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# MAGRR Membership Matters

A monthly newsletter for members of Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue February 2007 - Fourth Edition

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Welcome to our fourth edition of MAGRR Membership Matters. We hope you are enjoying our publication. If you have submissions or suggestions for future editions, please contact Wendy Ray at [wendyvray@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyvray@yahoo.com). All suggestions are welcome!

## Mark Your Calendars



## MAGRR 5 Mile Run

Our annual 5 mile run will be held Saturday, March 10. Through your help, we have secured some great sponsors donating \$1,100 to our race. We are now promoting to raise our registration numbers and we need everyone's support. If you can help post a flyer, they are available for download via the link to the left. Tell your friends, family

and even strangers! And, be sure to tell everyone they can walk - 5 miles can be intimidating, even to runners.

## Rummage Sale to Benefit MAGRR - April 20- 21

The date is set for the Rummage Sale to benefit MAGRR. As previously announced, MAGRR Member Susan Weiss will be hosting a sale at her home with all proceeds benefiting MAGRR. Susan's neighborhood - Spring Hill in Collierville - has a neighborhood-wide sale every year, which brings hundreds of buyers! The sale will be held **Friday and Saturday, April 20-21, 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Susan's address is 542 Country Springs Drive.**

How can you help? Many donations of boxes, newspapers and bags have been made, but tables and clothing racks are still needed. Volunteers will also be needed to assist with the sale and the MAGRR information table. You can come

for an hour or the whole weekend - whatever time you have to give. **Contact Susan at 901-854-0284 (home) or 901-413-0993 (cell) and let her know if you have items to donate, tables or racks that may be borrowed or if you have time to assist with the sale.**

#### Arlington in April - April 28

MAGRR will reach out to the Arlington community by participating in Arlington in April this spring. Volunteers will be needed. Look for details coming soon!

#### Our Goldens with Special Needs



MAGRR lost a Golden Angel on February 16 as Kylee crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Kylee was diagnosed with Cancer last summer and was given just three months to live. However, she lucked out and found hospice in the loving Wartenburg home and her time here extended more than nine months. Thank you to Tim and Gerry for opening their home as hospice for Kylee and making her last months in our world happy.

Unfortunately, we have another hospice case with our sweet Bobo (pictured to the left) who came to us as an owner surrender. After his foster family took him to the vet to have a tooth extracted, his gum became swollen. A follow-up visit gave us the worst news possible -- the poor boy has a malignant tumor. The lump is inoperable as it would mean removing Bobo's entire lower jaw. As we have learned from our past experience, it is hard to tell how long Bobo has left in our world. He could have months or even a year. He is currently showing no signs of pain and is eating well. Please keep this sweet boy in your thoughts.

If you are interested in sponsoring Bobo or giving him a happy home to live out the rest of his life, contact us at [rescuegold@magrr.org](mailto:rescuegold@magrr.org)

#### Golden Grin Photo of the Month - Bear



Many of us have seen the photos and videos of our rescued Goldens with their forever families in the Northeast. This is just one of those beautiful photos capturing their first meetings. Pictured here are Bear (MAGRR #736) and his new "father" Jason Leavitt in a warm embrace after a long transport ride. How heartwarming!

#### Chara, the "Southern Dog"



While most animals with any sense at all go south for the winter, this is not true for the lucky golden retrievers placed by the Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue New England program. With temperatures in Maine in the teens and low twenties for the past month, one wonders how a dog from Arkansas or Tennessee will adjust to life in the frozen north. I am finding out that the answer is "great."

At 3 o'clock on a cold, but at least not windy, Saturday in February, "Chara" (aka Aiden) leaped off of Petersen's Transport at a rest stop in Windham, New Hampshire. He had traveled all the way from Memphis, Tennessee, but did not seem any the worse for wear. He bounded into my arms and immediately started licking my face, then dropped to the ground, rolled over, and asked me to scratch his belly. as he a happy boy? I think so.

Was I a happy new dog owner? I know so.

For Chara it was the end of a long journey that started in Hot Springs, Arkansas where he had been found as a stray and ended up in a shelter. He was adopted but left outside all day in a fenced yard, and he became a digger. When his owner moved, he was sent back to the shelter. That's when MAGRR stepped in and rescued him. He went to the foster home of Doug and Linda Thompson in Memphis, who provided him all the TLC he needed.

For me, it was the end of what seemed like a long search (but really wasn't) for the perfect golden. A dog that would have the energy to cross-country ski and hike, but also one that I could trust to come home with me. I already have one golden (Molly), but she, like me, has seen younger days. As she approaches twelve, and our long hikes and skis get even harder for her than they do for me and my husband Steve, I knew it was time for a second dog. And, I wanted Molly around to teach a new dog her great habit of sticking with us when we venture into the woods.

So, I filled out my MAGRR adoption application and Leslie performed the home visit. I especially liked her question about whether all people in the home wanted the dog equally. I found that so funny, since my husband would just as soon have no pets, and I told her the truth! But what a great guy Steve is, to put up not just with me but my two dogs and a horse to boot.

Then the fun began. With all those wonderful looking goldens on the web page, it was hard to choose the perfect dog. That's where Lise Kirk comes in. From what I can tell, she is the matchmaker from heaven that all of our mothers tried for years to be (and that I now have to admit I try to be for my two step-sons). We had to reject one after another. "Sorry, Beth, but he is not well-adjusted enough to travel," or "sorry, Beth, but we cannot trust her not to bolt." Several weeks went by before I got a call from Lise that she had "the PERFECT dog" for me. Aiden was his name. So I called the Thompsons and learned all about him. And everything they said was true. Lots of energy, but calm. Sweet. Attached to people. "Would he run off?" I asked. "Don't think so," they said.

On our first few walks, I kept Chara on a leash. Molly came with us and stuck real close, setting the perfect example for Chara. With lots of treats in my pockets, I started taking him off the leash for short times in the woods. He would run ahead or leap through the woods for short distances, but always came back for a treat. I gradually increased the amount of time off leash until I trusted him to always come back. Then, four days after he arrived, we had a major blizzard that dumped over a foot of snow. Now we not only could walk on the snowmobile trails, we can ski them too! And, it's a lot harder to bound through the woods when the snow is up to your chest.

Chara is the name of a northern star that can be found in CanesVenatici, the Hunting Dogs constellation (it is the fainter, beta star of the constellation). Chara and Cor Caroli make the "southern dog," which is held by Bootes as he pursues Ursa Major around the pole. Chara shares many similarities with the Sun, and provides a good chance to see what the Sun would look like at stellar distances. Chara is from Greek and means joy. And, I can attest that he is living up to his name!

### **Now That's Something to Bark About!**

#### **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](http://www.igive.com), up to 26 percent of each purchase you make will be donated to your favorite worthy cause. Visit [www.igive.com](http://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!

#### **Web Goobers at it Again!**

Thanks to Missy Brown, Mary Lu Duffy and Phyl Simmons, our web stats continue to be outstanding! The "Goobers" are doing a great job of keeping content fresh and enticing more visitors. Thanks for all you do!

The March Web Feature will be "Where are they now?" and will highlight our adopted goldens in their new homes. We

haven't heard from some of our adopters in quite some time and would love to hear how our MAGRR goldens are doing in their forever homes. If you have a submission, please send it to Missy Brown at [missyabrown@gmail.com](mailto:missyabrown@gmail.com).

Thank you for another great month!

Memphis Area Golden Retriever Rescue

email: [rescuegold@magrr.org](mailto:rescuegold@magrr.org)

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