



ADOPT ME, I'M PERFECT!

Siegfried, aka Siggy, is missing his right front leg. But please don't tell him; he doesn't know that he is different from any other dog.

Three-month-old Siggy was found as a stray on the streets of Oakland with a broken leg. A Good Samaritan stopped and picked him up. When she took him to the local shelter, she was told that they would euthanize him right away. She couldn't imagine that as his fate so she took him to Bay Area Veterinary Specialists to see if they could help him. The entire staff was in love with the adorable little pup so they agreed to take him in and see if they could find a rescue group to take over his care.



Golden State German Shepherd Rescue agreed to take him in and rushed to make foster care arrangements before having surgery done to repair his leg. When we met with the surgeon to discuss his condition, Dr. Carlson had bad news: "Siegfried presented with a history of an old humeral fracture and subsequent carpal contracture." Attempting to fix those would entail two expensive surgeries with no guarantee of any success. We agreed that an amputation would provide the best outcome for him.

Siggy had surgery on August 22 and felt so much better after having the painful limb removed. He was happy to be rid of that useless limb and he was ready to take on the world. His biggest challenge early on was limiting his activity level for two weeks.

Running, jumping, rough housing, climbing stairs, etc. were all the things he most wanted to do! Foster number one is sad to say that he did almost all those from the moment he got home. Short leash walks outside for potty turned into trying to chase and jump on the resident dog, and he often got up the three steps from the backyard before he could be caught and carried up.

A few days later Siggy went home with his current foster and is now six months old. He is in all aspects a typical GSD puppy who likes to chew on whatever gets in his mouth including shoes, slippers, leashes, carpets... A missing leg has in no way impeded his counter surfing or jumping on you skills. He enjoys chasing his sister GSD and even excelled at his swimming lessons.

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NUMBERS 2013

(through Nov 25, 2013)

where our money comes from:

- 33% adoptions
- 45% annual fundraiser
- 15% general donations
- 7% other donations*

**includes tributes, rose and rufus funds, merchandise*

where our money goes:

- 44% medical
- 18% boarding
- 6% food
- 5% dog supplies
- 1% training
- 10% admin*
- 16% other**

74% *direct dog expenses*

26% *other business expenses*

**includes website and postage*

***includes adoption day supplies, events, merchandise and miscellaneous*

110 dogs adopted in 2013

375 dogs adopted since 2009

ADOPTED DOGS

July 1 through November 15

Amaryl
Aster
Atticus
Berlin
Bling
Bridgette
Chanel
Charlie
Count
Daisy
Danke
Dash
Drake 5
Dutchess
Elvis
Gayla 2
Goliath
Hope
Inga
Jennie
Jewel
Joe
Jordan
Koda
Lacey
Logan Echer
Magic 1
Mickey 4
Mona
Murphy
Nitro
Oso 2
Paris
Pepsi
Precious 6
Presley

from the president

As we near the end of 2013 we are happy to report that we were successful in rescuing 126 dogs thus far this year. Each dog was rescued from a life-threatening situation, given appropriate medical care and is now either ready for adoption or living in a new, loving home. These successes are due to the energy, devotion and hard work of our volunteers, along with the generosity of our sponsors and donors.

Golden State German Shepherd Rescue can only exist as a group effort. The various steps involved in rescuing each dog include the initial evaluation, fostering, arranging and transporting the dog for proper vet care, setting up adoption days, interviewing potential adopters and conducting home visits.

Additionally, we work with each dog to determine their temperament, health, behavior issues and any individual needs. For some dogs this is their first time experiencing love and attention. Our objective is to save these homeless German Shepherd Dogs and to find loving forever homes for each one. To all active volunteers: my thanks to each of you for all your devotion and hard work. If you are not a volunteer and are interested in joining our group, we can use your help in many ways. Please consider being a foster home, becoming a sponsor or donating your particular skill to benefit the dogs.

We look forward to growth and new challenges in 2014. On behalf of GSGSR, we wish all of you a very Happy Holiday Season and Health and Peace in 2014.—*Joan Cannelli*



FOSTERING PERKS

by pam eisele

“Gorgeous dog! Your dog is so well behaved!” I have to chuckle because they are talking about my latest GSGSR foster dog, a lovely ambassador for rescue.

The next comments follow like clockwork: “I could never do fostering. How can you give them up? I never could.”

As long as there are dogs in need, fostering will be a critical part of rescue. In foster care, each dog is provided with a safe haven and helped to develop their potential through additional socialization and training. The foster program gives them much needed time to regain their health after the trauma they’ve been through, losing everything that is familiar to them.

Fostering gives adoption counselors information on how a dog is going to fit into a home and how it will act in various situations with different kinds of people and animals. It helps the dog learn how to behave in a household and out in public, preparing them for the leap into their new permanent home.

But wait! What are the PERKS of fostering? So much more than anyone would guess! Fostering gives you the pleasure of the company of many more dogs than anyone could normally have. It gives you an ongoing opportunity to learn more about dog behavior and hone your skills as you work with each foster dog, assessing their needs and trying various training methods to help them along. There is nothing quite like seeing a subdued dog come out of its shell and start to run, play, use toys and a dog bed, and just “be a happy dog” or training a neglected dog or puppy to master basic obedience exercises. What fun it is when the dog that initially ran away from you figures out that you are the “source of all good things” and develops a wonderful recall. The doggy love that you



Suzie is the latest dog benefiting from Pam's foster care.

get is also hard to beat – trust, devotion, and kisses galore. And then there are the all-important human elements, beginning with the camaraderie and support of the wonderful GSGSR volunteers. Eventually, knowing that a good match is made and that the dog will be well loved and cared for rewards all of your efforts.

So, we borrow them for a time (except for the few that fosterers can keep themselves)... and then they move on into their new lives, full of promise. It can be a bittersweet time, with tears intermixed with the happiness of adoption, because a lot of love goes into each foster dog. For each dog adopted, a big “thank you” goes out to everyone in the program, working so hard in so many roles, and to everyone who fosters or has fostered. And please, if you aren’t fostering and can consider it or know someone who might be interested, think about it. There is always a great need for good foster homes. And the dogs will thank you in those special doggy ways that they have!

ADOPTED DOGS

continued

Puff ❶
Rinty
Rome
Sweetie ❸
Thai
Vadar
Victor
Wilson Tell
Winterfall
Zeus
Ziva



PLATINUM (\$10,000)

SPONSOR:

**Wareham
Development**

GOLD (\$5,000)

SPONSORS:

**Dick & Jean Zukin
Ruby & Gerry Hertz**

SILVER (\$2,500)

SPONSORS:

**Dick & Jean Zukin
Camp 4 Paws**

BRONZE (\$1,000)

SPONSORS:

**Pam & John Eisele
Mary Severson**

SPECIAL NEEDS

(\$250) SPONSORS:

**James & Karen
Hayman**

Raffle Winners:

Grand Prize:

Liz M. of San Rafael, CA

First Prize:

Mary F. of Green Valley, AZ

Second Prize:

Debbie C. of Benicia, CA



**GOLDEN
STATE**

**GERMAN
SHEPHERD**

RESCUE

GALA

We have only one fundraising event each year, and we rely on the revenue from this evening to help cover the costs of running our rescue organization, which is approximately \$110,000 annually. The donations and adoption fees we receive throughout the year are not enough to fully fund our group, and we rely on the annual Gala to make up the difference necessary for rescuing and rehoming our wonderful dogs. We are an all-volunteer effort and 100% of your contributions go directly to saving the dogs.

Our Fifth Annual Fundraiser was held on September 28. We had a great turnout of 230 attendees. Attendees enjoyed the K-9 demos and also meeting some of our rescue dogs who are already in their new homes: Heidi, Kilo, Logan, Layla, Nikko and Tim McGraw. They also experienced an evening of music, wine tasting, a sit-down dinner and wonderful silent and live auction items. Our special thanks to Diane Dwyer for again doing an outstanding job as our auctioneer on our live auction items and to Ken Zukin and Kristen Simoes who donated their time and talents to produce a wonderful video

showing various aspects of our rescue group. Further thanks goes to Jack Ballentine for again donating all the table wine, to Mutt Lynch Winery for providing the wines for our tasting table and for our wonderful music donated by Glen Stacey and Gary Lillard.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to our sponsors who support us each year, everyone who donated to our silent (218 items) and live (11 items) auctions and to all those who purchased items. Because of your generosity we were able to raise \$57,000 at our Gala this year!

The K-9 teams involved this year were Matt Switzer and Figo (Concord PD), Peppino Messina and Yeager (Vallejo PD) and Scott Pliier and Anavi (Contra Costa Sheriff's Office). Joining them were narrator Todd Tribble (VPD), decoy Mark Kincannon (VPD) and rappel master Kent Tribble (VPD). The highlight of this year's demo was when Peppino and Yeager rappelled off the roof and down the side of the hotel.

One of the hottest silent auction items this year was a very large GSD weather vane! Other items that bidders were excited about included a GSD tapestry throw, an autographed Bruce Bochy baseball, the life-sized GSD statue, an espresso gift basket, two doormats, and a photo of GSD puppies on canvas.

Our live auction items included a custom metal sculpture, Oakland A's suite tickets, a weekend at Safari West, stays at North and South Lake Tahoe, Carmel and Disneyland, plus the popular My Mutt Posters and Wild Things outing.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

roberta simpson – october 2013



I began as a volunteer for German Shepherd Rescue in 2000. I have had German Shepherds in my life since 1969 when we got our first puppy. My dogs have taught me about the breed's intelligence, loyalty and athletic abilities. Their natural working ability and inquisitiveness are a great combination. It is amazing to watch a Shepherd transform from a working state of mind to a playful companion in the blink of an eye. "Sharing my life with a German Shepherd completes me."

As a volunteer of Golden State German Shepherd Rescue, I enjoy serving as an adoption counselor, adoption day dog wrangler, and adoption questionnaire manager. It is a pleasure and a privilege to volunteer for GSGSR, and to help Shepherds find the secure, loving forever homes they so deserve.

Siggy continued from page 1

Siggy is sweet and respects authority but is no pushover. He will rule the house of an inexperienced person. He is friendly to all dogs but will not back down from aggressive dogs. He is not a dog park dog as his motion (dolphin-like when he walks) might trigger aggressive behavior in strange dogs. He alarm barks but minds with "quiet!" and he sleeps nine hours quietly in a varikennel next to the bed. He uses a doggy door but can be taught to alert when he needs to go out.

Siggy is available for adoption. He is neutered, microchipped and current on all his shots. He will need someone with puppy experience and GSD experience. For the first 18 months he needs a house with few stairs until all his muscles and joints are fully de-

veloped. He is better exercised in a backyard; he is not a 30-45 minute a day walker but does need regular exercise (e.g. throwing ball, playing with another dog). Even at this young age, his prey drive is too high for a home with cats. He is growing quickly and we suspect he will be a large classic looking male.

His foster mom writes: "He is a joy, always happy, loves to meet people and new dogs, has a classic GSD temperament: confident, trusting, smart, will work for food or praise, wants to please, accepts correction and leadership but ready to fill the void, high prey drive. If he had four legs he would be perfect." So if you're looking for the "almost perfect" GSD puppy, please consider Siegfried. You can contact his foster mom by email at: deborah_hankins@comcast.net



ORDER YOUR GSGSR 2014 CALENDAR NOW



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of calendars @ \$20 each: _____ Total: \$ _____
(price includes shipping and handling)

Check made out to GSGSR enclosed

Bill my credit card: Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

card#: _____ exp: _____ id#: _____

mail form to: **GSGSR Calendars, P. O. Box 2956, Alameda, CA, 94501**

Or get one in person for \$15 at any of our adoption days or meet & greet events.

Dogs appearing in our calendar with original GSGSR names/new names: Rosie, Buddy Miles, Lila, Peppermint, Titan, T-Bear, Link, Lincoln, Reba/Heidi, Lady (2), Stoney/Brinks, Blackie (Onassis) Snow, Brando/Bosco, Shasta. Also smaller pics of Anthem, Tim McGraw, Eric Clapton, Raven, Major, Daria and Dexter.



GOLDEN STATE GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
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Alameda, CA 94501
877-447-4717 (toll free)
goldenstategsr@earthlink.net
gsgsrescue.org

Become a fan of our Facebook page and get updates on German Shepherd dogs and puppies available at GSGSR. You will also get updates on our events plus videos, individual puppy albums and much more.

We currently have over 1,000 fans and we are steadily growing. Join us today on Facebook: just search for Golden State German Shepherd Rescue.



GOLDEN STATE GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
foster • adopt • donate • volunteer

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

If you know someone who might like to receive our quarterly newsletter in the mail, please send name and address to:
goldenstategsr@earthlink.net
with the subject line of newsletter.

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list and would prefer to just view the newsletter online at our website, email us at goldenstategsr@earthlink.net with the subject line of unsubscribe.

We do not share our mailing list with any other groups or companies.

If you would like to include your GSGSR-adopted dog's photo and a paragraph or two about him or her, please email the photo and text to: gsmichelle@earthlink.net with the subject line of newsletter dog. We cannot guarantee that we will use every submission. We welcome letters from your GSGSR-adopted dog too! We're sure they'll be happy to tell you what they'd like to say if you'll type it for them. Please make sure there are no restrictions on the photo use.



Golden State
GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE

Monthly Adoption Day

First Saturday of the Month • 10am-1pm
Petfood Express
11000 Crow Canyon Road in Danville

Monthly Meet and Greet

Second Saturday of the Month • noon-2pm
Pet Food Express
1152 Blossom Hill Road in San Jose

Monthly Meet and Greet

Third Saturday of the Month • 10am-1pm
Pet Food Express
3916 Bel Aire Plaza in Napa