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SPRING 2018



www.GoldenRetrieverRescueofSouthernMaryland.org | 855.477.3728

by Pat Johnson

Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us for the rescue's annual meeting on **Saturday, February 24th** from 1:30 - 3:30 PM at the **Charlotte Hall Library** in St. Mary's County.

The agenda is:

- Introductions and discussion questions
- Reports
- Elections
- Auction

Refreshments will be served. No RSVP required. Hope to see you there. We always have a good time. The following members were not included in the online membership recognitions - Becky Saunders, David Rasmussen and Coleen Blundell.

Upcoming Events

We will need lots of volunteers during April as we will have a table at the following events:

- **Saturday, April 14th:** St Mary's Hospice Run & Fun Walk (<http://runforhospice.org>)
- **Sunday, April 29th:** St Mary's College Puppy Playtime
- **Saturday/Sunday, April 28 & 29:** Dogfest Charles County (<http://www.marylanddogfest.com>)

Volunteering at events is a great opportunity for outgoing people to bring their golden and chat with others about golden retrievers and the rescue. To volunteer at events contact **Jean Huey, Events Coordinator** at jahuey@md.metrocast.net.

Thank you to Jen Linkins for making our newsletter look beautiful.

Auction Donations

We do an auction to raise funds as part of the rescue's annual meeting. This year the money raised will support the five goldens from China who will come to the rescue on **February 22**. We like to auction 12 - 15 items.

So far this year we have:

- A dog themed quilt made by Barb Saylor.
- Corn hole games made by Al Huey and painted by Becky Minnich.
- A golden retriever garden statue from Barb and John Hayter.
- A garden flag holder and six seasonal flags from Pat and Joe Johnson.
- An outdoor holiday golden retriever light fixture from Kate Devlin.

If you have an item you'd like to donate to the rescue's auction please contact auction coordinator **Barb Saylor** at **barbi23@verizon.net**.

If we have more items than we need for this auction, we will save them to use in our online auction in the summer. Remember, donations are tax deductible and Barb will send you a thank you for your files.



Last November I received an email from one of our sister golden rescue groups asking if we could help five golden pups rescued from the meat market in China since they could not. I talked with Ginny Hinders, Foster Coordinator, and she agreed we should try. We have rescued pups from Turkey and Japan, but this is a first for us.

After consulting with two other much larger golden rescue groups who bring dogs in from China from a rescue called Together For Animals In China, we agreed to take these five goldens.

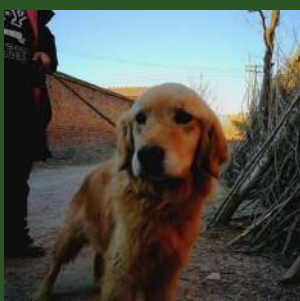
Wow, have I learned a lot about international dog rescue! I even have a phone app that translates messages from Chinese. The Center for Disease Control and the Department of Agriculture are my best friends.

We couldn't get them to the DC area until April as smaller planes fly to our areas and it's too cold in cargo for dogs. So Becky Minnich, Kim Adams, MJ Eptein and I will be trekking to JFK the third week in February to pick up our newest golden Americans.

We've been told the goldens are gentle, loving and your typical goldens. They were likely stolen from middle class Chinese families to be eaten (sickening) at the Yulin Dog Meat Festival. With no microchips or identifying information, there was no way to return them to their families.

Right now our pups don't have names, but they will soon have new lives thanks to our foster families, transporters, home visitors and financial contributors.

China Dogs





think LIKE A dog

MAKING STRIDES TOWARDS GOOD BEHAVIOR,
ONE PAW AT A TIME 🐾

Talk with a Dog Trainer

Local Animal Behavioral Certified Dog Trainer, Donna Poundrier, will share “What Dog Trainers Wants Dog Parents to Know”.

Saturday, April 28th at 1:00 pm

Charlotte Hall Library

\$5 fee for non-members

We will have the opportunity to submit questions in advance and ask questions during the session. Find out why your dog eats poop and what to do about it, how to calm your golden who is afraid of thunderstorms, how to manage your dog reaction dog, and more!

Wine Lovers

Kim Adams, Fundraising Chair, wants to remind you that we have an ongoing wine fundraiser. New rescue pups are on the labels and the cost of shipping is much lower this year - a flat rate of \$15.

There are six varieties of wine to choose from so there's sure to be one that suits every wine lover. Visit the following link to order: http://www.benefitwines.com/Golden-Retriever-Rescue-of-Southern-Maryland_c_2445.html



Volunteer Training

If you've ever thought about getting more involved with the rescue, a training session is being held for our most pressing needs. Attend the segment(s) you are interested in learning more about.

We will have at least a couple of experienced volunteers at each session to answer any questions you might have after a brief presentation on each area. Refreshments will be served. Please let us know which sessions you plan to attend so we will have enough handouts. To confirm your seat, email Pat Johnson at johnsonpat@verizon.net or call 240.925.8817.

Transport Training

12:30 pm - 1:15 pm

Saturday, March 24th

Charlotte Hall Library

You will learn how to safely bring a dog to rescue.

Home Visitor Training

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Saturday, March 24th

Charlotte Hall Library

Home visitors are the eyes and ears of the rescue. You gracefully assess a prospective adoptive family's home for safety and care of a golden and answer questions they may have. You can bring your dog with you which is always fun.

Foster Home Training

2:45 pm - 4:30 pm

Saturday, March 24th

Charlotte Hall Library

How to introduce dogs, foster family responsibilities and choosing the right family for your guest golden will be discussed.



2017

Dog Recap

Ginny Hinders, Intake/Foster Coordinator says, "2017 was a great year for GRRSM! Thanks to our amazing foster families we were able to take in 30 dogs (we also had 2 carryovers from 2017). Of the new intakes, 21 pups were female and 9 were male.

Where did the pups come from? Fourteen pups were Owner Surrenders from Maryland & Virginia. Three pups came from local shelters (one from PGAMD and two from TriCounty). Thirteen dogs were rescued internationally—nine from Turkey and four from Okinawa, Japan (our first rescues from Japan!). "

Pup Demographics:

- 7 Pups were under 2
- 10 Pups were ages 3-5
- 8 Pups were ages 6-8
- 5 Pups were over 9

Some of our intakes this year needed some extra TLC, including Sunny, Rafa, Rose and Lucky who were HW+, Maverick who had severe ear infections and a nasal tumor, Max, a 17 year-old hospice foster, and Chew, a furever foster who had a cancerous growth removed and severe skin allergies.

Adoptive Family Updates

We hope you love dog updates as much as we do. Here are updates from some of the families who adopted dogs last year.



Chloe (Zoe)

"We adopted Chloe on May 30th and she has brought so much love and joy to our family. She is the sweetest little girl and we are so blessed to have her. Her favorite things to do are: take rides in the car, play with her toys, take walks and watch tv. She loves watching Dr. Pol and barks every time she sees another pup on the tv. She's funny, a little goofy sometimes and a total sweetheart!"

- Barb and John



Maggy (Flower)

"Maggy was so anxious when she came. She was on melatonin 4x a day, would not leave the house nor get in the car. Happy to say, she's a happy girl these days! She will run for miles when we hike and has lost weight, bringing out her new muscular shape. She has been to lots of great walking/hiking places such as Quiet Waters Park, USNA, Bacon Ridge, and Greenbury Point, to name a few. She loves to shop at Depot or Best Buy. Maggy offers a paw to whomever she meets. I feel like I won the dog lottery!"

- Jeanne

Buttercup

"Buttercup is such an amazing dog and has fit right in. She's well known in the neighborhood and we can't go for a walk without someone yelling "Buttercup". Of course, she enjoys being the neighborhood celebrity and looks forward to the extra attention...Over the last 5 months she's come out of her shell and plays more (she can be very goofy!). She's also very protective of her house and yard and will bark at any delivery man, mailman, squirrel, or bird that she feels is threatening her. I can't thank GRRSM for saving Buttercup because, in turn, she also saved me!"

- Julianna

Keje

"Keje is such a ray of sunshine, which is the reason we kept her name from Turkey. Its Kurdish meaning is 'Radiant Beauty.' She really is the happiest dog we've known. We love how she just wiggles when she's happy...She absolutely craves human contact and is quite the Velcro-dog...She also adores her big brother, Riley, a Super Seven rescue from 2010...While we don't really know what her life was like in Turkey, she's definitely found a home here and is quite the Princess of this castle."

- Shannon



Alice and Cara

"Beast (Alice) and Baby Beast (Cara) are doing very well. I think it was a good idea to adopt them at the same time...as they bonded immediately and are VERY close. They play constantly and sleep together, and I have never seen one cross at the other ever. Alice is alpha due to size and age, but she is a good and friendly alpha and has no issues with any other pet, cat or dog. Cara is the 'baby' and may stay in that role forever. She loves to be the baby. Alice is the most talkative dog we have ever had. She is quite adept at getting her needs and wants across with vocalizations, and she does not care where or when or if she interrupts...We love them to the moon and back."

- Michelle



Sydney

“Sydney has brought so much joy into our house. You can't help but smile with some of her golden antics. She puts her heart into everything she does. I am not sure if she learned this on the streets of Turkey but she loves playing the poor dog routine by raising her one paw to beg for a pet or some food. Most days you can find her sunning herself in the sun room or on windy days hanging out on the deck enjoying the wind in her hair. We are thankful every day for this wonderful golden.”

- Michelle



Lucky

“Lucky keeps us smiling with his infectious smile and his goofy golden antics. While no one knows how old Lucky is, he acts like a puppy. He loves to play with his toys or snuggle at your feet. Lucky loves to have a toy in his mouth at all times, including when he goes outside to do his business. For Christmas, Santa got him a pacifier and he loves it. Lucky still has weakness in his back legs (nothing that slows him down) so we will be headed off to swim therapy at MASH soon.”

- Michelle



Sophie (Duffy)

“In February 2017, Becky Minnich, Ginny Hinders and I drove to JFK to meet Duffy (now Sophie), her sister, Lily, and Keje as they arrived from Turkey. Here we are one year later. ...Sophie makes me smile like no one else can. She has a heart as big as the moon. She loves everyone she meets. She is the best foster mom to puppies in need...She fills my heart with happiness. Thank you, GRRSM, for my dog-my family loves her more than you could ever know!”

- Karen



Maizy

“Maizy is well loved.”

- Rebecca Anderson



Willow and Emma

“Willow and Emma have settled into their new home and have been giving their new parents lots of love. They both are getting plenty of love, rubs, and pets in return. Both pups have quickly mastered the art of walking on the leash without pulling, unless a cat happens to come into view! Although this was probably one of the fastest adoptions, it certainly was a match made from heaven. Thank you GRRSM, Wally, Willow, Kate and Emma.”



Chew

“Chew came into the GRRSM family in October 2017, shortly before his 12th birthday..When Chew arrived, he was underweight, had very little hair, he smelled terrible, his skin was in rough shape, and he had chronic ear infections. Chew's days and nights were filled with constant, obsessive scratching and chewing...Through it all, his tail never stopped wagging. Chew is a true golden heart. He is the perfect example of how a rescue and amazing donors can change a life dramatically. In December, Chew had a successful surgery to remove skin cancer. Today, Chew's hair is growing in thick, soft and wavy...His GRRSM family gave him what was probably his best Christmas ever with so many toys and treats. Most of all, because of your support, love and donations, he is a happy, healthy dog playing tug of war, wrestling with his foster sister, running with his pack, shredding toys with glee and taking long, luxurious naps on his favorite bed. Life has definitely changed for Chew and he is forever grateful!” - Karin, Chew's long term foster mom