laser therapy, massage and underwater treadmill to keep him strong and mobile, but he was getting older. Our vet asked us if we were going for the “oldest living golden retriever” record and at 16 years old he was getting there (that honor apparently goes to Max, a golden living in British Columbia who lived to 19 ½ years old). Even at 16 he insisted on going for his daily walk, even though it was only 20 minutes and needed a harness to help him walk.

As with all things, when the time came Mac did it with enthusiasm. He stopped eating one day, and didn’t want to go for a walk. The next day we took him to the vet; he walked into the room, just lay down as if to say “let’s do this”.

He was always so full of enthusiasm, loved to walk, and play. He would talk to anyone who wanted to and many who didn’t. Our Mac, Macaroni, The Macster, Old Man, Maccie Boy. He was the light of our lives and the joy of our heart. Good night sweet prince.



**FRIENDS OF GOLDHEART**



**Big Fish Entertainment**

717-979-7278

**Scooper Hero** - 3114 Royston Avenue - Baltimore, MD 21214

410-319-6630 or 1-877-319-6630

**Mt. Airy Veterinary Associates** – 1312 South Main Street – Suite 9 – Mt. Airy, MD 21771

**Moe's Bar and Grill** – 4709 Gettysburg Rd. – Mechanicsburg, PA

**Shiloh Veterinary Clinic** – 100 Morgan Lane – York, PA

717-767-1080

**Healing Hands Animal Hospital** – 727 East Main St – Salisbury, MD 21804

**Churchville Vet.com** – Churchville Veterinary Clinic – Greenbrier Veterinary Clinic – Swan Creek Veterinary

**Dirty Dog Makeover** – Annette Melhorn – Mobile Grooming

[www.canaltownelabs.com](http://www.canaltownelabs.com) - Kristin Wade

---

Everyone at GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc. would like to thank you for your continuing support and generous contributions to our organization. We could not survive without them.

