

◇ Golden Offerings ◇

A Publication of Golden Endings: Golden Retriever Rescue

Winter 2014



2015 Calendar



This year's calendar is dedicated to the 20 years of Golden Retriever rescue work as an Ohio Non-Profit Corporation, and the 2,000-plus rescued Goldens that benefitted from the generous support that our organization has received. Thank You from the Goldens and our volunteers! Best Wishes for 2015!



Golden Endings Officers & Staff

Executive Vice President Adoption Coordinator

Kay Hirsch
614.486.0773

Vice President Director Eastern Division

Marsha Sines
740.859.2255

Secretary

Justine Ramser
614.736.4581

Dog Events

Jenny Kendall
614.825.478?

Event Coordinator

Connie Walker
614.459.3659

Volunteer Coordinator

Elaine Troesch
614.457.3747

Fundraising/Newsletter

Bill Johnston
614.488.7551

GEGRR Store

Justine Ramser
614.736.4581

Trustees

Bill Johnston - 614.488.7441
Judy Johnson - 740.676.2208
Cathy Taylor - 614.889.5030
Jenny Kendall - 614.824.4782

Hotline

614.488.4966

**Newsletter Prepared By:
GraphX Productions**

Golden Endings Annual Meeting Minutes 12 October 2014

Golden Endings Golden Retriever Rescue annual meeting was held at Blendon Woods Sycamore Shelter on Sunday, 12 October 2014 in conjunction with the fall picnic.

Forty people and seventeen dogs attended on a beautiful fall day! Elaine and Jerry Troesch along with Kay and Tim Hirsch did a wonderful job of hosting and grilling. Thanks to Connie Walker for shopping for the picnic supplies even though she was on vacation and did not attend (too bad)!

We had wonderful weather and both dogs and people had a great time greeting old friends and making new ones (although dog greetings and human ones were a bit different)!

Kay conducted the business meeting and gave the following report:

Dog: 54 dogs were taken in during 2013
To date 28 dogs have been taken in during 2014
Currently 12 are in foster care.

Financial: Checking \$39,386.82
5/3rd CD \$10,000.00
Savings \$72,900.00 from estate beneficiary designation

Respectfully submitted, Justine Ramser, Secretary

Fundraising Efforts

Greetings members,

As the years progress, we learn from experience what works – and what doesn't work. We always keep in mind the cost of doing business – and our business is first and foremost rescuing and finding forever homes for Golden Retrievers in need. There are minimal over-head costs as we are an all-volunteer organization with no paid employees.

Our most significant cost is veterinary expense for the Goldens coming into our group and those in foster care within our group. To assist in reducing costs of mailing, we are consolidating the annual dues request, plea for annual donations, and forms for ordering the 2015 Calendar and the Golden Retriever holiday cards or note cards in this newsletter. In the past we sent out separate mailings including envelopes for these items but find it more economical to include them within this newsletter. As we have a membership of over eight hundred strong, you can imagine the savings this will create for our organization.

Our vet bills, alone, are approximately \$62,000 thru the first of December. Additional revenue to support dogs in need come from the annual Golden Endings calendar sales, Holiday card orders, book wrapping, store merchandise sales, and other events.

Your donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be sent to document your donation. Again, these donations are the mainstay of Golden Endings – without your generosity we would not be able to support Golden Retrievers in need in Ohio. Donations can be sent to 1043 Elmwood Ave., Columbus, OH 43212, with checks made payable to Golden Endings: Golden Retriever Rescue.

Information and remittance forms for the dues, calendar and Holiday cards and blank note cards were enclosed within this newsletter. You can use the pre-addressed envelope to send dues, orders and contributions to us. We hope that you will find this convenient.

Your support – in returning your annual dues, additional donations, and purchasing calendars and Holiday cards to use for the upcoming season is greatly appreciated!

Jennifer Kendall

GEGRR Update *By Kay Hirsch*

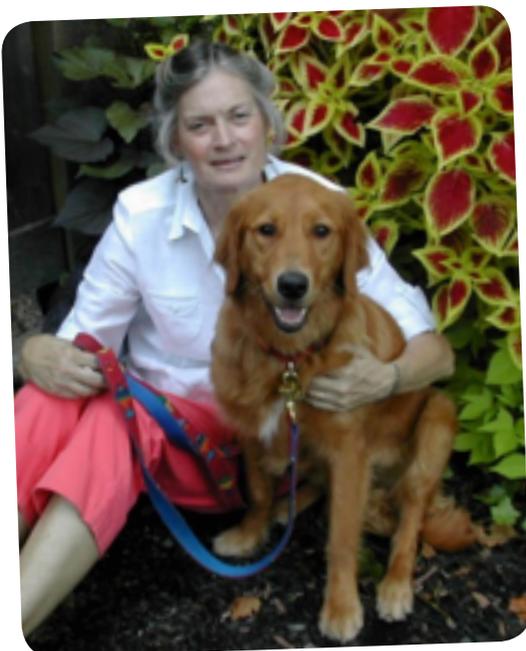
I'm going to start with a personal update. The move to our new house is over and, already, it feels like home. Thank goodness for storage units to hold all of those treasures I'm not ready to part with – maybe. After I don't see them for a while it will be easier to part ways!

The most amazing part of the move is how well our old Golden, Colton, is doing. We weren't sure he'd make it to moving day. He loves the new neighborhood and is taking longer walks, including up and down the steepest hill around Grandview. For a 13+ year old, nearly blind, deaf and wobbly Golden to have made this adjustment has shown us another life lesson can be learned if we will only watch and listen to our Golden!

Please look at the packet of information and order forms that we have added to the mailing of this newsletter. The annual dues invoice and contribution form is joined by order forms for the 2015 Golden Endings Calendar and for the Golden Retriever note cards in 2 versions- printed with Holiday greetings or without. There are also 2 choices for the cover, last year's version and a new one. You can use the pre-addressed envelope to pay dues, make contributions, and take care of your shopping in one step.

Golden Endings has been extremely successful because we have the generous support of our membership and a large number of willing volunteers. Thank you for your devotion to our mission.

I hope that you have a happy and prosperous 2015.



GOLDEN UPDATES

Awesome Dawson

Hi Judy,

It is with the heaviest heart that I let you know we lost our precious Dawson on October 21, 2014. As his inmate handler said in the letter about him, he was a GOOD dog! Perhaps the best we ever had. Dawson was a gentle soul and very laid back. He loved children and would meet and greet any he saw during our walks. His MO was to sit and be petted! He loved to go garage sale shopping, and his specialty was to search through boxes of stuffed animals, select THE one, and proudly carry it home – head held high, much to the delight of anyone who happened to pass by. For some reason, these toys always held up much better than “dog” toys! Dawson, or “D” as we often called him, raised our cat from a 4 week old kitten. “Frank” would sleep on the back of his neck when he was less than a pound.

Over the years, the two of them developed a solid friendship, and even though our Brandy (also a GEGRR dog) tolerated the cat, she wasn't about to play with him in the same manner as D. Dawson taught Frank how to play the dog bite game, and often would find his entire head in Dawson's mouth, but no worries! After we lost Brandy, and adopted Lucie, he was instrumental in helping her to adjust to life outside a breeding crate. Lucie came to us with issues, including trust, extreme fear of noise, not knowing how to play, and frequent accidents in the house. But, with Dawson's guidance and patience, she was learning that people can be good, food is available when she is hungry, grass is fun to eat and roll in, snow is OK (our first snowfall last year had her afraid to go out until she saw D playing in it), and a lot of fun to eat, and a cat can be a good friend.

Dawson had osteoarthritis, and was receiving treatments twice a month and was also on medication. We had to change it a few months ago due to his liver function. After that, he seemed to be getting weaker in his hind legs, and then stopped eating unless I had fed him a dog food sandwich. So, off he went to our wonderful vet, Mark Harris. Since he had been going every other week, the staff was very concerned about him. Long story short – we thought he may have been having a reaction to the new meds and/or some of his lumps were becoming malignant. Test after test came back negative.

Then, one night, he started to retain fluid in his chest. Dr. Harris called me to come in, because he didn't like what he was seeing. My son and I came to visit him, and I could see deterioration from the day before. The only thing left to do was an ultrasound of his chest, so that was scheduled that afternoon. A call from the vet told me the bad news- he had a tumor on his heart between the right and left atria that was leaking, causing a build-up of fluid in his pericardium. His heart could contract, but the resting phase, where it pushes the blood and oxygen out to his body, was not getting the job done. His tissues were slowly dying and eventually he would go into shock and suffocate. No way!! So, we made the only choice we could, and agreed to help him along.

I took the cat with me and probably should have also taken Lucie, but I wasn't sure if I could take both of them. So, Frank was there with him and D looked at him and knew he was there. It was one of the most peaceful good byes I have had with one of my dogs. D had just turned 13 in September, and we got him when he was 5. He was such a wonderful boy! He now is resting in my cedar chest with the other 5 dogs. Lucie is still not sure why he isn't around and looks for him when I come in the house, but Frank has taken over the care of her, and they are bonding more.

I just wanted to let you know about our Awesome Dawson; he is very much loved and missed. I will be looking for another male soon – preferably at least 5 years old, who can get along well with a cat and other dogs. Please let me know if one becomes available. We love our GEGRR dogs!

Thank you for Dawson, and allowing us to love him these past 8 years.



Molly the Wonder Dog

Jenny Kendall

We often read touching stories about the loss of a senior Golden Retriever and how missed these Golden's are by the families left behind. I understand that loss as I have had many senior Golden's come through my house over my 10+ years of volunteering with Golden Endings.

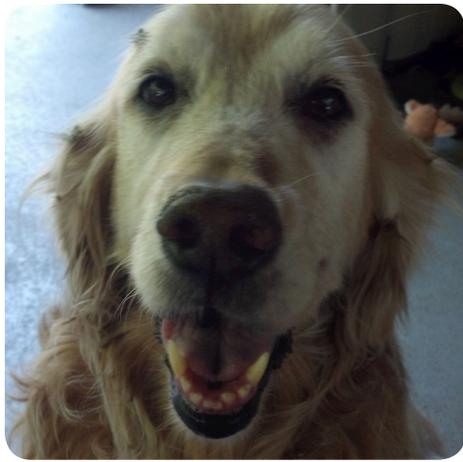
This story isn't about loss but survival.....my own Golden Retriever version of the Energizer Bunny. I think each story begins with a call from Kay Hirsch and mine is no different. I had lost a senior Golden (Grady) in May of 2010 and had one senior (Charlie) at my new house when Kay called in August of that same year. I have always been partial to boys but she said she had a sweet senior girl found running stray in Fairfield County. The vet had said she was somewhere between 9-10 years old.

In came Molly, full of energy and play and bossiness ☺ She immediately took over Charlie's toys and became the girlfriend he probably never had. She bossed him around and he loved to chew and wrestle with her. A true match made in heaven!

Charlie passed and Molly continued to thrive. By thrive I mean – counter-surf daily, run up and down the hills in my backyard and never seem tired, want to go on 3-5 longs walks per day and if I could squeeze in some swimming it would make her day complete. She is now somewhere between 14-15 years old and is the healthiest, happiest and quite honestly, naughtiest Golden Retriever I have ever owned!

She is rarely sick, only has to see the vet for annual shots and an occasional shot due to seasonal allergies and still plays like a puppy. She has what I call "boyfriends" in the neighborhood and the younger and spunkier the better! She loves to chase and romp with the male puppies in the neighborhood. She might not be able to play quite as long as they can but she sure tries.

Molly has best human friends as well and while she is partial to young male dogs she seems partial to female humans – and the older the better ☺ On our morning walk we walk past several houses that have senior ladies living in them who have developed a fondness for Molly. They knock on their windows when they see us coming and Molly knows if she hears the knock to run up to their front door. The door opens, in she goes and within a few minutes the



door opens again and she will come running back to me. I worried a bit about Molly being too rambunctious and knocking them over but she just seems to know to be slow and not jump on these special friends.

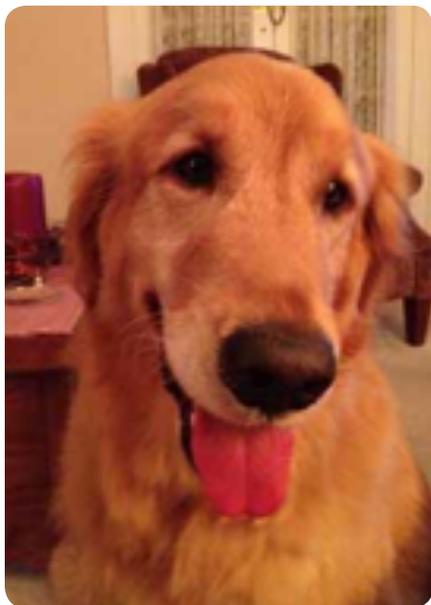
Each Golden has a special trait that is all their own..... some are known for their intelligence, some for their kindness and loyalty but my Molly will always be known for her energy! She is living proof to not judge a dog by their age or gray face!

I believe this picture is probably the best representation of Molly. We are fortunate enough to have a ravine and creeks and ponds in our backyard which Molly takes full advantage of daily. While this location does have it downfalls such as skunks, Molly loves to run through the brush chasing whatever it is she can find. This picture shows her with burrs throughout her face and chest. Classic Molly – she doesn't care – she is as happy as can be and knows she will get brushed to remove these burrs.

Oliver, the luckiest dog ever

By Joanne Singley

Hi, my name is Oliver, and I'm the luckiest dog ever. A little over a year ago I was living on my own in West Virginia, until I ended up in a shelter. Then the most wonderful



person picked me up at the shelter and my life started to change. First I had to have some pins and screws removed that had been in my hind leg for a long time. I was mostly walking on 3 legs. Next I went to facility where a wonderful man helped me heal and taught me how to love & trust again. Then on August 15th last year,

the most amazing thing happened! I went to live with my forever mom and dad. I can tell they really love me because they are always hugging and kissing me. I even went on a vacation to Northern Michigan with my new family last fall. But, I still had a long ways to go with my leg, I had no muscle tone and I have arthritis, my mom started me with really short walks and I can now walk up to 40 minutes at a time. I also started to visit my grandpa in the nursing home, grandpa smiled every time he saw me. I loved it! But my visits came to an end last winter. My mom decided I was such a special dog, I should continue to bring joy to people, and so my mom and I enrolled in a Therapy Dog Program. I had a lot to learn, so did my mom, but we passed with flying colors. The person testing me said I was a natural. So as soon as I receive my photo ID I can start my visits. I'm so excited! Life is really good! Thanks Golden Endings!

Our Girl, Maddie

From K. Scott and Deborah Martin

Everyone,

It is difficult to inform - one of our GEGRR Goldens (#98-103) passed over the Rainbow Bridge the end of July 2013. Yep our Golden girl was 15 years and 6 months old.

1998 - After completing the application and the interview process, my husband and I were invited to Ralph's house to choose a Goldie to adopt. It was late October, by the time we got to the address we were given, it was dark, we pulled in the driveway, a gentleman standing by a van (we found out later was the van used to transport all the Goldens) introduced himself as Ralph and invited us in. Going around the back of the house, my husband almost ending backside down in the pond, then after righting himself, we go through a door at the lower level, we were greeted by a mob of GOLD.

How many dogs are there! We were overwhelmed by the golden greeting we received. Ralph was introducing us to individual dogs telling us of particular personalities and quirks. One gentle male had a joyful habit of tearing up toilet paper, so the door of the ½ bath on that floor had to be kept closed at all times, that one's name is Cyrus, he's a tripod (he was in the mix of dogs, we could not tell that dog was missing anything), this big boy's name is Jake he's 105 pounds, just found out he's deaf. Looking around we noticed there were Goldens in crates, Ralph told us they were not to be adopted, they had problems, most likely abused, and it was best they were kept separate. As Ralph spoke, my husband and I were separated, a golden mob around him and a golden mob around me. But there seemed to be a very slim Goldie that was slicing her way thru the room to get to us, after getting

my attention would go over to my husband cutting thru the mob to get his attention. So of course we inquired about the ball of energy. That's Mandy she's 9 months and just picked her up from the vet's office, she just got spayed.

Mandy was owner surrender at age of 8 ~ 9 months. During her spay procedure there was a concern Mandy was a "bleeder." Ralph told us he rounded up one of the bigger Golden Retrievers to take to the vet's office to be a blood donor, but as soon as he and the dog got to the vet's office all had corrected itself and Mandy was OK. She was cleared to go and if we wanted to, we could take her right then. Which of course shocked us, with no hesitation; we gathered our new Golden and headed home. We already had a Mandy, our daughter was not about to change her name, so we re-named our new addition, Maddie.



I always referred to Maddie as the "Ambassador of Hello." She was awesome walking with me (a breast cancer survivor) on the Susan G Komen 5k in downtown Columbus. She greeted anyone that gave her attention and slurped, uh kissed, any kid's face that came close hers. (Was that a cookie I tasted? Ice cream? Here let me clean that mouth for you).

We took Maddie with us on our camping & non-camping trips to the beach, camping in the mountains, going over the river and through the woods into West Virginia to visit family. She traveled so good in the truck, the camper was a great place to crash after a busy day of hiking, wave watching (not a water lover) and watching squirrels, she was such a great dog everyone welcomed her in their homes, invitations to visit and to stay overnight always included "You're bringing Maddie, right?". About 3 years ago we noticed she had lost her hearing, we all got used to using hand signals and body language to communicate, wasn't so bad.

The past 5 years were dealing with arthritic hips and because of the arthritis, hip dysplasia. We tried so many meds to see which were the best to manage joint damage and pain. The final 3 years were prednisone, adequan injections every 3 weeks, Tramadol for the pain and Benedryl for the side effects of the Tramadol. The last month we included Neurotin for severe nerve pain in the spine.

We all know the pain tolerance of Golden Retrievers, with Maddie's meds she still traveled like a trooper to the beach, still gleefully climbed in the truck (um no jumping that was ouchy) when the camper was hooked up, that meant CAMPING! She was such a regular of the camp ground, the owners always looked for Maddie. We were always given the same campsite so Maddie could while away her day under her favorite tree that had the best overall view of her domain, um the campground. The camp ground crew would drive their golf cart past her and would greet her (though she couldn't hear later in life she knew she was being adored) Maddie would give her best "Her Royal Highness" pose, with a smile of course.

I know people want so much to enjoy the first year of "puppy", but I would not trade these last years of caring for and tending to my senior Goldie for anything. As it has been referred to time and time again in so many letters over the years in your newsletter, how sweet it is to care for a senior dog, caring for my senior dog was the sweetest time of my life. Yes, my husband and raising my kids are at the top of my list, but this time with Maddie has been precious to me.

We will miss Maddie tremendously, we will remember her, we will reminisce of her antics, trips we've taken, lazy weekend mornings, her personality, every day until we pass as well. You cannot have such a wonderful dog and not have their influence touch your life until the end of days.

*Thank you Ralph.
Thank you GEGRR.*

In Memory Of...

In Memory of Golden Jake

Shaune Skinner

In Memory of Rocky Bear

Travis and Kathryn Walsh

In Memory of Everett Foltz

Carol and Jack Foltz

In Memory of Maggie Rosan

John and Kristin Rosan

In Memory of Ruby D. Rose Reese

Pam Reese

In Memory of Bullpen

Richard Carver

In Memory of Sharon Lewis

Richard Mulligan

In Memory of Barb and Ralph

Jean LaPolla

In Honor of the Belmont Program

Linda Scovern

Tom Henderson

In Memory of Cody

Kevin and Barb Arnold

In Memory of Angel Kay Vance

Ron and Robin Vance

In Memory of Golden Huntley

Christine and Michael Yost

Vivi and Roger Yost

Wayne King

Teresa

Mary Hill

Jerry McGraw

Michael and Lynn Dmytryk

Rita McGraw

In Memory of Buddy and Max

Vivi and Roger Yost

In Honor of Kobe

Jenny Kendall

In Honor of Blaze

Kirstin Wallace

In Memory of Ava

Michael and Donna Niggemyer

In Honor of Kay and Kobe

Mike and Dianne Tweed

In Memory of Crystal's Dad

Cynthia Fry

In Memory of Harvey Johnson

Frank and Annette Krapa

Phyllis Johnson

Joseph and Karen Downing

Tim and Kay Hirsch

Judy Geimer

In Memory of Bailey, a Cocker-Golden Mix

Louann Mishic

In Memory of Golden Dusty Rose

Louann Mishic on behalf of Anna

Piquette

In Memory of Snowy

Ed and Myth Srisic and Alysa

**In Honor of Roger and Jill Rill's Birth-
days**

Norm and Barb Emmets

Roger and Jill Rill

Gary and MaryAnn Ogle

Michael and Louise Vaselakes

Daniel and Donna Suain

Jean Bletz

Karen Priestas

Heather Feehan

Kathleen Carter

Terry and Suzanne Trego

Greg and Pamela Davis

In Honor of Christmas for the Goldens

Gesine Beebe

In Memory of Tucker, a Seattle Friend

Tim and Kay Hirsch

In Memory of Santino, a California**Friend**

Tim and Kay Hirsch

In Memory of Shelby Schott

Jeanne Deneweth

In Memory of Travis

Linda Smith

In Memory of Ruger

Malcolm Baroway

In Honor of Irini

Janice Stayianos

In Memory of Brutus Murray

Shari Williams

In Memory of Jake and Cabe

Violet Sims

In Memory of Dorothy Taylor

Bill and Nancy Frasch

In Memory of Shelby

Stella and David Schott

In Honor of David and Max

Helen Tippett

In Memory of Tim Stevens

Lori Feightner

Cathy and John McCoy

In Memory of Tom Williams

Dave and Peggy O'Neil

Tom and Jane O'Neil

Sheila and Thomas Owens

James Williams, Jr.

In Memory of Yellow Lab Lily

Louann Mishic

In Memory of June Linnabery

Evelyn Shaw

In Memory of William Bruhn

Michael and Cherry Pivik

Liz Johnson

James and Connie Weaver

In Memory of Virginia Reed

Sherry Reed Hardman

Bob Reed

Robert and Jane Aebi

Jack and Nancy Raker

Steven and Traci Lykins

Donald L. Plotts

Frank W and Mary A Reis

Michael and Susan Decker

Michelle Slattery

Sara Au

Deb Hysell

Stephanie Kreisher

Na Wang

Greg and MaryBeth Busch

Kimberly Lybarger

Change of Address

For all mailings and donations:

Golden Endings Golden Retriever Rescue

c/o Kay Hirsch

1043 Elmwood Ave.

Columbus, OH 43212

Golden Endings: Golden Retriever Rescue
1043 Elmwood Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, Ohio
PERMIT No 7970



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



Thanks to everyone for attending! We are looking forward to a Spring 2015 Picnic in May! See you there!

Kay conducted a business meeting sharing that fifty-four dogs were taken in during 2013; to date twenty-eight dogs have been taken in during 2014. We currently have twelve dogs in foster care.

Our fall 2014 picnic was the perfect day for seventeen Golden Dogs and forty picnic goers on Sunday, October 12th at Blendon Woods Sycamore Shelter. Connie Walker organized our day, shopping for all the picnic supplies; even planned for the perfect sunny day. Thank you Connie! Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads and dessert were shared. Justine Ramser sold our Golden Endings items; be sure to check our website for these items; they are the perfect gifts for this season.

Golden Endings 2014 Fall Picnic - By Elaine Troesch