

## 2015 Newsletter

April Edition

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015 Highlights

During the first quarter of 2015, we had 21 dogs join us at Rescue: Annie, Artie, Bandit, Brian, Buck, Diego, Ellie Mae, Elsa, Hugo, Irene, Jolly, JR, Lady, Marge, Meg, Naomi, Philo, Ralphie, Roy, Simba,

and Zumba.

We also added a litter of eight puppies to the roster compliments of Irene (more on them later).

The following eighteen dogs are very happy in their new forever

homes: Bandit, Blaze, Blizzard, Brian, Dillon, Dory, Ellie Mae, Herra, Hoss, Hutch, Jeffrey, Jolly, Maybelline, Meg, Milkshake, Shiya, Snowball, and Starsky. We are so happy they found loving families.

### Irene's Puppies



Irene came to Rescue early in February from the southwest corner of Virginia. About two weeks later, on the eve of the first snow storm in February, she decided to deliver her puppies. (First photo – Irene and one day old puppies)

Proud mama of five boys and three girls, Irene was very trusting of us with her litter and enjoyed a few minutes to herself as we cuddled and loved each of them.

At one month old, the puppies were photographed and named to ease the adoption process (Middle photo – puppies in a bin to help organize them during the photo session).

The girls, Cora, Edith and Violet, are all adopted. Four of the five boys, Bates, Clarkson, Matthew and Moseley are also spoken for. The other little boy, Thomas

(black ears, white face) is anxiously waiting a loving family.

The adopted puppies are seven weeks old (photo on right) and will be able to go home with their new families mid-April. The best news of all is that Irene has also been adopted to a loving home.



Above: Puppies – March 2014  
Below: Penny (fka Brava)



Above: Harper (fka Sandy)  
Below: Carson (fka Shiloh)



Above: Sophie (fka Nicky)

## A Six Puppy Reunion

During the first quarter of last year (2014), six puppies came into our lives at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue. These energetic balls of fluff were adopted into loving homes in March and April and have grown up since then. Curious as to what they look like today, we asked their owners to share photos and a few words about their newest family members. The families were very interested in hearing more about their dog's siblings and interested in being in contact with each other. We hope you enjoy the stories submitted by their owners.

**Penny** (formerly known as Brava), is a life saver. I met her after we had to put down our 13-year-old German Shepherd. I've always had dogs and we were now feeling a void. It has been wonderful having an openly affectionate dog...she loves everyone. Penny has brought smiles and laughter into our lives again. Penny currently weighs between 75 - 80 pounds. Her favorite toys are tug-a-rug, squeaky squirrel and raccoon floppy toys, tennis balls and of course, her daddy. Yes, she does sleep in the bed with me on our daily nap and, just like all the other dogs in our lives, stays out of the bed when Daddy is there. Penny is spoiled

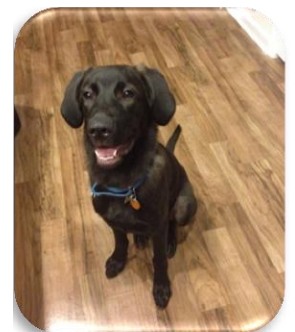
rotten and loved dearly. We will soon be looking for a companion for her.

**Harper** (formerly known as Sandy) and **Carson** (formerly known as Shiloh) are best friends! They love to run around together in our backyard (especially to hide behind the bushes or wall and do a sneak attack on each other), sit/stay for treats, take long walks in our neighborhood, and cuddle with each other and us. They love to chew and destroy all kinds of toys. Whatever toy one has is always what the other one wants! Harper loves cuddling on our couch; Carson likes to eat stink bugs and get her belly rubbed. They both love chomping on carrots and apples as treats as well as all the other classic puppy goodies. They are mellow and loving, kind to our cats, and haven't met a person they don't like.

**Sophie** (formerly known as Nicky) was one of the last two of the litter remaining when we came out to adopt. Our family was split between the yellow and the black lab. When we went to look at them, Sophie picked us. She came up to us directly (the yellow lab was more interested in playing the grass). Sophie lives in Virginia but has travelled a few

times to the grandparents' home in Ohio. She's a great companion in the car to the kids. While Sophie isn't very fond of getting wet by going in the water, she loves going on our boat and enjoying the breeze. We think of her as the third kid around our house, as she loves playing with the kids. Chasing the tennis ball, running around the house with the kids, and playing their doggie games is always enjoyable. We recently found out that she loves playing in the snow! Sophie has been a great addition to our family - we can't think what it was like without her!

**Luca** (formerly known as Ghost) - We have had so much fun with Luca over the last year! He has gotten so big, almost 100 pounds. Luca spends time with his Pyr friends. He is the sweetest and gentlest dog ever, and he will be a great big brother come June.



Above: Luca (fka Ghost)

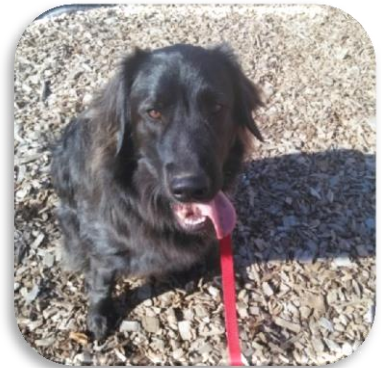


## A Six Puppy Reunion (cont'd)

**Moses** (formerly known as Fuze) is really the best dog ever! He LOVES the snow and cold weather. He will go outside and bury his head in the snow. He loved running next to the sleds this winter. He loves sitting out back on the picnic table, or "Mount Mo," as we call it. He is pretty talkative and often walks the perimeter of our yard barking to warn off

intruders. However, he is pretty fond of everyone and tends to flop on his back waiting for a belly rub when he greets you. He really thinks he is a lap dog and enjoys a good nap on the couch. At 105 pounds we are beginning to wonder if we need a new couch. Moses is getting ready to move to L.A. He will travel with us on a 10-day journey to get there.

He enjoyed the Outer Banks last summer. He especially enjoyed chasing crabs. Hopefully he will like California too. He is such a big love and everyone who meets him says what a cool dog he is. We are so glad he joined our family!



Above: Moses (fka Fuze)

## Happy Tails – Jeffrey (aka Jeff)

Jeffrey came to live with us a month ago and has transitioned beautifully. He's become a great pal to our 11-year-old hound/pit bull mix, Roo, and is a curiosity to our 12-year-old cats, Boy Cat and Fuzzy. He enjoys keeping our yard free of squirrels and birds, and likes watching the fish in the pond (when it's not frozen over). He's grown accustomed to the household routines – he knows that we always go for a walk after breakfast and dinner, and he sits when he hears the sound of the lid going back on the treat container. We've taught him

"down" and are still working on "stay." (He does it when he feels like it.) Jeff is very funny, and he knows it. He likes to amuse us with his antics such as shaking his toys and tossing them in the air, running around the yard with a plastic nursery pot in his mouth, and rolling around in the snow. Most mornings, he and Roo go outside for their hour or so of dog wrasslin' and playing chase. Roo really wishes Jeff would play tug of war, but Jeff prefers chase. We are so glad that these two boys have become such

great pals. Once a week or so, we take Jeff to doggie day care so Roo can have a break and Jeff can get his fill of ruckus dog play. He loves riding in the car and often stops next to our car when we're out on walks as if to ask, "Can we go for a ride now?" He's a great pal, a fuzzy monster, a lover of belly rubs, a funny clown, and an affectionate love bucket. His biggest flaw is an occasional barking jag in the middle of the night – a small price to pay for all the love, fun, and laughs he's brought to our family.



## Happy Tails - Rocco

Rocco was adopted February, 2014. His owners, Steve and Laura, tell us that "Rocco is doing amazing and really loves his home, the horses and guarding us

and them! We cannot imagine life without Rocco." Rocco's family sent photos of him really enjoying himself at their Farm in Sparks, Md.





## Happy Tails – Anzer

*{Editor's note: Anzer (formerly known as Manly) was adopted from AGPRescue in 2011. His owner sent us this recent update.}*

After Anzer selected us as his humans, we have had nothing but love. Even though he was a shy boy, he has turned into a great

urban adventurer. He lives in D.C. but has traveled to NYC, Boston, Maine, New Hampshire, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. Anzer loves staying in hotels and riding elevators too. He has been called a horse, Falcor, sheep dog and numerous other names. Rather than just

blandly answering the question "What kind of dog is that," we now tell unknowing people he is part giraffe. That gets some very confused looks.

Thank you again for your work and dedication to this breed. They are absolutely amazing!

## Happy Tails - Marley

*{Editor's note: Marley was adopted in 2013 as a puppy. Photo on the left was Marley as a puppy; photo on right is recent.}*

It was love at first sight! Marley was a big girl, you called her "mega pup." She ran to us and smothered us with kisses and we knew she was "The One."



She is so much a part of our family and our home and we feel so lucky to have her. A big thanks to the Rescue for all their efforts.

## New Additions – We Have Puppies



Annie came into our lives the last day in February after being rescued from an abandoned building in rural Virginia. She's got a mind of her own and refused to walk on a leash for a couple days...until she saw the dog biscuits. That changed her attitude!

It did not surprise us when she played her April Fool's trick early and had us anxiously awaiting the birth of her litter for five days. She finally gave birth to a hungry litter of ten little ones. Seven of them are white with some markings and the other three are shades of

brown and black. Annie is a very good mom and only recently let us do a boy/girl check. She has five of each and they are all adorable. Mama and puppies are doing well.



## An Update on Snow

Thank you from Snow and Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue.

Two months ago, we launched a campaign for donations using "crowdfunding" and a site called Indiegogo. In two months, you helped us raise close to \$6,000 through social media and old fashioned mailed-in checks.

The background - One of our rescued dogs, a sweet young boy named Snow, needs surgery to correct a genetic problem with his rear legs. The formal name of the problem is called Osteochondritis Dissecans or OCD. Without surgery, Snow

will be unable to walk within the next couple of years. The amazing surgeons at Virginia Veterinary Surgical Associates (VVSA) can repair Snow's legs and give him a normal quality of life. Snow needs TPLO (Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy) surgery on both rear legs. A conservative estimate for surgery, follow up care and rehabilitation will run about \$8,000. Snow is a young, healthy dog who will benefit greatly from surgery and go on to live a long, normal, active life.

Snow's Status – Snow has had surgery on one of his rear legs and has done a wonderful job of recovering. The most difficult part to date has been keeping him quiet while he heals. Snow wants to run and play and has recovered well from his first surgery. He has his eight-week follow-up visit in a week or two.

Even though the Indiegogo campaign ended April 5, we are still gratefully accepting donations towards Snow's surgery. Thank you!



## Farewell to Winter!

Here at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue, the humans are happy to say "farewell" to winter and "hello" to spring. Not so sure if the Pyrs share the same sentiment.

So, lest we forget, a few photos to remind us how happy our Pyrs are when the snow falls.

{Editor's note: We'd love some photos of your Pyr(s) enjoying Spring. Feel free to send them to:  
agpr-news@verizon.net}



Above: Blizzard (fka Snowball)



Above: Heidi relaxing in the snow.



Left: Artica and Barrow.

## Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue

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Celeste Miller –  
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Applications

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[AGPR-news@verizon.net](mailto: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.

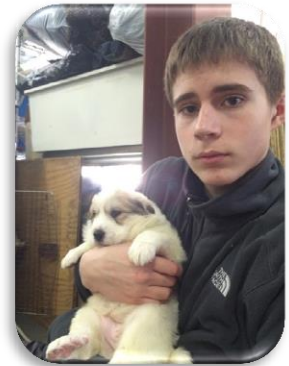
### Upcoming Adoption Events:

~ May 2 ~  
Wylie Wagg adoption  
(11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)  
5B E. Washington St.  
Middleburg, VA 20117

~ May 9 ~  
Richmond area  
Location TBD

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

## Young Volunteers



{Editor's note: Last year, I had the opportunity to meet Zach and Megan and their parents. Their family adopted Terra (also known as Tara)}.

Since adopting Terra, both Zach and Megan

have come out to Rescue a couple times (joined by their mother Dawn) to walk the dogs and, more recently, to socialize and play with the puppies. Zach has recently been accepted to the Vet

Tech program at Hermitage Technical Center in Henrico County and starts in the fall. We're looking forward to seeing more of these young volunteers out at Rescue!

## How you can help...

### Volunteer Time

Want some exercise and love? Come out and walk the dogs and spend 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) and towels
- 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

*"It came to me that every time I lose a dog they take a piece of my heart with them, and every new dog who comes into my life gifts me with a piece of their heart. If I live long enough all of the components of my heart will be dog, and I will become as generous and loving as they are." ~Unknown*

*Always provide your dogs (and all animals) with love and care.*

**For more information on how you can help, e-mail us at [AGPR-news@verizon.net](mailto:AGPR-news@verizon.net)**