

HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

Our 18th Annual "Kibble & Bids" Mevent was a huge success! Together we raised over \$125,000 for the dogs while enjoying a wonderful evening at Cielo Estate Winery with good company, fine food and drink, and Goldens – of course! Your generosity makes our mission possible. Highlights are captured inside.

What drives people who love dogs to hoard, putting lives at risk? In our cover story we'll help you identify the warning signs, learn how to intervene, and understand how to help the hoarded dog to a new life.

November is National Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month. Two of our senior fosters and adopters share their experiences with beloved golden oldies. Read "Age is Only a Number" on page 3.

Want to help our Goldens but can't adopt or foster and don't have time to volunter? Meet our Golden Angels on page 9!

And in this season of giving thanks, we pause to share our gratitude for you – our volunteers, supporters, and friends. You truly are 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!



The Merced Seven

BY: Audrey Farrington

In August, Homeward Bound received a call for assistance. Some 65 dogs were found in a hoarding situation in Merced, CA. A local rescue: New Beginnings for Merced County Animals, was at the heart of the effort to get the dogs to safety – counting on a network of partners for support including Homeward Bound. Five Goldens were the first to arrive: Percy, Piper, Halle, Kodiak and Zinger. Then a request for help with a Lab, Jake and mix, Domino. Of course, we said yes. They ranged in age from seven to 11. Half were severely malnourished while others were overweight. Their needs ranged from thyroid, skin and dental issues, to hot spots, conjunctivitis, and arthritis. All were flea and tick infested.

The hoarder had appeared to start with good intentions: she set herself up as a nonprofit offering general and service dog training. When the hoarding began is unknown, but the IRS status was revoked, and the collection began until it grew out of control.

Continued on page 6



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 Goldens 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 244

VET EXPENSES TO DATE IN 2018 \$189.400





A Message From Our President

Jenni, Benson, Mickey, Nala, Jethro, Robin and Cinnamon. Seven lucky seniors who either grew old or found soft landings in their golden years. We are blessed with adopters and fosterers who understand that age is not a number; it is what you feel in your heart. Just ask Jenni and Robin – both 15! Mom's Anna and Lori share the joys of opening their homes and hearts to senior dogs. You can experience it yourself through our Golden Touch or permanent foster program.

Percy, Piper, Halle, Kodiak, Zinger, Jake and Domino. Seven dogs of the 65 dogs brought to safety and home from a hoarding emergency in Merced. The Hoarding Animals Research Consortium estimates that law enforcement and rescuers respond to more than 5,000 incidents each year in our nation. That means more than 250,000 dogs (at minimum) pulled from unsafe, unsanitary, and uncared for circumstances. Recidivism for hoarders – once caught – is nearly 100%. By recognizing the signs and understanding that these are individuals (and animals) urgently need our intervention, we can all help. By understanding their needs when these dogs go home, we can give them a whole new life and second chapter.

We can be there for these 14 dogs – and the 9,000+ we have helped on their journeys since our founding thanks to your support.

Your time, talent, and contributions make our work possible. I am grateful for your generosity not only at this special time of year – but each and every day.

The Giving Tree launches once again on Thanksgiving weekend. You can help light up our virtual tree in honor or in memory of your special someone while helping our Golden friends to safety and home. It is the perfect tribute for people like ourselves who understand that the best gift of all is the gift of a life saved and a new beginning.

My sincere thanks for all you do – our volunteers, supporters, and partners – to make our mission of rescue possible.

Sincerely,

Jody Jones, President



Age is Only a Number

BY: Audrey Farrington

"I see them, and my heart simply melts. Those incredible sugar faces, with the soulful eyes that have so much desire to live, to be home, to be loved. They exemplify unconditional love." ~ Lori Burke.

November is National Adopt a Senior Pet Month and a great time to highlight our love of these special Golden oldies. Homeward Bound is unique in our ability to take dogs regardless of age or health – thanks to the generosity of our donors large and small. As a result, we see more than our share of senior dogs. In fact, we built a special sanctuary area – Sugar Shack Acres – just for them. The good news: they keep getting swooped right out of there by people who know that age is

only a number and seniors have so much love to give!

"Dogs that come in with a history are the exception, not the rule, so training a senior dog is all about patience. I'm so proud of my pack," dog mom Anna says. "Whoever said you can't teach an old dog new tricks is full of beans!"



Lori Burke and Anna Schweissinger are both Homeward Bound board members and volunteers – and both are confirmed senior lovers. In fact, they each have a pack of them. Some were adopted young and have now grown happily old together; others were already sugar-faced and brought home as permanent fosters. Through the Permanent Foster program, the dogs live just as adopted dogs would but Homeward Bound ensures their medical and special dietary needs for life. Only a piece of paper knows the difference.

"I hear these words too often: 'they're too old,' 'I won't have them long enough,' 'I just lost my dog, I can't adopt a senior,'" says Lori. "I try my best to understand, but often think to myself if you only knew what you are missing out on. It's not easy saying goodbye to a dog no matter how long they have been in your care. Yet, I wouldn't trade loving them in their final moments for anything. It's an honor really."

Homeward Bound offers another program for seniors: our Golden Touch Program. This program helps retired individuals living in our area and on a limited income make a senior-to-senior connection through a no-fee adoption. We realize that many retired persons are on fixed incomes that may make it financially difficult to care for an older dog. Homeward Bound will provide life-long medical care including needed medications, vaccinations, monthly heartworm and flea control. You must live in our area and able to come to see our volunteer vet at Homeward Bound. All we ask of you is to ensure

Continued on page 7



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jody Jones, President Jana Hook, Secretary Judy Kent, Treasurer Lori Burke Marlene Clarke Justina Codde, DVM, MS Candice Courtney Audrey Farrington Deb Haggerty Dominique Pollara Anna Schweissinger Carolyn Unger

Kibble & Bids™ 2018: It's A Wrap!

We could not have asked for better weather as good friends and our Golden Greeters came together for the 18th annual Kibble & Bids™ event at Cielo Estate Winery. Together, we raised more than \$125,000 in support of the dogs – thanks to your generosity.

Fine wine, beer, and spirits flowed, delectable appetizers were sampled, and irresistible deserts disappeared as guests meandered through a perfect country, vineyard setting in the foothills. Our silent auction bidders plotted and positioned to be the highest bidder on amazing items while old friends were reunited and new friends made - exchanging photos and stories of their own beloved fur companions.

All of this led up to a special program with our president, Jody Jones, updating everyone on our progress - past and present. We asked for your support for our special project: new flooring for the dogs. While we still have a ways to go to reach our goal, you gave generously and from the heart. Thank you!

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our auction item donors, vendors, partners and – of course – our sponsors and volunteers for helping us to put on such a memorable event benefitting the dogs.



Canine and human lives are touched and saved by you by partnering in our mission. Since our founding, more than 9,000 dogs have passed through our gates on their journeys home. This event is one of three critical annual fundraising efforts that ensure the dogs' needs are met all year long.

On behalf of the dogs, thank you to all who attended, donated, and supported to make Kibble & Bids™ 2018 a great success. And a very special thanks to the amazing volunteers who work tirelessly in a year-long effort to bring this event together.

Photo Credits: Mike Stram









In a very rural area, it was hard to spot hoarding. This is typical: hoarders tend to live in isolation, distrust and denial. The animals usually live in squalor: urinating and defecating at will. The odors emanating from the waste — predominantly ammonia - may be powerful enough to cause injury to the animals' eyes, nasal passages and lungs. The dogs may have been strays or "adopted" from a shelter; many were likely once someone's pet. There can be issues over food and resources. Unvaccinated and unaltered, the dogs breed puppies who are raised without human socialization. When finally rescued from the situation, the dogs may have as many behavioral and emotional needs as medical demands.

What leads someone who professes such love for animals to hoard and become blind to their suffering?

Early research pointed toward obsessive compulsive behaviors, but newer theories indicate':

- Attachment disorders in combina tion with personality disorders
- Paranoia
- · Delusional thinking
- Depression
- Other mental illness

Some hoarders begin collecting after a traumatic event or loss; they see themselves as "rescuers." Most animal hoarders tend to be older adults. They are in denial about their ability to provide even minimum care and the impact that hoarding has on the animals.

In the rural county where the Merced Seven were found, there have been at least three major incidents of hoarding between 40-60 animals in the past two years alone.

How to spot hoarding and what to do

Look for these signs that may indicate someone is an animal hoarder:



- They have numerous animals and may not know the total number of animals in their care.
- Their home is deteriorated
- There is a strong smell of ammonia, and floors may be covered with dried feces, urine, vomit, etc.
- Animals are emaciated, lethargic and not well-socialized.
- · Fleas and vermin are present.
- Individual is isolated from community and appears to be in neglect himself.
- Individual insists all animals are happy and healthy—even when there are clear signs of distress and illness.

Some hoarders begin by setting themselves up as "rescue shelters," complete with non-profit status. They express their love for animals and their readiness to take those who are sick and with special needs. You should always thoroughly vet a rescue organization before surrendering an animal. Be on the lookout for these signs:

- The group is unwilling to let visitors see the location where animals are kept.
- They may receive animals in a remote location (parking lot, street corner, etc.) rather than at their facilities.
- The group will not disclose the number of animals in its care, and makes little effort to adopt animals out.
- More animals are continually taken in despite the poor condition of existing

animals.

 Legitimate shelters and rescue organi zations are viewed as the enemy.

If you suspect a hoarding situation, call your local humane law enforcement department, police department, animal welfare organization or veterinarian to initiate an investigation as the first step in getting help for the dogs and the hoarder. Sadly, laws are lax and the rate of recidivism for hoarding is nearly 100%. Vigilance and follow-up are key to prevent another occurrence.

How to help a hoarded dog

Best Friends, a nonprofit organization operating the nation's largest sanctuary for homeless animals, undertook a series of studies in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and the Atlantic Veterinary College. They have issued a comprehensive report² of the psychological and behavioral characteristics of hoarded dogs. No single case is the same. But the most consistent feedback from adopters and behaviorist listed three key things that you can do to help a hoarded dog adjust to its new life:

- Patience. Give the dog time. Don't push.
- · Another (helper) dog to lead by example
- · Love, affection and TLC.

Continued on page 7

With these three ingredients, proper medical care, and the attention of our dedicated volunteers, only one of the Merced Seven remains to be adopted. Piper, Percy, Zinger, Kodiak, Halle and Jake are all happily home. As of this writing, Domino (below) is a sweet, somewhat shy, Lab-mix girl is still searching for her forever home. Named for her white markings, she loves the company of other canines and would be happy to go home with one who can teach her the ways of a loved family dog.

We are grateful for the good work of other rescue organizations and proud to be a part of the effort to get these dogs to the homes they deserve. And, we are grateful to all of you, for making it possible for us to say 'Yes!' when dogs are in need.

References:

¹https://www.aspca.org/animal-cruelty/ani-mal-hoarding/closer-look-animal-hoarding

²https://bestfriends.org/resources/understanding-and-caring-rescued-hoardeddogs





Continued from page 3

that the dog receives quality food, an indoor sleeping area – and lots of love!

"Each senior is unique and has a past that we may or may not know anything about. They arrive for a myriad of reasons, but they belong in loving homes in these final years...months...days. Although they each have their own quirks, they still learn. Their desire to please is incredible. They are silly, playful, loving and loyal. They are family."

Seniors, just like puppies, do have some special needs. Anna suggests yoga mats to provide grippy paths; rubber backed rugs; rice, chicken broth, cottage cheese

and yogurt for sensitive tummy days; and more frequent potty trips. But these are small sacrifices for the joy they bring.

"They follow me everywhere, they sleep at my feet, they race to get the closest spot next to me on the couch, they hog the bed," Lori says with a smile. "They wait patiently for me to return home so proud that the house is in the same condition that I left it. They are love."

If you are interested in adopting or caring for a senior dog either through permanent foster or our Golden Touch program, please submit an application on our website and we'll be in touch!



Giving Thanks For You

"Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action." - W.J. Cameron

There is a saving that rescue is not a verb; it's a promise. But the truth is - it's both.

Rescue does not happen from passion alone - it takes people's time, commitment, energy, and resources to get dogs to safety and help them on their journeys home. Rescue - like Thanksgiving - is a word and deed of action. And we could not do it without you:

The volunteers who go into shelters to pull dogs knowing you can't take them all.

The good Samaritans who see a dog in need and stop to offer a helping hand instead of looking away.

The desperate family that offers their dog a second chance at happiness when faced with impossible decisions we hope we never have to make.

The transporters who log hundreds (or thousands) of miles to get dogs to safety.

Those who care for the dogs during their time with us: feeding, walking, cleaning, training, and grooming - ensuring the health and emotional needs.

Those who evaluate the dogs and the adopters to ensure the best matches possible.

Those who keep our office running, our volunteers coming, our facilities functioning, our yards and garden pristine, our technology operating, our books kept, our donors recognized, and our coffers full with fundraising.

Our devoted Doc Codde and dedicated President who wake at dawn and burn the midnight oil whenever a dog is in need.



Mike and Jody Jones - our founders who not only had a vision - but dedicated their lives to Homeward Bound.

We could not do it without all of you - our supporters, friends, volunteers and partners who speak and care for those who cannot speak and care for themselves and make our mission possible.

Rescue is a verb. And a promise. Thank you.

"Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men; but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the gratitude." - E.P. Powell



Planned Giving: A Gift For Life



Chances are that you already understand the impact that our mission of rescue and adoption has on Golden lives and families. Estate or planned gifts to Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue are excellent opportunities to create a legacy ensuring that more Golden lives are saved.

There are many options from which to choose in your estate planning. Naming us in your will or trust, for example, is one of the easiest ways to ensure that future generations of Goldens in need will find a second chance at life.

Download our website Guide to Giving under "How to Help" to determine the right approach for you - providing current or future benefits to yourself, your heirs, and to the Goldens in our care.



Meet Our Golden Angels!

Want to help the Goldens but can't adopt or foster and don't have time to volunteer? You can still make a meaningful difference in the life of a Golden in need by sponsoring a dog in our Golden Angel Program.

Every dog that comes to Homeward Bound receives - at a minimum - a vet exam, vaccinations, spay/neuter, heartworm test (and treatment, if needed) to be ready for placement into a loving home. Some dogs have greater needs including hip surgeries, repairing broken bones, removing tumors, treating ear infections, ear surgeries, eye surgeries, knee surgeries, and a host of others. While not simple, these are things that we can address to ensure the dog is healthy before heading home.

There are others, however, whose needs will be life-long. These are our Golden Angels: dogs with extraordinary, lifetime needs who are taken home as permanent fosters by special humans who don't see "special needs" – just a dog that needs them. Homeward Bound ensures their medical care for life, making it easier for their humans to say 'yes' while investing their time, dedication and love.

Our Golden Angel Sponsors help us meet this commitment, by choosing to sponsor a dog (or dogs!) for as little as a one-time – or recurring – donation of \$5.00 or more. Semi-annually we provide an update on the dog's progress and encourage our sponsors to stay in touch by becoming pen pals with their Golden Angel dog(s).

On our website, you'll find seven Golden Angels: precious Miss Pickles (aka Autumn); forever feral Red; his girlfriend, Penny; sweet Star; witty Weezer; defying-all-odds Karma, and beautiful Daisy – one of our seizure dogs.

Donations may be tax-deductible and will be a blessing for dogs in need.





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.

"We love the convenience of having this quality 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

Holiday Gift Ideas • For Every Human, Dog & Budget!

Light up the Homeward Bound Giving Tree!

The 8th Annual Homeward Bound Giving Tree will be ready to decorate online beginning Thanksgiving weekend!

It's the perfect gift for Homeward Bound volunteers, adopters, dog lovers, or any of the special people in our lives who appreciate gifts of remembrance or appreciation. When you donate to the Giving Tree – in honor or in memory of your special someone – you're giving a gift from the heart that benefits all the dogs who need our help on their journeys home.

For donations of \$10 or more you can help us decorate our Giving Tree. Place a virtual light, ornament, or package under our tree in honor of - or in memory of - friends, family, or pets. The honoree will receive a beautiful certificate from Homeward Bound telling them of your gift and where to view the online tree with your recognition of them. You will warm the heart of your honoree while helping Homeward Bound continue to take in, provide medical care, and place hundreds of dogs each year.

Watch our Homeward Bound Giving Tree come to virtual life beginning Thanksgiving weekend and read the heartwarming messages that accompany each gift.



You'll find it on our website at www.homewardboundgoldens.org. Your thoughtful gifts turn our tree into a bright light of support for homeless dogs each year during the holiday season.

Just look at last year's tree below! Please join us in making this the most memorable year ever!



Don't Forget: Shop & Donate At No Cost With AmazonSmile

Designate Homeward Bound as your charity and do all your shopping on AmazonSmile. You get the same great Amazon experience and prices - and the doggies earn 0.5% on each purchase! Find all the details on our website.



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.





Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Photos are Back!

Santa Photographer Eric Schuman is back for photos - just in time for holiday mailings!

Dates: Friday-Sunday, November 30-December 2, 2018 Location: Homeward Bound, 7495 Natomas Rd., Elverta, CA Time: 10AM-2PM each day

(Except between 12N-12:30PM when Santa and his elves load up on cookies.)

For \$20, we provide Santa, the photographer, a winter backdrop, doggie scarves and holiday gear, hot apple cider and hot chocolate, plus homemade cookies for dogs and humans! You provide the dog(s)! Your Santa Photos will be available online for download - with super speedy turnaround.

E-mail us to schedule your Santa Photos today! Slots go quickly.
E-mail: goldentraining@homewardbound-goldens.org

The Homeward Bound Calendar

The 2019 Homeward Bound Calendar makes a great gift for any dog lover. Hot off the presses and full of beautiful Goldens! Every purchase benefits the dogs of Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary.

Look for the link on our website at: www.homewardboundgoldens.org

Commemorative Bricks in our Memorial Garden Path

A commemorative brick in our Memorial Garden Path is a unique way to memorialize a special companion while supporting resident Goldens in our care. Your personalized brick will be placed in the pathway as a thoughtful gift or loving tribute.

Look for details on our website under "How To Help"

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:

Adoptions and Surrenders &
Sanctuary Development
Mike and Jody Jones
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916-655-1410
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Dates To Remember

The Giving Tree - Begins Thanksgiving Weekend Santa Photos - November 30-December 2

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