

Military Families and the Golden Retrievers Left Behind

by Kathy Burton

Rescue got very busy when America went to war. The troops were deploying out of Fort Hood in Killeen and found no alternative but to surrender their beloved Golden Retrievers. We were asked to take a total of 5 dogs, all in a short period of time since the military waits on no man.

Kovu was our first military surrender, both mom and dad were being deployed. Then came Missy, her owner was being deployed leaving a young wife with small children and this 5 month old pup. We agreed to take her and find her a good home where she would get the attention that a Golden this age needs. The next two were a pair of Golden guys, Bubba age 5 and Bo age 8. We simply had no foster space available but just couldn't turn them down. We asked DFW/Metro GRR if we could do the evaluation, get vet records and help with transport could they possibly take these two sweet dogs.

Richard Woodmansee, President of DEW/Metro GRR did not hesitate. So with the help of our volunteers in the Killeen area we were able to get all five dogs placed in care.

Kovu has since been adopted by a Gold Ribbon Family,

Missy is in foster with one of our foster families and can be seen on our web site. Bo and Bubba went into foster in Dallas and have also been adopted. And there was Sandy, her owner had made arrangements for her but that fell through at the last minute just as he was leaving for overseas. His sister called and asked if we knew of a rescue group that would take her, she'd have to go to a shelter. I called Richard again and again he said



"Yes". The soldier's sister was so grateful she drove the golden girl all the way to Dallas and Sandy has also been adopted. We would like to express a special *Thank You* to our volunteer in Copperas Cove, **Susan King**, who went out in the thick of an awful ice storm back in March and brought Bo and Bubba home for safe keeping until transport was arranged. For holding on to Missy until she could get into a foster home. Also a very special *Thank You* to our transport volunteers **Nic Nichols** and his wife who not only transported Kovu to us but transported Bo & Bubba half way to Dallas to meet up with the transport volunteer from DFW/Metro GRR.

Five dogs safe and sound in family homes and their previous owners knowing that they are well loved and cared for. Without our dedicated volunteers it would not have been possible to save them all, which one would have been lost? 🐾

GRR Picnic Brings Golden Families Together

Another Golden Afternoon has come and gone—and what a very special time we had! The GRR Golden Retrievers brought their human families to enjoy a warm spring day filled with fun, games, and food!



A loud BARK of applause to Susie Schaffer (and her Bunny, Gary) and a host of volunteers who made this picnic possible. It was such a wonderful

opportunity for the foster families to see their 'babies' with their forever families, and to catch up on all the Golden Retrievers whose stories we have followed so closely on the website.

And, very special *Thanks* to the following people and businesses for their donations to the GRR Golden Afternoon. Your support and generous spirit helped make the day a Golden success.

Texadelphia— 3- \$10.00 certificates

Starbucks— 3 pounds coffee

Arbor Car Wash— car wash certificates

Vance Sack— Four Seasons Massage gift certificate (Checkers thinks you are the greatest!)



Groovy Dog Bakery— gift basket

Source Menagerie— golden retriever rug

Z Tejas— \$30.00 gift certificate

Ed Stapleton— author of signed book "Calico Buffalo"

Any Kind of Costume— discounting Bunny Costume (who was that masked man?!

Thanks, Gary.)

Suzanne Espe— face painting materials. 🐾

