

**2017 Newsletter
4th Quarter Edition**

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Adoptees**

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4th Quarter 2017 Highlights

During the fourth quarter of 2017, ten dogs joined us at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue:

Artica, Bonnie, Bosco, Desi, Judge, Jury, Lucky, Maggie, Pebbles and Star.

The following fourteen dogs are very happy in their new forever homes:

Auggie, Bandit, Bear (now Hank), Blue, Chloe, Fred, Mouse (now Moose), Rod-

ney, Rosie, Russell, Silverbelle, Vick (now Deuce), Zeus (now Elijah) and Zion.

Banjo is currently being loved in a foster home and is getting good reviews about being a house dog and interacting with the farm animals. We are so excited for him!

Congratulations and thank you to their new families!

2018 AGPR Calendar



Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who purchased our beautiful 2018 Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue calendar.

Absolutely amazing!!! Last year we sold 175 calendars and thought that was incredible. This year was even better. We just sold our last calendar—225!! Unbelievable!

But then, who could refuse the all the beautiful/handsome Pyrs—all of them rescues who now have wonderful, loving homes and families.

It isn't too early to start thinking of joining the fun in August when we start the contest for the 4th Annual AGPR Calendar Photo Contest. All you have to do is start snapping some good quality photos of your beloved Pyr (no humans please) and encouraging your family and friends to vote for him/her when the time comes.

THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE PYRS DISPLAYED IN THE CALENDAR !

Hermitage High School Vet Tech Spa Day

Once again, we had a gorgeous day for the Fall Spa Day. On October 27th, over 30 senior high students and several adult volunteers arrived at the kennels with big smiles on their face. Although early in the school year, the seniors were ready to put their new skills to work with many of the Great Pyrenees.

After their safety briefing and a short lecture about Pyrs, their personalities, and the rescue organization, the students went to work. They walked, groomed, de-matted, cleaned ears and gave manicures to fifteen dogs. And a half dozen Pyrs were treated to a bath.

Veterinary Science at Hermitage Technical Center is a two year program for high school juniors and seniors in Henrico County. It attracts students who have a love of animals and who wish to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. First-year students learn the basics of animal husbandry, breed recognition, behavior, anatomy, and nutrition. Second-year students, under the direction of Licensed Veterinary Technician Karen Bowles, learn medical terminology, restraint and handling, and other skills necessary to work as a veterinary assistant. Her class also has a grooming business for dogs and cats. Every Thursday throughout



the school year, they work on teams of 3-4 to trim nails, clean ears, brush and de-mat, bathe and dry. The money they make goes towards classroom pet supplies, grooming and cleaning supplies, and sending students to state and national competitions. Since its inception in 2003, the program has helped hundreds of students to decide on a career pathway and has given them the knowledge and skills needed to obtain jobs in the animal care field, and

to gain entry into Veterinary Technician programs and Veterinary Schools.

All of us at Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue love working with the Vet Tech students—they are very professional and polite and willing to learn. We are very grateful for all their hard work and dedication!

Middleburg Christmas Parade

Our tradition of marching with dozens of Pyrs in the Middleburg Christmas Parade was interrupted this December. Changes in the staging areas resulted in changes in the parking situation. Unfortunately, we had to make the decision to withdraw since the only guaranteed parking required shuttling the Pyrs via bus from remote parking sites.

We are currently working on a couple options in hopes of not having

parking difficulties for the 2018 parade, so stay tuned.

We are grateful for the "Keeping the Flame Alive for AGPR" team who showed up to march and make sure the Pyrs were represented in the Parade. Thank you!!



Pyrenees with their owners (from left to right): Jackson and Valerie, Silas and Rob, Phoebe and Harry, and Yuki and Todd

Thank You to Our Grant Providers and Supporters!

A big thank you to Petco!

We are so very grateful for our partnership with **Petco**. Throughout the year, we visit local Petco stores with one of our AGPR "ambassadors" and introduce shoppers to the breed and rescue. Our focus is education - both breed as well as spay/neuter.

We joined Petco at Pooch Pursuit in April and in September, Petco joined us at our Pyrfest event. They were generous in providing goodie bags to each of the participants.

Two Petco stores (one local and one in northern Virginia) donated bags and bags of dog food and treats to AGPR and gave the Pyrs variety in their meals and plenty of tasty treats. We can't thank our friends at Petco enough!

Another big thank you to Animal Rescue Fund (ARF)!

ARF is an all-volunteer charitable organization dedicated to raising funds to help existing, Virginia-based animal shelters and animal rescue services by providing grants to those that receive little/no government support.

AGPR submitted a grant for funds to install fencing around the Livestock Guardian doghouse built by an Eagle Scout earlier in 2017. The funds were awarded and the project has been scoped out as another local Eagle Scout project and presented to a local troop for support.

AGPR's vision - to provide a livestock guardian environment where Pyrs can be proven as LGD worthy and a way to display great housing options.

And one last big thank you to Petfinder!

During the summer, we participated in a local *Petfinder Adoption Options conference*. Petfinder offered opportunities for their attendees to apply for a grant for an idea resulting from the conference.

AGPR submitted a proposal to fund a program to work with our behavioral trainer, 2SpeakDog. Our desire is to assist our alum when they have specific behavioral issues that need professional assistance. The grant was awarded, the program guidelines developed and a pilot program launched. The participants report on their progress on a set frequency and AGPR is required to report on the program's success to Petfinder on a quarterly basis. We are excited with our preliminary results!

Some Happy Adoptees - 4Q17



Fred is a lucky, lucky boy! He was rescued while running loose up near Baltimore (and all those highways) and brought to Richmond. Shy, shy, shy but loved every dog he was buddied with at the kennels. His loving family tells us "Fred is definitely feeling more comfortable with us and the other dogs. We took the three of them to Michigan for Christmas. We left the bedroom door open so he could have quiet space if he needed/wanted it but opted to stay around everyone for the most part...Fred decided that he would try sleeping on the bed...he hasn't turned back since."



Rodney and Auggie's new family sent us a glowing report on the boys: "both are very good boys, playing while outside and well-behaved inside, and are great at night, waiting until my alarm goes off to get up and about. Other than some marking when they first came, which we thought might happen, they've been excellent about their house manners. They respect the fence and have never tried to escape, and are pretty good with walking on leashes." The boys join Fenway, their Newfy "sister", and act as if they've known each other forever.



Happy Tails—Flashback One Year

{Editor's note - Happy One Year Gotcha Day to the Pyrs adopted 4Q2016. Hope you enjoy the updates from their families.}

Chloe (right—with Kuma) aka ChooChoo Train has fit in perfectly here with us. She loves to get her pyr lean on, play tug of war with her best friend Kuma, give hugs, nose nudges and is an all around sweetheart. We are so glad to have found Chloe.



Wilson (left) spent the last year enjoying two things: going on walks and eating. Wilson's a low key guy and those are the only things he gets excited about (well, those in addition to the times his senior dog friend Sasha plays with him - once in a while she's up for it). He is charming in his love of simple joys. He is a sweetheart and we love having him in our family.

Penny Lane (right) is such a wonderful addition to our lives. I never in a million years thought I would own a Pyr but I got so lucky with her. As soon as I saw Penny's picture online I knew I had to meet her and bring her home. She's a perfect fit and we are so blessed to have found her.



Simon (left) - We are failed fosters - our intent was to foster Simon until he got through his heartworm treatment. We knew adoption was in our future when Simon moved all the clothes off the floor in my husband's walk-in closet to the middle of our bathroom and then settled in to his new "pyr cave". His message to us? He's not leaving! Full of love and now heartworm negative, Simon enjoys going to the local Petco's twice a month as an AGPR ambassador. He loves all his Petco friends and the attention he receives from the shoppers, especially the little kids. We love him dearly!

Appalachian Great Pyrenees Rescue

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Email your photo and/or sto-
ry 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, clari-
ty, and length.

Upcoming Events:

~ February 10, 2018 ~

Parham Plaza Petco
(11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
1520 N. Parham Road
Henrico, VA 23229

~ February 17, 2018 ~

Ashland Petco
(11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Intersection of Rts. 1 & 54
Ashland, VA

~ March 3, 2018 ~

Parham Plaza Petco
(11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)
1520 N. Parham Road
Henrico, VA 23229

~ March 17, 2018 ~

Ashland Petco
(11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Intersection of Rts. 1 & 54
Ashland, VA

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

Helping our Pyrs by Shopping

Thanks to many of you who have al-
ready signed up for the AmazonSmile
program. Last year we averaged \$35
per quarter (enough to feed one Pyr
for a month). This past quarter, we hit
a new high and received a check for
\$105.26. That's enough to feed three
dogs for a month! Let's keep it up!

The holiday season is almost upon us.
Many of us shop on-line, especially
with Amazon.com. If you would like
to help the Pyrs at AGPR, Amazon of-
fers a program called **AmazonSmile**
that will contribute a small percent-
age of sales to the charity of your
choice. Here's how you sign up:

1. Sign in to set up an account at:
www.smile.amazon.com
2. Click on Accounts & Lists
3. Under Account Settings, pick
Change Your Charity

4. Pick Your Charity => we are listed
as Appalachian Great Pyrenees
Association (not Rescue) in Henri-
co, VA
5. Click on Select and you are all set

You **MUST** access Amazon via
www.smile.amazon.com or else your
purchases will not be linked to
AGPR. Your charity will be listed up
near the top of the screen when you
log in. Same products, just different
log in.



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Attention all **Kroger** shoppers in  
Virginia. You too can help by linking  
your Kroger Plus Card to our chari-  
ty. Easy to do - if you don't have a  
Kroger Plus card, please stop at your  
local Kroger and ask for one. Here's  
what you need to do next:

1. Log in to  
[www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)
2. Sign In or Create an Account to  
Enroll (for the latter, you'll need  
your Kroger Plus card number)
3. After setting up your account, Se-
4. lect Community Rewards
4. Enter "Appalachian Great  
Pyrenees Rescue" or our charity  
number => 86255
5. Complete and shop!



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



# Congratulations to the 2017 adoptees and their families!



Stella



Abby (fka Ruthie)



Jax



Congee (fka Arrow)



Andorra



Jackson



Matteo



Max



Yukon



Magnus



Fred & Ginger  
(fka Ben & Star)



Walter (fka Sonny)



Artica (fka Addie)



Zeke



Lacey (fka Snowy)



Octavius (fka  
Stewart)



Jake



Daisy (fka Paisley)



Amber



Toby (fka Moses)



Hiro



Gracie



Spirit (fka Mufasa)



Bear (fka Batman)



Jenx (fka Gypsy)



Ellie (fka Olivia)



Violet (fka Rhiannon)



Madison (fka Maggie)



Nala (fka Limey)



Patou (fka Pinkie)



Tinsley (fka Erica)



Luna (fka Cream)





Parma (no current photo)



Simon (fka Snow)



Forest



Aubrey (fkaTawny)



Harper (fka Adam)



Jack (fka Joshua)



Lola



Sadie



Bella (fka Stella)



Marshall



Becca and Samson



Willow (fka Lacey)



Jackie



Debra



Dahli



Chloe



Elijah (fka Zeus)



Fred (fka Cream)





Russell



Moose (fka Mouse)



Bandit



Floki (fka Zion)



Hank (fka Bear)



Auggie



Rodney



Deuce (fka Vick)



SilverBelle



Blue

*May you all have a very happy and healthy 2018!*