

THE heart



MAY 2025 / VOL 26, ISSUE 2

HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

Special needs dogs need special people. Beck found his. Injured as a puppy, his devoted fosters are helping him realize his full potential. His journey is our cover story.

The shy dog journey is one of patience, determination, and love. On page 6, read how Sierra's life has been transformed, and how she has found purpose by paying her good fortune forward.

Are you a family with young children looking to adopt? Ensure that your young human pups are as ready as you are. Read our tips on page 7.

Parvo was once considered a virtual death sentence for puppies and young, unvaccinated dogs. On page 8, learn how a recently developed treatment offers new hope.

May marks the halfway point in our Double the Gold Challenge. Your gifts – no matter the size – are matched by a waiting Fund of Love. Help us capture every matching dollar! All gifts support the medical needs of hundreds of dogs that will come into our program this year and many more that we support in permanent foster. Read about the Challenge on page 4. THANK YOU!

PLEASE PASS ALONG!

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



Special Angels for a Special Needs Boy

By: Audrey Farrington

Beck was surrendered at 10 months of age. At eight weeks of age, he had been given to a family by a breeder who could not sell him. As the story goes, Beck's mom stepped on him when he was just one week old. Unable to nurse, he was bottle-fed until he was old enough to eat on his own. Supposedly given a clean bill of health, it became apparent that Beck's vision and hearing were both impaired, he had a decided tilt to his head, and it's unclear what, if any, neurological damage had occurred. Slow to potty train and very much stuck in puppy mode, he was more than their family with three small children knew how to support. Beck had spent his time in the backyard alone. Homeward Bound welcomed him.

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 2025
125

VET EXPENSES TO DATE 2025
\$192,825



A Message from Our President

Recently, a student asked to use Homeward Bound as her case study for a marketing project. She posed a question that took us off guard: "How do you compete with other rescues?" It was not something that ever occurred to us. With so many animals in need, our approach has always been one of collaboration, never competition. As one of the few Golden Retriever rescues in the nation with a facility, we offer something many foster-based rescues cannot: immediate safety and security. We work with shelters and rescues across the state and up and down the West Coast to offer sanctuary and second chapters. We partner with a foster-based rescue in Ohio – the nation's second worst state for puppy mills according to the Humane Society's Horrible Hundred. We established a partnership with foster-based Golden Retriever Rescue Southern Nevada – the good souls who rescued and sent us the extraordinary St. Patty's Day Litter and dozens of others. We also work with independent rescuers in China to save dogs from the horrors of the dog meat markets there.

Partnership has always been the focus of 20-year volunteer veteran Darleen Newlin, our intake coordinator. Originally focused on the Central Valley, she took our intake statewide, working with shelters, rescues, and independent rescuers to get Golden Retrievers in need to Homeward Bound. She answered calls from countless owners needing to surrender their dogs and gave them the closure they needed once the dogs were adopted. She announced her well-earned retirement this month. It will take multiple people to fill her shoes, but we are so grateful for the relationships of trust she has developed...through partnership.

Partnerships save lives. And that includes the partnership of our dedicated volunteers and steadfast supporters. Competition? It's just not in our vocabulary.

Thank you all for your continued support of Homeward Bound.

Judy Kent
President



While Beck was safe with us – he was not going to progress. Living among so many dogs was overstimulating and made him anxious. He also required a concerted effort to differentiate between puppy behavior and true cognitive issues. Enter Dave Bauer and his wife, Theresa.

Dave and Theresa are long-time adopters and fosters of special needs dogs; Dave is also a volunteer feeder at Homeward Bound. His journey to help special needs dogs began with Buddy, his first “lifetime” dog – as in a once-in-a-lifetime heart dog. Much as most of us say we love our dogs equally, there is always one that tugs at us just a little harder. Diagnosed with brain cancer, Dave saw Buddy through surgery to remove the tumor and radiation treatments. Once well, Dave wrote a children’s book from Buddy’s point of view. Dave and Buddy visited sick children to share Buddy’s story and give the children relatable hope and healing.

In 2010, Dave took home a special needs dog named Jenni, a blind girl who suffered neurological damage and had been abandoned. In 2023, he and Theresa adopted Kellen, our Fund of Love ambassador dog born with congenital defects on all four paws, including one completely missing paw.

At Homeward Bound, Dave saw that Beck was joyful and sweet but needed more. His interactions with other dogs were clumsy and unsuccessful. Other dogs sensed something different in Beck, who could not see to read appropriate dog body language cues. That meant a more isolated existence for Beck, who began circling and clearly craved more time and attention. After careful introductions to Kellen, Dave and Theresa welcomed Beck home as their foster.

“When I brought Beck home, I already knew that he had several puppy tendencies. He will be a year old next week, but it doesn’t appear as if he had any real socialization or training,” Dave says. “It’s only reasonable that breaking his puppy habits will take some time. My



first goal was just to show him that there were people who cared for him and to give him some security. I’m not exactly an expert trainer, so I look for small successes, like coming when he is called, or just staying calm instead of becoming agitated. I am discovering things that he enjoys, including chasing the jolly ball.”

Beck is clearly not fully sighted; you can wave your hand in front of his face without it registering. But he has a sense of his surroundings, avoids running into trees and benches, and can follow the sound – if not the movement - of his Jolly ball. He and Kellen largely ignore each other, but Kellen’s presence gives Beck some sense of normalcy, and he has gradually stopped circling.

On April 30th, Beck will be seen at UC Davis for a consultation. By coincidence, his doctor will be the same one who successfully removed Buddy’s brain tumor. The consultation should give

us a better idea of the extent of Beck’s physical limitations and any potential future developments. Based on the findings, he may also be evaluated by a dog ophthalmologist.

“The consultation will help us develop a plan so Beck can be the best he can be,” says Dave. “My long-term goal is for him to be happy and live up to his potential, whatever that is. We can tell that he just wants to please and that a great dog is inside him.”

Dave and Theresa are special angels for special needs dogs like Beck. They don’t pick the cute, easy, or fun dogs to foster. They choose the ones who need them most. June is National Foster Care month. If you’re interested in fostering and have questions, reach out to us at fostering@homewardboundgoldens.org – or submit an application on our website.

Here's Your Opportunity to Double The Gold!

Each year, in early spring, a small group of donors step up to build a fund for the medical care of the dogs. Now, we turn to you. This is where the smaller donations of the many add up to a lot because every dollar raised through the **Double the Gold Challenge** will be matched by their waiting **Fund of Love** – doubling the impact of every gift.

Last year, 540 dogs came through our doors. Because we never turn away a dog based on medical needs, our vet expenses hit \$500,000. Between bad breeding practices and an economy that puts significant medical expenses beyond the reach of many families, your support is needed now more than ever to capture every penny of the waiting **Fund of Love** match. No gift is too small. Together, we can get there and ensure that we can still say “yes” to every dog in need.

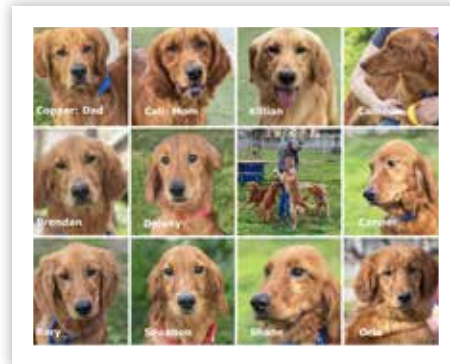
Following are just a few of the hundreds of dogs your gifts will support this year.

ST. PATTY'S DAY LITTER

We wrote about these 11 dogs in early April: Nine 10-month-old pups living in two crates and their canine mom and dad. Emaciated, unvaccinated, and rescued from a small motel room by our Las Vegas partner, Golden Retriever

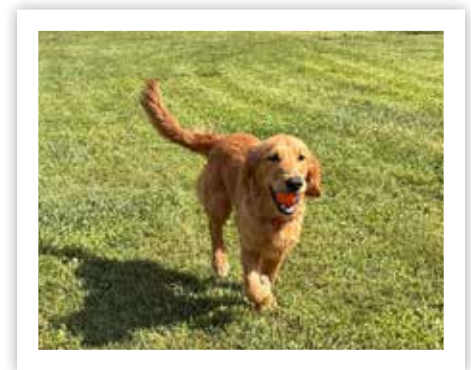


Rescue Southern Nevada (GRRSN), the pups were whisked to veterinary care. Unfortunately, unvaccinated as they were, two contracted parvo. Thankfully, a new treatment (read article within) was administered, and all survived. Still, they had to be quarantined for two weeks. The costs were astronomical; Homeward Bound stepped in to help. GRRSN is a foster-based rescue without the capacity to take on so many dogs at once. As soon as they were cleared, the dogs traveled by Golden Taxi to Homeward Bound.



Here, we gradually returned them to healthy weights, followed by additional vaccinations and spay and neuter. Happy and healthy, they are now beginning new

chapters with loving families. We could be there for them because of good people like you.



FINLEY

New Year's Day was the beginning of a new life for Finley, but his medical journey is still not over. In January, he underwent surgery to repair lateral luxating patellas in both back legs. His kneecaps would pop out of place, collapsing his hind legs and forcing him to scoot along, dragging them behind him.



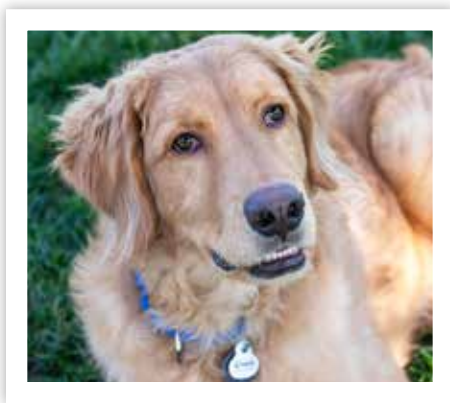
Because his condition is congenital, his case is much more complicated. Early progress turned out not to be lasting. The entire alignment of his legs and weakened muscles forced a retreat.

HOW TO HELP US “DOUBLE THE GOLD!”

Donate securely online by credit card, PayPal, or simply mail a check.

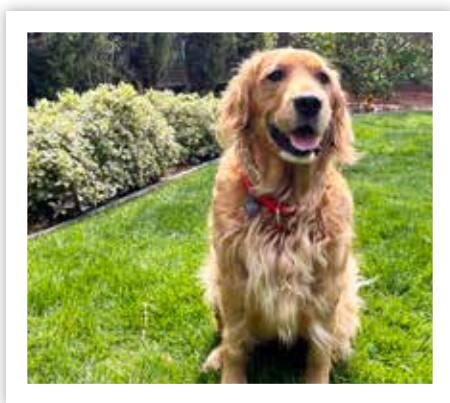
Visit our website at:
www.homewardboundgoldens.org and
click on “Double the Gold Challenge” for the link
and mailing information.

With a referral from his first surgeon, Finley was admitted to the premiere UC Davis Veterinary Hospital, where he underwent a CT scan in mid-March. From the scan, the orthopedic team at UC Davis could fully visualize and create 3-D models for his April 22nd surgery – one that will align the bones of his right leg from hip to paw. After another long recovery, he will undergo the same procedure on his left leg. Poor Finley is anxious to have all this behind him and to just be a dog. It's hard to explain to him that our goal is the same. Patience, boy, patience. Needless to say, the cost has climbed dramatically, but we will not give up on him because we have you by our side.



WILLOW

This six-year-old sweetheart who loves dogs, cats, and kids was surrendered when her seizures became too much for her family to manage. Not long after her arrival, Willow had a series of cluster seizures requiring hospitalization. Her medication was adjusted, and she was



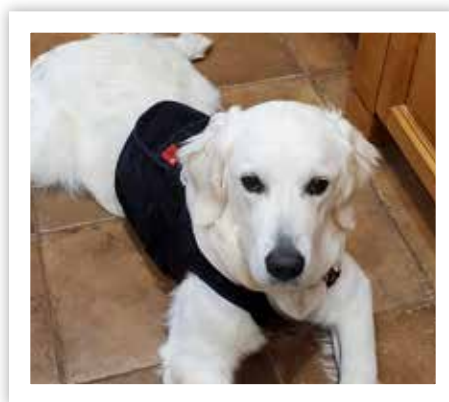
housed in our recovery area, where we could monitor her by camera 24/7 until we felt comfortable sending her to foster.

At foster, where she enjoys a calm environment, we have been able to get her stabilized, and this lovely girl who has stolen everyone's heart is now available for adoption with Homeward Bound providing her medications and special food. She will need a quiet household with someone who is around a lot to ensure monitoring.

SUGAR BEAR

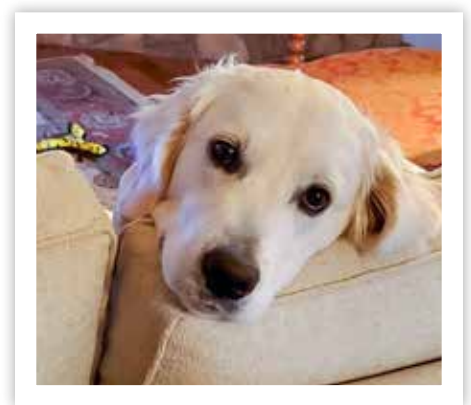
Surrendered at five months of age, Sugar Bear is the most recent in a long line of puppies with serious heart issues. These pups' conditions are the result of irresponsible breeding. Unable to be sold, the lucky ones land with a rescue like Homeward Bound with the means to provide their medical care (thanks to you!).

Sugar Bear presented with a grade IV heart murmur caused by an abnormal growth of muscle in his right ventricle. This abnormality causes the heart to work overtime. The good news is that it was caught before there was permanent damage to the heart. He began medication and was fitted with



a special heart monitor vest to give his team a closer look at what was happening inside. The medication is working! Sugar Bear will be on the medication for the rest of his life, which will probably be shortened. Homeward Bound will see to his medical needs while his new people

are determined to beat the odds and extend his life as long as possible with good care and lots of love.



Thanks to your support, we can be there when dogs arrive with significant medical needs. In addition, we provide ongoing medical support to a revolving list of 50-70 dogs in our Permanent Foster Program.

We know that these are extraordinary times for many. Anything you can contribute during the *Double the Gold Challenge* will not only help – it will go **TWICE AS FAR as your gift is matched by a waiting *Fund of Love*.**

Let's not leave even a dollar of that Fund of Love match behind! We simply cannot do it without you.

HOW TO HELP

Donate securely online on our website at hbgr.org - or by check mailed to:

Double the Gold
Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue
7495 Natomas Rd.
Elverta, CA 95626

On behalf of the Golden and golden-hearted dogs that will benefit from your generosity, our heartfelt thanks.



The Heart of A Shy Dog: Sierra's Story

By: Enid Pritikin and David Stoms

Dogs rescued from puppy mills have had little human interaction, no socialization, and rarely any affection. They typically arrive scared, shut down, and wary of people. People who can see through to a shy dog's heart know these dogs take time, patience, and lots of TLC to blossom. But the rewards are immense. Here is Sierra's story from her devoted humans, Enid and David.

Dear Homeward Bound, February 25 will mark one year since we adopted a beautiful Golden Retriever from you. You named her Arlene. We were told she was from a puppy mill in Ohio that was closed, and she had been used as a breeding mom.

When we first got her, she was so timid and shut down. So many things scared her. Understandably, she seemed confused and worried. We named her Sierra. Early on, we found her carrying our slippers and shoes around the house - always with a very gentle mouth. I suspected they might be reminders of her babies. So, I went to a thrift store and got an assortment of stuffed animals about the size, shape, and color of what her babies might have been. Now she carries them all over, moving them from room to room. Sometimes, she piles them all at the front door when we go out. Or she "punishes me" by adding one of my slippers to the pile, which she never does when we're home! She has never damaged a single thing.

From the beginning, we took her for walks in the neighborhood at least three times a day. I think that got her used to seeing other people and dogs and (eventually) learning that chasing squirrels and birds was fruitless. Gradually, the walks got longer. Now, she can walk or hike for hours.



We've always been gentle with her, but in the first weeks and months, we were especially so and tried to minimize things that caused her stress: loud noise, traffic, the garbage truck, etc. Over time, she has become used to all of it, knowing we'll



keep her safe. For the first few months, we hardly ever left her alone. Now that we've introduced her to neighbors, friends, and family, she's learned to be comfortable for hours or overnight with other people. But, in her world, we're still #1, and she is always checking to keep track of us.

She's been to two series of obedience classes where she learned basic commands and was around other dogs. Now that she (and we) have had some basic training, we've been able to teach her new things on our own.

I can't believe she is the same dog when I think about how she was then and how she is now. Her increased comfort with the world has been so gradual that it's hard to remember how it used to be. She

has turned into an absolute sweetheart, devoted to me and even more to my husband. She's learned basic commands, walks perfectly on a leash, and while squirrels are still very tempting, she resists chasing them. She loves to run free and knows how to fetch. She's gentle and friendly to people of all ages, and will happily lean against anyone, letting them pet her forever.

We've never had a Golden before, but now we've come to appreciate why they are such a cherished breed as a family pet. With her sweet temperament in mind, she's become a therapy dog. She and my husband are a team with Capital Therapy Dogs; they visit people in nursing homes, memory care, cerebral palsy day care, emergency services offices, and a high school during finals. I just finished the much more extensive approval process to take her to see hospice patients at home. I think she'll be great for that, too.



Are Your Children Dog-Ready?

There is great joy in growing up with a puppy or dog, but it does not always come naturally or easily. This can be especially challenging when introducing a puppy to a family with young children. Enormous time commitments and juggling acts are required to ensure that both kids and puppy are supervised and safe while often working on potty training for both! Equally important is ensuring that young children are comfortable around dogs, as a negative experience can have lasting consequences. Before you consider adding a puppy or dog to your family, be sure that children are emotionally ready to welcome one.

How to Get Children Used to Dogs

If your children are not accustomed to being around dogs or seem fearful, start by acclimating one child at a time. Kids feed off each other, and young siblings tend to follow older ones' lead. If you know someone with a friendly dog that is good with children, ask them to help you. Go to their home or park and keep the dog on a leash. Teach your child to pretend to be a tree when they meet a dog they don't know. This can be a fun game and helps children learn to turn away from the dog, stand still, and keep their arms by their sides. Model the behavior yourself. A dog will usually ignore someone who behaves like this (puppies...not always!). Have your friend walk past the child with the dog on a leash so they can see that nothing scary happens if they stand still. When the child feels more confident, you can try parallel walking together.

Once your child feels happier meeting the dog on leash, try introducing them. Ensure the child and the dog get to know each other slowly and gently; start by encouraging the child to let the dog sniff them. Explain that dogs say hello with their noses so they aren't surprised or frightened by a wet nose!



Gradually look for opportunities to introduce more friendly dogs to your child. Make sure to tell owners if your child is new to this or scared so they can move their dog away if they try to jump or play.

Teach Children About Dogs

Teach children to recognize signs of a happy dog (wagging tail, relaxed posture) and signs of a stressed or fearful dog (ears back, lip licking, tucked tail). Explain that dogs have different personalities and needs, just like people. Some dogs are naturally more outgoing and playful, while others are shy or reserved. Ensure that children always ask for owner permission before petting a dog.

Show children how to approach a dog gently. Teach them how to ask a dog to sit down or stand still and offer a treat if the dog is comfortable.

Explain that dogs should never be forced to interact. Dogs that don't show interest should be left alone. And teach children never to interrupt a dog while it's eating, sleeping, or chewing on something.

Think About What You Are Communicating

Children pick up on their parents' fears. Try not to say negative things about dogs, and model calm and gentle behavior yourself. Make this an effort that you and your kids do together without forcing the

issue. Changing attitudes and behaviors takes time, practice, and trust.

Timing is Everything

Puppies are naturally jumpy and bitey. They come equipped with razor-sharp teeth and need daily exercise and training to grow into well-balanced dogs. Before adopting or bringing home a puppy, give serious thought to your household, your children's ages, and whether both the puppy and very young children will have enough of your time and attention. The number one reason families surrender puppies is because they underestimate the puppy's activity level and training needs, and the time commitment required. For this reason, our adoption team will want to know with confidence that you and your young children are both equipped for the puppy adventure!



Parvo: New Treatment. New Hope.

There is nothing more frightening than a diagnosis of Parvo for a young, unvaccinated dog or puppy. The highly contagious and dangerous virus causes life-threatening vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. While Parvovirus can infect unvaccinated dogs of any age, it can be a death sentence to young dogs between the ages of six weeks and six months who lack developed immune systems.

Dogs are exposed by ingesting the virus, which is shed in the feces of infected dogs. Parvovirus is hardy in the environment and resistant to many household disinfectants. It can survive in the right conditions for a year or more. This makes spreading even without any known direct contact with another dog easier. It can take up to two weeks after infection before any symptoms develop, which is why so many new purchasers of puppies are shocked when their puppy falls ill not long after bringing it home.

The virus primarily attacks the intestines, where it destroys the inside lining. This damage leads to bacteria leaking out of the intestines and into the bloodstream. The virus also targets bone marrow, weakening the immune system and lowering the dog's ability to fight infection. The combination of weakened immunity and overwhelming bacteria in the bloodstream can lead to life-threatening consequences and death if left untreated.

Signs include lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea with blood and mucus, a foul odor, and decreased appetite. As the illness progresses, weakness, belly pain, fever, and dehydration are evident.

Vaccination is crucial to minimize the spread and exposure. Any puppy or unvaccinated dog with signs of



vomiting and diarrhea should be tested for Parvovirus. A relatively quick and inexpensive test can be performed by looking for the virus in the feces or a swab of the rectum.

IV fluids and management of electrolytes are foundational treatments. Antibiotics are given to prevent secondary infections, along with medications to help relieve vomiting, nausea, and pain. A dewormer may be given since many puppies also have intestinal parasites that can worsen diarrhea. Supplemental feeding by feeding tube is often required. A plasma transfusion may be necessary. Patients with Parvo require close monitoring and should almost always be hospitalized where they can receive around-the-clock care and attention. Treatment is often a financial barrier that families cannot meet, resulting in heartbreaking decisions and greater losses. But there is new hope.

A newer treatment option for Parvovirus is monoclonal antibody therapy. Canine Parvovirus monoclonal antibody (CPMA) is a one-time intravenous injection that neutralizes Parvovirus by binding and blocking the virus from entering and destroying cells. When administered at the time of diagnosis, CPMA can help lessen the severity of clinical signs of Parvovirus in dogs. When symptoms developed in two of the St. Patty's Day litter rescued from a motel in Las Vegas, CPMA was immediately administered to all. The treatment and the care they received at a

veterinary hospital are credited with saving the entire litter.

The USDA has granted a conditional license to Elanco Animal Health Inc. for CPMA, marking the first approved therapeutic solution for canine Parvovirus. The conditional approval status means that a validated potency test is needed for full licensure, which the USDA is currently reviewing.

The treatment should not give dog owners a false sense of security. Because Parvo's early symptoms can be confused with other conditions, CPMA's existence should not be used as an excuse not to get dogs vaccinated or to take puppies to public places before their entire course of vaccines. Parvo progresses quickly and with lethal force. We hope you never have to make use of the new treatment.

Source: Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine

Beat the Heat: Protect Your Pup

Officially, Summer may be weeks away, but the dog days of summer start early in our area! There is lots of fun to be had in the sun, but health and safety come first. Read on to keep your pup cool and safe on hot summer days.

Bring Them In When You're Away

When temperatures soar, leaving dogs home alone in the backyard while you are gone all day for work or play is a recipe for heat exhaustion and disaster. It's better to be safe than sorry, even if you think your yard has plenty of shade. Walk them early, then bring them inside, where the temperature is controlled. Never leave them in a garage that is not temperature-controlled. Temperatures can climb quickly in these enclosed spaces with no escape. How hot is too hot? It depends on the dog's age, health, breed, and coat. Bottom line: if the weather is too hot for a child, it's too hot for the dog.

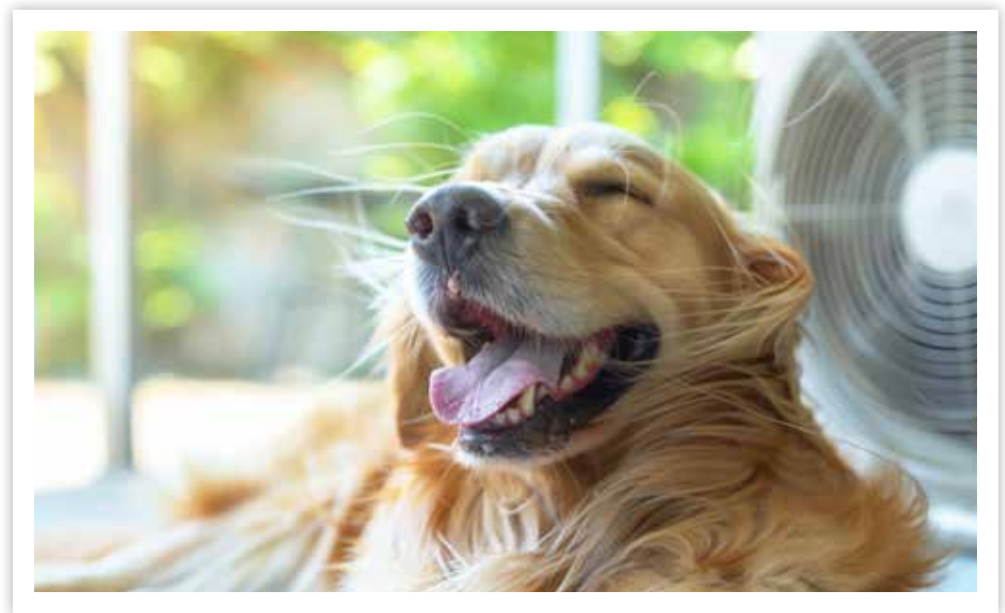
Provide Shade and Fresh Water

When everyone is out enjoying some fun in the sun, make sure your dog has access to plenty of shade and water in a bowl that is refilled frequently. Water – especially in a metal bowl – can get hot quickly and scald.

Take a break from your play to check on your pup frequently. If they are working too hard trying to keep up with the family fun, give them a break inside and let them cool down for a while.

Check the Pavement Before You Walk

If the pavement is too hot for your bare feet, it's too hot for your dog. In hot weather, pavement can become dangerously hot for dog paws, potentially causing burns in as little as a minute. Exposing a dog's paws to extreme heat can also lead to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. At Homeward Bound, we stop using the walking paths when temperatures rise above 85 degrees.



If you notice your dog lifting its paws, limping, or skipping, get it off the hot pavement immediately. Move to a cool, shaded spot to let it cool off. Once home, put your dog's paws in cool water—not ice water—for at least 10 minutes. If there are blisters, redness, or peeling, take the dog to the vet right away. These are signs of painful burns. Don't walk your dog on rough ground until fully healed.



Plan your walks in the morning and evening to avoid peak sun times when the ground can be dangerously hot. Stick to the grass whenever you can and monitor your dog's gait. If anything seems off – cool the dog's paws off and then head home.

Limit Outdoor Exercise

High-energy dogs that love to play have a hard time knowing when they've had enough. They rely on you to make responsible choices for them. Give dogs a break

from vigorous exercise and outdoor games to limit their exercise time and intensity on hot summer days. This includes swimming. Dogs who love to swim – and kids who encourage them – may not know when to stop. Dogs can experience drowning or near-drowning (also known as dry drowning) from excessive play or swimming, especially if they swallow or inhale too much water, leading to pulmonary edema or vocal cord spasms, which can cause difficulty breathing and even death.

When you're home, and things get to be too much, move the fun inside – playing fetch with a soft toy inside or hide-and-seek with treats are great ways for your pup to burn physical and mental energy in a cool environment. If you're out on the beach or trail, find a cool spot for your pup and chill for a while.

Be Careful with Short-Nosed Dogs

Brachiocephalic breeds, also called short-nosed or snub-nosed breeds (like Bulldogs, Pekingese, and Pugs), are at an increased risk for breathing issues when it's hot out. This puts them at higher risk for heat stroke and other heat-related complications.

Watch for Signs of Heat Stroke

Heat stroke occurs when your dog is unable to dissipate excess heat. Usually characterized by an internal body temperature of 106 degrees or higher, symptoms include excessive panting, rapid heart rate, red tongue and gums, unsteadiness, excessive drooling, and lethargy. Heat stroke

Continued on page 11

Reunion Picnic: Coming Right Up!

Join the Paw-ty! The Homeward Bound Reunion Picnic is early this year to beat the heat! We'll meet Saturday, May 17th at Gibson Park Ranch House in Elverta. All well-behaved Homeward Bound alumni and their well-behaved humans are welcome! Meet old friends and new! Adopters, alumni, and volunteers reunite for a casual day of fun and golden companionship - and the food and drink are on us! Parking is \$7.00, so car pool!

Gibson Park Ranch House is close to Homeward Bound with a beautiful lawn shaded by old oak trees. Bonus: there are bathrooms and an indoor, air-conditioned space to prepare and layout food. Sorry... no dogs allowed inside. But bring a blanket, some lawn chairs, and your appetite! We'll bring the pools!

Saturday, May 17, 11A-2P
Gibson Park Ranch House
Parking: \$7.00
8556 Gibson Ranch Park Rd.
Elverta, CA

Foster Care Appreciation Month

May is National Foster Care month, and while it was created with children in mind, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to our incredible foster care network. These dedicated volunteers selflessly open their homes and hearts to dogs on their journeys to forever families. Some stay a few days, some stay weeks or months. Some, stay forever as Permanent Fosters. And yes...it's always hard to say 'farewell.' But fosters know that each dog they help creates opportunity for another in need - allowing us to greatly expand the number of dogs we can serve.

We are so grateful for our fosters' support. If you are interested in learning more about fostering, visit our website at hbgr.org.



Our Wishlists

Big dogs have big needs. One simple way to help is to visit our Wish Lists for items of all budgets that are loved by our dogs and always needed by our hard-working volunteers.

We maintain two wishlists - one at Amazon and the other at Chewy. Both links are on our website. Just click on Donate on the navigation menu of our website and scroll down. And don't forget to include a gift card so we know who to thank!



is a serious medical condition that can lead to organ failure. If you suspect your pup suffers from heat stroke, get the dog inside immediately and offer plenty of cool water. Drape cool towels over the back of the neck, under the forelimbs, and in the groin area. DO NOT apply or submerge the dog in ice. Cooling a dog too quickly can cause other life-threatening medical conditions.

If your dog cannot move or walk, has labored breathing, or doesn't seem as responsive as normal, take them to the vet immediately.

Never Leave Your Dog in a Car

There is no safe amount of time for a dog to remain in a hot car, and temperatures can rise extremely fast — even with your windows open. On a mild, 70-degree day, after just 30 minutes, the temperature inside a car can reach 104 degrees. Just don't do it. Leave the dog at home. It's not worth the risk and is likely illegal where you live.

Source: Animal Humane Society

Planned Giving: A Golden Legacy

Bequests have played a major role in our ability to purchase the property after our founders' passings, and support much needed and significant improvements.

Estate or planned gifts to Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue are excellent opportunities to create a legacy ensuring the rescue's permanence and that more Golden lives are saved. Planned giving is an option for donors of all incomes and may allow you to make a larger gift in the future than you otherwise could from current assets. A planned gift can also help you reduce capital gains or estate taxes on your heirs.

Naming us in your will or trust is one of the easiest ways to ensure that future generations of Goldens in need will find a second chance at life. You'll find more information on our website under "Donate."



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

7495 Natomas Road

Elverta, CA 95626

916-655-1410

judy@homewardboundgoldens.org

Fostering

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Placement Team

homevisits@homewardboundgoldens.org

Golden Taxi (Transport)

goldentaxi@homewardboundgoldens.org

Volunteering

volunteering@homewardboundgoldens.org

Newsletter & Marketing

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Training

Kathryn Baines, 916-300-9415

grdogtraining@gmail.com



HOMeward BOUND Golden Retriever Rescue



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Audrey Farrington, Chair
- Eva Kwong, Secretary
- Scott Wolcott, Treasurer
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- Deb Haggerty, Board Member
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**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

Homeward Bound Golden Retriever
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www.homewardboundgoldens.org

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Dates to Remember

The Double the Gold Challenge - On Now!
Reunion Picnic: Saturday, May 17 at Gibson Park

Help Wanted

Volunteer Positions Currently in High Demand. We'll Train!

- **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:** From puppies to seniors and those recovering - the gift of fostering comes from the heart, and the rewards are rich.

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
Amazon 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