

Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue



Dutchess – “office manager”

Happy New Year from our family to yours!

2014 was a good year for the dogs at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue. Seventy two dogs are now in loving homes and four are in foster homes. We had the joy of watching six sets of puppies (a total of nineteen in all) grow from little fuzz balls to bigger fur balls before getting adopted. We participated in a number of adoption events in the Richmond area as well as the

Middleburg area. Victoria hosted a fun-filled PyrFest in Richmond, and we had seventeen dogs (with their owners/ volunteers) participate in the Middleburg Holiday Parade – despite the rainy weather. Once again, volunteers and donations were greatly appreciated and always help make the dogs' lives much better. Looking forward to an even better 2015.

Dogs Adopted

Seventy two dogs were adopted from Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue in 2014. They were (alphabetically):

Andorra, Arnold, Audie, Austin, Bailey, Berkley, Bodie, Brava, Buster, Cassie, Charly, Clark, Daisy, Diego, Elton, Emily, Fiona, Fuze, Gemma, George, Gertie, Ghost, Giselle, Grace, Gracie, Grayson, Greta, Hector, Huck, Jack, Jeffrey, Jenny, Jonathan, KitKat, Lillie, Luna, Maggie, Maggie (II), Mollie, Ney Mar, Nicky, Nora, Olaf, Osbourne, Polly, Precious II, Ralph, Randall, Rani Molly, Rebekah, Reeba, Riley,

Rocco, Rosie, Sadie, Samantha, Sandy, Shiloh, Smokey, Stevie Nicks, Sugar, Sunny, Taylor, Terra, Timmy, Tucker, Tuesday, Ty, Walby, Wesley, Willie, Whinnie.

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

Inside this issue:

- Page 1 – 2014 in summary
- Page 1 – Dogs adopted
- Page 2 – Terra
- Page 2 & 3 - Grayson and Luna
- Page 3 – Taylor (the puppy)
- Page 4 – Volunteers – Mike Diegel & Trish Rimo
- Page 4 – Volunteers – Southern States
- Page 5 – Middleburg, VA Events
- Page 5 – How you can help



Starting out 2015 right – Snowball went to her new home on New Year's Day.



Tara chilling out.



Tara and her "sister" Flutter.

Happy Tails – Terra (a.k.a. Tara)

(Editor's note: I met Terra's new family at my first adoption event. They fell in love with the breed and came back to the next event and met Terra. Zach was 15 years old and Megan was 9 when Terra joined their family.

Zach: Terra is just the cutest little 1 -1/2 year old puppy - I've never had such a playful dog before. We met her at Petco; our eldest dog had died and we were looking for a new dog. Terra had the cutest face and since we love bigger dogs we decided she would be the best match for us. We decided to go with her breed because we heard about their animal watching ability and we have ducks so we thought she would be able to keep them safe as well as give us a good laugh. Keep in mind she is a puppy so we have to watch her but one day my dad decided to leave her in my room for the rest of the

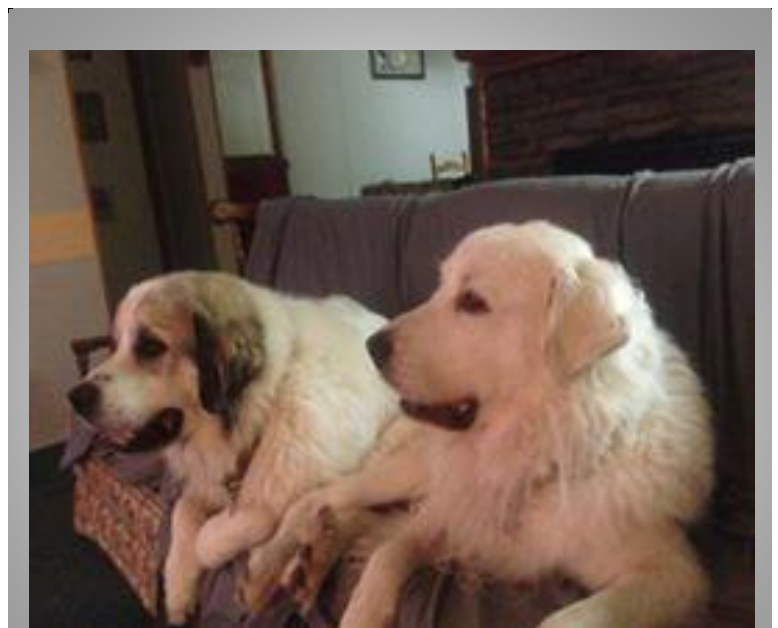
day. Let's just say she loves to eat stuffing. When she goes outside, she's excited and is playful - she will go to one of her "digging holes" and start to dig. I can say that I love what she did with our flower garden.

Megan: One day we went to Petco to see dogs. When we walked through the first set of sliding doors we saw this adorable white dog named Terra. We stood there petting her and talking to Celeste from rescue. Since we were so interested in Terra, Celeste invited us to the rescue to walk the dogs. We went the next day and that's when we decided we would adopt Terra. At night she will walk into my room and cuddle with my dad while he's tucking me in and when she gets excited she jumps up on her hind legs. I'm so glad we could adopt Terra and give her a good home. I love her so much.

Happy Tails – Grayson and Luna

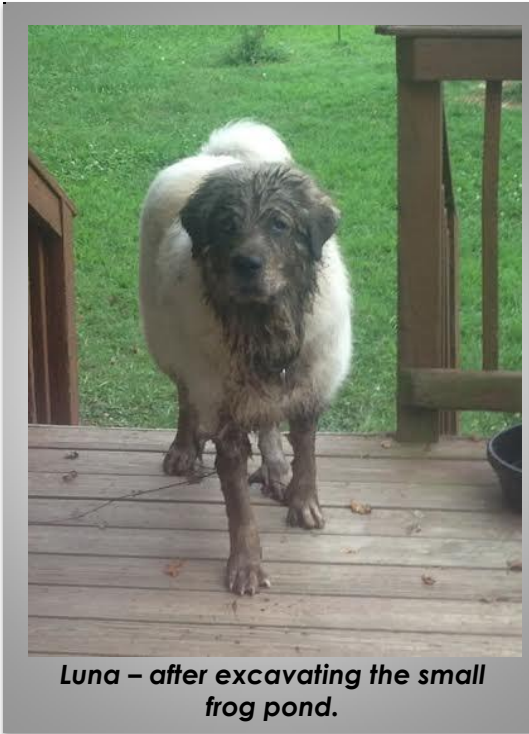
{Editor's note: Ronnie and Pam adopted two of our Pys this year - Grayson and Luna. They own a 5 acre farm in Buckingham County with two black Clydesdales, six cats, and a rabbit. They have recently named their farm "Pyrdale" in honor of their dogs and horses. Pam was kind enough to provide us with their story}

Max, my long time SPCA special, passed away in April. He was over 14 years old. I've always wanted a big dog and loved the Pyr breed. So we decided to attend the PyrFest picnic in May with Ronnie's daughter Rebekah to see all the dogs...and there were quite a few to pick from. Since Ronnie worked away from home during the week, I wanted a companion dog. Grayson came up to us calmly and quietly. We took him for a walk and the rest was history. Grayson was originally a farm dog and we had to bribe him to come in the house – which he now loves. The first night we were all together, Grayson ate beef roast and a stick of butter off the counter. I don't think we knew how big he really was.



Grayson and Luna...lounging at home.

Happy Tails - Grayson and Luna (cont'd)



Luna – after excavating the small frog pond.

We love Grayson's attitude - he is a people pleaser and didn't understand what other people were saying about being a very stubborn breed. Grayson just fell right into place here. Once Ronnie's job ended and he got a job that allowed him to travel from home, we decided to get another dog. In August, we met Luna and she is the typical Pyr. Stubborn, independent... we love her to pieces. Grayson is our "mush" and Luna makes us laugh. The first week we had Luna she got into a small frog pond in the yard and tried to dig her way out of it. She was a muddy mess. She has eaten pasta and Grayson ate four bags of treats

off the counter. Luna has taken the elbow off the gutter and played with it. She is our "problem child" - and she keeps us on our toes. She is loving and loves to cuddle. They both love children. We never wanted them as a "farm guard dog", they were always to be part of our family. Their loyalty is unmatched, their kindness is unimaginable. Ronnie has owned other breeds in the past and said he would never own another breed. I would have to agree.

Happy Tails – Taylor (the puppy)

{Editor's Note: Taylor came to AGPR as a 7 week old puppy. His family adopted him when he was 4 months old}

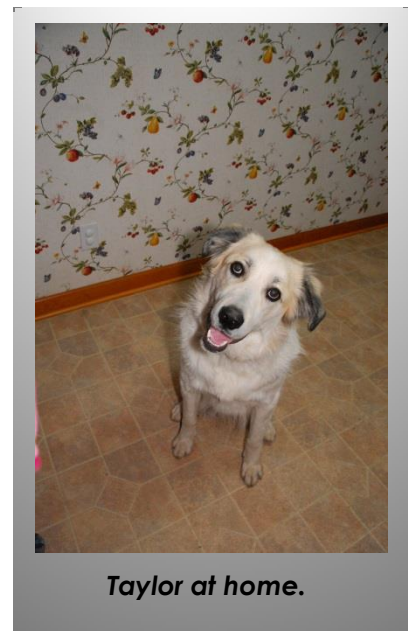
Our journey with Taylor started with us driving home to North Carolina. Upon arriving home, we had the pleasure of introducing Taylor to our other two dogs - Jubilee and Chaos. It took about a week but they finally settled in and adjusted to living together. Today you would think that Chaos and Taylor have been together since birth with the way they play together.

Taylor also became fast friends with our son Leo. They are two peas in a pod. Taylor likes to help put Leo to bed at night and also is the first one in Leo's room to wake him up with a big wet kiss.

Taylor has learned so much in just the few months that he has been with us. He walks right next to you without pulling.

When it's time to eat Taylor will jump up and down (like a bunny) until he calms down and remembers that he won't get his food until he sits down.

We had our second child, Camille, in late October and Taylor was very curious about her. He has proven to be a great boy and doesn't seem to mind our new addition even though she requires a lot of attention. We know that when Camille gets older they will be great friends just like Taylor and Leo. "Taylor completes our family".



Taylor at home.



Taylor and his new pals.





The threesome kissing Santa.

AGPR Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/AGPRescue

- Features events and photos
- Currently more than 4200 followers

Mike Diegel & Trish Rimo – Pyr Adopters & Volunteers

Flashback – 2006. Mike Diegel and Trish Rimo adopted their first Pyr rescue pup, a crazy youngster named Kaiser. And six months later, they added a big male they named Charlemagne. The two were best buddies who loved to romp and play with each other until last year when they lost Charlemagne to cancer. That started it all. The couple began to come to events like Pyrfest, helped out at adoption days in Virginia, and then organized their own adoption events at pet stores in Silver Spring, Md. They have been regulars at the Middleburg Christmas Parade. Four years ago, Mike began organizing AGPR adopters' participation in the annual Silver Spring, MD Thanksgiving Parade.

Mike set up the AGPR Facebook page and continues to manage it. Mike helps maintain the AGPR Petfinder page and he and Trish frequently travel to Richmond to take photos of Pys available for adoption.

Mike and Trish took in Sylvia to foster (Fall 2010). A pretty girl, she had a lot of interest from potential adopters, but they were discouraged when it was clear she couldn't handle stairways. X-rays revealed a severe case of arthritis in one back hip. An AGPR fundraiser paid for a successful surgery. After nursing Sylvia through surgery and rehab, she officially joined their happy family.

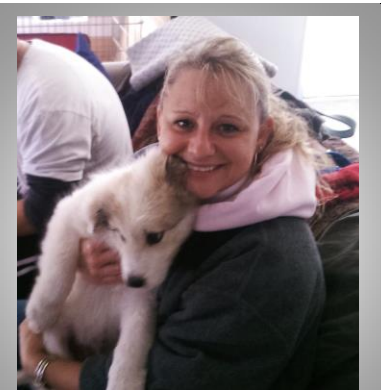
The dogs have been frequent visitors and AGPR ambassadors at Silver Spring area markets and other outdoor events. Mike is mostly recognized around town as "the guy with the big white dogs." There are many places in Maryland willing to host AGPR adoption events; they just need to have dogs relatively close by to take to events. Mike and Trish plan to foster again and would love to find more foster families in the Baltimore-D.C area. If interested, contact Mike through the AGPR Facebook page.

Southern States Volunteer Event

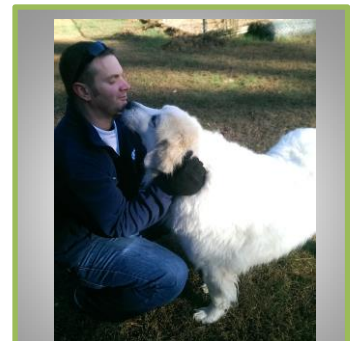
Remember that day in November when Buffalo was getting six feet of snow? Well, it was partly sunny and "brisk" in Richmond when Duane Pierson, a regular volunteer at AGP, brought his Southern States work group out to the kennels to volunteer. While the "to do" list was lengthy, the weather prevailed. The hearty group tackled the intake area kennels – scrubbing the dog houses down inside and out, doing minor repairs, blowing out the remaining Fall leaves, and a few miscellaneous clean up items. After some hot chocolate, a heartfelt thank you from Victoria, and lots of snuggles with Starsky and Hutch (puppies), the group went out to meet and walk the Pys. A good time was had by both volunteers and Pys!



Back row: Jeff Young, Kevin Yarbrough, Steve Chrestensen
Front row: Duane Pierson, Darlene Staring



Darlene and Starsky



Kevin & Andorra

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.com

Celeste Miller -
Newsletter

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:

Wylie Wagg adoption
(11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

5B E. Washington St.
Middleburg, VA 20117

- February 22
- March 14

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

Middleburg, VA Events

AGPR has participated in the Middleburg Christmas Parade since 2008. In the last several years, participation ranged from 80 – 100 dogs and 100 – 140 AGPR friends and family members, making AGPR one of the largest groups in the parade. While 2014's attendance was down due to weather, those of us who showed up enjoyed the day. And the dogs loved the kids, the "paparazzi" and the crowds' adoring "ooohs and aaaahs". We hope to see some of our new owners in the area join us in 2015...this is an excellent opportunity for good PR for Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue. According to the sponsors, our participation in the parade is noticed by everyone -- as in "those people with the big white dogs." This in turn supports the adoption days we do at the Wylie Wagg store at 5B East Washington Street, Middleburg, Virginia 20117. Speaking of adoption events, Wylie Wagg is magic in terms of finding the AGPR dogs homes. Adoptions are held



AGPRescue at Middleburg Parade - 2014

each year between October and June. 12 – 15 dogs are typically placed every year as a result of Wylie Wagg. That's not bad for a small pet store in a small village. We hope people will stop in to see us at these events!

If you'd like to help, we really need volunteers to foster the dogs once they are up here and people to drive the dogs up here, or at least part of the way. Please contact Howard Lewis at phillipal@me.com to offer assistance.

How you can help...

Volunteer Time

Want some exercise and love? Come out and walk the dogs and spent time socializing them. We also need help transporting dogs to adoption events or from shelters to our kennels. Our big white fluffy dogs need brushing and bathing (when the weather is warmer). And foster homes are always needed.

There's always a list of "honey do's" for a work group to tackle (painting, minor repairs).

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. If you would like to offer financial help, please feel free to make a donation. The money goes directly to the care and placement of the Pyrs we rescue. To send a donation by check please make your check payable to:

Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue
8976 Battlefield Park Road
Richmond, VA 23231

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