

The GSROR Quarterly

German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies

A Colorado Non-Profit Organization 501 (c)(3)

Special Dogs in Need of Special People

Won't you please consider one of these lovely kids to be your new friend? Sampson and Skylar both have behavior issues that require us to find special homes for them. Tess, who was an outdoor dog, needs a stay-at-home person who will teach her how to live in a house and be a part of the family.

They are wonderful, loving and loyal creatures who just need a little extra help and patience. We are hoping that with the right families and training, Skylar, Sampson and Tess will find the loving homes they deserve. If you are interested, please visit our website at www.gsror.com for more information on these dogs and the adoption process. *Thank you!*



Sampson



Skylar



Tess

Volume 5

Spring Edition, 2013



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WWW.GSROR.COM

Come Join Us!

Calendar of Events

April 6- Meet & Greet, Paws & Tails in Englewood, 11am-1pm.

May 18- Petco Adoption Party in Golden, time TBA.

August 17- Denver Pet Expo, Merchandise Mart in Denver, 10am-6pm.

Details Coming Soon!

May- Spring Dog Wash at Hobnob Pet Daycare

June- Wine Tasting Event



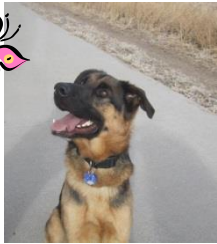
Volume 5 / Spring Edition 2013



Available Dogs



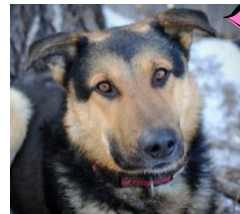
WHISKEY



SARGE



HEIDI



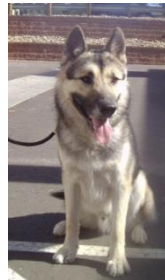
BARRON



TESS



SAMPSON



SKYLAR



JACK

For more information on the dogs listed above,
please visit our website at www.gsr.or.com.

Happy Tails

Happy Dogs in Happy Homes! To see more Happy Tails, check out our website at www.gsr.or.com





Hi, my name is Gunni, and I want to say "thank you" to all the people who are helping me get surgery for my incontinence. My former foster mom, Katie, put together a fundraiser through GSROR, and she says lots of people donated!

I guess the surgery must cost a lot of money because my forever mom sat down and cried and hugged me when she heard how many people are helping me. I'm just looking forward to not wearing diapers and accidentally making messes. My family never yells at me about my messes, but I feel really embarrassed and even try to clean up after myself. My mom sewed me some "pants" to hold my diapers in place. I especially like the Star Wars & pirate pants, but I really hate being wet until my family comes home in the afternoon to change me - I'm a very big boy, so I wet a LOT, and it's smelly and uncomfortable.

My surgery is scheduled for late March, and Mom will let you all know how I'm doing. If my surgery costs less than my donation fund, Katie is going to start a fund to help dogs with health problems who haven't found their forever families yet, and she's going to name it after ME!

Thank you to everyone who has sent money, prayers, and good thoughts my way!

Love, Gunni





TRACEY'S TRAINING TIPS



What Does "Sit" Mean Again?

Our family recently moved from one state to another. I could write a book about all the experiences we endured moving our dog and cat along with us, but one element stands out. So, I thought I would share it with you all.

Sometimes we are so caught up in our personal lives, we forget that the things we are going through affect our pets as well. How our pets are affected depends greatly on the kinds of experiences they have had in their lives and who they are as individuals. My dog, Sadie turned 10 years old in February and has been trained by me since she was about 3 months old. Believe it or not, during the first few days of our move, she seemed to forget what to do when she heard the word "sit." In reality, however, she hadn't forgotten. She truly didn't know what to do. The remedy? She needed some generalized training.

When dogs learn a behavior, they often associate that learning experience with their environment. This is why, sometimes, dogs know "sit" in their home, but seem to forget what it means when they are some place else. What they haven't learned, actually, is that "sit" means "sit" no matter where they are. To learn this, they need to practice of all their "tricks" or behaviors in a variety of situations and places, even with different people. This is called "generalization." Often times, puppy-training classes focus heavily on teaching young'uns how to generalize. This is a good thing. However, we forget that even older dogs, who have years of training under their belt, need help with it, just as I experienced with Sadie. Sadie has been many places with me over the years. But she had never been to the hotels we stayed at on our trip to our new home, and she certainly had never

been to the apartment in which we now find ourselves living temporarily. New smells, new sounds, new sights...exciting, but kinda scary! So, although I was stressed with the whole relocation process, I realized right away that I was going to need to be patient with Sadie when I asked her for any of her typical behaviors because the first time I asked for a sit in a new place, she looked up at me like "what??" As such, I took a step back in my expectations of her.

I knew that she would learn to sit in the new places quicker since she had known "sit" before the big move, but I took the time to practice it with her few times each day, as if I was teaching her to sit for the first time. For example, I asked for a sit and then waited for her to process the request. If her attention was diverted from me for some reason, I would ask again. When she would finally try offering a sit with a look of "is this what you wanted?", I marked the correct behavior (her sitting) with a smile and a "yes!" and gave her a treat or placed her food bowl down or leashed her up or let her out the door, etc. She picked it up quickly. And the patient re-training made her realize that not everything in her world was different. She could find security in the fact that "sit" still meant sit.

So, anytime you experience changes in your life, from as little as having a house guest to as big as moving to another home, be aware that your dog might need some patient, generalized training to show him that though some things are different in his life, some things are still the same.

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Kibbles and Bits:



Pet Foster Expenses and the IRS

Good news! Thanks to a U.S. Tax Court ruling in 2011, if you volunteer as a pet foster parent for a 501 (c) (3) designated, non-profit organizations, some of your unreimbursed expenses for caring for the foster animals can be declared as deductible expenses on your federal tax form. The allowable expenses must be documented by records and receipts and must show a direct correlation to the foster

care work of the rescue. In addition, if the expenses total over \$250.00, then a letter from the charity that benefits from you fostering their animals must be acquired to prove your volunteer/foster parent status. Unfortunately, the long, generous hours you spend caring for foster animals cannot be deducted. However, it's good news that the federal government now recognizes

that volunteers who pay out of their own pockets to care for the needs of foster pets are essentially donating money to charity and should be allowed to acknowledge such donations on their tax forms. As with *all* tax issues, please seek professional legal or tax assistance, if you would like to find out more about this ruling.

10 Helpful Items Your Aging Dog Would Appreciate

1. Heating pad- to warm those sore muscles and joints.
2. Ramps- to get up and down from places like your car, bed, couch, or wherever else they like to be.
3. Support Harness, like the GingerLead- to help those bubbas who have weak hind legs.
4. Orthopedic bed- to relieve pressure on the joints while lying down.
5. Elevated Feeder- to save your dog from doing a nose plant in their food or water bowl.
6. Wagon or Stroller- so your dog can still get out to sniff the world without having to struggle to walk.
7. Dental Care Products- as their teeth get old, their food gets softer and, well, the breath gets more intense.
8. Piddle Pads and/or pup pants- to catch the accidental leaks.
9. Easy, Interactive Stationary Toys- to stimulate your dog's interest.
Just 'cuz their old doesn't mean they don't like some fun.
10. Your Gentle Hands- a good massage feels good to everyone.

Keep up-to-date with their veterinary care and ask your vet about appropriate senior dog food.

Want to
Volunteer?



Please visit our website at
www.gsr.or.com
for more information.



For the Love of a German Shepherd Dog

Inspiring Stories, Trivia and Some Fun about our Favorite Breed



A guy with a GSD and a guy with a Chihuahua are hungry, so the guy with the GSD says, "Let's go in that restaurant for some food." The guy with the Chihuahua says, "We can't go in there. We've got our dogs with us." The guy with the GSD says, "No worries. Just follow my lead." He puts on a pair of sunglasses and goes to the door. A guy at the door says, "Sorry Mac, no pets allowed." The guy with the GSD says, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog." And the guy at the door lets them in. The guy with the Chihuahua puts on a pair of sunglasses and approaches the door. The guy at the door stops them and says, "Sorry Pal, no pets allowed." The guy with the Chihuahua says, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog." The guy at the door says, "A Chihuahua? Really?" The guy with the dog responds, "You mean they gave me a Chihuahua?!"

Riley's Reading Room

Take a look at some interesting books about my K-9 buddies!

Rin Tin Tin: The Life and Legend by Susan Orlean- all about the dynasty of Rin Tin Tin with an interesting insight into the early movie industry.

Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle by Brian Dennis et al. -a Children's story but good for adults too about a GSD mix who found his forever home.

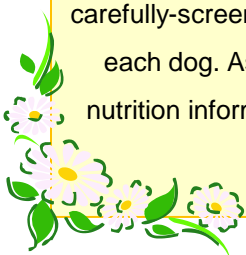
A Dog's Purpose by W. Bruce Cameron -follow a dog's journey through many different lives.

Underwater Dogs by Seth Casteel - filled with some hilarious underwater pictures of dogs.

Dog On It: A Chet and Bernie Mystery by Spencer Quinn - enjoy a good mystery? Check out my favorite K-9 detective.

Our Mission Statement

German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies (GSROR) serves the public as a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue of homeless and abandoned German Shepherd Dogs (GSD) in Denver, Colorado and surrounding areas. While providing loving and temporary care, the goal of German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies is to find well-matched, carefully-screened, permanent homes and families for each dog. As a community resource, we provide nutrition information, referrals, education, and other services.



Our Board of Directors

Katie Hodgson-*President*

Mickey McNeal-*Director*

Julie Warzecha-*Secretary*

Marchelle Heslip-*Treasurer*



Contact Us

Please visit our website at:
www.gsror.com

