

Reaching out to you with...



# *The Golden Paw*

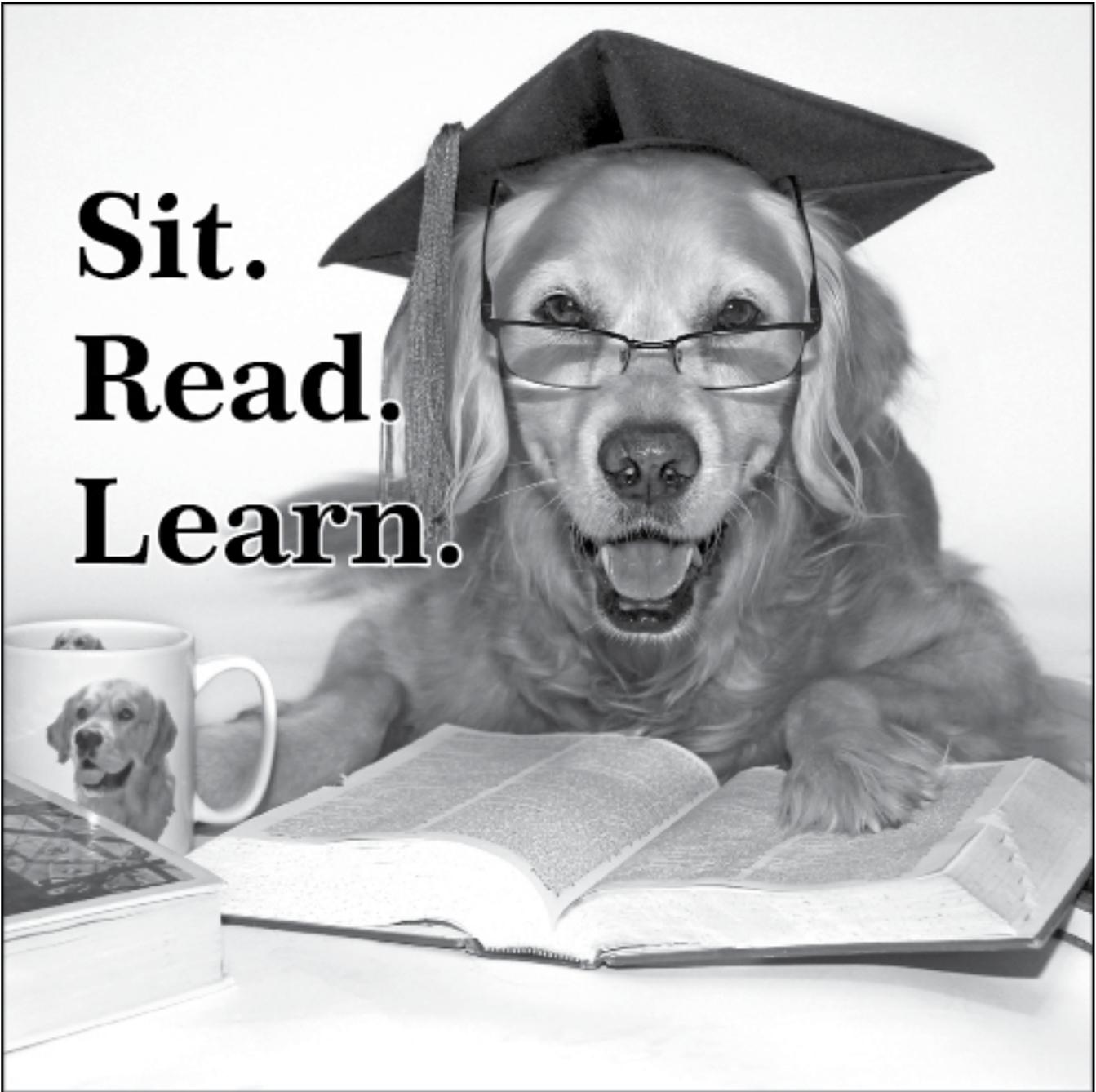
Volume X Number 1

February 2018



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**Sit.  
Read.  
Learn.**



*If you want to change your dog's behavior,  
don't complain... train!*

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Masthead photo of **17-089 Bailey** and **17-090 Maddie** by Connie McCabe

Cover Design by Connie McCabe featuring **15-068 Teddy McCabe / Dodson**

Thanks to the following for proofreading the draft: Debbie Ball, Teri Guilbault,  
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*Editor's Assistants' Notes*



Vin, Duffy, Mufasa and Dolly Orwig

Training... we all need it. If we are to retain it, we need it every day and twice on Sundays! It is fun! It keeps our brains and bodies active! It helps us develop self-confidence. It presents us to the public as wonderful companions. We can go places and see things that wouldn't be possible if we were not trained.

There are several kinds of training, but the most common for pet dog owners are obedience, behavior, agility, and trick. In addition, there is training for therapy work and training for service work, as well as training for police and fire assistance.

Do you think obedience and behavior training are the same thing? Nope. As *AGR's* Behaviorist, Sharon McKenzie, so eloquently states in her article on pages 11-12, obedience involves teaching your dog to do something, while behavior training is about teaching your dog not to do something. Some dogs need both types of training, some need one or the other, but both types are necessary for your dog to master if your goal is to have a well-behaved dog.

Obedience training involves your dog developing an understanding of and compliance with commands given by a handler/owner – you! The basic commands are *heel, sit, down, stay, and come*. Other more advanced obedience commands you might want to teach your dog include *front, finish, get it, leave it, put it away, crate (or kennel), place, wait, back up, go out (go pee, go poop, go potty, do your business, etc.* – yes, it is possible to teach your dog to “go” on command), *go in, down-on-recall, and stop*.

Behavior training's most important command is NO! That word becomes part of the name of most puppies, at least it did in our house. **Duffy** was only 6½ weeks old when he joined our household, and **Vin** was born at our house. So their names became “**Duffy-No**” and “**Vin-No**” for a while. To teach a dog not to do something, sometimes specific behavior modification techniques have to be used. Such is true, for example, with snake avoidance training, curbing resource guarding, stopping counter surfing and reining in prey drive. Often, it is just a matter of the human (not one of the dogs) showing who is boss by projecting a calm but

firm demeanor, setting and enforcing boundaries on behavior and exhibiting leadership skills. This subject will be presented in more detail later in this issue.

Agility training includes basic obedience skills but also involves your dog learning to correctly – and as fast as possible – negotiate various pieces of equipment like A-frames, ramps, see-saws, tunnels, jumps (bar and broad) and weave poles. Agility training can lead to increased self-awareness and confidence, as well as providing your dog with something to do. It is so much fun to participate in agility, but, as the word implies, you must be agile to become proficient. This activity is usually not for couch potatoes or the physically impaired, either human or canine, but we have seen tripod dogs become successful in this sport!

Trick training is the most complicated of the common types of training. Your dog needs to have basic obedience training first, then you can work on tricks. Some tricks you might want to teach your dog are *shake (paw, other paw), spin, sit up, touch your hand (wherever it is), jump through a hoop, and speak (bark on command only)*. There are many others.

*AGR* has two members who have been very successful with trick training. Peter Wong, who was a trick-dog trainer in Hollywood for many years, has taught amazing tricks to the three dogs we've known of his: Golden **Sandy**, Border Collie **Billie** and, most recently, German Shepherd Dog **Nikko**. These dogs each learned over 40 different tricks! Peter and his dog will sometimes show up at our Meet-and-Greets or other events (see the article on *Paws & Pasta* on p. 37) and put on a little but very impressive show.

The other person who has been wonderfully successful at trick training is Crystal Blaker, who adopted Goldendoodle **Wrigley** from *AGR* in 2010. Recently Crystal helped **Wrigley** earn his Champion Trick Dog title! We recommend that you look at the Youtube video of Crystal working with **Wrigley**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQLk8kEfqXo>. Notice how happy Wrigley is to be doing her tricks and how Crystal always praises her when she does what Crystal asks or motions for her to do. Congratulations to Crystal and Wrigley for their accomplishment!

And guess what? You humans need training, too! That is why we recommend taking your dog through basic obedience classes and, if you're so inclined, go even further with more advanced obedience, agility and/or trick training. Your dog is not going to learn on his or her own – someone has to teach, and that someone is you! You can't teach unless you know. So, go to class and learn!

*Understanding your dog and knowing how to control him, develop his potentials, and resolve behavior problems, emotional conflicts and frustrations are no less essential than love and respect.*

~ Michael W. Fox



### Wags and Woofs

By Deb Orwig, President

dorwigaz@cox.net

The fall quarter began our busy time of year for events. The kick-off **PACC 911 Adopt-a-thon** was on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at **All Saints Episcopal Church** in Phoenix. There was better publicity this year than last, so there was a good crowd most of the day. Thanks to Cindy Pavero for registering our booth, soliciting volunteers and attending most of the day.

Cindy also did a great job organizing our terrific **Paws & Pasta Dinner** on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Our thanks to Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler, owners of **Little Bite of Italy** in Sun City, for hosting us at their restaurant for the 8<sup>th</sup> year. They very generously donated the entire \$12 that 110 people paid for their meals. The money raised at that event through the meal sales, the raffle and the silent auction, in addition to some outright donations, was added to the **Debbe Begley Memorial Fund**. Although anyone can donate to this fund at any time, the **Paws & Pasta** revenue is dedicated to enhance this fund, which is used to pay for cancer treatments and to help with medical expenses over \$5,000 for non-cancer dogs. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, November 4 for our 2018 **Paws & Pasta!**

We had a good holiday season in 2017! Gift wrapping started the weekend before Thanksgiving and continued through Christmas Eve day, with a break on December 9<sup>th</sup> for the **Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade**. Many more of you probably would have volunteered to help at the gift wrapping activities if the number of dogs we were allowed to have with us at **Barnes & Noble** stores had not been limited to three at any one time, but we managed with those of you who did come, and we appreciated your help.

The Parade was terrific, with over 10,000 people reported to be along the sidelines watching the 118 groups that participated. Cindy Pavero and I wish that more of you had been able to walk with us, but we spread out so it looked like a larger group than we actually had. Cindy and her daughter, Nicole Hopkins, brought **Honey** and **Daisy**, but they had to leave after walking about ¼ of the parade route. Turns out Cindy had pneumonia (she didn't tell us until Monday), but she came all the way from Mesa to show her support. Thanks, Cindy!

We also had a very fun and often hilarious time doing **Photos with Santa** at the Northern Ave **Petco**. Thanks to Connie McCabe and Liz Tataseo for taking all the photos and arranging the volunteer-help schedule. There were so many volunteers there on the third Saturday when Larry and I arrived with our 4 dogs that we just had the picture taken and left because it was already crowded. Please read the articles on holiday season activities on pages 37 - 43.

While I am issuing thank yous, I would like to mention one member in particular who has done an exemplary job for **AGR**, and that is our Behavior Consultant, Sharon McKenzie. Quite a few of our adopters have benefitted from Sharon's astute observations and sage advice regarding dog behavior issues. She has visited numerous households to personally observe unwanted behaviors and offer suggestions on how to retrain the dog. Often those suggestions include retraining the humans to behave differently with the dog. Those who have listened and heeded Sharon's advice have ended up changing everyone's life for the better. Thanks, Sharon, for helping so many adoptions "stick" due to your words of wisdom.



### It's a Ruff Life!

By Cindy Pavero  
Director of Activities

mscindyP1@yahoo.com

We have the greatest members! No matter what the event is, we can always count on some of you to be there. For each event, we need volunteers to help set up our booth, sell merchandise, sell raffle tickets, promote our Rescue, walk our dogs that are wearing donation vests and break down the booth. With all of you coming together, we make each event a success! During 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, in addition to doing gift wrapping and **Photos with Santa**, we had three events. I would personally like to thank each of you who came for all of your dedication to help as many Golden Retrievers (and Golden mixes) as possible! The event wrap-up articles are on pages 36-43.

Be sure to note all the Upcoming Activities (page 5) on your calendar and plan to attend as many as possible. When I send out e-mails to alert you about these events, please respond to me and tell me you are coming. We don't want to cancel for lack of help.

The Anthem Adopt-a-thon has the most Rescue groups (60!) represented and is the best-attended of all **PACC 911** events. There will be numerous vendors selling dog-related items, food available on site, and they usually have a lure course set up. We will have a double booth there with all our merchandise for sale and donation vests available for the dogs to wear, so come on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and bring your **AGR** dog(s)!

The Parada Del Sol is a fabulous event, and we hope we have great participation this year. As with all parades, there is a period of hurry-up-and-wait before the parade actually starts since we have to be in the staging area by 9 AM, but once it begins at 10 AM, it moves fairly well. All of you who brought your dogs to the **Fashion Paw Tea** last September now have red **AGR** polo shirts. Please wear them. If you don't have a red polo, any red shirt will do; even a white one is fine. Since the parade is near Valentine's Day, we always have a red-and-white color scheme and our theme

is "Goldens Are All Heart." If you have come with your dog in the past, please have your dog wear the heart-fabric bandanna you were given. New parade participants will get their choice of bandannas for this year's parade. After the parade, we will have a merchandise sale booth at the *Trail's End* event in Old Town Scottsdale. Please join us. There will be food and merchandise vendors galore and live bands.

There are three **PACC 911** Adopt-a-thons coming up in February and March. We need to have a presence at all three, so please plan to attend. We have never been to the one in Fountain Hills, but we have heard it is very well attended, and, of course, the setting right by the lake is spectacular.

Another new event for us in the spring is the *Abrazo West Campus Health and Safety Day*. Chris Spiel will be chairing this event, so please contact her if you can attend on February 24<sup>th</sup>. From the advertising we have seen so far, it promises to be interesting and fun.

### ALERTS!

Our annual *Paws At The Park* members' BBQ picnic and fun day is scheduled for Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, and will be held on the west side this year at *Sahuaro Ranch Park*. We have reserved Ramada #7 and the grass area northwest of the ramadas. The cost will be \$12 per person, \$8 for children under age 10, and no fee for children under age 3 (but if you have children this age you will need to register them anyway). We will provide a fabulous hamburger-and-hot dog lunch with all the fixings, salads, desserts and beverages. In addition, we will have a raffle, a silent auction, a Rainbow Bridge Ceremony, an Adoption Ceremony, and a Parade of Rescue. Please plan to attend, especially if you adopted an **AGR** dog in 2017 or have not attended this event in the past. Your payment is your reservation; if you pay and then are not able to attend, your payment becomes a donation. If you want to recognize a dog in the Rainbow Bridge ceremony, please contact Deb Orwig at dorwigaz@cox.net or call 623-693-0589 no later than Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. She will need a photo of the dog and a paragraph write-up.

*A GOLF TOURNAMENT for 2018 is in the planning stages! Please mark Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> on your calendar! It will be held at Lone Tree Golf Club in Chandler and will be similar in format to the tournaments we have hosted in the past: 1 PM start, 4-person scramble, dinner, raffle and silent auction. Not a golfer? Then plan to come just for dinner and participate in the raffle and silent auction – you know we always offer great stuff! More details including how to register will be in the May issue of this newsletter.*

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**Regular Meet-and-Greets at Petco and PetSmart stores**  
Check website calendar for dates,  
times and locations: [www.arizonagoldenrescue.org](http://www.arizonagoldenrescue.org)

#### **PACC911 & Anthem Pet Adopt-A-Thon**

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
*Anthem Community Park*  
41703 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway, Anthem, AZ. 85086  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777

#### **Parada del Sol & Trail's End Festival**

Saturday, February 10, 2018, 10:00-12:00, Parade;  
12:00-4:00 - Festival, Old Town Scottsdale  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777

#### **PACC911 & Earnhardt Pet Adopt-A-Thon**

Saturday, February 17, 2018, 10:00 AM -3:00 PM  
*Earnhardt Ford*  
7310 W. Orchid Lane, Chandler, AZ 85226  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777

#### **4th Annual Rescue Roundup Health and Safety Day at Abrazo West Campus**

Saturday, February 24, 9 AM - 1 PM  
East Parking Lot, 13677 W. McDowell Road  
Goodyear, AZ 85395  
Contact: Christine Spiel at cmspiel@gmail.com, 602-881-8615

#### **PACC911 & Petco Pavilions Adopt-A-Thon**

Saturday, Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 AM - 3 PM  
Petco Pavilions  
8910 E. Indian Bend Road, Scottsdale, AZ  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777

#### **PAWS AT THE PARK AGR ANNUAL PICNIC**

Sunday, March 11, 11 AM - 3 PM  
Sahuaro Ranch Park  
9802 N. 59th Ave, Glendale  
Contact: Deb Orwig at dorwigaz@cox.net, 623-693-0589

#### **PACC911 Paws Around the Fountain**

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM - 3 PM  
Fountain Park  
12925 N Saguaro Boulevard, Fountain Hills AZ  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777

#### **Phoenix Pet Expo at WestWorld**

Saturday April 7 10 AM - 5 PM  
and Sunday, April 8 11 AM - 4 PM  
16601 N. Pima Rd, Scottsdale  
Contact: Cindy Pavero at mscindyp1@yahoo.com, 602-430-7777



### *Paws Forward*

By Sue Vallie, Director of Dog Care

suevallie@cox.net

This is a newsletter about our dear Golden Retrievers and the theme is training, so you might expect information on how to train dogs – and a lot of that is in this issue. Given that training dogs is really training their humans what to do to get the appropriate response from the dog, my thoughts are really right on track: the focus in my column is training new volunteers for their volunteer positions within **AGR**.

With several staff changes for a variety of reasons, we find ourselves working to polish the orientation we provide new volunteers to improve our ability to accomplish our mission: placing rescued dogs in the homes that will give them the optimal chance to succeed.

Within the past couple years, we have improved the home evaluation form and with it the process by which we ensure that the prospective adopter's home is safe and secure for any dog placed there. Each person interested in conducting a home visit will do a minimum of two such visits with experienced volunteers before being given a solo assignment.

Recently, our Intake Co-managers have developed a reference manual that not only provides step-by-step procedural instructions on how to enter a dog into the system, but also details responses to many of the scenarios a surrendering owner may describe when proposing to turn in a dog. Included are cues on how to check the apparent veracity of the information from the surrendering owner.

We have upgraded the Transporter's reference information and are now looking at ways to improve each Transporter's knowledge of the dog or dogs they are moving so they can answer more of the adopting family's questions. Transporters again check that our understanding of both the family and the dog appear to be a good match. Transport volunteers will do a minimum of two ride-alongs with an experienced Transporter until each feels secure in what the new volunteer should be doing.

We also now get more information about the prospective family to aid the Placement staff in matching dogs with people. Presently, we are attempting to redefine the process for Placement, even rethinking how the team will rotate in the assignment. This is particularly timely as we have several dogs with wonderful potential but, for one reason or another, have very special placement needs. When sorting through the applicant pool for a successful placement, the Placement volunteer must keep in mind all of the criteria a dog needs, as well as what a potential family can provide.

We continually need volunteers. We always can use people to help organize, set up and break down our booth at a variety of fundraising activities. Of the other more dog-related activities, the need may be intermittent, but we first look for prospective volunteers from the information each of you completes on your membership application. For this reason, even when you renew your membership, please take a moment to again complete an application and indicate any interest you may have in a given activity or skills you have that you may be willing to offer to help **AGR**.

Our volunteer work can be tough and challenging, especially when you consider the potential repercussions of what we do. Likewise, it can be incredibly rewarding. There is nothing like seeing the happy faces on families and dogs alike, especially when they join us as a new or continuing family for an event such as the annual picnic (see announcement in **ALERTS!** on page 5).



### *The Information Highway*

By Adam Cardinal  
Director of Information Management

arcardinal@hotmail.com

I feel I can safely speak for most of our members when I say that social media have become part of our daily lives. Statistics released in 2017 show that 81% of Americans have a public profile on at least one social media platform, with a sizable percentage having profiles on more than one platform (some with many more than two). Accessing social media with a smart phone allows users to maintain nearly constant contact with their social media presence. Given the immediacy of social media – and its ubiquity – many people have started using social media to post alerts about lost pets, often with great results in recovering their pets quickly and safely. Posting pictures on Twitter and Instagram and enlisting friends, family members and neighbors on Facebook groups make it easy to get the word out and have others help you spread it.

You cannot count on a single social media post to bring your buddy home, however. Using social media should be an extra tool in your efforts to find him or her, but there are some key success factors to consider. Here are some success factors when searching for a lost pet using social media:

- First, if you have a dog you have adopted from **Arizona Golden Rescue**, contact the Rescue right away if your dog gets out. We have resources you do not and can initiate an alert to other **AGR** members in the area. All **AGR** dogs are micro-chipped, so if someone finds your dog and takes it anywhere including one of the shelters to scan for a chip, our contact information will come up. We have recovered numerous lost **AGR** dogs in this way.

- Include accurate and detailed information about your pet. Not only do you want to include your pet's name, breed, and sex, you should also include things that differentiate your pet from others. If he is wearing a collar with information, don't forget to mention that. Retain one identifying feature of the dog to prove that the dog belongs to you, or, conversely, to prove that the dog does NOT belong to the finder (or dog thief).
- If your pet is shy, scared, fearful, or may bite or even run if found, include that information. You don't want people to get hurt trying to help you. The same is true if your dog will run because he is scared. You don't want your dog to run even farther away. Give people details on ways to attract or soothe your pet. If the dog will come for food, mention that – including the preferred treats and the name you use when offering a treat – is it a biscuit, a cookie, a bone? Knowing helps the person who finds your dog to keep him safe and comfortable until you can retrieve him.
- Include your phone number, e-mail address and cell phone number so that, if the dog is found, you can be contacted. Social media posts can easily be forwarded and re-posted. Each post can separate the original poster from the post – making it hard to find the original poster of the lost and found alert. If you don't put your contact information down, it won't matter if your pet is found because the finder may not have a way of identifying you as the dog's owner or to determine where you live, where the dog was lost, and how best to contact you to arrange a reunion. A picture really is worth a thousand words. A picture will help others find your pet, as well as catch the attention of people online. Most people scroll through text but stop at pictures.
- Share your post on targeted lost-and-found sites. If there are local groups specific to your location (and surrounding ones), you should post there. The more places you post the notices, the more likely that someone online will find your pet. Petfinder.com and Helping Lost Pets.com are two that **AGR** gets messages from frequently.
- Share your post on popular animal profiles, such as local veterinarians and rescue shelters. The more places you put it, the more people who will see it, especially animal sites which are filled with animal lovers. If you can get a whole group of people dedicated to looking for your dog, you will have greater success at finding him. Before you post, be sure that the site administrator permits lost-and-found notices on the page.
- Make your post public so others can share the post, enabling more people to see it. Ask friends to share it, making it more likely that you will find your dog.
- Social media postings are not enough on their own – you still need to look. Create flyers using the same information and post them around your town. Call local veterinarians and rescue groups to see if anyone found your dog. Post the flyer on grocery store bulletin boards. Do NOT post the flyer on utility poles or public mailboxes – it is against the law.
- Carefully manage the contact information you share online. While using social media makes it more likely you can reach more people and recover your dog quickly, the world is a dangerous place. Control what information you put out during your search, using less sensitive contact pieces like your cell phone number or e-mail instead of giving out your US mail address.
- Plan communication to include a reasonable travel radius. Dogs can travel several miles in a day, especially if they are scared, so include in your communication plan groups in surrounding cities, towns and neighborhoods also. Lost and scared dogs can be found miles from home, so do not restrict your focus to your direct area. Bigger dogs can travel even farther, so make your reach as big as possible – but keep it reasonable.
- Create a local group of animal lovers who provide support and guidance during a crisis. You can make the rules whatever you want, though you should fill your group with people who are dedicated to caring for their pets, as well as helping others find lost pets. If you are already involved with a pet rescue group in your area, engage with them immediately – they likely have contacts with shelters and rescue groups in your area to help spread the word that one of their adoptees is missing and the owner is actively looking for the lost pet. Notify the Rescue you adopted your pet from when you move – ensuring they can contact you in the event your pet is returned to the Rescue when recovered.

It can be devastating to lose a dog. Using social media, you can leverage the strength and support of a large, distributed network of pet lovers. Using social media doesn't mean you don't have to look yourself. You should still call around to local veterinarians and rescue shelters to try to find your dog.

Now is also an excellent time to assess what you've done to prevent your dog being separated from you. Make sure your dog is licensed and the license information is current. Local animal control is an essential first line of defense – and licensed dogs are most easily returned to their owners. A valid license is of minimal use if the dog isn't wearing a collar with the license attached. If

you routinely remove your dog's collar when inside, now would be a good time to reconsider that habit. We hear many stories of dogs who suddenly slip out of the house or fenced yard due to an accident, oversight or carelessness. The dog's tags and license are of little value in finding the owner if the collar is still inside your home. Also, speak to your vet during your next visit about having a micro-chip embedded in any dog in your care that does not currently have one. All **AGR** dogs are micro-chipped.

If you have a lawn service, a pool service, or a pest control service that visits your home on a weekly or monthly basis, ask the service person to be sure the backyard gate is closed when they leave. Then, check for yourself before letting your dog out into the yard.

Getting dogs settled in long-term loving, caring homes is **Arizona Golden Rescue's** primary mission. It is heartbreaking for you and for your dog to be accidentally separated. By planning ahead and knowing what to do in the event of an emergency, we can work together to keep you and your dog a phone call or an e-mail away.



### The Human Connection

By **Connie McCabe**  
Human Resources Director

photocraf@aol.com

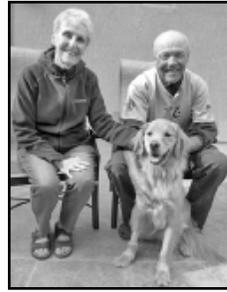
"It's all about the dogs."

We say that a lot, because that is why we are all part of this wonderful group. You would not be reading this if it were not for your love for the dogs. But as much as that is true, it takes a lot of hard work from a lot of people to keep this organization, and therefore the dogs, alive and thriving.

So, since this is the "Human Connection" column, in every issue I am going to continue to mention a few interesting facts and stories about some of the people you think you know. Hopefully you will learn something new about them and gain more insight into how they got here. I have generally been going in order of membership number, beginning at "one" and featuring several members in every column. You may notice that there are some missing member numbers. I know there are a lot of people who really just wanted to adopt a dog and have no interest in participating in **AGR** activities. I will respect the privacy of those who prefer not to be active and just concentrate on those who are, or have been, most active in the organization.

If you would like to view previously featured members and do not have access to the printed newsletters, you can download them from the Information tab on our website.

This issue let's meet Fran and Jan Strock, who share number 246. Here is what Fran has to say: *Jan and I got our first Golden Re-*



*triever in Michigan, when we were raising our family. We were hooked then. **Rusty** was a wonderful family member for 12½ years, having come into our lives as a sick puppy. After losing her to a stroke, we put a deposit down on a Golden puppy; but as fate wouldn't have it we instead inherited a one-year-old Cocker Spaniel upon the death of a close family member. We brought **Katie** with us when we retired to Arizona.*

*When we were later without a dog in our lives, we reached out to **RAGofAZ** to fill the void. After several disappointments, we adopted our amazing **Ginger** (then "**Baby**") in 2006. Kathi Youhas brought this patient, trusting two-year-old to us. We didn't realize at the time that the dark spots on her were not natural. She had been living entirely outdoors with her Golden parents, and was covered with ticks. We made it to the store to get some pet shampoo just before they closed. She didn't know us, but she let us bathe her, even rolling her over in the tub, while we were picking off one hundred or so of these disgusting critters. Then to the vet for further care. Later on, Jan was happy to share **Ginger** with hospital patients, visitors, and staff as a certified therapy dog.*

*Through the adoption process with **RAGofAZ**, we met Deb Orwig, later following her to the **AGR** organization. We are thankful to Deb for her passion and her kindness, and for always being there for us with whatever problems we had along the way.*

*Sadly, **Ginger's** diagnosis of lymphoma was confirmed in July 2012 while we were in Michigan and just one day before we got another horrific phone call to tell us that our home in Arizona had been struck by lightning and totally destroyed! A double whammy! What a year that was! We returned to Arizona right away, and **Ginger** began treatments with Dr. Kim Hillers for the lymphoma. **Ginger** was the angel that got us through the chaos with the house. And the distraction of rebuilding the house allowed us to be strong for **Ginger** in her illness and treatments. We were grateful that we could finally return **Ginger** to her rebuilt home, although for only three weeks before we had to say our good-byes. She gave us the gift of herself that year following her diagnosis. She had so many wonderful qualities and was so protective, that we know that she was our own very special angel.*

*When the time came to welcome another Golden into our lives, we were introduced to the beautiful **13-120 Bella**, who we renamed **Holly**, two weeks after her emergency resection surgery to remove a number of objects which she had ingested. She had pica, an eating disorder, and we thought that we could protect her from future incidents with just the two of us in the house. That didn't last long. The next morning she ate one-and-a-half athletic socks Jan had just taken off, and I called Deb in a panic. Deb was calm and in control, telling us to give **Holly** peroxide to bring the items back*

up. (First we had ever heard of that, but it worked!)

Although **AGR** sent us with **Holly** to **Partners** for training, the time came when we very sadly had to give **Holly** back to **AGR**. However, that was the best thing to happen to this gorgeous girl, because Teryl Hall adopted her, and she had Golden siblings and a big yard with a pool. **Holly** became "**Eureka-Rooter-Roo**." Teryl did an amazing job with her; but unfortunately, **Roo** only lasted one year in her forever home, as she was then suddenly stricken with lymphoma.

Now we have **Gus**, a three-and-a-half-year-old Golden bundle of love and energy. When he was eight weeks old, we took him and his sister, **Kasie** (who we were delivering to our son's family) to Michigan. Best trip ever! They discovered grass, they played and wrestled in their crate, then back to sleep, repeat. **Gus** gets to have reunions in the summers at the lake, and they pick up where they left off. **Gus** is his daddy's boy. They go to the doggy park once or twice a day. He has the reputation of being the "happiest dog at the doggy park." It's good to be **Gus**! And I'm sure that he will have an **AGR** sibling in his future.

We have had such a great experience with **AGR**, and I love telling anyone who will listen about the dedication and service this organization provides. It's been such a pleasure to help out at the Paws & Pasta Dinners in Sun City, as well as the **Barnes & Noble** gift-wrapping events in Peoria.



Sharing number 557 are Leslie and Ted Morris with their Golden mix, **Maddy**, who Leslie has decided to let do some of the talking: My name is **Maddy Morris** and I am the third dog that has lived in this house in Ahwatukee. My mom retired from teaching and my dad retired many years after that from his printing business. The house was warm and friendly, but something was missing – ME! My mom and dad said for some time that their next dog would be a rescued dog so they would not have to live through "puppy times." And that rescued dog was me!

Since I can't talk, I can't tell my mom and dad about my first 5-6 years of life, but I can tell you about the last 6-7 years of my life. I was rescued by **Arizona Golden Rescue** and treated with kind hands and personal concern. I am a black smooth-hair retriever with a little pepper of gray around my eyes and a gray chin that I probably have had from early puppy days. My mom says that I have a beautiful coat that really shines. I have shorter ears than many Golden Retrievers for when I lick the bowl, my ears do not get in the stuff that I probably should not eat, but I do. My tail is thick and full and curls up in the back. I always walk with that air of superiority with my tail held high and graceful.

When I was found, it was discovered that I had heartworm so I

ended up at **Kenel Care** with Dr. Hudman. I got the necessary treatment, and one day my new mom and dad came in to see me. They had passed the parenting class with **AGR** and the hunt was on for a new member of the family. I know I looked a little forlorn, but I looked up at my prospective parents and put my legs upward as I sat. I was really trying to say, "Please take me home with you and I will be very good." I still needed another treatment, so I stayed for another few days with Dr. Hudman while my parents thought if I would be a good fit. Then, one day they came back and took me to my new forever home.

Now I don't know where the training came from, but I found that mom left wonderful baked goods on the counter and I could not refrain. Thus, in my time in the Morris home, I have consumed a bit too many baked goods and made my mom very angry a few times. Although things were baked for others, I felt that I was one of those "others" so needed to be sure the goods were tasty. I also found a few pieces of meat and whether fresh or frozen, I ate them too. That was another "not too good scene." I no longer have that bad habit – they leave nothing on the counter for me any more! I have to say, and my mom and dad would agree, that **Arizona Golden Rescue** is a wonderful organization that operates with love, patience and real care and concern for Arizona Golden Retrievers. My mom and dad thank **AGR** every day for me! And, my dad says that I am the best dog they have ever had. Now that is a happy ending, right?

Now from Leslie, a little bit about how it started. How do a farm boy from Iowa, a southern California girl and a black smooth-hair desert retriever all get together in one family? Well, the story goes like this.

The farm boy, Ted, came to Arizona with his family when he was in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. They settled in Tempe, Arizona, a small college town of around 19,000 back in those days. He entered Tempe elementary school and continued all through the Tempe system and graduated from Tempe Union High School. The girl, Leslie, came with her family from California and attended Tempe Union High School for her junior and senior year. Coming from the flourishing green shrubbery of the Orange County area of CA, the desert was a new experience.

Well, the boy and the girl got together and have been married for 50 years now. During those 50 years, they lived in California for 10 years where Leslie started her teaching career, and Ted had various jobs with **Kaiser Steel**, **NCR** and a large LA furniture business. A son came along and the then family of 3 decided to move back to Arizona. Leslie continued her teaching career teaching Family and Consumer Science in the Tempe Union High School District. Amazing how things come around again. Ted entered the printing field and eventually had his own business. When the young son was in grade school, he was being a bit too social. So, he was tempted with the gift of a dog if he became a little less social. **Goldie** came

into the home, and now there was a family of 4.

**Goldie** loved to swim and learned to climb the ladder to the above-ground pool. After a while she also learned to take a running start and clear the side of the pool and dive right in. She learned to retrieve the newspaper every morning with her dad and became the interest of passersby when they saw her struggle with heavy papers trying to get them in her bite so she could trot back into the house. The boy and the dog became fast friends and companions. The dog also weaseled her way into her mom's and dad's hearts. **Goldie** was a member of the family for about 13 years and did suffer from epilepsy for about 11 of those years.

The loss of **Goldie** was a huge heart-breaker for the boy, as he was in his late teens at the time. A short length of time passed and the hunt was on again for another Golden. So **McKenzy** became a member of the family, which now was down to 3 since the boy went off to live his own life with a wife and eventually twin sons. **McKenzy** was part of the family for another 13 years. **McKenzy** loved everyone and greeted everyone when they came to visit. She sometimes loved too much, so it was a chore to keep her calm. She loved to look out the front window and "guard" the front of the house. She was a real "house protector" in voice, but not in deed.



Now, meet Bruce Bouldin (on right in photo) and Nicholas Yale, sharing number 575. In Bruce's words: *Nicholas and I met in 2008 and got married in April 2014 as soon as we legally could. I am an aerospace engineer and Nick is a realtor. We laugh that we are very yin and yang, as our personalities couldn't be more different. Yet we find that our differences give us our strength. My rational and logical personality complements Nick's more emotional and personable one.*

During my childhood, and as an adult, I had been fortunate to have two wonderful Golden Retrievers in my life. Golden Retrievers have always been my favorite breed of dog. Nick was less enthusiastic about dogs. For a few years, he lived in the Philippines where countless sick and feral dogs run rampant through the streets, making him wary about dogs as pets.

But after much pleading of "I want a Golden, I want a Golden, I want a Golden," he finally gave in. That is when **Bentley** entered our lives, thanks to **Arizona Golden Rescue**. **Bentley** was half Golden Retriever and half Cocker Spaniel and was a true mix of the two breeds in terms of size, looks and personality. He was six years old when we got him in 2012.

**Bentley** must have realized that Nick was a tough nut to crack, so he laid on the charm as only a Golden can, and before long the two were inseparable. **Bentley** would follow Nick from room

to room in the house, and Nick would take **Bentley** to his office as often as he could. It soon became apparent that I was a third wheel in this relationship. Ha ha.

Nick was so thankful to **AGR** for allowing **Bentley** to enter our lives that in 2017 he named them his annual charity of choice and awarded them \$25 for every one of his sold real estate transactions. As one of the top realtors in town, that was quite few transactions!

We were both devastated when **Bentley** passed away in August of 2017 from cancer. We spread his ashes under the pecan tree in our back yard, as **Bentley** loved to find and eat the pecans that fell to the ground. We still miss him to this day and hope to replace him with an equally loving dog soon.



John and Wendy Nelson share number 577. From Wendy, herself: *John and I got John's first Golden in California, and named him **Merlin**. I picked him out of a litter of 10, the liveliest and most inquisitive (I'd grown up with Golden Retrievers). **Merlin** was so wonderful, always a joy, and came to Phoenix with us. He was 13½ when he passed. We'd had our 2 boys by then and he couldn't have been a better doggie parent.*

Our first adoption from **AGR** was **Jake**, another perfect Golden (aren't they all). We picked him up right out of surgery on a front leg. True love. Unfortunately, he had valley fever and we lost him after four years. Four months after that, John decided he wanted his own puppy, against my wishes, as I have a home-based secretarial service. Trying times, but we love **Max**, still a puppy after several years. At five months he suffered a really traumatic ear infection and had to have both ears removed. He can hear a bit through his occipital bones, but sometimes I feel sad that he can't hear the birds. Mostly he just wants to play or cuddle or be close.

Two years ago I saw **Molly** on the **AGR** website and fell in love. She is mostly Great Pyrenees with a Golden blush and the darkest eyes, and as it turned out, terrible separation anxiety and storm and fireworks issues. So both of us being home all the time was a plus. We went through difficult times with her, including her eating our house, but with some medication and lots of love and hugs, she's doing so much better; enthusiastic about eating, and she and **Max** are best friends. We couldn't have done it without the help of Sharon McKenzie, behavior specialist with **AGR**. The time she spent with **Molly** and us was priceless. **Molly** and **Max** play with toys and roughhouse and sometimes sleep butt-to-butt or nose-to-nose.

Despite a houseful of dog hair, pine cones and leaves brought in and chewed all over the place, it would be hard to imagine a life without our dogs. I wish we could have more, but two seems about

the right number. I also inherited an African Gray parrot from my older son when he moved out. She is another full-time job. And many weekends we have his beagle, **Joker**, who is a sweet guy and a pleasure to have as our "grand-dog."

I thought life was supposed to slow down as you get older...



### Health and Safety

By Liz Tataseo  
Health Care Manager

e.tataseo@yahoo.com

### IBD or Inflammatory Bowel Disease

IBD is a chronic disease of the gastrointestinal system. If your dog has experienced chronic vomiting or diarrhea over a period of time and regular medication has given no relief, he or she may have IBD. It involves the accumulation of inflammatory cells that line the stomach, small intestine, large intestine or a combination of all three. The mechanisms of IBD are not well known, but it is thought to result from responses to diet and/or bacteria or overuse of some medications. Depending on the severity of IBD, it can also involve diarrhea with blood and mucous present (colitis).

While fecal tests, x-rays or blood work can rule out specific causes of vomiting or diarrhea, the only way to diagnose IBD is through biopsies of the tissue in the stomach or intestines. Also, there are many types and severities of IBD, so it is important to get the proper diagnosis in order to treat effectively. Types of IBD are classified by the end result of the disease not by the causes, as those are still nebulous.

**Lymphoplasmacytic Enteritis:** This is the most common form of IBD and results from an overabundance of white blood cells, lymphocytes and plasma cells in the lining of the gastrointestinal tract. This accumulation causes inflammation that can result in scar tissue and irreversible cell damage.

**Eosinophilic Enteritis:** This form is caused by a dietary protein (food allergy reaction). It is necessary to find the right protein that the dog will tolerate. In many cases it is a "novel protein" like bison or venison.

**Antibiotic Responsive Diarrhea:** Overuse of medications can destroy intestinal bacteria, or an overgrowth of one particular type of bacteria can cause inflammation.

**Other:** Any disease that produces inflammation such as fungal disease, cancer, heart failure and chronic NSAIDs or steroid drug therapy can lead to IBD.

Treatment may include finding the right food that will not cause inflammatory reactions, along with drug therapy to calm down the inflammatory response. Steroids such as Prednisolone or Prednisone are the most common anti-inflammatory drugs which can cause improvement in one to two weeks. Budesonide is a newer steroid that is effective and has fewer side effects than Prednisone.

Other medications such as certain antibiotics can also be used to help with bacteria that may be exacerbating the inflammation. Metronidazole, Tetracycline and Doxycycline are examples of useful antibiotics.

Dogs that may have serious side effects or are not responsive to steroids may be treated with specialty drugs such as Cytoxan, Imuran and Leukeran. These drugs can cause bone marrow suppression, however.

Finally, long-term dietary management and low-dose drug treatment are necessary throughout a dog's life, as IBD cannot be cured, only controlled.

Sources:

**Blue Pearl Specialty & Emergency Pet Hospital**

Eldredge, Debra M. DVM; Carlson, Lisa D. DVM; Carlson, Delbert G. DVM; Giffin, James M.D., *Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook*, Fourth Edition, Wiley Publishing, Inc.

Ward, Ernest DVM, VCA Animal Hospitals



### Follow the Lead

By Sharon McKenzie  
AGR Behavior Consultant

isimplywild2002@gmail.com

### Behavior vs Obedience Training: What's the Difference?

Many people are unsure or confused about the differences between obedience training and behavior training. The answer for me seems simple, but there is more to it than first meets the eye. I have been on many behavioral visits where I hear owners saying, "I just don't understand why my dog is acting out, he never used to be this way" or, "he listens to me when I tell him to sit, come" and so on...

Behavior training and obedience training are two different things. Obedience training refers to the teaching of verbal commands and/or hand signals to the dog. The dog learns that a certain sound or tone in our voice means he has to respond in a certain way. Obedience commands include heeling, sit or sit-stay, down or down-stay, recall, go to your spot (place) and so forth. Obedience training will make the dog respectful of the owner, but it will not cure behavioral problems.

When people have a behavior issue with a dog, for example the dog has started growling, snaps, bites, bolts out the door, does not come when called, is destructive, pulls on the leash, (and the list goes on...) a lot of people seek a dog trainer, take training classes or read books on how to train a dog. Sometimes, the training does not completely solve the dog's problems. Often there are more deeply-rooted issues which are causing the dog to exhibit the bad behavior – its instincts are not being met and/or the owner is not providing the proper leadership.

Behavior modification differs from obedience in that it alters the physiological and psychological state of the dog that obedience training cannot address. It seeks to identify the root cause of unwanted behavior. Once this is understood, you can move on to teaching the dog not to engage in unwanted behavior in the first place. For example, if your dog bolts out of the door every time you open it, you can use your “come” command to get him back and hope the dog complies (obedience). However, the real issue that needs to be addressed is why your dog is making a mad dash through the door in the first place (behavior).

Discipline and reinforcement are key. *Heel* while on the leash, *stay*, *don't bolt out the door*, *wait* at the door until I pass, *come* when called, *stop* when told, *drop that object*, *no jumping* on humans and so on, are all rules that provide leadership and structure. Dogs crave leadership because their instinct tells them they need rules and structure to survive. Sometimes it is not possible to train a dog who is very unbalanced because there is no focus; the owner usually gets frustrated and the dog becomes anxious or stressed. It is usually at this time when a behaviorist is called in to help with the unwanted behaviors. One can look at this like raising children – they can be taught all the basic proper manners like saying, “please, thank you” etc., but this does not mean they will naturally “behave well” with others or under certain circumstances. When children do not behave well, it is up to the parents to explain and lead by example how to correct the negative behavior, and to provide understanding of how to behave overall. The same goes for interaction with dogs.

Providing you with some defining roles between obedience trainers and behaviorists is truly a subject that cannot be addressed in just a few paragraphs. There are many definitions and opinions about the difference between obedience and behavioral training. My definition or approach to working with dogs has always been more about the overall “psychology and mental well balance” of a dog, and this includes their humans as well. When people understand the basics of obedience and behavior training, they are able to take their own calm, confident energy and body language to the next level. Obedience combined with behavior modification results in a well-balanced dog that begins to think for itself and make the right choices without commands. For example, once a dog is house trained and knows it is expected to go outside to do “business”, the dog makes the proper choice and does not need a

command to do it. It is possible to learn to train with very little knowledge of behavior. Owners can get good results, especially with reward-based training. However, it pays dividends and we get much better results when we truly learn to understand dogs and their behaviors and simply how a dog thinks and interprets situations.

In summary, obedience involves teaching your dog to do something, while behavior is about teaching your dog not to do something. Obedience and behavior training may look the same to some, but the goal, outcome and reward structure are very different.

### Training Tool – The Newspaper

A rolled-up newspaper can be an effective pet training tool when used properly. For instance, use the rolled-up newspaper if your dog chews up something inappropriate or has a housebreaking accident. Bring the dog over to the destroyed object (or mess), then take the rolled-up newspaper and hit yourself over the head as you repeat the phrase, “I forgot to watch my dog! I forgot to watch my dog!”



### Service Paws

By Aria Ottmueller  
Guest Columnist

ariaottmueller@gmail.com

*Ed. Note: Aria Ottmueller is a senior at Northern Arizona University. She is completing a double major in Criminology and Criminal Justice and Political Science with a minor in International Studies and Law and Society. She intends to attend law school in the fall. Aria was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; however, she grew up in Chandler, Arizona. She is visually impaired, and has a guide dog, Tori, a 5-year-old Labrador Retriever. Tori accompanies Aria on day to day activities, acting as her eyes. Aria wrote a 39-page final paper for a class she took at NAU. The following is the Introduction from the paper which is entitled Fraud Dogs! The Dangers of Fraudulent Service Animals. I will be publishing excerpts from the paper in future columns. I'd like to thank Aria for allowing us to print parts of her paper which I feel might be of interest to our readers.*

Have you ever seen a small dog misbehaving in a store with a vest on its back that says “service animal” but the owner allows the dog to misbehave? This is a common occurrence in public establishments. Owners of many different types of dogs place a vest on a dog claiming that it is a service animal. These dogs are not service animals.

In the 1930s, Guide Dogs were the first service animals recognized within the United States; however, they were not yet recognized by federal laws (Lee, 2017). States then began passing legislation that allowed Guide Dogs and their handlers to travel freely throughout the U.S. These laws did not apply to any other assistance animal – only Guide Dogs were accepted. States did not have clear statutes defining the use of Guide Dogs, or, later, dogs for the hearing-im-

paired. Federal statutes protecting service animals did not become federal law until the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1991 (Lee, 2017). Dogs can now be recognized as service animals, performing an array of tasks. These types of assistance animals include but are not limited to hearing impaired, seizure, epileptic, diabetic alert, and Guide Dogs.

Emotional support and service animals play an important role in everyday life, giving comfort to those who have anxiety or providing access to those with a disability. However, these animals are currently misused in society. An increase in fraudulent service animals, including the misuse of emotional support animals, has led to dangers for service animals and their handlers. This in turn will lead to discrimination against people with legitimate service animals, which will change the world by eroding the freedoms that service animals provide, thereby restricting people with service animals from advancing in society.

There are 20,000 Guide Dogs and an estimated 10,000 service animals certified by accredited organizations, yet over 147,000 service animals are currently registered in the United States (NSAR, 2017). These numbers demonstrate drastic differences in animals listed by accredited organizations because the service animals are trained rather than registered without verification. This increase in service animals is a direct result of the 2008 revisions to the *Americans with Disabilities Act*. This surge in turn will result in attacks and increased dangers for service animals.

My paper will elaborate on the 2008 provisions of the *ADA* and the increased court cases after this law was presented, then the increased numbers of fraudulent service dogs between the years of 2000 and 2012, which has led to increased discrimination demonstrated by owners of establishments and dangers this has posed to the disabled through specific cases. The misuse of emotional support and service animals is a serious problem that continues to threaten those who require the use of these animals in their everyday lives.

#### References:

- Lee, T. (2017). *Criminalizing fake service dogs: Helping or hurting legitimate handlers*. *Animal Law* 23(2), 325-354. Retrieved October 3, 2017.
- NSAR Service Animal Database*. (n.d.). Retrieved October 3, 2017, from <https://www.nsarco.com/database.html>

#### *Cesar Millan's Tips for Dog Training*

Cesar's tips: **Exercise, Discipline and Affection**, in that order. His books, *Cesar Millan* and *Cesar's Way*, are both interesting reads. His philosophy: "It's not about the dog. It's always about us. It's always about the owner. It's up to us to create an environment and circumstances in which the dog can thrive and be itself."

#### *If I had my dog to raise all over again...*

I'd stroke him with my fingers more, and point the finger less.  
I would do less correcting and do more connecting.  
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.  
I would care to know less and know to care more.  
I'd take more hikes and throw more balls.  
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.  
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.  
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.  
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.  
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.  
I'd teach less about the love of power and more about the power of love.

Adaptation by Deb Orwig from  
*If I Had My Child to Raise Over Again*  
by Diane Loomans

#### *Snake Avoidance Training*

If you live anywhere except in a strictly residential area in AZ, or if you like to hike with your dog, we strongly encourage you to get your dog "snake trained." Most trainers use a shock collar and train the dog to avoid the odor of a rattlesnake and a Sonoran Desert Toad, rather than to avoid one by sight. Contact the following to arrange for training:



**Partners Dog Training School** in Cave Creek, <http://www.partnersdogtraining.com/snakeproofing.html> 480-595-6700

**Viper Voidance** in New River (43226 N 7th Ave; 480-215-1776; [www.vipervoidance.com](http://www.vipervoidance.com))

**Master's Kennels Dog University**, 17309 S 144th St, Gilbert, <http://www.doguniversity.com/> 480-917-DOGS

**Southwest Snake Avoidance Experts** serves Tucson, Oro Valley, Green Valley, Marana, Avra Valley, Sierra Vista, Catalina, Oracle, Bisbee, Tubac, Rio Rico, Arivaca and Chandler, Mesa, the Greater Phoenix area and most western states if class sizes are large enough. <http://snakeavoidance.com/> 520-449-4200

If your dog gets bitten, the antivenin can cost upwards of \$2,000! The couple hundred dollars that snake avoidance training costs is nothing compared to that, nor to the pain, possible disfigurement, or death that a snake bite might cause.

The Financial Picture

By Deb Orwig

**Reporting period: January 1, 2017- December 31, 2017**

**Total Assets as of January 15, 2018: \$221,497.72**

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Adoption Application Fees	\$ 6,050.00	
Adoption Income	26,188.00	
Adoption Fee Refunds		\$3,430.00
Auction Income	740.00	
Bank Charges (PayPal & Credit Card fees)		992.41
Calendars – Sales & Sponsorships	4,340.00	3,231.00
Celebration Auction	75.00	
Donation Income	64,054.74	
[Honorary	15,927.00]	
[Memorials	13,973.44]	
[Paws & Pasta – DBMF	1,764.50]	
Dues and Subscriptions	32.00	476.80
Event Expense		399.56
<b>Fashion Paw Tea<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>23,682.04</b>	<b>16,829.91<sup>2</sup></b>
[Donations	10,874.29]	
[Luncheon	2,605.00]	
[Prizes	2,611.00]	
[Silent Auction	7,591.75]	
Gift Wrapping	4,986.83	
Grants	12,050.00	384.70
Insurance		665.00
Interest	79.87	
Legal and Professional Fees		10.00
Membership Income	23,360.00	
Merchandise	5,420.71	2,964.85
Paws At The Park 2017	1,491.00	490.97
Office Expenses & Supplies		505.13
Photos with Santa <sup>3</sup>	492.00	
Postage		2,470.96
Rent or Lease		2,810.55
Stationery and Printing		5,070.41
Summer Fundraiser for Special Needs Dogs	2,985.00	
Telephone and Website		225.98
Dog-related Expenses		
Behavior Training		5,683.69
Boarding		3,254.00
Leashes and Collars		549.77
Micro-chip and Heartgard® Expenses		694.91
Veterinary Services		126,118.08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$172,957.69</b>	<b>\$173,828.68</b>
<b>NET INCOME: - \$ 870.99</b>		
<b>Checking Account on 1-15-18:</b>	<b>\$107,952.95</b>	
<b>Savings Account on 1-15-18:</b>	<b>\$100,252.84</b>	
<b>Debbe Begley Memorial Fund as of 1-15-18:</b>	<b>\$13,291.93</b>	
<b>Outstanding Credit Card Balance on 1-15-18:</b>	<b>\$10,586.08</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Fashion Paw Tea expense is so high because *Scott Foundation* paid all the bills; consequently *AGR* owed them money  
<sup>2</sup> Actual *AGR* expenses were \$1,834.71; the number reported is high because *AGR* paid for all tickets purchased by *AGR* volunteers, but the volunteers reimbursed us  
<sup>3</sup> This is just donations from customers; we have not received remuneration from *Petco* yet

*Arizona Golden Rescue* ended the year 2017 with a slight deficit. However, we have not yet received a check from *Petco* for our *Photos With Santa* activities. Due to our first intake of 2018, **Jessie**, being in terrible condition when we got her (see pages 16-17), as of January 20 we have already already spent about \$8,181 on vet bills in 2018. Please buy *AGR* merchandise (I have it all at my house), renew your *AGR* membership and upgrade if possible, come to our scheduled events, participate on *Arizona Gives Day* (page 17), send a donation any time. All help will be appreciated!

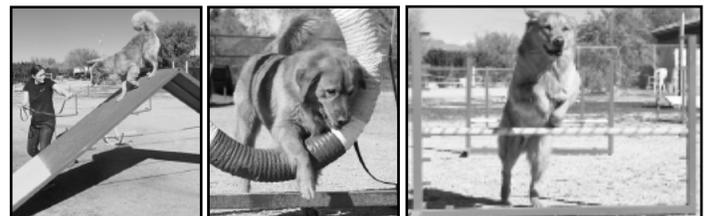


**A Touch of Gold 2018 Calendar**

2018 calendars are still available! We will have copies at every event and Meet-and-Greet. Calendars can also be purchased at **Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital** (3131 E Thunderbird Rd, Phoenix), and **Academy West Animal Hospital** (6231 W Bell Rd, Glendale). The cost is the same as it has always been: \$10 each. You can also send in an order to have the calendar(s) mailed; please add \$2.50 per calendar for postage.

**Agility Training Can Be Great Fun!**

Here is **12-100 Rusty** using agility equipment at *Partners*. In addition to the A-frame, the ring and the bar jump, agility equipment includes broad jumps, ramps, and weave poles. The sport of agility is good exercise for both you and your dog and helps the dog develop self-confidence.



## Diamonds in the Ruff

By Debbie Ball

*Diamonds in the Ruff* are dogs on which **AGR** has had to spend at least \$1,000 during one quarter. In all of 2017, 25% of our total veterinary expenses were for just four dogs. Two of those four, **16-043 Sandi** and **17-003 Juggy**, were featured in prior issues of this column. The stories of the other two of those four, **17-056 Whisky** and **17-063 Rufus**, continue below, along with the other fourth-quarter 2017 dogs on which we spent in excess of \$1,000 each. Please consider making a donation to help with the expenses of a specific dog, or just earmark it for *Diamonds in the Ruff*. All donations are tax deductible, of course, and will be acknowledged.

To recap third quarter's *Diamonds in the Ruff*...

**16-043 Sandi** has had multiple medical problems since she originally came to *Arizona Golden Rescue* in 2015. She spent a year with one family, then they returned her because they could not afford her care. We then placed her in another home under our *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program, whereby **AGR** pays for all her medical expenses. The total amount spent on **Sandi** since she came back to **AGR** in 2016 has been **\$17,780**. **Sandi** was a rescue from the *Arizona Humane Society*. Since she had been a stray, we have no idea how old she really is, but in 2015 our vet guessed she was at least 10. Despite several bouts with cancer, among other illnesses, she continues to be happy and enjoy life. It has been money well spent!

**17-035 Cocobean**, now called **Katana**, is a 6-year-old Golden mix who came to **AGR** from the shelter in Tucson. He had some behavior issues, as well as needing a large cyst removed from his chest. He spent five weeks in behavior training at *Partners*, then he had surgery for the cyst. He loves his new mommy, Marilyn, who took him for 8 follow-up lessons at *Partners* so she could learn the techniques they taught **Katana**. He is doing very well now.

**17-036 Brewster** is the quintessential Golden, according to his adopters. Having his ear flap removed due to cancer didn't seem to phase him. He loves life and everyone in it.

**17-043 Emma** was so ill when she came into Rescue, we were not able to help her and had to send her to the Bridge.

**17-047 Sunny**, now called **Molly**, had puppy strangles, which were gone in about 2 months by end of August. **Sunny** was adopted by the family who fostered her and helped her regain her health. She is now a typical spunky puppy.

**17-048 Josh** is a small Golden mix who was picked up in July as a stray in Arizona City by *Pima County Animal Control*. By

mid-August, **Josh** had recovered from all his medical issues. His adoptive family renamed him **Wrigley Bear**, and they are enjoying him immensely.

**17-050 Sally** has recovered from her cancer surgery and seems to be fine, but her adopter will be vigilant about detecting any new lumps that might show up. **Sally** loves living in Flagstaff as part of a pack of four.

**17-052 Dakota** was another dog who had to be sent to the Bridge because we could not bring him back to health.



**17-056 Whisky** has continued as a *Diamonds in the Ruff* dog. He is a 10-year-old mostly-Golden mix who came to **AGR** in August as a stray from the Westside *MCACCS* shelter. At the time, he was thin, had ear infections, and had a tumor on his tail. The tumor was deemed inoperable, but the vet felt it was



localized and advised docking the tail. So, **Whisky** had his tail docked at *Academy West Animal Hospital* while he was under anesthesia for neutering and the extraction of two teeth. Shortly after this, **Whisky** developed bronchial pneumonia and spent a week in late summer in isolation at *Animal Medical & Surgical Center* in Scottsdale. After some setbacks with the healing of his tail and after-effects of pneumonia, he was given antibiotics and anti-emetics along with a prescription for a low-fat, easily-digested food. He was then placed in his forever home with Ashley and Rob in Goodyear. Unfortunately, his intestinal issues continued, so in December he went in for a follow-up which included an endoscopy. He was then diagnosed with (IBD) Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Steroids have now been ordered for treatment. His adopters are excited to give them a try and hopefully get him back on the mend! Current report is that he is doing much better. All of **Whisky's** veterinary care so far has cost **AGR** a total of **\$7,041**.



**17-063 Rufus** also has been a *Diamonds in the Ruff* dog since 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2017. He is a 7-year-old who was rescued in August from the Eastside *MCACCS* shelter. He has been a medical mess. When he first came to **AGR**, he had black skin from hyper-pigmentation, hair loss, multiple mats, strong foul odors, and ear discharges, and he was seriously underweight. He was given oral antibiotics, medicated baths, and Apoquel for allergies. After his skin improved, he had surgery to have some growths removed, but one large one on his neck was found to be squamous cell carcinoma. Since then, he has had oncology exams and radiology scans. He has recently started chemotherapy

treatments and did well with the first one; he will have them every three weeks for a while. **Rufus** has recently been placed into the *Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption* program with Nicole and Chris in Mesa, whereby **AGR** will pay for his cancer treatments only. Fourth-quarter expenses for **Rufus** were **\$2,909**, and his total medical expense since intake has been **\$7,902**.



**17-065 Zoey** is a 1½-year-old purebred female Golden who was too high-energy for the original owner and had some behavioral issues. She was rather stubborn and headstrong, did not want to listen and had no “off button”. She was basically healthy, but no boundaries had ever been put on her behavior, and she was in need of discipline training. **AGR** views serious behavior issues in the same way

we view serious medical issues: if we can fix it, we will try. So, **Zoey** was whisked off to *Partners Dog Training School* in Cave Creek for intensive five-week “boot camp” training on how to be a good, disciplined dog. **Zoey** has recently been placed with John and Peggy in Scottsdale. As a condition for adoption finalization, they are continuing with her training, including following all the suggestions that *Partners* gave them. They report that she has fit right in with their entire family and they are grateful to have her in their lives! Basic medical expense and extensive training for **Zoey** have cost **AGR \$3,115**.



**17-073 Mary Kate** is a 7-year-old return-to-Rescue, having originally been placed in 2011 when she **Ashley**, who might be her mother, were found as strays by an **AGR** member. Her original adopters had to return her to **AGR** due to illness in their family. **Mary Kate** was given a basic medical exam along with heartworm and valley fever tests, which were both negative. But she was found

to need some dental work to clean out gingivitis and remove some teeth and gum growths. Both **Mary Kate** and **Ashley** have been adopted by Dean and Marlene in Chandler and are doing well. **Mary Kate’s** medical and dental expenses amounted to **\$2,646**.

**17-078 Jax** came to **AGR** as an almost-4-year-old male who was an owner surrender brought to *Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital* when he was in need of surgery. He has a chronic eating problem: he will eat anything and everything. In fact, he had previously had four surgeries to remove intestinal blockages. His October surgery was his fifth sur-



gery, this time to remove a tube sock in his stomach that extended through his duodenum into his intestine. The vet told the owner and **AGR** that this 5<sup>th</sup> surgery had to be his last. The owner realized that she could not keep him safe due to visits by children who would leave things on the floor. The surgery went well and he was brought up to date on his vaccines and other routine tests. He is very smart, very good at problem solving, and his foster reports that he is trainable. The key to a good placement for **Jax** will be a basically pristine home where everything is kept picked up (i.e. no kids in the household) and where he is provided lots of exercise and attention. In addition to these needs, **Jax** must be placed in a no-other-dog-or-cat home, as he exhibits resource guarding as well as a high prey drive. **Jax’s** total bill for his medical issues was **\$2,775**.



**17-082 Pilgrim** is a small, 2-year-old mixed-breed male from the shelter. He came in with injuries to the left side of his body, his left elbow out of joint, left hip damaged, and a healing-but-broken pelvis. The vet surmised that the dog had been hit by a car a while ago and not treated. **Pilgrim**, so named by the transporter because he was picked up the day before Thanksgiving, under-

went surgery for over two hours at *Animal Medical & Surgical Center* in Scottsdale for repair of one of the worst elbows the orthopedic surgeon said he had ever seen. **Pilgrim** was then sent to a foster home with his leg in a sling, which had to be used for two weeks. The fosters were given instructions to keep him in a small room or pen and not allow any dog-to-dog interactions, not the easiest thing to do since they have three other Golden Retrievers and **Pilgrim** really wanted to play. The sling is no longer necessary, and his foster and FWITA are working with him to use the limb more, improve range of motion, and do short walks. He is getting some physical therapy now, too. His fosters report that he is a good boy, doesn’t seem to be in much pain, but is in need of some obedience training for barking. Just before this issue went to press, our Placement Team identified an adopter for **Pilgrim!** **Pilgrim’s** medical expenses so far have amounted to **\$4,531**.

**Note from the AGR President:** The absolutely worst part of being involved in Rescue is taking in a dog that is so diseased or decrepit we cannot do anything much for the dog except give it pain medication and then send it to the Bridge. That is exactly the scenario we faced with the first dog who was surrendered to us in 2018, **18-001 Jessie**. When we transported her to *Animal Medical &*



**Surgical Center** in Scottsdale, she was in dire straits, severely undernourished but with an abdomen swollen up the size of a beach ball. The veterinarians at **AMSC** are top-notch. They tried everything and then some – all kinds of tests and medications – to help this little girl, but they could not determine why fluid kept leaking into her abdomen. Her abdomen was tapped several times – the first time the internal medicine specialist, Dr. Fryer, pulled out 4 liters (that’s over a gallon!) of fluid, then had to tap **Jessie** again a couple days later and a third time a couple days after that. All this time – a week – **Jessie** was kept in the intensive 24-hour care area and checked on frequently throughout the day and night. On the sixth day after we got her, three of the vets at **AMSC** consulted with each other and with **AGR** and we made the wrenching decision to euthanize **Jessie** in order to end her misery. Her expenses for the week at **AMSC** were \$6,683 even with the generous discount they give Rescue, which we very much appreciate. We could use everyone’s help, so if you are ever inclined to donate in support of a *Diamonds in the Ruff* dog, now is the time.

### Some Common-Sense Training Tips

**Train every day.** Rain or shine, snow or heat, for 10 to 20 minutes. The younger the dog, the shorter the sessions should be. If using 10-minute sessions, try to do them twice a day; stop before the dog gets fidgety or uninterested and starts ignoring commands.

**Be patient and consistent.** Use the same word for the same command every time. Use short, crisp words, e.g. “down” not “lie down.”

**Begin training sessions in a quiet area.** As your dog’s responses become more dependable, train in areas where there are more distractions. Open-air shopping malls, where there is both vehicle and people traffic, are good locations; for the dog’s safety, don’t train off leash in public places. In downtown Phoenix, dogs are allowed throughout *Biltmore Fashion Park*.

**Use different tones of voice** to elicit the desired response from your dog. A high-pitched, happy tone that will motivate your dog to move works well when teaching “heel,” “sit,” and “come.” Use a low-pitched, firm command when teaching “down” and “stay.”

**Do not repeat commands.** If you do, your dog will learn it is not necessary to obey until multiple commands are given. If the dog does not respond after the first command, issue a correction and put the dog into the position you want. Praise for good response.

**Praise, praise and more praise.** Treats are not necessary, and if you use them often as a reward for compliant behavior, it may be difficult for you to wean the dog from treat expectation. The dog should respond only to please you.

### Arizona Gives Day: Tuesday, April 3, 2018

For the second year, *Arizona Golden Rescue* will be participating in *Arizona Gives Day*. Starting at midnight and during the 24 hours of **Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**, donations can be made to **AGR** through the *Arizona Gives Day* website: [www.azgives.org/arizonagoldenrescue](http://www.azgives.org/arizonagoldenrescue)

Some conditions and restrictions:

*Arizona Gives* will not share or sell donor information to any other organization or third party, but does reserve the right to communicate with donors for the purpose of user surveys, newsletters, and general education about philanthropy.

*Arizona Gives* will subtract a fee from each donation for payment processing, technology/security and program fees.

- a) Donors will have the opportunity to cover technology/security and program fees of 5.2% (participation cost). Note: In 2017, 85% of donors chose to cover these fees, although *Arizona Gives* cannot guarantee these same results in 2018. If a donor chooses not to cover these fees, however, they will be subtracted from the donation accordingly.
- b) For donations processed via credit/debit card, card fees subtracted will be 2.0% plus 30 cents per donation if donors choose to cover the participation cost, or 7.2% plus 30 cents per donation if donors choose not to cover these participation costs.
- c) For donations processed via electronic check, the fees subtracted will be only 40 cents per donation if donors choose to cover the participation cost, or 5.2% plus 40 cents per donation if donors choose not to cover the participation costs.

Donations through AZGives.org will not be used

- a) to support political activities
- b) to purchase raffle tickets
- c) to pay for a membership, dinner, event tickets, auction items or any other activity that provides a benefit to the donor
- d) to pay for personal expenses, including tuition, incurred by a director, officer, or other AGR member or any of their relatives

In 2017, despite very little advance notice to members and supporters, *Arizona Golden Rescue* received \$3,091.20 in donations on *Arizona Gives Day*, April 4<sup>th</sup>. We hope our wonderful members and supporters will donate on *Arizona Gives Day* again in 2018. There are incentive prizes (i.e. more money for **AGR**) for certain amounts of donations during certain times of day. More information about these will be sent out to members by e-mail and through Facebook.

## MAGIC MOMENTS

By Mary Engstrom

*Magic Moments... when a stray Golden Retriever or Golden mix is spotted in a shelter kennel and does a happy dance when taken out; when a neglected backyard dog is surrendered by its owner to a member of our Transport Team and is delivered to a foster family that shows the dog love, comfort, toys and good-quality food for; perhaps, the first time in the dog's life; and the most magical of all... when a rescued dog meets his or her forever family and we see the dog's excitement and the sparkle in the family's eyes. As rescuers, we are privileged to share in these Magic Moments. Below are stories of Arizona Golden Rescue's Magic Moments from October 16, 2017 through January 18, 2018. All adoptions finalized after January 18<sup>th</sup> will be in the next issue.*



**17-035 Cocobean**, now **Katana**, is a handsome 6-year-old Golden mix boy. His family surrendered him to **Pima Animal Care and Control** due to family changes. As usual, the transport angels jumped into action to save this boy. He was driven to Scottsdale by a couple of Southern Arizona volunteers and vetted at **Academy West Animal Hospital**.

It was decided that **Cocobean** would attend intensive training at **Partners**, as he was having a difficult time adjusting to the many recent changes in his life. **Cocobean** was an excellent student at **Partners** and was dreaming of his prospective forever home. As a condition of adoption finalization, his new owner would need to continue going to training at **Partners** that was paid for by **AGR**. Marilyn of Phoenix met **Cocobean** and fell in love! After his stint at **Partners**, he was taken to **Stetson Hills Animal Hospital** in Glendale for removal of a large cyst on his chest. Thankfully, the cyst was benign. Marilyn renamed the boy **Katana**; they are a perfect match! This sweet boy has truly found his forever home!

**17-059 Titan**, now named **Dudley**, is a 1-year-old Golden/Corgi mix. He is another save from **Pima Animal Care & Control** in Tucson. He is a small but solid youngster weighing in at 44 pounds. His next stop was **Academy West Animal Hospital** in Glendale. He received neuter surgery after getting a clean bill of health. He was given his age-appropriate vaccinations at **PACC** and a leptospirosis vaccine at **Academy West**. Now it was time to find a family up to the challenge of puppy behavior. Deneen of Cave Creek met **Titan** and absolutely loved him! **Titan** is happy to finally be home!



**17-060 Luna**, now called **Phoebe**, is a beautiful 8-month-old purebred Golden youngster. **Luna** was surrendered because the surrendering owner's brother, who rescued **Luna** from a shelter,

could not keep her due to dire financial circumstances. The man's sister already had two large dogs and was unable to take on the expense of a third. **Luna** was vetted at **Four-Legged Friends Animal Hospital** in Phoenix. She was current on vaccinations except for rabies, had been spayed and had a micro-chip. She was tested for heartworm and valley fever; both were negative. She received rabies and leptospirosis vaccines. She did have a slight case of kennel cough that was treated with doxycycline. **Luna** was now ready to go to her forever home. She was welcomed enthusiastically by Quinn in Tucson. The resident cat was happy to share their home. **Luna** is enjoying her new life hiking and swimming and playing on weekdays with **Tootsie Pup** (now **Ladybug**), who was adopted by Quinn's daughter and family who live just a mile away!



**17-063 Rufus** is a 7-year-old male that was a shelter rescue from the East-side **Maricopa County Animal Care and Control Services (MCACCS)**.

Sadly, **Rufus** had numerous medical issues. He was underweight, had hair loss and "black" skin. He had a foul odor and discharge from both ears. He also had numerous skin tags and a large open sore on his throat. First

the standard tests and ear cultures were done. He was put on antibiotics for his ear infection and to treat kennel cough and mild pneumonia. He then received medicated baths twice a week. Once his skin improved, the growths were removed. Unfortunately, the large sore on his neck was diagnosed as squamous cell carcinoma. A lymph node biopsy was performed at **Animal Medical & Surgical Center** in Scottsdale where he is receiving his health care. Sadly, the biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of metastatic squamous cell carcinoma. His wonderful fosters, Nicole and Chris of Mesa, fell in love with this precious boy and decided to adopt him. He is a **Gentle Paws Hospice Adoption** that will cover the care of his



cancer treatment. Thank you to all who saved this boy.



**17-066 Jackson**, is another young, 10-month-old Golden boy. He was surrendered because his owner traveled frequently and, therefore, **Jackson** was living outside. **Jackson** resided with his litter mate, **Elli**. It was decided to provide these sweethearts with separate new homes, as there was quite a bit of sibling rivalry between them. **Jackson** received his wellness exam at *Academy West Animal Hospital* in Glendale. **Jackson** was current with vaccinations except for the leptospirosis vaccine, so that was administered. His fecal and valley fever tests were negative. It was discovered he had an ear infection and was treated with an antibiotic. **Jackson's** new home is with Kyla, Bryan and resident Shih Tzu, **Marcus**, in Glendale. Thank you, *AGR*, for giving **Jackson** a new life!

**17-067 Elli**, is a 10-month-old Golden female, who is the sister of **17-066 Jackson**. **Elli** was living outside with **Jackson** due to the owners frequent traveling. It was decided because of their sibling rivalry to place them in separate homes. **Elli** also received her wellness exam at *Academy West Animal Hospital* in Glendale. **Elli** only needed the leptospirosis vaccine to bring her current on vaccinations. Her heartworm and valley fever tests were normal. She was adopted with a Health Addendum for spay surgery, which she had in December. **Elli** is happy to be in her forever home with Katy, Chris and sons of Phoenix. **Elli** is loving life and enjoying attending flag football games!



**17-068 Baby Ruth**, now known as **Lucy**, was 8 weeks old when she came into Rescue with two other puppies, **17-069 Lolly Pup**, and **17-070 Tootsie Pup**, from the *Pima Animal Care & Control (PACC)* shelter. These three cute Golden mixes were thought to be littermates. Two of them, **Baby Ruth** and **Lolly Pup**, looked very much alike, but the third one, **Tootsie Pup**, was decidedly different, looking much more Golden than her littermates – a different daddy, maybe, or just the wonders of genetics? **Baby Ruth** received her vetting at *Academy West Animal Hospital* in Glendale. She was started on the routine puppy vaccinations. A fecal test for worms detected both round worms and tape worms, so she was treated for those. **Baby Ruth** and her sisters stayed with a gracious foster family,



**Baby Ruth** at about 9 weeks of age – ears had not yet started to prick up

Deb and Larry of Glendale, until age-appropriate for adoption. **Baby Ruth** was the most outgoing of the trio. After careful selection, **Baby Ruth** was placed with Andrea, Stuart and family, including resident *AGR* Golden mix, **Sadie**, in Scottsdale. Actually, **Sadie** is the family member who chose **Baby Ruth**! Now called **Lucy**, this energetic pup is enjoying her life, especially with a mature dog to show her the ropes. **Lucy** has a health addendum for spaying and rabies vaccination.



When the pups were 12 weeks of age, the ears of both **Baby Ruth** (above) and **Lolly Pup** stood up and flopped over at the tips



**Lolly Pup** at 10 weeks of age – one ear up

**17-069 Lolly Pup**, now known as **Lola**, came into Rescue from the *PACC* shelter along with her two sisters. She was brought up to date on everything a young puppy would



**Lola** at about 15 weeks of age – both ears up permanently by then

need at *Academy West Animal Hospital* in Glendale. This included puppy vaccinations and treatment for worms. **Lolly Pup** and her sisters stayed with one of our wonderful foster families, Deb and Larry of Glendale, until old enough for adoption. **Lolly Pup** is a bundle of cuteness, and families were interviewed until there was a perfect match. **Lolly Pup** is now happily residing in Surprise with Allison, Thomas, and their three children. Allison reported: *When we told our children (ages 11, 8, and 4) that our family was ready to get a dog, they researched different breeds and determined that they wanted a Golden Retriever, preferably a puppy. We applied to AGR, and were informed that a 3-month-old puppy was in need of a home. Probably the only thing golden about our Lola is her color; but after 2 months with her, we can't imagine having any other dog. She is an unknown mix with a sweet temperament. Lola is a little cautious in new situations, but she loves taking walks, playing fetch, tug, and being with her family. She is responding well to learning commands and to house training. We are so in love with our Lola and are thrilled to have her in our family! Sounds like a match made in heaven!*

**17-070 Tootsie Pup**, now called **Lady** (or **Ladybug**), is the third of the 8-week-old trio that was rescued from the *PACC* shelter. She was the most petite of the group, the most reserved and did not look much like the other two puppies – in fact, she looked more Golden, although one with short legs and a proportionately longer body. She also received her vetting at *Academy West Animal Hos-*

*pital* in Glendale. All three pups developed kennel cough, but **Tootsie Pup's** segued into pneumonia, which was treated with a strong antibiotic. After a dicey first week at Deb's house, this little girl rallied and started to recover. When she was 12 weeks old, it was time for her to leave her foster home and siblings to move on to her forever home.

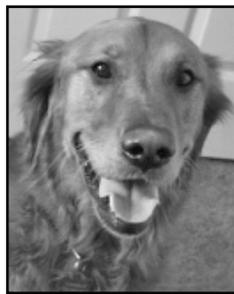
**Tootsie Pup** was welcomed by Kelly in Tucson, where she is the center of attention, not only from her own family with two children, but also at Grandpa Quinn's house with **Phoebe** during the day on weekdays when the kids and mom are not at home. What a great life for little **Lady!**



Lady's ears remain like a Golden's ears



**17-071 Nova**, now **Tiki**, (at left) and **17-072 Charlie**, now **Carl** (at right), are a bonded pair of Golden Retrievers. **Nova** is 5½ years old, while **Charlie** is 7½



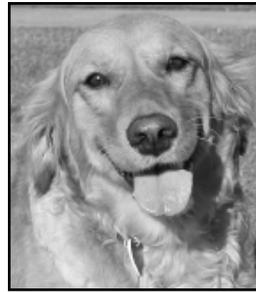
years of age. This brother and sister duo came into Rescue because the surrendering family's life left them little time to give this pair the time and attention they so rightly deserved. They both received their wellness visits at **Kennel Care** in Chandler. This pair was brought up to date on vaccinations and received lab work including testing for heartworm, valley fever and tick fever. Unfortunately, they both had ear infections, but these were easily treated with antibiotics. Nicole, Eric, children and three canines in Gilbert were very excited to welcome this wonderful pair into their home. They are now receiving endless love and attention and are very happy. Thank you, **AGR!**

**17-073 Mary Kate** (on left) and **17-074 Ashley** (on right) are beautiful purebred Golden Retrievers. **Mary Kate**, about 7 years old, and **Ashley**, 8-9 years old, were found in 2011 wandering together down a busy street in Sun City West.

At that time, we thought **Mary Kate** was **Ashley's** daughter. Their owner, who originally adopted the pair in 2011 and cared for them very well for 6 years, became ill and was no longer going able to take care of them, so he surrendered them back to **AGR**, as our adoption contract stipulates must happen.



Both girls received their wellness visit at **Kennel Care** in Chandler. **Mary Kate** had her thyroid medication adjusted due to lab results. It was also discovered **Mary Kate** had gum growths, so we sent her to **AZ Vet Dental Specialists** in Gilbert. Both girls received leptospirosis vaccines. **Ashley** had a very low titer for valley fever, so she was scheduled for a recheck in three months. Marlene, Dean, and resident dog **Duke** were overjoyed to have this pair become a part of their family! Again, thank you, **AGR**, for supplying happiness!



**17-076 Sasha** (left photo) and **17-077 Sultan** are another bonded pair. Their adoption was finalized just before this issue went to

press. **Sasha** is 3 years old, and **Sultan** is 6; both are nice-looking purebred Golden Retrievers. The surrendering family told us their baby daughter was allergic to the dogs, so they were having to keep the pair outside and knew that was not good for Golden Retrievers, who should live inside with a family. Although **Sultan** was not neutered, fortunately **Sasha** was already spayed. **AGR** had the surgery done on **Sultan**, along with all the standard vetting for both dogs. They both had to be treated for kennel cough. **Sasha** and **Sultan** were never socialized until we got them. The first foster was a woman who had them for two days, came back from a trip and said she was just not ready to have dogs in her life again, as it had only been a month since her other two had passed. Then they went to a second foster home where we discovered **Sasha** was very protective of **Sultan** and went after the resident dogs. At the third foster, when the dogs were walked near other neighborhood dogs, **Sasha** was again very reactive, and she did not like the resident cats at all. We decided to try placing them in separate homes. Turned out **Sultan** didn't get along with the cats at this foster home either. With help from **AGR's** behaviorist, the fosters tried to make it work for a week, but it was obvious to all that **Sultan** needed to be moved again. The pair was reunited at their fourth foster home. Without any cats or other dogs to distract them, **Sasha** and **Sultan** relaxed and were good companions for this foster. Finally, a permanent family that was willing to take a pair and did not have other animals was identified. Debbie and Tom in Fountain Hills have experienced a couple of behavior issues from the pair, but **AGR's** behavior consultant, Sharon McKenzie, has been working with them to help them learn leadership skills. The dogs are becoming better socialized by spending some days at **Allehunde Gym for Dogs** in Fountain Hills. We are all confident that **Sasha** and **Sultan** will settle down and learn to enjoy their new family and environment.

**17-079 Colt** is a handsome 5-year-old Golden lad. His owner was

very sad to let this boy go. However, due to divorce and a change in residence she felt it was in **Colt's** best interest. He received his wellness visit at **Kenel Care** in Chandler and was in tip-top shape. He did receive the leptospirosis vaccine that all **AGR** dogs are now given when entering Rescue. **Colt** is excited to be home in San Tan Valley with Carole, Greg, and resident **AGR** Golden **Ruger**. He is loving his new life and ecstatic to have a swimming buddy!



**17-080 Dutch**, now **Finnegan (Finn)** is a 10-month-old Golden youngster. This handsome boy came into Rescue due to his surrendering owner being overwhelmed by divorce, puppy behavior and caring for a toddler. She was understandably heartbroken but felt **Dutch** needed someone who could give him the time and attention he

deserved. He was seen at **Animal Medical & Surgical Center** in Scottsdale for his vetting. He was already current on vaccinations and received heartworm and valley fever testing. He did receive a micro-chip and a pedicure! **Finn** is happy to have found his forever home with Emily and Griffin in Scottsdale and is enjoying his new life!

**17-083 Molly** was a nine-year-old Golden sweetheart. Sadly, her owner was moving to an assisted living facility that did not allow large dogs. **Molly's** first stop was **Academy West Animal Hospital** for vetting. She received a leptospirosis vaccination and would require a dental and removal of a large cyst. This senior girl had some difficulty walking and standing and received medication to assist her. **Molly** was a very lucky girl to be fostered by Connie and Nick, who also had transported her. Unfortunately, **Molly** developed vomiting and diarrhea shortly after intake. The Health Care Team discovered from her previous vet that she possibly had lymphoma. Despite the wonderful care she received from Connie, Nick and **Academy West**, she went to the Bridge due to septic shock from a perforated ulcer. Be happy and run free, sweet angel!



**17-084 Nickie**, now only the second **AGR** dog renamed **Dolly** in 9 years, is a 1-year-old Golden girl. This sweetie

was found roaming in a park as a stray. A Good Samaritan posted flyers, walked to the park daily looking for her owner, and posted on websites. Unfortunately, the dog was not micro-chipped. After eight days the kind people contacted **AGR**, as this youngster had too much energy for them! The transport team picked up this wonderful girl and took her to **Academy West Animal Hospital** in Glendale for vetting. She was given the necessary vaccinations, tested for valley fever and worms, and spayed. She had a micro-chip inserted so she would never be lost again. Now it was time to find a family who wanted the challenge of an untrained youngster. Robyn, Kris, children and resident canine of Phoenix were ready and said, "Yes!" **Dolly** is elated to have a forever home!



**17-085 Chloe** (left) is a beautiful ginger-colored four-year-old Golden



and **17-087 Gracie** is a one-year-old purebred Golden. **Chloe** is **Gracie's** mom. Unfortunately, their owner found himself homeless after a divorce and was moving across the country. He felt it wasn't appropriate for this precious pair to be living in a car, so he contacted **AGR** to find them a home. The girls received their vetting at **Academy West Animal Hospital** – both were made current on their vaccinations, and received valley fever and heartworm testing along with micro-chip implantation. They also required spay surgery. Now it was time to find a home that wanted double the Golden love. Cathy and Steven of Scottsdale were very excited to accept this pair. Both girls are loving their new home and enjoying playing ball. Thank you, **AGR**, for keeping this bonded pair together!



**17-086 Titan** is a handsome 2-year-old purebred Golden. He was relinquished by the same owner as **17-085 Chloe** and **17-087 Gracie**; he is **Gracie's** dad. He also needed to be brought up to date on his vaccinations and to be micro-chipped. He was tested for valley fever, heartworm and had basic labs done. He also received his vetting at **Academy West Animal Hospital** in Glendale. He had a mild ear infection that was easily treated with antibiotics. He also required neuter surgery. **Titan** was now ready for his new home. Michelle, Mark, and their son with resident Golden, **Bear**, of Litchfield Park were ecstatic to welcome him into their family. **Titan** and **Bear** have become best friends and are having tons of fun playing together. Another **AGR** success story!

# OVER THE RAINBOW

We honor the memory of our human and animal companions who have passed on...

We honor the memory of our human and animal companions who have passed on...



12-091 Samantha Donahue



14-007 Mayter Joyce



14-040 Charlie Hinatsu



14-054 Mozart Noel



15-069 Shaggy McCabe / Dodson



16-017 Katy Gump



17-002 Belle Courtney



17-021 Trixie Vallie



17-025 Gypsy DuMarce



17-083 Molly



18-001 Jessie



Skye Engstrom

## The Rainbow Bridge

There is a bridge connecting Heaven and Earth. It is called the Rainbow Bridge because of its many colors.

Just this side of the Rainbow Bridge there is a land of meadows, hills and valleys with lush green grass.

When a beloved pet dies, the pet goes to this place. There is always food and water and warm spring weather. The old and frail animals are young again. Those who are maimed are made whole again. They play all day with each other.

There is only one thing missing. They are not with their special person who loved them on Earth.

So each day they run and play until the day comes when one suddenly stops playing and looks up! The nose twitches! The ears are up! The eyes are staring! And this one suddenly runs from the group!

You have been seen, and when you and your special friend meet, you take him or her in your arms and embrace.

Your face is kissed again and again and again, and you look once more into the eyes of your trusting pet.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together, never again to be separated.



Bella McDowell



Boomer Mackerman



Dutch Triplet



NinAnnie Wehry / Hill

and

Marci Ascherman  
Sister of AGR member Beth Lansdowne

Robert Blean  
Son of AGR member Carolyn Blean

Jacqueline Holland  
Mother of AGR member Cara Holland

Elaine Sager, AGR Member/Adopter  
and Mother of AGR Member Jeff Sager

Al Ward, AGR Member/Adopter  
and Husband of AGR Member Nancy Ward

## Training Facilities and Trainers

Compiled by Deb Orwig

The most important thing about training your dog is to DO it! Attend group classes with your dog. Hire a personal trainer if you must. But learn how to get your dog under control so that he or she can become a pleasant, well-behaved companion. Just keep in mind that not every trainer will be effective with every dog, and not every dog will respond to every training technique. If the class or trainer you try does not seem to be working for you, try a different one. The purpose of going to a training class or using a personal trainer is so you can learn. Do not expect a trainer to train your dog, though – you are the one who should do that.

On the subject of trainers and training facilities, the following list is by no means exhaustive. I have just included those I know of that have been used or recommended by *AGR* members.

Sheila Joyce with **Tessa** and Liz Tataseo with **Augie** took a basic obedience course with an excellent trainer, Christine Filler. Unfortunately, Christine is usually in Arizona for only the coolest five months of the year – which means now! However, she provided a list of trainers and training facilities that she recommends. Other trainers recommended by members who have used them are listed here, as well. Costs vary considerably.

Both Sheila and Liz have taken formal obedience classes with other dogs they have owned, so it is not as though either is a novice dog trainer. However, both know that formal classes are important not only for brushing up on training techniques, but also for the socialization of the dogs. Christine Filler gave them the following list for future reference.

### ARIZONA DOG PRO NETWORK

**Christine Filler** cfiller1@msn.com 602-717-7909 *Christine's Obedient Buddies* www.obedientbuddies.com

Covers the north loop of the 101 to New River and I-17 to Fountain Hills, but will be in Arizona only until spring. Old-fashioned, nothing-fancy trainer; no treats; plenty of correction and praise.

Experienced in obedience and conformation showing.

**Lori Kay Hein** lkrcrittercare@cox.net 623-849-6414 *L.K.'s Professional Pet Sitters* (Note: Lori Kay does pet sitting as well as dog training) www.lkrcrittercare.com

Covers west Phoenix (51st Ave to 199th Ave and Buckeye Rd to Bell Rd), Avondale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Tolleson, Peoria and Surprise; would consider someone just outside those areas.

Uses slip, martingale, pinch, buckle, and Gentle Leaders; adjusts method to fit the situation.

**Tawni McBee** thegreatfuldog@yahoo.com 480-586-5819 *All Greatful Dogs, Inc.* www.allgreatfuldogs.com

Covers Gold Canyon Ranch to Ahwatukee and east Phoenix, from 44th St and Indian School to Ahwatukee, Shea Blvd to Riggs Rd, Apache Junction, Gilbert, Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, some Phoenix, Ahwatukee, some Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, some Queen Creek; will do Fountain Hills but prefers not; will also meet people to train if necessary, but prefers in-home.

Customized private training or small groups. Specialty classes for Canine Good Citizen, agility and more.

Does dog training and body care (Kokoro body care) for pets including dogs, cats, and some others (no reptiles or birds); can do training and body care at her home in Mesa near Val Vista and Southern.

Balanced, holistic trainer with customized fee structure; usually charges for evaluations; will do consultations, especially for puppy starters.

Preferred equipment: nylon slip, Martingale, Starmark pinch or electronic collars; can work with Gentle Leaders, Haltis, clicker and harness, with adapted as needed.

Also teaches massage classes for dog owners to learn how to do some massage themselves.

Has an e-newsletter that goes out as needed and runs social walks usually once a month to which anyone with a well behaved dog can come.

She is a CGC evaluator for AKC.

**Kathy Smith** stekat3@directv.net 623-523-3467 *Crickhollow Academy of Dog Training*

Is in Wittman at Dove Valley and Hwy 60 (Grand Ave); can do Anthem and New River if necessary, as she works a full time job at I-17 and Carefree Hwy.

Covers west of Central in Phoenix, Goodyear, Tonopah, maybe Wickenburg.

Dog obedience and service dog training.

Runs a group class at 35th Ave and Pinnacle Peak on Sundays to which any trained dog is welcome with prior notice to her; problem dogs should be accompanied by their trainer the first couple of times; contact for more information.

**Stacie Strauss** itraindogs@live.com H 480-998-9377 (try first) C 480-326-3505 *Pawsitive Performance Dog Training*

In Scottsdale and will travel approx. in a 25-mile radius to N & S Scottsdale, Phoenix, Fountain Hills, Paradise Valley, Queen Creek, and willing to meet clients if it's too far.

Methods to fit what the dog needs and a variety of equipment including slip, martingale, Halti, clicker, harness (on little dogs), pinch and electronic collar (but is not yet comfortable doing a lot with e-collar).

Shows her dogs in obedience, rally and agility, so would be able to help clients get into those activities.

The following facilities and/or trainers have been recommended by **AGR** members who have used their services:

**Arizona Dog Sports**, 4848 E. Cactus Rd., Suite 200, Scottsdale, AZ 85254 602.237.6775 [www.azdogsports.com](http://www.azdogsports.com)

Located near the Paradise Valley Mall, the 5000 sq.ft. facility is a gym for dogs with a pleasant temperature all year round. There are lots of obedience classes that are linked with fun dog activities, agility for all levels, heelwork games, rally, nose and scent work, and even classes children can do with their dogs! **Charlie Joyce** got his CGC (Canine Good Citizen) certification there also, as the class taught the skills necessary to pass each part of the test. Get ready to have a fun time with your Golden while you get an obedient dog in the process! Several in-facility group training packages; see website.

In-home training packages:

Platinum package: \$1,250; includes 12 hours of private instruction at your home (3 times a week for about hour each time), plus 4 free classes at the facility for you to practice with your dog.

Lucky Pup and Lucky Dog Packages: \$550; includes 4 in-home, one-hour private lessons with the trainer; upon completion, you will get 4 one-hour small group classes at the facility; also includes treats, a treat bag, a clicker, and a tote bag.

Go to [www.AzDogSports.com](http://www.AzDogSports.com) to check out classes and instructors and their backgrounds.

**Camp Bow Wow**, 8550 North 91st Avenue, Suite 55 Peoria, AZ 85345 623-773-2275 [www.campbowwow.com](http://www.campbowwow.com)

Group and private training; doggy day care; boarding; in-home care.

**Dogological**, 3935 E. Meadowbrook, Suite 2, Phoenix, 85018, 602-956-2796 <http://dogological.com> [brad@dogological.com](mailto:brad@dogological.com)

**Brad Jaffe** started his brand of training in 1999. He was unhappy with the attitude of master/servant training styles based on intimidation and forceful methods. He touts his program as "The psychological approach to teaching from the dog's point of view." Here is what his website says: *Dogs learn differently than we do. For the most part, people rely very heavily on verbal language; in fact a great part of our learning is through verbal communication. It's natural for us to want to teach our pets in the same manner in which we learn. We must understand that verbal language is a very small percentage of a dog's communication. The majority is body language, eye contact and trial and error. Most of our dogs will figure out what we're trying to teach them, usually in spite of our efforts; however, effective dog training necessitates our learning how to communicate with them in a language they understand in order to help them learn. Using the natural forms of communication that all pack animals use with each other; dog training can be quick, easy and most importantly painless.*

Private one-hour lessons are taught in your home. In home sessions are \$150/hr or a package of four sessions for \$500 and are available Monday through Friday; cash or check only, no credit cards.

**Sam Kappel, Pet Behavior Solutions** 480-200-2011 [www.petbehaviorsolutions.com](http://www.petbehaviorsolutions.com)

Sam is the creator of the Core Behavior Assessment™ which is the behavior evaluation program used by many animal shelters and animal control agencies in Arizona. She is also the owner of EduCare for Dogs™. Sam served as interim President and CEO of the **Arizona Animal Welfare League** and **SPCA** from May of 2006 until October of 2007. Sam Kappel is certified through the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers and has completed specialized education and training in psychology, learning theory, ethology, family counseling, behavior modification techniques, aggression, canine and feline behavior issues, and grief counseling. In-home training is available by reservation.

**Lose The Leash**, Rob Jewell, 480-818-4899 [www.losetheleash.com](http://www.losetheleash.com) East Valley area only

**AGR** member Dean Mortimore has used this company and has been pleased with the results.

**Master's Kennels Dog University**, 17309 S 144th St, Gilbert 480-917-DOGS <http://doguniversity.com/>

The premier dog training facility in the east Valley area. They train dogs from all over the country, as well as offering boarding services. Credits include numerous CD, CDX, WC, and WCX titled dogs in addition to therapy dogs for local hospitals. Proven training methods were developed over the years from experience and through close association with other successful trainers: no stress to you or your dog while making learning fun. No choke chains or pinch collars are allowed. Group and private training available. Offers Snake avoidance training.

**Lisa Maldonado, Arizona Pool Dogs**

Owner/Canine Pool Training Specialist, Red Cross Canine CPR/First Aid Certified 602-881-1018 <http://azpooldogs.com/>

From Teri Guilbault: "I met this lady when I went to Linda Gage's grand opening of her new grooming salon **All-Star Grooming**. She seems to know her stuff, and Linda was raving about what she does. She comes to your home and does aquatic training with dogs. Charges \$75 an hour. She can work with the dog in the pool or even just come out and show owners how to pool train or help with dog therapy."

**Partners Dog Training School**, 4640 E. Forest Pleasant Place, Cave Creek, AZ 85331 480-595-6700 [www.partnersdogtraining.com](http://www.partnersdogtraining.com) Deb Orwig has trained 8 of her personal dogs, as well as helped to train several **AGR** dogs here; all have done well and she

highly recommends this training facility.

Simply put, they teach dogs to do what is right!

Excellent professional trainers.

Basic and advanced obedience, agility, swim classes and dock diving classes.

3-week resident camp (boarding, with both individual and group training by staff trainers) or weekly training classes for owner/handlers available.

Companion dog training and CGC testing.

Snake avoidance training.

If you call to register for a class, be sure to tell them you have a rescued dog from *AGR* and they will give you a discount on the class fee.

**Pete 'N Mac's Pet Resort**, 321 E Elliot Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234  
480-633-3384 [www. http://petemac.com/gilbert](http://petemac.com/gilbert)

While they are a day care and boarding facility and offer grooming services, the available training is outlined as follows:

Personalized: In-home offered within 20 miles of resort:

single lesson or package of four lessons, \$77/hour, 4/\$288

In-resort lessons: single lesson or package of 4 \$67/\$242

Obedience training while boarding – call for pricing

Daycare and training, 5 days, \$360

Group classes, in resort:

Puppy, \$105 for 6 weeks

Beginner, \$110 for 7 weeks

Canine Good Citizen Prep (Puppy or Beginner required), \$75/4 weeks

Canine Good Citizen, \$115 for 8 weeks (Beginner or Instructor approval required)

That's My Dog? Trick Class, \$105 for 6 weeks (Puppy or Beginner required)

Rally for Fun, \$115 for 8 weeks (Beginner required)

Caring Canine Therapy Prep \$115 for 7 weeks (Beginner required)

**Phoenix Field and Obedience Club**, 2605 North 15th Ave, Phoenix (south of Thomas Rd., north of McDowell Rd)

623-412-3288 <http://www.pfoc.org/class-information.html>

PFOC provides training in field and obedience work under the supervision of qualified trainers; they conduct sanctioned matches and obedience trials under the rules of the AKC; they educate the public about the value of the well-trained dog and bring better understanding between the dog and master through proper training; they promote good sportsmanship. Six-week classes from Puppy through Utility are offered outdoors on Monday evenings at Encanto Park, 12<sup>th</sup> Ave and Encanto Blvd, Phoenix; classes are 1 hour, 7:00 to 8:00 PM or 8:15 to 9:15 PM.



### Peter Wong's Dog Training Tips

peter9113@yahoo.com

*Ed Note: Peter Wong is an AGR member who has been training dogs since 1971. Those of you who have seen his Border Collie, **Billie**, or his German Shepherd Dog, **Nikko**, in action at any of our events have really had a treat. Peter's experience includes three Utility Dog titles and one CDX (Open) title in formal obedience, and he has judged all levels of obedience for AKC sanctioned matches. He taught basic obedience for **Petco** for eight years. He is also experienced in training dogs for film and commercial work.*

**Training.** Dog training is a skill, one that can only be acquired from constant learning and with an open mind. Good training is no big secret. There are three important ingredients that are vital to good dog training: patience, consistency and praise.

**Patience.** Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither will you be able to train your dog in a few days. Basic obedience requires 8-10 weeks to complete – the amount of time depends on breed of dog, age of dog, age of handler and competence of handler. You must be willing and able to work the dog every single day, rain or shine, including weekends, birthdays, holidays, etc. Do not be fooled by trainers who tell you an obedience-trained dog can be trained in a few days. A true obedience-trained dog is capable of performing all the obedience commands flawlessly off lead with plenty of distractions around – strangers, other animals and in any type of environment, whether at busy shopping centers, schools, busy traffic, etc. Be patient and take the time to train your dog correctly.

**Consistency.** The handling of your dog while in training is critical. You must be able to correct and offer praise at the right moment. If not, then the dog will not associate what is required of him with the correct action, and, thus, you will create confusion in his mind. Your actions should always be mechanical, not emotional. Do not attempt to reason with your dog – it will not work. Dogs are not humans and lack the capacity to think like humans.

**Praise.** Praise is the one ingredient you never want to omit. Praise at the right moment and often enough will motivate your dog like nothing else. Keeping the dog motivated with plenty of praise will encourage him to look forward to the training sessions. However, you only want to offer praise when a job is well done. Don't offer praise for the sake of praising. Only praise when a command is executed. It is not a good idea to praise him for doing nothing, as this sets the stage for your dog to expect something for nothing.

**Shouting "NO"** at your dog used to be an acceptable practice to demonstrate your displeasure. Many intelligent trainers now understand its application actually has no real value. For one thing, being negative will not bring out the best from your dog. Secondly, it may create confusion and frustration for your dog. Problems arise when the dog hears nothing but NO, NO, NO and more NOs. Failure to correctly respond to a command is easily corrected by

simply guiding the dog to perform whatever behavior you are asking for correctly, then immediately praising it. For example, if your dog did not respond to the “sit” command, quickly guide him to the sit position and offer praise immediately. You do all this without uttering “NO”. If you were to become angry or upset and yell NO, it would accomplish nothing. It would only indicate that you do not have what it takes to train dogs. Eliminate NO from your vocabulary and see if it doesn’t improve your relationship with your dog... I am sure it will.

**Retrieving.** Retrieving comes naturally for some dogs. Ball playing is great fun for them. This activity reinforces the bond between owner and dog. Additionally, it provides excellent exercise for the dog. Fifteen to twenty minutes twice daily of this activity will satisfy his exercise requirement.

When compared to the Forced Retrieve, the Play Retrieve has its limitations. It is for play only and helps create a tight bond with your dog. The Forced Retrieve is for serious work.

- The Play Retrieve is not reliable. What if the dog doesn’t feel like it?
- The Play Retrieve is not a result of formal training, in which a dog is trained to retrieve under the most tempting distractions. In other words, it is a retrieve that cannot demonstrate any reliable outcome.

The Forced Retrieve has these advantages:

- The Forced Retrieve-trained dog is reliable to retrieve under heavy distractions – he is trained to ignore distractions and focus only on retrieving. He can be trusted to perform that task effectively and swiftly with no hesitation.
- The Forced Retrieve is important in that it is a prerequisite in mastering other important behaviors; such routines as picking up objects and dropping them into a box, the Basketball Trick, the Numbers Trick, Mail Box Trick, etc. Once a dog has mastered retrieving, it is simple to teach him to retrieve anything he is able to pick up and carry.

The teaching of retrieving is a rather long endeavor requiring 5 to 6 weeks of daily training. Patience and time are essential to success. The dog must be worked with all types of distractions and any hesitation should be met with a swift, inescapable correction. When commanded to retrieve, your dog’s focus is to retrieve and ignore everything around him. This is truly what makes a trained dog a trained dog. Nagging or yelling is just no way to train a dog.

I use the ear pinch method to teach retrieving. This method is marked with controversy among trainers, but, it is safe to say that most trainers utilize and support this method. When done correctly, it produces a reliable working dog. Most trainers I know swear by this method. I used it on my rescued Golden **Sandy** (now at the Bridge), who, as many of you know, was a reliable trained dog.

## *Top 5 Skills to Teach Your Dog*

By Elsa Larsen

### *Teaching Youngsters and Oldsters Alike*

reprinted with permission from TripsWithPets.com; article released on 5/29/13

When I began my dog training career in 1997, I started out by training service dogs. A service dog is an animal that has been trained to assist his disabled partner with specialized tasks such as picking up dropped items, finding lost keys or even reminding their partner to take their medications. It takes many months and hundreds of hours of training to teach the skills that a dog will need to become a service dog.

While most pet dog owners don’t require that level of training for their dog, I do believe that the average dog owner would like their dog to have the same kind of self-restraint that any person with a disability expects from his or her working dog.

Here is my list of the five most critical skills I would want any dog to learn.

1. **Default Sit:** The very first thing I would teach any new canine charge is a default sit. I’ll be honest here – I am not crazy about dogs that jump all over me. Not many people are – even the most enthusiastic dog lover. Bearing that in mind, I would start right away to teach my dog that it is more beneficial to sit rather than to jump. Sitting is incompatible with jumping. A dog simply cannot sit and jump at the same time.

To do this, I would first want to set the dog up so that he or she cannot make many (or preferably any) paws-on-people mistakes. I would make sure my dog was either on a leash or on a tether whenever new people were around. This takes the anxiety out of any human/dog interaction. It means that you no longer have to worry about whether your dog will jump on someone because she/he can’t.

Next, I would begin the task of teaching the sit. I would want to make sure that I always had some very high-value rewards on hand to help ensure that my dog will want to work with me even if there are exciting things happening all around him or her. Since my goal is to teach the dog to automatically sit whenever new people appear, I would refrain from telling or asking my dog to sit (he/she might not choose to respond anyway and I would not want to inadvertently teach my dog to ignore my commands) but rather allow the dog to explore his or her options. Each time the dog chose to sit, I would follow that sit with a tasty treat, because I understand that any behavior that is rewarded should happen more often. You need to be patient during this process. It can take a bit of time before the dog figures out that it is the sitting that is getting him the tasty treats. Once my dog became more reliable

about responding to each new person that came along with a sit, I would begin to work on teaching my dog or pup to maintain his or her sit for longer and longer periods of time.

**2. Chill On a Mat:** This is one of my favorite skills to teach. The idea is that you will be able to send your dog over to a portable mat (like a bath mat or towel) where he or she will lie down and remain until released. The little Goldendoodle pup (photo at right) is 16 weeks old and he is lying on his mat in the middle of a soccer field with a team playing in the distance. What the photo doesn't show are the four other soccer teams on either side of him. He shows all of this skill at such a young age. What a good dog and what good parents he has to spend so much time teaching him how to behave in public places!



**3. Come:** We all want our dogs to come when called, but a lot of dogs that I work with just don't. They are completely unreliable. You need to teach your dog that it is totally worth giving up whatever he or she is engaged with to come running to you. It is important to reinforce this behavior every time with a super tasty treat (if your dog is food motivated) or a game of tug (if your dog is play motivated).

If your dog isn't reliable, work on this skill with your dog on a long leash and then inside an enclosed area before ever trusting him off leash. If your dog does NOT come when he or she is called, whatever you do, don't nag him. Repeating commands is the quickest way to teach your dog to ignore you. Go and get her/him and go back to working with the dog on a line until he or she is more reliable.

**4. Eye Contact:** Eye contact is a great way to teach your dog to keep his or her focus on you. I start this skill by rewarding my dog every time he or she chooses to look at me – on walks, at the dog park, when kids are around, in the house etc. I call these "check-ins". Check-ins are a great way to start to teach your dog or pup that it pays to look at you.

**5. Leave It:** Leave that alone! Don't mess with it! The purpose of this skill is to teach your dog to back away and not to touch anything that you have asked him or her not to. The "it" in question could be a cat, a hamburger bun, a sock. Imagine how handy that would be!

In closing, remember to dedicate some time to training your dog or pup. It is not fair to get angry with your dog for misbehaving if you have not taken the time to teach your dog what is expected of him or her. No matter which skills you find important for your dog to learn, understand that behaviors need to be rewarded often and well, and you will need to limit your dog's opportunity to make the wrong choices by using better management – head halters or no-pull harnesses for a dog who pulls, leashes and tethers

for jumpers, and long lines for a dog who won't come when he or she is called. If you feel like you need some additional help, you can search for a professional trainer in your area at [www.apdt.com](http://www.apdt.com). Good luck!

*About TripsWithPets.com:*

TripsWithPets.com is the #1 online resource for pet travel. It was named BEST pet travel site by *Consumer Reports*! TripsWithPets.com offers resources to ensure pets are welcome, happy, and safe when traveling. The website features a directory of pet friendly hotels and accommodations across the U.S. and Canada, airline and car rental pet policies, dog friendly beaches, search by route, pet travel tips, pet travel supplies, along with other pet travel resources.

*About the Author:*

Elsa Larsen, dog trainer and behaviorist; owner, **My Wonderful Dog**. Elsa is the dog training and behavior contributor for TripsWithPets.com. Elsa brings with her over 15 years experience working with dogs for a vast array of issues – from basic obedience skills to aggression and behavioral issues. As the owner of **My Wonderful Dog**, Elsa brings her expertise and knowledge to bear in her quest to create harmony between pet dogs and their owners.

## Teaching Your Dog to Ring the Bells

By Jack Panosian

*Ed. Note: Jack and wife Kelly are the adopters of 13-022 Barklay, one of the St. Paddy's Day puppies. I spoke to Jack when Barklay was only 9 weeks old, and he told me Barklay was already "ringing the bells" when he needed to go outside to do his business. I was amazed, and asked him if he would send me directions on how to teach a dog to do this. Not only is it an impressive trick, but it also accomplishes house training! Why not try it with your dog?*

I bought a couple of sleigh bells (1-inch bells work well) and ribbon from a crafts supply store. Cut the ribbon to a 3-foot length and attach two bells to one end of the ribbon.

I suggest at least two, but no more than four, training sessions per day, if possible. Spread these out by at least four hours and maintain 5-7 minutes per session. Before starting your first training session, have at least a dozen treats readily accessible. Decide what phrase or word you would like to use as a command (e.g. "Ring the bell", "Open the door", etc.). For our purposes, let's just use "Open".

Take the bells and dangle them in one hand just an inch or two away from your dog's nose while keeping your other hand on the door handle. Say "Open" and touch the bells to his nose while opening the door at the same time (if your dog wants to run out the door, simply put a leash on him and attach it to anything in the

room which will keep him from going out). Close the door and remove the bells from his reach. **DO NOT GIVE HIM A TREAT.** Now, repeat the exercise while holding the bells an inch or two from his nose (an inch or two is very close!). Say, "Open" and get ready to open the door if he makes ANY movement toward the bells (he'll probably move toward the bells to sniff them). When he does, open the door, and give him a treat while praising him. Praise, especially with Golden Retrievers, is every bit as important in training as the treat. Repeat as many times as possible in 5-7 minutes.

Now, what happens if he doesn't make ANY movement whatsoever towards the bells? You can gently swing the bells into his nose just after saying "Open" and open the door; then give him a treat. This will probably add a few more training sessions before he gets the idea – I had to do this with my last Golden and he got it within a week.

When your dog confidently pokes the bells with his nose as soon as you present them an inch or two in front of him, start to present the bells a little further away or off to the side each time you say "Open." Your dog will have to turn his head or take a few steps to touch the bells.

Once he gets the idea that he needs to ring the bells with his nose, you can attach the bells to the door handle. I suggest a height which allows the dog to use his nose, but not low enough for him to use his paw. I learned this the hard way. By putting it low enough for my dog to use his paw, that is exactly what he used instead of his nose, and promptly tore up the door casing!



Now it's time to show him why we're doing all this! When you take your dog outside for a potty break, say "Open" and wait for him to touch the bells with his nose. When he does, open the door, but don't give him a treat this time. Take him to his potty spot and after he goes potty, praise and then the treat! With repetition, your dog will learn that he has to touch the bells with his nose to make you open the door. Eventually, when he wants to go outside, he'll go to the door on his own and ring the bells. The first time this happens, praise him enthusiastically and immediately let him outside. It is important to remember to give the dog a treat after he goes to make sure he understands the drill; *I ring the bells – you open the door – I go potty outside – you give me a treat!*

Once they discover that bell ringing makes the door open and they get a treat, many dogs ring the bells whenever they'd like to go outside or want a treat – even when they don't need to relieve themselves. If you have a fenced-in yard or a runner, this is not really an issue. Just let him out – but sorry, no treat. If you do not have a fenced-in yard or runner, then when he rings the bell to go out, even if you know he does not have to go, open the door and take him out. Take him directly to the place where you'd like him to eliminate. If he doesn't go, just take him back inside.

## Canine Good Citizen Certification

By Deb Orwig



My 8-year-old **Mufasa** recently earned his *Canine Good Citizen* certificate. Achieving a *CGC* is the first step a dog must take on the way to becoming a certified therapy or service dog. The test was created by the **American Kennel Club**. Several training facilities have *CGC* evaluators who can administer the test. We know that **Partners Dog Training School** gives the test on the second or third Saturday of the month. **Phoenix Field and Obedience Club** also offers *CGC* testing, as does **Arizona Dog Sports**. Other training groups may also have *CGC* evaluators. You can find the evaluator closest to you by going to the **AKC** website, [http://classic.akc.org/events/cgc/cgc\\_bystate.cfm](http://classic.akc.org/events/cgc/cgc_bystate.cfm). As you will see if you access this website, there are *CGC* evaluators all over Arizona.

Before taking the *Canine Good Citizen* test, owners will sign the Responsible Dog Owners Pledge. The **AKC** believes that responsible dog ownership is a key part of the *CGC* concept and, by signing the pledge, owners agree to take care of their dog's health needs, safety, exercise, training and quality of life. Owners also agree to show responsibility by doing things such as cleaning up after their dogs in public places and never letting dogs infringe on the rights of others.

After signing the Responsible Dog Owners Pledge, owners and their dogs are ready to take the *CGC* test. Items on the *Canine Good Citizen* test include:

**Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger** – This test demonstrates that the dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a natural, everyday situation. The evaluator walks up to the dog and handler and greets the handler in a friendly manner, ignoring the dog. The evaluator and handler shake hands and exchange pleasantries. The dog must show no sign of resentment or shyness.

**Test 2: Sitting politely for petting** – This test demonstrates that the dog will allow a friendly stranger to touch it while it is out with its handler. With the dog sitting at the handler's side, to begin the exercise, the evaluator pets the dog on the head and body. The handler may talk to his or her dog throughout the exercise. The dog may stand in place as it is petted. The dog must not show shyness or resentment.

**Test 3: Appearance and grooming** – This practical test demonstrates that the dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit someone, such as a veterinarian, groomer or friend

of the owner, to do so. It also demonstrates the owner's care, concern and sense of responsibility. The evaluator inspects the dog to determine if it is clean and groomed. The dog must appear to be in healthy condition (i.e., proper weight, clean, healthy and alert). The handler should supply the comb or brush commonly used on the dog. The evaluator then softly combs or brushes the dog, and in a natural manner, lightly examines the ears and gently picks up each front foot. It is not necessary for the dog to hold a specific position during the examination, and the handler may talk to the dog, praise it and give encouragement throughout. *A note: When Mufasa took his test, there was a Boxer also being tested. Because the dog had very short fur and had never required grooming like Golden's do, the dog failed the test because she would not let the evaluator touch her with a brush. Lesson: use a brush or comb on your dog even if you don't think your dog needs grooming!*

**Test 4: Out for a walk** (walking on a loose lead) – This test demonstrates that the handler is in control of the dog. The dog may be on either side of the handler. The dog's position should leave no doubt that the dog is attentive to the handler and is responding to the handler's movements and changes of direction. The dog need not be perfectly aligned with the handler and need not sit when the handler stops. The evaluator may use a pre-plotted course or may direct the handler/dog team by issuing instructions or commands. In either case, there should be a right turn, left turn, and an about turn with at least one stop in between and another at the end. The handler may talk to the dog along the way, praise the dog, or give commands in a normal tone of voice. The handler may sit the dog at the halts if desired.

**Test 5: Walking through a crowd** – This test demonstrates that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places. The dog and handler walk around and pass close to several people (at least three). The dog may show some interest in the strangers but should continue to walk with the handler, without evidence of over-exuberance, shyness or resentment. The handler may talk to the dog and encourage or praise the dog throughout the test. The dog should not jump on people in the crowd or strain on the leash.

**Test 6: Sit and Down on command and Staying in place** – This test demonstrates that the dog has training, will respond to the handler's commands to sit and down and will remain in the place commanded by the handler (sit or down position, whichever the handler prefers). The dog must do sit AND down on command, then the owner chooses the position for leaving the dog in the stay. Prior to this test, the dog's leash is replaced with a line 20 feet long. The handler may take a reasonable amount of time and use more than one command to get the dog to sit and then down. The evaluator must determine if the dog has responded to the handler's commands. The handler may not force the dog into position but may touch the dog to offer gentle guidance. When instructed by the evaluator, the handler tells the dog to stay and walks for-

ward the length of the line, turns and returns to the dog at a natural pace. The dog must remain in the place in which it was left (it may change position) until the evaluator instructs the handler to release the dog. The dog may be released from the front or the side.

**Test 7: Coming when called** – This test demonstrates that the dog will come when called by the handler. The handler will walk 10 feet from the dog, turn to face the dog, and call the dog. The handler may use encouragement to get the dog to come. Handlers may choose to tell dogs to "stay" or "wait" or they may simply walk away, giving no instructions to the dog.

**Test 8: Reaction to another dog** – This test demonstrates that the dog can behave politely around other dogs. Two handlers and their dogs approach each other from a distance of about 20 feet, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on for about 10 feet. The dogs should show no more than casual interest in each other. Neither dog should go to the other dog or its handler.

**Test 9: Reaction to distraction** – This test demonstrates that the dog is confident at all times when faced with common distracting situations. The evaluator will select and present two distractions. Examples of distractions include dropping a chair, rolling a crate dolly past the dog, having a jogger run in front of the dog, or dropping a crutch or cane. The dog may express natural interest and curiosity and/or may appear slightly startled but should not panic, try to run away, show aggressiveness, or bark. The handler may talk to the dog and encourage or praise it throughout the exercise.

**Test 10: Supervised separation** – This test demonstrates that a dog can be left with a trusted person, if necessary, and will maintain training and good manners. Evaluators are encouraged to say something like, "Would you like me to watch your dog?" and then take hold of the dog's leash. The owner will go out of sight for three minutes. The dog does not have to stay in position but should not continually bark, whine, or pace unnecessarily, or show anything stronger than mild agitation or nervousness. Evaluators may talk to the dog but should not engage in excessive talking, petting, or management attempts (e.g., "there, there, it's alright").

### Could your dog pass this test?

All tests must be performed on leash. For collars, dogs should wear well-fitting buckle or Martingale collars made of leather, fabric, or chain. Special training collars such as pinch collars, head halters, and electronic collars are not permitted in the CGC test. Body harnesses may be used in the CGC test. The evaluator should check to make sure the harness is not of a type that completely restricts the dog's movement such that it could not pull or jump up if it tried.

The evaluator will supply a 20-foot lead for the test. The owner/handler should bring the dog's brush or comb to the test.

Owners/handlers may use praise and encouragement throughout

the test. The owner may pet the dog between exercises. Food and treats are not permitted during testing, nor is the use of toys, squeaky toys, etc. to get the dog to do something.

### Failures – Dismissals

Any dog that eliminates during testing must be marked failed. The only exception to this rule is that elimination is allowable in test Item 10, but only when test Item 10 is held outdoors.

Any dog that growls, snaps, bites, attacks, or attempts to attack a person or another dog is not a good citizen and must be dismissed from the test.

## Therapy or Service Dog Certification

By Deb Orwig

Unlike service dogs, therapy dogs are only allowed in places where all dogs are allowed and in places that specifically allow therapy dogs, like hospitals, care facilities, schools, libraries, etc. that have therapy dog programs. Generally, therapy dogs require certification by an appropriate, recognized certifying organization.

Unlike service dogs, there are no special rights for therapy dogs that allow them to accompany their owners into a business establishment. Since hotels, motels, and campgrounds are businesses, therapy dogs are considered pets and must follow policy.

A well-mannered, well-behaved dog that enjoys meeting people can become a therapy dog and make a difference in the lives of those who need them.

Therapy dogs are not service dogs. In fact, if you have a certified service dog, that dog cannot also certify as a therapy dog. There are three main therapy dog certifying organizations: **Alliance of Therapy Dogs** (<https://www.therapydogs.com/>), **Delta Pet Partners** (<https://petpartners.org/>), and **Therapy Dogs International, Inc.** (<http://www.tdi-dog.org/>). Requirements for all include that the dog must have earned a *CGC* first before getting tested for therapy work. Choices for therapy dog testing are much more limited than opportunities for *CGC* testing. Your best bet is to contact the organization to ask who is a certified evaluator in your area.

**Alliance of Therapy Dogs** lists their requirements as follows:

Step 1: A therapy dog must be a friendly dog. Any mix or breed can be trained to provide comfort and affection to people in hospitals, retirement homes, schools, mental health institutions, airports, and many other settings. Dogs must be at least one year old to become a therapy dog.

Step 2: A tester/observer in your area tests you and your dog.

This test includes a handling portion which tests your dog's basic good manners and demeanor, and your handling skills.

Step 3: After the handling portion of the test, you and your dog are supervised by a tester/observer during three visits with residents of medical facilities. Upon a successful completion of these visits and submission of your application paperwork, you and your dog may become a Therapy Team!

Contact **Pet Partners** through their website to find out about scheduled courses and evaluations.

To review the testing requirements for **TDI**, go to <http://www.tdi-dog.org/HowToJoin.aspx?Page=Testing+Requirements>

One thing to keep in mind is that you and your dog cannot be registered with more than one certifying organization. If you want to do hospital therapy work with your dog, contact the hospital where you would like to volunteer and find out what they require. Some will accept only **Pet Partners**-certified teams, some will accept any therapy certification, and some have their own in-house certification program. There is no point in putting in the time and expense to get a **Pet Partners** certification if **ATD** or **TDI** or in-house is acceptable.

Service dogs are trained to perform tasks and to do work that eases their handlers' disabilities. Working as part of a team with their disabled partners, service dogs help them attain safety and independence. Most service dogs have a "no petting" policy established by their owners, as the distraction of petting could prevent them from performing their job correctly. Service dogs do not have to pass any temperament tests like therapy dogs do, and in fact, some service dogs are not at all friendly to strangers.

The *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)* protects the rights of people with disabilities to be accompanied by their service dogs in public places such as restaurants, grocery stores, and hotels. Additional laws such as the Department of Transportation's *Air Carrier Access Act*, the Housing and Urban Development's *Fair Housing Act*, and the Federal *Rehabilitation Act* protect the rights of people with disabilities to be accompanied by their service animals in a wide variety of circumstances under which the *ADA* may not be applicable. In Arizona, service dogs do not have to be certified to be working dogs for people with a disability.

In the Valley, the best place to train a dog destined to be a service dog is with **Happy Tails Service Dogs**. Their website states: **Happy Tails Service Dogs Training is dedicated to the education and training of a person with a disability and a dog to become a working team. This in turn will lead to greater independence in their homes, neighborhoods and communities. Learned tasks are based on individual needs of the owner, thus enhancing their daily activities.** Contact Joyce Weber at 623-580-0946 or go to the website: <http://happytailsservicedogs.com/>

## Training A Puppy

By Allan Long

*Ed. Note: In 2013 during the first quarter, AGR took in nine puppies age 4 months or younger within a one-month period. In 2017, we had 22 dogs one year of age or younger come in, and three others that were 13 or 14 months old at intake. Allan and wife Diane adopted 13-026 Nola, one of the St. Paddy's Day puppies, and renamed her Nessa. All of you who have adopted one of our puppies will relate to Allan's article!*

Once you announce to the world that you have a new puppy, friends and family flock to your house all wanting to ooh and aah over the new arrival. But in the back of their minds they think the dreaded thought of how are these two people going to be able to train that bundle of energy.

Then the horror stories begin. You hear tales of all of the destruction suffered at the paws of their once-oh-so-beautiful, tiny dog. House breaking, you are told, is the most difficult of all the training programs you have to teach your puppy. Be prepared to spend weeks upon weeks getting your puppy to go outside to do his or her business. Get plenty of newspapers, they tell you. And make sure you have a good supply of carpet cleaner on hand. The final piece of wisdom proffered is "once housebreaking is done, the rest is easy."

Training a puppy is work. But if you are willing to put in the time, the rewards are worth it. You will need a few things to get started. The first is patience. Next is a plan and the willingness of each family member to follow the same guidelines. Language is critical. Your puppy is, in fact, a little baby. You cannot expect a four-month-old baby to walk by your side or read and understand a novel. A puppy is no different. Simple one- or two-word commands are vitally important. Anything more and you will just confuse your pup. You will make mistakes – that is a given – but if you stick to what works, you and your new puppy will be so much happier.

Well, I don't know what my friends and family really experienced with their dogs, but let me tell you about our new puppy, **Nessa**.

When Diane and I brought her home, the first thing we showed her was the doggie door. To her it was a mysterious evil monster that was to be avoided at all costs. But, by one of us going outside and calling to her, she did finally muster the courage to stick her head through the flap. By day three she was in and out so often that we both thought that we would have to get a new door – she was going to wear this one out!

**Nessa** did all of her business outside. Not once did she mess her sleeping area or her crate. Yes, there were four accidents on the rug, but three were in the first two days and not one was **Nessa's** fault. The admirers kept her from the doggie door by distracting

her and oops, the accident occurred. I must give thanks to Deb Orwig in the potty training arena. Deb was the foster mother for **Nessa** and her five littermates, **Nessa** learned her potty training at Deb's house. We burn incense to Deb daily for that gift. Even so, **Nessa** would go from 9:00 at night to 5:00 in the morning without an incident. She continues to extend her time, but we do not push her beyond what she is comfortable with.

In all areas **Nessa** has been a very quick study. My wife, Diane, has the "voice" that gets through for most of the training items we want **Nessa** to learn. Diane has taught **Nessa** the basic commands of sit, shake, down, off, and stay, and both of us are working on come. The NO command was very easy for **Nessa**, and right from the start she got that idea.

Diane's success with **Nessa** is due to repetition. You can not expect a puppy to learn commands on the first try. "School" is at least twice a day; usually three sessions is the rule. For each session, 15 minutes is the outside max time. Even though **Nessa** knows the sit command, she is asked to run through her entire repertoire at each session. Rewards of "good girl" and a small bit of kibble are given for good performance. It is important to refresh the training in order to keep from losing earlier commands from lack of use.

**Nessa** and I walk every morning and "heel" is our daily schooling subject. Puppies are curious, to say the least. Most days **Nessa** walks just fine. I tap my hip and say heel and we both walk in step for most of our walk. Puppies are easily distracted. A leaf fluttering at the curb or a bird sitting on the sidewalk will draw her attention away from the heel routine. Usually it is a simple matter to get her back to the task at hand. But, some days I think I am speaking in tongues. I can tap my side until I fracture my hip and nothing diverts the little girl from her distraction. **Nessa** will go where **Nessa** wants to go and that is the way the walk veers from the plan. The key here is patience. I say "sit" to break her attention from whatever is distracting her and then try the heel command again. That maneuver usually works and, if it does, away we go. If not, we try the "sit" routine until we get the desired results. If all else fails, it is homeward bound – she has obviously had enough for right then.

I recently taught **Nessa** how to catch a rubber ball. Her favorite toy is a green and white plastic ball that is about the size of a baseball. I ask **Nessa** to sit and then toss the ball up toward her. At first I watched as it bounced off of her head, but gradually she got the idea and began to reach for the ball. When she caught it for the first time, we heaped tons of praise on her for a great job. Again, constant practice was the key.

I continue to be impressed with **Nessa's** intelligence. She learns quickly (when she wants to) and likes to show off new tricks. She does not miss anything new or any sort of change in the layout of furniture or simple items like a book on a table. It becomes fair game until the "no" command is given, and often that needs to be

given more than once.

As a Golden Retriever, **Nessa** has an inbred desire to please her human. This makes Golden Retrievers easier to train than many other breeds. When I compare my Golden to the Cairn Terriers I have had in the past, this is a kindergarten program by comparison.

If you are fortunate enough to raise a puppy, look forward to a great adventure. A few disappointments will occur along the way, but the sheer pleasure of watching your charge grow and learn in front of your eyes makes the effort worthwhile.

Remember, both of you will make mistakes. Have patience and stick to your plan. It is all worth the effort, especially when your puppy grows up to be a well trained and obedient dog.

### *The Importance of Engagement*

By Peter Wong

Engagement simply means your dog is focused on you – that is, waiting for a command. His attention is on you and only you. Giving you full attention is what makes a trained dog a really trained dog. You cannot expect instant obedience or even any type of response if his attention is elsewhere.

Training involves teaching to always respond to the first command. Constant yelling, nagging, shouting and threats have no place in dog training. Failure to respond to the first command must be met with a correction to compel the dog to perform the behavior. The dog then has no choice but to comply. Praise must follow afterward. My German Shepherd **Nikko** had gone through intense engagement training. Trips to **The Home Depot**, **Lowe's**, **Petco** and **PetSmart** have accustomed her to respond to commands regardless of the various distractions. (Ed. Note: Dogs are also allowed throughout the **Biltmore Fashion Park** mall in downtown Phoenix.) I would have her sit up, limp, cross your legs, jump-over-shoulder, crawl, right and left turn, etc. Recently, I put on a show at work. She did very well. We also did a show at a day care center. The children were loud and noisy. In spite of all this, she again did fairly well. At the **Paws & Pasta Dinner** event, I was happy with her performance (see page 37). Engagement training is so very vital to having a reliable working dog and without it, a dog cannot be considered trained.

*If you talk to 20 different dog trainers, you will get 20 different opinions about how training should be done. The method that is right for you is the one that works!*

### *Basic Obedience Training*

By Deb Orwig

Many times when **AGR** is at a public event, I have explained to people interested in possibly adopting a dog that **AGR** pays for all the dog's medical needs, at least until the dog is adopted. Sometimes we even issue a Health Addendum that will cover medical expenses after adoption finalization. For example, following adoption we usually pay for valley fever medication and testing for 3-4 months. We will also pay for spays or neuters for puppies when they reach an appropriate age. I will sometimes mention that, in cases of extreme need, we will cover the expense of behavior modification training.

We always encourage adopters to take their new canine companion through a basic obedience class. Such a class will provide, if nothing else, a brush-up on training techniques for the human and socialization opportunities for the dog. It will also help the adopter and dog to bond with each other, the dog learning that the human is the "leader of the pack."

We evaluate behavior needs of rescues on a case-by-case basis. **AGR's** Behavior Consultant, Sharon McKenzie, is really excellent at behavior analysis and is always willing to provide tips and strategies for modifying unwanted behaviors. If the families listen to and implement Sharon's advice, they will almost always be successful in training their new dog.

Depending on the severity of the dog's misbehavior, we may decide the dog needs professional intervention that the adopter cannot get on their own, either due to financial reasons, work schedule or physical constraints. In such cases, we have paid for a trainer to go to an adopter's home. If there are more extreme behaviors that need to be eliminated, then we will pay to send a dog to an in-facility training program such as those available at **Partners Dog Training School** or **Master's Kennels Dog University**.

I have been training Golden Retrievers for almost 40 years. My first experience with going through basic obedience got me hooked on it. In 1978, Larry and I got two Golden Retrievers. When they were six months old, we started basic obedience classes. Fortunately, the instructor was a "show dog person" and a strict disciplinarian; she insisted that class participants *do it correctly*. Her motto was *practice makes permanent*. She taught the class with the goal of every dog eventually obtaining a *Companion Dog* title from the **American Kennel Club**. Such a title requires the completion of a basic obedience routine with a score of at least 170 out of 200 from three different judges in three different **AKC**-sanctioned dog shows. With one exception, our dogs both scored in the 194-196/200 range. The exception was that in his second obedience

trial, one of the dogs turned 90° on the group long down and tried to sniff his neighbor dog. He got booted out of the lineup and had to get his third “leg” at a fourth show.

Despite our success with these first two Golden Retrievers, I have taken every subsequent Golden member of our family through a basic obedience class. Why do I go to classes? Yes, I already know the commands and how to teach them to the dog. But, I learn something a little different from every instructor. Plus, the dog gets socialization opportunities (i.e., *opportunities for corrections for undesirable behaviors relating to other dogs or to people he/she does not get at home or even at AGR events*). Besides, obedience training class is fun!

**Partners** is far and away my training facility of choice, perhaps because I have trained eight of my own dogs there, and also because it is close enough for me to go there (½-hour drive) to observe the progress of **AGR** dogs we leave there. In addition, the instructors are top-notch. Each year, **AGR** has placed one or two dogs in their 3-week in-house Training Camp where the dogs get three daily hour-long intensive training sessions. In 2017, we sent two dogs there: **17-035 Cocobean** and **17-065 Zoey**.

In addition to needing basic obedience lessons, **Cocobean** had some undesirable resource-guarding behavior and was reactive to other dogs. **Zoey** was an out-of-control 15-month-old who had never had any boundaries put on her behavior, so she did whatever she wanted whenever she wanted, ignoring any human who wanted her to behave differently. Both dogs got excellent training at **Partners**. Whereas before they went for training at **Partners** they were deemed not adoptable, now both are successful family members. When we pay for a dog’s intensive training at **Partners**, as a condition of adoption finalization we require the adopter of the dog to complete the eight weekly follow-up lessons that are included with the training fee. The main purpose of this condition is, of course, for the adopter to learn the commands and techniques taught to the dog by the **Partners** instructors, so that the training will be reinforced away from the facility.

**What Your Dog Should Learn in Basic Obedience**

The basic obedience commands a dog should know to be considered a well-behaved companion are *heel, sit, down, stay* and *come*. The photos shown below are from training sessions at **Partners** with **12-100 Rusty** and **17-038 Cocobean**. In 2012, Kitra Tovar was the head trainer; she is shown helping **Rusty’s** adopter, Beverly Host, learn the training techniques. In 2017, Kalie Rumaner was the head trainer. She is shown in some of the photos helping Marilyn Eisenberg learn how to handle **Cocobean**.

Heeling properly on leash is a must for your dog. This means the dog walking with a loose lead immediately by your side with the the dog’s ears in line with your knee, not surging ahead (pulling) or lagging behind, not stopping unless you stop, stopping (and

preferably sitting) when you do stop, and not visiting/sniffing every bush, lawn or fire hydrant along the walk. Such walking behavior is not hard to teach. Although I was successful in training one of my dogs

to heel with just a buckle collar (**Troy**), I needed to use a corrective collar such as a Martingale or chain choke collar with every other dog. For the training to work, the dog’s attention necessarily has to be on you, the handler, not on every distraction in the environment. As you have already read, Peter Wong recom-



Rusty heeling on loose lead with Kitra; a chain link training collar is being used



Marilyn shadowing Kalie to learn the heeling routine

mends training in distracting places. To teach attention-to-the-handler, I have learned to look at the dog and use the word *watch*, then point to my nose as I say the word. With **Vin**, for a while I even had to use a treat pinched between my fingers, then give him the treat after saying “Yes!” followed by “good boy” when he looked at me. You can use any word you want (e.g., *focus, attention, look*), but say the dog’s name then say the word firmly at the same time



Cocobean demonstrating excellent focus on Kalie



Rusty automatically sits nicely at Beverly’s left side when she stops walking

leading the dog to look up at you by bringing the treat up from the dog’s nose toward your nose. The goal is to have your dog’s attention riveted on you all the time, not looking around at everything else.



To guide Cocobean into a left turn, Marilyn leads into the turn with her left knee

Practice left turns, right turns, about turns and figure 8 turns; go into the turn with your left foot. Use starts and stops at random. If your dog’s attention is on you as it should be, she will readily follow where you lead.

When you start walking, lead off with your left foot (right foot if you’re training the dog to walk on your right side). This “body language” will help the dog know that you will be moving and want the dog to move, too. If you want the dog to stay in either a sit or down position, lead off with your right foot when you walk away from the dog after giving the command.

To teach *sit*, say the command then with your right hand pull up slightly on the leash and push down on or tap the dog’s behind with your left. Issue only one command. If the dog does not do it the first time you give the command, make the dog do it when



Kitra using verbal and hand commands for Rusty to SIT from a down

you say it again. The dog should learn that *sit* is not just a command but a position *s/he* needs to assume – the position is butt on the floor, front legs upright. If the dog is heeling and the handler stops, the dog should sit. If the dog is in a down position, *s/he* should get into the *sit* position when given the command *sit*. Using a hand signal at the same time can help the dog come into a *sit* from a *down*. The hand signal starts with your arm at your side, palm facing up, then raise your forearm to waist height. Have the dog practice *sit-down-sit-down-sit-down-sit*. This action is known as “doggy pushups.”

To teach the dog to go down on command use only one command; if the dog does not go down, enforce the command by placing the dog in the position. To teach *down*, issue the command, then grasp the leash near the clip and pull down so that the dog’s chin is on the ground and hold it there until the butt follows down. Or, reduce the slack in the lead and step on the loop of the leash with your left foot, holding the leash on the ground



Marilyn gives Cocobean praise when he goes down properly and promptly

with your foot until the dog settles its whole body in the down position. Praise when the dog complies!



Kitra tells Rusty to go DOWN using both verbal and hand signal commands; he will now respond to either type of command used alone

There are actually two hand signals that are commonly used for *down*. If the dog is sitting or walking with you, point to the ground and say *down*. If you want the dog to go down when you are calling him from a distance (referred to as “down on recall”), raise up your entire right arm abruptly. If the dog is quite a distance from you, this signal is easier for the dog to see than a point to the ground. Teaching your dog this hand signal could save its life. Suppose the dog wanders across the street and turns to come to you when he sees you. Uh oh, a car is coming! Yell *down* and raise your right arm. Hopefully, the dog will drop immediately and stay there until the car passes!

The command *down* means *lie down on the floor/ground*. Do not use the command *down* when you mean off or get off. Use *off* instead, and make the dog get off whatever you do not want him on (furniture, a countertop, a person).

*Stay*, and the similar command *place*, (i.e. “go to your place”, which can be a mat, a bed, or just a corner of a room) are essential for a dog to learn. Issue one command. Whether the dog is in a sit-

stay or a down-stay, if the dog breaks and gets up, put the dog into the position again with a firm *stay!* Eventually the dog will know that you mean it and that you will not allow wandering unless you release it from the stay with *OK* or *free*. To begin teaching the *stay* command, put the dog in a sit or a down, say *stay*, bring your hand, palm open, towards the dog’s face and, leading with your right foot swivel in front of the dog, toes to paws. If the dog breaks, put the dog in the position again, say *stay*, give the hand signal, then try moving again. Gradually move back until you are at the end of the leash six feet from the dog without the dog breaking. Once you have accomplished this, try walking counterclockwise around the back of the dog to the heel position. Praise if the dog has not moved. Then, in an enclosed area like your back yard, drop the leash before you leave the dog and walk 10-20 feet away; you might even tempt the dog by jogging around the yard. If your dog does not break, then *s/he* has really learned what *stay* means!

*Come* is probably the most important basic command for your dog to learn. The dog’s life may depend on knowing and complying with this command immediately after you give it. Caution: during the training of *come*, never issue a command you cannot enforce. In other words, do not say *come* unless the dog is on leash, at least until compliance with the command is perfect. Start with the dog at your side in a sit or down position. Tell the dog to *stay*, then leading off with your right foot, walk to the end of the leash. Turn and face the dog, then call the dog to you: [*Dog’s name*], *come!* Put as much happiness and enthusiasm into your voice as possible! Just a step or two before the dog barrels into you, say *sit!* and maybe you won’t get knocked over! The goal



After receiving the command COME from Kitra, Rusty moves to sit directly in front of her



“Come” signal starts with right arm extended straight out to side



Finish of “come” signal: right arm swept into chest

is to have the dog quickly come from a distance and sit in front of you. If the dog visits the bushes or anything else on the way to you, correct the behavior with the leash. Once your dog reliably comes to you when on leash from six feet away, get a longer leash and use that for training of this command. Long lines from 10 to 200 feet are available from **Ryan’s Pet Supplies** (ryanspet.com) in Phoenix or you can order one from amazon.com.

The hand signal for come:

with your dog in a sit or down facing you, raise your right arm directly out to the side then sweep your arm in towards your chest. The arm motion needs to be done quickly and precisely. The photos at the bottom of page 34 show Beverly using the signal.



After completing each exercise correctly, Rusty gets praise from Beverly, the most important step in successful dog training

Once your dog has learned the five basic obedience commands, you can go further with obedience training, agility and trick training. There are books and websites devoted to the subject of training, but it is my opinion that there is no substitute for taking your dog through classes where you and the dog can both learn from the example of the class instructor and others taking the class.

### ***Teaching the Leave It Command***

Another command besides *come* that could save your dog's life is *leave it*. There are innumerable things out in the world that could be harmful to your dog like toxic plants, poisonous snakes, chemicals (one of the worst that dogs are especially attracted to is antifreeze), bones from dead animals, etc.; other things are just gross, like animal feces or road kill. When we walk in parades, especially the *Parada Del Sol* where there are many horse groups, we caution our volunteers to watch out for "turf tacos" or "street hors d'oeuvres" and keep their dogs from feasting. It is easy if the dog knows the *leave it* command!

Start by teaching this command indoors. Put something on the floor that you do not want the dog to have like an item of your clothing, a toy or, even more tempting, a piece of food. Be sure to have the dog on leash. If the dog approaches the item, give the leash a jerk-and-release and say with a very firm tone of voice, *leave it!* Test the dog with many different items – repeat, repeat, repeat. Set up an obstacle course with some new toys that the dog will want to investigate. Lead the dog through and around the objects, saying *leave it* if the dog reaches down toward one of the toys. Praise, praise, praise, especially if the dog makes it through the obstacles without trying to pick up one of them. You might even provide a high-value reward like a small piece of cheese or hot dog.

Set your dog up for success, not for failure. Be sure the dog understands the *leave it* command before you try training outdoors. There are so many distracting scents and odors outside that you do not want to try using *leave it* when outside until you are fairly confident your dog knows the meaning of the command.

Had *AGR's* rescued boy **17-078 Jax** been taught this command when he was a young puppy, he might not have had to have five surgeries to remove something indigestible from his gut. Since he is now verging on four years of age, just about the only thing that can be done is to keep things he shouldn't have away from him.

### ***Behavior Correction Spray***

Recently, I received an e-mail announcement about a behavior correction spray now being available. See [https://www.amazon.com/SENTRY-Pet-Care-469135-Stop/dp/B0083F9OTW/ref=sr\\_1\\_1/143-2211681-6379865?ie=UTF8](https://www.amazon.com/SENTRY-Pet-Care-469135-Stop/dp/B0083F9OTW/ref=sr_1_1/143-2211681-6379865?ie=UTF8)

The advertising includes:

- Uses noise and pheromone technology to stop bad behaviors in dogs
- Clinically proven to provide quick, effective results without causing harm to dogs
- Lavender chamomile fragrance
- Patent pending technology
- 1-oz costs \$8.02 from Amazon.com plus shipping if you purchase less than \$25 in merchandise or unless you are a Prime subscriber

I asked our behavior consultant, Sharon McKenzie, to review it. Here is what she said: *After reading many reviews and looking into this product, I see no harm in trying this. Few things, the sound effect alone, is one vocal "technique" that I use on dogs, that works very well. This item has that quick, "shhhh" sound, that immediately gets a dogs attention. Adding a pheromone scent to this is a very good bonus. Not all dogs will positively respond to such items, but it is worth trying, as long as it is used properly, not only in how and where to spray, but in the timing, which is truly most important. I see the "logic" behind this particular spray item – a quick sound comes out to abruptly distract the dog from negative behavior/thinking, and then pheromone release hopefully creates calmer thoughts, behavior and or environment. Some dogs respond to the release of pheromones and some do not. Safe enough to try, one just needs to use it correctly.*

*I have never been a big fan of using items that could potentially "scare" a dog or give them adversions to things, but I do know there are some humans/dogs out there that need extra tools for training. I had one senior Golden that took up excessive barking/howling for quite a few hours after I left home to go to work. Eventually I had to purchase a bark collar, but it was one that quickly shot out a lemon scent mist when she barked. Luckily, this worked for her. As soon as Lexi figured out what the collar did, I didn't have to turn it on all the time – just putting it around her neck without it turned on was enough to stop her.*

### ***Training Tip***

The most important aspect of dog training is to **do** it. The two most important concepts of dog training are **consistency** and **persistency**. Use one-word commands (sit, stay, down, off, come, etc.). You can even use nonsense words, as long as you use the same word to mean the same thing every time.



PACC 911 ADOPT-A-THON  
AT  
ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By Cindy Pavero



At the outdoor events where we can sell merchandise, we always set up two tents and at least four tables to hold everything; in the booth are Jolene Schlichter and Larry Orwig; Cindy Tigges is holding Vin in front

“Goldens Rule” embroidered on the front from *Star-Ed Crafts!* We offered the sweatshirt in the raffle at the following week’s *Paws & Pasta Dinner* and it was a coveted item. We were fortunate for the great weather and a much larger crowd than last year. Those helping with the set-up were Patrick Doyle, Dave Engelhardt, Deb and Larry Orwig, Jolene Schlichter, Chris Spiel and Cindy Tigges. During the day, Cassie and her daughter Lily Barnett, Beth Chaffee, Patrick Doyle, Amy Maynard, Robin Mish, Dean Mortimore, Valerie Mylowe, Deb and Larry Orwig, Carrie Peck, Chris Spiel, Liz Tataseo, Kris Thumith (Cassie Barnett’s grandmother) and Cindy Tigges all helped at our booth. To help with booth break down, we had Cassie and Lily Barnett, Patrick Doyle, Deb and Larry Orwig, Chris Spiel and Liz Tataseo. We have to also thank our dogs that attended! Thank you **Mary Kate** and **Ashley Mortimore**, **Duffy** and **Vin Orwig**, **Honey Pavero**, **Charlie Peck**, **Jack** and **Nash Spiel**, **Emma Tataseo** and Liz’s foster girl **McKayla**. We had four applications submitted through our website after this event!



Robin Mish is one of our Transport volunteers; she does not have a dog of her own but gets her “dog fix” by helping at events and doing transports

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we participated in *PACC 911 & All Saints Episcopal Church’s* Adopt-A-Thon. We collected **\$417.28**, most of which was from merchandise sales. In addition to some cash donations, we were given a beautiful sweatshirt with



Carrie Peck with Charlie; Carrie volunteers on AGR’s Placement Team and was probably instrumental in convincing one of the booth visitors to submit an adoption application



AGR members Valerie Mylowe and Beth Chaffee came to purchase merchandise



PAWS & PASTA

By Cindy Pavero



Nancy Wheeler and Bryan Foley, owners of Little Bite of Italy

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we had our annual *Paws & Pasta Dinner* at **Little Bite of Italy** in Sun City hosted by owners Bryan Foley and Nancy Wheeler. We raised **\$1764** for the *Debbe Begley Memorial Fund*, the revenue from meal sales, 50/50 raffle, regular raffle and silent auction. In addition, we sold **\$963** in merchandise, the money going into our regular checking account. The *Memorial Fund* is used to pay veterinary bills for

dogs that come into Rescue with cancer and to pay the overage of any non-cancer dogs that accrue bills over \$5,000.

Those who attended included Cassie Barnett (helped with extra dogs); Marlene Breton (helped with extra dogs); Patrick Doyle (set-up, break-down and helped with extra dogs); Mary Dunnill with **Bella** (registration); Sharon Flores (registration); Sandy Fullington (registration); Jeff



Dawn and Dave Barnett with Cooper; Dawn won the 50/50 drawing and generously donated her half to AGR



Sharon Flores and Mary Dunnill sold the meals and 50/50 tickets

Guilbault (served food); Beverly Host (served food and sold raffle tickets); Connie McCabe (photography); Nick Dodson (helped set up and served food); Michele Meyer (served food); Trisha Murphy (sold raffle tickets and helped at our merchandise tables); Deb and Larry Or-

wig with **Dolly**, **Mufasa**, **Duffy** and **Vin** (set-up, raffle, silent auction, merchandise tables and Larry served food), Fred and Jill Prose (both served food but on different shifts) with **Jasper**; Fran Strock (served food); Liz Tataseo with foster dog **McKayla** (served food and helped with raffle); Cindy



Food servers included Jane Triplett, Fran Strock, Michele Meyer and Jeff Guilbault



Connie Wozniak and Deb Orwig set up and managed the merchandise sales

Kelly and Jeff Gorski and children with **Stella**; Candy and Neal Greff with **Brewster** and their adorable



The Gorski family with Stella and Doris Vanbenscotin

**Joie**; Dee Dee Smith with **Gage**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; Sue Vallie with **Oliver**; Dave Williams with **Bella** and daughter Betsy Bain visiting from Florida; and Tom Wollbrinck with **Rudy** and friend Gigi Hill. Also, a special thank you to Peter Wong with his trick dog **Nikko**, who put on an impressive demonstration!

Tigges (served food); Jane Triplett (served food and sold raffle tickets); and Connie Wozniak (merchandise tables). Other members who came to support us were Debbie and Rick Ball; Dawn and Dave Barnett with **Cooper**; Adam Cardinal with his mom and dad; Karen and Phil Davis; Mary and Bert Engstrom;



Neal and Candy Greff came from Mesa with Brewster and Harley

puppy **Harley**; Sandra Hansen; Bob and Darel Johnson with **Holly** and **Bo**; Pat Morgan with **Coda**; Marlene and Dean Mortimore with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; Karey, Kelley and Sheri Rodeffer with **Sucy** and



Tom Wollbrinck, adopter of Rudy who looked fabulous, and friend Gigi Hill came from Ahwatukee

Our sincere thanks to Bryan and Nancy for hosting this event for us for the 8<sup>th</sup> year – they donated the entire meal cost of \$12 per person to **AGR**! Thanks, also, to **AGR** member Carrie Peck, who donated the soda and to **Abrazo West Campus** and **Frito-Lay** for providing bottled water.



Dr. Tom Radtke, owner of *Academy West Animal Hospital*, wife Bonnie, who is the office manager, and son and daughter-in-law joined us

Mark your calendar now for the 2018 date: Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>!

*Some of the tricks Nikko Wong can do...*



Peter Wong and Nikko



Sitting up



Rolling a barrel



Jumping through Peter's arms



Nikko did the "mail the letter" trick, but we did not get a photo of her doing it, so here is Peter's other trained dog, Billie, opening the mailbox



*Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade*

By Cindy Pavero



Cindy Pavero and daughter Nicole Hopkins with Honey and Daisy came from Mesa to walk with our group even though Cindy had pneumonia! That's dedication!

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, we participated in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade* in downtown Glendale. We had a nice turnout with more beautiful weather (thank you, Arizona!). The parade organizers guessed at 10,000+ people in attendance! We had all of our volunteer dogs decked out in their holiday donation vests, which helped us raise **\$346.18!** This event was not supposed to be a fundraiser, but the spectators loved the dogs! We had a terrific lineup placement at #29 out of 118, so we did not have to wait very long to step off. At the head of our group were Patrick Doyle and Larry Orwig carrying our banner; Liz Tataseo and Deb Orwig took pictures. Participants included Lorie and her daughter Alexis Brewster; Patrick Doyle; and Malissa and Steve Hubbard with children Trinity, Shelby, Kinley and Kathleen came without a dog but were a wonderful help to those who had extra dogs with them.

We were also joined by Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **Murphy**; Dean Mortimore with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; my daughter Nicole and I brought **Honey** and **Daisy**; Deb and Larry Orwig came with **Dolly** (who rode in a wagon), **Mufasa**,



Larry Orwig and Patrick Doyle carried our banner with **Reba**; and Dave Williams with **Bella**. After the parade, Deb and Larry stayed in Murphy Park until about 4:00 and collected more donations in their dogs' vests. Other **AGR** people went to eat at **Haus Murphy** and collected more donations. Patrick Doyle and Chris Spiel stayed and collected donations until **Glendale Glitters & Glows** lit up at 6:00 PM.



Dolly got the best deal in the Parade!

our group increase public awareness about **AGR** (two applications for adoption were submitted after the Parade) and made this event a fundraiser!

A huge thank you to all who came and helped



The Brothers Grin: Vin and Murphy



New **AGR** members Alexis and mom Lorie Brewster helped with Nash and Jack Spiel

**Duffy** and **Vin**; Karey and Kelley Rodeffer with **Sucy** and **Joie**; Chris Spiel with **Nash** and **Jack**; Liz Tataseo



New **AGR** members, the Hubbard family with Trinity, Steve who is holding Duffy, Malissa holding Kathleen, Shelby and Kinley in front were very helpful with the extra Orwig dogs and the wagon



### Gift Wrapping Extravaganza

By Deb Orwig



Customer was more than satisfied with the gold wrapping paper and turquoise-and-gold peacock-print ribbon Deb Orwig used on his gift

The weather this year was typical of Arizona in November and December, a little cool in the mornings but warming up nicely in the afternoons. In fact, it was shirt-sleeve weather in the afternoons most of the time. It was even pleasant on Christmas Eve day, a rarity! On only one day was there just a hint of rain, and that was gone by 11 AM. It is why we enjoy living in Arizona, especially at this time of year!



We wrapped lots of small items



Jill Prose with one of the largest packages we wrapped

At the beginning of the holiday season, we knew we were



Many fancy bows were created by our great wrappers



Happy Valley **Barnes & Noble** group on November 18<sup>th</sup> at shift change when the limit was still 5 dogs: Ali Smith with Vin, Jamie Smith and Jodi Koblick behind Liz Tataseo with Reba, Sheila Joyce with Charlie and Willow, Chris Spiel with Nash and Jack and Jill Prose with Jasper

limited to 5 dogs being present at the **Barnes & Noble** stores where we do gift wrapping, and we managed to keep it down to that number, except for the



Jill and Fred Prose with Jasper; Fred helped set up at Happy Valley most days

short time at shift changes, when some were arriving and others were leaving. Later in the season, the limit was reduced to 3, which was more difficult for us (a lot of members want to bring their dogs to this fun activity), but we did not exceed the limit except for a few minutes of overlap between shifts. Most everyone was good about notifying me that they wanted to

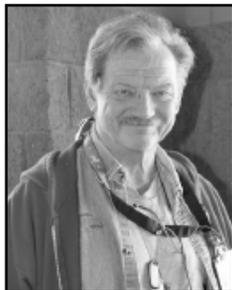


Larry Orwig with Duffy; Larry helped set up at every single gift wrap session

bring their dog. All the dogs who came were very well behaved and wonderful ambassadors. There was no barking (except at one little dog that was just being walked by on



Liz Tataseo almost always helped with set-up and stayed most of the day, with a short break in the middle to switch out dogs; she brought either Reba (left above) or Emma (right above) along with foster girl McKayla (below)



Patrick Doyle also helped with set-up, breakdown and dog walking most days

the sidewalk), and no misbehavior of any other kind. I am hoping the dog limit will be raised at least a little in 2018.

We started our gift wrapping season on the weekend before Thanksgiving at the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble*. Although we have done that weekend for several years, it has not been particularly lucrative.



Vin Orwig and Mufasa Orwig; Vin came to every gift wrap session, Mufasa to a couple

times what we collected during that weekend in 2016! And, we

only wrapped a total of 5 gifts the entire weekend! Helping on Saturday or Sunday or both were: Debbie Ball with **Shelby**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Willow**; Jodi Koblick; Sarah Martin; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Dolly** and **Mufasa** or **Duffy** and **Vin**; Jill and Fred Prose



Jack and Nash Spiel came with their mom Chris both days of the first weekend; they wore regular donation vests and Thanksgiving bandannas



Debbie and Rick Ball with Shelby were also frequent volunteers; Debbie wrapped and Rick handled the dog

with **Jasper**; Jamie and Ali Smith; Chris Spiel with

**Jack and Nash**; Liz Tataseo with **McKayla** and

**Emma** or **Reba**; and Connie Wozniak.

Our next appearance at the Happy Valley store was on Black Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Again, last year this date was not particular good for donations. This year it was great – we collected

**\$778.10** including donations and merchandise sales (bandannas,



Sheila Joyce brought Willow and Charlie several times, and her grandson Carson Zeable came once, too



New member/adopter Anne Booher brought Stanley for 3 hours 3 times



Mike Booher joined us with Beau, too, a nice dog he and Anne adopted from AZGRC

with **Teddy**; Trishia Murphy; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Dolly** and **Mufasa** or **Duffy** and **Vin**; Jill and Fred Prose with **Jasper**; Liz Tataseo with **Reba** or **Emma** and **McKayla**; Cynthia Wenström with **Hannah**; Marcus and Ilan Wieser with **Nala** and also Sharon and Philip Wieser later in the afternoon. An additional **\$252.30** were added to



Stanley Booher, AGR rescue #17-051 our coffers on this day.



Black Friday was busy all day, so it was wonderful to have the entire Wieser family join us



Marcus and Ilan Wieser with 13-year-old Nala



Sharon Wieser with Vin and Nala



Philip Wieser with Nala



Karey Rodeffer, at left above with Patrick Doyle handling Mufasa and Larry Orwig with Vin, drove from Chandler with Joie twice for our weekday sessions



Karey is training Joie to be a service dog for her daughter Kelley



Cynthia Wenström also brought Hannah for a while on Black Friday



Rebecca Mackerman helped with the dogs and gift wrapping



Teddy McCabe/Dodson dressed in holiday finery came with his mom Connie on Black Friday

Happy Valley then asked us to do two additional weekdays that we had not originally scheduled: Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. We were there both days from 10 AM to 4 or 5 PM. Traffic into and out of the store was fairly good until 2 PM, when it more or less dried up. On these two dates, we collected a total of \$590.59,



Jodi Koblick and daughter Jamie Smith came for company and conversation



Ali Smith handled Vin very well



The following weekend we had a break on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, due to our participation in the *Glendale Hometown Christmas Parade* in the morning and because of *Photos with Santa* at *Petco* in the afternoon.

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, we were again at the Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* location from 10 AM – 5 PM. It was a good day, with more wrapping done for customers.



Helpers at Happy Valley *Barnes & Noble* on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>: Trishia Murphy with Vin, Rick Ball, Sarah Martin, Patrick Doyle, Debbie Ball with Shelby and Liz Tataseo with McKayla

Larry Orwig with **Duffy** and **Vin**; Liz Tataseo with **McKayla** and **Reba** or **Emma**; and Cynthia Wenström with **Bailey**.

Our last two dates at the Happy Valley location were on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> (9 AM – 5 PM) and Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> (10 AM – 5 PM). The following members helped for part or all of one or both days: Anne and Mike Booher with **Beau** and **Stanley**; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Adam Cardinal; Patrick Doyle; Karin Forsythe; Teri Guilbault; Jodi and Jay Koblick; Sarah Martin; Martha McDowell; Larry Orwig with **Duffy** and

so it was worth our time to be there. Thanks to those who came on either or both dates with the last-minute notice: Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Patrick Doyle; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and her grandson Carson Zeable; Jodi Koblick; Sarah Martin; Amy Maynard with **Bentley**; Deb and Larry Orwig with **Mufasa** and **Vin**; Karey Rodeffer with **Joie**; and Liz Tataseo with **Reba** or **Emma** and **McKayla**.



Amy Maynard brought Bentley when I made a plea for volunteers on one of our extra weekday sessions

Fortunately I had wrapping help from Sarah Martin all day, and we managed to keep up with the demand – barely! One man brought us over 20 items to wrap, but his generous \$100 donation helped us bring home \$458.92! In addition to Sarah, the following members helped out during the day: Patrick Doyle;



Cassie Barnett does not have a dog, so she gets her "Golden fix" by volunteering for AGR



Our two youngsters, 14-month-old McKayla and 22-month-old Vin kept the customers smiling with their antics – McKayla was entranced by Snoopy dancing to the Vince Guaraldi music used by *Metropolitan Life Insurance*, and smiling Vin liked to roll over for belly rubs

**Vin**; Karey Rodeffer with **Joie**; Liz Tataseo with **McKayla** and **Reba**; and Connie Wozniak. Adam proved to be one of our best wrappers, so I coerced him to coming again on Christmas Eve day when I knew we would need the extra wrapping help. We collected a whopping **\$1,369.82** from donations and merchandise sales on these two dates!

Our next gift wrapping date was at the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** store just for the morning shift (9 AM – 12:30 PM) on December 16<sup>th</sup>. I had wrapping help from Karin Forsythe, Sarah Martin and Connie Wozniak. Larry Orwig handled **Duffy** and **Vin**, and Liz Tataseo brought **Emma**. It was a short day, so it was no surprise that the few of us who were there took in only **\$284.62**.

The biggest wrapping day of the season has always been Christmas Eve day at the Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble**. This year was no exception. Despite the limit of ambassadogs to three at any one time, we wrapped hundreds of items and managed to bring home **\$1,888.77**, which included two membership renewals (a Single and a Household)! We also gave out 10 calendars and a couple of nail files that had been paid for in advance. It was a terrific effort by 17 of us throughout the day to keep up with customer demand for wrapping. I am sure the dogs were tired from all the petting they got,



Bert Engstrom and Autumn joined us on Christmas Eve day



On December 24<sup>th</sup> while Sheila Joyce was at Arrowhead **Barnes & Noble** with Willow and Charlie, Connie McCabe came to take pictures; Patrick Doyle helped set up and stayed all day

but does a Golden Retriever ever get too much attention? They would probably say No! Thanks to all our volunteers including Debbie and Rick Ball, Marlene Breton, Adam Cardinal, April Crow, Patrick Doyle, Bert Engstrom, Karin Forsythe, Teri Guilbault, Sheila Joyce, Connie McCabe, Martha McDowell, Larry Orwig, Fran Strock, Liz Tataseo and Marcus Wieser. Thanks to our furry friends, too – **Vin Orwig** was there all day; **Reba Tataseo** and **Autumn Engstrom** came in the morning



Our terrific wrapping crew: Top row – Martha McDowell; Karin Forsythe and April Crow; Middle row: Marlene Breton; Debbie Ball and Connie Wozniak; Adam Cardinal; Bottom row: Teri Guilbault; Sarah Martin; and Fran Strock

until about 1:30; then **Shelby Ball** and **Charlie** and **Willow Joyce** arrived, so **Reba** went home, and Marcus Wieser kindly walked



Our thanks to Marcus Wieser who kept Vin out of sight as long as three other dogs were with us on Christmas Eve day at Arrowhead

**Vin** up and down the sidewalk past **Hobby Lobby**, so that we never had more than 3 dogs actually at **Barnes & Noble**. Even though I had been told that others were coming, Marcus was the only member of the **Deer Valley High School's National Honor Society** group who showed up during the day. Thank you, Marcus! After Sheila took **Charlie** and **Willow** home, Liz brought **McKayla** to spend the rest of the afternoon with **Shelby** and **Vin**. I lost count of the number of items we wrapped, but, as usual, several people showed up with multiple things around 5:45 PM. We stayed until all were done at about 6:30. Thanks to Connie McCabe and Liz Tataseo for their photography. What a great team of volunteers!

Hip, Hip, Hooray and many thanks to all of you who spent time with us during the season!



Photos with Santa at Petco

By Connie McCabe



Here with Santa Fred Prose are Connie McCabe, who took all the DSLR photos, and Nick Dodson, who helped with backdrop and props set-up and breakdown

After a few years of being unable to provide Santa Photos at **PetSmart** for our adoring fans, we were very pleased to have been invited to participate in the **Petco Santa Photos** events this year. All three of our sessions were held at the **Petco** store at 91<sup>st</sup> Ave and Northern Ave, a very nice location where Liz Tataseo holds regularly scheduled Meet-and-Greets.

**Petco** supplied the Santa suit and backdrop plus an iPad, and our volunteers supplied everything else. Many thanks to Jack Craven and Cara Holland for lending us the nice bench and to Deb Orwig for wrapping the boxes we used as props and for supplying decorative Christmas stockings.



Each Santa had to hold a cat; Connie did her best to get the cat to pose, but well, it was a cat...



Each Santa also got kisses from one dog or another; this Husky almost ate Santa Jeff's glasses!

In addition to the money for the photos themselves, we also will be receiving proceeds from the store's charity sales for those three days and a guaranteed \$200 per session. We took approximately 66 photos total for the three days, which is really great considering we were there only 3 hours per day. We were also able to have our donation dogs

there to meet the public, and they were very good at their jobs. I do not have exact photo and **Petco** donation figures to report at this time, but I am sure we will have the totals soon, which will be reported in the May *Golden Paw* issue.



Carol Gora and Don Woods drove down from Flagstaff with Jackson, Sarah and Sundance to get a family photo with Santa Dean

This event was a little different from all of the other Santa Photos we have done. Photos that were taken with the **Petco** iPad were immediately e-mailed to the customer once the customer approved

them. I also took photos of everyone with my camera and uploaded them to our **AGR** gallery, so that the customers had access to them and could download them from there. It was a good thing, as



Santa Dean had a couple of nice multidog groups



Santa Dean tried not to laugh when he saw this pair, though the dogs did not seem to mind their silly head gear!

some of the e-mailed photos were delayed by a glitch in the **Petco** system which was later resolved.

On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we had an awesome turnout! It was Dean Mortimore's first time as Santa, and he handled it like a seasoned pro! Many thanks to Liz Tataseo, who helped with set up and also handled the iPad photos; Karen



Outside helpers on December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris Spiel with Nash and Jack, Karen Davis with Star, Marlene Mortimore, Liz Tataseo with Emma, Fred Prose with Jasper, Rebecca Kemak with Murphy and Pat Morgan with Coda

Davis with **Star**; Nick Dodson; Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **Murphy**; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Willow**; Pat Morgan with **Coda**; Marlene Morti-

more; Fred Prose with **Jasper**; Joy Slagowski and her friend, CJ Major, who helped with set-up; Chris Spiel with **Nash** and **Jack**. Also, thanks to Joyce Hubler, who came early for photos with **Ripley** and **Thom** in spite of a painful knee. And many thanks to Carol Gora and Don Woods, who drove down from Flagstaff with **Jackson**, **Sarah** and **Sundance**!



Santa Dean and Joyce Hubler with Ripley and Thom



Teri and Santa Jeff Guilbault and Liz Tataseo with McKayla

Our fantastic donation dogs collected \$266 in donations.

December 9<sup>th</sup> was another successful *Photos with Santa* day! It was Jeff Guilbault's umpteenth time as Santa, and he did great! There was already



Outside volunteers with their donation dogs on December 9th: Marlene Breton with Star, Karen Davis with McKayla, Nick Dodson with Molly, Rick and Debbie Ball with Shelby, and Amy Maynard with Bentley

a line forming as we were setting up, and the line stayed until about 3 PM, when we finally got a break. Well after 4 PM, while Santa was changing into street clothes, a desperate lady came in to get her dog's photo. Seems she had been driving around



Santa Jeff had some multiple-dog groups like these: on left, a nice bunch of Corgis; on right, AGR member Lynn Parkhurst and Cyd Stoller with their gang of four; the one who won the prize for the largest group was the Slagowski family with NINE (below)!



This is the cute little guy who came after 4 PM - Santa Jeff graciously got re-dressed so a photo could be taken



trying to find the store for a while. Jeff was kind enough to get dressed again so her cute little dog could finally get his photo taken. Thanks, Santa Jeff!

Again, many thanks to Liz Tataseo, who joined us with McKayla after the Glendale parade to take the iPad photos; Debbie and Rick Ball with Shelby; Marlene Breton; Karen Davis with Star; Nick Dodson; Mary Engstrom with Autumn; Teri Guilbault brought Rosey and also helped with the iPad photos; Pat Morgan with Coda; and Amy Maynard with Bentley. A whopping thanks to Joy and Todd Slagowski who brought their 9 dogs in for their yearly Christmas photo. They were great! In addition to the money from the photos taken, we also had great donations of \$133.

December 16th was our last session. Thank you to everyone who made it a big success. Today we had Fred Prose who did a wonderful job as Santa. Liz Tataseo was once again handling the iPad pho-

tos and Cara Holland worked with the customers inside. Also outside were Marlene Breton; Jack Craven with Bella; Nick Dodson with Molly; Sheila Joyce with Charlie and Willow; Pat Morgan with Coda; Dean and Marlene Mortimore with



Cara Holland, Santa Fred Prose and Jack Craven with Bella



Santa Fred Prose with Jasper and Jill Prose with foster boy Charlie

Mary Kate and Ashley; and Chris Spiel with Jack, Nash and Sugar. Jill Prose came by with foster Charlie, too. Deb and Larry Orwig brought their canine gang of four for a photo



Outside volunteers on December 16th included (left photo) Nick Dodson with Molly, Cara Holland, Pat Morgan with Coda, Jack Craven with Bella, and Reba in front; also (right photo) Marlene Breton and Chris Spiel with Jack, Nash and Sugar



Dean and Marlene Mortimore brought Mary Kate and Ashley to get a family photo, then stayed to help outside

but did not stay because we already had plenty of volunteers. My apologies if I missed anyone.

Thank you, everyone, for all your help at those three sessions. Photos with Santa has always been

one of my favorite events, so I am glad we were able to do it again. The Petco manager was very pleased that they did not have to do anything, and I'm hoping we will be invited back next year. You can see all of the photos that were taken by me by going to our website www.arizonagoldenrescue.org and clicking on the EVENTS tab. Then click the GALLERY tab and you can see photos from this event and all of our other events, too.



Santa Fred got the only crying baby - the dog didn't seem to mind, so maybe he was used to it



Meet-and-Greets at Petco

By Liz Tataseo

GLENDALE, 9980 W Northern Ave. – Liz Tataseo, Hostess



Most of the group that came in October: Duffy Orwig, Stormy Krause, Patrick Doyle, Don Krause, Sheila Joyce and Willow, Rebecca Mackerman behind Sheila, Deb Orwig, Cassie Barnett with Charlie Joyce, and Reba Tataseo

We had a nice day on October 28, 2017 for our *Petco* Meet-and-Greet. We also had many *AGR* members and their dogs that came to help out and collected **\$94.18** during our time there. Joining **Emma**, **Reba** and me were Cassie Barnett; Patrick Doyle; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Willow**;

Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain with **Murphy**; Don and Rob Krause with **Stormy**; Rebecca and Dustin Mackerman with **Boomer** and **Sadie**; Dean Mortimore with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**; and Deb Orwig with **Duffy**. Since it was almost Halloween, several of the dogs came in costume. Everyone had a great time, and we received



Rebecca and Dustin Mackerman with their "super kids" Sadie and Boomer

lots of attention.



Dean Mortimore comes from Chandler to almost all our events with his girls Mary Kate and Ashley

November 25<sup>th</sup> was different, as we only had three members that could make it since it was a busy time with gift wrapping season going on. Joining **Reba** and me were Dean Mortimore with **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**, and Deb Orwig with **Vin**. We still collected **\$68.07** even with this small

group.

December 30<sup>th</sup> was very quiet. Although we ended up with **\$80**, only \$33.45 was from donations,



Sheila Joyce, Willow, Patrick Doyle, Charlie and Emma, Kathy Blue, Barrett, Reba, Liz Tataseo, Deb Orwig and Vin

the other \$46.44 came from a Bridge Dog donation from Deb Orwig. Joining **Reba**, **Emma** and me were Kathy Blue with **Barrett**; Patrick Doyle; Sheila Joyce with **Charlie** and **Willow**; and Deb Orwig with **Vin**. Even though we did not have much traffic, we had cars stopping to look and donate a few dollars.



Meet-and-Greets at PetSmart

By Connie McCabe

PEORIA, 9960 N. 91<sup>st</sup> Ave. – Connie McCabe, Hostess



Pat Morgan with Coda, Karen Davis with Star, Debbie and Rick Ball with Shelby, and Jill Prose holding Jasper and Teddy

Many thanks to the folks and dogs who joined **Teddy** and me on October 8, 2017: Nick Dodson, who always gets there ahead and sets up; Debbie and Rick Ball with **Shelby**; Karen Davis with **Star** (**Caesar** has a case of vestibular syndrome); Pat Morgan with **Coda**; Jill Prose

with **Jasper**; Chris Spiel with **Jack** and **Nash**; and Liz Tataseo with **Emma** and **Reba**. Susan Parker was going to join us with **Ozzie**, but he was at **VetMed** and had surgery for an impacted bowel.



Star Davis

Thankfully he recovered and is doing well! It was a very pleasant day to be sitting outside with such great folks and dogs! Some of the dogs wore decorative head or neck gear and were very cute! Slow crowd but we managed to collect **\$60**.



Liz Tataseo with Reba and Emma and Chris Spiel with Jack and Nash



Nash Spiel

We try to do as many *PetSmart* Meet-and-Greets at this location as possible, but it depends on the weather, as there is no seating inside. We generally hold them on the second Sunday of the month, weather permitting. Always check the online *AGR* calendar to see if we are scheduled to be there before coming and also check our *AGR* gallery and facebook page to see the fun photos of the events.



## Golden Hearts



We are so grateful to everyone who has given us their support. You all truly have hearts of gold! All donations to **AGR** are tax deductible. The donations shown below were made between October 16, 2017 and January 15, 2018. We sincerely apologize if any donors have been omitted. PLEASE NOTE: All donors who make donations during 2018 will receive an acknowledgment letter in January 2019, unless an acknowledgment for tax purposes is requested sooner.

*General Donations from the Heart*

Teddi and Delwin Axne	Sharon Flores	H. Lewis	Harold Parsons, Jr.
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Adam Cardinal	Danielle Keller	Ashkay Menta	Marlon Toder
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Barbara and James Renshaw in memory of our sweet **Glory**Cindy and Gary Tigges in honor of 2-year cancer survivors **Duey and Koso Tigges**Cindy and Gary Tigges in memory of **Riley Nolen**, beloved Golden of Joyce and Leo Nolan*Diamond Donors**Diamond Donors for "Diamonds in the Ruff" Dogs**Diamond Donor for 16-082 Rudy*

Karen and Phil Davis

Gigi Hill

## Memorial Donations

In Memory of All 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Bridge Dogs and People including:

12-091 Samantha Donahue	17-021 Trixie Vallie
14-007 Mayter Joyce	17-083 Molly
14-040 Charlie Hinatsu	18-001 Jessie
14-054 Mozart Noel	Skye Engstrom
15-059 Shaggy McCabe / Dodson	Boomer Mackerman
16-017 Katy Gump	Bella McDowell
17-002 Belle Courtney	Dutch Triplett
17-025 Gypsy DuMarce	NinAnnie Wehry / Hill

and

Marci Ascherman, Beth Lansdowne's sister  
 Robert Blean, Carolyn Blean's son  
 Jacqueline Holland, Cara Holland's mother  
 Elaine Sager, Jeff Sager's mother  
 Emolyn Thompson, Don Thompson's mother  
 Al Ward, Nancy Ward's husband

Teri and Jeff Guilbault	Deb and Larry Orwig
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson	Liz Tataseo

In Memory of **Abby Klein**  
 Nancy and Ralph Klein

In Memory of our beloved **Bentley**  
 Nicholas Yale and Bruce Bouldin

In Memory of **Buie**  
 Douglas Lang and Cindy Gorsegner

In Memory of **Honey Flores**  
 Kathy Jones

In Memory of **Skye Engstrom**  
 Mary and Bert Engstrom

In Memory of **Trooper Kimmel** and to support **AGR**  
 Nancy and David Kimmel

In Memory of **Tugger Moser**  
 Joyce and Ron Moser

In Memory of **Fozzie**, City of Scottsdale's first Canine Crisis Dog  
 Andrea Selleck

In Memory of a friend who passed away recently  
 Susan Blank

In Memory of <b>Emolyn Thompson</b>	
Peggy H. Berryhill	Deb and Larry Orwig
Teri and Jeff Guilbault	Liz Tataseo
Connie McCabe and Nick Dodson	Carol and Don Thompson

In Memory of **Al Ward**  
 Nancy Ward

Donations on Giving Tuesday,  
November 21, 2017

From Cindy Goldberg and Ronen Aviram: *We wholeheartedly support the passionate and kind folks who operate this Rescue. We strongly believe in rescuing homeless animals, and we have had a wonderful experience adopting our own Wrigley from AGR.*

From Judy Petitto in memory of **SandiJoy Petitto**

## Donations Because We Love Golden's!

Paul Heinsteint

Sherry and Bob Hunkler

Dr. Abbey Kovarna for the **Sunrise Pet Clinic** Doctors in Tucson:  
 "Golden's, the best breed on the planet!"

Joan Takamine

Lala Van Camp

## Grants

**Golden Retriever Foundation** to help with medical expenses of  
**12-012 Burt, 17-025 Gypsy, 17-036 Brewster, 17-037 Sugar**  
**17-041 Barrett, 17-050 Sally, 17-063 Rufus and 17-078 Jax**

**PACC 911 Heidi's Healing Fund** to help with medical expenses  
 of **17-082 Pilgrim**

**Pedigree Foundation** for General Operating Support

## Honorary Donations

In Honor of Adam Cardinal and his dogs **Rhys and Brando**  
 -- Merry Christmas!

Howard Crothers

In Honor of Kay Correll and Michelle Bailey  
 Marc Correll

In Honor of Deb Orwig and all she's done for Rescue  
 -- Merry Christmas!

Erin Orwig

In Honor of Eliana's love for animals  
 Kelly Hoyman

In Honor of Sharon Flores and the work she does for **AGR**  
 Kathy Jones

In Honor of Stuart Davis's birthday and for the great New  
 Year's Party

Rick Kindsfater	Patricia and David Maland
Miyako Ichikawa	Diana Smith

In Honor of Teryl Hall

Brunhilde and Alfred Mass, M.D.

*In Honor of all AGR Volunteers*

Teri and Jeff Guilbault

*In Honor of AGR and all the wonderful Goldens*

Julie and John Tyree

*In Honor of AGR and the Goldens we intend to adopt,*

**Sasha and Sultan**

Deborah and Thomas Vinopal

*In Honor of my aunt and uncle, Anne and Rick Gutekunst*

Rick and Jennifer Wainright

*In Honor of Emma Gutekunst, "daughter" of Anne and*

*Richard Gutekunst, and her cousin Jake Gutekunst,*

*"son" of Meg Gutekunst*

Susan Skinner

*In Honor of Pip*

Thomas Valente

*In Honor of Rudy Wollbrinck and all the good-hearted folks  
at Arizona Golden Rescue who lovingly care for dogs  
in desperate need like Rudy was*

Gigi Hill

*In Honor of 17-063 Rufus*

Nicole and Christopher Gill

### Memberships - New Advanced-Level Supporters

#### COPPER (\$50)

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Trishia Murphy and Bill Richardson

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Gregory Scovill

Sandra and Bill Sell-Lee

Catherine and Randall Smith

#### TOPAZ (\$250)

Emily Deer and Jeffrey Vick

Gayle and Richard Milling

#### PEARL (\$500)

Sharla and David Jewett

#### GOLD (\$1,000)

Stacy and David Paul

#### Thanks

*To Dr. Valerie Ferguson, Four Legged Friends Animal Hospital, for taking \$250 off AGR's monthly bill in addition to giving us discounts on services for rescued dogs*

*To AGR for your rescue efforts; McKayla thanks you, too!*  
Wendy Platanitis

*To AGR for all you do – Merry Christmas!*  
Isabel Fastiggi

*To AGR for my Mayter!*  
Marti Joyce

*To Debbie and Rick Ball for vacation care for Murphy*  
Rebecca Kemak and Bob Cain

*To Martha McDowell for donating unused medications after her dog Bella passed away*

*To Deb Orwig for leadership, dedication and friendship*  
Debbie and Rick Ball  
Cindy Tigges

*To Deb Orwig for her sewing skills*  
Sheila Joyce

*To Deb Orwig for caring for Sky Blue*  
Betty Thompson

*To Wendy Platanitis for donating a Neck Hug for McKayla*

*To those AGR Members who have set up a monthly donation through their bank, payroll deductions or PayPal:*

Stephanie Beard

Judy Petitto

Mary and Ken Richardson

Liz Tataseo in memory of **Gonzo and Cooper**

*To Nicholas Yale and Bruce Bouldin from AGR for making a generous donation in memory of 12-027 Bentley for every real estate closing Nick did in 2017, a total of 48!*

Note from Nick Yale: We will continue to honor the referral agreement that should a member of AGR use us for their real estate needs, we will donate 10% of our commission to you.

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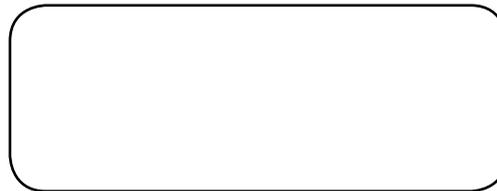
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### **TRAINING ON YOUR OWN**

If you prefer training on your own or just cannot afford the time or the expense of taking your dog to classes, there is now an audio-visual program available online called Basic Residential Obedience. It was created by Connie Cleveland, who writes a regular feature column called "Around the Obedience Ring" in *Golden Retriever News*, the bimonthly publication of the **Golden Retriever Club of America**. When you purchase the program, you are given a key code which will give you access to a "well-organized progression" through seven basic desirable behaviors: sit, down, stay, come when called, walk on a loose leash, learning to be quiet, and not jumping on people. The lessons use text, links to further explanations and clarification of concepts, and video clips to illustrate those concepts and the training techniques. The video clips are "exceptionally well done with respect to content as well as technical execution, professional, clearly audible and clearly illustrate the exercise being taught." The cost of the program is \$30, far less expensive than the fee for a typical live class series. The program is available from <https://www.onlineobediencetraining.com/online-training-home>. The disadvantage of training on your own, of course, is the lack of socialization opportunities for yourself and your dog.

Your membership expiration date is shown at the top of the mailing label below



**#1 Dog Training Tip: Do it!**