



Great Dane Rescue Report

Great Dane Rescue Inc

December 2010

Twass the night before Christmas...

And all through the house,
not a creature was
stirring even the Dane on the
couch
The stockings were hung so
frickin' high in the air
In the hopes that our Dane
couldn't get them up there
The neighbors were nestled
feeling safe in their beds
While visions of big Danes
zoomed in their heads
With gizzards and chicken
and bones going SNAP
The Dane hoovered dinner
and prepared for a nap

When out from the crate
there arose such a clatter
The Dane had to go out and
empty his bladder
Up from the floor he flew like
a flash
He tore out the door and
peed on the grass
He stood there so tall with big
head and lips
He blocked out the moon like
a total eclipse
When what to my wondering
eye should appear
But a miniature sleigh and 8
tiny reindeer

With a little old driver so lively
and quick
I knew in a moment it must
be St. Nick
I yelled to the Dane "quick
come Rover"
He ran up the stairs and
knocked me right over!
And then in a twinkling I

heard on the roof
the prancing and pawing of
each little hoof
I got off the floor and held
tight to my head
I looked to the chimney with
a feeling of dread

He was dressed all in fur
from his head to his foot
And his clothes were all
tarnished with ashes and
soot
I had concern for St. Nick so I
put him at sit
St. Nick turned around and
said "HOLY SHIT"
The bundle of toys he
dropped at his feet,
He said "OMG, what does he
eat?"
"That must be a horse or
some form of cattle,
let me look in my bag and
find you a saddle!"

I explained to Santa he was a
Great Dane
A very big dog with a really
small brain.
Santa got on his knees and
broke a big rule
Before I could stop him, he
was covered in drool
"He wouldn't bite, not even a
robber"
Santa said okay, but was
covered in slobber
Santa laid on the floor all
covered in jowls
I ran to the kitchen to grab
him some towels.

Santa said "It's Okay, I'm no
cleaner,
What a cute Dane, but BOY
what a leaner!"
We helped Santa up, with his
bag made of silk
while the Dane ate the
cookies and knocked over
the milk!
He jumped back up, as if
preparing to flee
He pulled out the presents to
chuck at the tree
He backed up the chimney in
a bright flash of red
I ran to my room, Rover beat
me to bed!
We heard him mumble as he
flew out of site
"That guys' really nice but his
Dane's just not right!"



Adoptions:

Stewart to Dean
Delmonte
Duke to Peter Hopper
Willow to Ashley &
Damon Krueger
Lilly to Kristal Largo
Bruno to Cindy Mohacsi
Maverick to Kelly Yewer
Gus and Toby to Tanya
Nelson

Editor's note:

*Our adoptions list is short
in this edition. Our foster
homes are full with
Danes waiting for their
forever homes. The other
issue that we've run up
against is that a large
number Danes have
come into rescue with
heartworm. Heartworm is
expensive to treat, painful
for the dog and the
treatment requires that
we keep the Dane in our
care for two to three
months.*

*Heartworm preventative
is a must. It is a simple to
apply, relatively
inexpensive and it keeps
your Dane safe from a
potentially fatal
infestation or a painful
recovery.*



Our Angels

August Grammas

Mission Fish (eBay)

Mary Seals, in memory of her Dad

Audrey Preston, in memory of Rufus

Gretchen Sauvage, to honour GDR I foster mom, Tanya Nelson

Joyce Yurich

Mary and Mark Treado and friends Kurt and Dana, in memory of Gibson

Linda Kent

Brenda Bush, in memory of Duncan on his birthday

iGive

Forest Place Optical

Frame Works

IL Tool Works and Shannon Taylor

31 Purse

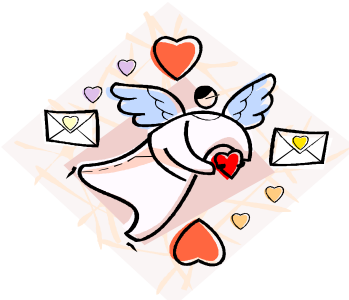
Birdies for Charity

Seimens and Tina Rice

Robert and Helen Hughes in memory of James Lee

Jody Sharp

GDCA



Shopping to support GDR I

What to buy for the person who has everything?

How about making a donation to GDR I in their name. We'll send a card to the giftee to let them know that you've made a donation in their name and have helped GDR I save another Dane. Who wouldn't love that! Visit our website to make the donation:

www.greatdanerescueinc.com/shop/christmasdonations.html

This Christmas, we've also put together some very special **gift packages** for the Dane lovers on your shopping list.

We've got the Dane Lover package. It includes a GDR I 2011 calendar, a GDR I mug, a GDR I Christmas tree ornament and a t-shirt in the size and style of your choice.

For the Dane & Wine Lover, we have two gift packages. Package 1 includes two stemless white wine glasses etched with the silhouette of a Great Dane, a very cute towel from McCartney's Dogs, two wine toppers and a Yardbirds wine caddy. Package 2 includes the same items with the exception of the Yardbirds wine caddy.

For the cook (and Dane lover), we've also put together two gift packages. Package 1 includes a fabulous white barbeque apron that has been emblazoned with the slogan, "Great Dane...when a dog just isn't enough", the GDR I cookbook (filled with great recipes), a GDR I coffee mug and a Yardbirds Salt and Pepper set. Package 2 includes all but the Yardbirds Salt and Pepper Set.

And, you didn't think that we'd forget your very special Dane, did you? We've put together the perfect Christmas

package. It includes a Christmas stocking (2 styles to choose from), a terrific doggie toy, a Christmas bandana and Doggie Bells (our foster homes use these bells to train their Danes to ask to go outside).

And finally, for a stocking stuffer, you can purchase our first ever GDR I Christmas ornament.

All of the funds that we raise are used to provide medical care for our Danes. We are a 100 % volunteer-run organization.

Visit our website to purchase:

www.greatdanerescueinc.com/shop/christmaspackages.html





Caesar, a GDRI success

Four years ago, my Caesar was born in or around Flint Michigan. He had a rough start at life and ended up in a shelter at 4 months, luckily they called us as they were not sure how to deal with his crooked legs but knew he was a keeper.

I agreed to foster him and we set up a transport to get him here. I knew as soon as he got out of the van that he was going to be a hard one to give up, and he was - he's still here :)

He beat the crooked legs and massive urinary infection he arrived with and started growing like a weed and kept growing and growing and growing.

At 2 he started falling down at the touch of a hand and could not get up the stairs into the house. He was diagnosed with wobblers disease and we started medication and acupuncture. He improved quickly and that fall we were tested for Therapy Dog work with St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dogs.

He is now 38 inches (approx) at the shoulder, 175 lbs (needs to loose a few) and visits two nursing homes every week to brighten up a few people's day.



Jo Anne Richards

Ireland just needed the right home

We welcomed Ireland into our home in May as a foster. She left a bad situation and had really had a rough first year. She spent some time as a puppy in a home with a small dog that tormented her. When she got upset with that torment and expressed anger with the small dog, she was taken to a shelter in northern Michigan. She then spent approx. a month in foster care with Tanya Nelson (who adored her and cared for her wonderfully). Then, she was adopted again and unfortunately surrendered back to GDRI.

We were lucky enough to be home for Jo Anne's call. We picked up Ireland on a Sunday evening in May ... We planned to foster Ireland and find a wonderful forever home for her. However, we knew it would be difficult to find a home for her, because she couldn't be placed with other dogs, cats, or young children. That meant her prospects were slim.

In the meantime, we discovered this really lovely Dane! In fact, she was proving to be a lovely young lady - people-friendly, intelligent, and well-adjusted. She was kind and gentle with all four cats (even our 17-pound scaredy cat took to her quickly).

And, most important ... she loves to be loved. She is happy to just sit with us, to be petted behind her ears, to lean against us while we say hello to her. She loves her morning and evening walks, waiting patiently for the leash and standing at the door until we open it and head outside.

As you may have guessed, Ireland found her home with us. She's a blessing. (And I didn't think I'd ever want to embark on this journey again after losing my 16-year old a few years ago).



Lynn and Stuart DeGrande



In Memory of Mark Elias

My rescue Dane, Harley, and I made a road trip to look at a motor home for sale back in 2006. This is where we met my husband and Harley's dad, Mark Elias. Mark was intimidated by Harley but that didn't stop him from asking me out for dinner after I test drove the RV. Soon Mark and I were dating regularly and he began to warm up to Harley as time went by. He always said his favorite dog was his German Shepherd named Viper. All of the sudden though, Mark was taking Harley to work with him, on guys camping trips, to his parents house, biking, walking, etc. I started to wonder who Mark loved more – me or the dog?!?! LOL. We got married in Sept of 2009 and he wanted Harley to be his best man (hence the picture). In Oct of 2009 we learned that Mark had terminal cancer and by Jan of 2010 he was no longer able to work and slept most of the day curled up next to Harley. Hospice came in at the end of

March and Harley kept his distance from all the equipment, however, he was joined at my hip through it all. When Mark passed away, I was by Mark's bedside and Harley was laying down about 6 ft away. Within seconds of Mark passing, Harley got up and came over and sat by my side and nudged his nose under my arm. It was obvious he sensed what had just happened. Harley's compassion and love helped me through this difficult time and he still continues to give me the strength to take life one day at a time and to keep the Faith. God Bless our wonderful companions for taking care of their humans!

Beth Meyer-Elias & Harley. J

p.s. Mark finally admitted that Harley was his favorite dog EVER!

Editor's Note: Beth continues to volunteer with GDRI.



Caesar

We can remember when we first brought Caesar home, as an 8 week old puppy, on the Ides of March, 2002. He weighed 18 pounds and I held him in my lap! He whimpered the whole way home. Right away, he made his place in our home and hearts. He slept all day on our couch, he loved his favorite blue pillow, and he made a slobbery mess drinking his water. At a full grown 175 pounds, he was still afraid of his own shadow. He was the best dog we could have ever had, and I'll always miss talking to him the late at night, when he would respond with his typical Caesar groan and sigh. He was the hit of the family, the talk of the neighborhood, and an attention grabber everywhere we went. After we adopted him, we learned of the local Great Dane Rescue, and we enjoyed every summer picnic in Hines Park with him. 2010 was our last picnic with Caesar, but we also shared that picnic with our one year old son. We lost Caesar in September to bone cancer, but thankfully we had an extended and peaceful time to spoil him and say goodbye. We'll always miss our good old Caesar boy, and thanks to him, we'll always know that Great Danes are the best!"

Jody Sharp

Rest in Peace

- Olivia (Patricia Kelly)
- Rufus (Audrey Preston)
- Tiny (Matt Lannoo)
- Pepper (Shirley & Ed)
- Nigel (Deb Brown)
- Clyde (Steph and Jamey Tracy)
- Denali (Renee Ebert)
- Caesar (Jody Sharp)
- Remington (Tracey Keenan and Kevin Walton)





Bella is home forever

When my first dog, a chocolate lab, named Bosco died of a brain tumour at the age of 13 I was overcome with sadness. I had promised him when I picked him up as a puppy that if the time ever came that he was suffering, I would have the strength to make the difficult decision to alleviate his suffering. Easier said than done, when Bosco suffered two seizures in less than 4 hours, I had to remain true to my promise. It was at that moment, there in the animal hospital, I decided I would never give my heart to a dog again, they don't live long enough and it's not worth the pain.

About a month later, by coincidence or perhaps by fate, we met a lady at a conservation area near Toronto. She had the most beautiful Great Dane I have ever seen. What made her beautiful had nothing to do with her physical appearance, but rather the loving bond I saw between her and her owner. "Violet" was calm, kind and loyal. I could see the connection and trust between the two immediately. As I talked to her owner I was so touched by her story of rescuing Violet, I began to feel myself weakening, and I missed that bond with a dog. I learned that Violet had been rescued through Great Dane Rescue Inc. I thought to myself if these dogs are able to take another chance on being loved maybe I could too.

We started the adoption process with Great Dane Rescue Inc. and were very impressed with the process to ensure these dogs are placed in forever homes. All of a sudden I was so excited about the privilege of being able to help one of these gentle giants.

Before we knew it we had an email from Lyndsey telling us about a "sweet find". We made contact with Tina, Bella's foster mom. Tina told us lots of information and answered all our questions. We knew immediately that fostering and the work that Great Dane Rescue does is more than just an obligation or hobby for these wonderful volunteers.

My husband and I drove 6 hours to meet Tina, John and Bella in Sarnia. When we first saw Bella I cried, she was so beautiful, calm and sweet.

Our two children ages 14 and 16 years old were waiting on the step when we arrived with our new little girl. They could hardly control their excitement. After a few minutes in the backyard we brought Tonka, our 10 year old English Bulldog (who has since gone to the Rainbow Bridge) out to meet his "little" sister. Bella was very excited and was sure that Tonka would love her at first sight, Tonka had other ideas. Tonka has always been pretty laid back, slow moving and deliberate about his decisions, and Bella's excitement to become best buddies immediately was not appreciated. Tonka was kind to her but made it clear by barking at her that he had no immediate ideas about welcoming her in to his house.

Fortunately we have a separate entrance into our house through the basement. The first night home Bella and the girls slept in the basement and the boys stayed upstairs on the main level. The next day was literally night and day difference. Bella seemed to understand that she needed to try a quieter approach to getting to know her "big" brother. She was very patient as she

stood perfectly still allowing Tonka to stand underneath her and smell her. She must have stood perfectly still for almost five minutes allowing Tonka to "get to know her". After that they were able to lay in the living room together without any difficulty. Tonka remained the boss and Bella was happy to follow along.

One of our favourite Bella and Tonka moments came on a day it was raining. Tonka has always hated getting wet. Tonka waited on the deck until Bella did her business. As soon as she was done Tonka quickly ran down the stairs and stood under Bella to pee. Bella patiently waited looking between her front legs to ensure that she was doing a good job shielding him from the rain. She became known as the "Bella Umbrella" from that day forward.

So as you can see I have given my heart to another dog. Thank you Great Dane Rescue Inc. Bella has added so much joy and purpose to our lives.

Scott & Deb McIntyre





Danes looking for their forever homes



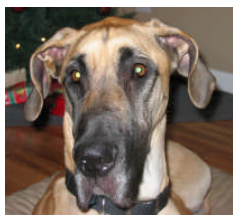
Marquis is a young Dane X who has been in foster care for far too long (it is always challenging to find families willing to take mixes). He is merle, super cute, under a year old and loves to please. He is ultra high energy and has been worked with by a dog trainer who says he is really fun to work with. If you're looking for an obedience/agility/rally dog, Marquis might be just right for you. He loves people and dogs of all sizes but hasn't been cat tested. He is crate trained and ready to go.



Jayda is a very pretty 4-5 year old brindle who was found as a stray. She is very sweet, LOVES people and gets along with other dogs of all sizes and cats. Jayda knows sit, down, shake and is very obedient. She has slight separation anxiety, but would make a STELLAR dog for someone with love to give her.



Rowan is a 3-5 year old fawn male who has some vision issues. He will need an experienced owner who is willing to work with him in situations where he is unsure due to his limited vision. He is very sweet and good with people, but needs a home without cats.



Sophie is a six year old fawn who was sadly surrendered when her owner had to care for her ailing mother who is severely allergic. Sophie is a lovely girl, calm, well-mannered and good with all people and dogs. She is looking for someone to love and cuddle with.

We have one **Dane X (possibly lab) pup** who will be ready to be adopted in Dec. She is part of a litter that was born in rescue. Her mom is a purebred blue Dane, we are unsure what dad is. She is black with a white chest/paws and very cute. She is a bit on the dominant/sassy side so will require an owner who is familiar with the breed and willing to do obedience training with her.



Sandy's Spot

Another year has come and gone - it's amazing how fast the time goes by. We've been busy - two litters of puppies this year, a large number of heartworm positive Danes and a large number of surrendered Danes.

Our foster homes have been wonderful - they keep on opening their homes and their hearts to these dogs. It just never seems that we have enough open homes. As fast as new foster homes come in, we fill them up and we're looking for more.

Our volunteers who help us with transport, home checks and at meet and greets have also been working hard.

Our volunteers are the backbone of this organization. They keep us going year after year. We're one of the oldest and largest Great Dane rescues in the country - and it is due to the great work that our volunteers do every day.

And then there are our angels - our donors. I am amazed and humbled by the donations that we receive - even in a tough economy. It is truly heartwarming.

Trust me, when I say that we are forever in your debt for your financial help.

As we move into 2011, I wish you and yours a joyous holiday season and all the best in the coming year.

Happy Holi-danes!

Sandy

P.S. My new baby -Annabelle - isn't she gorgeous!

A message from Grover

My name is Grover -- I'm the fawn dane with HOD. Last Januaryish you rescued me from a shelter and kept me in foster care until my forever mom adopted me in June. This is my first real thanksgiving, and mom said that I should tell the people what I'm thankful for ... and I'm thankful for you!

I'm thankful that you got me (and my brother!) out of the shelter when no one else would have.

I'm thankful that you kept me from becoming another sad shelter statistic.

I'm thankful that you gave me love for the first time, when no one else had.

I'm thankful that you got me veterinary care, that I so desperately needed, when I wouldn't have lived without it.

I'm thankful that you gave me a warm, soft bed to sleep on, when I'd never had one before.

I'm thankful that you gave me food that I needed and could count on, when I hadn't had that before.

I'm thankful that you gave me two wonderful foster families until my mom adopted me.

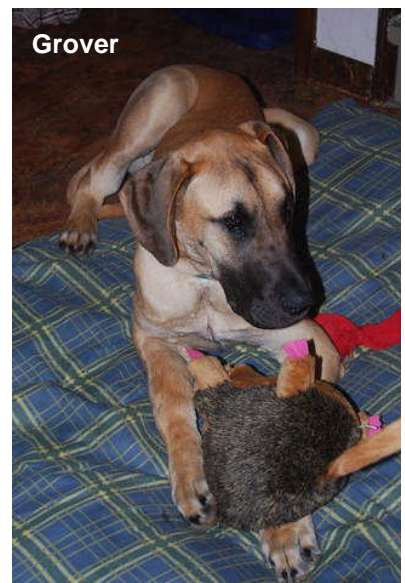
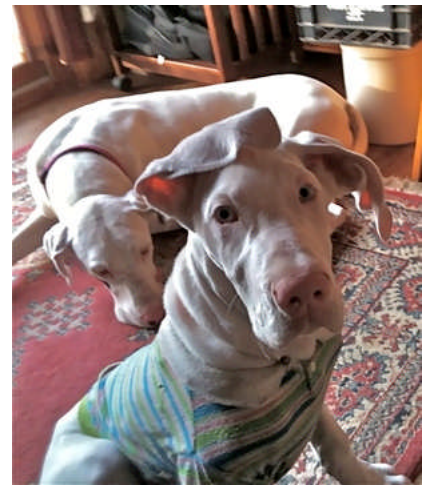
I'm thankful that you gave me a chance and a life, because without you all I never would have had one.

I'm not just a Dane ... I'm a GDRI Dane and wear that label proud everywhere I go.

Thank you,

Love,
Grover

Editor's note: Thank YOU Grover for reminding us of why we do what we do. Happy Thanksgiving! Grover is now a certified therapy dog - congrats!





Great Dane Rescue Inc

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Phone: 734-454-3683
Website: www.greatdanerescueinc.com

**It's a Great Dane.
Yes, it's friendly.
No, I don't have a saddle for it.
Yes, it's a house dog.
No, I don't have a huge house.
Yes, you may pet it.
No, it doesn't eat that much.
I know it's the biggest dog you've ever seen.
It's the biggest dog I've ever seen, too.**