



# The GSROR Quarterly

German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies  
A Colorado Non-Profit Organization 501 (c)(3)



2017

## Year End News

and Reminders

Volume 16  
Winter 2016

As we finish out this busy year and set our sights on what we hope will be a happy and healthy new year, GSROR would like to say:

**THANK YOU** to all our invaluable volunteers, generous donors, and wonderful adopters! You are critical to the success of this rescue and we are so thankful for you all!

Also...



The 2017 GSROR Annual Calendar on sale! The cost is \$20 each, plus postage, and the funds raised go to helping the dogs in our rescue. Please see our website for ordering information.



GSROR is still participating in the Amazon Smile Program. Through your Amazon account, you can sign up to have Amazon donate a portion of your purchases to our rescue at no cost to you! Visit [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) for more information.



Donating to GSROR is tax-deductible, easy to do through our website [www.gsr.or.com](http://www.gsr.or.com), and supports the daily needs, including medical concerns, of the dogs in our care searching for a forever home. Cash donations give us the flexibility to apply the funds where needed, but donations of dog supplies and offering to volunteer your time are always welcome!

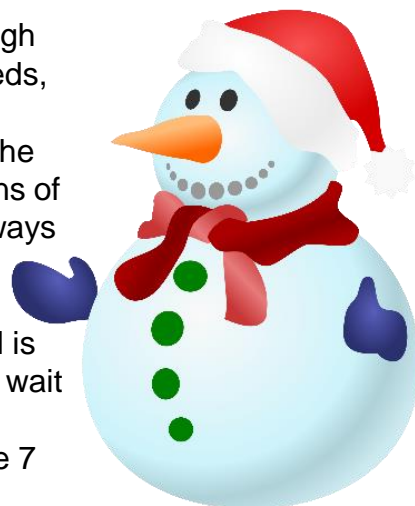


We are always in need of foster families, since our goal is to keep our dogs in nurturing, home settings while they wait to find their forever home. As an added bonus, some fostering expenses are tax-deductible. Please see page 7 for more information.

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[www.GSROR.com](http://www.GSROR.com)



# Available Dogs

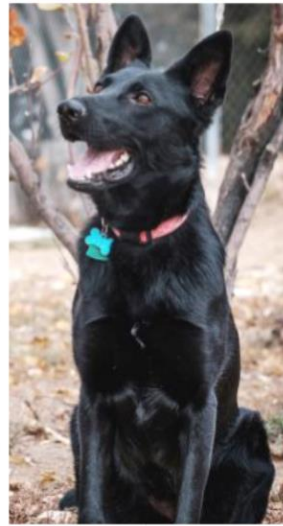
## Help These Dogs Find a Home for the Holidays



### SHILOH

Oh, those ears!

Shiloh is about 3 years old. She likes playing with toys and relaxing at home.



### KIKI

Kiki is about 1-2 years old and could use a little confidence building. She is sweet and sensitive and eager to learn.



### THEODORE

This 4 year old boy is proud to say that he has graduated from a training school and is ready for his new family. He's very affectionate and enjoys playing fetch.



### GINA

Gina is people friendly, enjoys taking walks and playing with her favorite bunny toy. She is 6 years old.





For more information  
about our dogs or  
about GSROR, please  
visit our website at  
[www.gsror.com](http://www.gsror.com)



### ZEUS

Don't let the grey around my muzzle fool you...I am a kid at heart. Zeus is around 10 years old and always ready for a little lovin'.



### ATHENA

Athena is a 4 year old female looking for a quiet home with adults who will help her build her confidence. She loves car rides and taking walks.



### DOLLIE

Dollie is about 1-2 years old and has lots of energy. She is crate trained and enjoys playing fetch.

# Brian's Bite-Sized Behavior Bits - December 2016

## Timing: The Key to Maximizing Training Effectiveness

There's a lot to be said for thoughtfully designing training sessions with your canine training partner. There are a number of components in this equation, but one of the most critical is timing. Let's explore a few examples of how you can take advantage of this powerful training tool.

### Time of day

Most dogs are just like people in that they have predictable energy cycles, and you can use this to boost productivity. If your dog is super energetic in the morning, that's not necessarily the best time to practice stability exercises like the "Stay" command, particularly if you're in the early phases of teaching – teach the stay instead when he's good and tired, making compliance with the command much easier to obtain. Then, take advantage of your dog's high energy in the morning to practice your recalls. Exuberance is exactly what you want when you call him to come! *What* you do is often less important than *when* you do it.

### The good and the bad

When your dog does something you want her to do more of, make sure to give her verbal encouragement at the exact moment you see her doing it. You can of course pet or give her a treat afterward, but the critical element here is the timing of the verbal signal – the reward can come several seconds afterward (for more explanation, see my March 2014 installment called "The Power of Yes"). Similarly, if your dog makes a mistake, tell her right as she's doing it (you can use "Nope," "Uh-Uh," or something along those lines – just make sure you're use the same word consistently). Tell her calmly. No need to get worked up. Just let her know and then offer some sort of a consequence. This can be a disapproving glance, escorting her to her dog bed so she can calm down, or any other appropriate means of discouraging the behavior.

### Session length and breaks

Another key to training success lies in knowing how often to train your dog and how to best help him retain information. I'm going to assume that you work with your dog in such a way that he loves his training sessions with you and that you're looking to identify the optimal cadence for them. In nearly every case, it's better to do multiple, shorter training sessions than one long session. An hour-long session is likely to be counterproductive, whereas four 15-minute sessions in a day will produce great results. If you don't have an hour to train every day, do three or four 5-10 minute sessions.

Once you've completed a session, one of the best things you can do to support maximum information retention is to put your dog in a separate room or in his crate to rest: going into a resting state will allow his mind to absorb the maximum amount of material. This assumes, of course, that you've trained him properly to be comfortable in those situations so he doesn't perceive the separation as punishment. After being "put up" for about 30 minutes, he'll be refreshed and come out for the next round with renewed enthusiasm, focus, and clarity.

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# COLD WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

FROM THE ASPCA

Falling temperatures, ice, and the methods we use to combat the weather conditions can all be dangerous to your pet's health. Here is some advice from the folks at the ASPCA:

1. Going from indoor warmth to outdoor cold can cause itchy, dry skin- **"keep your home humidified and towel dry your pet as soon as he comes inside, paying special attention to his feet and in-between toes."**
2. Dogs need coats- either the kind you buy or their own, if they have a thick coat- **"never shave your dog down to the skin in the winter...and consider getting him a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtleneck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly,"** if his coat is short.
3. Use a towel to dry off your pet's paws, even while on a walk- **"wash and dry your pet's feet and stomach to remove ice, salt and chemicals- and check for cracks in paw pads or redness between the toes."**
4. Pets need the essential oils in their coat to protect their skin- **"bathe your pets as little as possible during cold spells."**
5. Protect your pets paws by- massaging **petroleum jelly** or **putting booties on their feet.**
6. Like humans, pets need extra calories during the cold months- **"feed your pet a little more in the winter"** and **make sure they have plenty of water.**
7. **Keep your pet away from any antifreeze or any ethylene glycol product.**
8. Give your pet - **"a warm place to sleep, off of the floor and away from all drafts."**
9. **Cars can act as refrigerators, please don't leave them alone in a car.**

AND if it's TOO COLD FOR YOU...then it's TOO COLD FOR YOUR PET.  
Please keep them inside where it's warm.

Source: <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/cold-weather-safety-tips>

# Since Holidays are on Our Minds Anyway...

Here's a list to keep by your 2017 GSROR Calendar, so you can celebrate with your pets all year long!

## JANUARY

National Train Your Dog Month

## FEBRUARY

Spay & Neuter Awareness Month

## MARCH

Poison Prevention Awareness Month

## APRIL

National Heartworm and Pet First Aid Awareness Month

## MAY

National Pet Month

## JUNE 24th

Take Your Dog to Work Day

## JULY

National Lost Prevention Month

## AUGUST 26th

National Dog Day

## SEPTEMBER

National Disaster Preparedness Month

## OCTOBER

National Service Dog and Pet Wellness Month

## NOVEMBER

National Senior Dog and Pet Diabetes and Pet Cancer Month

## DECEMBER

Simply celebrate the love and companionship you share with your pet.



# BENEFITS OF FOSTER HOMES and Tax Deductions

~The goal of German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies is to find loving, forever homes for every dog that comes through our door. ~

When dogs enter our care, they have to wait for the right family to come along. Since we do not run GSROR out of a facility, we rely on foster volunteers to open their homes and hearts and offer a better environment for our dogs to live in temporarily. The benefits of living in foster homes are numerous:



- Warm, safe home environment
- Opportunity to receive training
- Special care for any medical issues
- Ability to socialize with people and sometimes other animals.

But *DID YOU KNOW* that in addition to being a highly valued member of our rescue, being a foster parent also has a tax deduction perk?

As a foster parent, you can deduct some of the expenses you incur while fostering a pet for a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, like GSROR. Such expenses might include:

- Veterinary bills
- Pet food
- Pet equipment
- Travel expenses obtained specifically for the pet rescue.

For more information, please check with your local tax professional, accountant or attorney.

To learn more about how to become a foster parent for GSROR, please visit [www.gsror.com](http://www.gsror.com).

## 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). While providing loving, temporary homes for our dogs in rescue we get them vetted and spend time getting to know them personally so we can place them in the home that best fits their needs. Our 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, training tips and other services.

Newsletter created by GSROR volunteer TL Derheim

## DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME~

Yes, I'd like to help GSDs in need. Here is a contribution to GSROR in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this coupon, along with your check or money order to:

**GSROR**  
**P.O. Box 1481**  
**Westminster, CO 80036**

German Shepherd Rescue of the Rockies is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization and all donations are tax-deductible.



For additional information about GSROR, or to make a donation via PayPal, check us out on the web at [www.gsror.com](http://www.gsror.com)