



Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc.

Winter 2011

Unheralded but not forgotten...

Our neighborhood is eclectic. Old-time residents jostled up against yuppie newcomers. White-collar, blue-collar and no collar. But nothing pulls everyone out to the curb faster than a new foster Lab ambling up the street in an “Adopt Me!” vest. Be they six or sixty, 6’3” or 3’6”, Porche or Prius—everyone has stories to swap, treats to offer—and just a moment to set aside their busy lives.

“So who have we here?...” asks someone, of Dodge or Maui or Duchess, et.al. “Oh...what a darling...”, they coo. “You and Kathy are such saints...”

Okay, Kathy and I will agree we’re saints. At least I will. But not for our fostering efforts. Not even. Because we’re the ones who get to enjoy the squeals of children as they race over to greet our latest house guest. Who get to mix and mingle with our dog-loving neighbors (and their dogs) for blocks around. We get to share in the bright, often teary moment when adoptive families come by to pick up their new “forever friend.” No, we’ve got the best of it.

We are not the ones who, without complaint, will offer to travel a hundred miles, or more, to collect a Lab in need. Or deliver a bag of food Saturday night. Not the ones who give up their free time to transport, foster, or board Labs to pet fairs, or vet visits, or just to socialize and exercise those who otherwise might get little of



either. We don’t drag out of bed at 3:30 to attend to squalling puppies visiting short-term; then again at 5. We don’t petition local businesses to sponsor a “company match” program. We don’t design, edit and lay-out a professional newsletter. Don’t scour various Craigslist, or community shelters near and far to locate those we can help. Or open their homes at a moment’s notice to dog-sit until other arrangements can be made. We’re not answering all the multitude of emails that come through the GGLRR site, or hand-writing thank you’s to every contributor, large or small. We’re not those who offer their financial, administrative and planning skills. And we’re not the one whose talented eye can take Labs of every stripe and color and bring their unique and inner qualities alive through images, video and music.

In short, we are not Jim or Mike or Tiffanie or Kris or Diane or Deborah or Dale. Not Liz or Kathleen or Pamela or Judy T or Sylvana. Not Carolyn, not Allison, not Carol, not Laura or Judy. Not Nikki. Nor any one of the dozens of others whose efforts allow Golden Gate Lab Rescue to give these trusting and loving creatures a second chance at hearth, home, health and happiness. We’re just the ones who get to stroll the neighborhood and collect the atta-boys.

Sure, we’re saints.

—James

Puppy Tales: The Stories of Blue, Lexie, Blizzy, Ruby and Riley

Our new family began with one very pregnant, stray yellow lab that ended up at the shelter in Bakersfield and was thankfully saved by Lab Rescue. Our loving families adopted these puppies in August 2010 (and then mom was adopted too).

Here's a little bit about the five of us including our "then and now" photos. We feel very fortunate that we live relatively close to each other and have been in contact since the adoption. (We have another sister Daisy who did not make our "reunion", but we are looking forward to seeing her at the next one!)

Thank you Judy and Sylvana for all of your effort in getting this very pregnant mom and her babies the wonderful care they deserved by having them fostered by Julie (our wonderful vet in Bakersfield). We appreciate how you kept close tabs on them from the moment they were born both by phone and in person, for driving to Bakersfield and back to the Monterey area when they were ready to be adopted, and most of all for adopting them out to us!

Blue

Blue arrived in my life last year when an amazing woman Judy Kreger, called me in late June to tell me there was a Lab mommy about to have a litter. She and I had been in touch for a number of months prior to that conversation, and I knew it was time. Although there would still be eight weeks before I could meet him, the name finding process began. I came up with three names I really liked and was simply going to let him find his own name. So, for the next

number of weeks, all my fellow dog-loving friends and neighbors got to hear about my almost-new arrival, and boy did they get an earful. Choosing the name was practically a group effort. I picked him up at his wonderful foster home in the Salinas mountains, and home he came. His name—Blue—arrived five days later. It might as well have been an eternity. Although he didn't choose any of the names I'd come up with, in a twist-of-fate way he ended up 'finding' the name

of the Lab my family had when I was a child (and it was also the color of the collar he had when I picked him up). Thank you, Judy and GGLRR!

— Heather

Lexie

After just losing my two precious dogs within one year to cancer (one a yellow lab who stole my heart), I thought I was not ready for another dog. However, that did not stop me from looking at GGLRR's website on a daily basis just to see what was "out there." When I saw this adorable litter of yellow puppies, before I even realized what I was doing, I picked up the phone and made the call. One week later I was picking up my new little girl. Going from senior dogs to a very active puppy has been an adjustment, but I have to say, it's probably the best thing I could have done. Lexie is sweet, loving, affectionate and gives unending kisses as we spend our days together. She loves riding in the car, playing with other dogs, going to the beach so she can run off leash at Fort Funston. Her favorite thing is living up to her breed and retrieving the ball after its thrown with the Chuck it! At night



Daisy, Blue, Lexie (sitting up), Blizzy, Ruby (touching Blue's nose) and Riley

she snuggles in on the bed and waits for more loving and belly rubs! I'm not sure who rescued whom, but I am grateful to Judy and Lab Rescue for bringing that unconditional love back into my life again.

– *Sandy*



And now, one year after...Lexie, Blizzy, Ruby, Riley and Blue

Blizzard

Blizzard (Blizzy for short) became part of our family kind of by “accident.” Our beautiful black Lab, Allie—who we adopted from GGLRR a year earlier—was chosen as “Miss January” for the GGLRR 2011 calendar. I needed to go on the web site to approve some text for her page. While I was on it, I decided to check out the available Labs page just for fun. I noticed that Judy was a rep for seven ADORABLE yellow Lab puppies. Judy helped us find our Allie and we had kept in touch over the year. I sent her a little note letting her know that Allie had made the calendar and that I noticed she had seven super-cute puppies. She responded that yes, they are very cute, and if we were interested she would hold one for us. Having Allie as well as our other lab-pit mix, Bodie, who was 16 at the time, we never really thought about a puppy! However, I had promised our girls, Kelsey (13) and Anna (10), that our next dog would be a puppy. As we always like to do the rescue thing, I just couldn't pass up this opportunity! We didn't care if we got a male or a female, so we let Judy do the picking for us. She picked the PERFECT pup for our family! Bodie has since passed and, although we still miss him dearly, having our little bouncy, happy Blizzy around makes it much easier. As for the name, to get my husband, Ric, on board we let him name her “something cool!” Her name definitely fits her!

We feel very fortunate to have Blizzy's “family” so close (She and her sister Ruby get together quite often). It has been so nice to be able to reach out to all of them when dealing with “puppy stuff!” Thank you Judy and GGLRR for finding us THE BEST dogs for our family—we can't imagine life without them!!

– *Amy, Ric, Kelsey and Anna (and Allie and Blizz)*

Ruby

We adopted Ruby after losing our 14-year-old Lab, Owen, a few months earlier. Though no one will ever replace our dear Owen, Ruby has brought indescribable joy and love to our lives. There is nothing better than walking through the door to find joyous Ruby with a smile so big that her eyes are squinted! Her endless energy and funny antics keep our family laughing. We were delighted to discover that Ruby's sister was adopted by a family just down the street from us, and we get the sisters together whenever we can. One unexpected benefit of adopting Ruby was all the new friends in my life that share such a love of labs! I can hardly remember what our family was like before we got Ruby. We are enjoying every second with her and are forever thankful to Judy and GGLRR for bringing Ruby into our lives!

– *Kari and family*

Riley

My youngest child was five and my oldest 10 when we found Riley as a puppy through Golden Gate Lab Rescue. Judy did a great job matching us up with our puppy, who was very active (rambunctious!) and loving (we never tire of those doggy-kisses). We are an on-the-go family and Riley comes with us almost everywhere...to the beach, on hikes, for long runs, on weekend trips...he is up for anything (including outings with some of his siblings here and there)! He is such a great dog. We love him completely and, every day, are so thankful that he came into our lives.

– *Liza, Hugh, Max and Alec*

Hennessey and Rosie

Hennessey joined our family in April 2011, and Rosie followed in May 2011. I can't remember life without them. They have added so much joy, love and FUN to our family! Our two children run straight for



Hennessey



Rosie

alongside our kids. On really hot days, she has been known to simply stroll out to the pool, jump in for a quick dip and then lounge on the lawn in the sun. Hennessey is not interested in going for a dip, but he will not leave the pool area if the children

are swimming. Every night, Rosie goes to her favorite spot under our bed to sleep and Hennessey, despite our intention of not allowing the dogs on the furniture, sleeps with us on the foot of our bed (he was too cute to deny). You would never guess that Hennessey was a stray. He is so sweet, well-mannered, affectionate, loyal and protective. And Rosie, once she overcame her insecurity after having been left at the pound by her previous owners, is playful and happy. We adopted two cats over the summer, and both of the dogs are so gentle with them that sometimes the cats will snuggle with the dogs while they are sleeping. Hennessey and Rosie made our home and our family complete and we love them with all our hearts.

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Beach buddies

– *The Thomas family*

Avalanche

Dear GGLRR -

Right after Christmas, Santa brought us another gift!!! Here is Avalanche's – actually our – story: I started foster care for your wonderful Labs in November after our beloved black Lab had gone to doggie heaven. We didn't want to commit to a new dog right away and thought foster was a good compromise. Little did we know that within a few months a little Lab girl would capture all our hearts. She came to us as a foster in January – was her name already an indication that she would stay with us, a ski and winter crazy family? GGLRR asked when they could list her...we stalled and stalled, as I knew on day one that she would stay forever. My husband fell in love with her and our boys were so excited to have a dog again. Just after two weeks and lots and lots of doggie kisses, we decided to keep her. She is a wonderful addition to our family – loves to play but not too rough. I finally have a running companion again, and she does some calming magic with our four- and six-year-old boys when they are upset. And of course... she loves the snow :-)



– *Stefanie, David, Tami and Yuri*

Jack

Laughter and joy have returned to our house!

After losing both of our 13-year-old Labs over the past 12 months, there was a certain emptiness in our lives. We hit the JACKPOT in adopting JACK!

Jack came into our lives after I discovered Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue. Never had we had a happier day than when we picked him up from his foster home and brought him home with us!

That same day we drove up the coast and had lunch at an outdoor grill. Jack was a total gentleman and lay down next to us when the food was brought to the table. That night, he slept through the night. He is totally housebroken and learned to go in and out the dog door within minutes!



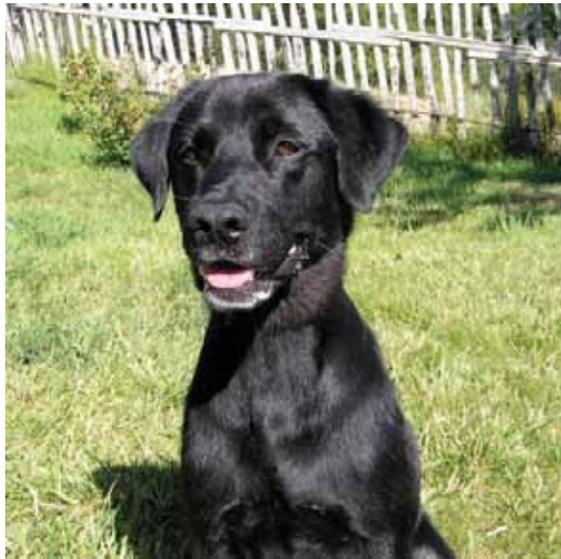
What he LOVES: DOG Park (where he has chased a greyhound and kept up!), food, riding in the car, taking walks, basking in the sun, farmers' market, baths and being brushed.

He is very gentle with our granddaughters and everyone he meets.

– *Maxine*

Finnegan

Finnegan (then Danny), came to us as an emaciated black Lab with a horrible coat, ribs and back bone showing and no muscle mass at all. Many thought he wasn't even a Lab. He was a stray at a horrible shelter and was slated for euthanasia. GGLRR saved this boy and, as you can see from the second photo and the following letter from his amazing new dad, Finn is now gorgeous, totally loved and a true character.



Finn when he came to GGLRR (then called Danny)

I went to GGLRR to rescue a dog. I brought him home and he saved my life. This is the story of meeting my gorgeous black Lab, whom I named Finnegan ("Finn"). I suspect that this may be the story of every person who's ever rescued a dog. It starts out as some form of altruism, but soon evolves into gratitude.

I grew up as the youngest of four boys, and my family life has consisted largely of an endless stream of pranks, pratfalls, and practical jokes...and the occasional birthday card—usually late as they are, after all, brothers. It continues to this day, but I'm hopeful this will not end soon as I'm only 51. As it turns out, Finn has become kind of the mythical "Fifth Beatle" in my brotherhood, and the pranksterism between me and my brothers has been joined by Finn. Let me tell you a bit about it all with a few brief stories.

One morning I went to the gym around 6am and left Finn with a peanut butter-filled kong. When I came home, we did our standard greeting ritual of jumping on my bed and petting, licking and rough housing for a bit. During the melee, I discovered the peanut butter kong under my pillow—fully loaded and 'buried'—of course with peanut butter generously spread around the sheet, pillows, etc.

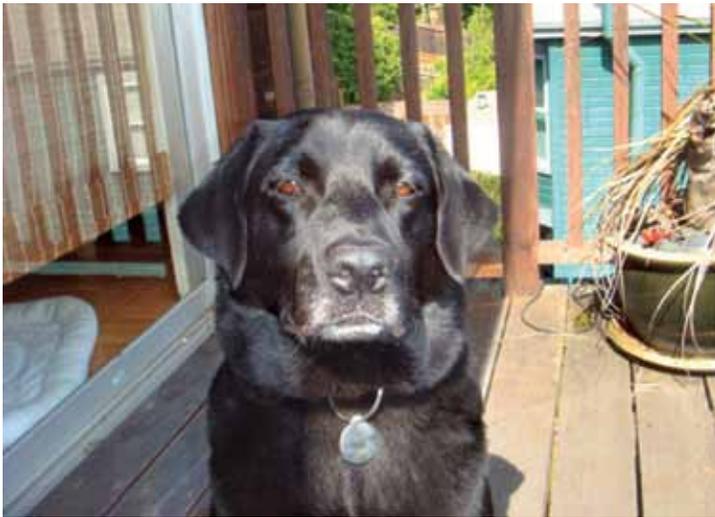
My favorite new addition to our ongoing gamesmanship is this: Finn insists on leading me down the steps to my office/door outside, and it has become absolutely paramount to him that I never descend the stairs without him leading me down there. He's now my secret service agent that must

precede me down the stairs. So, in my endless efforts to jam him up, I've developed the following game. Once Finn's across the main room from the staircase, I slowly saunter across the room as if im heading to the back room going nowhere fast, ONLY to at the last second turn and barrel down the stairs. As I'm heading down at break neck speed, I can hear him coming full bore across the floor, down the steps—taking them three to four at a time—banging his shoulder into my shin

as I hit the last step and diving onto the hardwood floor that awaits. It is absolutely ridiculous. He will not surrender escort obligation for anything.

Finn has fallen in love with a completely natty pillow on my couch and will lay there in the evenings if I'm in the recliner watching TV. One night as I headed to the couch to lie down and watch a show, I leaned back on the couch, he shot up unannounced and got his front paws on the beloved pillow. My back came into contact with his shoulders as he's claimed the pillow as his own—taking the high ground and holding his ground. This went on for 10-12 seconds until I looked over my shoulder to witness him quietly pulling his hind legs up onto the couch and indeed onto the pillow where he curled up. I laughed out loud as I rested my head on him to watch TV. Finn was curled up on his pillow, but I had the remote!!

The other night when I was turning off the lights, locking doors, etc. to go to bed, I headed to the bathroom to brush my teeth and wash up. Every night when I do this, Finn takes his cue and trots into the bedroom and jumps on the bed to pick his spot. This bathroom has two doors: one into the bedroom, one into the hallway. So when I saw him cozied up on the bed, I also spotted the tennis ball he'd been chasing all night lying in the hallway. To play with him, I picked it up and tossed it into the living room. He naturally jumped down off the bed and headed into living room to retrieve it – I



Finn today

got him good. A few minutes later when I finished up and headed to bed, there he was perched on the bed waiting for lights out. So I hopped in bed and started to fluff my pillow, only to find the dang tennis ball buried under my pillow with him just staring at me panting with his tongue out. I said to him, “Well played young Finnegan, well played. But rest thee well my brother for tomorrow is a new day and this ain’t over.”

Imagining what Finn had been through, where he is today and still somehow waking up every day with a wagging tail, I have come to think that the purpose of Finn in my life (and indeed all dogs in our lives) is to try to teach us people how to live in the moment. And I’m giving it a try.

– *Jim*

Enzo

I wanted to take a moment to respond to your request for a happy ending story. Our situation is a bit unique and needs to be put in the right context to be what you might consider a happy ending.



We picked up Enzo in January 2011. We had previously adopted two Labs from GGLRR in the past and wanted to adopt a companion for our current Lab, Holly, (and let’s face it . . . a companion for us too). We lost our dear Buddy two years ago and were finally ready to open our heart and home again. When we decided to adopt Enzo, we knew he came to us with some issues as his previous environment was not ideal. What we did not know was the brevity of the situation and what we were about to experience.

It took months of daily interactions before Enzo would even come out of a room. We were considered the enemy, and his intense fear of us was almost more than we could handle. He covered in the corner and did everything to make himself invisible. Our friends were shocked to see

such horror. This dog was so broken and in the worst way. I was not certain we were equipped emotionally to get him through this. It took months and months before he would even begin to trust in us that we were not going to harm him. Meals, sleep time and personal attention all had to be done in a private room. Finally, after eight months and a great deal of patience, love and commitment, Enzo will eat in the kitchen with Holly. His tail wags endlessly and he even gives and receives hugs and kisses. He walks well on a leash and gets along with all other dogs. We are thrilled and celebrate every milestone he makes, giving more and more love to him. He now plays in the house with Holly (I can tell this by the amount of toys strewn about when I get home from work) and he has begun to roam freely in our backyard.

Not every story is a picture perfect happy ending with dogs frolicking and playing in the sunny green fields. Ours is happy in that Enzo knows that nobody will ever abuse him again, and that we will continue patiently to give him many hugs and kisses, letting him take his time to come around. I know Enzo isn’t the only dog ever adopted that has emotional issues, but I do hope other families take the chance we did because the reward has been incredible. We cannot change the world of dog abuse and neglect by our one adoption, but we just changed the world for Enzo.

– *Jim, Stephanie, Holly and Enzo too!*

Taffy



Taffy (now five years old) was originally rescued by a family in Pueblo, Colorado. Four years ago, they found Taffy and another Lab wandering around, hungry and alone. When no one claimed Taffy at the local shelter, they adopted him. Taffy was about a year old and had been treated poorly before they rescued him. Taffy had four wonderful years with his new family and two other dogs. This winter, when his family was posted to Monterey, Taffy discovered he could escape their 6' fenced yard to visit the ranch behind the house. Taffy thought the cattle might be in need of more exercise and loved to chase them. The rancher thought otherwise and threatened to shoot him. Reluctantly, Taffy's family contacted GGLRR, knowing it was the best and safest option for Taffy's future.

Since moving to San Francisco, Taffy has slowly adapted to city life. He was treated for heartworm during his first month here. He loves trail running and exploring the cool creeks along the way. We think he missed his calling as a bomb-sniffing or drug-detection dog. He can find our car, regardless of where we have parked it, hours or days after he has last seen it. He homes right in on it. We think his Monterey family had a dark-colored van. For his first month here, he sniffed the chassis of every large, dark vehicle along the street. Now he only finds our car, to ensure that he returns to his rightful spot on the couch and bed—all the better for snuggling!

We appreciate all that GGLRR did to help Taffy's first loving family to find us. Thank you!

Here is a photo of him with my daughter's puppy at the beach, not quite worn out after an hour of sprinting!

— Laura

Lupin

A little more than two years after GGLRR rescued Lupin from that night drop box, she is doing beautifully, and she is a wonderful friend. Lupin attends my tai chi classes and therapy sessions, and has become a vital part of both settings. She's mastered martial arts etiquette: when I start the music CD at the beginning of each class she goes and lies down on her bed and stays there, watching and snoozing through class. As soon as she sees the bow at the end of class, she jumps up to receive her farewell pats and greet the next group of students. She's a fabulous psychotherapy dog, not only for my patients but for those of the other two therapists in my suite, making rounds in the waiting room whenever she gets the chance. Her quiet presence in my office between the chairs has become an integral part of our sessions.



Two weeks ago I took her hiking in the Sierras. She is like a young dog, keeping up over rocks and through snow and streams for miles with no problem. Last week someone seeing her for the first time actually guessed her age at two or three years old!! (We're pretty sure she's about seven. I think generous squirts of salmon oil on her food have worked wonders for her.)

Lupin's earlier anxiety issues have for the most part completely resolved. She doesn't like being left alone, but when she is, at home or in the car (she LOVES car trips), she is never destructive and waits quietly after a few barks of protest. The only difference I see between Lupin and my prior labs, which I raised from puppyhood, is that she is more constantly and exclusively attentive to me in group situations. I too feel a very distinct and special bond with her. Those months of constant care through her two knee surgeries have resulted in a level of communication between us that is indescribable. Lupin is pure gift.

— Miriam

(Note: Lupin came to GGLRR with two badly torn cruciate ligaments. GGLRR paid for the surgeries (one for each leg) to fix both knees, and Miriam adopted Lupin and saw her through both surgeries and two eight week recoveries.)

Kahuna

When I lost my lab, Raven, back in June 2010, my heart was broken. I thought that I would never be able to love another dog the way that I had loved her. Without my buddy, I was lonely and depressed. A big part of me was afraid to get another dog because I kept thinking that no one could ever compare to my Raven. My daughter told me that I would never find a dog that is exactly like Raven – every dog is different; but different does not mean bad, it is just a new experience. So, I decided to contact GGLRR to see if they could help me find another companion.



Kahuna is an absolute joy. Even though he is seven years old, he acts as if he is two. He is smart, loyal, playful and lovable. He takes such joy in life, and it really rubs off on everyone who is around him. Kahuna gets the most joy out of his tennis ball and spending time with us. He could probably play fetch 24/7 if my arm could handle it. My husband and I are both madly in love with him.

I now have a happy heart again – that's not to say that I don't miss my Raven. I shared a special bond with her that I will never have with any

other dog...but, with that being said, I share a special bond with Kahuna that I know I will never have with any other dog.

It's a relief to finally be able to take the child protective locks off the refrigerator and freezer (yes, Raven could and did open both doors and helped herself). Of course, now we have to hide all of the tennis balls!

Oh, and did I tell you how much we LOVE him!

– *Linda and Mark*

Bear

Kirsten, Fletch and I just wanted say thank you so much for your help in adopting Bear. As you remember, when we picked him up, he was living in the country and rehabbing a knee injury. I'm very happy to report that he adjusted nicely to city living and to his new sister Fletch. He's introduced himself to all the dogs in the neighborhood, and I don't think there is a tree within 20 blocks that he has not sniffed. He is also trying to set a world's fetching record—every day we spend hours in the Presidio, him chasing the ball around the woods and Fletch chasing him. Bear also taught Fletch how to swim in Tahoe, and we will continue to hone both their skills at Crissy Field. He is still nearly perfectly behaved, but he and Fletch are learning to take turns as lookouts when they are making trouble in the house. Bear is a wonderful, loving dog and our family would not be complete without him.

– *Bill, Kirsten and Fletch*



Dutch

Brody came to Lab Rescue with severe chemical burns on his neck, back and right rear leg. He also had abrasions around his muzzle where it was wired shut by the people who abused him. He was treated by one of GGLRR's caring vets, fostered for a couple of weeks in a loving foster home to be sure his recovery was going well...and then he was adopted to his wonderful new family in Mill Valley, who renamed him Dutch. Here is what they have written about him:

I guess we are suckers for an underdog. When we read the story of "Brody" to our eight-year-old twins, they wiped away tears and immediately said "we need to rescue him." So we decided to give him a fresh start with a new home and a new name...Dutch.

Dutch is flourishing in his new home! We have all become very attached to this beautiful young boy. He goes everywhere with us, is very interested in all of our movements and even more interested in FOOD! He has also gone from being afraid to put his paws in the water to fetching tennis balls way out in the bay. He continues to have a great spirit and doesn't seem to hold anything against anyone (a lesson we could all stand to learn). We're all extremely fond of him.

Dutch is a star athlete at the local dog park. He is very fast,

catches a ball in midair, leaps into the water, fetches and plays well with others. He seems to have unlimited energy. He is a very social



boy that loves to play with the kids and be close to everyone. Everyone he meets seems to fall in love with his beautiful eyes.

His wounds have healed very well. All of the open wounds are now completely healed, but the fur is returning much more slowly. Interestingly, the fur on his muzzle is growing back in WHITE! This gives him a very distinct appearance and is what we call his mark of courage. We actually like the way it looks.

Dutch has taught us that everyone deserves a second chance. We all just adore the newest member of our family!

– *Chris*

Henry



Well, we've had Henry just short of a month now, and it's been such a wonderful experience that we expect to go on and on.

We had never before contemplated taking a "senior" Lab, but after seeing Henry's information and his sweet face, we had this feeling he was perfect for us, and, indeed, he is!

I don't think he knew how to play with toys—or perhaps never had them—but he has learned very quickly. He loves

for me to throw his "blue" ball and he retrieves. He drops it right at my feet. For once, I don't have to retrieve!

He's a big love bug. He gets many hours of petting and attention. He usually hops up on our bed at bed time and eventually gets off and onto his cushion at the foot of our bed. He loves to ride in the car, has perfect manners and just fits right in. With us being in our 70s, it actually works well for all of us (two-footed and four-pawed) seniors. I would encourage older people to consider older dogs, as long as they are gentle.

Thank you so much for introducing us to Henry.

– *Bobbi and Brian*

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Debra Vodden
Kathleen Hirschfeld
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■ *Other Volunteers*
Cindi Wilson
Jennifer Dekker-Davidson
Pamela Moore
Martha Laboissiere
Avril Melwani

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters and pictures!

Please send to:

GGLRR Editor

268 Bush Street, #4322

San Francisco, CA 94104

or e-mail to: **liz@labrescue.org**

You may also use the above e-mail address to notify us of an address change or if you would no longer care to receive this newsletter.

More Thanks:

To all the fosters and dog transporters - we would not be able to save as many dogs as we do without your help!

Animal Hospital of Sebastopol
Bishop Ranch Veterinary Hospital – San Ramon – Dr. Gillman
Carmel Holistic Veterinary Clinic – Carmel – Dr. Tom
Country Vet – Novato – Dr. Codinstor
Designer – Greg Flejtuch
Dog Boarding / Dog Training – K-9 Country Club – Petaluma
Dog Trainer – Barb Cartwright
Marin Humane Society – Trish King
Marina Pet Hospital – San Francisco
Merchandise – John Oda
Olivet Kennels – Sapir Weiss
Pet Food Express – Hamilton – Novato
Pet Food Express – Redwood City
Photographers – Nikki Doty-Weidner
Bridget Whalley
Printer – Paris Printing – Jim Barnes
Puppy Awareness / Dog Training – Beth Peterson
Whole Pet Vet Hospital & Wellness Center – Los Gatos

2012 GGLRR Calendar

Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue is producing a 2012 calendar featuring some of the gorgeous Labs adopted from us! We received 141 submissions of GGLRR Labs during our photo contest—we wish we could include all the great photos of these clearly well-loved dogs.

This year our calendar includes **20% off coupons at Pet Food Express®!** Please visit www.labrescue.org/calendar to order your calendar showing these lucky Labs now enjoying California beaches, parks, and other fabulous settings in and around their forever homes. Order one for everyone on your holiday list. You'll get a beautiful Lab calendar and support rescue efforts by helping raise much needed funds to save more Labs.



Super Julie

Amazing Lady Julie Mischke...one of our many incredible GGLRR volunteers. Our resident veterinarian-extraordinaire in Bakersfield is a woman for whom time holds no boundaries—or limits. Julie’s “day job” includes working at two vet clinics, a seven-day-a-week commitment.



And now, for the rest of the story...

Julie is an unbelievably dedicated lady and committed to saving as many Labradors as is super-humanly possible. She routinely screens local turn-ins and “found” dogs at the area’s shelters around Bakersfield and helps Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue get the dogs into new families. This involves pulling the dogs, evaluating them, examining them, completing vaccinations, arranging temporary fosters, and coordinating transport to the Monterey Peninsula—as well as to other areas in Kern County and throughout Southern California.

Julie saved three critically injured dogs in the past year. She coordinated pre- and post-op fosters and negotiated deep discounts to surgical procedures, saving GGLRR thousands of dollars.

Julie also “found” two very pregnant Labradors in shelters, pulled them, delivered the pups, and then fostered moms and pups for two months! In one case Julie met the mother at the shelter and found her well into labor with three pups on the floor! Julie quickly gathered up mom and pups, rushed to her clinic, then delivered the remaining three littermates! Julie’s too busy to ever take a day off—but finally did after the second delivery and foster period, and then only to personally deliver the mom and six healthy pups to Monterey and GGLRR! So many Labradors that Julie personally pulled, treated, fostered or delivered now provide great joy to happy families across California.

Amazing Lady? No—**Super Woman!**

— *Sylvana*

We Extend Our Thanks To You!

Thank you to all of our wonderful donors. Without you, we would not be able to continue to help the Labs that need medical care and/or new homes. Your donations make it happen! (Donors listed through April 2011 - October 2011; we do our best to recognize all of our generous donors.)

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 we will miss you Michael, Karen, Sierra, Auggie
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 Winnie Baird, for my friend Ruby—come back and visit
 Terry DiCarlo, for Kobe
 XpandATE Technology LLC
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 Sara Gilliam
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 Kathleen Gesell, thank you GGLRR for our dog who gives his 100%
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\$51-\$100 "LAB TESTS & BLOOD WORK"

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 John Bartlett
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 Anissa Frey, in memory of Logan—we love you!

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 Chi Ying Lan, in memory of Tracy Doten
 Larry Gillman, donation from Neal Phillips, in memory of Woody, our Lab
 John Poysa
 Kandis Malefyt, thanks Judy Kreger
 Frank Viola, thanks for bringing Rum into my life
 Carolyn Bjorklund
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\$101-\$250 "SPAY / NEUTER"

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We Thank Our Many Volunteers:

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About GGLRR, Inc.

Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc. (GGLRR) is organized under the California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Law for charitable and educational purposes. We have been granted nonprofit tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. GGLRR is a private, nonprofit, all-volunteer organization.

GGLRR facilitates the placement of unwanted Labrador Retriever dogs into new homes. We are sought out by concerned individuals and humane organizations who come into contact with Labrador Retrievers. We have a spay-neuter requirement for all dogs that we place. Families residing within our Northern California service area who desire to adopt a Labrador Retriever complete an application form and are introduced to potential pets. Our purpose is solely to provide good homes for Labrador Retrievers who might otherwise be abandoned or euthanized by their previous owner.

Our service area is Northern California and covers seven telephone area codes: 408, 510, 650, 707, 831 and 925. GGLRR has more than 50 volunteers. None of our volunteers receive any form of compensation for their time and effort, other than the pure satisfaction of matching a displaced Lab with a loving family.

GGLRR relies upon placement and adoption donations, fundraising events and charitable donations for its funding. We suggest a minimum donation (currently \$300) for prospective families wishing to adopt from us.



If you prefer, you can also use PayPal to make a donation. Log onto www.labrescue.org/donate and click on the PayPal icon.



Foster Care Needed

We are always looking for short-term foster homes to care for our Labs until permanent families can be found to adopt them.

This is an extremely rewarding job, and a very important one.

For more information about fostering a dog, please contact: Liz Frome – liz@labrescue.org.



Golden Gate Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc.

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