

Great Dane Rescue Inc

Adoptions

Tess to Peter Studnicki

Starr to Aimee Moulder

Jayda to Jared Rogge

Cooper to Richelle
Bryans

Toby to Jim & Amy
Reed

Maddison to Fiona
Taylor

Happy to Kelly
Townsend

Bruce to Chelsey Forry

Ebony to Mary Richko

Gunner to Krista &
George Meingast

Reggie to Tyleen
Copland

Martini to Bianca Pence

Destiny to Tim Scheffer

Titan to Myrna & Bart
Little

Sadie to Lisa Mallia

Bella to Debbie
McIntyre

Rebel to K. MacDonald

Dozer to Anna
Blanchett

Autumn to Casie Price

Crystal to Darlene
Smith

Satyr to Joe Hassle

Laoise to Colleen
Falcone

Great Dane Rescue Report

Spring 2010

An Ode to Senior Dogs

One by one they pass my
cage,

Too old, too worn, too
broken, no way.

Way past his prime, he
can't run and play.

Then they shake their
heads slowly and go on
their way.

A little old man, arthritic
and sore,

It seems I'm not wanted
anymore.

I once had a home, I once
had a bed,

A place that was warm, and
where I was fed.

Now my muzzle is grey, and
my eyes slowly fail,

Who wants a dog so old
and so frail.

My family decided I didn't
belong.

I got in their way, my
attitude was wrong.

Whatever excuse they
made in their head

Can't justify how they left
me for dead.

Now I sit in this cage, where
day after day,

The younger dogs get
adopted away.

When I had almost come to
the end of my rope,

You saw my face and I
finally had hope.

You saw through the grey,
and the legs bent with age,

And I felt I still had life
beyond the cage.

You took me home, gave
me food and a bed,

And shared your pillow with
my poor tired head.

We snuggle and play, and
you talk so mellow,

You love me so dearly and
want me to know.

I may have lived most of my
live with another,

But you outshine them with
a love so much stronger.

I promise to return all the
love I can give,

To you, my dear person, as
long as I live.



I may be with you a week or
for years,

We will share many smiles,
you will no doubt shed
tears.

And when the time comes
that God deems I must
leave,

I know you will cry and your
heart will grieve.

And when I arrive at the
Bridge, all brand new,

My thoughts and my heart
will still be with you.

And I will brag to all who will
hear,

Of the person who made my
last days so dear.

Author Unknown



Our foster homes are sometimes called on to do the unthinkable and for this I thank them every day.

Sandy



Our Danes

Our Danes come into rescue for a reason.

Some times the dogs had stupid owners. The dog got too big, the dog barks too much, the dog has no manners, the dog is not house broken, the dog plays too rough with the kids; all of those things are fixable. All of those things are caused by owners who do not train their dogs and then want some one else to take over their problem. This first group can some times be educated and even learn enough to keep the dog. But the dog can always be trained to over come the issue and adopted out to a new home.

Then we have the owners (mostly a newer problem linked to the economy) who can't afford the dog, the dog's health care or some times even the food. Some of these dogs come in with wonderful behavior and good training and are very easy to care for and adopt out.

The next group are the ones that just don't get it. They see dogs as disposable items. This third group of people are never going to get it so we don't even bother to try to

educate them because it will drive us crazy. We just take their dogs as fast as possible and retrain any problems and adopt them to good homes.

Then we have the truly "lost" dog. The dog who was picked up on the road by AC and no one claims. We don't really know if this dog was thrown away, ran away, got out by accident and took off, escaped from the car while on vacation and is truly lost. All we know is AC picked it up on the road. These dogs are evaluated carefully and retrained where needed and adopted out.

But there is another group. These dogs are at a shelter or surrendered by owners because of behavior issues that are not fixable. These are the dogs we can not save. They have bitten and the owner lied when they surrendered them because they do love them but don't love them enough to do what must be done. They have major problems that can not be fixed and a lot of people have trouble facing the fact that a dog must be put down let alone actually taking it to the Vet to do the deed. It takes courage to take a healthy dog into a vet and request

it be put down - people feel stupid, afraid or just plain overwhelmed some times. The dog just killed the neighbor's dog and the owners are facing a lawsuit and need to get rid of the dog so they come to us and they lie. The dog developed temperament issues and they just don't know what to do so they give it to us and lie hoping that we will fix the unfixable and re-home the dog.

We try our best to avoid taking in the last group of dogs but some times we get one or two. The dogs act fine for a while, then all hell breaks loose and we realize what we have. At this point we must put these dogs down.

These are the dogs that stay in our hearts forever. These are the dogs we have been called on to release from their personal hell and send on to the bridge because no one else will. We will summon the courage to help them and give them peace. They will be at the bridge waiting on us to say thank you for your kindness - thank you for your love and thank you for having the courage to send me on my way in peace.

Gail Cramer

Our Angels

Shawna Davis, in honor of Riesig

Hilary Phelps, in honor of Molly

Ben Purdy

Robert Kaprocki

Petco

Paul Jolly

Barb Young

Pat Wright

John & Patricia of Memphis, TN

Tina Rice

PetMeds

Leslie Singletary, to honor our wedding guests

Karen Graham

Deb Brown, in memory of Jack, Marlee, Sweetness, Lulla Belle, Dinah, Lucy and Bob Petrie

Dog logic

Colleen Falcone

Mike & Jayne Patrick

Dee Morrison

Mike Patrick

Sam Oates

Kathy Oates

Kara Cleveland

Samantha Mikolajczyk

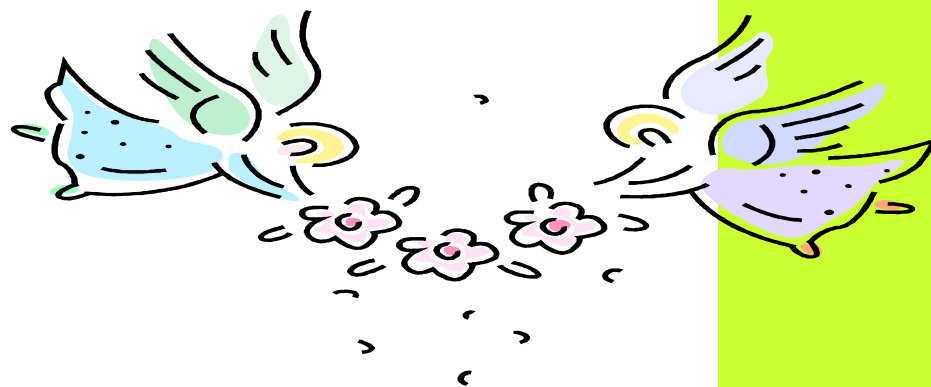
Virginia Mikolajczyk

Margie Schultz

Cheryl Sacrates

Tonya McCrory

Jeanette & Brad Coval, in memory of Xochi Suarez, Bob, Gandy & Jazz Petrie, Miss Emma & Merle LaGrone, Carson, Big Giz and Little Giz Watson, Growly Crawley, Newt Dei,



Bailey, Scooby & Satin Schultz and Zena Corle

Lisa & Wynn Wing

Jennifer Smith

Pam Ehlers

Julien, Flat Rock, MI

Positive Experience Training

Toni Bianchi

The Bullock Family

Paula Lozon

Linda Record

Jenny Bolsky

Sissy McGill, Solid Gold Dog Food

Justine Bidigare

Kristie McWherter

Tamara Zannetti

Jason Arnold

John Brady

Jennifer Smith

Indiana fundraising (thank you Liz and Dave)

iGive

The Hamel Family

Melinda Rowe

Kathy Snyder

Heather Dawson

Iralyn Franklin

Thomas Salter

Alyssa McDonald

Troy Neuerburg

Ruth Ann Mosher

Jody Fitzgibbon

Karen Good

GDCA Charitable Trust

The Kitchen Family, for Roxanne

Good Search

Frank Hughan

Mary Seals

Kim Kadel

Christopher Fameree

Andrea Lewis, in memory of sweet Humphrey

Michael Patrick

Lyndsey Watson, in memory of Bob Petrie

Peter Nanos

Dennis Pierce, in memory of Ralph

Samantha Bushell

Mission Fish

Kara Cleveland

Cynthia Veglio

Mark Mikolajczyk, in memory of Ralph

Brad & Jeanette Coval, in memory of Brian Watson

Brian Dawson

Simple Dog

A special thank you to Leah and Lisa who worked so hard on our Christmas fundraising efforts - and to all of you (our angels) who keep on giving.





Bella

Happy Endings

We wanted to give you an update on how our Bella is doing. She has gained some weight and is learning lots. We've been teaching her new tricks like bow, crawl, paws up and shake. She goes on daily four kilometre walk/jog and has excellent leash manners. We get a lot of comments on how well she walks on a leash and of course, the

usual comments, 'Does she have a saddle?' and 'How much does she eat?'

Unfortunately, our English Bulldog passed away earlier this month (he was 11) but he did a great job of teaching his 'little' sister all the rules of the house, and showed her the best places to sun herself in the afternoon.

Overall, we love having her as part of our family. Thank you again so much for bringing her into our lives.

The McIntyres



You might remember Zeus. He came to us with a severely broken leg. Here he is now - healthy and happy in his forever home!

Zoey

Zoey's become quite the talented toy hog. She will carry her kong bone and a stuffed soccer ball in her mouth while kicking her other soccer ball along in front of her just so that she can play with them all at the same time. She can get both balls in her mouth as long as she leaves the

kong bone at home but prefers the kicking method to avoid leaving anything behind.



Steph

Merle

Merle's favorite place in the world - our neighbors 200 acre lakefront property north of Toronto. It is here that we realized he loves boating. Indy, our other Dane is the same age as Merle - she was the runt and raised by our Rotty. When our Rotty passed we found Merle and the two are great companions. *Mike Hilmer*



Merle gives his dad a high-five!



All dogs go to heaven...

I'm not sure if you remember us but we adopted a 10-month old Merle Great Dane from you in April 2001. His name was Zeus. We had to put him to sleep this past Thursday due to bloat and many other health issues. He was almost 10 years old. We wanted to thank you for allowing us the pleasure of having Zeus in our lives. He was my friend, my protector and so much more. Thank you so much,

April Holiday

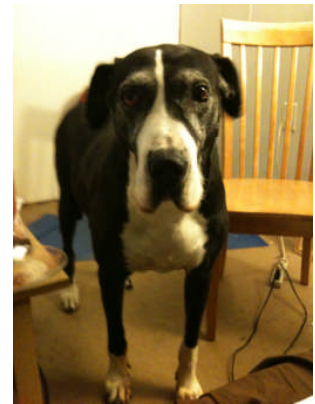
Just wanted to let you know that I had to put my Belle down a couple of weeks ago. It was the hardest thing I have ever had to do. I want to thank you guys so much for her. She was the best and I miss her more than anyone could imagine.

Larry Irving

Editor's note: You all have our deepest sympathy. We know how hard it is. Thank you for loving them.

I adopted Libby from you in 2002. She was such a lovely girl in spite of the abuse she endured in her first home. I miss her so terribly, but I'm so grateful to have had her in my life. I'm so grateful to rescue for bringing us together, and for giving me almost 8 wonderful years with my silly girl...she was truly the perfect dog for us. Life just won't be the same without her sweet face greeting me every day.

Julianne Morin



Libby

Our deepest sympathy to Jeanne Lewis for the loss of Miss Indigo Blue, CGC, TDI, Delta Society Therapy Dog. Indy was 12 or 13 years old.

Now, that's a walk

Ratbag Transport delivered Ebony to me Wednesday night, but I'm getting ahead of myself.

Wednesday, St Patrick's Day, I knew I had a foster inbound so I needed to take my boy Zeus for a walk before she got here. Z and I have a regular circuit we walk, to the downtown and back. Well, it was the evening of St. Patrick's Day and there are three bars downtown - only one of which allows smoking. The non smoking relevance here is that the sidewalk in front of 2/3's of the downtown bars were crowded with patrons

that needed a smoke. Also wandering the downtown sidewalks was a very happy little beagle with a collar but no tags. The beagle crossed the street to see Zeus and I just as we were stopped by a throng of the inhabitants of "Marlboro Country" in front of a pub. I found it laughable (by this I mean I laughed) when the same people who were OK with letting the beagle wander the street were afraid Zeus would hurt him. Z immediately put that fear to rest. I asked if anyone knew who the dog belonged to. One gal

thought maybe she did and ducked into the bar to see if they were still there. They weren't. In the meantime the beagle acquired a string of green party beads and a name - O'Douls. I call him Odie for short. Thinking that the dog had escaped from a parked car I took him across the street and asked the bar manager if I could carry him through the crowded bar in the hope that someone would ask me what the hell I was doing with their dog. The manager held onto Z while I took the dog through our second bar of the night. Strike two. At our third stop, the Riviera Bar, we

ran into several old friends and made some new ones but we did not find the dog's owner or get any leads on who it could be. I did manage to have a Guinness Stout while there, though it was hard to enjoy it with Zeus watching me through the window. The three of us got home just in time for the arrival of Ebony, our new foster.

Jon

Ed. Note: Jon's walks are way more fun than mine!



**Fun Day is like
a family
reunion with
about 60 or 70
Great Danes.**

Fun Day - Saturday, June 5, 2010

It's that time of year again - FUN DAY! For those of you who don't know, Fun Day is an annual tradition and our biggest fundraiser of the year.

Everyone who has adopted from us in the past or is thinking about the future or just has a Dane is invited to come. Danes are very welcome, must be kept on leash and hopefully behave themselves.

For those from out of town we usually stay at the Red Roof Inn in Plymouth MI.

We will be posting info to the website about that later as we usually get a better rate due to booking a block of rooms. Danes are welcome to stay there as well, but please use some common sense in picking up after your dogs and not allowing excessive barking etc.

Some of us arrive on the Friday before and participate in Joyce's Margarita Bar in the parking lot. It's lots of fun. On the actual day we all head out to the park for

about 10 am and we have games you can sign up for, raffles you can buy tickets for and stuff for sale and then there's the free LUNCH!!! it's always a good time.

Make sure you bring your lawn chairs or a big blanket to hang out on. We'll be posting directions on the website (www.greatdanerescueinc.com) in the future so check there for more info.

Hope to see you there!



Ace

About five months ago, we took in 5 pups from a backyard breeder in Alabama. The breeder had sold three or four pups before we could get them. The pups all came in underweight and with mange. We successfully treated the pups and they've all been adopted out.

The other week, we got a call about a 7-month old Dane pup who needed help. He was one of the pups that the breeder had sold. There are no words to describe the shape that this poor puppy is in. The

owner left his mange untreated. Even after a few days in a vet's care, he still had a temp of 105.

From Leah, his foster mom - "Ace (his new name means lucky in Latin) is in the worst shape that I've ever seen a dog in but he is still wagging his tail and seems to have a wonderful outlook on his new life. You can see every rib and vertebrae on this poor dog and he smells of rotting flesh. There is blood all over my truck and anywhere we walked at the vet's office - his raw flesh

is seeping along with his bleeding, swollen feet. Ace's vet says that it will be a long road and Ace will look worse before he gets better but he will look like a fawn Dane someday. After dropping Ace at the vet, I had to have a good cry. I cannot understand a person treating anything this badly."

Ed. Note: Ace continues to improve but he has a long road ahead of him. Animal cruelty charges are pending.



News from Alabama

Our volunteers are busy! We've got a lot of events on the go in the next few months.

Birdies for Charity - the Regions Charity Classic - will be held at Ross Bridge in Hoover, AL, May 12 to 16. Participating charities receive every single penny of the donations generated. Bella's Birthday Bash will take place in

Birmingham on May 22. Then there's DoDahDay in Birmingham on May 15th. Be sure to vote for Pink as DoDahDay Queen.

Congratulations are also due to Blue and Leah. Blue recently passed his 'Hand-in-Paw' Therapy course and is now a certified therapy dog.



Leah and Blue

News from Ontario

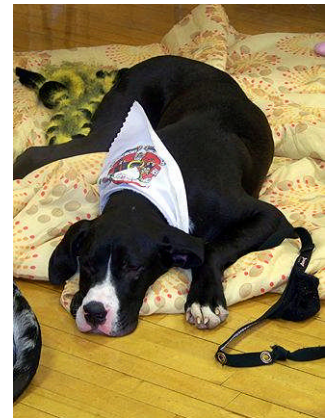
Our volunteers in Ontario just finished a very successful stint at Toronto's Sportsman Show. This five day event brings thousands of people to the convention centre. Our volunteers and our Danes worked hard educating the public and fundraising.

Lyndsey and Wendy Watson spent an evening at Sunnybrook Hospital visiting with veterans from WWII and the Korean War recently. Arranged by our partners - Helping Homeless Pets - dogs from various rescues visited with the veterans and helped to ease their

loneliness.

The show season is just starting to heat up with the Milton Mutt Strutt on May 2nd and ending with Puppy Pawloozza on August 22nd.

Be sure to check the web site for information about all of the events taking place this summer.



Liam's zonked out after a long day at a show.

Sandy's Spot

I can't thank our volunteers enough for all of the work that they do - I get tired just reading about the list of events that they're attending to fundraise for GDRI and to educate the public about our amazing breed.

And our foster homes - the work that they do for our

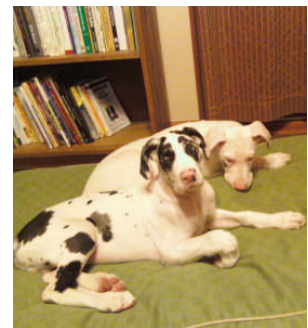
Danes is remarkable. They regularly open their homes and their hearts to help Danes in need.

Our Angels never stop giving. Your generosity keeps us going. I can't tell you what it means to all of us that you continue to help out year after year.

I hope to see you all at Fun Day on June 5th. My pups have grown considerably since I saw you all last year. Remind me to tell you about the pond! Two puppies - what was I thinking!

See you soon,

Sandy



Chauncey & Penelope - they've grown at little since this was taken.



Great Dane Rescue Inc

P.O. Box 5543

Plymouth, MI 48170

Phone: 734-454-3683

Website:

www.greatdanerescueinc.com



Clean and Healthy Pets LLC

We are an earth friendly, American company that offers healthy products for the creatures we love!

Most of our products are made in the USA, along with some being made here in Michigan! Use promotion code "**GDR2010-10**" to get 10% off your entire order!

Phone: (616) 433-6966

Fax: (616) 433-2758

gdr.candhpets.com

Meditation

Like most mornings, one of my Danes (I have three Danes and a foster dog or two) joined me for some exercise and meditation.

Satyr, an 8-month old foster, brought his ball up and planted himself behind me while I stretched. What I really mean is that he made sure that he moved in harmony with me, so when I was on the floor doing crunches, he put his big jowly head on my tummy and practiced catching the ball. I wonder if the added weight of a Dane head earns extra workout points. Don't even ask what he was doing while I was attempting lunges - I only fell over once or twice!

My older Dane, Lucy, joined us. She got up on the bed and watched - I swear I heard her snicker. Just as I was winding down, Muse, my 11 mos. old deaf and visually impaired Dane wandered into the room. She decided to join the fun and sat on me. So there I was, Lucy watching (and snickering?), Satyr now licking my ear and Muse sitting on my back and in comes Darla - our enormous 5-year old Dane. It was clear that Darla understood my predicament completely. Moving swiftly she came to the other side of me, I assumed to nudge Muse off of my back. But no, she lay

down beside me and began licking my other ear.

So what's an out-numbered woman supposed to do when surrounded on all sides by well-meaning but very large goofy dogs? Laugh. And laugh. And laugh. Isn't belly laughing until you cry a form of exercise? So there we were (even Lucy came down off the bed to join us), me and four goofy Great Danes sitting on the floor laughing and playing and having a ball. It's going to be a great day.

Delores