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MAGRR Membership Matters

A monthly newsletter for members of Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue April 2007 - Sixth Edition

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The month of April was again a great month for MAGRR with six Mid-south adoptions and six Northeast adoptions.

Below is a list of April adoptions:

Chase adopted by Lisa Lantrip of Memphis, TN
Bud adopted by Katie Pattat of Somerville, TN
Meg adopted by Mark & Harold Wittenberger of Center Harbor, NH
Sam adopted by Mari Warner of Schenectady, NY
Ginger adopted by Donna Wolf of Collierville, TN
Indiana adopted by Amy & Don Lear of Bartlett, TN
Dex adopted by Karen Verdelli of South Portland, ME
Chance adopted by Janie & Kirk Fenton of Sherwood, AR
Rose adopted by Caitlin O'Connor of Epping, NH
Sophie adopted by Nancy Holmquist-Roble of New Sweden, ME
Judd adopted by Bryson & Gretchen Lunderville of Weston, VT
Rudy adopted by Amy & Mark Chiozza of Cordova, TN

The average cost of the medical care of our Goldens is \$450 and our adoption fees do not come close to covering these expenses. We need everyone's support of our fundraisers and membership drives to help make up the difference. Please make a note of upcoming events and help support these very important fundraisers!

Mark Your Calendars

2007 MAGRR Annual Meeting - Tuesday, May 8

Whether you are a current member, interested in becoming a member or just want to learn more about MAGRR, please join us for our Annual Meeting - **Tuesday, May 8, 7:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall at Germantown Presbyterian Church.**

MAGRR Board Members will be presenting an overview of our organization as well as an update on our current state and upcoming events and opportunities to

be involved. Intake Coordinator Lynne Briggs will also give an obedience demonstration. We hope to see you there!

Directions:

- Germantown Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Germantown Road and Poplar Pike - 2363 Germantown Road.
- We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall.
- Park in the back parking lot and follow signs to the office.
- The church number is 901-754-5195.

MAGRR Golden Golf Tournament - September 29

The 6th Annual MAGRR Golden Golf Tournament will be held at Stonebridge Golf Club in Lakeland, Tenn., on Saturday, September 29. Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. and the tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. A flyer to advertise the event, a sponsorship letter and a sponsorship & registration form are all available now on magrr.org (see links to the left).

Our focus now through mid-June is on securing sponsors. Letters have been sent to local businesses and select businesses will receive an in-person sponsorship call. However, we need all the help we can get. **If you know anyone or any business that may be able to sponsor or donate any items, please contact one of the Golf Planning Team Members - Joel Schaffer, Phyl Simmons, Carole Scruggs, Wendy Ray or Bradley and Emory Eison.** This is a very important fundraiser for our organization that depends on support of all members to be successful. If you want to help, but don't know how, please just ask! [To register your team or sponsorship, click here!](#)

Our Goldens with Special Needs - Drake



Beautiful 6-year-old Drake came to us this month as an owner turn in because he recently began being hostile to their older dog and was sent to live in the back yard. After careful evaluation by our intake team, MAGRR took him in. His vet assessment determined he is grossly overweight, Heartworm infected and had an incredibly impacted canine tooth that needed immediate surgery. Enough for anyone to become a little grumpy, we think.

Drake had surgery last week and is recovering well. He will need to have Heartworm treatment once he recovers from the dental surgery, but he will be ready for foster home this week. This poor guy is very sad and never wags his tail. He needs some TLC and a

good foster home to help him get accustomed to a new way of life. If you are interested in fostering or donating to help cover his medical expenses, please contact us at rescuegold@magrr.org.

Golden Grin Photo of the Month - Bob



Carolyn & Edmund Proso in Waldoboro, Maine adopted Bob (MAGRR Babe) last month. This is a recent picture and some excerpts from their latest e-mail update.

"Our Bob is just the best. He has settled in quite beautifully now and seems very happy...He sleeps with us every night and it's so much fun. The three of us go

upstairs and it's like a race to see who gets in first! When we wake up in the morning we look like three peas in a pod and we can't figure out how we got there...He is really just a wonderful, wonderful dog and we love him very much. There is only one thing-he has so much energy it's exhausting! We were thinking that if we were to get a second dog it would be company for him and would calm him down a bit."

Will Carolyn and Edmund adopt again? Stay Tuned!

Honey's Story



Honey is pictured here frolicking in the Maine snow. Below is the story of her journey from Memphis to Maine to find her forever family.

We are "Golden Retriever" people. We have had golden retrievers (most times more than one) for the past twenty eight years while living in Virginia, then Florida, then Vermont, back to Florida and now in Maine. When we lost our dear "Emma" to cancer at 13 back in the fall of 2006, our entire family (including our nine year old golden "Henry") mourned her passing and missed her presence each and every day. After a couple of months, Henry was just moping around and not really even beginning to get back to his old self. In addition, we were also missing the love and routine of two pups, so we felt for all of us it was time to check into getting another

companion for our family. We went to petfinders.com to see what might be available from shelters, etc. with the thought that perhaps we would look for a smaller breed but the more we discussed it, the more we knew we wanted the sweet looks and lovable personalities of the Goldens we knew and loved. After looking for just a few days, we saw a picture of this really cute "golden puppy" from a Maine golden retriever rescue organization (Honey).

We thought that rescuing a puppy that needed a home would be a fulfilling thing for all of us again. In the late 1980's. we were living in Vermont and the town's police had picked up a wandering golden who was pretty haggard looking and was going to take it to the town shelter. We just happened to be there at the station that morning to pick up a burn permit and said we would care for the dog until they found the owner. Needless to say, another golden became a Lawrence family member (Maggie) for the next eight years. Although no one knew or even suspected (until the day before delivery) Maggie was pregnant and presented us with nine little black puppies with golden highlights. Another experience - taking care of all those pups and then finding each of them homes. But Maggie turned out to be just a wonderful dog - it was as if each day she thanked us for taking her in and caring for her. After have such a positive experience with a rescued dog (even though inadvertently) we felt we wanted to try that again so we filled out the on-line application to get more information and e-mailed the contact person - Lise Kirk - and got a very quick response.

Lise explained that Honey was actually in Memphis, Tenn. as she had been rescued in Arkansas and was at the Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue (MAGRR) vet office being treated for Heartworms, etc. to bring her back to good health. She also discussed the adoption procedure and we discussed what we were looking for and very shortly we were on our way toward adopting Honey. Honey's picture was very cute and looked remarkably like Henry as a 6 -7 month old puppy so we were very excited at the prospect of having her join our family. Lise kept in constant contact with us as the process moved ahead and we set a tentative date to go down to New Hampshire to pick Honey up. While we had learned that Honey had been rather ill when she was rescued by MAGRR, it became clear that she was perhaps more ill than originally thought by the vet and was also having difficulty with the treatments and needed to be in a foster home for a little longer than normal to nurse her back to health. It was hard being so far away and not able to help with her care but we were able to keep in close contact with a wonderful "foster mom" - Linda Butts who obviously did a fabulous job of taking care of this little angel until she was able to travel up to New England.

Finally the day arrived when we were to drive down to New Hampshire to meet the transport. We left Camden early in the morning to make sure we were on time and arrived at the designated rest area - a little nervous but very excited. There were a few people already and although it was pretty cold, it was also obvious that there were a lot of excited people there waiting for a new family member. Finally, the transport arrived (which was actually much larger than we had imagined) and the people gathered around with a heightened sense of anticipation especially when all the dogs starting barking. Then the transport personnel began to bring the dogs out one at a time to a chorus of ooh's & ah's. There were puppies of all ages,

shapes and sizes in the group as there were several rescue organizations there picking up dogs transported from Tennessee. Some dogs were very excited, some fearful, all beautiful. Finally, the it was the Golden's turn and out came Honey, who was even cuter than her pictures. She was one of the ones who came out of the transport with her head held high and looking around like she was saying "OK, where's my new family". She came right over to us when we took her leash and went off for a little pottie break walk with us like she had belonged to us for a long time. Needless to say, she melted our hearts right at that moment. Because it was so cold, most everyone did not spend a lot of time chatting, but pretty quickly moved to their cars for the trip home. Honey jumped right into our mini van which we had taken out the second row of seats to give her more room on the trip home. Charlotte set in the back with Honey and Honey just lay down and put her head on Charlotte's foot for most of the way home. She really knew how to ingratiate herself with no delay.

Since arriving at our home, Honey has brought a bright light of energy and love into our home. We could not be more pleased with her. She has such a cute personality and loving disposition that no one can resist her. She has even become a favorite at our vets and, whenever we take her, all the office personnel come out to see her. Most important of all, she seems genuinely happy to be here and loves Henry and seems to love us as well (or she is doing a masterful acting job). Henry has come out of his funk and even seems to be reverting more often to his youthful playing (and then has to take extra long naps) which has made our house once again filled with puppy-like activity which is very nice.

Providing a loving, caring home to one of these special animals is a reward in itself. The two rescues we have been associated with have shown and show that it appears that they realize that now they are in a really good place and they want to show they genuinely appreciate that. To have your puppy come up and put his/her head in your lap, look up at you with those beautiful brown eyes and have those eyes say "I love you, man" is just like in the MasterCard television ad - PRICELESS!

-- Del & Charlotte Lawrence, Camden, Maine

Now That's Something to Bark About!



Rummage Sale Success

The Rummage Sale to benefit MAGRR was a HUGE success raising more than **\$4,000** for our organization! Special Thanks to **Susan Weiss** for her countless hours collecting, sorting and pricing and for storing all the rummage sale goodies in her home for months planning for this event! The rummage sale was so well organized and executed and has been our largest fundraiser to date! See the Quick Link to the left to view pictures from this event.

Arlington in April

On Saturday, April 28, volunteers spent the day in Arlington, TN promoting MAGRR. We received \$140 in donations and two new e-mail contacts. We also

distributed many flyers and Golf Tournament brochures. See the Quick Links at the left to view the slideshow of pictures from the event. Thank you to **Wendy Ray** for organizing this event and **Phyl Simmons, Anne & Wayne Tansil, Courtney Kaufman and Rocky, Lisa Hicks and Ellery, Carole Scruggs, Gerry Wartenburg and Robbie, Glenda Wade and Cleopatra, Cindy Yeager and Ace and Caroline Evans for supporting this event!**

Buy Arbonne Products and Support MAGRR!

Arbonne is a health and wellness company specializing in botanically based products for the whole family. All of their 400+ products are free of mineral oil, chemical dyes, chemical fragrance and are hypoallergenic. Most importantly, this company (25 years old, started in Switzerland and has been in the U.S. since 1980) has never, ever, tested on animals or used animal products or by-products. Want to learn more about Arbonne? Visit www.Arbonne.com to view and learn about Arbonne products.

To purchase, contact Sharon LaRue (keyswater@aol.com) or Amy Lear (AMYJO240@aol.com). They will set you up with

a wholesale account so that you will receive 35% off retail order online. Sharon and Amy will keep track of the sales and ensure 10% of their net profits go to MAGRR! Amy and Sharon have also pledged a \$100 sponsorship to the Golden Golf Tournament - Thank you!

Make Your Online Purchases Benefit MAGRR with iGive.com

When shopping online at vendors like ebay, Land's End, Pro Flowers, Barnes & Noble, you can make your purchase benefit MAGRR. How? iGive.com! When you sign up with www.igive.com, up to 26 percent of each purchase you make will be donated to your favorite worthy cause. Visit www.igive.com to learn how.

Give to MAGRR While Searching the Internet with Goodsearch.com

Do you often go online and search via Google, Yahoo or another popular search engine? Change your searching habits and give to MAGRR. Goodsearch.com - powered by Yahoo - will give to your favorite worthy cause each time you search! You will get the same quality search from Yahoo while giving to MAGRR. Start using it today!

Show Your MAGRR Spirit



Our website is our number one communication tool providing visitors with all they need to know about our organization. Help us promote MAGRR and drive more potential volunteers and adopters to our website with these new car window decals.

Decals have an adhesive back and are available in white or gold for a \$5.00 donation to MAGRR. Order yours today!

To order, e-mail Wendy Ray at wendyvray@yahoo.com. Please specify color and amount and provide a mailing

address.

Golden Funny

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics with the same complaint. Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The FIRST patient is examined within the hour, is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The SECOND sees his family doctor after waiting 3 weeks for an appointment, then waits 8 weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray, which isn't reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for a month from then. Why the different treatment for the two patients?

The FIRST is a Golden Retriever.

The SECOND is a Senior Citizen.

MAGRR Board Member Named One of Memphis' 50 Women Who Make a Difference



The MAGRR Board recently nominated Phyl Simmons for Memphis Woman magazine's "50 Women Who Make a Difference" award and we are pleased to announce she was accepted!

Phyl has been with MAGRR since its inception in 2001 and her personal dedication and commitment has exceeded all others. Phyl is the current Board Secretary, but

her contributions go above and beyond in so many ways. She is the one that all of us lean on and depend on to know what to do. She maintains the membership and adoptions records, she is present at each and every event and fundraiser, she helps update the website, she coordinates the Northeast transport -- just to name a few of her contributions. Additionally, her invaluable networking skills that have worked wonders for our organization. She has a network of contacts across the country that have helped us to place dogs that are fearful of the southern "stormy" climate and enabled us to find homes quickly for Hurricane Katrina dogs. She is the connection that helped jump start the Northeast transport and MAGRR New England with Lise Kirk which has been such a saving grace to our organization. She has called on friends for favors including a pilot who, with Phyl's nudging, recently agreed to fly his personal plane to East Tennessee to get a group of puppies to the transport.

In short, Phyl is the glue that has held and continues to hold our organization together. Without her, many deserving dogs would not have a chance at a safe and loving home. Thank you, Phyl and Congratulations on this much-deserved honor!

Using rescuegold@magrr.org

We love keeping in touch with our friends and some of you send some very nice messages. However, please refrain from including rescuegold@magrr.org in your mass e-mails. We need to maintain this e-mail for important rescue messages. Thank you.

Thank you for another great month!

Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue

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web: <http://www.magrr.org>

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