

THE heart



NOV 2016 / VOL 17, ISSUE 4

HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

Our 16th Annual "Kibble & Bids"™ event was a huge success! Together we raised over \$128,000 for the dogs while enjoying an evening of good company, fine food and drink, and Goldens – of course! Your generosity makes our mission possible. You'll find candid snapshots and all the details inside (pages 4-5).

November is National Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month. "The Boys: Together Forever" (cover), and "A Journey of Love (page 6), are proof that love knows no age. Every white hair is just one day of experience in being the best friend you ever had.

Do you feel like your training goes in one dog ear and out the other? "Why Your Dog is Not Listening" (page 7) may help you improve your training and its results.

And in this season of giving thanks, we highlight just a few of the reasons why we are thankful for you – our supporters, volunteers, and friends – recapping some of the year's most memorable rescues (pages 8-9). Through their successes and countless others, we are reminded that 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!



Max & Felix

The Boys: Together Forever

BY: Audrey Farrington

November is Adopt-A-Senior-Pet Month. Fittingly, we bring you the happy "tail" of two seniors who arrived this summer and left proving, once again, that love is ageless.

Max and Felix came to us out of tragedy. Their humans, heartbreakingly, perished together. At ten years of age and very closely bonded, the brothers suddenly found themselves orphaned. Other family members, overwhelmed with the loss, turned to Homeward Bound. We promised to keep them together, and so the wait began for their special someone(s) who could reimagine life with two adorable, huggable, and Velcro seniors.

They had been outside dogs, but possessed excellent house manners, never messing their area, and being sure to clean every single morsel of food from the floor! Because of their gentle natures, they quickly became the designated office dogs. The office space

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 2016
287

VET EXPENSES TO DATE IN 2016
\$173,094



Lucy

A Message From Our President

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do." ~ Edward Everett Hale

When I began in rescue more than 25 years ago, lots of people said that nothing could be done about the millions of animals lost each year to euthanasia in shelters. I knew then – as I do now – that I cannot save them all. But I can save some. At Homeward Bound, we have saved more than 8,500. I'm proud to be a part of a movement that has accomplished so much.

Through education, spay and neuter programs, and the promotion of adoption over purchase, we have all contributed to a reduction in the number of homeless Golden Retrievers in this country. The resulting demand created for young Golden Retrievers is so strong that many of our partners are now focusing their efforts on bringing Golden Retrievers in from distant lands.

While we, too, have assisted in some international efforts, because of the risks involved, we are extremely selective about our partners. Instead, we have opened our doors to the most senior and medically-challenged Golden Retrievers, Golden mixes, and Labs who are still at risk in shelters here at home. With care and love, these dogs make excellent family companions. They just need the chance. That is not to say that we don't still receive young, beautiful Golden Retrievers! But as our efforts reduce that population, we are proud to be able to extend our help to others.

Your contributions of time and donations make our work possible. Our sincere thanks to all for your generosity throughout the year – with a reminder that the Giving Tree will be live on Thanksgiving weekend. What a perfect way to honor or remember someone special while helping Golden Retrievers on their journeys home.

I am but one. But with all of you – we are many. And I am grateful for all that our volunteers, supporters, and partners do to make our mission of rescue possible.

Sincerely,

Jody Jones, President





hand and snuggle as close as he can.”

Charley and Spencer did not just find a dog. They found two someones they didn't even know that they had been missing. And thanks to them, we were able to keep our promise to a family that very much needed to be at peace.

“They found us and we are theirs forever,” says Charley.

Old dogs can be slow and goofy. They may move like klutzes through your home, but anyone who has loved an old dog knows, they can still occupy your heart at lightening speed. They show boundless love and gratitude. They can be funny and endear in new and unexpected ways. They have the wisdom to accept life as it is and hope that you will also accept them as they are, as well. It takes a lifetime to get as sweet as an old dog.

A lot of people come to Homeward Bound with preconceived notions of their perfect dog. It's good to be realistic about what is and isn't suited for your life, but when you come to meet your future companion, we recommend leaving your heart open. You never know who you will find that needs you. And you might just find that, all along, you needed them too.

Continued from page 1

ensured ample room for their more-than-ample bodies, lots of hugs and pets, and a dog's eye view of all comings and goings - which is how they came to meet Charlene (Charley) and Spencer. They were looking for a dog. No particular gender; young or old; Golden or mix. It didn't matter. Just a good dog to share their lives with.

“We drove to the rescue with one collar and one leash with the full intention of adopting one dog. We talked about all the dogs on the website. We joked about taking two dogs home, saying how perfect it would be to have both Max and Felix.

The boys were laying behind the desk being cute as hell. I was in love right off the bat but I knew I didn't want them to be separated and we were only looking for one dog.”

With their large and irresistible sugar-faces, Max and Felix made a bee-line right for Charley and Spencer's hearts.

“We were shown a few dogs who were all amazing and loving but just not the right fit. As we waited for the next dog to be brought out, Spencer and I started talking again about the boys who already had my heart. And then, Jody unexpectedly came out with them and let them off their leashes. Felix ran straight to Spencer; Max came straight to me - and the magic connection between us was sealed.

Once we got home it felt like we'd had them forever. Max is our happy-go-lucky boy, who loves his duck and pig, eating his brother's food, and cannot jump onto the bed because he's too fat (we're working on it!). Felix is our cuddly, loving, hopeless romantic. He likes to hold your



**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

7495 Natomas Rd.
Elverta, CA 95626
p. 916-655-1410 f. 916-655-3410
homewardboundgoldens.org

Tax ID No. 68-0442702



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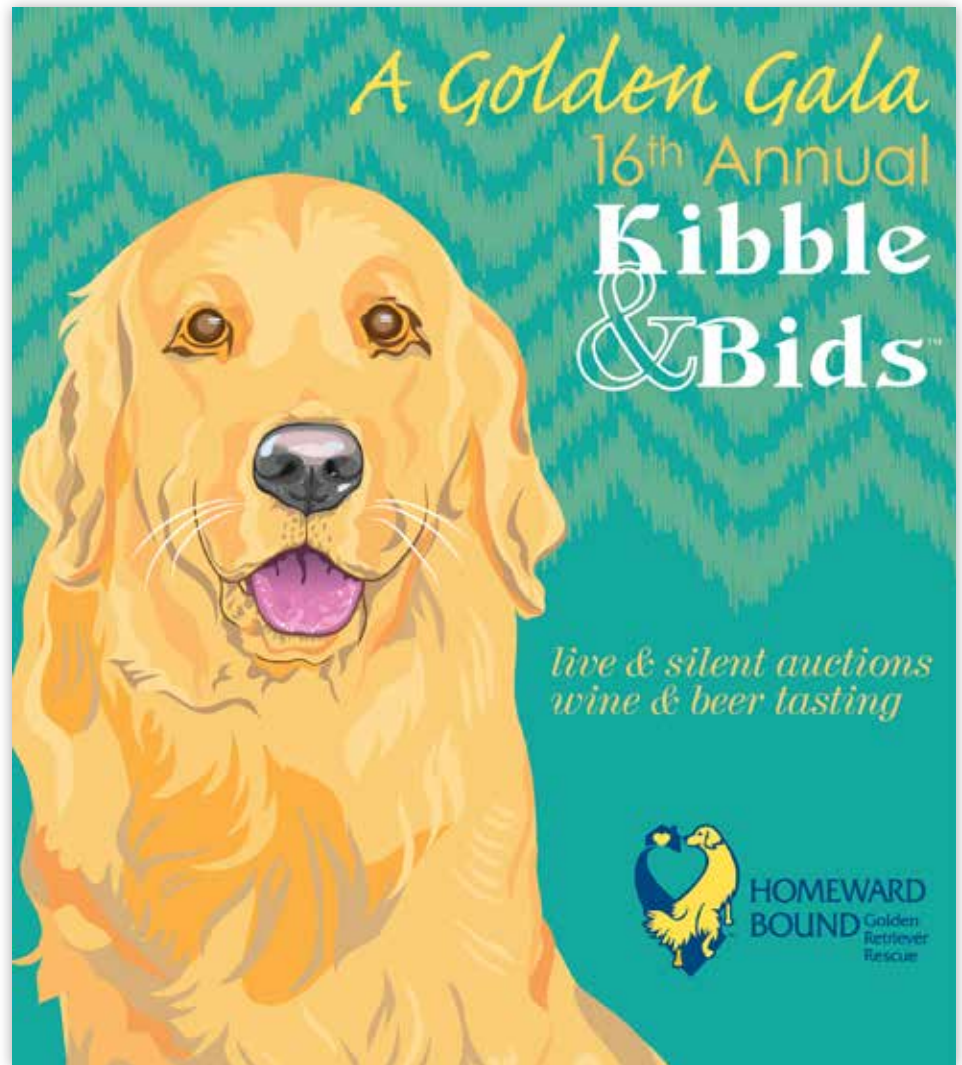
Kibble & Bids™ 2016: It's A Wrap!

Hundreds braved a warm September evening to join us and our Golden companions for our 16th annual Kibble & Bids™ event at the California Auto Museum in Sacramento. No surprise to us, you made it a successful event for the dogs as well, thanks to your generosity.

Fine wine, beer, and spirits flowed, and delectable appetizers were sampled among the gleaming chrome of classic cars. Our silent auction bidders get more practiced and stealthy each year, plotting and positioning to be the highest bidder on amazing items. As a montage of memorable rescues played (thank you Murphy Film Productions) – irresistible desserts disappeared and old and new friends exchanged photos and stories of their own beloved fur companions.

All of this led up to the live auction where the bidding was fierce for valuable treasures. Most importantly, your big-heartedness resulted in raising critical funds for the purchase of a back-saving Bobcat® for lifting, loading, fence building, and excavating. Its first test: the yard re-grading and digging of a French drain for our Sugar Shack Acres project!

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our vendors, Joe Gates – our auctioneer – and Christina Janes



of CBS13 for helping us to put on such a memorable event. Of course, we also thank our auction item donors and generous supporters for helping us to achieve our fundraising goal - raising more than \$128,000 for the rescue and care of Homeward Bound's dogs.

And, of course, a very special thank you to our organizing committee and all of the

amazing volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year to bring this fabulous evening together in support of the dogs we love.

Thank you all! We'll see you next year!





A Journey of Love

BY: Audrey Farrington

"Everyone who is in your life is meant to be a part of your journey, but not all are meant to stay." ~ Unknown Author

Many of Homeward Bound's volunteers come to us through the process of adopting a dog. So it was with Jill and Dan. In August 2015, they made an appointment to look for a dog to adopt - a canine companion for their, then, three-year-old Golden, Maebee. They had lost their beloved senior girl, Annie, and thought that Maebee would need a younger friend to keep her company. But Maebee had other ideas. The young dogs she met quickly overwhelmed her, and so, the search continued.

Meanwhile, Jill and Dan fell in love with Homeward Bound. Jill decided to volunteer as a dog walker. Her walking, however, kept leading her in the direction of the senior yard where our sugar faces were winning her heart.

Two, in particular, tugged at her: Ryan had been found stray and taken to a Los Angeles shelter. At 12 years of age, he had hip dysplasia, a mass, dry skin and a very poor coat. Given his special needs, we worked with a rescue partner to transport him to us.

The other was Ranger - formerly Ranier. He too had been in a Southern California shelter. He had allergies, hip dysplasia, and nerve damage which caused him to drag his foot when he walked. His foster found that he loved his soft toys, was obsessed with carrying his leash, and absolutely loved his people. The shelter estimated his age at 10; somewhere along that way, that became eight and a half. Torn, but knowing they and Maebee could



Buddy Loves His Leash

only handle one, they took Ryan home despite - or because of - his advanced age and medical issues. What happened next could not have been foreseen: Ryan went to the Rainbow Bridge just a week after his "going home." It was devastating to lose him so soon, but what a blessing that he was in their loving care when he



left his earthly body. Ryan was meant to be theirs; he just wasn't meant to stay. Jill and Dan had given Ryan the gift of "home" in his final days, leaving paw prints on their hearts.

As difficult as the loss was, Jill knew that there was another who needed them; Ranger still waited. Jill and Dan took him home and renamed him Buddy "because that is what he answered to!"

For the first three months, Buddy and Maebee didn't pay much attention to each other. And then, one day after breakfast, he started chasing after her. Before long, they were play bowing to each other. "We have a bell on the patio door. Buddy was our first dog to ring it to go outside. He steps outside, but then waits for Maebee to join him. We could not have found a better friend for Maebee and for us!"

Buddy needed medical care to address both his allergies and his hip dysplasia. Because of his age and special needs, Homeward Bound ensures that his ongoing medical needs are met. With good care, his coat has grown full and soft, but his eyes still bear the red marks of allergy tears. He walks with a funny gait and wears special protective booties to keep his paws and nails from becoming damaged when he drags his feet. He carries his

leash or a toy - or whatever he can find, and prances all over the house. Forever young at heart! The love of a senior dog is special.

Whether he is 8, 10 or 11, does not matter to Jill, Dan, and Maebee. He was simply meant to be a part of their lives and journey. Most importantly, he is home and he is loved.

Why Your Dog Is Not Listening

BY: Kathryn Baines

Dog training is like flossing; people swear they do it. But are they doing it consistently and well? Your dentist knows the truth, and your dog does, too! Here are five reasons why your training may not be getting you the results you expect.

You Don't Train Regularly

We know it: if we don't use it, we lose it. It's the same with your dog. Training should be incorporated into a dog's daily life – not just as a puppy, but reinforced even as they age. When a dog is young, or desperately in need of the most basic skills, committing to a scheduled daily training time is a must. As your dog improves, work training randomly into your daily routine together. "Sit" for a meal, "wait" at the door, "leave it" with toys, for example. The more you train, the more reliable your dog's response will be when it really matters.

You Are Inconsistent and Repeat Commands

Is your dog blowing you off? Repeating commands can lead to stalling behaviors which are difficult to break. First, be consistent with your expectations and technique and ensure that each family member, pet sitter, etc. does the same. The same commands and hand signals should be used for each action you want – and training philosophies must be consistent to avoid confusing or setting back the dog. Once you believe the dog knows a behavior, ask only once. If you are ignored, it's an indication that 1) you haven't taught it properly, 2) the dog is distracted, or 3) the dog is simply rebellious. Take your dog to a quiet spot and ask again; if it still doesn't respond, go back to basics and re-teach. Often,

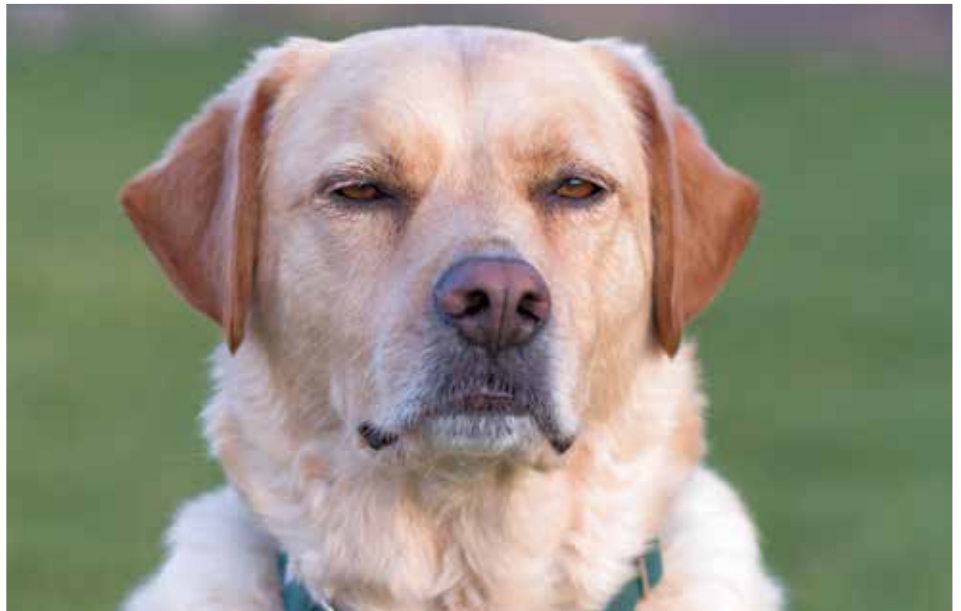


Photo Credit: Rob Kessel

looking your dog square in the eye and moving in a bit closer while speaking the command in an unemotional but firm voice will get the response you desire. Then praise!

You Are Reactive, Not Proactive

You know what they say: we're not training the dog, we're training the trainer. Your learned technique and timing is everything in training. First, watch and "learn" your dog so you can anticipate behaviors on its part. Second, practice your technique and movements before training with the dog so your actions are prepped and ready. Training is like a dance; the better your timing together, the better the result.

You Are Not Meeting Your Young Dog's Needs First

Young dogs, in particular, can't pay attention if they have too much energy. You must expend some of that exuberance before you can get them to focus on obedience training. Aerobic exercise makes all the difference. Play fetch, run around with them, challenge them with interactive toys or exercises. When they start to settle – but before they are exhausted – it's time to go to work!

You Lack Confidence

Your dog sees right through you. Dogs instinctively sense a lack of confidence and might exploit it or mirror your anxiety. A confident leader makes for a more confident dog. The greater comfort you exhibit with a calm, but firm, and proactive approach, the more your dog will look to you as the leader. If you are very unsure of yourself, we recommend training lessons for you and your dog.

Not Training For The Environment

Why does my dog sit perfectly at home, but won't listen at the vet's office? Distraction. And not training for it. Begin your training in areas without distractions, gradually working up to more disruptive environments. Start in the house, then the backyard, front yard, on regular walks, at the edge of the park, in the park, and finally public spaces.

Kathryn Baines is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer (CPDT- KA), Behavior Consultant and an AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy and Canine Good Citizen Evaluator. Classes at Homeward Bound are open to adopters and the general public. For more information, please visit: www.grdogtraining.com

A Few of the Reasons Why We Are Thankful For You!

Each year, we have hundreds of amazing stories of rescue, rehabilitation, and adoption. Here are just a few standouts from 2016 – all of them made possible because of your generous gifts of time, donations, and foster love. Homeward Bound does not exist without you. During this special season, we share these small miracles with gratitude.



Desta Today with Carol

Daphne's Sight:



She came to us as an adorable puppy with cataracts that rendered her nearly blind. Thanks to you, Daphne sees the world very differently today in her forever home.



Benson's Battle:

A ten-year-old boy dealt a deadly hand of three-of-a-kind: Hookworms, Heartworm and Clostridium (a bacterial infection) – and left in a local shelter. Benson's odds were not good. Today, Benson is healthy and well-loved in his forever home.

Ned's New Lease on Life:



"Emaciated, with multiple scars. Malnourished, neglected, possible previous animal attacks," read his file. Despite all, he had the sweetest, most forgiving personality imaginable. Good medical care helped heal his wounds; our volunteers and his adoptive family healed his heart.



Desta's Destiny:

A growth-stunted Golden stray who suffered a close encounter of the vehicular kind. Emergency care saved her life, but the head trauma left her with seizures and some brain damage. Her permanent foster mom says: "she is forever a puppy!" and loves her in spite – or because of it.

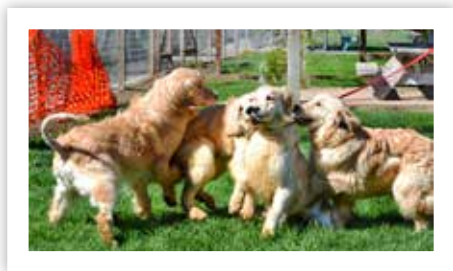
Faith and Hope, and Rose:



More than a coincidence – we're convinced all three were from the same litter. In-breeding resulted in genetic defects and life-long issues. Your support helped to heal Rose's heart, but ultimately, the inherited disorder stole her from us. Your ongoing support means we can be there to meet Faith and Hope's (now Sophie's) needs throughout their lives while they receive the best of care in their forever home.



Continued from page 8



A New Land and A Rebirth:

Talgi, Roger, Lena, and Myra were rescued from a South Korean dog meat farm by the Humane Society International. A month after their arrival at the SF SPCA, these four still could not stand. They were paralyzed with fear. We said we could help. In the quiet of our country setting and the patient, loving care of our volunteers, they blossomed and were reborn as the dogs they were meant to be. All four are now in loving homes.

Bing's Big Day



Rescued from Taiwan, Bing flunked adoption multiple times. We thought he might be with us forever, but over time, he became a different dog. A Cinderella moment led to a fairytale ending and Bing went home with one of our devoted volunteers. Your support allowed us to provide a place of safety and care until Bing was finally ready for his big day.



Scratches

In Memory of Scratches

Have you ever wondered how we cat-test our dogs? It takes a special, brave, kitty to face down some of these pups. And while our cat-testers are never put at risk, it's certainly not a job that every feline signs up for.

We recently lost one of our veteran testers, Scratches. This sweet boy was best friends with our other tester, Tori.

While Tori is a fearless mouser, Scratches preferred to score his extra meals from volunteer lunches. He loved attention and pets, and could stare down the mightiest of dogs with a look that said, "Dude, you're just visiting. I live here! So chill."

We miss Scratches dearly, and we are so grateful to him for his years of service in helping us match dogs to their perfect homes.

We'll see you over the rainbow bridge, sweet boy – where all dogs play nicely with kitties!



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



916-480-0900 www.nsnorcal.com

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

Light up the Homeward Bound Giving Tree!

The 6th Annual Homeward Bound Giving Tree will be ready to decorate online beginning Thanksgiving weekend!

It's the perfect gift for a dog lover, a last-minute shopper, or the special people in our lives who don't care about receiving more "things." 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.

Our Giving Tree will be ready to light and decorate on Thanksgiving weekend. Look for it on our website at www.homeward-boundgoldens.org. It's incredible to watch



your gifts turn our tree into a bright light 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.cherrycreekvvet.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.



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
7495 Natomas Road
Elverta, CA 95626
916-655-1410
Fax: 916-655-3410

jjsgoldens@homewardboundgoldens.org

Foster Families

Judy Ortiz

fostering@homewardboundgoldens.org

Placement Team

Lynn Pihera, 916-428-2718

homevisits@homewardboundgoldens.org

Golden Taxi (Transport)

Lea Kachler-Leake

goldentaxi@homewardboundgoldens.org

Events Planning

Jana Hook, 530-346-9913

events@homewardboundgoldens.org

Volunteering

Pat Heise

volunteering@homewardboundgoldens.org

Newsletter & Marketing

Audrey Farrington

audrey@homewardboundgoldens.org

Training

Kathryn Baines, 916-300-9415

grdogtraining@gmail.com

Kibble & Bids™ Fundraising

kibbleandbids@homewardboundgoldens.org



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 11, 12 & 13**

**Location: Homeward Bound,
7495 Natomas Rd., Elverta, CA
Time: 10A-2PM each day**

(Except between 12N-12:30P 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@homewardboundgoldens.org

The Homeward Bound Calendar

The 2016 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"



**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

Homeward Bound Golden Retriever
Rescue and Sanctuary, Inc.
7495 Natomas Road
Elverta, CA 95626

phone: 916-655-1410 | Fax: 916-655-3410
email: jjsgoldens@homewardboundgoldens.org
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Dates To Remember

The Giving Tree - Begins Thanksgiving Weekend
Santa Photos - November 11 - 13, 2016

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.
- **Adoption Counselors:** Match great dogs to good families to help them get home!

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
8 1/2 x 11 Copy Paper
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