



## President's Bark by Pat Campbell

GRRRR will be 11 years old this October. In that 11 years we have placed, well over 1000 dogs in permanent, loving homes.

Some of those dogs were very easy placements, many others not.

How does a small rescue group, like ours, survive for 11 years?

In a few words: teamwork, committed volunteers; hard work, and most of all a love for the breed.

A down turning economy is jeopardizing our organization in it's most basic needs. Foster homes being the most dire need. We're seeing more dogs, dumped, with severe injuries from HBC (hit by car) to emaciated dogs who aren't being fed. These dogs, who need our services most, take the most care, and the longest time to place. They're not the easy placement dogs. They're the dogs who may never have had a vaccination, or have never had the benefit of living indoors.

Rehab takes time, patience, training and funding. They may have no manners, they may not be house-trained, but if we do our job right on intake..they all have one thing in common. A truly Golden temperament, and chance at a better life.

Not everyone can foster; but everyone can contribute. A bit of time is appreciated, a \$10.00 check on your dogs "gotcha" anniversary goes along way to help another dog. Every donated hour dollar provides a better life for a Golden in need.

## Upcoming Events

**September 26, 2009, 9am-5pm**

**Overland Park Craft Fair**

**We'll have our usual booth in front of the OP  
Presbyterian Church**

**Volunteers needed to man the booth from 9am  
to 5pm.**

**Contact Pat Campbell (816) 228-1458 if you  
are interested in volunteering.**

**FOSTER HOMES WANTED!  
CONTACT PAT CAMPBELL  
AT (816) 228-1458 FOR  
INFORMATION**

### FEATURED DOG

Pearl came to GRRRR via a neighbor who saw the terrible living conditions she was in. Pearl was kept in her previous owner's backyard, tied to a six foot chain, all day, every day. Her bed was dirt or mud, if it rained, and her food consisted of maggots, if she was fed. Pearl never left that yard or her chain until she was rescued. Pearl was only a year old when she came to GRRRR.

Pearl was very malnourished when she arrived at GRRRR. Unbelievably, Pearl did not lose her Golden spirit. She is sweet, kind and loving. She is a puppy with lots of puppy energy, but gets along well with her older foster brother. Pearl is quick to learn and would benefit from obedience courses. She is learning to sit and stay and behave in the backyard when playing with her foster buddy. She is crate trained, plays well with her toys and is starting to walk more politely on a leash.

Pearl is a small Golden; she will likely not weight more than 55 pounds once she puts on more weight. Pearl will be available for adoption once she is spayed; due to being underweight, she cannot be spayed until she weights at least 50 pounds. She will likely be ready for her forever home in early September. She would do well in a family with dogs and older children. If you are an approved adoptive family and interested in Pearl, please contact Holly Schaefer at [hschaefer@everestkc.net](mailto:hschaefer@everestkc.net).

## A Rescued Golden Gives Back continued ...

delivered by a health/human service professional with specialized expertise, and within the scope of practice of his/her profession. AAT is designed to promote improvement in human physical, social, emotional, and/or cognitive functioning.  
[www.deltasociety.org](http://www.deltasociety.org)

In addition to Pets for Life, Delta Society is a human-services organization dedicated to improving people's health and well-being through the use of Pet Partners teams. Delta Society is an international organization. Both organizations provide an educational process for potential volunteers and their pets to learn about their programs and to prepare to be evaluated for work in different settings.

As Pets for Life volunteers, Faith and I currently visit Royal Terrace Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Olathe and the Johnson County Juvenile Detention Center. At Royal Terrace, they visit with clients on two floors, including the special care unit. In addition, they volunteer with a fellow GRRRR dog, Blake and his owner, Karen. At the Juvenile Detention Center, we meet with the teens in the gymnasium to play fetch, do tricks and give lots of love and hugs. Our fellow volunteers include a golden retriever, a beagle, a standard poodle, a German shepherd and a border collie. Faith and I are volunteers with a hospice organization, Care Alternatives, and make visits as needed.

Faith is also a "R.E.A.D. dog." R.E.A.D. dogs are registered therapy animals who volunteer with their owner/handlers as a team, going to schools, libraries and many other settings as reading companions for children.  
[www.therapyanimals.org](http://www.therapyanimals.org)

Currently Faith reads with children at the Olathe Library Main Branch and during the school year, at Washington Elementary (Olathe) and Operation Breakthrough in downtown Kansas City.

Faith and I enjoy all of their visits and the reward of helping people, however, we differ about which visits are our favorites. Faith enjoys visiting with Kathleen and Barbara at the nursing home because they always have treats ready for her and Blake. She also loves to play fetch with the teens at JDC. I enjoy working with the children who read to Faith and watching them make progress in their reading skills.

For more information about AAA, AAT and therapy animals, check out these websites:

[www.kcpetsforlife.com](http://www.kcpetsforlife.com)

[www.deltasociety.org](http://www.deltasociety.org)

[www.therapyanimals.org](http://www.therapyanimals.org)

**Want to learn more about GRRRR?**

**Visit our web site at [www.goldenrecovery.org](http://www.goldenrecovery.org) You can read about volunteering, fostering, and upcoming GRRRR events. Don't miss the Golden Store and all the wonderful items we sell to raise funds to care for the dogs in GRRRR's program.**

## Tips from the Trainer

Let's talk about "positive training". Most Golden Retrievers are "soft dogs". They tend to learn more quickly, and more effectively when wanted behaviors are rewarded. Don't over-do rewards. A simple, calm "thank you" or a quick to eat treat gets the point across without over stimulation.

When using positive training, timing is everything. In training we have 10-15 seconds to reward a wanted behavior, or verbally correct an unwanted behavior.

**Positive does Not = Permissive.** Often times, we inadvertently reward unwanted behaviors. If a dog is tense, or nervous, now is not the time to stroke, or give treats. It's a time to walk the dog away from what's making it tense or uncomfortable with a light happy tone, "Let's go", or "not happening", and calmly remove him/her from whatever is causing the tension. This is also not the time to use a correction of any type.

An over stimulated dog can be a reactive dog. Reaction is often mistaken for aggression. It doesn't take much to over-stimulate, and this is certainly the case in most young or un-socialized dogs. A calm owner usually has the benefit of a calm dog. When you can't be calm, step away, or ask for help from someone who isn't emotionally invested in your dog.

### **Reward calmly; Correct calmly.**

Physical corrections, such as alpha rolling, or pinning should be avoided, and NEVER used when an owner is angry or frustrated. Verbal corrections should be short, and sharp, and immediately followed by a known command such as sit or down. When the dog complies with a wanted behavior; give a quick verbal or treat reward and walk away.

The effective use of "time-outs and avoidance" will be discussed in our next issue

## Ask Goldie Retriever . . .

**Dear Goldie:** I want to socialize my Golden with other dogs as he is an only child. What is a safe and fun way for my Golden to meet and play with other dogs? Sincerely, Needs a Friend.

**Dear Needs a Friend:** There are lots of ways to socialize your Golden. Have you tried doggie daycare? Most kennels or boarding facilities also offer doggie day care.

**What about going to a dog park?** There are lots of dog parks in the Kansas City area. Check out [www.dogslifec.com](http://www.dogslifec.com) for a list of dog parks in the metro area.

**How about an obedience, agility, freestyle or other class that will teach both you and your dog new tricks as well as being around other canines?** Check out the Greater Kansas City Dog Training Club at <http://kansascitydogtraining.com/>

## FROM THE KITCHEN

### Frozen Treats:

#### Mango sweet potato pops:

3 pounds—peeled, diced sweet potatoes or yams, steamed until tender (do not boil)

1 bag frozen or fresh mango chunks, or 2 fresh mangos, diced

Puree mango chunks and steamed sweet potatoes in blender of food processor. Freeze in 3 oz paper cups. Can be stored for 2 months in a zip type freezer bag.

#### Frozen Banana Yogurt Treats:

2 cups plain, organic yogurt  
2 ripe bananas  
1 cup water  
1/2 cup blueberries

Puree all in blender or food processor. Freeze in 3 Oz paper cups.

Can be stored for 3 weeks in freezer

## Not Able to Foster? You Can Still Help! Be a Golden Buddy!

### Please help GRRRR Help George!

George was hit by a car on May 22 in rural Jackson County, MO. Passersby picked him up and he was taken to Lee's Summit Animal Hospital. GRRRRR was called shortly after he arrived. GRRRRR assumed responsibility for his care. George had a compound fracture of the right ulna and radius, and multiple injuries to the right anterior cruciate ligament and the medial collateral ligament. The radial and ulna fractures have been plated, and are healing well. The right rear leg has been surgically repaired, as best could be and now we're holding our breath to see if George's body can recover from the severe damage. If not, he may lose his right rear leg. George has



an indomitable spirit, and happy, lovely, temperament. Through all of his pain and medical procedures, his tail wags, he's happy, and hard to keep down. George is a good boy. GRRRRR went above and beyond for George's owner, with no luck. He is not thin or foot-sore, which leads us to believe he may have been dumped. He tested negative for heartworms, but positive to exposure to ehrlichia. To date, George's vet bills are \$2,653.00. George is between 6 and 8 years old, and would never win a Best in Show, but is a true Golden, with a huge heart. A very special thanks to Dr Theiss, and the staff at Lee's Summit Animal Hospital for taking great care of George.

To make a donation by check:  
GRRRR Midwest  
2801 SE 4th St  
Blue Springs, MO 64014

To Donate online:  
<https://ssl-global.com/store/goldenrecovery>



## Golden Updates

George is now CAST FREE!! Both casts have been removed. To paraphrase Dr Theiss, 'I never expected this dog to survive these injuries, let alone bounce back the way he has'.

We're still a bit more than a little concerned about the right knee. The ligaments were so completely trashed, that he still has some bone rubbing bone.

George seems to be far less concerned than we are.

George is one awesome dog. He's won the hearts of everyone in his foster home's neighborhood. It's not unusual to find the whole cul-de-sac outside waiting for George to come home from a Vet appointment. The sound of "Hey, George" gets a wagging response and a happy grin. Special thanks to Christi and Todd for fostering George through his recuperation.

## Did You Know?

### Health Benefits of Pets

Most households in the United States have at least one pet. Why do people have pets? There are many reasons. Some of the health benefits of pets are listed below.

Pets can decrease your:  
Blood pressure  
Cholesterol levels  
Triglyceride levels

Feelings of loneliness  
Pets can increase your:  
Opportunities for exercise and outdoor activities

Opportunities for socialization  
Many groups support the health benefits of pet ownership. You can learn more about the health benefits of pets and how to keep your pets healthy by visiting the following sites.

<http://www.avma.org> The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) issued a statement supporting the health benefits of animal companionship for people.

<http://www.deltasociety.org> The Delta Society provides abstracts, articles, and bibliographies on the health benefits of animals to people.

### Dan's adopted!

### New intakes:

**Buddy and Scooby ; 2 sibling 6- year old neutered males. Both malnourished. These boys have spent years in a 6' pen in a basement. Buddy is now in foster care..Scooby is still at our Vet's. These are both nice boys. Scooby needs a foster home, and a new name ASAP**