
◇ Golden Offerings ◇

A Publication of Golden Endings: Golden Retriever Rescue

Spring/Summer 2014



Featured Article

READ WHITNEY'S STORY

On page 6 & 7

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*Newsletter Prepared By:
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Daisy Indian Summer

By Ann Vick

At the age of 5 years, Golden Retriever Daisy Indian Summer began to live with my son, Joe. Daisy's hair color reflected her name: rich, tawny golden with tips that glistened in the sun. Daisy had been a young boy's 4H project, and exhibited her training of sit, stay, down, no jump and placing her paw softly on your arm.

The first few nights at Joe's, Daisy found a safe place to sleep hidden on the floor of the closet. Although she soon moved closer to Joe's bed, she was never able to relax in thunderstorms. She wanted to be close.

Daisy fetched the tennis ball 'til Joe's arm ached; she chased the squirrels in the suburban backyard and at the park; she would try to jump on the lower branches of a tree to get them; of course, the squirrels outfoxed her. Joe sometimes wished that she could climb a tree! Daisy buried bones in the yard in summertime only to retrieve them later- rancid. She rode in the red pickup truck with her head in Joe's lap and her paw on the console and in the back seat of his car with her nose on his shoulder while big legs stretched over the seat- a No-No.

Daisy was always welcome at our farm where she could be with our Chocolate Labrador Retriever. Together they enjoyed the open spaces, the woods and the shade. She was comfortable in our home.

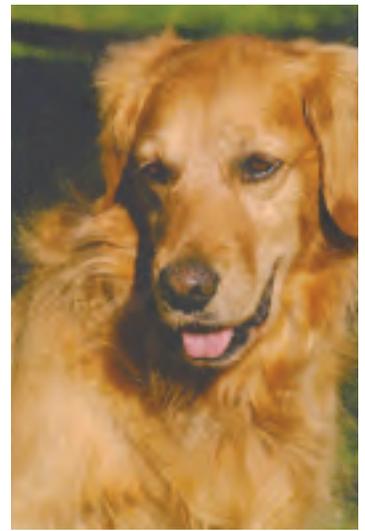
One cool, sunny fall morning Joe and Daisy had returned from their walk down his farm's grass runway. Joe went into the shop building to make a phone call. Returning outside he saw Daisy peacefully lying in the cool grass. Something about her didn't seem quite right. He touched her. Daisy was dead. With Daisy in his arms, he took her to his veterinarian, who pronounced death to a ruptured blood vessel. She was 10 years old.

Even though my son is now raising a Golden Retriever puppy, Gracie, we all recall with heavy hearts and tears the joys that God allowed us to have with loyal, loving, warm Daisy. We'll never forget her soft, liquid eyes and the hours of her life that she shared with us.

GEGRR Calendar Contest 2015

The annual Calendar Contest is hereby announced. Send us your entry picture as soon as possible. Please go to our website for contest details. Go to www.goldenendingsrescue.com We will accept pictures until the end of September. Remember, this is for Golden pictures only- you can't be in it. Sorry.

Our calendar fundraiser was a huge success for GEGRR last year, bringing in about \$6,000 for medical expenses for our rescued Goldens while giving everyone that bought a calendar twelve beautiful Goldens to look at all year long. I love seeing the new Golden each month. I'm sure that your Golden would love to be in the 2015 Calendar!



GEGRR Update *By Kay Hirsch*

I've been thinking a lot about "change" lately. Probably because Tim and I are moving after more than 30 years in our home. One of my big concerns is how difficult this might be on Colton, our 13 1/2 year old, near blind, near deaf, wobbly rear-ended Golden. He has one path that he will take on his short outings, and you'd better not get in his way. He has stopped traffic, including the police patrol, as he slowly crosses the street or stops to relieve himself.

Golden Endings has had many calls lately, from families who have had to say good-bye to a dearly loved Golden. Most people hate the quiet house and just want another Golden. Of course, many are anxious to welcome any Golden that seems like a good fit for their family. And then there are those who make a verbal comparison to the passed dog in every sentence. We always say that we can hopefully find another Golden for a family to love, but we can never replace the dog that was lost. Tim often says that they are all alike and they're all different. We've had six Golden in our family, and each one has been unique.

We need to remember as we mourn the loss of one dear Golden that we need to keep an open mind and heart when bringing a new Golden into our family.

Our intake has been slow this year. That's good for the Golden not needing us. The Golden that we have brought in have needed extensive medical care including surgeries. We are fortunate to have the financial means to meet these expenses. Any non-profit group is only successful in its mission if they have financial backing from their membership. Thanks to your generous financial giving and loving hearts, we have served our special needs Golden. I have always been proud to say that I work with Golden Endings and share our mission. You all give GEGRR the positive reputation we continue to have in the world of dog rescue.

2014 Numbers through July:

Intake: 23; 18 males, 5 females

Ages: 8 weeks to 13 years

Adoptions: 27

(some were dogs from 2013)

Support for 12 Long Term Fosters

The mission continues!

Please support the Calendar Contest and the follow-up sales effort. This is our major fund-raiser!

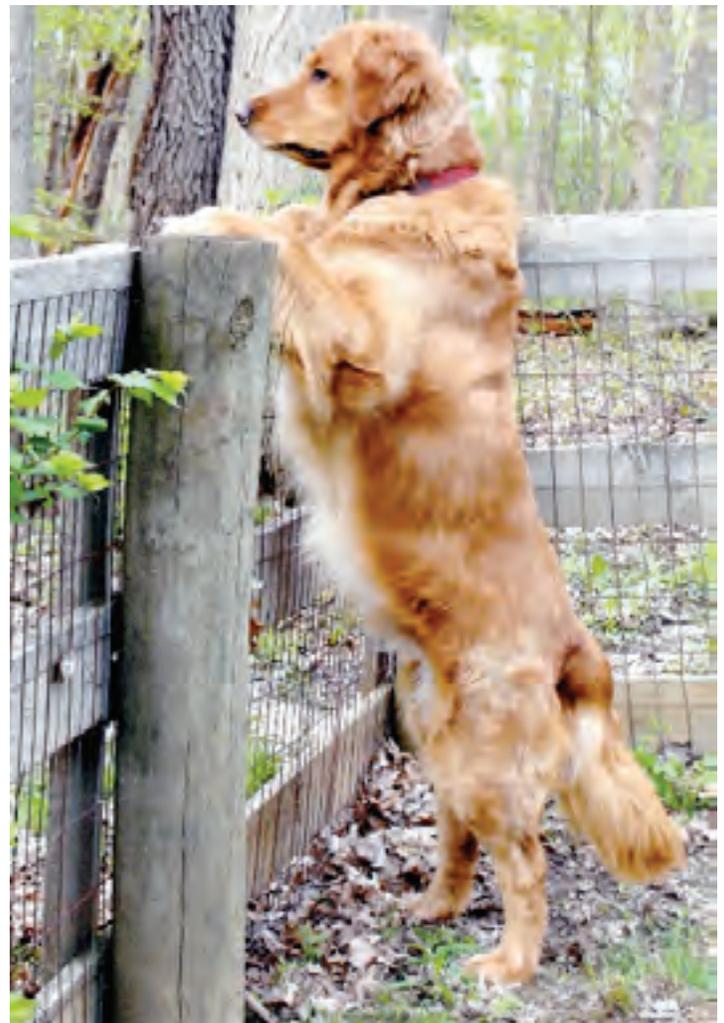
GOLDEN UPDATES

Yogi Bear

Kay and Tim,

Here are a few photos of Yogi Bear. His ribs don't show any more! He is a wonderful dog and fits well into our family! Thanks again for finding us a new friend.

Sandy and John



Sophie

Hi Kay,

I just wanted to send you a note to let you know how I am doing with the Cones, (my new mom and dad). It took me a day to get acclimated but things are cool beans now. They take me for at least 3 walks a day and I'm worn out when I get back so I lay next to where mom is sitting.

I got to meet my new vet and he seems to be an ok guy, but I like the girls that work for him better. I'm going there Thursday to get a new "DOO". My dad says I need some hair trimmed. I met my next door neighbors. The little one barks at me when I'm out but I ignore him. The guy on the other side is my buddy. We lick each other face at the fence if my dad doesn't take me over to play with him. He's a 3 year tan lab and has a little too much energy for me sometimes.

My day starts out too early for me as my dad gets up at 5:30 and I have to go out with him to pee-pee when he gets the three newspapers he reads while he drinks his coffee. I will say he feeds me as soon we come back in. The first week and half I would lay down next to his chair and sleep but that got old so when I'm finished eating I just trot down the hall and lay down on moms side next to the bed on the floor until she decides to get up. I don't even follow dad out when he leaves for golf every morning. My dad takes me in the car to the bank and other places. When we go to the drive-thru bank I get a treat but I still haven't figured out where the voices come from yet. The first time all the girls were talking to me and saying my name but I couldn't see them. When I hear a strange voice or my dad/mom is talking to someone I bark real loud and long so they know they can't hurt mom and dad. If they say my name I know it's ok and their friends.

When mom or dad is fixing something in the kitchen I lay down right in the middle in case they drop something. We have a lot of squirrels and chipmunks but I just let them go. I did get in trouble the other day because I ate two of dad's cherry tomatoes off the vine. Boy they were good.

Well, that's about all from up north but I just wanted to let you know that I love it here and they love me so it's a match made in heaven. I do miss my former mom and dad and I hope they are getting along ok and if you see them please tell them that I understand.

Love, Sophie

P.S. Notice my dad changed my name by one letter but I know who I am when they call me.

GEGRR PET CALENDAR

Back by popular demand is the GEGRR pet calendar of our Golden Friends. We are now accepting submissions for the 2015 calendar. Turn your Golden into a calendar girl or boy by submitting their photo, along with a short narrative on why they are special to you, to this fun photo contest. The winning photographs and stories will be featured in the 2015 GEGRR Calendar that will be sold to help raise money to support homeless Golden Retrievers. The 2014 calendar was a huge fundraising success. Winners will receive a free calendar and photo/story credit.

This is a fun way to help homeless Golden Retrievers, while showing your pets off for the superstars they really are! You can get involved by submitting your photo and story to cgatland29@gmail.com

Posting and nominations must be submitted by September 30th, 2014 to qualify (In plain English this means that the deadline is 11:59.59 on September 29th and not a second later). If you won a place on last year's calendar you are INELIGIBLE to enter this year. Let's give other folks a chance to win this year.

When submitting a photo please remember to include:

- *Caption (Limit of 3-5 sentences)*
- *Why your pet is special*
- *Your name, pet's name and your email address are required*
- *Horizontal images only please (NO VERTICAL IMAGES)*
- *Pictures need to be submitted in JPEG (.jpg) file format*
- *Please no people in the images, just our Golden friends.*

PLEASE READ BELOW...

By submitting a photo, you hereby give unrestricted permission to Golden Endings to use the attached photo on our web site and in our publications, and for other uses as we see fit. Golden Endings reserves the right to not publish a post.

We hope to have calendars available for the fall picnic in October.

Thanks again...

Colin
Webmaster



Max's Story *by David W. Fick*

I first met Max in November of 2012 after he had just turned 13 years old. He wasn't your typical rescue dog. Max had been surrendered to Golden Endings by a wonderful family. He had lived his whole life with a wonderful couple who were now in their 90's and due to health situations could no longer care for Max. They looked into several options and, with the help of their daughter, they decided to call Golden Endings Golden Retriever Rescue for help in finding their beloved dog a good new home to live out the rest of his life.

I had just lost three Goldens (all rescued from Golden Endings) in a span of nine months. All three passed away from different forms of cancer. Even though I had several other pets living at my house, it just didn't seem complete without a Golden living amongst us. That's when I received a call from Kay Hirsch telling me of Max's situation. I was very excited to meet Max, and I took him home after he got his medical evaluation at Village Gate Animal Hospital where I also work. His age was not a

deterrent at all because I love older dogs so much. Like old people, you can learn so much from an old dog. They have so many stories to tell.

It didn't take Max any time at all to fit in with the rest of my gang. At the time I had five other dogs, one cat and a bird. That number has since increased, with Max welcoming each new friend with a quiet, laid back enthusiasm. For an old boy, Max has been pretty healthy- even taking long walks and playing in the snow.

Max's original owners had kept in touch with Kay from time to time to check on Max, and Kay always assured them how well he was doing. Then in the spring of 2014 they called again thinking he may have passed away from old age. I had just told Kay that the cold and snowy winter of 2014 had revitalized Max and he was almost acting like a puppy, running around and playing in the snowy back yard. It was amazing to see. I think I was the only person who loved this past winter. It made my old dog Max young again, even if only for a short few months. The previous owners were so glad to hear this and wanted to know if they could visit with Max again, knowing that they were still unable to take him back. This type of visit had never been done before between Golden Endings and a previous owner, meeting and visiting with their previously surrendered dog. This situation was different though, and Kay and I were very happy and excited for this reunion to take place.

Kay and I set up a date in early spring on a beautiful Saturday morning to take Max to this special reunion. We had a wonderful visit and Max so enjoyed seeing his Mom again, just hanging out with her and being loved. It also gave Max's owners peace of mind, knowing he is greatly cared for and has adapted so well in his new home. Not only was it very rewarding to see this reunion, it was also very enjoyable hearing about Max's parents life history and all about their thirteen years spent raising Max from a puppy to a grand old senior.

I will never forget the fulfilling visit that Kay and I had with the family and Max. It's just another great story made possible through Golden Endings Golden Retriever Rescue.

Thank you for reading our story.



WHITNEY'S STORY 4/19/14

This is the story of our beautiful princess Whitney, a Golden Endings Foster girl arriving to our home, by way of Belmont Correctional Institute. We had lost our dear Golden Endings Oscar II April 29, 2013, suddenly to hemangiosarcoma of the heart and spleen. The spring was very empty and sad, as it had been many years since we had had no golden to touch our hearts and home. I don't know if I was even ready, but the emptiness seemed so overwhelming, and I felt guilty to Oscar's memory, but I called Kay Hirsch, I guess maybe around July, just to bounce off the idea that she might start looking for a very special golden for our home . She knows we have a large outdoor play area, farm acreage, creek and two active grandchildren who love to visit. She had found Oscar I and II for us whom we had loved dearly, and when the timing was right, God would have the right dog for us.



I don't know how long it was after that first phone call, but Kay called back with a question that literally left me speechless. Kay asked if we might consider a blind rescue golden. I'd had no experience with a dog without sight and I said I'd need to talk with my husband and think about it. To myself I thought – could a blind dog have any quality of life? How would you train a dog that is blind? Many questions went thru my mind and I went to the internet and actually found a website for blind dog owners (<http://www.petfinder.com/dogs/dog-care/living-with-blind-dogs/>) and many tips, and found a wonderful book with training tips , and ordered it in to the library and finally bought a copy which gave me much hope. One woman on the web site actually said after having a blind dog, she would never have a sighted dog again! WOW! I called Kay back and said we'd open our house and hearts to this rescue. We found at this time she also had some sort of medical problems too. She was currently in the Belmont Correctional Institute , which is under the Ohio Prison system and coordinates with Golden Endings and Judy Johnson as the Liaison for the handlers to rehabilitate and train the dogs for foster and adoption. She had been an Amish puppy mill breeder dog, 13 of her puppies had died, she became blind at the same time, and the breeder was going to shoot her, and Golden Endings intervened to adopt her. She was found to have a rare fungus, blastomycosis, that had caused the blindness and loss of her puppies , found in the soil, requiring expensive long term 6-8 month antifungal treatment. She also had four infected paws from neglected nail trimming, requiring her handlers to carry her to go potty every 3 hours, her hair had been burned off her skin in many places due to urine scald from living in a cage. Judy Johnson, The Belmont coordinator, is the Angel who intervened and saved Whitney's life, and she started on treatment April 19, 2013. Whitney was about 18 months old, and was not medically stable enough to spay until July, which was done.

Judy sent us a beautiful picture of Whitney being groomed by her handlers, what a lovely girl. No way to tell she was blind. Her beautiful hair had grown back in, and her feet had healed from the abscesses. We set up a date to meet and see how the handlers worked with her, gave her commands and how she responded. We met at the Institute on August 7, 2013. The handlers at Belmont did an exceptional job working with her, and we were very impressed. She seemed very smart, and her commands were, Stop, Sit, Go Pee, "Fence" for any obstruction in her way, and Lie down. We met Judy, and spoke with her about any potential problems. Whitney was running in the outside huge fenced in area, with about 20 other goldens, and she was bouncing off of them and them off of her, and she seemed to be having a ball, not timid or shy at all. A real joy to see. I remember Judy saying it would probably be a good idea that once we had her in the car to go home (about a 6 hour drive) DO NOT STOP to let her out to go potty or stretch on the way. We had to lift her into the car; she didn't understand to step up into the back seat. She lay on the back seat in her seat belt harness, anxious, panting. Boy, Judy was surely right, we would have never gotten her back into the car, and it would have been much more traumatic for Whitney. Whitney was skittish, frightened and not knowing where she was, libel to run in the opposite direction. Something we sure didn't want halfway home at a roadside rest area. Everything was new for her, of course, and it took awhile for her to become used to us. By consistently repeating commands she quickly grew more confident in her new environment. Her favorite place became under the dining room table with all of her toys and chew bones around her, so that anyone sitting down would have an open invitation for a golden petting session. She couldn't get enough. She still loved her crate, and

the “Go IN” command at bedtime became another favorite one for her, to curl up for a nights sleep. One night I actually found her totally upside down propped up against the wall of her crate with all four feet in the air, sound asleep.

She has fallen in love with Blacktop, our resident outdoor cat, and its mutual, and it’s a delight to see them playing gently together. Whitney can even “track her” across the yard by her cat bell. HA! In October I felt like Whitney was ready for Obedience class. She needed socialization with other dogs, confidence building in new situations, practice with leash walking and getting comfortable with car riding. It was important to firm up commands of sit, stay ,recall, but most of all to have Fun together. The instructor was wonderful; she had much experience and used lots of praise. Whitney responded great to all the praise and even better to the fresh baked liver treats. She started off quite timid and shy, but with 7 weeks of repetition, and I have to say of the nine dogs and owners there, only 2 (plus the instructor) knew that she was blind – she finished second in the class for a timed sit stay, rapid recall, leeeave it!! I wanted to cry, I was so proud of her.

After 8 months, on November 1, on the antifungal Difulcan twice a day, she was still positive for blastomyocosis, although her titer was coming down, she needed further treatment. Golden Endings came thru with more medication. February 4, 2014 she tested NEGATIVE for the fungus, Praise the Lord, and is now off of all medication. We are very grateful, and will follow up with a titer at 3 and 6 month per our vets recommendation.

I’ve been taking her for walks in the woods, which she seems to really love, and the smells that she picks up where the deer and turkey have been thru the grass. You should see her actually running around outside in our enclosed play yard without bumping into anything, with the exuberance of a puppy – it is so good to see her enjoying life this way after such a hard start – we love her so – we have a gem – Thank you Golden Endings!

HAVE FUN - EAT AT TEXAS ROADHOUSE AND HELP OUR GOLDENS!

On Thursday, 2 October 2014 we will have a fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse on Bethel Road. Just copy the coupon to the right, present it at Texas Roadhouse on October 2nd between 4:00 and 10:00 p.m. and 10% of your check total will be donated to Golden Endings. Let’s eat, party, enjoy and support our beloved goldens!

FUNDRAISER THANK YOU

A great big thank you to Laura Donaldson who raised \$140.00 for our rescue by selling coupons to Macy’s “Shop For A Cause” in August. By purchasing a \$5.00 coupon from Golden Endings you received 25% off almost all merchandise at Macy’s on their designated shopping day. Perhaps next year we can make this a “group” effort. Again, thank you Laura!

A promotional sign for Texas Roadhouse. At the top is a circular logo with a silhouette of a dog's head. Below it, the words "TEXAS ROADHOUSE" are written in a stylized, bold font. The sign is mounted on a black pole. To the right of the pole, the text reads "TEXAS ROADHOUSE WILL DONATE 10% of your food purchase to benefit Golden Endings-Golden Retriever Rescue when you present this slip to your server." To the left of the pole, the text reads "Join us on Thursday October 2nd 4-10pm". At the bottom of the sign, there is a graphic of a Texas Roadhouse building at night. In the bottom left corner, there is a graphic that says "Call AHEAD SEATING" with an arrow pointing right. In the bottom right corner, the phone number "614.457.5322" and the address "1540 Bethel Road, Columbus" are listed.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE
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**Join us on
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Call AHEAD
SEATING

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Golden Endings: Golden Retriever Rescue
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Columbus, Ohio 43212

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Change of Address
For all mailings and donations:
Golden Endings Golden Retriever Rescue
c/o Kay Hirsch
1043 Elmwood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43212

CURRENT EVENTS

Golden Endings Fall Picnic...

Sunday October 12 - 12PM - 4 PM in Blendon Woods

Fall Picnic Please join us for the annual Golden Endings Fall Picnic at Blendon Woods Metro Park Sycamore Shelter 4265 E. Dublin Granville Rd. 12p-4p. Hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be available. Last names beginning with A-K bring a dessert, L - R bring a side dish and S - Z bring an appetizer. Be sure to stay for a group picture and Kay Hirsch's annual membership meeting. Dogs must remain on leash but can still run and play. This is a great event to catch up and share stories of our beloved Golden Retrievers. RSVP to Connie Walker 614-459-3659.

Please go to our website at:
Goldenendingsrescue.com for up to date
schedule of events.