



# Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue

Providing Rescue and Adoption Services



Newsletter

**Rescuing, Rehabilitating, Nurturing, Training, & Healing Abused, Abandoned and Neglected German Shepherds & German Shepherd mixes for Adoption in MD, D.C, Northern VA and south-central PA Over 2,700 since 1999**

Greetings!

In watching the 2012 Olympics on television, like most, I am amazed at the abilities of the athletes. Olympic athletes are made, not born. Yes, they may have some innate talent, but basic talent alone doesn't produce world class winners. Rather, it is a combination of talent, learning, training, coaching, support, practice, and performance that produces results - and winners. I began thinking of our MAGSR dogs and the dedicated volunteers and our wonderful adopters. Our dogs are very much like the athletes. GSD's are born with the desire to please and achieve. Though training, coaching, support and lots of practice - our GSD's thrive and become winners. Every day I am amazed at the courage, strength, indomitable spirit and overwhelming determination of our dogs to win that GOLD- a golden new life. You may ask, how do I know this? Because I get to witness the amazing "event" of seeing our dogs go home with their new family and the joy on everyone face. It's an honor and privilege to spend every day working with our amazing MAGSR volunteers and wonderful adopters. You are all winners and deserve GOLD. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Leigh Clark

MAGSR President

## FOSTERING????

Want to help but your not sure how? If you are an approved adopter you are one step closer to fostering. Fostering is a rewarding way to help dogs that have just lost their home and their family. Some dogs come from loving families who fell upon financial hardship. Some come to us from shelters and never been shown attention or love. Not only does fostering help MAGSR with kenneling costs, it helps prepare the dog to succeed in a home. Fostering can be a very rewarding experience and what better way to show your support then welcoming a foster dog into your home while he or she awaits their "forever" home? With dogs in foster, there is so much more they can learn to better prepare them for their new home. It also helps us place them into a new home by learning more about the dogs behaviors and needs. We would like to have fosters for all our dogs but the fact is we just don't have enough at this time. For dogs that come to us due to no fault of their own and find themselves in a kennel situation it's very heartbreaking. They are already confused as to why their family had to give them up and they really deserve and would benefit from a foster home. Even though a foster home is not their home and their family they will quickly adapt to their new surroundings. If you would like to help, please visit our web site and fill out a foster application.

## THIS ISSUE INCLUDES:

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## 2012 Annual Adopters Reunion

**Our annual adopters reunion was another great success. This is MAGSR's favorite time of year! This is our opportunity to see the dogs we saved with their families. We love to hear and see how wonderful the dogs are doing. We had over 100 dogs and over 200 people in attendance. Our adopters reunion is held in April. Make plans to join us next year.**

## WAYS TO HELP

There is still time to donate to support the dogs. The dogs are counting on you for your support! MAGSR volunteers and all our dogs value your ongoing support. We're counting on your generosity to assist us in making our dogs whole so we can accomplish our mission to provide much needed rescue, rehabilitation and adoption into permanent homes!

Please go to [www.magsr.org](http://www.magsr.org)

- \* Sponsor one of our dogs!
  - \* View dogs to foster or adopt!
  - \* Donate to our Medical Fund!
- Donate Now!**

Won't you show our older, previously neglected, our "dental dogs" or a medical dog such as Spring your support. Spring came to us with two severe ear infections. She would cry in pain when she shook her head. We immediately took Spring for a vet visit. Unfortunately



### What a dog's body language is saying?

While the signals that our canine friends send non-verbally are not always clear and are often misunderstood, it is helpful if we can attempt to learn what they are telling us. Not everyone will agree that a particular position of the ears, the curl of a lip, or posture will lead to the same outcome/action, but if one can be alert to the signs and make appropriate interpretations, the canine human experience is enhanced.

**Playful:** The tail is up, and may wag vigorously. The ears are up and the dog may bounce, twist or turn in exaggerated fashion. He may also exhibit the "play bow" which is signaled by the rear end raised in the air, and the forelegs on the ground. The playful dog may also signal by jumping on his handler, and or mouthing. He may also just run around with no apparent direction, and enjoy a game of "chase."

**Aggressive:** There are dogs who are aggressive and a subset of those are fear aggressive. While they share many of the same identifiable characteristics, there are differences. The dominant aggressive dog will raise his hackles and do his best to make him appear larger. His ears will be up and pointed forward, and he will display his teeth. His posture will be to lean forward, with his weight leaning towards the object of the aggression. Eye contact is direct, and the return of such contact may be regarded as a challenge. The tail is high, the hair on the tail is raised, and it may appear to wag. His head will be erect, and he may bark, growl or snarl. By contrast, the fearful aggressive dog will have his ears back, his tail may be tucked between his legs, his body lowered, and his teeth may or may not be visible. He prefers not to bite, so normally would not do so unless cornered or threatened. However, some fearful dogs are prone to nip at people when the people are moving away from them.

**Relaxed:** The mouth is closed or slightly open, and breathing is normal. Ears are up, and his tail is in its normal position. The mouth suggests what looks like a smile. The body is not tense, and the tail may be wagging.

**Fearful:** The fearful/scared dog will lower his body, have his ears laid back, and may cower and give signs of wanting to retreat. The tail will be down and between the legs. He will attempt to appear small, and may or may not make eye contact. His muscles will be tense, and he will try to retreat or hide behind an object.

**Submissive:** Like the fearful dog, he will be low to the ground, and attempt to look small and non-intimidating. His eyes will not make direct contact, and his ears will be flat and laid back. He may also whine and/or urinate. Submissive dogs may also roll over on their back and expose their stomach. The tail will be tucked or low, wagging or not wagging.

**Dominant:** The characteristics of this dog are a confident demeanor, a tall stance, and he attempts to appear large. Normally he will make direct eye contact and may growl. The tail is held high and the ears are raised and rotated forward. The body will be held stiffly, and exhibit a tendency to lean forward.

there was not much the vet could do, Spring needed to see a specialist. Springs left ear is so badly infected that it was calcified and is totally closed. The only way to give Spring relief of pain is to surgically remove her ear canal and her ear. Through all of Springs pain she still remains a sweet out going girl with an amazing spirit. Spring is scheduled for surgery on August 31st. This is an expensive surgery one that we had not planned for. With your help, we can continue to help dogs like Spring and care for dogs of all ages who are facing medical issues, starvation, broken bones resulting from an accident or human abuse, hip dysphasia, epilepsy, mange, heartworm, skin infections, mega-esophagus, pneumonia and more.

Won't you give to the dogs, now?

Click here: [MAGSR MEDICAL FUND](#)

**Thank You for your support!**



### **JAKE**

This handsome boy is Jake. He is a 2 year old GSD. Jake is looking for a active family to spend time with. Jake has come a long way since he came to MAGSR. He has completed a second obedience class and knows all his basic commands. Jake walks well on a leash, sits automatically at a stop and responds well to sit and come. He is housetrained and crate trained and a friendly boy. He loves kids of all ages. Jake would make a great jogging partner. If your family is looking for a great active gsd, please contact us about Jake.



### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **MAGSR's 2012 Calendar Contest**

Photo Submission: July 27 to September 4th.

#### **August**

Tractor Supply Co. Pet Appreciation Week  
Saturday, August 18, 2012  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mac Hadley

## DOG HEALTH TIPS

**Want your dog to live a long happy life?** Here are a few ways to help:

**Teeth brushing:** Should you brush your dogs teeth? The answer is YES. Ask yourself this: Don't you want your own teeth white with healthy gums? Of course you do, you should also want the same for your best friend. Veterinary dental specialists recommend that you brush your dogs teeth daily. Some dogs need it more than others. Some dogs develop tartar which is also known as "calculus" and "plaque" which is a bio-film on the teeth that contains bacteria. Tarter buildup at and under the gum line enables the entrance and growth of bacteria under the gums. Most dogs who have bad breath also have gingivitis (swallon and inflamed gums). Usually the gums will be bright red or purple and they bleed easily. Infections in the gums can lead to infections in the mouth and can also poison the dog systemically, potentially causing disease in the heart, kidneys and or liver. Daily brushings and routine check ups will help keep your dog healthy with pearly whites. Most of your leading pet stores carry flavored toothpaste that most dogs love. Note: Only use toothpaste designated for dogs. Do not use human toothpaste.

**Probiotics:** Probiotics for dogs can aid food digestion and improve lactose intolerance. As a result, they are effective in preventing and treating intestinal disorders caused by poor digestion, such as diarrhea, vomiting, gas, and bloating. Probiotics are beneficial strains of bacteria that maintain and restore the normal balance of microflora (bacteria) in the gastrointestinal tract. In other words, probiotics are the "good, friendly bacteria" that are used to combat the "bad, harmful bacteria".

**Healthy Diet:** What to look for.....Animal protein at the top of the ingredients list! Foods should have one or two animal proteins listed first. Animal protein such as, chicken, beef or lamb should be named. "Meat" and "animal" protein are examples of low quality protein sources. Stay away from added sweeteners, artifical preservatives such as BHA and artificial colors. Should you choose to feed your dog a "Raw" diet, be sure to reseach so that you properly learn how to prepare your dogs food.

## About Mid Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue

Mid Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue  
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MAGSR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
Your **contributions** are tax deductible

Editors: Lisa Jarvis, MAGSR Secretary, Board of Directors; Victor Martinez, MAGSR Web Team and former Board of Directors. Published: August 2012

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### September

SPCA of Anne Arundel County 92nd Birthday Celebration Saturday, September 15, 2012  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
1815 Bay Ridge Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
Info: <http://www.aacspca.org/events>

ARI's 8th Annual Dog's Day In The Park Saturday, September 22, 2012  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
(Rain Date - Sunday, September 23, 2012)  
Marge Goodfellow Park  
S. Constitution Ave & E. High St  
New Freedom, PA 17349

### Message from the Board of Directors

Volunteers are the lifeblood of MAGSR and we are always in need of more volunteers to help with our mission of saving the lives of GSD and GSD mixes. Without the dedication of our hard working volunteers, this mission would not be a reality. Did you know you can volunteer with MAGSR and never leave your home? That's right, there are several ways you can volunteer and help MAGSR right from home. We always need volunteers to make reference calls, post adoption follow up calls, updates to our website, and the list goes on. Even if you just have one hour a week that you can help MAGSR from your home, please consider volunteering. One hour can make the difference in the lives of so many GSD's who are counting on us for a better tomorrow. If you would like more information about volunteering, please contact our membership committee at: [membership@magsr.org](mailto:membership@magsr.org).

Sincerely yours,

Caroline, Leigh, Lisa, Jean, and Tammy  
The Mid Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue  
Board of Directors

### Articles for MAGSR News

Member articles welcome! Please submit article ideas via email to Lisa Jarvis for publication in the next MAGSR NEWS. MAGSR reserves the right to reject copy found by the BOD not acceptable or appropriate. The views expressed in copy written for the MAGSR NEWS reflects the opinion of the author and does not constitute a policy or position of MAGSR.

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