

Love a Golden Rescue

Golden News



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Also available “on-line” in FULL COLOR at www.loveagolden.com/newsletter.htm

Winter/Spring 2014

Volume 14 Issue 1

DOGS JUST GOTTA HAVE FUN (PART TWO)

In our fall newsletter, we highlighted some ways you can train your dogs in fun ways. It was the first part of a two-part article since there are so many different opportunities for dog owners to keep their canines busy (in appropriate ways) and happy. There were too many different options to cover in just one issue. In our last newsletter, Dale Mara shared the success she's had with obedience training, Michele Swanson filled us in on CGC training, and Hillary Hershey bubbled over about rally obedience training.

If you missed part one or you want to refresh your memory before continuing, go to www.loveagolden.com and click on “newsletter” and then click on ‘Fall 2013.’ Below, Michele Swanson will share some fun ways you can train your dog without even leaving your home. With her helpful hints, no class is needed...and her tips are free of charge. Jan Knoche fills us in on nose classes. This kind of training takes advantage of what dogs do best (besides carving a place in our hearts), which is smelling. Hillary and Jennifer Hershey bubble over the “funnest” thing you can do with your dog.

So read...and find out some other ways that you can engage your four-legged friend—in fun ways.

TRICKS

Dogs love to learn tricks. Learning tricks keeps your dog alert, energetic, and gives them a chance to play. Any aged dog can learn new tricks. Tricks help your dog “learn how to learn.” Some of the easier tricks are sit, shake, wave, take a bow and back up. The possibilities are endless.

I have found a very easy way to train: name a behavior. Watch your dog and see what he/she does automatically, then give it a name. I once had a dog that would just twirl all the way down the hall before going out in the morning. I started saying “spin”, and eventually he would do it on command wherever he was. He connected the name with the behavior he did naturally. Some dogs will back up automatically and again, just start saying, “back up,” whenever he or she does this. Doing this will reinforce this behavior. The same would apply to roll over, or crawl or shake. These can be moves your dog does just because it's in their nature, and you can then name them..

Some tricks may be more difficult for some dogs. For instance, a more dominant dog may not want to roll over as they don't like to expose their belly. Learning to fetch can be a harder trick to teach as well. Some dogs are just born with that instinct, while others need help learning it.

The best way to teach your dog a trick is to make it *fun*. Use praise and small treats to reward their work. Practice new tricks only a few minutes at a time. You never want you or your dog to get bored or frustrated when learning new things. Always end the “training” on a positive note— a pat on the head, a verbal praise or a small treat.

SHAKE: This is an easy trick for most dogs. Pick up their paw and say, “shake,” and reward. Do this often, then slowly stop picking the paw up and wait for *them* to initiate the move.

WAVE: This is an extension of shake. When your dog lifts up their paw and you don't take it, they will sometimes just keep offering, thus it becomes the “wave.”

TAKE A BOW: You can teach this by having your dog stand beside you. Slowly take a treat between your dog's paws, moving it in towards their chest area so it forces them to go down with their behind still up. It will take some time, but the end result is very cute, once they figure out what you want. Your dog may have a tendency to lie down, so just keep bringing him back to a standing position. Patience is the key to this trick.



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BACK UP: One way to teach this is to position your dog next to your couch with a table or something to make an alley- like area. Walk towards your dog thus forcing them to back up. While you are doing this, give the command “back up.”

It is difficult to put in words how to do a particular trick. The internet has many great websites with videos, allowing you to view what you want to teach. You can Google “Zak George Training” to view some good videos on training.

There are many ways to teach a particular trick, so find what works best for you and your dog and remember—“**dogs just wanna have fun.**”

Nose Class

Do you know about nose classes? No? Well, it's a new fun concept for dogs to take part in. The natural scenting abilities of dogs are developed...through fun.

Recently Keeper and Clay, two LAGR adopted dogs, attended this class. It was interesting to watch each of them. Keeper, already a confident 9-month old, honed right onto the boxes and found the hot dogs immediately. Clay, not as confident, was much slower to find the bits of food, but the exercise was a confidence builder for him, and he learned how to do it. Both dogs had *fun*.



The concept is the same, but different places teach in various ways. In our class, slices of hot dogs were hidden in three of six boxes. The boxes were set up upright, with the open ends on top, so it was not terribly challenging. Each dog was let off leash—one by one—so they could hunt for the pieces. The reward was the hot dogs, which they eagerly gobbled.

Once they mastered the easy boxes, the boxes were turned upside



down and the canine students searched and found the hot dog through a hole in the box.

The next challenge was finding hot dog pieces on top of scent tins. The scent was Silver Birch. This task was more difficult, because their discerning nostrils had to detect the odor of the hot dogs—a smell that was masked by the Silver Birch aroma. The tins were placed at random places around the room, and the dogs again searched. Each time they searched, the scent was put in a different location. This was all done on leash.

Finally the hot dog pieces were removed, and the search was just for the scent (Silver Birch). The handlers didn't know where the tins were, so they had to rely on their dogs to find them. When the scent was found, the dog was taught to touch the scent tin to alert they found the tin. They were also trained to then look at the handler. Of course, the four-legged students were rewarded for their work.

This is a six-week class, and a lot of fun for the dogs. Since sniffing comes naturally, it doesn't stress out the dogs.

If you and your dog take this class and wish to continue, there is more training and competitions, which means more fun for their nose, more fun than anybody knows...

Here is a link to a video that will give you a better idea of what these classes are like:

<http://thebark.com/content/k9-nose-work-video>

AGILITY

'Funnest'? Is that a word? Nevertheless, that is how our Golden Retrievers would describe agility. Not only is agility the fastest growing dog sport, but it is a lot of fun for spectators to watch. If you have a dog that has a knowledge of obedience and is playful and energetic (and you are up to getting some exercise at the same time) consider agility. This activity is mentally and physically challenging to both members of the team! There is a “course” which is set up with “stations” consisting of weave poles, chutes, tires, jumps, dog walks, teeters and A frames.



Probably the best way for you and your dog to learn this activity is to join a class or club unless you really want to set up a course in your house or yard. If you two excel at agility, there are competitions that rank the participants on the time and fewest mistakes.

Competitors move up through the levels of Novice, Open and Excellent. Go watch an agility event— the dogs all look like they are smiling because they enjoy it so much! Purina Farms has several



agility events throughout the year and one coming up in March on the 22nd and 23rd. If you want to see the “best of the best” in the Golden Retriever world, attend the Nationals in Asheville, NC on October 30th through November 2, 2014.

President's Message

Hi,

Love a Golden Rescue has finished another successful year, with the support of our loyal volunteers, donors, and friends.

In 2013, we rescued 73 dogs, ranging in age from young puppies to seniors that were twelve years old—thirty-four females and thirty-nine males. We received 43 purebred dogs; the rest were Golden mixes and mixes in need of help. To those who adopted, thank you. We could not rescue so many dogs without you.

LAGR continues to take in many special-needs dogs and seniors. Last year, we were faced with many medical problems. One had a torn cruciate ligament. One of the dogs we accepted had hip dysplasia. Poor Loren had her eye rupture the day after coming to rescue, and the eyeball had to be removed. Loren was adopted and her forever family calls her Wink. What a success story, right? We also took on two tripod Golden Retrievers, both were adopted and are doing great. What has almost become the norm continues to plague our dogs—cancer, obesity, eye problems, all kinds of worms, dental problems, heartworms and the list goes on. All of these medical concerns were of course taken care of, as we pride ourselves for providing the best possible veterinary care for our dogs.

2014 is starting off with a bang. During the month of January we took in 6 dogs—of those, three needed extensive vetting, one was heartworm positive, one has severe skin issues and another has a torn cruciate ligament. All are being treated and will be up for adoption when they're fully recovered.

An interesting fact from the Golden Retriever National Rescue Committee: the number of purebred Golden Retrievers needing to be rescued is down, and this is the word from the approximately 90 rescues in the United States. Many groups are now taking Golden mixes. A shortage of Golden Retrievers is good for the breed, but many rescues (including LAGR) have a waiting list for people who are interested in adopting purebred Golden Retrievers.

Please mark your calendar for our reunion picnic on September 20, 2014. As volunteers, this is our favorite event, because we love seeing so many wonderful Golden Retrievers, mixes and their friends. Also it's a chance to catch up with old friends.

Golden thoughts,

Jan



We can now recycle the following with eScript Recycling.

The following items that you no longer want can be dropped off at any of our events or email adoption@loveagolden.com to make arrangements.

Music CD's
Movies on DVD/BLU Ray
Video Games

ASK ELSA



Dear Elsa,

I got a tummy ache, after I stole some grapes off the counter. Why was this?
Sick-cerely,
(Just in the) Nick (of Time)

Dear Nick,

There are many foods which can make us sick and are toxic to us dogs. Grapes is one of them.

Some other examples are chocolate, raisins, macadamia nuts, avocado, apricots, caffeine and many more.

For a full list by category, a place I like is <http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poisons/>

The side effects can make you very sick, and if you eat any of these things on the list, have your human check with your vet.

Along with foods, there are many plants we should not eat. Who would think Azalea, Chives, or Elephant Ears would be bad for us? There is also a full list of “no-no” plants on the above mentioned web page.

Antifreeze can be fatal, so remind your two-legged friends to make sure you don't have access to it. They should also make sure they wipe up any spills in the garage or on the carport, because that antifreeze stuff tastes sweet to pups like us. Also, stay away from alcohol. I hear there is nothing like a good glass of wine or a bottle of beer, but please—let the humans drink it. It's not good for us four-footed guys.

And if you eat something and your humans aren't sure, a call to the vet is always a smart thing to do. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Ever-so-helpful,

Elsa

Pilots and Paws

Pilots n Paws is a wonderful organization that flies dogs to rescues at the pilot's expense all over the country. Recently we have saved two dogs from shelters which were flown by Pilots and Paws. Here are photos of Major and Nacho's (now Bogey) trip.

For more information about Pilots and Paws, please visit: <http://pilotsnpaws.org>

We are thankful to all who are involved in saving, coordinating and flying these dogs.



HAPPY ENDINGS



Rudy is doing great. One more puppy class and then I think we will take a basic obedience class just to keep him going. I enjoy my one-on-one time with him. He is a good puppy.

Gabby graduating from obedience training. She is doing very well, is coming out of her shell and seems happy as a clam.



Atlas is fine, growing up and loves running in the snow.



Achilles is doing great! He is very close to 80 lbs now & thinks he's a lap dog. He loves to play tug-of-war and chew on anything we will let him. He isn't a fan of baths at home, but he loves the grooming ladies at PetSmart. He loves the snow especially if you toss it to him or let him dive in the snow piles. He has his days when he is very ornery, but overall he's been great. There has never been a day that we regretted our decision to adopt him.



We are completely head-over-heels for Amelia. She is absolutely wonderful! We put up a couple of baby gates in the kitchen and that has helped a lot at keeping track of her. She is affectionate and friendly, and continues to stop traffic when we are out for walks - people love to look at her. Everyone says how beautiful she is.



Greta wants to let you know that her 6 month checkup following heart worm treatment came out negative. No bugs on this baby! Ha! I really love my new mom and dad and the furry 4- legged gang here. I've been playing in the snow. I love life.



Brody is doing great! Our family absolutely adores him! He's such an easy-going, well-behaved puppy! His temperament is better than all the dogs I've ever had, all put together! We go to the dog park almost every day, and he loves every dog he meets.



Our little Louie is doing well . He graduated from his puppy class and got an A+ on his test. He is growing leaps and bounds. He is a very sweet boy ! So adorable--he steals the show wherever we go.



Kody enjoying the snow.

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HAPPY ENDINGS -CONTINUED

My name is Kirby, my new parents and my big sis knew I was the dog for them the first time they met me. I turned on the charm, and they were hooked. Mom and I get up at about 5:00 a.m. each day and she takes me for a quick walk in our subdivision, then we come home and eat breakfast. Dad gets home about 6:00 a.m. So, I hit the hay with him until about 1:30. Then he gets up about 2:00 and takes me for a really long walk and sniff at one of the nice parks close to our house. I love to run around and sniff and mostly retrieve tennis balls. Dad has worked with me quite a lot. After a nice long walk, we head home and wait for Mom to get home. Sometimes Mom will even take me for another walk in the evening. I have to tell you, I think I am the luckiest dog in the world. I love my new family so much, and I know they love me too... I hear them say how special I am and how lucky they are to have adopted me. I will be forever grateful for Love a Golden Rescue for taking me in.



Mel, the smaller one, is doing wonderfully and is getting along GREAT with her brother and sister. Attached is a photo around bed time.

Sweet boy Milo doing well.



Poppy has found her perfect home and is very happy.



Rugs is doing great. He is fitting in well. Rugs and Millie are getting along well. He has been a good boy, although he still at times likes to paw at me. He follows me everywhere.

Willie is doing GREAT. We adore him, and he's a member of our family. Photo is of Willie cuddling Lexie :) He LOVES going to the dog park and has a lot of friends there!



Scout is doing so well in his new home.



Wink (formerly Loren) is settling in very well & getting used to a new daily routine. She goes on 2-3 walks a day & is meeting all of the neighbors & their dogs! She is a very fast walker - I can barely keep up with her! Hopefully, with all the exercise she will start losing some weight. We found she loves tennis balls & chases them but doesn't like to give them up so we can throw them again!



Sneakers posed for a photo with his apple.

PIC ME! - Golden currently available for adoption.

All of our adoptable Golden can be found on our web site at: www.loveagolden.com

Landon is 8-years old. He gets along with his foster brothers and the foster cat. He tends to get a bit of separation anxiety when left alone, but does settle down nicely after a few minutes. He would do best in a fenced in yard to stretch his long legs.



He has to take medicine twice a day for hypothyroidism. This medicine also keeps his pesky seizures from coming back. He loves all the new friends he has been making, and loves kids as well. He is ready for his forever home, so he can show you what love should feel like!

Tovel I am about five years old and one of my parents was probably a Collie or German Shepherd. I have a beautiful soft coat like a Golden and am on the small side, only 50-60 lbs. Like most Golden, I LOVE people. Snuggling is my favorite pastime, but I do enjoy playing with toys and my foster sisters. I have a very good "watch dog" bark, but I haven't shown any signs of aggression in my foster home. I like other dogs and all people, but I will probably do better in a house with older kids. I also love adventure and can be an escape artist when I want to get out of the yard to explore. I can climb the chain link fence at my foster home. My ideal forever family will walk me on a leash a lot to make sure I don't have a chance to get out of the yard.



IN LOVING MEMORY



January 12th started out pretty sad. Had to say good bye to my favorite dog Maddie. She did pet parades, trail riding with me often and kept up all day on the trail. She did chores with a passion and would never let me slack. She also was my greeter to all intake/rescue dogs. Since she was the Grand Old Lady - all the dogs would follow her lead. And since she loved all dogs - she was the best! Her favorite trick was to sneak off to the pond in the timber and take herself for a swim on hot summer days. If we couldn't find her as we were finishing up chores, we would take a hike and there she would be happily swimming all by herself! Run In Peace dear friend, the farm won't be the same without you. BTW - she had a great long life - my vet thinks she was at least 16.

In June 2003, we were very fortunate to adopt Sassy from Love a Golden. Sadly, in October of 2013. Sassy went to the bridge due to declining health and persistent physical deterioration. She was truly a perfect dog and is tremendously missed by all of us. Our home has a huge void without a Golden in it.



It is with much sadness that we share the loss of our Shadow who passed to the Rainbow Bridge last fall. Many of you knew him as Goldie Boy. He came to us in 2010, a lively, rambunctious boy who brought much life and wonderful noise to our home. Shadow loved riding in the car, daily walks in the park, laying in the river, and greeting everyone he met. He was about 11 years old when he lost his battle with cancer. Our wish was to give Shadow a loving, forever home. We were blessed to have received more love from him than we ever thought possible and are thankful for our time with him. Eric and Connie Coleman

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IN LOVING MEMORY-CONTINUED

Brady was a Labradoodle and waited for his forever home for a long time. He finally found the perfect home but sadly this--the last week of January 2014--he lost his fight to cancer. His mom said, "It broke my heart, he was such a great dog, and we all love him."



We adopted Daisee from LAGR in May of 2012. She fit in immediately, and we had a wonderful time getting to know each other. She had a delightful way of communicating with us. She loved tennis balls; chased them, carried them everywhere, and even slept with them. She was easy to love, and we did. Then, rapidly, she could no longer chase her tennis balls, or even walk or stand. Sadly, she went to the bridge on Nov. 22, 2013. Much too short a time for us to be together, but she'll forever be in our hearts and memory.

With great sadness and very heavy hearts, we want the LAGR family to know our George passed on. He was a brave and strong boy fighting the cancer, but he let us know it was time. George came to us a shy boy, but soon his real personality began to shine through...never wanting to be away from us, even letting himself outside or inside the house depending on where we were. George enjoyed going to "his job" and snoozing under my desk. I lost my shadow but so many fond memories. We really miss our boy. Until we see you again, Godspeed Georgie.



Sadly Grace went to the bridge in September 2013. She was adopted in 2004 and is greatly missed.

Lucy (formerly Dottie) went to the bridge in November 2013. She came to rescue in 2004 and has been in a wonderful home for many years.

Our beloved Blanche was a party girl! Blanche was over 16 years old, and although her body had weakened, her spirit, nose and personality thrived right up to the end. Rest in peace - you are always in our hearts.
Jennifer & Del



Our beloved CeCe, (formerly Sissy) passed gently with loving hugs and kisses on November 9, 2013 at the age of 14 years 8 months. Of course we are heartbroken at the loss, but so thankful for the years she graced our home. She and her younger sister (Lacy) have provided a gazillion smiles, laughs and precious moments that are emblazoned on our hearts. Sweet dreams sweet girl.

Zoey was my foster for a year before I adopted her. She went to the Rainbow Bridge two months later on October 13th 2013. Zoey had had a rough year, dealing with mast cell tumors and seizures. One of the tumors was on her tail. She lost all but about 3 inches of it and was left with a little nub which she never stopped wagging! Through it all, she remained so stoic and always so sweet. She loved her walks and seeing the kids and dogs in our neighborhood. I'm normally very partial to male dogs, but she was my girl, and she broke my heart when she left me. ~ Michele Bailey



RECENT EVENTS

Pattonville Craft Fair

LAGR doubled the space we had at the Pattonville Craft Fair on December 7, 2013, so we were not as crammed as in the past. We have many return customers each year who purchase our dog treats, pillows, crafts and doggie gift baskets. Here Margie, Nancy and Marsha show off our items for sale.



Volunteer Meeting

In January, volunteers met together for our annual meeting. We were happy to meet some of our new volunteers as well as see some that have been part of the group for a while. We reviewed 2013 activities, and Jan gave us the facts and figures about dogs brought in to rescue and dogs adopted. We discussed different ways to raise money and various activities we will be doing in 2014. We ended the meeting with viewing a video showing all of the dogs adopted in 2013. We hope that many of you will join us this year for our activities.



Love A Golden Rescue - supporters

Love a Golden Rescue would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters who, since the publication of our last newsletter, have given new "forever homes" to our homeless Golden Retrievers and who have generously helped our Golden Retrievers with their financial support, gifts in kind and donated services.

Adoptions

Name held on request	Angel Bear
Joe Stortz	Daisy II
David & Kim Eshenroder	Danny
Mary & Rodger Reinfeld	Emma Ann
Grace & Gregory Hammett	Gabby
John Rodis	Lookie
Terri & Mike Brugnara	Loren
Dany & Courtney Gonzales	Lucky
Keelyn Harris	Melodye
Gloria & Dale Miesner	Mr Chips
Name held on request	Nacho
Susan Sipe	Poppy
Donald Yates	Sam Lee
Tawnya Hendrix	Trace
Sue Spaulding	Venus
The Hopkins Family	Zoie Rae

Foster Buddies

Fred & Alison Bauer	Levi Strauss
Janet Musick	Levi Strauss
Barbara Rain	Lookie
April Fund	Poppy
April Fund	Primrose
Sandy & Doug Turmail	Rex
Lorraine Sakli	Tovel

Donations

AnimalNibbles.com
 Allen Harper
 Alonna & Ken Koehn
 Angela O'Neil
 Bryce Peterson
 Catherine Cleveland
 Cesare & Lauren Lasorella
 Christina Charpentier
 Christine Hanford
 Colleen Nolan
 Connie & Eric Coleman
 Debra Henke
 Donna Massey
 Edward & Donna Henke
 Grace & Gregory Hammett
 James & Jamie Ragan
 Jane & Jeff Taylor
 Jane Peacock
 Jean Hirsch
 Jeanette Layton
 Jerry Brasch
 Joe & Ruby Blair
 Jon & Barb Meline
 Joseph Scanlon Sr
 Katherine Steel
 Kathleen Mikolajcjak
 Ken Flynn
 Kent Holcomb
 Kristine Sutliff
 Linda & Kenneth Koste
 Linda Maciejewski
 Lisa Pental
 Mari Graham
 Mr & Mrs Bauman
 Pat & Randall Rushing
 Petco - Florissant
 Riley's Organic Treats
 Ronda Cramer
 Russell & Barbara Crowder
 Sandra & Doug Turmail
 Sue & Rick Meyer
 Wendy & Fred Ehrlich

In Memory and Honor

In honor of Artie Kania	Timothy & Chris Brzycki
In honor of Fenway	Stephanie Kurtzman
In honor of Kathy & Terry Riggs	Carolyn Westrich
In honor of Ruby Blair	Judy Hope Donna Barth Linda Larson Bonnie Ash
In memory of Blanche	Nancy Andrews
In memory of Bree	David & Kathy Noce
In memory of Buddy	Jennifer Murray
In memory of Ce Ce	Ron Edwards Jan & Ray Knoche Barbara Webb
In memory of Delrena Foster	Anne Murphy
In memory of George	Kathy & Paul Rizzo
In memory of Gladys & Buddy	Nancy Cusanelli
In memory of Jack & Missy	Julie Leazott
In memory of JoJo & Hershey	Ron Edwards
In memory of R Douglas Wright	Rich & Sandy Baumgarten Richard & Pat Wilson Ann & William Biele Herman & Vicki Rapert Anna Mullins Marjo Arthur Fred & Ida Perabo Lou & Janet Praprotnik John Steiner Jane Jones
In memory of Scooter	Jan & Ray Knoche
In memory of Shiloh	Amy Nash The Millikan Family

The Golden Retrievers Thank You

UPCOMING EVENTS

Come visit our booth at the Earth Day festival being held:

April 27th 2014

11am - 6pm (Muny Opera grounds) in Forest Park
located in the city of St. Louis, MO.

Adoption Days

Come see our available Golden Retrievers.

Adoption Days are held at the following locations and times:

Second Sunday of each month - Noon until 3:00 PM
PETCO in St. Charles located near Zumbuhl and Hwy 70.

Last Sunday of each month - Noon until 3:00 PM
PETCO located at Clarkson and Baxter Roads.

See the LAGR calendar on the web site for details on all the events: www.loveagolden.com/events.htm

For information on any of these events, please email adoption@loveagolden.com.

Love A Golden Rescue
P.O. Box 27621
St. Louis MO 63146-0621



address correction requested



About our newsletter....

The Love a Golden Rescue newsletter is published three times each year, in the months of February, June, and October. The deadline for submitting stories, photos, announcements etc. is the 1st of the month in which the newsletter is published.

We reserve the right to edit any submissions for publication.

The newsletter is published in full color in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format on our web site and can be accessed at:

www.loveagolden.com/newsletter.htm

To have the newsletter mailed to you, please drop a note to one of our addresses listed below.

Interested in volunteering with Love a Golden Rescue?

**Then fill out a volunteer application form on-line at: www.loveagolden.com/volunteerform.htm
or send an e-mail to volunteer@loveagolden.com**

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