

2016 Newsletter

April Edition

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1st Quarter 2016 Highlights

Congratulations to the families who adopted these 15 dogs in the first quarter of 2016: Alley, Bandito, Brook, Cotton, DeeDee, Fannie, Garrison, Gracie, Gus, Jacob, Jake, Luna, Moose, Sadie and Sophie. We are so happy they found loving families.

During the first quarter of 2016, we had 23 dogs join us at Rescue: Alley, Artica, Brook, brothers Bugzy and Taz, Buddy, Fannie, Gus, Jacob, Jake, Lenny, Lilly, Minnie, Olaf, four puppy siblings (Charmin, Phoenix, Scott and Troy), Russell, sisters Rose and Lily,

Sophie Rose, and Zeus. Lilly is currently in a foster home and the puppies are all under contract for adoption. They should all be in their new homes soon.

Two Broke Girls - Update



DeeDee

Left: Upon arrival, pre-surgery
Right: Post-surgery, first day with "four on the floor"!



THANK YOU to all our kind and generous supporters! Without you, we would not have reached 70% of our fundraising goal for our Two Broke Girls and have such wonderful news to share:

DeeDee

This lucky girl had her new guardian angel contact us and offer not only to adopt her, but to sponsor her surgeries. Her guardian

angel has Pyr experience and was looking for a sweet girl to join her family and DeeDee (now Dewey) fit the bill. She was sent to an excellent surgery team down at NC State Veterinary Hospital where they determined that her surgery was much more complicated than originally thought. They constructed a 3D model of her existing

condition and practiced and practiced before Dewey's big day. She stayed with one of the NC State team for many weeks post-surgery to allow for daily observation. Our most recent report is that all is well and Dewey is in her new home. She is on schedule with her recovery and should be running around and playing with her new buddies this summer.

**Gigi**

Above: One day after her first surgery.
Below: Happy in her foster home.



Two Broke Girls – Update (cont'd)

Gigi

Another lucky girl! Gigi was found in a pasture in the western part of Virginia playing with someone's dogs and she was turned in to a local veterinarian – no collar, no identification. Lucky for us, the vet knew us and had helped AGPR in the past. She was willing to spay and take care of Gigi until we had room for her. While there, the vet took some x-rays of Gigi's back legs and diagnosed them with luxating patellas (floating kneecaps) on both rear legs – so severe that they had deformed her legs. Even though her kneecaps were on the outside of her knees, you could not keep her down. Gigi is a bundle of

wriggling love whenever she gets a visitor and she would walk a mile for you, no matter how much it hurt. Poor girl did not seem to know that her legs weren't right.

Since Gigi came in very undernourished, she had to wait several weeks for surgery – she needed to put some meat on her bones. Gigi's first surgery was done on her worst leg and took a couple months of quiet time and therapy before she was allowed to take some nice walks. To say she was unhappy with the quiet time would be an understatement... she wanted out of her crate so she could play and be loved.

A recent visit to her surgeon indicated that while she did have a floating kneecap, her other hind leg was bowed and required a complicated surgery. Gigi's condition is under review by the same excellent surgery team that cared for Dewey. A pre-operation visit is scheduled for early June. In the meantime, Gigi is in loving foster care with the wonderful vet who helped her find her way to AGPR... we think Gigi stole her heart and will continue to do so.

Again, a heartfelt thanks to all who helped our "Two Broke Girls"...stay tuned for future updates.

Annie and Her Puppies...Then



{Editor's note: This is a story we ran last year about Annie and her puppies. All are in loving homes as you will see from the updates submitted by their loving families. Enjoy!}

Annie came to Rescue the very end of February {2015} from the southwest corner of Virginia. She was found in an abandoned building and was reported to be seen hanging around with an Australian Shepherd {but see for yourself... we don't think it was the dad}.

Annie kept us on our toes right up until the day she delivered her litter. There were many false alarms which meant several sleepless nights. She went into labor the evening of April Fool's Day (seemed fitting) and became the proud mama of five boys

and five girls.

Annie was a great mom. Anytime we removed a puppy to check it, she seemed to look around, count noses and then look at us until we replaced her missing pup.

{All the puppies' families would love to know who the daddy was. We believe some kind of hound... recent guesses include Treeing Walker or English American Coonhound. One vet thinks Great Dane! What do you think?}





Annie and Her Puppies...Now

After three trips to AGPR, Annie's future "dad" fell in love with the single mom Pyr. Even though she hung her head and gazed at him with fearful eyes, we saw her prance and jump with people she knew and felt confident she would come around. More importantly, she completely deferred to our dog Bogie. While Bogie snapped at Annie for a month to let her know he was alpha, Annie took it in stride and now truly seems to like him – she wags her tail and touches his nose every time she sees him. Annie slowly opened up to us, her human parents. Although she still shoots her "dad" a fearful look on occasion and definitely does not trust any human male who carries a stick, she now wriggles her entire body when we come home, has running fits with a little encouragement of yelling "Wild Pyr on the loose!!", and is thrilled to go on walks to visit our local dog park. We spoil her with healthy human treats as well as dog ones and she's learned that getting scratched under the collar is a really, really awesome thing that should happen daily. It is clear that Anne was meant to be our baby!

Gilligan – Our boy Bear has been a wonderful addition to our family and has adjusted nicely! He sits on command and shakes! Bear thinks he's a lap dog and will sit on the couch with all paws still on the floor. He plays with our dachshund all the time. They bonded well,

they lay together and lick each other's faces all the time! Our six pound Maltese lets the boys know that she is the one in charge! Bear is one of the kids and plays accordingly! We love having him and couldn't imagine life without him, even though he is terrified of the vacuum cleaner!

Skipper and Ginger -

The brother and sister have been adopted together. Skipper is very good at walking on his leash. He is a little shy around people but warms up to them quickly. Skipper likes to sit on the couch with just one leg with the other three stay on the floor...he looks like a person sitting there. Skipper has learned to fetch and is very curious. Ginger is more outgoing than her brother. She sits and shakes but likes to lead the way when on a walk. We have nicknamed her "The Rug". When she is in the house she lays down, usually right in the doorway. At about 75 pounds, they still try to sit in our laps even though they are as tall as we are when we sit on the floor.

Professor – We have renamed him Torrin and he is a sweet, sweet boy. He is submissive to alpha dogs at the park but very, very playful with anyone interested. Torrin is approachable and friendly with all people but fearful

of strange places or change. He will not jump in the car, no matter how much he loves car rides. Helping 75 pounds of Pyr into a Jeep is not easy! Torrin does not bark much but loves being outdoors as much as possible. He is also the pickiest eater I have ever encountered in a dog. Torrin will just walk away and I keep trying new toppings to entice him. They work for a while and then his nose turns up! He is incredibly tall and lean, and EVERYONE I meet asks about his breed. I'd give my right arm to know who's his daddy!

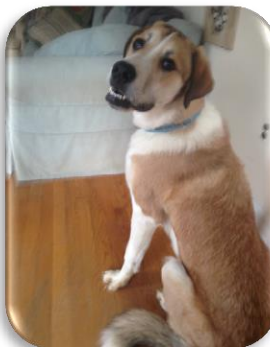
Lovey – Miss Gracie "Lovey" is an amazing, curious and too smart for her own good kind of dog. With a generous gift from our local Natural Balance food rep., Gracie has been able to get some personal training at the Short Pump Petco. Gracie completed all of her puppy training and some adult dog training and we plan on continuing. She is now AKC Canine Good Citizen Certified.

Gracie has grown into a beautiful girl. She finally grew into her tail and has so many more spots on her back. She is an absolute beautiful mix of her mother Annie and her

Above: Annie after her spa visit.
Below: Bear (formerly known as Gilligan)...just chilling out.



Above: Skipper (left) and Ginger (right) after playtime.
Below: Torrin (fka Professor) saying "cheese".



Annie and Her Puppies...Now (cont'd)

father the "hound dog". Gracie is loyal and protective of her house, her yard and her two boys, ages 10 and 6. They love her!

Thurston Howell – Now goes by the name of Beaufort or Beau. Beau is a wonderful dog and gets comments everywhere we go on how handsome and friendly he is. The ladies at the hardware store know him by name and love on him whenever I take him in. Of course they give him treats too! He loves to go for car rides and is always well behaved in public.

Beau's favorite pastime is wrestling with our Pug... it is quite humorous to watch as they chase each other around the house and the back yard.

MaryAnn – prefers to be called Kona and is the most fun-loving dog! She absolutely loves running after squirrels, digging in the sand and playing with her new doggy brother, Riley. She is the sweetest girl with an ultimate sassy side. Everyone always jokes how she gives the most human-like looks when she doesn't like something you say. Kona has been dubbed with having "the softest fur in the world" by almost everyone she meets. You have to watch out for this

sneaky girl because she will steal your seat on the couch the minute you get up. Kona laying on the hard floor?! No way! She absolutely loves laying on anything soft so we call her the princess of the house because she has to constantly lay on pillows, her bed or the couch. Speaking of her bed-- she refuses to let go of her puppy bed even though she clearly doesn't fit in it anymore. We have tried giving her several new beds but she refuses to part ways with her puppy bed. Kona has become such a big part of our family and we don't know what we would do without our girl.

Phil - We were told that he was named after the Chick-Fil-A cow due to his markings...we like the name Baxter better. He is absolutely one of the sweetest dogs. Baxter loves his family and every single person and animal that he meets. He lives with his little sister Daicey and he loves romping around the yard and play fighting with her on a daily basis. One of his favorite things to do is play in the snow and this year was perfect for it. On many occasions, we would look outside and see only his butt up in the air as he was digging a hole in a pile of snow from the driveway. Getting used to the warmer weather recently has been a bit of a challenge with his fluffy fur, but he manages sleeping under the one tree in the yard.

We've recently started taking him and his sister on hikes. He enjoys them so long as it's a nice slow pace and if we want to jog he gives a classic pyr stare that says, "No way."

Rachel – Now known as Nola, her human brothers (ages 5 & 7) were asked to write about her. This is what they wrote: "Nola is a cute dog. She is playful, soft and fast. She is getting better about chewing things. She likes to lie in bed and cuddle with people. Nola knows tricks, like shaking. She has a dog friend that she likes to play with, a lot. "

Ellen, or Willow as she is now known, is a great girl. She is 70 pounds of gentleness, loves our kids, LOVES to run and fetch, and does well with her leash. All in all, we could not have possibly asked for a better dog or a better experience with adopting her.



Above: Gracie (fka Lovey) enjoying her first snowfall.
Below: Beau (fka Thurston Howell) looking distinguished.



Above: Kona (fka MaryAnn) enjoying the beach.
Below: Baxter (fka Phil) on a hike.



Above: Nola (fka Rachel) sitting pretty.
Right: Willow (fka Ellen) - Such an appropriate name.



Irene and Her Puppies...Then



{Editor's note: This is a story we ran last year about Irene and her puppies. It has been such fun to see them all grown up and in such loving homes. Hope you enjoy the stories from their families!}



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 (photo immediately to the left – 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 (far left

photo – puppies in a bin 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 (bottom left photo) 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.

Irene and Her Puppies...Now



Above: Shimmer (fka Irene) guarding her back yard.
Below: Merit (fka Cora) looking pensive.



Irene (now Shimmer) is such a wonderful addition to our family! She is a friend to talk to, hug, and be with. Her knowing gaze makes each person in our crazy family (kids – 3, 5 and 7 years old) feel loved and happy. Our littlest has used her as a tunnel and mountain for all of his matchbox car/train/truck play in addition to being a "fluffy, warm pillow." The older kids fight over who gets to feed, walk, play with, or pet her (there's a lot of fighting). Shimmer takes everything in stride and makes us laugh! The other day she found a stick in the woods that was seven feet long and weighed over 20 pounds - she was so proud to show it off! She lugged it all the way to her "spot." For a

while, I was afraid she was a little "too nice" and would welcome an intruder if they promised to pet her, but she proved me wrong! My husband told a visiting male guest to come in our front door while he came in the side. Not expecting anyone at the door, Shimmer made sure he knew he was not welcome, and cornered him with her hair standing on end. It was awesome! The poor man took an hour to catch his breath! We have had a wonderful time with our girl, everyone but the cat. She's a little miffed about sharing us. We hope her pups have some of her personality, because even if they have just a little bit, we

know they're great!
Cora (now Merit) - Where would we be without Merit? This joyful, freckle-faced pixie is pure entertainment. She brings us laughter and happiness every day. Our two adult girls - Honor and Daisy think she is their puppy. Whenever Merit does something particularly naughty, they give us the "Isn't she adorable?" look. Our male Pyr, Justice, tolerates her puppy antics with the occasional eye-roll. She completes our family, and we are so glad that AGPR saved her mother and litter mates. We were particularly entertained by the results of her Canine DNA test: Mother - Pyr... Father -

Irene and Her Puppies...Now (cont'd)

mixed with Jack Russell Terrier??

Edith (Quillan) & Moseley (Aragon) - these two siblings are best friends who love to play together, usually racing around the kitchen with Aragon leaping over Quillan. Toys don't last more than a week with these two (even the hard to destroy ones) and there is always a competition between them for who has the best one. Quillan, being the alpha, usually comes out on top, getting whichever she wants. When not running around, they love cuddling with their teenage people. Aragon is an avid kisser, and is beside himself when "Dad" comes home, doing flips. Quillan likes to welcome people into our home by rolling over for a belly rub, and once you start petting her there is no stopping, as she pulls out the pyr paw. They recently found their voices, and have become quite generous with using them. Quillan and Aragon are our daughters' first puppies, and have brought great love, laughter (and work) into our home. We couldn't imagine our lives without them!

Bates (Bandit) - Bandit is enjoying his new backyard and pink squeaky toy he found in the yard! He is being so good in our new house that he now sleeps

uncrated! No misbehavior with chewing up furniture, only one shoe casualty, and minimal accidents (always my fault). He loves the sun porch where he can see and bark at squirrels and neighborhood cats! And he only terrorizes his pet sibling Jetson kitty occasionally; most times Jetson is taunting Bandit!

Violet (Kuma) - Kuma is such a wonderful addition to our family. She definitely has found her voice! Grunts and grumbles of expression are heard from her often and boy, that bark of hers is fierce! Giving hugs and kisses, playing keep away, herding cats around, chasing butterflies and her tail are some of her favorite hobbies. We sure do love our cuckoo Kuma to the moon and back! Thank you to AGPR for letting this precious pup belong to us.

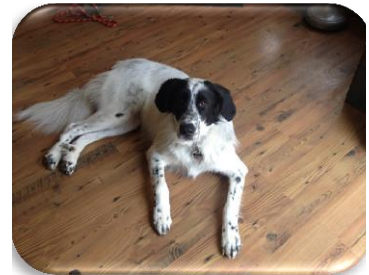
Thomas - My new name is Kato. I love to go on long hikes, smell everything along the way, and play with my adopted sisters Jennie and Abbie. I am fond of birds and squirrels and always think I can catch them, with no luck so far. I also love the snow and being outside with my family. I miss my siblings and mommy but have found a happy and loving home here in central Pennsylvania. We live on a 16-acre farm and I just moved into the renovated part of the farmhouse, which gives me a lot of room to jump and play.

Matthew - Winston has been a joy. He loves to go to the park and play tug of war with the other dogs' frisbee. He chews on sticks and has been a thief - stealing paper and oven mitts (and then acts innocent). Winston is a little vocal and lets us know when he wants to play or go for a walk. He is a loyal member of the family who loves to snuggle on the couch or sit on the coffee table so all eyes are on him. We could not imagine our family without him.

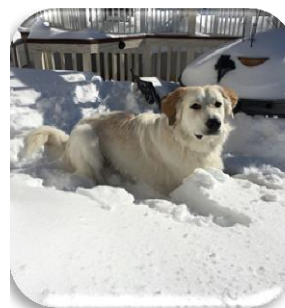
Clarkson (Jackson) - Jackson, at 80 pounds, thinks he is a lap dog. He loves his boys and loves torturing the cats by chasing them around the house! He has certainly found his voice and loves to notify us if anyone is walking past the house. He gets along well with our husky and knows she is Alpha! He didn't really like the snow storm but took it all in stride and finally got out to play a bit, though he doesn't like having wet feet. He "tip-toes" through the wet grass. He's our little "princess!"



Left: Quillan and Aragon (fka Edith and Moseley)
Below: Bandit (fka Bates)



Above: Kuma (fka Violet)
Below: Kato (fka Thomas)



Left:
Jackson
(fka
Clarkson)
Right:
Winston
(fka
Matthew)
Both loving
the snow.



Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue

Information:

Victoria Marshman -
Director

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e-mail:
bpkennel@msn.com

Web Site:
www.agprescue.org

Celeste Miller -
Newsletter, Volunteers,
Applications

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:

~ May 14 ~
Adoption Event
Ashland, VA Petco
(11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
Rt. 1 & Rt. 54
Ashland, VA 23005

~ June 11 ~
Pyrfest ("Big Picnic")
(11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
AGPR kennels
8976 Battlefield Park Rd.
Richmond, VA 23231

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

Happy Tails – Sebastian



Sebastian
Left: A jaunty boy at
9 weeks old.
Right: All grown up
and very handsome.



Sebastian has been the funniest addition to our family. His endless shenanigans are the stuff of legends and provide endless entertainment for his seven month-old human baby sister Evie. She begins laughing as soon as she sees his goofy

face and that's when he knows its *show time*! When he's not entertaining the little one, Sebastian enjoys making fantastic catches, such as over the shoulder half twist, which he has named the "Sebby". At doggy daycare he was

January's Camper of the month and has earned such superlatives as the "life of the party." We are so happy Sebastian chose to join our family and can't wait to see what the next year has in store for us.

Pyrfest – June 11, 2016

Pyrfest is coming!

What is it you ask? Pyrfest is a big picnic at the AGPR kennels at 8976 Battlefield Park Road, Richmond, VA 23231. All AGPR alum are invited and they can bring their human families (of

course...someone has to drive). Food, fun, education, silent auction, and a "\$5 Below" table for shopping. Bring your own chairs or blankets and a leash for your Pyr. \$25 per carload...more info on

how to RSVP to follow. Festivities start at 11 a.m. and go until 3 p.m. Looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting some new!

How you can help AGPR...

Volunteer Time

Want some exercise and love? Come out and walk the Pyrs and spend time socializing them. We can also use help transporting dogs to adoption events or from shelters or rendezvous locations to our kennels. Our big white fluffy dogs need brushing and bathing now that the weather has warmed up. There's always a list of "honey do's" for a work group to tackle, so come join us!

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)
- Paper towels, Clorox, detergent
- Hard tough toys
- 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 via Paypal or check. 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:

AGPR
8976 Battlefield Park
Road
Richmond, VA 23231

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