

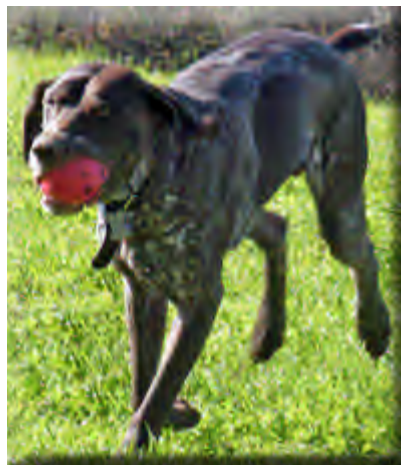


GSP Rescue Rag



Summer 2011

Rocker Bounces Around with Happiness and Gratitude



on his side, rescue was his only option. Now, with the tumor removed, seven-year-old Rocker is ready for a forever home. Could that be yours? He knows that he's got a new lease on life. No longer timid and anxious, "Rocker has transformed from a shy guy to a real go-getter," his foster parent says.

performed like an experienced hunter after another GSP showed him the ropes. In addition to the typical instinct to chase birds, Rocker is highly interested in cats. A home without either of these animals will keep temptation at bay. He loves people, thriving on attention and seeking every opportunity to cuddle. "If you love to play with your dog as well as just hanging out, he is the one for you. He's not constantly bouncing off the walls." his foster parent says. "He will give you lots of affection."

This handsome GSP came to us from an East Bay shelter. Because he had a tumor

He's smart too. Not only did he quickly pick up on house manners, he also

Please donate to Rocker's medical fund. We hope to recover some of the cost of his surgery. Every dollar counts!



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Volunteer Spotlight Sara Friedman Spreads the Word on All Things GSP



Sara Friedman, our marketing coordinator, has done a great job with outreach and marketing. You may know her as the voice of NorCal GSP Rescue on Facebook™. What you may not know is that Sara updates the content of our website, spreads the word about our group throughout Northern California and manages our social media

efforts. We're fortunate to have her skills and experience to help support our mission to save GSPs.

What do you like about GSPs?
I'm an equal opportunity dog lover. As far as GSPs, I enjoy their incredible intelligence and silly personalities. They're gorgeous too! They definitely keep their owners on their toes.

(Continued on page 2)

Well-behaved, handsome Axel is still waiting for a home...



Click here for more info.

Volunteer

(Continued from page 1)

Why do you spend so much energy trying to save GSPs?

I've been a big advocate of rescue and adoption for years, starting when I volunteered at the SPCA as a teenager. Life got in the way of being able to do that for a long time, so I'm glad that I have the knowledge and tools to make a difference again.

How has volunteering for NorCal GSP Rescue enriched your life?

It's given me the time to get involved in animal rescue again, despite having very little time

to spend hours at a shelter on a regular basis. Watching dogs find homes and knowing another life was saved is very fulfilling. I get a huge thrill out of seeing the interaction of other GSP parents and animal lovers on our Facebook page. And nothing beats the feeling of pulling a dog out of the shelter and taking them toward their foster home. I'm lucky to be able to find time to help with transports too. If I can't adopt them all, at least I can do all I can to help them find forever homes!

How can others help?

I'm currently looking for help in hosting events throughout our area. I can't be at all of them. These events enable us to get our name out there and to familiarize people with the breed (and hopefully collect some donations). Please email me (sfriedman@norcalgsprescue.org) if you're interested in serving as an event host, especially for Sacramento, the East Bay and South Bay. Also, please let me know about events that you think would warrant our participation.

Training Tip by Wendy Hilton

Taming the Enthusiastic Greetings (Part 1 of 3)

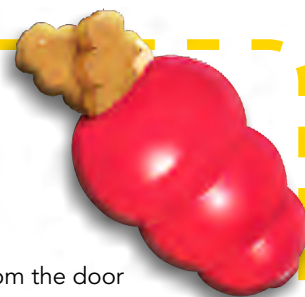
It's time to teach your pooch how to offer polite greetings. Remember that management and training go hand in hand. You'll want to manage the situation to prevent your dog from continuing the unwanted behavior while training the new behavior that you prefer.

Today's topic is management. Some simple management options are:

- Put your dog on a leash before guests arrive in order to prevent him from jumping on them.

- Block your dog's access from the door you and/or guests enter through. You can do this using baby gates or x-pens to keep your pup in another room.
- If your dog is crate trained, put her in her crate with a stuffed Kong or really good chew while guests arrive.

Next newsletter: training your dog to keep all four feet on the floor when greeting people.



Ruff! Ruff! Reduce, Reuse, Recycle for Rescue Rewards

Recycle and help our foster dogs! We can earn cash by recycling electronics such as inkjet and toner cartridges, cell phones, laptops, iPods, video games and consoles, PDAs, DVDs, GPS devices, digital cameras and more.

It's easy, too. For small or few items, we will send you a pre-

paid mailer. Just fill it out and drop it in the mail. For larger amounts, simply box them up, and we'll send you a pre-paid FedEx label. Then, drop it off at a FedEx location or call FedEx for a free pick up.

Other ways to help? Put together a collection box at your office. Encourage local

school kids or Scouts to collect electronics as a project. Get your materials today by emailing fundraising@norcalgsprescue.org.



Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/norcalgsprescue

Where Are They Now?

Pebbles' Journey Ends, Luna's Glory Begins

Jane Ramp and Stefan Quandt brought Pebbles (now Luna) into their family in May 2010. Once abused and afraid, Luna has blossomed into a confident and assertive companion. The couple's love for Luna began when they first visited her foster home. "She's an asset to our lives and now possesses a sense of place, a home of her own, and unconditional love," Jane says. What a wonderful success story!

By Jane Ramp

My husband and I moved here 1½ years ago from Michigan with a Bull Mastiff named Hardy. Within a month, we put Hardy down due to a bleeding splenic cancer. He was only 7 years old. We couldn't imagine a household without a dog. For our next dog, we decided to search for a GSP. I had always loved the breed. They're extremely beautiful, very athletic and smart as well, a complete package. We researched NorCal GSP Rescue's website and saw a female GSP with sad, defeated eyes.



Knowing that dog adoption is a two-way street, we visited Pebbles at her foster home in Kenwood. There, we found an abused and scared dog, just as we were advised. We had some previous experience with abused animals so we understood how to approach her. We kneeled. We avoided making any sudden startling gestures. The bond was instantaneous, kisses and all.

We changed her name to Luna and estimated her age to be about 5 years old. Through love and patience she blossomed into a confident dog who communicates her needs and wants.

We take her to the beach, on walks, to the markets and on drives to Oregon, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara. The first time at the beach she stood at the line between the street and the sand, unnerved by the strange, undulating and grainy surface. Now she loves the sand.



She has really shed much of her traumatized past. She's no longer afraid to meet new people. She no longer cringes when someone steps over her. She loves meeting new dogs, embarking on new experience and visiting new places. She has grown into a very curious, intelligent dog with a great personality.

Luna gives us so much love and laughter. We love her immensely.



"You can't take it with you," goes the oft-quoted refrain. So, you might consider giving some of your estate to NorCal GSP Rescue. Just remember to include us in your will or name us as a beneficiary to an account or policy. It's easy. No need to notify us.

A bequest that we received shortly after we formed as a non-profit group allowed us to pay for two extensive orthopedic

surgeries and follow-up care for Tre and Tumbleweed. The total cost of over \$10,000 would have drained our coffers completely. In addition, the gift funded our main telephone number, as part of the donor's wish that persons hoping to adopt a GSP would have a way to call us.

Please remember us in your estate planning. Whatever you bequeath, our GSPs will be grateful.

Calendar of Events

Garage Sale for GSPs

Date: Sunday, July 31, 2011

Place: 1427 44th Ave.,
San Francisco (Outer Sunset)

If you have items to donate or would like to help at the sale, contact us at garagesale@norcalgsprescue.org



GSP Rescue Reunion

Date: Sunday, September 25, 2011

Time: 1-4 pm

Place: Emeryville Marina Park,
easy freeway access!

Adopter Expounds Joys of Senior Dogs



When Catherine Tumilty set out to find a GSP to adopt, she focused her search on a senior dog. Formerly the director of administration at the Peninsula Humane Society, she often saw people make a beeline for the puppies while bypassing the older dogs. "It broke my heart to see the look on the older ones' faces," she says. Here, she writes about the upside of adopting a senior dog.

Sadly, our society puts a premium on anything new, young and/or fresh. However, every life, of every age, has value. Don't look at the number of years a senior dog has left. Look at the life left in each of those years. Each year a senior dog spends with you can be the best years of the dog's life.

My old guy, Rory, has a wisdom and mellow laid-back attitude that pups clearly don't have. Like other seniors, Rory has a well-developed personality and good manners and behaviors. He's more grounded and, very importantly, housetrained. Oldsters appreciate love and attention and quickly learn what's expected of them. They also don't fail to realize that a forever home means another shot at a good life.

I love my old man! When I look at his gentle face after a tough day at work, I'm a happy woman! People don't realize what a treasure they might find in an older animal!

Make Your Summer Sizzle with a Senior!

Our senior GSPs are special and now is the time to spice up your summer by adopting one of our eligible seniors for a reduced adoption donation of \$99! Use the long days of summer to spend quality time with your new best friend, and give a senior dog a loving home.

Check out the specially marked seniors on our adopt page!

Offer valid through August 15, 2011.



Alternative Ways to Give

You Read, We Earn

We earn \$4 for every copy of *Speaking for Spot* purchased through Dr. Kay's website (<http://tinyurl.com/43112ak>) when our organization is selected from the online pull down menu or via the downloadable order form. Use the printable order form (<http://tinyurl.com/OrderSpot>) if you would prefer to pay by check rather than online with PayPal.



Dog Door Company Donates for Every Purchase

Hale's Rescue Rewards program gives us 10% of the cost of the pet door when you tell them you've adopted a pet and saved a life!

You also receive that same 10% discount off your order. Just order from their website (<http://www.halepetdoor.com/>) and let them know on the online order form that you adopted a GSP from us or a shelter. Mention this offer if you order by phone at 800-646-4773; or fill out the attached coupon ([click here](#)) and mail it in with your order.



Name That Foster Dog

In an effort to increase our fan base on Facebook, we've decided that every 100th person to "like" our page will get to name the next foster dog that comes into our program. The name can't be one that we've already used in the past. We just passed 500, and Zach Baughman selected "Maverick" for the sweet senior recently saved from the Stockton shelter. So, remember to "like" us on Facebook and tell your friends.

We can't wait to see what #600 picks!

