

THE heart



OF
HOMEWARD
BOUND

AUGUST 2018 / VOL 19, ISSUE 3

HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

Some dogs need extraordinary medical care – others have emotional and behavioral obstacles to overcome. Max needed a safe space, patience, and skill to help him to his second chapter. His story begins to the right.

Considering a puppy? Learn about their developmental stages and needs to ensure they get the right start in life on page 7.

Flying can be risky business for dogs. We have tips and resources for plane travel on page 6.

Cancer takes too many of our Golden friends. Read one family's loving tribute on page 8.

And get ready...our 18th Annual Kibble & Bids™ event is fast-approaching! Saturday, September 29th, we will gather at Cielo Estate and Winery for a very special celebration. Please join us for a late afternoon and early evening of fine wine, food, and Golden Greeters! Get all the details beginning on page 4. We hope to see you all there, because there is nothing we enjoy more than celebrating our successes with you...the heart of Homeward Bound.

PLEASE PASS ALONG!

You can help us to expand our reach by sharing our newsletter with friends, family and co-workers! Thank you!



MAX'S STORY

BY: Audrey Farrington

Gorgeous Max already had two strikes against him; a third would be disastrous. Surrendered at the age of six, he was the devoted, only-dog companion of his human mom with no history of issues with people, kids or dogs. All was well until a man entered the picture and the trouble began. His dislike of the man was intimidating and forced his mom to make the difficult decision to surrender.

In the kennel, he was anxious and reactive around the other dogs, but his assessment did not hint at larger concerns. He was adopted to a family including a dog-savvy human dad that Max bonded to quickly. A few weeks later, however, Max was returned – this time with a bite record.

Dogs like Max can quickly get a reputation as a problem dog. That reputation can become self-fulfilling. Max was at risk. Three things came together to save Max from himself and help bring out the best in him: An advocate determined to get to the heart of Max's issues, a unique foster who had the knowledge and ability to help, and a special adopter. But we're getting ahead of our story.

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Our Mission

Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization which rescues and heals displaced, abandoned, and homeless Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes, regardless of their age or health. Homeward Bound secures safe, loving homes through a comprehensive adoption program, and also provides lifetime sanctuary for Golden Retrievers that cannot be adopted.

Homeward Bound also provides education on proper animal care and on the benefits of, and need for, rescue and sanctuary. In the event of a disaster, Homeward Bound will provide assistance to other rescue groups and the families of dogs impacted by the disaster.

Homeward Bound will continue to serve as a model rescue organization, addressing animal welfare needs throughout California and neighboring states, and strives to be a national leader in rescue, sanctuary and education.

DOGS RESCUED TO DATE IN 2018
175

VET EXPENSES TO DATE IN 2018
\$135,772



Sanctuary Dog: Red

A Message From Our President

There is a brick in our memorial walkway that says “a promise made; a promise kept.” While that brick is dedicated to Chelsea – our beautiful Golden who inspired our Homeward Bound rescue dream – it applies equally to all dogs who come through our doors. When we commit to a dog – we commit to that dog for life. No matter what. That is why two pairs of dogs came back to us this summer when their people were tragically lost.

As you read about Leo and Oggie and Lulu and Holly in the pages inside, please take a moment to think about planning for your fur-family members’ future if the unexpected happens, and you can no longer be there for them. At the end of the story, you’ll find information about planning resources. It’s something that all of us need to consider.

That promise extends to dogs who need much more than room and board and some TLC while they wait for their forever home. Max’s story highlights the extraordinary lengths we will go to when a dog needs much more, and the dedication of our volunteers, fosters, and adopters to make their second chapters possible. It makes me proud.

When medical needs are the obstacle – you help us overcome them. Our annual matching spring fundraising campaigns combine hundreds of gifts, large and small, to cover the dogs’ medical care costs each year. Together, you raised more than \$156,000 through the Fund of Love and Double the Gold Challenge. I could not be more grateful.

Your ongoing donations and gifts of volunteer time and care for the dogs never cease to amaze me. I hope that as many of you as possible will join us at our 18th annual Kibble & Bids event on Saturday, September 29th so I can express my gratitude in person. We will be gathering at a new venue – Cielo Estate and Winery in Shingle Springs. In a beautiful country setting that we will have to ourselves, we hope to spoil you with fine wine, food, surprises – and our Golden Greeters, of course! Our team has worked hard all year to put together a truly special program. We hope to see you there.

For all you do for the dogs, I offer my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Jody Jones, President





Max and Tucker

Continued from page 1

Gaining understanding: The Advocate

Every “problem-child” rescue dog needs an advocate – someone willing to put in the time to understand its story and work to help it to a successful second chapter. Applications and forms rarely tell the whole story; assessments can be imperfect. Conducted by skilled volunteers, assessments can miss a dog’s reaction to less-skilled handlers in situations that make a dog fearful. To gain a true understanding of Max’s behavior and triggers, Max’s advocate placed a call to his first adopter to learn exactly what had transpired with Max in the home. That information helped us to understand that while Max was easily handled and devoted to his dog-confident and skilled dad – just as he had been with his former owner - his response to less-skilled handlers and triggers was over-reaction when he felt fearful or challenged.

Stories of dogs like Max that can’t adjust to the kennel environment can have sad endings. The dog “acts out” in ways that make him appear scary. There might be



some history that contributes to others’ fears. Stir in a dose of vicious cycle, and you end up with heartbreak. Max’s anxiety in the kennel was going to get him into further trouble and undermine the good work being done with him. Enter a foster who took Max home for an extended sleepover.

Max Photo Courtesy of Rob Kessel

Developing a Plan: A Unique Foster

Max’s foster dad provided a safe place to reduce Max’s anxiety while he worked with him to improve his relationship with other dogs and humans. He provided the things that all dogs need: proper exercise, reasonable rules, structure, positive feedback, attention and affection.

This unique foster has extraordinary dog skills and has taken on a number of so-called “problem dogs.” He always has a small pack at the house. We help our dogs by having them spend time with other dogs in playgroups -- monitored environments where dogs have the opportunity to work out their issues safely. One dog, in particular, was very helpful to Max: Tucker.

In the beginning, Tucker did not like Max at all. Max’s idea of “playing” was to run at Tucker as fast as he could like a linebacker taking down a running back. And the humping! Not fun at all for Tucker.

Many dogs would react badly to this, but Tucker is an exceptional boy. It’s as if he knows that some dogs need help in their canine relationships, so he avoids the worst interactions ensuring that the other dog is not “rewarded” for his efforts. Then, over and over, he models proper behavior for the other dog. Tucker literally teaches other dogs how to play.

At the foster’s home, Max had an opportunity to be around other dogs in a controlled environment. One day, when

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**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

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Kibble & Bids™ 2018

The Year of the Dog

Saturday, Sept. 29, 4-7PM

**Cielo Estate Winery – Just off
Highway 50
3040 Ponderosa Rd., Shingle
Springs, CA 95682**

An extraordinary event – in support
of the dogs we love!

This year, Kibble & Bids™ will be held at Cielo Estate – a tranquil country vineyard setting in the foothills. Enjoy a casual late afternoon and early evening overlooking the vineyard while we spoil you with two open wine bars and three different grazing stations featuring Bonne Vie Kitchen's rustic and refined cuisine (including vegetarian selections).

Irresistible deals are waiting in our Silent Auction, Raffle, and Wine Wall – each featuring wines from a host of wineries from near and far - along with an outstanding selection of other must-haves! Topping off the evening: a special presentation by Jody Jones, President, and longtime Homeward Bound friend, Susan Siravo.

Our Golden Greeters will be waiting with wagging tails and sloppy kisses to thank you for the support you offer to the hundreds of dogs rescued and placed in loving homes each year.

BE A FORCE FOR THE DOGS AND SPONSOR!

We have sponsorship opportunities to fit every budget. Each level includes sponsor tickets, entrance to our Exclusive Sponsor Hour, complimentary valet parking, recognition in our event program, on our website, and more!

We welcome individual, corporate and business sponsors. Sponsor levels, benefits, and purchasing options are available on our website at hbgr.org. For questions about sponsoring, contact Linda Sekany at: lsekany@yahoo.com.



HOMEWARD BOUND PRESENTS KIBBLE & BIDS 2018
auction • raffle • wine wall • special presentation • great food, wine & beer
IN HARMONY WITH DOGS • THE YEAR OF THE DOG

CIELO ESTATE WINERY • SHINGLE SPRINGS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
SPONSOR HOUR 3PM, GENERAL ADMISSION 4PM

Kibble & Bids™

TICKETS \$75 advance \$85 door
tickets & sponsorship info:
HBGR.ORG 916.655.1410

all proceeds benefit
 **HOMEWARD BOUND**
Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary

A SPECIAL EVENING IS PLANNED FOR YOU:

Be close to home, yet transported, in a picturesque country setting that we will have all to ourselves!

3-4PM: An **exclusive Sponsor Reception** in the Victoria Farmhouse overlooking a beautiful vineyard with a selection of wines, beers, fabulous farm-to-table passed appetizers, and a musical presentation from Broadway performers, Standing Room Only. Sponsors enjoy valet parking, one-on-one with our Golden Greeters, and reserved seating in the main outdoor event area. Sponsorships begin as low as \$500. Don't miss this VIP opportunity!

4PM: All guests are welcomed for pleasing melodies from the bandstand, three different farm-to-table grazing stations, open wine bars serving a selection of Cielo wines and event features for everyone. Non-alcoholic beverages and water will also be available. Meet old and new friends as you vie for deals in our silent auction, premium raffle, and wine wall surprise offerings while being introduced to, and learning the stories of, our Golden Greeters. Guests are invited to visit Cielo's wine tasting room to taste and purchase wines to drink at the venue, as well.

6PM: Our memorable program gets underway sharing highlights of our mission of rescue and all that you contribute to.



SUPPORT OUR SPECIAL PROJECT!

New Flooring for our Golden Guests!

With your help, we have updated the kennels, increasing the size of our “dorm rooms” using modern materials that bring light and cleanliness while sound proofing the walls and ceilings for as quiet and calm an experience as possible. We have a newly repaired roof and gutter system to keep us dry in a storm. But one foundation feature was missed in our top-to-bottom makeover – the floor!

While we have undertaken numerous repairs over the years, just like the kennels – new materials offer longevity, safety and improved hygiene for the dogs. It's a big undertaking – one that will definitely need your support!

HOW TO PURCHASE KIBBLE & BIDS™ TICKETS

Kibble & Bids Tickets are only \$75, and all proceeds benefit Homeward Bound.

- Purchase by phone: 916-655-1410
- Purchase online, or by mail. Click on the Kibble & Bids™ link on our website at www.hbgr.org to download the form or purchase securely online.
- Purchase tickets in person at the Homeward Bound Sanctuary.



Cherry Creek Veterinary Hospital

7955 Watt Avenue, Antelope, CA 95843
Phone: 916-349-2755 | www.cherrycreekvet.com
Justina Codde, DVM, MS

A full-service veterinary medical facility, providing excellent medical, surgical and dental care to our patients while promoting responsible pet ownership, preventative health care and health-related educational opportunities for our clients.



DOGS IN FLIGHT: TIPS FOR TRAVEL

BY: Audrey Farrington

Traveling by plane with a dog can be risky business. There have been so many tragic incidents in the news lately that you might consider leaving your fur family member at home with a pet-sitter for their well-being and your mental health! In fact, at least one airline has restricted the breeds of dogs that they are willing to fly - no longer accepting those with unique respiratory challenges due to the anatomy of their noses and throats. If you absolutely must travel by air with your dog, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) has detailed recommendations on their website (see link below). We summarize a few here.

Make sure your dog is comfortable with travel. Some dogs can't handle travel because of illness, injury, age, or temperament. See your veterinarian first to determine your dog's ability to travel. Another option for some pet owners is flying with your dog on a chartered plane. Many charter services allow animals, regardless of size, to fly in the cabin as passengers close to their owners.

Federal regulations require pets to be at least 8 weeks old, and they should be weaned at least 5 days before flying.

Make sure your dog has identification tags with up-to-date information. This includes a microchip that is registered to your current address and phone number.

Most airlines also require a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health certificate) issued within 10 days of travel. If you are taking your pet across state or international borders, a health certificate, as well as other documentation, may be required. An accredited veterinarian must sign the health certificate after examining your pet and determining that it is free of infectious



diseases and satisfies all import requirements of the receiving state, territory, or country. International travel often requires USDA endorsement of the certificate. So plan well ahead.

Check on your airline's restrictions; each airline is different. And reserve your pet's travel well ahead of time as most airlines restrict the number of animals that can travel per flight.

If you are traveling in hot weather, book early morning or evening flights. If you are traveling in cold weather, book midday flights.

Try to book direct flights whenever possible. Lay-overs can get delayed further stressing your companion.

The AVMA recommends that you DO NOT give tranquilizers to your pet when traveling by air because it can increase the risk of heart and respiratory problems.

Talk to your veterinarian about feeding schedules. It is usually recommended that pets fly on an empty or nearly empty stomach. The pet's age, dietary needs and size, and the time and distance of the flight should all be taken into consideration.

Arrive at the airport early so you can exercise your dog first.

Bring copies of your dog's medical records, Certificate of Veterinary Inspection if required, vaccinations, multiple days' worth of medications, all identification, a first-aid kit, and all the supplies you will need to ensure that your dog is comfortable and has an adequate supply of food and water (and bowls) when you arrive at your destination. AMVA recommends that you identify a veterinarian at your destination in advance in case of a medical emergency.

Remember: Airlines have the right to have you and your pet removed from a flight, or to deny you and your pet boarding if your dog acts aggressively towards airline staff or other travelers. Behavior matters for the safety of all.

Of course, make sure that your dog will be allowed where you are staying at your destination. And be sure to bring a portable kennel with you if you have to leave your pet unattended.

Sound like a lot of work? We agree! Unless your dog absolutely has to travel, find a trusted pet-sitter and leave Fido at home!

Additional information and resources:

<https://www.avma.org/public/PetCare/CVI/pages/traveling-dog-cat.aspx>

RAISING PUPPY UP RIGHT

BY: Kathryn Baines & Audrey Farrington

A well-socialized puppy is a good predictor of a well-socialized dog. It begins with the mother's attitude toward people and continues through its rearing and your role as a new puppy parent.

Weaning puppies takes place over a period of six to seven weeks, but there are still essential skills they can learn from their littermates as mom gradually leaves them. The longer they stay with their siblings, the more likely they are to develop good social skills.

Puppies separated from their littermates too early may miss out on important skills that can be lost forever. Dogs learn to be dogs from each other. Playing with littermates helps them develop social skills, increases their social interaction and helps them to determine their boundaries. When they go home, you take over. Through play, coaching and loving, you can help your puppy develop confidence and the "people skills" needed to be a good member of the family and community.

Puppy behavior continues well past those first few months. Then adolescence kicks in and the fun really begins! The general guidelines for puppy development listed below are fairly typical and considered essential to their upbringing. But most dogs remain open to new learning and training beyond puppy years. It's just easier for everyone when you start with a good foundation!

Neonatal stage: birth to 2 weeks

From birth to two weeks, puppies are entirely dependent on mom for food and care, such as keeping themselves clean. The senses of touch and taste are present at birth, but their eyes are shut. Neonatal puppies have limited movement and



are capable of only a slow crawl. They sleep a lot – and that is normal.

Transitional stage: 2-4 weeks

From two to four weeks, puppies become aware of and interact with their littermates as well as their mother. Their eyes open and their sight is well developed by five weeks. The senses of hearing and smell are developing; their baby teeth start emerging. During this stage, puppies begin to walk, bark and wag their tails. Weaning from the mother also begins during this phase and continues until they are seven to eight weeks old depending on the size of the litter and the health of mom.

Socialization stage: 3-12 weeks (and beyond)

Play becomes very important between three to five weeks as a puppy becomes aware of its surroundings, companions (both people and dogs), and relationships. The influence of the puppy's littermates increases at four to six weeks as it learns more about being a dog. The puppy learns to play, develops social skills, learns the inhibited bite (biting to play, not to hurt), explores his or her social boundaries, and improves physical coordination. The puppies also learn the ins and outs of group structure and ranking within the group. Puppies become much more vocal during this period, with the appearance of play barking and growling.

By five to seven weeks, a puppy needs positive human interaction as it develops curiosity and explores new experiences. Positive human interactions are important as is helping a puppy become accustomed to handling. From four to twelve weeks, a puppy's interaction with people becomes more influential.

At eight to ten weeks, a puppy can experience real fear involving everyday objects and experiences. During this stage, a puppy needs support and positive reinforcement.

Enhancing responses, advancing social skills with littermates (proper contact), and investigating surroundings and items takes place from nine to twelve weeks. This is a good time to begin elementary training as a puppy will begin to focus on people.

To socialize your puppies to humans, have a variety of people interacting with them. During the socialization period, it's also very important to expose your puppy to other ordinary experiences, such as car rides, crate-training, vacuum-cleaning, ringing doorbells, and a variety of objects and sounds.

The ranking stage: 3 to 7 months

Ranking (dominance and submission) within the household or "pack," including people, is seen and used by a puppy in

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Remembering Samson

BY: Sammy Patrick

In April of 2016 my wife, Lynn, and I adopted an unbelievably special golden, Samson (known to HB as Red Samson). I'll never forget the moment he was brought out for us. Samson looked stunned to see me - like he had been looking for me a long time and I felt like I had previously known him, as well. It was an indescribable feeling and connection that always remained.

Samson had a smooth and graceful transition to becoming a San Francisco city dog - walking on a leash and even learning to swim. Yes, somehow a nine-year-old golden needed to figure out swimming, but a few days on the Russian River solved that. Samson spread so much love on every walk in our neighborhood that we referred to him as the mayor of Hayes Valley.

In August of 2017, we were devastated to learn that he had a super aggressive form of osteosarcoma. His right front leg had to be amputated immediately. Forty-eight hours after the surgery, he walked for the first time as a tripod. I can't recall another instance in which I felt such overwhelming grief completely lifted all at once. Samson proceeded to have a mind-blowing recovery, becoming faster, stronger, and even more energetic than he was with four legs. People watched Samson in awe, and we had a hopping good time.

We decided to give Samson every chance possible to keep the cancer from surfacing again, so we had DNA testing performed on his amputated leg to pinpoint a chemo treatment that would be effective against his specific cancer. After four rounds of chemo, we wrapped up 2017 with clear x-rays and a strong dog who the oncologist believed would be the poster child for fighting osteosarcoma.



In February of this year, almost overnight, Sampson looked distressed. X-rays showed that the cancer had made it into his chest. Initially, it appeared that we would have a couple of months with our precious Samson; however, the situation dramatically worsened. Just two days later, his cancer had doubled in size. The oncologist had never seen anything like it in her 17 years of fighting cancer. We lost Samson that night, February 15th.

While it was a large financial investment to fight the cancer, Samson paid every bit of it back in love. In almost 40 years of having especially wonderful dogs, the six to seven months of the tripod version of Samson would end up being my favorite period ever with a dog.

Our home is still set up as if Samson was still here - with a fancy water fountain, basket of toys, a collection of tennis balls, and beds. Samson didn't contain a single drop of aggressive, defensive, or angry blood, and he would've shared all of his items even if he was still here. So there's a doggy-ready home that should be occupied by some hairy tenants.

If you would, please keep us in mind for any dogs you think might be a match. I also want to thank y'all so freaking much for what you do. Homeward Bound will always have a special place in our hearts.

Shop & Donate At No Cost With Amazon Smile

Don't forget that you can support Homeward Bound every time you shop on Amazon - at no cost to you! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same prices, selection and shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. It adds up to thousands of dollars in support of the dogs each year.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, simply select Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue as your charitable organization before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation!

What a great and simple way to contribute to the dogs - at no cost to you!

amazonsmile

Our Forever Promise

Melissa Hirt battled cancer for many years, although you would never know it; she seemingly never complained. While Melissa looked to the future, she was pragmatic when it came to her special loves – her pups. She put plans in place for her beloved dogs just in case the battle was lost. In May, Melissa “left fighting” as friends say. Leo and Oggie were to go to one of Melissa’s friends when, and if, the time came. Unfortunately, the dogs in her friend’s house had other ideas.

Both Leo, 9 and Oggie, 2 (*center photo*) were adopted from Homeward Bound; Oggie as a puppy in 2016 – one of a litter surrendered on Easter weekend.

Life doesn’t always go as planned. Some promises can’t be kept. But our promises to the dogs can be – thanks to generous supporters. When we commit to a dog, we commit for that dog’s entire life. When Leo and Oggie needed a safe and soft place to land, they came back to us. We promised Melissa’s friends that they would be loved and kept together just as she wished.

A few weeks later, we were able to keep that promise. Oggie and Leo went home together. And on June 24th, they attended Melissa’s memorial service to let her know that “everything is OK, Mom.”

Lulu and Holly were both adopted by a Homeward Bound volunteer in 2011. Duty called, and he and the dogs left the area to care for his aging parents. Life took a surprising turn, and when he passed unexpectedly, there was no one who could care for the dogs. Lulu and Holly came back to us. As of this writing, we are still searching for their forever home. A promise made; a promise kept.

Melissa planned well. She put a trust in place to ensure the dogs’ care for the rest



of their lives, making the decision to take on a ready-made family a little easier. Lulu and Holly’s dad had not done so.

Through the link below, you will find information on our website about how to plan for and secure your Golden’s future when you or your loved ones can no longer be there for them. Please take the time to read through it and complete the Pet Biography form should you wish our help in ensuring a safe and happy second



chapter for your beloved companions. It will ease their transition and bring you peace of mind.

Here is the link: homewardboundgoldens.org/how-to-help/planned-giving/pet-guardianship.html

Continued from page 7

this stage. A puppy’s playgroup, which may now include those of other species, becomes influential in his or her life. Teething and chewing begin. Lucky you! A puppy experiences another fear stage at four months of age. This is also the age when they have received all of their vaccinations and can begin to expand their world - so be prepared with positive reinforcement and introductions to objects, other dogs, and situations.

The adolescence stage: 7 to 18 months

A puppy is most affected by human and dog “pack” members. A puppy may challenge people as part of exploring its place in the “pack.” This can be challenging for puppies who did not learn bite inhibition from their littermates or receive proper socialization. Patience and training are required.

At seven to nine months, a puppy will begin exploring more of its territory, prompting a second chewing phase. Thought you were out of the woods? Go back and read that adolescence can last two years or more!

Puppies are a joy. They are also a tremendous amount of work requiring time, commitment and extreme patience. Young dogs that are surrendered for being “out of control” have generally not had the benefit of a strong foundation. Catch-up is hard work. So be sure that a puppy is right for you before leaping – and then – teach your puppy well!

Fund of Love & Double The Gold Challenge: Mission Accomplished!

Proving once again that Homeward Bound supporters are THE BEST, we want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts (and paws!) for helping us reach our goal in this year's Fund of Love and Double the Gold Challenge. Together, we raised over \$150,000 for the dogs' medical care this year!



This critical, annual fundraising effort begins each year when a small group of generous individuals steps up to create a waiting match called the Fund of Love. Then, we turn to a broader group of equally generous individuals to pool their contributions – large and small – so we can claim every cent of that match. When everyone gives at the level they can – it makes a life-changing difference for the dogs.

Our veterinary expenses to date are \$135,772. That includes the extraordinary discount and volunteer services provided by our devoted Dr. Codde of Cherry Creek Veterinary Hospital. Your support ensures that we keep the promise captured in our mission: to rescue and heal displaced, abandoned, and homeless Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes, regardless of their age or health.

Thank you for, once again, being there for the dogs. We could not do what we do without each and every one of you!



Why We Sometimes Have to Say 'No'

You are a new or former adopter. You have been through the application process, home visit, and may even have made one or more Homeward Bound dogs your own. You come to Homeward Bound ready and excited – hopeful that you will find your new companion that day. You see a dog that you have an immediate connection to and you are ready to scoop them up and take them home. Only to hear “that’s not the right dog for you.”

Why do we sometimes say “no?” If we have done our homework, we have assessed the dog, seen its behavior, and understood its needs and ideal home environment. We would have done the same for you – learning what type of dog personality, age and energy level would best suit you and your home. We strive to make good matches - not only for the dog that has already found itself homeless once – but for you. Love, at first sight, can happen - but it has to be based on true compatibility.

We all want to see dogs go home as soon as possible. But it’s devastating for you to take a dog home, announce your new arrival, and share photos with friends and family only to discover that the dog that you fell so quickly in love with is not a good fit at all.

It’s confusing to the dog when they are brought back, and it leaves a permanent record in their file that says it was returned – creating questions for future adopters.

So when you come to Homeward Bound seeking a quiet, gentle, well-behaved, middle-aged dog and fall in love with a two-year-old, beautiful wild child with no manners – don’t be surprised if you hear us say: “We don’t think that’s the right dog for you.”

Continued from page 3

all the dogs were together, and a couple started acting out, the foster noticed that Max was in the background, calmly chewing on a rope all by himself. Success!

Max made progress in his human interactions, as well. We learned that Max needed a strong leader; preferably a single owner. With the right one, work on his human relationships could be completed at home.

A Special Adopter

Transplanted from Colorado, one of our volunteers had worked with local shelters there before bringing his dog skills to Homeward Bound. He quickly set his sights on Max – not because Max was more handsome or more affectionate than other dogs – but because he knew Max needed him. With his dog-handling ability, we knew that our volunteer was precisely what Max needed in a forever home. Dogless, our volunteer had been on a frustrating hunt for a home in an over-heated market so he could make Max his own. The race was on – would his foster make Max adoptable for someone else before our volunteer could finally complete a purchase?

In June – all came together. And today, Max and his forever Dad are in their forever home.

Give one extremely high anxiety dog who presents very undesirable behavior in the kennels and on the grounds three things:

- the gift of time that we as an organization are so fortunate to be able to provide
- a very special foster placement - with someone who kept him safe, helped him relax, worked on his triggers, and allowed him plenty of socialization with other dogs
- a very special adopter - who went through many ups and downs to buy a place that they could both finally call home –

and you get an exceptional win. Not necessarily every adopter's perfect dog.....but the "perfect dog" for him.



How to Reach Us

Your help and ideas are always welcome! Contact team leaders below if you are interested in helping in any of these areas:

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Turn KIBBLE INTO CASH for the pups at Homeward Bound!

For every large bag of Nature's Select Premium Pet Food purchased, Nature's Select will donate \$3.00 back to Homeward Bound. Nature's Select provides FREE HOME DELIVERY in the greater Northern California area. It's all-natural, holistic pet food from a local, family-owned and operated company.

"The Homeward Bound dogs are doing great since we started feeding them Nature's Select. We love the convenience of having the food delivered to us, as well as the generous donations the "Kibble Into Cash" program provides."

- Jody Jones, President, Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary

916-480-0900 www.nsnorcal.com





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Dates To Remember

Kibble & Bids™ - September 29, 2018
The Giving Tree - Begins Thanksgiving Day, 2018
Santa Photos - Nov 30th-Dec 2nd, 2018

Help Wanted

Volunteer Positions Currently in High Demand:

- **Feeders:** A dog's best friend. Physically demanding, but so rewarding!
- **Walkers:** Build bonds of trust through walking, playing, training, and grooming. Help prepare the dogs for their forever homes.
- **Youth Leaders:** Inspire a love of rescue in the next generation.

Our Golden Wish List

You can also shop our **Amazon Wish List**. You'll find the link on our website!

For Our Goldens:

Nature's Select Dog Food (donate with your online purchase)
Large Pill Pockets
Dog Cookies
Rubber-backed Rugs
Petco & PetSmart Gift Cards

Office Supplies

Postage Stamps
Professional Printing Services

General Maintenance & Laundry

Paper Towels
Garbage Bags (heavy duty & extra heavy duty)
Pooper Scoopers

Facilities Supplies

Lowes or Home Depot Gift Cards

For Landscaping & Our Memorial Garden

Green Acres Nursery Gift Certificates
Shredded Cedar Bark/Mulch