

THE heart



NOVEMBER 2023 / VOL 24 ISSUE 4

HOMeward BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

WHAT'S INSIDE

It's been quite a year: A significant increase in intakes, transitions of key team members, closing on the purchase of the property, and a full slate of projects. Our cover story details our year so far as we begin to write the next Homeward Bound chapter. Your continued friendship and support have made it possible, and our gratitude is unending.

Puppy behavior? Or more concerning Pica? Our article on page 4 helps you discern the difference, the causes, and management techniques for dogs like our Tucker - now happily home.

Balancing the physical and emotional needs of people with dementia and their pets requires observation, support, and, if necessary, thoughtful intervention. On page 7, we walk you through the benefits of pet ownership for people with dementia, the risks, and useful questions and tools to help a loved one with cognitive decline.

And get ready: The Homeward Bound Giving Tree will be ready to light up on Thanksgiving weekend. It's the 13th year of our beloved holiday tradition where gifts from the heart make a life-saving difference to the dogs in our program. Find the details on page 10 and look for it on our website soon!

PLEASE PASS ALONG!

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



The Year So Far: With Gratitude

It has been a remarkable year so far. As of this writing, 455 dogs have come through our doors seeking safety, support, restored health, and forever homes. The 400 milestone - last year's total intake - was passed in mid-September. Post-pandemic freedoms coupled with economic uncertainty have combined to create this situation. Breeding dogs from commercial puppy mills and backyard breeders are being surrendered as "excess inventory." Post-pandemic, untrained youngsters have arrived in large numbers from their humans who now want to be unconstrained. Shelters are overflowing and begging for help to free up space. And then there are the litters: four of them this year! We're tired, but we put our heads down, pull on our boots, and trudge forward. The dogs need us to be here for them.

This year, we saw the well-earned retirement of our beloved Dr. Codde, who devoted more than twenty years to our efforts. They say that when one door closes, you must have faith that another will open. Well, our prayers were answered with the return of Dr. Mary LoCicero, DVM. A long-ago volunteer, she returned to the area and now works as an emergency vet at VCA. Hearing of our situation, she picked up and carried the torch. We are grateful beyond words. She sees the dogs on-site every Thursday, frequently

Continued on page 3



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 2023
455

VET EXPENSES TO DATE IN 2023
\$399,917



A Message From Our President

There's a saying about the house my husband and I share, and it's true: Dogs that enter never leave. Cinnamon entered our home on October 6th. She is a petite Golden, weighing only 47 pounds. Cinnamon came from China in September, one of several dogs we have supported this year now that the CDC has modified requirements, allowing rescues to resume work. At five years of age, she probably spent her life producing puppies to grow into "stock" for the meat markets there. Used up, it would have been her turn - if not for rescue.

Cinnamon arrived with a heart murmur and a suspicious-looking mass near her elbow on her front left leg. It was cancer. Her leg was amputated to save her life. She came to recover in our home – and there's no way we will give up this sweet girl whose smile and tail wags throughout her ordeal are the epitome of a Golden's forgiving nature.

Some people ask why we still support dogs from China when so many are in need here at home. The truth is that we and our rescue partners work to get every Golden or Golden mix out of California shelters. We have welcomed nearly 100 dogs from puppy mills and large-scale breeders, in and out of state, including the 19 puppies they were hiding. We have supported more than 186 owner surrenders this year – dogs that do not end up in shelters or abandoned. And, as we have capacity, you will find plenty of Labs and Doodles among us. So, we believe it is well within our mission when we can rescue Golden Retrievers from the unspeakable horrors of the dog meat markets.

Rescue is rescue. A dog at risk is a dog at risk. We don't ask for pedigrees, and we don't check passports. And the gratitude in their eyes is the only thanks we need. It's how our founders envisioned our mission and the work we continue today. This Thanksgiving season, we are grateful for the second chapters that you make possible. Thank you.

Judy Kent, President



**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

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bringing another vet or vet tech to introduce the next generation to our passion: rescue. When we need advice between visits, she is on the other end of the phone, guiding us through. She has helped us add a hand-held ultrasound for immediate insight into possible pregnancies, foreign objects, tumors, and more to our arsenal of tools, including on-site blood and urinalysis equipment. A willing, hands-on teacher, we walk away with more knowledge and experience after each visit. We have developed a network of veterinary resources across the region for hospitalization. It's definitely not as convenient as Dr. Codde's practice, which was a short 15-minute drive, but we are making it work.

To accommodate dogs in such large numbers, we have significantly expanded our foster program, building a network of more than 70 active temporary foster volunteers. In years past, Jody preferred to have all but our Permanent Foster dogs on-site. It meant dogs stashed in her home and crates lining the kennel at times. Fosters free up space so we can say 'yes' to more dogs in need; it also provides us with more knowledge about the dog's behavior in a home, which is frequently very different than their kennel behavior. We're so grateful to the many who have stepped up to open their hearts and homes to our waiting dogs.

With the increased intake, our vet expenses have also risen. As of this writing, we are nearing \$400,000 in vet expenses so far this year. The number reflects more dogs, as well as extraordinary care for dogs like Bruno (featured within), and Kellen - our *Fund of Love* dog born with missing toes and paws.

In March, we closed on the purchase of the property. In their trust, our founders, Jody, and Mike Jones, gave Homeward Bound the first option to purchase the beautiful eight-acre property we have called home for over 20 years. The need came sooner than any of us anticipated or ever wished. Still, thanks to our generous donors and numerous bequests, we were able to make it our forever home.

Ownership came with big projects at considerable expense. A five-year plan was developed, prioritizing current needs and future enhancements. Included on the priority list was making the residence habitable for our 24/7 caretaker. The project unexpectedly included the replacement of all drainpipes and the septic system, which required digging up the entire yard. A new irrigation system, grading, and lawn and fencing replacements were completed by late summer. We removed dilapidated duck ponds, alpaca sheds, and a pig pen in the two acres previously accessed only by Jody and Mike. We also removed a literal junkyard of abandoned shipping containers, vehicles, tractors, and boats. The area was filled and graded, providing a clean slate for future adoption yards and walking paths and an agility course for our young and restless.



Fed up with three, year-long losses of our puppy areas to Parvovirus (highly contagious and deadly to unvaccinated little ones) we replaced our old "palace" with a proper version (above). A specialized coved epoxy floor and concrete outer pen are completely sterilizable in the event of a future occurrence. Once we know that the puppies are parvo-free, they can go out and play in a dedicated paved yard, preventing Coccidia and Giardia infections that lurk in the ground pretty much everywhere. Their deluxe accommodations will keep them safe while providing all the heated and air-conditioned comforts of home.

We are working to finalize plans for a medical ward for recovering dogs. The same project will bring our on-site vet clinic in the main building where heating and air-conditioning make a more comfortable environment for all, including our equipment. The move will be made possible by relocating our office space. It will be a significant project requiring a well-crafted transition plan to keep all functioning seamlessly.

We have come a very long way from Homeward Bound's early days, where the dogs were housed in crates, washed in outdoor basins, and played in a single yard. Together, we have created a sanctuary for dogs in need, just as our founders dreamed.

Many thought Homeward Bound would end with the untimely passing of our founders. Faith, the support of good friends, and the dedication of our incredible all-volunteer team and board have made it possible for us to carry on, creating a place of safety, security, health, and hope for dogs on their journeys home. This Thanksgiving – our heartfelt thanks extend to all of you.

Our Golden Angels

For people who are not able to adopt or foster – or simply have a heart for special needs Golden Retrievers – Homeward Bound's Golden Angel Sponsorship provides a wonderful way to make a meaningful difference to dogs in need.

We maintain a list of Golden Angels and their stories on our website. These dogs have extraordinary lifetime special needs, including ectopic ureters (leaking bladders), cancer, Hydrocephalus (water on the brain), diabetes, seizures, and more. They are in loving homes as part of our Permanent Foster Program. Dogs in the Program go home as loved family dogs, just like any adopted dog, but Homeward Bound ensures their medical care for life. We currently have 52 dogs in the Program, including several new additions.

At 13 years of age, Charlie was found stray in California's Central Valley. He could barely walk and had missing teeth. The owner was contacted, but instead of reclaiming him, surrendered Charlie to the shelter. Just as well. The rest of his life will be the best of his life. The shelter experience was frightening, and he arrived shut down and unsure. We began treating his arthritis, relieving his pain, and helping his mobility. He was brought current on vaccinations and was already neutered.

TO BECOME A GOLDEN ANGEL SPONSOR:

Visit our [DONATE](http://www.homewardboundgoldens.org/how-to-help/donate/) website page for information at: www.homewardboundgoldens.org/how-to-help/donate/

Or simply click the **DONATE TODAY** button on our website home page and select **ANGEL FUND** from the dropdown.



But the best medicine for Charlie was home. He was moved to our Permanent Foster Program and welcomed by a devoted family where he will be spoiled and surrounded with love for the rest of his life.

Imagine your whole life turned upside down in the most golden of your years. Henry's owner passed, and other family members could not keep him.

He was surrendered to us at the age of 14. Deaf and long-suffering from chronic ear infections, we treated what we could without invasive surgery that would be too much and made him as comfortable as possible in our president's office. Lost and sad, his days seemed numbered. We sent him home as a hospice foster in July. It is November, and Henry is still with us – content and pain-free. He doesn't get up and around a lot, but he knows he is safe and loved in the company of our foster's home and a pack of dogs who dote on him.

Thirteen-year-old Jake was also found stray in the Central Valley. Picked up by



animal control, no one came to claim this near blind boy with a heart murmur and severe arthritis. One person's trash is another's treasure. With his permanent foster, Jake found the retirement home he dreamed of where medications relieve his pain, his world is small, safe, and easy to navigate, and he knows he is loved.



These are just three of the 13 dogs we have added to the Permanent Foster Program so far this year. At a minimum, the dogs see the vet annually for updated vaccinations and prescription renewals or as often as needed for monitored changes in their medical condition or needs.

Without the support of this Program, the financial cost of care would prohibit many families from adopting these dogs. What is often missed in the calculation is the value of care provided by their families, who manage strict medication or insulin schedules, vet trips and testing, and see them through the behavior challenges that Hydrocephalus and seizures may present.

Your support sustains the Permanent Foster Program – and the families who so generously give their hearts and homes to our very special Angel dogs.

A Farewell to Friends

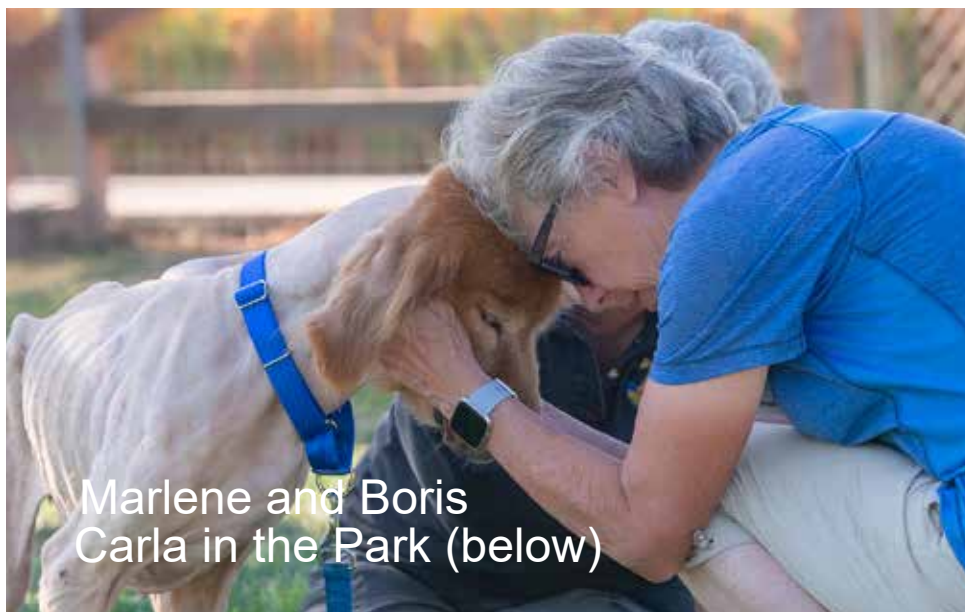
Heaven got a little brighter and our world a little dimmer last February. Our beloved Carla McCreary – rescue warrior princess – lost her long battle with cancer. She was part of the fabric of Homeward Bound from the start, rescuing, connecting dogs to humans, and connecting humans to humans to save animal lives.

Fearless, she would go anywhere and to any length to help an animal in need. Respected and trusted by animal advocates in shelters and law enforcement, she ferried dogs from horrible circumstances to us as part of our witness protection program. She wanted to personally provide their freedom rides while reassuring them about better days ahead. She would take them to our park where they could begin to shed their past and start a new journey.



From Homeward Bound's beginnings, Carla was the voice of the dogs. Thousands of them. In the park, she would listen to their stories before telling them to us through their website bios. She spoke as the dogs without sugarcoating because she knew that there was a match for everyone, but the best path to "forever" was through honesty. Her empathy always resonated, and she helped others see into the dogs' souls, however damaged.

Carla battled cancer. Twice. Throughout, she kept writing. She left behind many broken hearts and was surely greeted at the bridge by her beloved husband and a long line of animals whose lives she made better.



Marlene and Boris
Carla in the Park (below)

Marlene Clark began volunteering at Homeward Bound in 2000 when she and her twin sister, Arlene, fostered Casey and almost immediately became "foster failures." Five years later, they adopted Ukiah, a shy three-year-old who had been

at Homeward Bound for a year, having been returned more than once. For Marlene, Ukiah epitomized the joys and challenges that come with rescue. Slow to trust and feel comfortable in the world, he came into his own with time and care and taught everyone who knew him that bravery comes in many forms. In the years that followed, Ukiah and his sisters (also Homeward

Bound adoptees) helped Marlene foster many Homeward Bound dogs, some shy, some exuberant, and all loved.

For over 30 years, Marlene worked at UC Davis, where she held several departmental administrative positions and, in later years, specialized in teaching writing courses for future lawyers and future health and veterinary professionals. At Homeward Bound, she was our glue. She began with feeding and walking, and spread her skills to office work, donor outreach, welcoming new arrivals in greatest need – and throughout – caring for puppy litters.

Marlene joined the Homeward Bound board in 2017. She wrote in her bio: *"I feel lucky to have found a group of people and a place where everyone believes that every dog deserves a life filled with dignity and love."*

Marlene passed away in June of this year. We are still uncovering jobs that she quietly absorbed. For such a tiny woman, she left enormous shoes to fill. She is remembered and missed in many ways and capacities. Still, it was Marlene's love and care for the puppy litters where her absence is especially felt.

Last month, we installed a plaque in the park in Carla's honor. On our new Puppy Place, we installed a plaque for Marlene. She would have been so delighted with the new space for our tiniest rescues.

Fly free, dear friends. You will be remembered always.



PUPPY ANTICS? OR PICA?

Chewing up toys, socks, and unmentionables is typical puppy behavior requiring good housekeeping and supervision. But some dogs take it to a whole different level. When dogs develop unusual eating habits of non-food items with persistent chewing and consumption, the problem is called pica. While many dogs chew on various objects, only a small group ingests them. The behavior can be a symptom of an underlying medical problem like a nutritional deficiency or a behavior problem, including anxiety, boredom, or actual compulsive behavior. Pica can lead to all kinds of medical problems, including poisoning, gastrointestinal obstructions, or dental issues.

Pica or Puppy Behavior?

Common items that dogs with pica ingest include metal, plastic, cloth, garbage, rocks, paper, dirt, and feces. Underwear, socks, pantyhose, towels, and wet wipes are favorites as they carry their owners' scent. Pica is a condition where a dog consistently eats objects that are not food items. A dog must ingest the item—not just chew on it—to be considered pica.

Tucker (featured above) is a handsome young boy who displayed pica symptoms in his home, eating socks, underwear, and more. He was surrendered to us when, after two surgeries to remove obstructions, his family with children felt they could no longer keep him safe. Many people dismiss the behavior as typical puppy antics, but for Tucker, it may be a life-threatening compulsion. You can only open a dog's stomach so many times and expect a successful recovery. To understand what kind of family Tucker needed, we sent him to foster where his behavior in the home could be tested under close observation. Today, he is happily with his adult only forever family where his behavior is managed.

Pica Symptoms

You may not always catch your dog eating non-food items that can seriously obstruct the stomach or intestines. Common clinical signs associated with pica include:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea, loose stool
- Bad breath
- Broken teeth (rocks and wood)
- Decreased appetite or anorexia
- Pawing at the mouth/face
- Gagging or retching
- Abdominal distension (bloated stomach)
- Tenesmus (straining to have a bowel movement)



- Little to no feces produced
- Dark, black, tarry stool (indicates internal bleeding)
- Excessive drooling
- Coughing
- Blue/purple mucous membranes in the mouth
- Visible distress or abnormal behavior

Ingesting non-food items can put your dog at risk for toxicity, choking, stomach upset, or even a life-threatening gastrointestinal blockage. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you see or suspect your dog may have eaten a non-food item.

Medical Causes

Pica is typically considered a psychological, obsessive-compulsive habit. Still, it can result from a medical condition or poor nutrition. Ruling out medical causes is the first step. After ingesting a non-food item, ask your veterinarian to do a complete physical examination, including a complete blood count (CBC), serum chemistry profile, fecal check, and a urinalysis. These tests can also diagnose or rule out an underlying medical condition.

Most non-food items ingested by a dog can be seen on an X-ray of the abdomen, which includes the stomach and intestines. If inflammatory bowel disease or conditions of the pancreas are suspected, your vet will need to do more blood testing in addition to an abdominal ultrasound.

Common medical causes may include:

Nutritional deficiency: Anemia (low iron) and other medical conditions can prevent a dog from absorbing nutrients from their food, often causing them to eat soil, clay, and dirt.

Coprophagia (poop eating): This is common and considered normal in nursing dogs because the mother ingests the feces of her puppy when she licks around the anus to stimulate a bowel movement. Eating feces is also common in young puppies, but it is a behavior they typically grow out of as they age.

PETS AND HUMAN DEMENTIA

One of the most common reasons cherished dogs are surrendered is because their owners can no longer care for them. Sometimes, people are forced to downsize into living facilities that do not accept dogs. Other times, a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related conditions drives family members to give up their loved one's companion.

Animals, by their very nature, are non-judgmental, which can make them perfect companions for people affected by dementia. They won't question behavior or get frustrated with people, and they can provide a fantastic source of social support and unconditional love if the situation is managed well.

Research shows that interaction with pet animals can benefit people with dementia. Feeding, walking, and grooming are straightforward activities that many people with early dementia can manage and take pride and enjoyment in doing. Human benefits include:

- **Sensory stimulation:** Interacting, stroking, and chatting are valuable experiences that can help to keep someone with dementia engaged and happy.
- **Reduced agitation:** Friendly and non-threatening pets can help to reduce agitation and increase pleasure in humans.
- **Health benefits:** Caring for a pet can increase activity levels in people, reducing blood pressure, increasing the odds of survival after a heart attack, and even encouraging appetite.
- **Increased socialization:** Pets provide a topic for conversation and a reason to engage with others.
- **Boosted joy:** People with dementia who spend time with pets often find joy in the companionship and fun they add, staving off loneliness and isolation.

Each situation is unique and should be judged based on the person and the pet. If the person's diagnosis has come relatively late into the dementia journey and their symptoms are very advanced, the responsibility of a pet may be too much for them. However, if it's still early on, they will probably be able to continue as usual with some oversight to ensure both the individual and the pet are safe and cared for.

A very large, energetic, bouncy, or anxious dog that needs regular exercise and constant attention might not be best for someone struggling to remember to walk or feed them. But a low-maintenance, calm dog that doesn't require much more than supervised basic care and love might be more helpful to the person than risk the trauma of removal. The key is working the care of the pet into the daily activities of someone with dementia and ensuring that they have constant signs and reminders for walks and feed times, as well as regular caregiver oversight to ensure that both the pet and person are safe and healthy.

When to Rehome a Pet

Pet signs that care may be becoming too much for the owner to cope with include pet accidents in the home, weight gain or loss, changes in the pet's personality (anxiousness, fear), or failure to maintain the animal's health and grooming. The person with dementia may begin to complain about the pet themselves – another indication that things have become overwhelming.

Taking a beloved pet away can be a traumatic experience for the owner. If possible, involve them in the process of selecting a new home or rescue organization. If the pet can be safely and happily rehomed with friends or family nearby who welcome visits, that will ease the pain for both the person and the pet.

When not to get a pet

People with early dementia may still operate independently and seek out a new pet. Helping them navigate this decision is important to the individual and the pet. Questions to ask:



Does the person have the mental capacity to decide whether they want a pet? To make this decision, they must truly understand the level of commitment and responsibility involved.

Will the person be able to meet the animal's needs? Cats and dogs can live for many years and require daily care and attention. This will include feeding and hydrating, exercise, going to the vet, cleaning up after the animal, bathing, grooming, and more. The animal's long-term welfare needs and age should be considered.

Where would the pet come from? Disreputable breeders may take advantage of a person without the obvious ability to care for a pet. Intervention is critical to protecting both.

Would the person benefit from semi-regular interactions with an animal? Pet visits could be introduced instead of committing to full pet ownership. Regular visits from a friend's or family member's pet or a certified therapy pet may be a good compromise that fills the need for companionship and gives the individual something to look forward to.

Balancing the physical and emotional needs of humans with dementia and their pets requires observation, support systems, and, if necessary, thoughtful intervention.

Come On In! The Water is Fine!

BY: GAIL WESTRUP

Four-year-old Bruno is walking on a leg once shattered by a car. Scrappy's mobility is helped despite arthritis and other issues affecting his 13-year-old body. Young dogs surrendered for having too much energy are helped to become calmer in preparation for adoption. The common denominator is the Homeward Bound swimming pool.

The inground, heated pool was a dream of our founders, generously donated by an adopter, Nancy Nickle. She fell in love and adopted a big, older gentleman Golden named Remington, who lived in the senior yard. In 2004, she noticed he was having difficulty walking due to arthritis. She suggested a therapy pool would be helpful for him. In those early days, the construction of a pool was well beyond the reach of Homeward Bound. Nancy offered to donate the pool. PBM Construction donated the patio and fence that surround it. In July 2004, the pool was completed and, fittingly, dedicated to Remington.



Almost 20 years later, the 10 by 27-foot pool still makes a difference in the dogs' lives. The pool is heated and four feet deep, with steps on either end. The shallow depth allows volunteers to walk from one end to the other, guiding the dog with or without a life jacket. The pool supports the rehabilitation needs of the dogs post-hip, knee, or other surgeries.



Bruno's Swim Therapy



It has helped puppies with Swimmer's syndrome develop the muscles needed for mobility, and overweight dogs take the pounds off without over-exerting. On hot summer days, it provides cool refuge and exercise for the dogs (and volunteers!) without the risk of overheating. It is also used to assess dogs' aptitude for water so we can make better adoption matches.

Activities are guided and overseen by a devoted team of ten volunteer swim coaches trained by John Schumann and Beckie Sorel, as well as runners, who ferry the dogs in and out.

The pool has played a crucial role in Bruno's recovery, helping him regain muscle strength without putting excess weight on the leg so carefully rebuilt by his talented surgeon, Dr. Castaneda. Scrappy, a once-reluctant participant, finds so much relief from arthritis and aging hips and elbows that he anxiously waits at the gate for his turn. And for

Tucker, a high-energy youngster, exercise in the pool helps to wear him down – at least temporarily! Given the chance, he is not above launching himself back in the pool!

All the coaches enjoy watching the transformation of the dogs, from tentative to confident, while building bonds with our volunteers. Coach Samantha McClellan sums it up: "We get to introduce them to something new, something they may discover they love. It builds their confidence and trust in the volunteers, and they learn that something new doesn't automatically equal scary."

The dogs and volunteers of Homeward Bound are grateful beyond words for the generosity of Nancy Nickle and PBM Construction as they walk through the gates of our special pool.



Teething: When puppies are teething, they seek objects to chew to massage their gums. If appropriate chew toys are not provided, they will chew inappropriate things. While most dogs do not consume the objects they chew, some do. If the behavior is not redirected to safe chew toys, dogs may develop a continued preference and habit for a dangerous object.

Medications: Dogs on steroid medications such as prednisone or anti-seizure medications like phenobarbital often have an insatiable appetite, which can lead to pica.

If all medical conditions have been ruled out, and compulsive behavior is suspected, you may want to seek the help of a board-certified veterinary behaviorist. These professionals can help with intensive behavior modification techniques or even prescribe medications to help treat your dog's mental health condition. Pica caused by behavioral issues is usually much more difficult to treat.

Behavior Causes

Boredom/Lack of Enrichment: When not provided with adequate exercise, mental stimulation, interactive toys, and/or social interaction, dogs may seek out their own inappropriate activities and play items, including rocks and clothing.

Anxiety: Dogs suffering from separation anxiety may redirect their stress to abnormal eating behaviors. Careful observation of the behavior, including its frequency, duration, and time of occurrence, is important to determine the source. A video camera may help capture the act.

Compulsive Disorder: Some animals have an actual compulsive disorder. Behavior modification can include methods to reduce anxiety and training a dog to keep their mouth occupied with other things they don't ingest.

Behavior Modifications

Exercise your dog daily and keep their mind engaged. If your dog tends to ingest items such as socks and underwear, keep a tidy household with a lid on the hamper and closed laundry room door. Monitor dogs that eat rocks, dirt, and feces closely when in the yard, and be sure to walk your dog on a leash to supervise their behavior. Increasing the amount of exercise and mental stimulation with puzzles or safe chew toys can also be helpful. In severe cases, a basket muzzle might be needed for your dog when left home alone, in the yard, or on a walk.

Recovery and Management of Pica in Dogs

Unless your dog has a medical condition that can be cured, pica is often a lifelong condition that needs to be managed. This is why we required that Tucker go to an adult-only household. He can thrive and do well with close supervision.



Consistent and routine mental and physical stimulation in dogs with pica is paramount. Toys stuffed with food and games can help redirect the behavior if the dog is supervised. Crate training is a great way to ensure that your dog does not ingest things around the home when they are alone or when you are asleep. Ultimately, the best way to prevent pica is to put away the non-food objects so your dog cannot get at them while working to manage or eliminate the underlying condition.

**Sources: UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine; PetMD*



Holiday Gifts & Fun • For Every Human, Dog & Budget!

Light Up The Homeward Bound Giving Tree!

Our favorite holiday tradition is back! The 13th Annual Homeward Bound Giving Tree will be ready to decorate online beginning Thanksgiving weekend!

The Giving Tree has become such a special way to celebrate the holidays. It's the perfect gift to remember a loved one (canine or human), honor someone close or a dedicated volunteer, or just demonstrate your shared passion for rescue. 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 posted message. You will warm the heart of the honoree while helping Homeward Bound continue to take in, provide medical care, and place hundreds of dogs each year.

The Giving Tree is the last of our annual fundraising efforts and represents a third of the funds we raise in support of the dogs. The tree will be ready to light and decorate on Thanksgiving weekend. Look for it on our website at www.homewardboundgoldenrescue.org. It's incredible to watch your gifts turn our bare tree into a bright light every year during the holiday season.

Please join us in making this the most memorable year ever!



Our Wishlists for the Holidays!

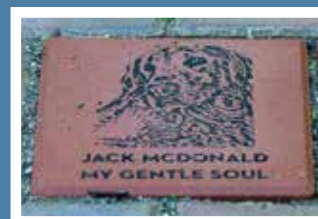
Spreading holiday cheer to the dogs is as easy as shopping our wishlists! We maintain two - one at Amazon and the other at Chewy. On both, you will find frequently used (and sometimes abused...as in toys!) items that are always in demand.

The links are easy to find on our website. Just click on Donate on the navigation menu and scroll down. And don't forget to include a gift card so we know who to thank!



Remember a special dog with a custom brick in our Memorial Garden.

Details on our website under "Donate"



HO, HO, HO! ❄️

Santa Photos with Your Pup(s)!



Friday-Sunday, Nov. 17-19, 2023
At Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue

Santa Returns to Homeward Bound!

Despite his hectic schedule, Santa is never too busy for photos with the dogs! Photographer, Eric Schuman will join us again for photos with your pup(s)...just in time for your holiday card mailings!

Dates: Friday-Sunday, November 17-19

Location: Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue 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 the photographer, a winter backdrop, doggie scarves and holiday gear, hot chocolate, plus homemade cookies for dogs and humans...and Santa, of course! You provide the dog(s)!

Your Santa Photos will be available online for download - with super speedy turnaround.

Schedule your Santa Photos today! Slots go quickly. Drop-ins accommodated but there may be a wait. To schedule, email: grdogtraining@gmail.com



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

Judy Kent, President

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Foster Families

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Placement Team

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Volunteering

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Newsletter & Marketing

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Training

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Santa Photos, November 17-19
The Giving Tree, Starts Thanksgiving Weekend

HELP WANTED

Volunteer Positions Currently in High Demand:

Feeders: A dog's best friend and so rewarding!

Walkers: Build bonds of trust through walking, playing, training, and grooming. Help prepare the dogs for their forever homes.

Fosters: Be the bridge to a dog's forever home. A gift that lasts a lifetime!

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