



SPRING / SUMMER 2003

SHEPHERD TALES

Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue
www.magsr.org magsrmail@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 5
Laurel, MD 20725-0005
410-644-7763

MARSR is dedicated to finding good homes for unwanted or abandoned German Shepherds in the MD, DC and VA region. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Note From the President

When I was elected President of MAGSR's Board the last thing that I realized that I would be doing was spending a lot of time in front of my computer typing up letters and stories and such. As was later explained to me by our past president it is expected, sorry. Well then came the newsletter and everyone said, "Clinton we need to have a letter from the President. Something short would be fine." Well I sat and thought, then I got up and played with my guys, Luke and Sierra. Then I sat and thought, and then I got up and got a drink of water, and one for Luke and Sierra too. Then I realized that I was getting good at the procrastination thing and I had better buckle down and get this written otherwise I would be in trouble and the newsletter would not go out, which is not correct, as it would of gone out without my so called wise words anyway. But, as I was trying to think of something important to say or even a bit profound, my crazy Uncle in Florida sent me something via e-mail that he said he had had tucked away in a folder from his childhood. This poem, or plea as it is titled, struck home to me and I thought maybe I should share this with other people and maybe, just maybe, it would mean as much to others as it did me. So folks, without further ado, here it is.

A Dog's Plea

Treat me kindly my beloved friend, for no heart in all the world is more grateful for kindness than the loving heart of me

Do not break my spirit with a stick, for though I might lick your hand between blows, your patience and understanding will more quickly teach me the things you would have me learn

Speak to me often, for your voice is the world's sweetest music, as you must know by the fierce wagging of my tail when the sounds of you footstep falls upon my waiting ear

Please take me inside when it is cold and wet, for I am a domestic animal no longer accustomed to bitter elements. I ask no greater glory than the privilege of sitting at your feet beside the hearth

Keep my pan filled with fresh water, for I cannot tell you when I suffer thirst

Feed me clean food so I may stay well, to romp and play and do your bidding to walk by your side and stand ready, willing, and able to protect you with my life, should your life be in danger

And my friend, when I'm very old and I no longer enjoy good health, hearing and sight, do not make heroic efforts to keep me going. I am no longer having fun. Please see to it that my life is taken gently. I shall leave this earth knowing that with the last breath I draw that my fate was always safest in your hands

Author Unknown

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MAGSR SUMMER RAFFLE

50/50 Drawing to Support MAGSR Dogs

WHEN: **July 7, 2003 through August 2, 2003**

WHERE: **Everywhere**

DRAWING DATE: **August 2, 2003**

COST: **\$1.00 per ticket or \$2.00 for 3 tickets**



YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN
WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY PHONE

To obtain tickets please contact Joyce Kregelka at:

work - 410-787-4050

home - 410-551-3503

e-mail - jkregelka@sha.state.md.us

Available Dogs

Below are just a couple of our available dogs.

Please visit our website, www.magsr.org, to see who else is available for adoption



SUZIE is a sweet, small, 3 year old girl who begs for attention from people. She has come a long way since coming into our rescue, from jumping for attention to learning that it is much better to sit and have her head rubbed. She still jumps occasionally, but with continued training, love and the attention she deserves, she will make a wonderful family member. She is currently living at the kennel waiting for the loving home she belongs in.

SHELBY is one of our older girls at age 6. She is a calm beautiful lady who is very well mannered and does well with other animals and children. This girl does bond quickly and wants to have her own family to spend the rest of her life with. Being in a shelter is not easy, but when you are a bit older it's much harder. Shelby is a true family dog and is waiting for her new family to come find her.

A Tribute to Bentley

Bentley Lambert ????? 1999 – May 26, 2003



Benny before adoption



Benny Christmas 2002

Ben, a skinny dog from the Denton shelter, has died from brain cancer. His adopted mom Layna called me with the sad news.

Benny was one of the first dogs in MAGSR. He was a scrawny little waif dog, with big frightened eyes. Ben came to MAGSR from the Denton shelter in the summer of 1999.

Earlier that summer, someone had abandoned 6 month-old Ben along a country road on the Eastern Shore, where he sought refuge under a guardrail. It took animal control a week to trap him with a humane trap. He was a forlorn bag of bones who feared just about everyone.

I fostered Ben when he came into the rescue. He was in such bad shape when he first came to us, that I called him the 'little waif' dog. He didn't feel he could trust anyone. The first day he was at our house, he ran from me and hid out in our yard most of the day. He crawled under some thorn bushes, and stayed there. It began to rain. By midnight, he was sleeping soundly in the mud. Only then was I able to crawl under the bushes to retrieve him. I carried his frail little body through the rain, up to the house and he didn't even wake up. Such a tired boy he was.

A few weeks later, I took Ben to the vet. In the waiting room were Mike and Layna Lambert, whose dogs were also patients there. Mike and Layna came over to say hello to Ben, and they were very taken with him. He didn't show his usual fear of people when he met the Lamberts, in fact he looked at them with openness and trust. Something told me they could be 'The Ones'. They were!

Mike and Layna adopted Ben shortly after that fateful meeting. They gave him the most loving, caring home a dog could want. He blossomed into a beautiful, healthy dog. His floppy ears finally stood up, and his weight went up to 100 pounds. His mom often said he was "A Handsome Boy".

Ben smiled a lot. When he was happy he'd prance merrily, slamming his feet down hard. If he was REALLY happy he'd prance wildly, sometimes accidentally stomping on the cat's head. But he meant no harm!! Life couldn't have been more perfect for him. He had the kind of home that all rescue organizations want for their dogs.

Ben, I hope we meet again some day. We love you.



Some souls pass through this life time like a gentle summer rain.

They touch our hearts and then return to heaven once again



What's New with MAGSR?

Autumn 2002

This past fall, MAGSR was facing a bit of a rough time as it does every fall. Adoptions were slow, due to the approaching holidays and colder weather, and events were few and far between thereby reducing our fundraising opportunities. Just about then our prayers were answered and a Guardian Angel approached MAGSR stating they would match our fundraising dollars, dollar for dollar for the first \$1000 and 50 cents to the dollar for anything above that. The MAGSR volunteers and friends, once again, banded together to support events, sell merchandise, make contributions. We were all astounded and so grateful when the numbers were tallied at the end of the Matching Fund period and our Guardian Angel made a donation of \$2500! We are very fortunate, at MAGSR, to have such wonderful friends! This helped pay for shelter fees, veterinary bills, heartworm treatments and kennel expenses. Thank you, Guardian Angel, for answering our prayers!

December 2002

'Ho-ho-who is under that beard?' That was the question several volunteers heard last December when we took turns playing Santa at our local PETSMART stores. Every year various PETSMART stores offer their pet-loving customers the chance to come out and have their pet's picture taken with Santa. The great news for MAGSR is that half of the purchase price of the photo package goes directly to our Rescue – to help more dogs find their forever homes. We entertained big dogs and small, cats and ferrets, even a couple of birds. It was wonderful to see people who are so smitten with their pets! We want to thank PETSMART for allowing MAGSR to participate in these photo sessions.

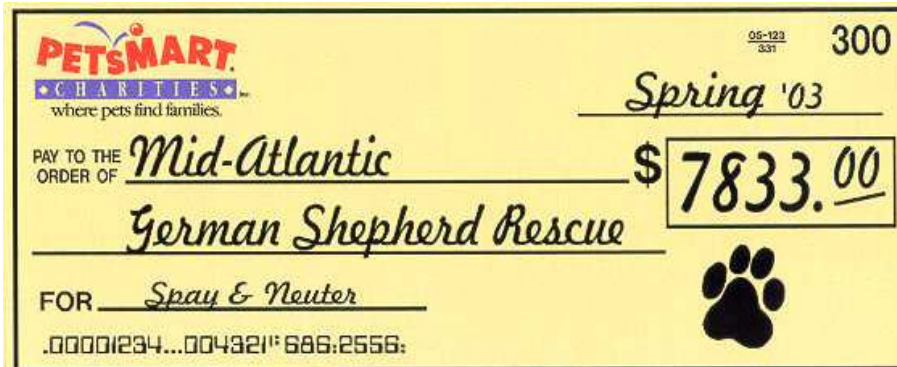
We hope you all enjoyed our holiday card contest! We had beautiful photo entries. Many thanks to all who entered their beloved dogs and to those who voted. The winning entry (although all the dogs entered are winners for having such loving homes!) featured a pair of sisters who were featured on MAGSR's courtesy listing page years ago.

February 2003

Our own Heidi Thomas had a brainstorm about a month before Valentine's Day: how about a Valentine raffle? Well, the idea sounded great to us and with fantastic prizes like a diamond tennis bracelet, Kay Jeweler's gift certificate, and TWO dinner and movie packages, who wouldn't want to take a chance?! The raffle was very successful and we want to thank each and person who bought or sold a ticket.

March 2003

MAGSR is thrilled to announce that we received a \$7,833 grant from PETSMART Charities, Inc.! The Phoenix, AZ. based non-profit organization has made it possible for Mid-Atlantic German Rescue to spay or neuter 60 dogs from area shelters and prepare them for adoptions into their forever homes. Great big sloppy dog kisses to PETSMART Charities! Special thanks to Patty Visser who has taken on the job as MAGSR Grant Writer. Great job, Patty!



April 2003

MAGSR received more great news that we were the recipients of a \$5000 from the Snyder Foundation for Animals. This grant will be used to help pay for the pre-adoptive care of 60 dogs. We thank Snyder for their generous grant and helping us to continue our work. Being awarded grant money is such a critical part of what we do and we are so thankful to have been awarded this one from the Snyder Foundation for Animals.

Even though our 3^d Annual Adopters' Reunion was postponed one day due to rain, it didn't put a damper on the turnout we had. We all had a fantastic time and were pleased to see so many of our beautiful dogs. Please see page 8 for highlights of this great day.

May 2003

Once again, MAGSR was fortunate enough to be awarded a grant from the American German Shepherd Rescue Association. This generous grant covered the expenses that we incurred for one of our dogs, Dylan. We are SO very grateful to the AGSRA for their continued support of our wonderful dogs. When we brought Dylan into the rescue he had a medical problem so he wasn't posted on our site until we had surgery performed to correct his urinary problem. Dylan came through the surgery fine and was being nursed back to health by long-time fosters, Tricia and Joe. Unfortunately Dylan passed away from mesenteric torsion. We cannot thank Tricia and Joe enough for the love and compassion they gave to Dylan while he was in their care. Although we never were able to find him his forever adoptive home, he was loved and cared for, during the time he spent in his foster home. He is certainly missed.

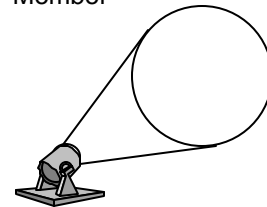


On May 10, we held our Annual Membership meeting and elections. Please join us in welcoming our new Board of Directors and wishing them continuous success in running MAGSR:

Clinton McLaughlin – President
Pat Walraven – Treasurer
David Frankhouse – Board Member
Ann Reilly – Board Member

Denise Gosnay – Vice President
Sherrie Mosby – Secretary
Anna McClaughlin – Board Member

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS



Tricia Moore & Joe Racette

Tricia and Joe have been with MAGSR for many years and have fostered over 80 dogs for our rescue. They have several personal dogs, yet always have the room and the extra love needed to help out MAGSR dogs as well. The dogs there enjoy a great life, with lots of room to run and relax. Their recent house-guests include our senior girls, Aspen and Sunny, and our handsome guy, Ace, who underwent back surgery last year to relieve a disc problem and nerve compression. Tricia and Joe were there, of course, to care for him during his recovery.

Tricia and Joe recently said good-bye to one of their fosters, Dylan, who passed away in April from Mesenteric Torsion. This was a young pup who had a problem with holding his bladder when he came into the rescue. The breeder who had him didn't want to be bothered with the problem and was going to do the unthinkable. MAGSR stepped in and agreed to take Dylan into our rescue. Once again, Tricia and Joe offered to open their home to him. They set up the appointment with a surgeon to have his problem operated on, paying for it upfront until MAGSR had the funds to reimburse them and they nursed him back to health. Unfortunately, nobody knew that he would leave this world due to an unrelated condition.

Like any beloved companion that leaves us too soon, Dylan is sorely missed ... especially by his canine sister, Sage, an MAGSR adoptee. We all thank Tricia and Joe for the years of support – emotional and financial – that they generously offered to MAGSR. It takes special people to foster and to love a 'temporary' dog like he or she is their own, but Tricia and Joe have done it time and time again. Dedication like that is hard to come by these days. We hope they know how much we appreciate them.

Terance, Heidi & Amber Thomas

Terance and Heidi Thomas and their daughter, Amber, stumbled onto MAGSR one day while shopping at the Pasadena Petsmart picking up supplies for their beagle, Buddy. It just so happened that the day they went shopping, MAGSR was set up at Petsmart for our monthly adoption event. That Saturday afternoon we brought a young female pup, named Bambi, to meet customers and hopefully her future family. Terance and Heidi stopped briefly to chat with our volunteers and met Bambi. Mid-way through their shopping, they just knew they had to go back and get more info on her and submit an application. They did just that. Their application was processed and approved and Bambi soon became Shiloh Thomas. That was almost a year ago.

continued from page 3

Since then Heidi, Terance and Amber joined us as volunteers and actively participate in the rescue's events. Heidi is now our Petsmart Coordinator, who gets us set up with other stores and makes sure our Petsmart volunteers have whatever they need to set up in each store. Terance and Amber can often be found at the stores with her, holding dogs or answering questions about our rescue. They have also welcomed foster dogs into their home, helping them with the transition to their forever home. Recently, the Thomas's adopted another MAGSR dog – beautiful Austra.

With Terance's stressful job as a police officer, Heidi's full time job in a law office, along with raising a 9 year old daughter and caring for 3 dogs, you wouldn't think they'd have time to continue to volunteer and help homeless dogs, but they do! We appreciate all their efforts and their dedications to helping other dogs find great homes like theirs.



And we can't forget . . .

. . . to thank ALL our volunteers who donate their time and energy to help saving our beautiful homeless dogs. We couldn't do it without all of you!

Health and Safety



Spring has arrived.... FINALLY!!

When rejoicing in the warm weather, we tend to spend a lot more time enjoying the outdoors... and so do our animals. Here are some helpful hints you may wish to consider as we prepare for the year's warmer months.

Fleas and Ticks

Fleas are not only a nuisance to your pet; they are even worse when found crawling around on you! Prevent the flea cycle before it begins. It is much easier to prevent a flea infestation than to resolve it. One adult flea can lay thousands of eggs each day right in your home, especially in carpets! They are almost impossible to get rid of once they settle in for the season. Many times chemical foggers are needed and repeated in an attempt to alleviate the problem. This is not only a burden on you and your family, but all live animals must be removed and all food and beverages must be covered just to prevent illness from the chemicals themselves!

Ticks are not only a pest, but also transmit diseases. The prevalence of Lyme disease increases in the Maryland area each year, even in suburban and urban areas. Talk to your veterinarian about good flea and tick preventatives. There are many choices out there at varying costs, so select the one that works best for your lifestyle. You'll be glad you did.



Heartworm

One of the most frustrating transmittable diseases that veterinarians face is heartworm disease. Heartworm is caused by the parasite *Dirofilaria immitis* and is transmitted by mosquitoes. The reason for their frustration is that it is EASILY PREVENTABLE!! A six month supply of heartworm preventative, a pill taken once each month, is around \$30. Yet once a dog becomes positive with heartworms the cost of treatment can be around \$400 - \$500 and can be quite risky depending on the dog's condition. The worms, which can reach 5 - 14 inches in length, circulate through the bloodstream and end up lodged in the heart muscle leading to congestive heart failure and death. Along with the preventative pills, eliminate sources of stagnant water in your yard—a breeding ground for mosquitoes!

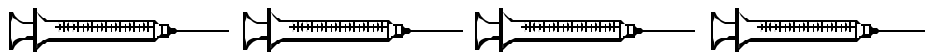
Just last year alone MAGSR treated several dogs with heartworm disease. It is not only a long risky treatment, but it is also expensive. A special fund "Joe's Fund" was created to specifically treat our future afflicted animals. Please consider contributing to Joe's Fund. This can be done directly on our website www.magsr.org

Spay/Neuter

Spring is often a breeding time for many animals. With the warm weather, many animals are left outside to roam or left unattended. The result is unplanned litters and unwanted animals. Unfortunately about 20 million animals end up in shelters each year and many must be euthanized because there simply isn't enough room and resources for the shelters to provide. Please spay and neuter your pets and encourage others around you to do the same. An added bonus is that neutered animals live longer, healthier lives—and avoid health risks that intact animals have, like breast cancer for example. So please play your part in preventing overpopulation!! All of us at MAGSR would be thrilled if we didn't have our job to do and all animals were wanted in their homes.

Vaccinations

Warm weather brings pets outside. They are more likely to come in contact with other pets and wildlife. Make sure that your pet is up to date on its vaccinations. It's the law to keep pets up to date on their rabies vaccine every 2-3 years, but other vaccines are needed annually. If your dog spends a lot of time outdoors, consider getting a Lyme disease vaccine. Last year alone the incidence of Lyme disease more than tripled in some areas. Many of these dogs spent their time in the suburbs and cities. Discuss with your veterinarian about the risks and benefits of vaccinating your dog against this debilitating disease. Kennel cough (infectious tracheobronchitis) is an extremely contagious illness and spreads rapidly. If your dog comes in contact with other dogs or spends time at a kennel for boarding or grooming a kennel cough vaccine is a must!



Training

Spring is a good time to practice obedience training with your dog. Whether you are training a puppy or just brushing up on an older dog's skills, taking the training outdoors is a great way to enjoy the nice weather and train with plenty of distractions. The number one reason dogs end up in shelters is because their owners failed to teach them good manners, often leading to a plethora of behavioral problems. Dogs thrive on consistency and discipline and training your dog is the best gift you can give them—we all appreciate our own education right? Plus a well trained dog can be quite a crowd pleaser!

Plants and Fertilizers

Use caution when spending time with your pet in the garden. There can be many hazards there. Some dangerous plants that can possibly be fatal if ingested are: hydrangea, lily of the valley, foxglove, rhododendron, azaleas and daffodils – just to name a few. Many pets enjoy nibbling on grass. That's ok, but be certain that the grass has not been treated with any chemical fertilizers. Pets may also come into contact with poison ivy. Although most do not suffer from allergic reactions, they often carry it on their coats and then pass it to their humans.

Gardens may also contain baits and traps to avoid unwanted critters. These baits can make your pet very ill. Rat poison, in particular, can be fatal in a matter of hours. Some symptoms your pet may display if something harmful, plant or poison, was ingested are: vomit, diarrhea, loss of appetite, swelling, or excessive saliva. If these symptoms occur, take your pet to the veterinarian as soon as possible, especially if you suspect he or she may have gotten into something.

Pollen and other spring related irritants often trigger allergies. If your pet starts scratching, sneezing, losing fur, has red/dry skin, or is licking obsessively it is likely that it is suffering from allergies. Consult with your veterinarian for the best possible approach to treatment.



After this winter many of us will be welcoming spring with open arms. Enjoy your time outside with your pet! Some of the most rewarding moments are shared outdoors- at the park, on a hike, or just sitting on the front porch watching the day go by.

HAPPY SPRING!!

WHO IS THIS GORGEOUS DOG???

Remember the last issue of our newsletter, when we featured our 'Who is that Gorgeous Dog?' photo? Well...that handsome fellow was Andy, adopted in March 2001.

3rd Annual Adopters' Reunion

At this year's reunion, we welcomed 110 adopters and volunteers and 54 dogs to Allen Pond Park for our annual get-together on April 27, 2003. We had door prizes, a silent auction for beautiful GSD prints and contests. It was wonderful seeing all of our dogs again with their proud families. Some of our K-9 families were reunited for the afternoon. Dad Joe (of our Joes's Fund fame) got to see his boy, Travis, again. Brothers Herman and Elvis were reunited and the families of siblings Rosalie and Gizmo got to compare stories and note similarities between their pups. Shasta and Sheba, sisters from a litter we placed back in 2001, were reunited as well, giving their human moms a chance to meet and visit.

Our contests were a lot of fun, with prizes for most obedient (and least obedient!), longest tail, biggest ears, biggest paws, biggest head, best trick, and best kisser. Our long distance award went to Marco Polo, who lives in Florida. The prize for the dog adopted the longest ago went to Fred, who was the only dog present who was adopted in 1999! Each adoptee went home with one of our MAGSR mugs filled with puppy treats and some home-made treats baked by Luke & Sierra's folks.

Wheat Dog Biscuits

Ingredients:

3/4 cup hot water, beef broth or chicken broth
1/3 cup margarine
1/2 cup powdered milk
1/2 teaspoon salt (optional)
1 tbsp minced garlic
1 tbsp parsley flakes
1 egg, beaten
3 cups whole wheat flour



Directions:

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In large bowl, combine water or broth with margarine. Add powdered milk, salt, garlic, parsley and egg. Stir in flour in 1/2 cup increments, mixing well after each addition.

Knead the dough for 3-4 minutes and roll out to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into desired shapes, place on greased cookie sheet and bake for 50 minutes.

Remove from oven and let dog biscuits cool until dry and hard. (I often leave them in the oven after turning it off.) Makes approx. 1-1/4 pound dry dog biscuits.

Recipe found on www.Thepoop.com

We would like to take this chance to thank the following businesses and people for their contributions towards our event:

The Canine Fitness Center (www.caninefitnesscenter.com) for donating 2 gift certificate for their fantastic new facility.
Dave Diaz of Totally Pets (www.totallypetsbydave.com/) for donating 3 gift certificates for his dog walking/pet sitting service.

Comedian Elayne Boosler from Tails of Joy (www.tailsofjoy.net) for donating cool GSD hats which she personally autographed.

Al DeLessio, Sr. of General Vending Company for donating the snacks and sodas for our event.

We are already looking forward to next year's event and hope that more of our adopters will come out and spend the afternoon with us!





Caleb & Juno enjoying the sights



Adoptee Zorro, mom Dana & MAGSR girl, Susha



Dear Mom, If you don't get this stupid frisbee off my head, I'll have to redecorate the house with the contents of the garbage can, AGAIN.
Love, Sierra



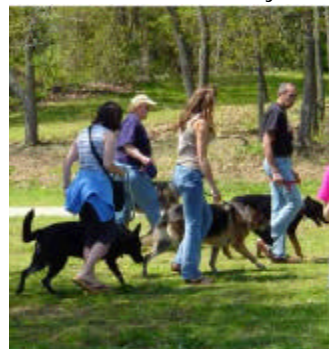
Good 'down'!



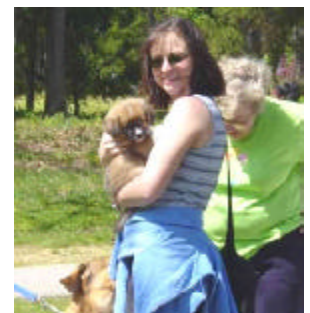
"So they saved you too, huh?"



A beautiful day to welcome our beautiful dogs back for a visit. Thank you to ALL who came out to enjoy the day with us!!



MAGSR adoptees showing off the 'heel' command



Newest little MAGSR boy, Georgie

In loving memory of . . .

Dr. Karl Heldrich from *Eva Hartig, Jean O'Brien and Ann O'Neill*

MAGSR wishes to extend our condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Heldrich, who passed away in December from cancer. Dr. Heldrich was the veterinarian of one of our sweetest adoptees, Rufus. Although there are no words to ease the pain and heartache of such a loss, we hope that the thoughts and prayers of others will provide his loved ones comfort and peace.



Betsy's Barney – *Susan Hoyle*
Brianna – *Amy Pergosky*
Brutus & Banshee and Dedicated to Tucker - *Janice Schofield*
Choctaw - *Darlene DeLessio*
Gracie Wisner – *Denise Lukasavage*
Lena - *Shirley Flagg*
Max - *Joseph Gillis*
Petra - *Virginia Dorsman*
Rameses & Heidi - *Cindy and Frederick Zugay*
Rommel - *Marie Skelley*
Smoky, Sarge and Slicker - *Rose Marie Carter*
Toby Beal - *Jennifer Stingl*
Yaeger - *Bethany Walls*

Dedications

In Honor of Rufus - *Eva & Milton Hartig*

For all the great MAGSR foster families - *Linda Coleman*



Many thanks to those who are participating in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and have selected MAGSR to be the recipient of their payroll deductions. The dogs thank you for your continued financial support!

Vicki Bohanan
Deborah Calder
Jimmy Garcia
Tina Hamilton
Charles Iseman
Jacklyn Jones

Joanne Jones – Meehan
Katherine Kane
Rosalind King
Dawn Konrad
Teresa Lake
Susan Landers

Cathleen Lewis
Kimberly Nelson
Peter Puglisi
Jerry Sharp
Jean Temeck

His Journey's Just Begun

(by E. Brennehan)

Don't think of him as gone away—
his journey's just begun,
life holds so many facets—
this earth is only one.

Just think of him as resting
from the sorrows and the tears
in a place of warmth and comfort
where there are no days and years.
Think how he must be wishing
that we could know today
how nothing but our sadness
can really pass away.

And think of him as living
in the hearts of those he touched...
for nothing loved is ever lost—
and he was loved so much.

Newsletter Memorial Page

Your donation of \$10 in memory of your pet or loved one will be used to help a GSD in need.

In memory of:

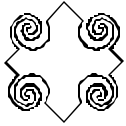
Dedicated to:

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:
MAGSR, P.O. Box 5, Laurel, MD 20725-0005
Thank you.

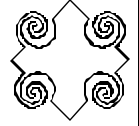
Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____



*THANK YOU to our generous donors -- your financial support and other donations
enable us to continue saving German Shepherds.*



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Katie Mitchell
Ann Mozer
Sandra Myers
Thien-Ly Ngo
Lewis Noll
Erick Oliff
Katy Otterbein
Donald Palughi
Angeline Pebler
Susan Petrie
Cynthia Pond

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Gina Scardina
Margaret Schlereth
Glenn & Virginia Schoenberger
Janice Schofield
Marian Schravessande
Jeanne Schubert
Wendy Scollins
Karen Serafin
Molly Shaw
Marie Skelley
Helen Skotowska Terry
Kelly & Eric Sparwasser
The Stanek Family
Nancy Stanton
William & Carolyn Steinwedel
Cheryl Thomas
James Tillis
Rebecca Toler
Denise Vrablic
Janice Walker
Bethany Walls
Adam Weber
Peggy White
Gretel White and Akira
Nancy Witzel
Jane Woerner
Thomas & Gayle Yaeger
Teresa Yowell
Robert & Diane Zavisin
Allison & Jeffery Zerr

**MAGSR MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF YEAGER & DYLAN**

If you have lost a beloved companion or know someone who did and would like to make a contribution in their name, the dogs, whose lives you are helping to save, will be forever grateful. We recently formed the MAGSR Memorial Fund in memory of Yaeger & Dylan. Donations which are made in memory of a lost friend will go to this fund, enabling us to have the financial resources to pay for treatment or surgery of a dog with special needs. In the past we have mended broken legs and treated heartworm and just hoped the money to cover all those bills would follow. Luckily it has. We wanted to make certain, though, that we wouldn't have to turn away a dog who is in desperate need of expensive medical care, due to lack of funds. Any donation – large or small – that you make in memory of a friend who has passed will help to ensure that another dog will get the medical attention it needs and a chance at a whole new happy and healthy life. Thank you.

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:
MAGSR, P.O. Box 5, Laurel, MD 20725-0005

Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____



Gone but never forgotten....

Our thoughts and prayers are with our friends and adopters who have lost their beloved companions:

Brianna – companion of volunteer Chris & husband Gary

Jaeger – companion of volunteer Marie

Bentley – adopted September 1999

Lena – adopted August 2000

Heidi – adopted November 2000

Petra – adopted November 2000

Colby – adopted June 2001

Piper – adopted September 2002

Zena -- adopted January 2002

We also mourn the passing of MAGSR dogs who passed away while with us:

Dylan

Hanna

Yaeger

To Those I Love

(By Isla Paschal Richardson)

If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way,
Grieve not,
Nor speak of me with tears,
But laugh and talk of me as if I were beside you
there.

I'd come - I'd come, could I but find a way!
But would not tears and grief be barriers?
And when you hear a song
Or see a bird I loved,
Please do not let the thought of me be sad...
For I am loving you just as I always have...
You were so good to me!

There are so many things I wanted still to do -
So many things to say to you...
Remember that I did not fear...
It was Just leaving you that was so hard to face...
We cannot see Beyond...
But this I know:
I love you so -
'twas heaven here with you!

A True Rags to Riches Story - Franklin

Some dogs that enter in our rescue are true rescues and need extra special care and love. Franklin, formerly known as Diesel, is one of those dogs. By the time Diesel came to our rescue, he had already lost his right eye due to a careless child with a pencil, was hit by a car AND then his owner started dating a man who used him as a punching bag. When Diesel was brought into MAGSR, he had to go live with a trainer for over a year. He needed to forget the past while waiting for his forever family to find him.

Several of the volunteers that interacted with him during that time really got to know him well and love him unconditionally. Everyone hoped and prayed that the right family would come along. They finally did. Candy, who was our Adoption Coordinator at the time, got a phone call from a lady with a very thick southern accent who proceeded to tell her about this dream she had about a dog named Franklin. When her daughter (who had adopted from us) called her to chat she told her mom to look at our website. Low and behold there was Diesel, or Franklin, as he was in her dream. Candy told her that Diesel had quite a past and she needed to know a few things about him. They talked for a long time and nothing seemed to discourage Meg from wanting to meet this boy.

You see, Meg and her husband live in Greenville, SC and under normal circumstances we don't do long distance adoptions. Something just seemed right about this and that it may be the home that Diesel was waiting for. Candy discussed the potential for a long distance adoption with some of the other volunteers and they all agreed to proceed. So their references were checked and Meg & John sent pictures of their property. When something seems too good to be true, it likely is, but Meg and John were committed to meeting this special boy and making it work. Six weeks passed, since the initial conversation, and they came up to MD to meet Diesel and it was love at first sight for all. The volunteers that were there for the meeting were all sobbing, of course and hugging Diesel before he left.

That was on June 2, 2002. What a difference a year and a loving family have made in Franklin's life. Franklin's mom had this to say about her big handsome boy a short time after bringing him home:

"I must tell you that Franklin is the World Champion Moocher!

We have to be firm with a "No" or he will eat out of our plates! He is a GREAT companion, and it's obvious we have a mutual love. In two weeks he has completely stolen our hearts. We spoil him shamelessly - he loves petting and treats - but I think he deserves it after his rough start in life. He has started to just walk up and give us a slurp on the arm or face. Candy was right when she said he is a great big teddy bear.

We are still careful not to have him around children until we determine the extent of the pencil-in-the-eye association with children, but a little boy sneaked up and petted him and Franklin was very nice. The only person he has given a hard time to was the vet who had to look at his eyes and draw blood. He does give that BIG bark when someone rings the doorbell which I find very comforting! That's the only time he has barked at all.

He now lets us wipe out both eyes when necessary and no longer jumps when we pat him from his blind side. He is quite relaxed and seems very happy.

Ooops, I have rambled on, but you can tell we love him. GREAT DOG. I thank God for your group. Your work is so needed."



Franklin resting at home.

Meg and John have stayed in touch throughout the year as long-distance volunteers. The updates and the photos they have shared have been wonderful. Recently Franklin was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, so he needs lots of prayers. Franklin tells us, though, that his mom & dad love him a whole lot and promised to take very good care of him.

We're praying for you, Franklin, for a quick recovery. We know how much your mom & dad love you so we're sure you're in good hands. You will all hold a special place in our hearts forever.

MAGSR
P.O. Box 5
Laurel, MD 20725-0005

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YES, I WANT TO HELP!

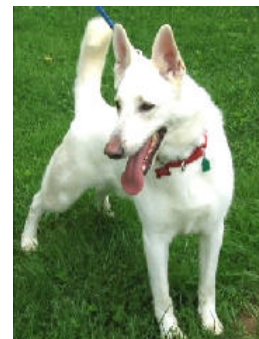
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P.O. Box 5
Laurel, MD 20725-0005

THANK YOU!!

If your employer matches charitable contributions, please inform him or her that you have donated to the Mid-Atlantic German Shepherd Rescue, Inc. and would like to have our name added to their list of approved charities. In many cases, this simple step doubles the impact of your donation. Contributions are tax-deductible under 501(c)(3) regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Appropriate receipts will be mailed for your records.