

Great Dane Rescue Inc

Rescue report

Summer 2012

ADOPTIONS

Spartacus - Betsy Lane-Allen

Kila - Alison Schroeder

Duke - Angelica Macias

Mercedes - Kelle Huber

Raven - Heidi Starnes

Macy - Brad & Toni Colwell

Shorty - Chrystal Murdoch

Seely - Marie Naumann

Emmett - Amy Mattox

Sadie - Karen Graham

Rumor - Michael & Amanda Doenges

Mr. Ed - David Pickering

Gabe - Trey Strickland

Siegi - Samantha Billings

Olivia - Craig & Lee Ann Walker

Jade - Heather Palmer

Lucy - Debbie Tansley

Carly - Kara Queen

Maxx - Gyles Terry

Margot - Naomi Weisman

Paige - Rene Rinquist

Dominique - Michele England

Titus - Ron & Teresia Slotkus

He is just my dog

"He is my other eyes that can see above the clouds; my other ears that hear above the winds. He is the part of me that can reach out into the sea. He has told me a thousand times over that I am his reason for being; by the way he rests against my leg; by the way he thumps his tail at my smallest smile; by the way he shows his hurt when I leave without taking him (I think it makes him sick with worry when he is not along to care for me.) When I am wrong, he is delighted to forgive. When I am angry, he clowns to make me smile. When I am happy, he is joy unbounded. When I am a fool, he ignores it. When I succeed, he brags. Without him, I am only another man. With him, I am all-powerful. He is loyalty itself. He has taught me the meaning of devotion. With him, I know a secret comfort and a private peace. He has brought me understanding where before I was ignorant. His head on my knee can heal my human hurts. His presence by my side is protection against my fears of dark and unknown things. He has promised to wait for me... whenever... wherever - in case I need him. And I expect I will - as I always have. He is just my dog."

Gene Hill



Our Angels

Nicole Thibault
Mission Fish
Cindy Maucher
Heather Gordon in honor of Karen Carlson's birthday :)
Mary Seals
Beverly Beitter
Pet Supplies Plus, Muskegon MI
Community Foundation of Tennessee
Brian & Delores Carter
Ingrid & Don Boyd in honor of Herman Haffenberger
The Velthovens in honor of Lulu & Moxie
Derek Kresin
Daniel Cramer
Filomena De Mario
Pet Emporium

Brad & Jeanette Coval for Loki & Maggie
Orion Pet Supplies
Lyndsey Bennett for Loki
Lindsay Soffes in her mother's name, Antionette Soffes
Cathy Theodosakis in memory of Cosmos
Cynthia Mohacsi
Lisa Patteson
Joe Garcia for Miya
Paul & Emily Rice in memory of Lucy
Lynn & Robert Delaney in memory of Mia Mandell
Brad & Jeanette Coval in memory of Mark
Lori Smart
Darcy Hicks
Leslie Critton



Amy Rebbe for Maggie
Cynthia Mohacsi in memory of Mark T. Mohacsi
Kerry Smith
Michael Alexander
Tammy Woodworth
David Karaffa
Abbot Labs (Tina Rice)
Maureen Dodd in memory of Scooby Doo
Peter Studnicki

Armani

Sometimes we still cry when we get a Dane in rescue and so it is with Armani. He was taken from his owner for neglect. This picture is the only one that the foster home got tonight before leaving him with the vet office overnight for observation.

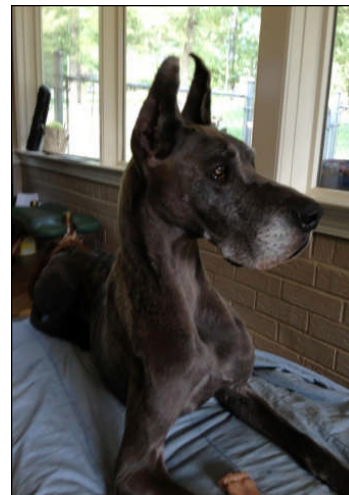
He is 114 pounds, after 2 weeks with animal control. I can't imagine what he looked like originally, now is bad enough. He is heartworm positive and loaded with worms. We are having blood work done to determine if everything else is okay. Despite his condition he has so far shown himself to be a sweet heart. We will be doing everything we can to save him. Hopefully there will be a happy ending but it will be months down the road as he will need to gain much weight before being able to even start heartworm treatment.



From his foster mom:

It really amazes me what these dogs can endure and still wag a tail. We are doing antibiotics, pred and panicle until we get his blood work back on Monday. He is hanging with me in my office - he does like that we have soft beds here. It makes me sick to my stomach when I take him out to potty and I see this skeleton with a

VERY thin layer of skin walking around my yard. I forgot to mention - he was once a beautiful blue.



Kids and Dogs: Making Friends

Children are the most common ‘victims’ of dog bites. In most situations, the bite could have been avoided. There are circumstances outside of your control; a dog that is ill or in pain may behave unpredictably. Before bringing home a new family member, there are a few things to keep in mind: preparing for a pet, choosing the dog, and bringing home your new companion.

Before bringing home a furry companion, evaluate each family member's knowledge and comfort level with dogs. You may find that kids think of dogs differently than you do. Talking with your kids first gives you time to address their perceptions with the reality of life with a dog. Now is the time to discuss basic dog/human manners. This is also a great time to establish care-giving roles, such as feeding, daily walking, pooh scooping and grooming. By five years old children should be able to participate in pet care. If the child cannot, perhaps waiting to bring a pet home is wise. It's a good time to find a trainer, too. Every family member should be involved with obedience.

What kind of dog? First of all, it is a myth that certain kinds of dogs are bad and others are good. Any dog can be a good family pet IF they are cared for, and that does include daily walks, play time and obedience. Any



dog lacking exercise and obedience training may turn into a “problem” rather than a beloved family member.

Things to consider when looking for a family pet are your schedule, space to walk/play, and size of the dog. It's not uncommon for Great Danes to be surrendered because the family didn't realize that their cute puppy would be close to a hundred pounds at six months. All puppies are high energy, some more than others, and they DO bite. That's where training and exercise come into play. A puppy may be too much work and your child may be overwhelmed with a squirmy, nippy pup. A young adult may be the better choice. Most adults are calmer and frankly more fun and less work.

The big day has arrived – welcoming home your new furry companion. Remind your child that your new friend needs to adjust, so keep calm and let the newbie sniff around and get used to the new smells. Wait to invite friends over for a few days, take time for you, your child and your furry friend to become friends. Reinforce boundaries – both human and dog, which makes everyone feel safe and secure. It's a mistake to assume that children and dogs intuitively know how to interact. Take time to teach human and dogs to respect each other, which will set you on the road to making fast friends for life!

Delores Carter

Good Manners for kids and dogs

- Be calm when first meeting a new dog.
- Don't pat on the head, instead gently pet the dog's side.
- Dog's are not horses – climbing on their back at any age can hurt.
- Ears and tails are not handles or toys – ever!
- When offering a treat, use a flat hand to avoid getting little fingers nipped.
- Sit down, and then let the dog approach you first, then reward with a pat on the back – you've just made a new friend!
- Never, ever, ever allow anyone to run toward a pet screaming – that puts the pet into protection mode.

Armani' Angels

Armani came into rescue on Friday and died on Sunday. Leah (foster mom) thinks he held on long enough to feel the softness of a bed and the gentle touch of a human hand again. Or maybe he hung on long enough to know that someone cared about him. Certainly his owner didn't.

Leah says that she will be proud to meet Armani at the bridge and escort him across. Rest in peace Armani. Your suffering is over.

Donations started to come in as soon as we posted Armani's story. Our thanks go out to Armani's angels:

- Mark Mikolajczyk
- Kelsey Renton
- Lisa Patteson
- Nicole Tomasovich
- Kathy Garrison

Losses

Sad to report that my girl, Nelke, died suddenly yesterday. She was one of the black Alabama puppies in 2002, the "pink collar" pup. She would have been 10 on 9/14. Thanks to Great Dane Rescue, Inc for giving me one of the sweetest girls I'll ever know.

Madalyn McKenney Moorman

On June 7, 2003 we adopted Pogo. With heavy hearts we had to put him to sleep on May 1st. He was about 2 when we got him which put him at 11 when he passed. We truly miss him. He was a tough loveable big guy and brought us a lot of joy. I just wanted to let you know.

Teresia and Ron Slotkus

Loki

My heart dog, my companion, my friend...good-bye. The whole you left in my heart and in my home can not be filled. Once again, my heart stopped; it stopped the moment yours stopped. My heart is frozen, my mind filled with all that was you.

Loki became critically ill within the last 24 hours. MSU Vet Hospital was the only place that could help. I drove frantically...trying to keep hope alive. Some days trying is not enough. Today was one of those days. Loki was put on a gurney and rushed back to CCU. Within moments he was receiving fluids via two IVs and oxygen. His temperature soared to over 106 degrees, his heart rate was high, his breathing labored - once again he had pneumonia.

An hour later Loki had taken a turn for the worse - his blood pressure was falling. We decided to say our good-byes. The vet concurred. It really was the best option, the humane option, the gut wrenching, heart-breaking option. I was assured that Loki was not in pain at this point.

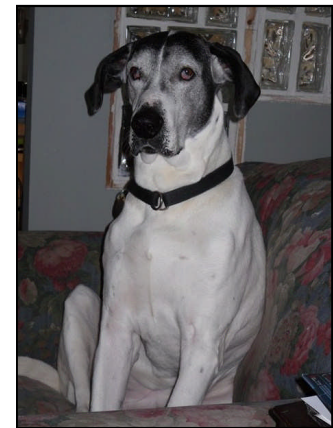
I adopted Bessie from GDRI in July 2002. At the time we thought she was 3 years old and had been found in Indiana, escaped from a puppy mill. She was a little short and skinny and had a huge scar on the top of her head from a wound that was never treated. Bessie soon had some cosmetic surgery so she didn't look like a Unicorn and became my best, most loyal friend for the next 10 years!

Bessie developed a tumor at the base of her heart. Still she was strong. Last Christmas she started to lose ability to get up. Arthritis had set in and almost made her lame. With the help of new medication she was able to get around the house and the yard, often with us holding her back end up. On May 4th she had not eaten for 2 days and I took her to Michigan Vet Specialists I had been waiting for her to tell me when it "was time" to let her go. But until that moment, with her laying there on the gurney, not even trying to

pick up her head, I knew what she needed. Her eyes were sad and she never took them off me. I held her tight, whispered in her ear how much I love her. It was the most difficult decision I ever had to make and the grief will be with me for a long time. I will never be able to replace Bessie, the dog that understood everything and knew what I was going to do before I did it.

I thank the GDR for giving me the priceless treasure, Bessie.

Christine Monhollen



Bessie

I sat with Loki. I laid next to him. I cried. I petted. I talked. I cried. I said good-bye. My heart stopped. I left home this morning with a handsome, goofy, fantastic spotty boy and came back with a paw print. It just hurts.

Delores Carter



Loki

Ivy

I am sorry to say that my beautiful girl Ivy passed away. She took a turn for the worse this week and I spent a few more days with her telling her how much I love her and then let her go last night. I am going through all the guilt, loss, etc. but mostly I am just thankful that you guys trusted me with such a special girl. I will always love her.

Cheryl Barker

A loss and a new beginning

Harley's Spirit in the Sky...

Harley and I were joined at the hip soon after I adopted him from our GDR 8 years ago. He was one special boy -- so special that my late husband, Mark, attached to Harley's other hip soon after we met. Mark passed 2 years ago and a huge rainbow stretched across Ft Wayne the day he passed. That rainbow recently appeared in Harley's dream and it was the Rainbow Bridge. He is now happily reunited with Mark and enjoying male bonding time without mommy's rules - ha! Their spirits are free together! Speaking of spirits.....

Welcome the Spirit of Eli...

I've been blessed (again) and welcome Eli (formerly Poncho) to my life. I adopted Eli from our rescue (Leah's foster) on June 23. I wasn't without a hip attachment very long as Eli has already found that place. He's as sweet as he is adorable. I've always loved what



therapy dogs and their owners do to bring cheer to those in need. Eli's first obedience session went great and the trainer believes Eli has what it takes to be a therapist. Being former military myself, I would like to assist veterans. Fate is already in motion as the trainer was called to visit a depressed Vietnam Veteran shortly after I met him. I'm

going with him to see his therapy dog at work. I'm very excited! Stay tuned for more on the Spirit of Eli's journey!

Beth Meyer



Harley (upper left) and Eli (above)

Tux

It seems like yesterday I was driving to Merriville to meet my second foster, a big black boy who was very misunderstood. The stories they told were not anything I was to witness as the time went by. Being afraid of everything he stayed close to mom's hip for comfort and support. That was 6 short years ago and today I had to hold him while he crossed to the bridge.

In the past 3 weeks he had lost

30 lbs. wouldn't eat and barely walked. With blood work and x-rays last week we thought it was just a major infection....but today my boy wasn't doing so good.

So back we went. More x-rays and more blood. They found his abdomen was too full of fluid to see anything. His eyes showing signs of jaundice...his heart racing...panting and pale gums told the signs... it was his time. So as I held him in my

arms and caressed his fur my boy took his last breaths. My promise to him was that I would not let him suffer. So sweet dreams my boy. There is no more pain or sickness. God speed.

You will always be mama's boy.

Daun Mahoney

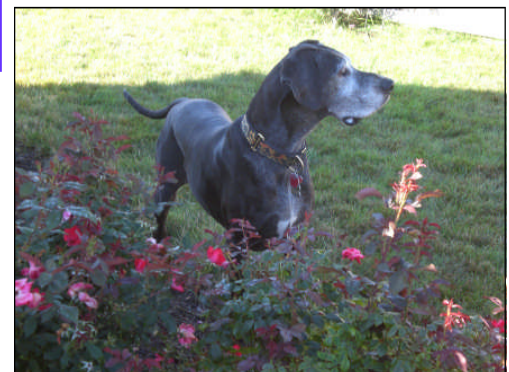
Calle

My sweet baby girl, go softly,

You have given me more love than anything or anyone else in my life. Your antics, your attitude, your sweetness will never be forgotten. You always looked me directly in my eyes, your nose two inches from my face You licked me on the nose to tell me you were happy and that you knew you were loved. And, at the end, you

looked me in the eyes and told me again that you trusted me, you would miss me, and you wanted to thank me for rescuing you and giving you 14 years of safety and love. I can't stand the pain, so go softly my sweet baby girl. I will see you again at the bridge.

Joyce Crawley



Calle

Wesley vs. his foster mom

Since I came into rescue I've been learning a lot, like don't take Melody's bones or she'll nip your snout; don't ever mess with Muse or she'll bite your butt. My favorite dog is Emmett – we are best buddies. Big Em has taught me all the rules, like sitting when mom goes into the kitchen and going to my crate when mom gets the food bowls. My foster family is nice and they let me relax in my crate when the other dogs get too rough playing. I don't really like pushy dogs.

I learned something new today – don't mess with my foster mom...ever. She's a little bit crazy too. I have a bad habit, in mom's opinion anyway. I like to climb the fence, but only if there's a good reason, like a dog coming into the yard. Before I ever came to rescue, it

was my job to guard things and I'm pretty good at it. So mom came home early from work today because Big Em isn't feeling so good. Mom took me, Melody and Muse out for a little run in the yard. I've been bursting with energy. Travis, one of the teenagers in my foster home, yelled at mom that Big Em was going to throw up. Mom ran into the house to help Big Em. At that precise moment, the neighbors let the evil dogs out (Melody told me they were evil and I believe her). Since Mom was taking care of Big Em, I thought it was my job to chase the evil dogs away. Of course I could only do that if I was on the other side of the fence. Just as I was going over the top, mom appeared out of nowhere. She grabbed my collar and hauled me down and said, "NO!" ferociously. It scared me so bad I *ran*

straight to my crate! I learned several things today: a) when mom says no that's what she means; b) she's stronger than she looks; and c) she is fast! Mom says I need a little more obedience and a lot less guarding in my life. And if I ever get another grass stain on one of her good sweaters, I've had it. I don't know what that means but I don't think I want to find out.

Wesley, who is practicing repentance and self control

** Written by Delores Carter*

The Dog's Assistant

A special thank you goes out to Erica Garvin, owner of The Dog's Assistant. Erica has kindly donated hours of her time helping foster homes with some of their more challenging Danes.

The Dog's Assistant provides in-home behavior consulting for all types of dogs with all types of behavior issues. Erica's behavior programs will leave you with a better understanding of your dog, and fully equipped to address any situation your dog presents to you because you will understand him, and what you need to do to help him.

Erica has over 18 years of experience working with dogs, and through achieving extensive continuing education credits, lengthy experience with real behavior issues, and a list of client referrals, she has accomplished the pre-requisites and top exam results to be called a Certified Professional Dog Trainer – Knowledge Assessed (CPDT-KA). The Certification Council of Professional Dog Trainers is one of the most respected certifications in dog training, and you may find more information about the Council on their web page, ccpdt.org.

She has improved the lives of countless dogs and clients since forming The Dog's Assistant, has a reputation for varying her techniques to match unique dog/owner relationships, and is known for never giving up on any dog, regardless of how serious their issues.

Erica can be reached by email at Erica@thedogsassistant.ca, or by phone at **416-471-2737**.

God sent angels down to earth in the form of dogs with notes saying don't judge, just love.

They ate the notes but keep trying to deliver the message.

- aplacetolovedogs.com

Heidanes Crash Test Dummy



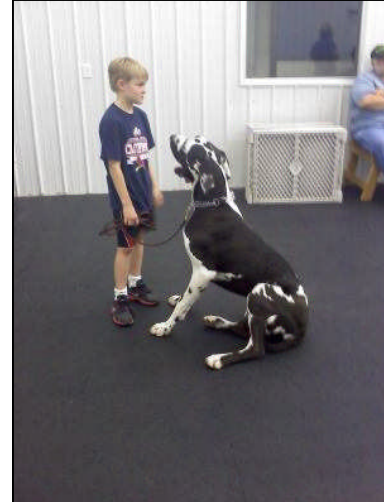
Wesley

Well, we have a celebrity in the house, sort of. Crash is now a registered PAL (Purebred Alternative Listing) Great Dane # 257080. He also has a full name, "Heidanes Crash Test Dummy".

You are able to get a number for your purebred but not AKC registered dog so you may enter AKC companion and performance events with them. They must of course, look like the breed and you must have them altered, which we just had done and applied for his number. Now on to Rally and Obedience trials for the big guy. In his first Novice Rally Q, Crash scored 96/100!

He says you can still call him Crash.

Betty Heiden



Betty's 8-year old neighbor took Crash to class and trained him (under Betty's supervision).

Sandy's Spot

It's a rare Dane that comes into rescue that we can't help. Armani was one of those Danes.

Animal Control says that this wasn't a case of cruelty, that the owner quite simply didn't have the means to look after him.

We disagree. That owner had options. There are shelters, rescues and even organizations that will help feed your dog if you've hit a rough patch. Yes, that owner had options. Armani had none.

That's why it is so important to make sure that if you see an animal in distress that you do something - and you don't let up until that animal is safe. We were too late to save Armani.

And that brings me back to all of you. We couldn't do what we do without you. I couldn't believe how quickly you all responded to Armani's story - although I shouldn't be surprised. You continue to give even in a tough economy. Thank you!

I also want to thank our volunteers - the foster families who so generously open their hearts and their homes to our Danes and all the others who give so freely of their time. You are all amazing and so important to the continued success of GDRI.

And thank you to everyone who came out for Fun Day. It was a fantastic day and it was so wonderful to

see our adopters and their happy and healthy Danes. It's what keeps us going. And your generosity - well what can I say other than thank you. A special thanks to Leah, Jeanette and Deb for pulling the day together. Can't wait for next year!

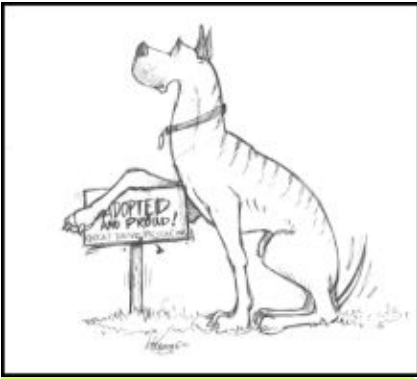
Sandy

P.S. Don't forget that our annual auction is coming up on Saturday, September 8 @ 7:30 p.m. See you there!

We were too late to save Armani.

Fun Day





P.O. Box 5543
 Plymouth, MI 48170
 Phone: 734-454-3683
 Website: www.greatdanerescueinc.com

**GREAT DANE RESCUE
 INC**



GDRI Auction

September 8th, 2012
7:30 p.m.
Plymouth Orchards
Cider Mill
10685 Warren
Plymouth, MI 48170
Meet in the parking lot
at 7:30 p.m.

Auction items can be sent to Sandy Suarez at 4125 Gotfredson, Plymouth, MI 48170
Raffle items can be sent to Jeanette Coval at 6286 Walker Drive, Troy, MI 48085

Fundraisers to support GDRI

Save can tabs to support GDRI

I'm asking family, friends and co-workers to save can tabs until May 31, 2013. I will collect them, take to recycling and donate the money to our rescue in memory of Harley. If you would like to participate and will be at Fun Day next year or can get them to me through one of our transports, I would greatly appreciate it.

Beth Meyers

Kroger Community Rewards Program

We've joined the Kroger Community Rewards Program. You have to register to support us but it's easy to do. The directions can be found on our website:
greatdanerescueinc.com/help/fundraise.html

If you shop at Kroger's this is a simple way to support GDRI.