

Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue



**Our first annual
AGPR calendar
photo contest
winners.**

Happy New Year from our family to yours!

2015 was a good year for the dogs at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue. Eighty eight dogs are now in loving homes and two are in foster homes. At one point this spring, we had two litters of puppies (a total of eighteen) and had the opportunity to watch them grow from little fuzz balls to bigger fur balls before getting adopted.

We partnered with the new Petco in Ashland, VA and participated in a number of 2nd Saturday of the Month adoption events with them. And we continued with adoption events in the Middleburg and Warrenton, VA areas.

Dogs Adopted

Eighty eight dogs were adopted from Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue in 2015. They were (alphabetically):

Allie, Annie, Artic, Artica, Artie, Avalanche, Bandit, Barrow, Bates, Bella, Blaze, Blizzard, Bowie, Brian, Brianna, Buck, Charlie, Clarkson, Connor, Cookie, Cora, Diego, Dillon, Dolly, Dorie, Edith, Ellen, Ellie Mae, Elvis, Gilligan, Ginger, Glenda, Herra, Honey, Hoss, Hugo, Hutch, Irene, Ivory, Jeffrey, Jolly, JR, Lady, Leo, Lincoln, Linda, Lovey, Lucky, Marge, MaryAnn, Matilda,

The weather was beautiful for the Middleburg Holiday Parade. Forty one Pys turned out for the event and brought with them fifty seven adults and fifteen children.

We launched a successful 1st Annual Calendar Photo Contest. The 2nd Annual contest will soon be in the works, so start planning your winning campaign.

Once again, volunteers and donations were greatly appreciated and continue to make the dogs' lives much better...we can't thank you enough!

We are looking forward to an even better 2016.

Matthew, Maybelline, Meg, Milkshake, Millie, Mishka, Molly, Moseley, Naomi, Odin, Oreo, Otis, Phil, Philo, Precious, Professor, Rachel, Ranger, Rosie, Sebastian, Shiya, Simba, Skipper, Snowball, Snowflake, Snuggles, Sophie (2), Starsky, Stella, Tabitha, Tanner, Thomas, Thurston Howell, Violet, Vodka, Zeus, and Zumba.

Many of these dogs may have been renamed since leaving us. If you would like to add their new names to our cross-reference list, please contact us at agpr-news@verizon.net

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A great start to the new year for Gracie. She is our first adoption of 2016. Gracie is on her way to being a James River dog – her new owner loves to kayak. Hoping the rest of our Pys find their perfect forever home this year.



Luna – our second adoption of 2016. She's one happy girl (and so are her new owners).



Colt (formerly Dillon)



Maggie loving her Christmas pajamas?

A Big Thank You from AGPR!

As the year drew to a close, we took some time out to reflect on 2015. Those of us at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue had so much to be grateful for this past year. And we would be remiss if we did not stop and say...

THANK YOU!

It takes much more than a few dogs needing new homes and a handful of people caring for them to make a rescue organization successful.

While you've heard it before (as the source for the title of a book by Hillary Clinton), "**It takes a village**" is a saying attributed to an African proverb referring to the raising of children. That proverb was never truer when it comes to talking about rescuing and rehoming Pyrs. Without each of you, we could not provide these wonderful dogs a better future.

So, in alphabetical order, we offer our thanks to:

Adopters – thank you for taking the time to research the Great Pyrenees breed, contacting AGPR and filling out the application, and then patiently waiting while the screening process is completed. That is typically the easier piece of the journey. The selection and then successful integration of your new family member into your home takes patience, understanding and love. But that love is seen in the photos and stories you provide for this newsletter and our social media sites.

Donors (financial) – whether you contributed to our campaign for funds for Snow's surgery earlier in 2015, sent us a monthly, random or year-end donation,

or participated in our First Annual Calendar Photo contest by entering your dog or buying votes or calendars – those funds were used for the care and well-being of the Pyrs. And we appreciate those companies who provided quarterly contributions or matching funds.

Donors (supplies)- whether it be a dozen homemade fleece dog blankets or a bag of dog food or bags of towels in response to our request during our "puppy season" last spring or a clothes dryer (its arrival was very timely)- all these items were extremely useful and appreciated.

Partners (Corporate) - many boxes of goodies from the Ashland Petco provided the Pyrs with plenty of shampoo for their spa treatments as well as toys, treats and assorted goodies as rewards for their good behavior. Recent partnerships with Kroger and AmazonSmiles provides a means for AGPR to receive quarterly Corporate donations based on our participants' spending habits.

Social Media contributors – in today's society, social media is extremely important. Without the volunteers behind the scenes on our website (AGPRRescue.ORG), Petfinder, Facebook and Google+ sites, our ability to communicate good news, upcoming events and requests for assistance would be more difficult and less timely. And without our social media savvy followers, we would have fewer eyes watching for Pyrs in need.

Trainers – hard to believe, but not all our Pyrs come to us with perfect manners and zero faults. We are fortunate to have a local training group who work with some of the volunteers who frequently interact with our Pyrs.



A Big Thank You from AGPR (cont'd)



Terra in her Christmas hat.



Oboe & Ziva



Bodi (formerly Leo) waiting for Santa.

The goal is a consistent approach with our dogs to aid in successful adoptions.

Transporters – where would we be if not for our kind souls who are willing to jump in their cars or vans and spend the time moving a dog from one location (typically an animal shelter on the other side of the state) to our kennels in Richmond? Many times they respond with little notice and give up their valuable weekends.

Volunteers – this category encompasses so many people. All the Board members and people caring for the Pys are volunteers...AGPR has no paid staff. There are volunteers who are dog walkers - some come on a set frequency and others come as time allows. They are so important in the socialization of our Pys and in their training. Work groups from Southern States come out and roll up their sleeves. This past year they have volunteered several afternoons of hard labor – scrubbing and repairing dog houses, painting dividers, and several other “honey do” list items. The Hermitage High School Vet Tech program students and teachers provided us with two Spa Day events (spring and fall) and left our Pys sparkling clean and well groomed. We have several other high school students helping out and learning about Pyr care. And our home visit volunteers – there is no way we could handle all the pre-adoption home visits across the region and adjoining states without their help.

Welfare providers – those who provide veterinary assistance both locally and across the state – we appreciate your willingness to help by discounting your services and squeezing us in to your busy schedules. A special thank you to the folks at Varina Veterinary Clinic, Tri-County Veterinary Services (Peterstown, WV), Blue Ridge Veterinary Hospital (Floyd, VA), and Animal Eye Care of Richmond. You've seen quite a bit of us this past year and we appreciate your assistance. And we can't forget the shelters and humane societies in Virginia who take the time to call us when a Pyr in need arrives at their facility and work with us to provide food and shelter until we can arrange for transport.

Last, but certainly not least, a very sincere thank you to Phillipa Lewis for her many years serving as our Treasurer. We know there were times when we drove you crazy, but you always hung in there and kept the books, finances and the Board in shape. We look forward to on-going support from Phillipa and her husband Howard as ambassadors for AGPR. We also want to thank Alexandria Boyer for her years of support and making sure that our donors received “thank you” notes for their generous contributions.

A sincere Thank You to the AGPRescue “village”.





**Partnership with Kroger
Community Rewards
program**



**Partnership with
AmazonSmile program**



AGPR Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/AGPRRescue

- Features events and photos
- More than 5,200 followers

AGPR Google+ page:

<https://plus.google.com/+AgprescueOrg2015>

- Features events and photos

Donate while Shopping in 2016

During the last quarter of 2015, we partnered with Kroger and Amazon through their rewards program. When joining these programs, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases made through either of these programs, the respective corporation will donate a percentage of the purchase price to your selected charitable organization on a quarterly basis.

Please don't underestimate the impact of these programs. We recently received checks from both Kroger and the AmazonSmile Foundation. With only three people signed up for both rewards programs, we earned enough to pay for a couple bags of dog food. Imagine how many dogs we could feed if one hundred or more people signed up and shopped!

So check out the details below on how to register for the rewards programs. *And then please share these rewards programs with your friends and family and help Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue.*

Kroger – if you shop with Kroger or Kroger affiliate and have a Kroger Plus card, you can help Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue. Go to www.Kroger.com and click on *Community* and then *Community Rewards*. Register your card and enter our NPO code (86255)...then shop away!

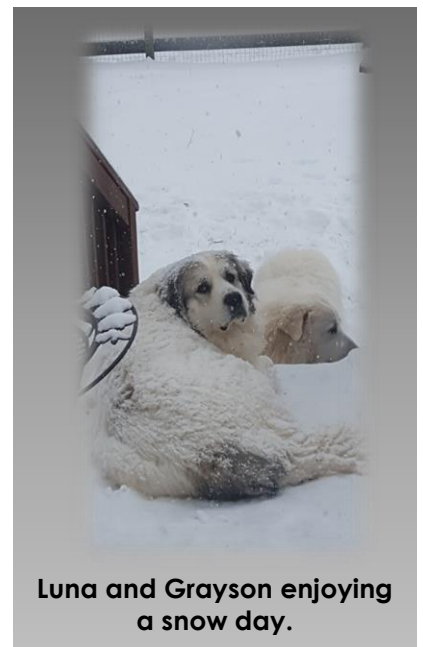
If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, please pick one up at any Kroger customer service desk. (This Kroger



Community Rewards program serves most of North Carolina; Virginia; Eastern West Virginia; Eastern Kentucky; Southeastern Ohio).

AmazonSmile - if you are an Amazon.com shopper, you can benefit our Pyrs by simply logging into www.smile.amazon.com, clicking on *Your Account* and then *Change your Charity*. Select *Appalachian Great Pyrenees Association (not "Rescue")* as your charity. Once you've linked your Amazon account to Appalachian Great Pyrenees Association, you need to log in to shop through www.smile.amazon.com. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You may also want to add smile.amazon.com to your bookmarks or favorites to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Thank you for supporting AGPR through these partnerships.



Luna and Grayson enjoying a snow day.

Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue

Information:

Victoria Marshman - Director

8976 Battlefield Park Road

Richmond, VA 23231

Phone: (804) 795-1369

e-mail: bpkennel@msn.com

Web Site: www.agprescue.org

**Celeste Miller – Newsletter,
Adoptions, Special Events**

e-mail:

AGPR-news@verizon.net

**Email your photo and/or story
to the address above.**

**Include your name and your
Pyr's name as you would like
it printed. All submissions will
be edited for style, clarity,
and length.**

Upcoming Events:

**Petco Adoption event
(11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
Rt. 54 & Rt. 1
Ashland, VA
- February 13, 2016**

**Wylie Wagg adoption
(2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
5B E. Washington St.
Middleburg, VA 20117
- February 13, 2016**

**Pyrfest Picnic
(11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
8976 Battlefield Park Road
Richmond, VA 23231
- June 11, 2016
(raindate: June 18, 2016)**

**AGPRescue is a 501(c)(3)
organization - all donations are
tax deductible.**

How You can Help More in 2016...

Volunteer Your Time

Want some exercise and Pyr love? Come out and walk the dogs and spend time socializing them. Our big white fluffy dogs need brushing and bathing (when the weather is warmer). We can also use help transporting dogs to adoption events or from shelters to our kennels. Or volunteer to help with a special event. There is always a list of "honey do's" for a work group to tackle (painting, minor repairs). We would love to have your help.

Donate Supplies

We can always use supplies...

some of the typical needs are:

- Dog biscuits (all sizes)
- Blankets (preferably polyester)
- Pedigree canned dog food (chopped chicken)
- Pork rolls (for chewing)
- Hard tough toys
- x-Large dog crates
- Stainless steel water buckets
- Pill pockets
- Postage stamps, file folders, labels, office supplies.

Fundraising

Any organization that does rescue is always in need of funding. On occasion, it is necessary to run Medical Fundraising Campaigns to pay for unanticipated surgeries for rescued Pyrs with special needs. Those campaigns will be communicated via our Facebook and Google+ pages as well as our website and special updates.

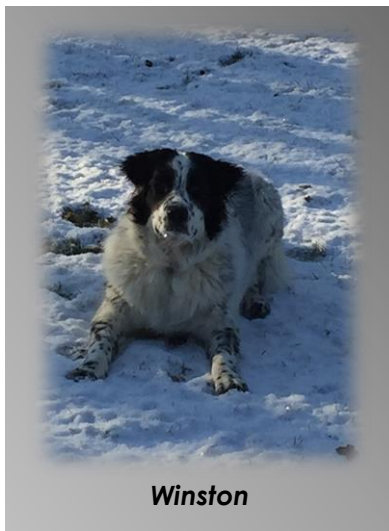
If you would like to offer financial help any time throughout the year, please feel free to make a donation. The money goes directly to the care and placement of the Pyrs we rescue.

Donations via check can be made payable to:

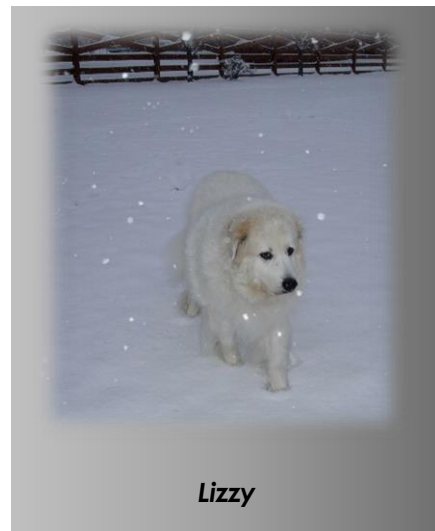
**Appalachian Great Pyrenees
Rescue**

8976 Battlefield Park Road
Richmond, VA 23231

Donations via Paypal can be made using the Donation button on our website Fundraising page.



Winston



Lizzy

For more information on how you can help, e-mail us at AGPR-news@verizon.net