



Rescue Issue



www.eastpennpyrrescue.org

Great Pyrenees Rescue for Eastern Pennsylvania

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Belated Rescue Issue

by David Kintsfather

This is our annual salute to the rescue efforts of our sister organization, East Penn Pyr Rescue, Inc., which should have been published in November of 2007. I apologize for the delay, but hope you will enjoy these stories and photos from EPPR.

A Huge Thank You to Penn-Dutch

by Lorraine Garaguso

I want to thank all of the members of Penn-Dutch who were so gracious when I contacted them about donations to EPPR in memory of Chelsea Bowes.

A special thank you to those who made donations in honor of Barbara Bowes’ special girl. She will be missed!

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



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Barbara Bowes, greatpyr@enter.net. 570-386-3017
Lorraine Garaguso, raineday@verizon.net. 856-662-2171
Marci Port, bmp53f100@msn.com. 215-322-5462
Charlotte Powell, pyrmagic@comcast.net. 215-464-2309
David Fridling, infrid@aol.com. 215-616-0575
Jeanne-Ann Polichetti, jaypollyhome@yahoo.com. 215-672-5928
Judy Skorup, jaskorup@hotmail.com.
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Dianne Migas, bluepyrs@comcast.net. 732-477-8097
Judy Skorup, jaskorup@hotmail.com.
Dianne Migas, bluepyrs@comcast.net. 732-477-8097
Charlotte Powell, pyrmagic@comcast.net. 215-464-2309
Annette Manwiller, pyrjam@zdial.com. 610-987-3896

Contact Persons:

GPCA Regional Representative-
Membership Database Manager-
Newsletter Editorial Staff-

Dianne Migas, bluepyrs@comcast.net. 732-477-8097
David Kintsfather, david@pyrbred.org. 610-682-2419
David & Nancy Kintsfather, david@pyrbred.org. 610-682-2419
Charles Gottesman, luvapyr@aol.com. 215-659-1347



Belle Judge and family

Belle's Story

by Kim Judge

After a friend of mine's daughter received Belle from Barb and took her home, she discovered Belle had issues with being left alone. Belle would dig at the walls and actually broke one of her windows. She consulted a dog psychologist who told her Belle suffered from separation anxiety and suggested tranquilizers for her. That did not work and she asked her dad, my friend, to take Belle. He brought Belle to his home and his Great Pyr just kept beating up on Belle, who was 9 years old and has arthritis. He asked me if I would take her for a couple of days until he could take her back to Barb. I said okay.

When my daughter and I got her and took her home, we fell in love with her and my Beagle was excited to have a friend. I called my friend and told him to cancel the trip. I was keeping Belle because she was the perfect dog. That was in November of 2006. He warned me I may

not have her long because of how bad her arthritis was, and I told him who better to take care of an arthritic dog than a person with arthritis?

Well, three months later she started tearing up my house while I was gone. So for about 2 weeks I confined her to one room and kept telling her that no matter what she did, I was not getting rid of her. After 2 weeks I started letting her roam the whole house again for short periods of time while I was gone and she quit destroying my house. I realized that she was suffering abandonment issues, not separation anxiety.

I am happy to report that in a couple of weeks I will have had Belle for one year and she is still doing great. Like all arthritics she has her good days and her bad days. But she is still kicking and loving all the attention everyone lavishes on my "Polar Bear," as everyone calls her.



A computer image drawn by Amy, a 10 year-old friend of Nancy and Whitney Coombs.

The PDGPC newsletter, *Pyr-A-Scoop*, will be published at least 4 times a year for the members of the Penn-Dutch Great Pyrenees Club as a means of sharing information. Opinions reflected in articles and advertisements are those of the writer(s) and are not necessarily held by the editorial staff, PDGPC members or the Board of Directors. Any material in this publication may be reprinted (unless otherwise noted), as long as credit is given to both the author and source and no changes are made in the copy without permission.

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Bolder Powell

Bolder and Maddie

by Charlotte and Dick Powell

We have been fortunate over the years to have had four Great Pyrenees.

Our first Rescue Dog was Bolder. Bolder was approximately 5 years old when he came to us. His past history was not a happy one, but he still had a fabulous disposition. The first day he came to our house he walked into the living room and saw a wonderful plant and marked his spot. That was his first and last time of doing that. He was kind, loving, and gentle. He fulfilled his role as a guard dog also. He protected us from the ice cream truck, the UPS guy, the man that walked by our house every morning at 7 am (Bolder truly hated him), and all motorcycles (except the highway patrolman that lives next door—he never barked at his cycle). He came into our home accepting the female Great Pyrenees that we already had. Missey told him that she was the queen. He said “OK, no problem.” His walks were the highlight of his days. Sometimes not the highlight of who was walking him. If a car had loud mufflers he was down the street after it, which challenged our strength. Bolder liked a crisp trotting walk and Missey liked a slow walk (smelling every blade of grass). He went along with the queen.

He left us too soon. On Saturday he was his usual self. Sunday we lost him. To say that he was exceptional is not saying enough.

We had lost Missey before Bolder passed away. A house without a Great Pyrenees is not a home. Into our lives came Maddie. A gentle, shy two year-old female. She is the clown. All she wants to do is please everyone. Also to bring you the wonderful things that she found in the yard. Our yard doesn't look like the picture anymore.

She has eliminated all the beautiful flowers. When she first arrived she was scared of everything including our son. Now when he visits she is so excited to see him, another play person for her. Maddie thinks the whole world wants to play with her. Hopefully she will always feel that way. One negative thing about that is she also thinks the birds in the backyard want to play with her. When she's lucky enough to catch one and toss it into the air, it is one less bird in this world. In the evening she is the lap dog. She loves to sit in our laps and watch TV.

We have been blessed to have Great Pyrenees dogs in our lives.



Maddie Powell

Bruno

by Charissa Adamczyk & John Stork

Iwanted to write in a few words about Bruno, who we picked up from Great Pyrenees Rescue about 3 years ago (I'm pretty sure it was January 27, 2005). That day happened to be our other dog Jordy's birthday, so it was a good present to be bringing her home a brother!

He immediately took to our bed, and to romping around in the snow. But house-training was a problem, since as far as we know, he had been strictly an “outside” dog before coming to us. We tried crating him—he wasn't thrilled with that. We thought maybe covering the crate with a blanket would help him sleep in it during the day. Well, it was a bad decision on our part to choose a cover with feathers in it. One day John came home from work to find the bedroom covered in feathers (all that was left of the cover)! And Bruno sitting innocently in the crate, waiting to come out!!

So we abandoned the crate idea and tried our best to get home from work early enough to prevent any messes.

I'd say we went through about 100 bottles of carpet cleaner...but he's finally picked up on the houstraining!

It also took us a little while to learn about Bruno's likes and dislikes. Little did we know one of his MAJOR likes was chocolate! After going to dinner one night for my birthday, we came home to find a kitchen that we barely recognized. There was scalding hot water coming out of the faucet at full blast, all the clean dishes that had been in the drying rack on the counter were spread all over the kitchen floor, my chocolate birthday cake had been pushed off of the counter and eaten, and the microwave was pushed sideways, barely still hanging onto the counter! From that day on we have gated the kitchen off whenever we go away!

Since those days, Bruno has matured just a bit, but he is still, and always will be such a sweet, loving dog. He is definitely the protector of our yard and our house, but his gentle nature really shines through when he's up-close with people and our other pets. He's definitely a favorite of our cats (they like to snuggle up against him), and he and Jordy make great playmates. He even lets her boss him around most of the time!

Bruno has joined John and me for the past 3 years in a walk-a-thon for our local animal shelter (Animals in Distress), and has helped us raise money for lots of homeless pets. He looks forward to taking walks in the park with Jordy, where he likes to stand in the stream and take a few gulps of the cool water. Before we got Bruno, I had never seen a dog "smile," but Bruno showed me that it's possible! Every time we come home, he's waiting for us on the other side of the kitchen gate with a big smile on his face! Thank you so much to the Penn-Dutch Great Pyrenees Club (and Barb Bowes) for allowing Bruno to have this second chance at a good home!



Bruno



Buddy and Ben O'Connor

"Danville Buddy" and Gentle Ben

by Pam O'Connor

One icy day in January, 2004 I went to evaluate a Siberian Husky at a local shelter. The staff asked for help with another dog as they were very full, adoptions were down and he was in danger of being euthanized. A family found him as a stray, kept him for a month, then turned him in to the shelter because he was a chewer. I agreed to take a look at him and try to get a Rescue to take him. The door to the kennels opened and a magnificent white creature emerged. One look at Buddy and I forgot to breathe. Those amazing soulful Pyr eyes looked right down to my soul. I have never been looked at like that by any other breed. A face so full of expression, one can see what they are thinking. Buddy claimed my soul that day and I would never, ever be the same.

My instincts screamed out, "I must have that dog for myself." My head said, "Wait a minute. This is not responsible. You don't know anything about this breed." My inner voice kept saying, "It'll be OK, it's meant to be." We went for a walk. My left leg was in a brace as I was recovering from surgery to repair a ruptured Achilles tendon. Ice and snow covered the ground; the slightest pull could have sent me flying. Buddy, quiet and gentle, walked like an obedience champion at my side.

The shelter promised he would be safe for at least 24 hours. As they returned Buddy to the kennel he paused in the doorway, giving me one more look with those soulful Pyr eyes, laying claim to my mind, heart and soul.

I often imagine what Buddy was thinking as I left and what he said to the other dogs in the kennel. Given his calm return to the kennel I'm sure there was an unspoken assurance that I would return for him. "Stare and sigh,

canines, and they'll be back. She's mine. Worry not my little Siberian friend, she'll be back for us."

Prompted by the spell cast on me by this knight in glistening white fur, I ran home and contacted every Pyr Rescue from the East Coast to Texas. Next I inhaled every bit of information on the Great Pyrenees Club of America web site. Could this breed fit into our lifestyle? YES!

Barbara Bowes and Greta Osterman returned my pleas for help right away. Rescue could take Buddy but needed a temporary foster place for him. I offered to pull Buddy and keep him at a boarding kennel I use. The plan was in place: I picked up both dogs the following day. Buddy had to be loose in the van because I did not have a crate big enough for him. As I drove away Buddy put his head on my shoulder and let out a big "thank you sigh." No matter what happened I knew there would be a forever bond between us.

There were three families interested in Buddy. Each one fell through. I asked Barb if I could try Buddy at my house to see if he would get along with my alpha male, two females, four cats and two children, ages two and five. Yes, that was quite a tall order for Buddy to fill. When we introduced the cats he looked at us as if to say, "Oh, they live here too, OK." He greeted the other dogs with play bows and became very attached to my top male. It was as if they were father and son. Buddy worked his magic on my husband and secured himself a forever home.

Buddy was afraid of almost everything, even his shadow. There were times when his fears would paralyze him or send him to a pacing frenzy, causing him to lose control of his bladder as he paced. Once he was afraid of something it could take days or weeks for him to recover. Thanks to Barb's coaching, our other dogs and our commitment, we were able to build Buddy's confidence and help him conquer his fears. To some he may have appeared a "scaredy cat," but I know it took great courage to overcome his fears.

We soon realized Buddy's calling in life. Shortly after he came to live with us I became very ill with a stomach virus. Buddy stayed at my side every minute. As the day wore on I became too dizzy and weak to stand or even crawl. I put my arm around Buddy and he practically carried me to the restroom, waited for me, and helped me back to a makeshift bed on the floor where he snuggled with me. Buddy never left my side the whole day, not even to get a drink of water.

When out in public Buddy instantly attracts a crowd. People are automatically drawn to him. Even some folks who are afraid of dogs are encouraged by Buddy's calm,

gentle nature to come over for a closer look. A few folks felt safe enough with Buddy to pet and felt a connection with him after hearing how Buddy conquered his fears. After my grandmother suffered a stroke, Buddy was constantly at her side when she came to visit. I knew he had the potential to be a therapy dog. After doing well in obedience class Buddy passed the Therapy Dog and Canine Good Citizen tests. He has been bringing joy to residents in nursing homes.

Buddy continues to work hard for us at home, assisting in the rehabilitation and training of the foster dogs that come to stay with us. He has developed a special bond with a Pyr pup we fostered, then adopted. Gentle Ben came into Rescue as Cosmo. Dorene Choffel rescued Gentle Ben and his three 4 month-old brothers which were the product of an "accidental breeding." They arrived loaded with parasites and in need of a bath. Dorene and her daughter Rosanna took care of all four pups for a week until I was able to take two. Ben was shy at first, but soon became a very social lap dog. After a few months of repeated bouts of diarrhea we decided Ben should stay within Rescue. Besides, my husband was very attached and just couldn't let him go. Gentle Ben was soon nicknamed "Little Baby Mush Mush" because he loves on everyone he meets. If they sit down he is instantly in their laps snuggling. He is a social butterfly with other dogs and cats and has been helping rehabilitate and train our foster dogs. Once again it was clear what this Pyr's calling was—to be a therapy dog.

Gentle Ben was certified as a Therapy Dog and Canine Good Citizen. Ben and Buddy have become inseparable. When I would take one on a therapy visit the one left behind would break my heart with his sad eyes.

So, I had them tested together for certification to be handled as a pair on a therapy visit. Now everyone is happy and the patients get a double dose of Pyr lovin'. Buddy and Gentle Ben are also working toward Versatility Titles. Gentle Ben is now being handled by my nine year-old son Nicky in a 4-H Basic Obedience class.

Since meeting Buddy, joining Pyr Rescue and Penn-Dutch, I discovered that Pyrs are everything I never knew I always wanted.





Carlee Demerice

Carlee

by Pamela Demerice

What do I say when talking about the Great Pyrenees as a breed? There is so much written about how to train, how to crate, watch the counter surfing, won't go up stairs, won't go down stairs, doesn't listen well, so on and so on.

Well, it was a big change in our household when we rescued our Great Pyrenees. We expected the worst and got the best.

Having a terrier household for so long with all that personality in a very small package, we knew it was going to be a little bit different having a Great Pyrenees in the house. Just the fact that a Great Pyrenees is about 6 times bigger than a terrier was a lot to take in, but even all the advice everyone gave us about them was way different from anything we ever heard.

But I am here to debunk the advice we were given about our Great Pyrenees. Let's start with the counter surfing—come on—it's like she's afraid to get in the water, much less surf.

And the extra, extra large crate everyone told us to get. Well, that's in the shed because she prefers our king-sized, four poster bed with the fluffy pillow top mattress loaded with the non-allergenic memory foam pillows for her head. Mind you, non-allergenic for her now, not me. Will only sleep in her crate at night. Yeah, OK, Lorraine.

Oh, how does her highness get to her royal bed chamber on the second floor? Well, she climbs the stairs, silly. But her food is downstairs—well, that's OK—down she comes. Won't do stairs we were told, yeah, OK, Lorraine

I was told the Great Pyrenees don't really show much affection. Tell that to mine who insists on waiting till I am

sitting on the couch and she jumps up with me and wants to sit on my lap. We wrestle till she is happy to sit her head on my lap and I am happy until she starts to drool all over my leg. At which I think back to when I was told they don't show too much affection. Yeah, OK, Lorraine.

All in all it's only been 9 months and we have the next ten years ahead of us. Who knows what it will bring? The only thing Lorraine's gotten right so far is that we will bring her into the house and wonder what we ever did without her!

P.S.

Carlee was formerly Alli, the emaciated, tick-infested, Lyme positive Pyr that came to us from Stroudsburg SPCA. She was found as a stray in Delaware Water Gap State Park, probably dumped by her former owners. She turned out to be pregnant which we found out about 10 days before she whelped. Yes, she was that emaciated. She had 10 puppies that all survived, was an excellent mother and a VERY loving dog.

Barb Bowes



Carter and Daphne Mays

Carter the Wonder Dog

by Daphne Mays

Just thought I'd better update you on the most amazing Pyr in the world! Carter (was Bear) is the most loving, sweet, fun dog in the world. He is an absolute gem of a dog. He is still a wild and crazy guy, but I love it. He is just a big old love muffin.

He's an awesome LGD to boot! I don't think he'd do anything more than love anyone who came in, but he sure sounds ferocious out there! He's completely non-

aggressive with any animal that he's encountered so I'm not sure what he'd do to a predator, but it doesn't matter since nothing comes around with him out there warning them that he's on duty.

He LOVES to play ball, play with our Lab pup, play with the kids, play with me. He's a riot! I still walk him every day which is the absolute highlight of the day for both of us.

Carter is a gem and we are absolutely thrilled to have him. Thank you!!! He LOVES to get filthy! His nicknames are Pigpen, Destructodog, and Lovemuffin. He can pretty much do no wrong.



Chance Way

Chance

by Liz Way

I'd like to tell you a bit about our "Chancey Pants." We found Chance (AKA King Louis) on Petfinder. He's deaf and is now approximately 1½ years old. We drove to PA New Year's weekend and introduced our 7 month-old Pyr female, Phoebe, to King Louis to see if they would get along. They did. Famously. Played and romped and totally got covered in mud. Though I had some misgivings about adopting a deaf dog, we put them aside and brought the then 8 month-old Louie home with us.

Louie was renamed Chance and we've had him ever since. He's been a challenge, not so much because he's deaf, but because he's very mischievous and needs to be kept busy and out of trouble.

He and his "sister" Phoebe play together all the time and love one another very much. Chance is a cuddly dog and loves attention from anyone. He's really a good boy

and we're very lucky to have him. Thanks to East Penn Pyr Rescue and to Petfinder.



Glory Dawn Taylor

Glory Dawn Taylor

by Erika Taylor

Adopted in June of 2005, Glory came to us through East Penn Pyr Rescue. We contacted Barb Bowes in search of a male Pyr. Having two Newfies and a Pyr at the time, we wanted to have two of each. We love to adopt and since our Newfs were blending well into the family, we needed another Pyr.

On a very hot day in June I traveled to Lehigh, PA to meet the match Barb had set up for us. Her name was Cheyanne and she was special needs, a bit older and needed extra care. Sounded fine with us.

I walked into the Rescue kennel and saw the sweetest set of eyes look upon me. Our girl came out to meet me and I was in love. She was tired looking and lonely, and she cuddled next to me. There was something about this luv—she won my spirit and my heart. Seeing all the Pyrs was an emotional experience. In all their majesty, it was overwhelming.

My Luv and I took the long ride home. We nuzzled close on the front seat, listened to Moody Blues' "Say it with Love" and Garth Brooks' "To Make you Feel my Luv." These later became our dancing songs.

The transition when we reached home was a bit tough on my girl. She wanted me to herself and the boys didn't understand. I took her off alone, massaged and brushed her, fed her and sang to her softly. Later, one-by-one after she was comfy on her couch, we started again. She first

bonded with Gerik, our senior Newf, who she would come to love so. Gunther brought her toys, and Garrett, our other Pyr, lay quietly at her feet.

Our first walk was to a rosebush up the pathway where she stopped and smelled the roses as if to say AHHHHHH, I am home. After lingering a few minutes she turned, held her head high and appeared to smile. She strutted home that first evening, in all her majesty, so true to her breed. We called her Glory from that moment on, for she walked in all her glory that day. Glory, or Glo-glo as we called her, was with me every waking moment I had free—she was my spirit.

Through all her yeast outbreaks, baths, trips to the vet and meds, acupuncture and herbs, she waived not. She was sweet, kind, giving and the Luv of my life.

In September of 2006 my Luv began to limp. After many trips to different vets, a cancer scare and many other health issues coming forth, my Luv was soon to leave us. There was nothing to do but manage her pain and quality of life.

Ya see, our girl loved to dance, loved her walks to her rosebush, loved Gerik and her Mom. She loved her family and the pork skin treats she could eat. She loved music and cuddling and her comfy couch. On March 30, 2007 my Luv could no longer get herself to a standing position alone. She tired easily, her bad leg was causing more pain and we increased her meds. We decided her dignity was being compromised, and her pride and quality of life were not what they should be.

We called the vets and they agreed. That weekend I slept on the floor with her on her comforter, brought her roses and rubbed her fur with the smell she so loved. I played her favorite songs and we sang together. She ate peanut butter, yogurt, bread, and liver—all the things she wasn't supposed to have.

On April 1, 2007 after her last walk, my Luv could no longer stand. On April 2nd we carried our Luv in her rose print comforter to the Tahoe. We took her roses and some of her fur and stopped by her rosebush for her. We left her fur in the bush. She sniffed and we went on our last journey together. At 11:07 am on April 2, 2007 Glory crossed what we called her rosebridge. As she passed she had a puppylike look on her face. As I held her close, a warmth passed through me. Our Luv was at peace. Her rosebush bloomed pure white this year. The flowers used to be yellow and pink. We don't know why they did this, but we like to think it was our girl. We saw a little bird taking fur for its nest and the clipping of her bush now grows in our yard, buried with her fur.

The time was too short to have with our Luv, but would we do it again? You bet! She will be our LUV forever and in her memory we will adopt again.



Elmo Wysocki and family

A Love Story

by Erica Wysocki

Westminster Dog Show, 1993. What kind of dog is that? A Great Pyrenees? Ooooh, so cute...I want one! And that is how it all started. I read about the breed and thought a good while, and finally decided I would go for it.

I also researched Rescue because too many pups need homes. I applied to Penn-Dutch Rescue and in 1995 we were the proud family of Elmo. He had been neglected and starved and was 15 months old when we got him. In spite of what he had been through, he was very gentle and obedient if he chose to be. Oh, the adventures we had!! He was the best dog in the world.... even when he moved mountains to escape. At night, he would snore at my left side, while my husband snored at my right. At 10 years of age, he was diagnosed with bone cancer. Both his vets were surprised when he lived much longer than expected. He was a brave soul and was courageous to the last.

I mourned for over 6 months. I cried every time I attempted to look at Pyrs on Petfinder.... Their stories broke my heart. And my heart healed, and the search began again.

I applied for a couple dogs but others adopted them. And then I hooked up with Gypsy. She is a sweet girl from Texas (They have an awful lot of abandoned Pyrs down there, it seems). She flew in last April on Continen-

tal Airlines. She is between 1-2 yrs. old. She has few manners, she hasn't much training, BUT she is housebroken!!! I think someone must have beaten her. She is very submissive. We are still learning about each other and we will go to school soon.

As I sat looking at her one day, I thought, she has no one to play with. Elmo had a growing boy to run him around and jump and play. (The growing boy is now 23 and usually at college or work). Soooooo I went searching again. This time I decided to stay closer to home and back to where it all started. I contacted Barb Bowes and asked if she had a pup that would fit in this family. And there was Niko. He is a huge goofball. Yesterday he had the trashcan lid stuck on his head. He also is in need of training (but housebroken!!!) It only took a few days for Gypsy to decide he was okay and if he gets out of line, she lets him know.

So we still have newness in our group. We are progressing every day. And I am so happy to give these wonderful pups a home and love, and hope we have many years together.



Tanyen Kerstetter and friend

Tanyen

by Kim Kerstetter

His is not a really long or BIG story. It is simple and sweet.

We had been looking for a new addition to our family and I went hunting around on Petfinder (for months), until I stumbled across a picture of Tanyen (then Hamlin) and his brothers and fell completely in love immediately!

I printed his picture and carried it with me everywhere and showed everyone I knew. I filled out the 5 page ap-

plication and went back and forth with several e-mails, then we had a home check. And... shortly after, we got the approval to adopt him. We went to Lehighton to pick him up almost immediately.

We named him D'Artagnan, after the loyal Musketeer to the King of France. We call him Tanyen for short.

He is a true LOVE! His #1 duty in life seems to be to love and protect our family. He is amazing with our children and other animals. We have a 12 year-old Golden Retriever and now a 6 month-old Wheaten Terrier. Tanyen gave immediate respect to Jordan, our Retriever, and obeyed him, trying not to step out of line. He took Parker (our Wheaten) under his wing and showed him the ropes. And he was so gentle with him, even still, with the size difference, they play as if they were equals. And thank God, because Tanyen was always trying to get our cat Jack to play with him, and that did not always work out so well.

He has taken some diligent training in the way of recognizing a "friend" as a friend. He has learned to read our family's body language and follows the rules upon entry of a new person in our home.

Tanyen has made tremendous strides in becoming the PERFECT dog. He takes work and consistency in regard to his overprotective nature. However, I will tell you, I have never felt safer, now that he is in my life—our lives.

We love him so much and he makes me calm when I am stressed and he makes me smile when I think of him. He's MY Big Baby. (We call him "Mufasa," too, sometimes, as well as "Biggy.")

Thank you, EPPR, for letting us have him.



Tanyen Kerstetter and family

Draft Dog Workshop

by Judy Skorup



Penn-Dutch has been invited to participate in a draft dog workshop organized by the NewPennDel Newfoundland Club. If you've ever considered getting involved with drafting (having your dog pull wagons, sleds, etc.) then this is an excellent opportunity to find out what it's all about.

Event: Newfoundland Draft Workshop with Instructor Beth Ostrander

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2008 from 10 am - 2 pm rain or shine

Cost: Free

Place: Fort Washington State Park, West Mill Road, Flourtown, PA

Bring: Chair, lunch and beverage for yourself, water for dog

If you want your dog to participate, your dog must be able to walk on lead under control, sit, stand, and down on command. To register your dog to participate, contact Noreen Dowling. For questions or information: Call New-PennDel Newfoundland Club member Noreen Dowling at 570-443-8534 or email: teamdowling@hotmail.com.

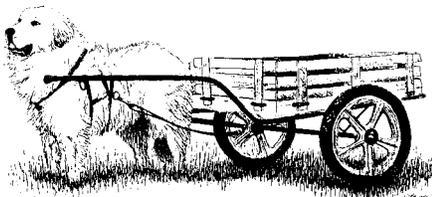
Beth will measure your dog for harness size. N-P-D has some harnesses that you can use. Sandy Gable of Dog Works will be present with supplies that you can purchase.

DIRECTIONS:

From PA Turnpike: Get on East-West PA Turnpike and go to Exit 339, Fort Washington. Stay straight on exit and merge onto Pennsylvania Avenue. At dead end, turn left onto Bethlehem Pike. Go straight until 7th traffic light and turn right onto Mill Road (Texaco Station at corner). Continue on Mill Road to site on right.

From Route 476 (Blue Route): Take Plymouth Road. Turn right onto Plymouth Road. At dead end, turn left onto Butler Pike; immediately turn right onto Flourtown Road. At second light, turn right onto Stenton Avenue. At curve (yellow arrow sign), turn left onto Mill Road and continue to site on left.

Note: Dogs should be up-to-date on all shots and must be on leash at all times.



Upcoming Events

***Apr. 30-May 3-** GPCA National Specialty, Westlake, OH.

***May 18-** Penn-Dutch has been invited to join the Newfoundland Club for a Canine Carting Seminar, Ft. Washington (PA) State Park. FMI call Judy Skorup at 215-721-8521 or e-mail her at jaskorup@hotmail.com.

***May 31-** Penn-Dutch Spring Walk-in-the-Woods, Noon-5 pm, Lake Nockamixon (PA) State Park.

***June 22-** Penn-Dutch "Performing Pyrs" Obedience Workshop, 11 am-5 pm, Evansburg (PA) State Park. FMI call Judy Skorup at 215-721-8521 or e-mail her at jaskorup@hotmail.com.

***July 19-** Penn-Dutch Pyrenean Fun Day, 11 am-5 pm at the home of Ben and Kathy Gress, Orefield, PA. FMI call Kathy Gress at 610-398-1363 or e-mail her at kgress@entermail.net.

***September 13-** Penn-Dutch sponsored GPCA Regional Specialty held in conjunction with the Lehigh Valley KC Show, Macungie (PA) Park. Breed Judge: Whit Coombs. Sweeps Judge: Rhonda Dalton. FMI visit: www.pdgpcregional.org or call Dianne Migas at 732-477-8097.

***October 18-** Penn-Dutch "Pyrtoberfest" (formerly Fall Walk-in-the-Woods), 11 am-5 pm, Beltzville (PA) State Park. FMI call Barb Bowes at 570-386-3017 or e-mail her at greatpyr@enter.net.

***December 6-** Penn-Dutch Holiday Party, Noon-5 pm, Kiwanis Lodge, Lancaster (PA) Central Park. FMI call Bea Gottesman at 215-659-1347 or e-mail her at luvapyr@aol.com.

***Red denotes Penn-Dutch events.**

***Blue denotes other Pyr-related events.**

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Rally Obedience Demo

by Barb Bowes

When: June 22nd starting at 11 am

Where: Evansburg State Park, Collegeville, PA

Many of our members have expressed an interest in learning more about Obedience. So, we will once again be offering a Demo Day on Rally Obedience. Jeanne-Anne Polichetti and Judy Skorup will be organizing this event for you. There will be instruction on Rally Obedience and then you will be able to do runthroughs with your dog.

We will also be offering a grooming demo if we can find someone who is willing to do it.

We ask that you bring something good to eat and share for lunch. Don't forget the beverages for the humans and water for the dogs. Please contact Bea Gottesman (Luvapyr@aol.com or 215-659-1347) to coordinate the food.

Directions:

FROM ALLENTOWN AND NORTH:

Take Northeast Extension of PA Turnpike (Rt. 476) south to Lansdale exit #31.

Take Route 63 (Sumneytown Pike) east approx. 2 miles to Route 363 south (Valley Forge Road).

Turn right (south) on Rt. 363 and proceed about 4.5 miles to Germantown Pike.

Turn right (west) on Germantown Pike for about 2.5 miles to Skippack Creek Road on your right.

Turn right and follow Skippack Creek Road into park to Mill road.

Turn left on Mill Rd. then right onto Mayhall Road. Go about .3 miles to

Picnic Pavilion on right.

FROM WEST (READING/COLLEGEVILLE): Take Rt. #422 east to Rt. 29.

Take Rt. 29 north (about 3 miles) to Collegeville.

From Collegeville take Germantown Pike east for approx. 1.3 miles to Skippack Creek Road on left.

Turn left on Skippack Creek Road into park and follow directions in #1 above.

FROM NEW JERSEY AND EAST:

Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to Norristown Exit #333. Exit onto Germantown Pike west.

Take Germantown Pike west for about 9 miles (crossing route #363) to Skippack Creek Road on the right.

Turn right on Skippack Creek Road and follow directions in #1 above.

FROM HARRISBURG AND WEST:

Take Pennsylvania Turnpike to Exit #326 (King of Prussia).

Follow signs and take Route #422 west (approx. 7 miles) to Route #29 north.

Take route 29 north (about 3 miles) to Collegeville.

Take Germantown Pike east from Collegeville about 1.3 miles to Skippack Creek Road on your left.

Turn left on Skippack Creek Road into park and follow directions in #1 above.



Kane Gottesman

Kane

by Chic and Bea Gottesman

Kane is a locally-bred "Pet Shop Pyr" who was purchased by a family who also owned Dachshunds. Serious family illness made Kane's care a burden, so his coat was shaved. His barking became a problem and he was soon placed in Rescue where he remained for several months.

Two years ago we were sharing our home with Winston, who was dearly loved. We had seen Kane's

photo on the Penn Dutch Rescue site and noted a similarity in type to our beloved Winnie, who was then 10½ years old. Since he was a very accepting and agreeable Pyr, arrangements were made with Barbara to have Winston and Kane meet at an upcoming Club event in mid-October of 2005.

Sadly, Winston suffered bloat and died suddenly on October 6, 2005. After one stunned and grief-filled Pyrless week, we went to see Kane and brought him home. Nine days after his adoption, we took him to the Fall Walk-in-the-Woods at Beltzville State Park. It was October 23rd, Kane's 3rd birthday. The Club celebrated the occasion with a big cake and Kane behaved rather badly when the "Pyr guests" got too close to the food. Kane still feels he needs to defend his food. He has improved, somewhat (or maybe we're just more aware now).

Through the years, we have rescued a number of Pyrs and one thing remains certain: You can never replace one Pyr with another--Kane is uniquely Kane. He still has some issues, but he has thrived. His coat has grown back beautifully and he has filled out handsomely. He loves to ride in the van and goes everywhere with us. He adores children, is an excellent ambassador at "meet and greets," visits nursing homes, has learned to pull a wagon and takes part in neighborhood activities. He gives us much pleasure and enjoyment and has helped to heal our broken hearts.

A couple of years ago our granddaughter Casey wrote this for school:

My Something Beautiful

My something beautiful is my dog Kane. When I get home from school he is always there to greet me. He's fluffy and white, big and cuddly. I love him and he loves me! That's my something beautiful.



Rescue Angels, Part 2

by David Kintsfather

We are pleased to recognize some Penn-Dutch members and friends who made monetary contributions to East Penn Pyr Rescue, Inc. during 2007, and who were either left out of the list in the February issue, or whose special contributions in memory of Chelsea Bowes were not properly recognized. Thank you for helping Pyrs in need.

- Robertson Blackwell, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Bart Buckwalter, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- The Concourse Club
- Elizabeth and James Gartland, in memory of Chelsea
- Mark Grant, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Jack Higgins
- Constance Krobath, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Charlotte Powell, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Linda Ryesky
- E. A. Shuey, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- John and Elise Speranza, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Patricia Stevens, in memory of Chelsea Bowes
- Valerie and John Warmuth, in memory of Chelsea



Image © Cecile Baird

MARANATHA Great Pyrenees
and Pyrenean Shepherds



Nancy and Whitney Coombs
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Gettysburg, PA 17325

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Membership List Additions & Updates

Key to abbreviations: A=Associate Member, F=Full Member, H=Honorary Member, J=Junior Associate Member. G=GPCA Member. B=Breeder. (After Pyr's call name: D=Dog and B=Bitch)

BACON, Tim (F) E-Mail: tim.bacon@timbacon.com	612 Kings Rd., Yardley, PA 19067 Pyr's: Sheba-B, Sophie-B	215-783-4273
FRYE, Roberta (F)	317 Westview Ave., Bristol, PA 19007 Pyr's: Pocono-B, El Toro-D	215-584-3171
KENESKY, Aimee (F) E-Mail: mkenesky@aol.com	1062 Union Meeting Rd., Blue Bell, PA 19422 Pyr's: Gabriel-D	215-313-2908
RIEVAULX, Emily (F)	420 Mohns Hill Rd., Reinholds, PA 17569 Pyr's: Fifi-B, Gigi-B	717-484-0909
WONDERS, Brice (F) E-Mail: sk8ndrake85@aol.com	P.O. Box 19, Kirkwood, PA 17536 Pyr's: Clementine-B, Bon Bon-B, Stormy-B	484-319-7709

Please welcome our new members whose names appear in red.

Walk-In-The-Woods Time Again

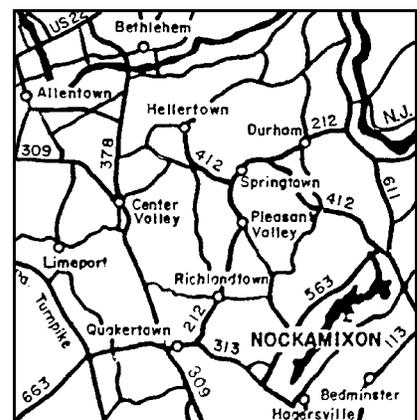
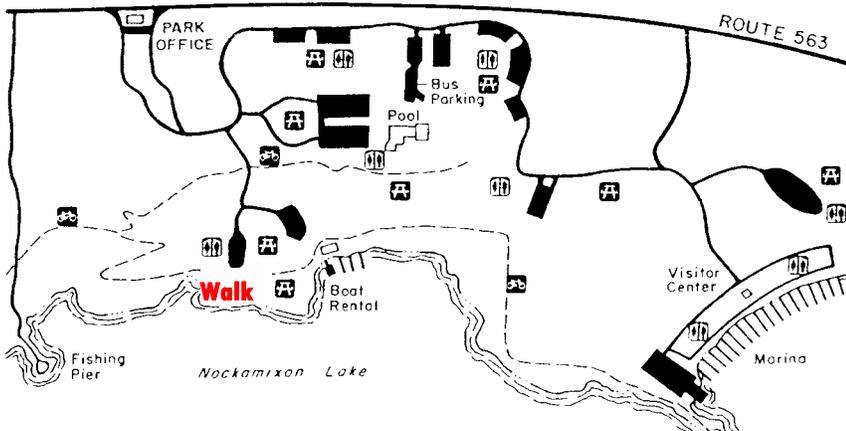
by Barb Bowes

This year's Spring Walk-in-the-Woods will be held on Saturday, May 31st (no rain date this year). The location will once again be along the shores of Nockamixon Lake in Nockamixon State Park, Quakertown, PA.

We'll gather at noon and maybe we'll even get in a pre-luncheon "Walk" this year! Bring some food and a beverage to share, along with the kids and the dog(s). This is a wonderful venue with easy, well-maintained pathways. We'll try for lunch around 1:30 or 2:00 pm. Then hopefully another "Walk."

Come for the food and the camaraderie. Contact Bea Gottesman at luvapyr@aol.com or 215-659-1347 to coordinate the food. And let's all hope the weather is good! Watch the Club website or call Barb Bowes (570-386-3017) on Friday, May 30th between 7 and 10 pm if the weather is iffy (hopefully, I won't have to work until 10 pm that Friday).

Directions: The park entrance is located along Rt. 563 between the south intersection with Rt. 313 and the north intersection with Rt. 412. A large stone house (the park office) marks the entrance to the park. Once you are on the park road, take the first right and then bear right at the "Y" in the road. Park at the picnic area on the lake shore. We will try to post PDGPC signs in the park.





Lily Ross, GPCA Service Dog Award winner.

Lily

by Joyce Ross

It has been a little over a year since EPPR approved my adoption of a wonderful dog, Lily. We recently came from the vet with good news. Lily is a happy, healthy, dog. She now weighs 105 pounds. The doctor had wanted her to fill out a little and had indicated an ideal weight of 100 pounds. However we surpassed that, so Lily must lose 5 pounds.

We are working on the weight loss with daily romps at Pennypack Park on the Delaware. I try to give Lily a bit of freedom by exercising her on a forty foot lead. It is then, when at the end of that lead, Lily finds a higher mound of grassy earth and surveys all her surroundings, that I fully understand the beauty of her breed.

What truly precious gifts you send out to live with your adopters! When Lily first came home, she immediately proved what stuff she was made of by scaring away a couple of thugs attempting a home invasion at a neighbor's house. What a fury of threatening barks came out of this normally gentle and patient dog. Suffice it to say the potential intruders fled long before the police arrived.

Before Lily came to live with me, I suffered from a great deal of anxiety and had to take medicine to help me cope with it. However, since Lily arrived at my home, I have not had to take a single anxiety med, not a one. This big, wonderful, well-mannered dog, with her softness and her easy going ways has brought joy and peace into my life. I have come to call her my big white guardian angel disguised as a dog.

I came to you mourning the loss of the best dog I'd ever owned, my Siberian Husky, Beta. You sent me home with Lily—the best dog I have ever owned.

Editors' Note: In recognition of her extreme bravery in preventing a home invasion, Lily was awarded the Great Pyrenees Club of America's Service Dog Award at the 2007 National Specialty in Arizona. Joyce was not able to attend, so the award was presented by Charlotte Powell at a later date. Penn-Dutch is extremely proud of Lily, who demonstrated the greatness in Great Pyrenees.



The GPCA Service Dog Award presented to Lily Ross

Animal Lovers are the Best

by Charlotte Powell

Monday, December 10th my phone rang at home. It was a call from a zookeeper at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. He identified himself—Bill Walters. Of course my mind went to zoo stuff and why was a keeper at the Baltimore Zoo calling me? While I am a Docent at the Philadelphia Zoo, to my surprise the call was not related to anything about zoos. Someone had dumped a Great Pyrenees dog on the Baltimore Zoo property. Bill was looking for a home for this dog. Since I am a volunteer with Great Pyrenees Rescue he found my name on our web site. When I told him I was a Docent at the Philly Zoo we had an interesting conversation.

It so happened that a Philadelphia Zoo keeper was going to Baltimore to pick up an animal from Bill for our zoo. He would see if this keeper could take the dog to the zoo and I would pick up the dog in Philadelphia. This didn't work out. The shelters in Baltimore were full and didn't have space for the dog and Bill couldn't take the dog home overnight because he had 2 adult male Rottweilers. The Great Pyrenees was also a male. This would not be a good situation since most large male dogs don't get along. He kept the dog with him during the day and a friend at one of the shelters found space for the dog to sleep at the shelter overnight.

Bill named the dog Magnet. (The dog stuck to him like a magnet, and the Maryland Zoo has a polar bear named

Magnet.) Magnet is a beautiful male, about 100 lbs., sad face, maybe a little over one year of age. This keeper is the best, best, best! While Bill had the dog he got Magnet's shots updated and had him tested for heartworm and Lyme disease. Magnet was negative on both.

We finally worked out an arrangement to get the dog. On December 12th Bill Walters drove the dog to the Maryland rest stop on Route 95. My husband and I picked up the dog there and took him to Lehigh, PA. Magnet was very well behaved on the ride, probably wondering what was going to happen to him next. He settled in nicely at Barb's.

December 12th was a very good day. I can't thank zoo-keeper Bill Walters enough for taking care of this wonderful dog. Magnet's name is now Smokey.



Ozzie Meehan

The Wizard of Oz!

by Francis Meehan

Ozzie is my 18 month-old Pyr. He is a very special boy. I adopted him on Father's Day, 2006! His foster parents named him Ozzie from the Wizard of Oz because he was whizzing all over their house.

When my daughter and I brought him home it was like he always belonged. He fit right in, except for chasing his cat brother Max around the house. We take him everywhere we can and he loves to go for rides in the car. The most amazing thing about him is how everyone is attracted to him. There is a very calming and noble demeanor to him (as with most Pyrs).

I started Ozzie's training right away. No one in his class could understand why I brought him to obedience classes because he was so good. He easily passed his classes and was awarded his CGC in September, 2007. Last week he passed his therapy dog test for TDI. We are

waiting for TDI to send us our therapy locations. Both Oz and I can't wait to start. I know he will bring joy into a lot of people's lives. I would like to thank Barb Bowes and East Penn Pyr Rescue for bringing us together.



Tilly McGuire

Tilly

by Mary and John McGuire

We adopted Tilly after having to put down our 8 year-old dog Molly. We weren't sure if we wanted a puppy and looked for an older dog at the local shelter. Then our vet, Dr. Mary Lombardo, told us about a litter of puppies that were going to be available for adoption in the next couple weeks from East Penn Pyr Rescue, so we called Barb Bowes and made an appointment to see the puppies. The rest is history.

We adopted Tilly in October, 2006 and she is by far the nicest, friendliest dog we have ever met. From the first day we brought Tilly home, she has made us laugh. She loves her brother Toby and her sisters, Patches and Mittens—our two calico cats. Although Tilly chases the cats often, she has never hurt them and is starting to accept them more and more every day.

Tilly loves to go for a walk. Wherever we walk, she always has something to say to everyone she sees. Tilly loves to play with stuffed animals and balls. Every night I put all her toys back into the toy basket so that she can get them out the next morning and start all over again.

One of the best things about Tilly is what we call "Tilly Time." Tilly loves to be petted and talked to. She will come to you, sit up and expect you to hold her paws and pet her and talk to her. This happens many, many times a day. Whenever she does it, we say "It's Tilly Time again!"

Thank you, EPPR, for this wonderful dog!