

**Great Dane
Rescue Inc**

Great Dane Rescue Report

Spring 2013

ADOPTIONS:

Bama Belle - Paula & Felicia Kossatz

Junior - Michele & Greg Humanick

Lucky - Tara Bernard

Ozzie - Agata Vollers

Darla - Joanna Alspaugh

Nibbles - Michelle Miller

Lacey - Steve Horn

Hope - Laurie Welk

Cloe - Gail Zhmendak

Kitty - Sue Purdom

Titan - Rhonda Bucholtz

Oskar - Ben & Jamie Scobbie

Gertie - Vonda Koester

Bruno - Christine Wareing

Rocky - Maureen Dodd

Bentley - Chuck Knerem

Delilah - Stephen Gross & Kelly Sudsbury

Fun Day 2013

Come on, come all!

Great Dane Rescue, Inc.'s Annual Fun Day Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 8 (rain or shine!) at the Cass-Benton Picnic Area in Hines Park which is located in the Plymouth/Northville area in Michigan. The park is located between 6 Mile and 7 Mile Roads (north/south boundary) and Northville Road and Sheldon Road (east/west boundary).

Fun Day is a day to spend with your family and Dane enjoying food, games with your Dane, a raffle, 50/50 raffle, possibly a silent auction item, GDRI sales table, and (hopefully) CGC testing. Cedar Creek Pet Beds is going to be attending again this year

selling their wonderful beds and donating a some of their proceeds to GDRI.

Out of town guests generally stay at the Red Roof Inn, 39700 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, MI (phone (734) 459-3300). A block of rooms has been booked under Great Dane Rescue. This is a dog friendly motel and there will be the usual Friday night get together in the rear parking lot for socializing.

We would love to see each and everyone of you!

Come out for the day or for a few hours. People start arriving around 10:30, food is served starting at approximately 11:00 a.m. and the event goes until about 4:00 p.m.

Keep checking our website (greatdanerescueinc.com) for additional information and directions to the park.



Our Angels

Ruth Wagner	Jeanine Steinaway in memory of the father/father-in-law of Linda & Rich Gates	John Wise
Angela Hamel in memory of Cosmo and Abbey	Cindy Mohacsi in memory of Emmett	Martin & Pamela Ulicny in memory of Milos
Lisa Rodriquez	Mary Seals	Kroger Community Foundation
Hilary Phelps	Barking Cat Jewelry	Tina Tassone
Inga Rasiulyte	Pfizer	Joni Corbin
Jeffrey Bailey in memory of Bubba, adopted from GDRI in 2004	2 Hounds Design	Michelle England
Robert Righter	Lisa Grim	Lesley Critton
Thelma Robinson	Cards for Causes	Laurie Santulin
Carolyn Hill	Delores Carter	Denis Farnum in memory of Sadie
Mary Seals	Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee	Esther Rico
Robert & Pamela Hasselbarth for Oskar	Rod Copland	Rosemarie Greer
Karla Wheeler for Oskar	Tastefully Simple & Lisa Spiegel-Grimm	Brenda Bush
Tracy Cooper for Oskar	Maureen Dodd	Sally Denomy
Rebecca de Finta for Oskar	Sarah Jones	Matthew Ritzler
Dave Karaffa	Louise Peterson	Eyvonne Brown in memory of Lancelot
Margie Schultz in memory of Lexi Coval, Tweety Richards and all of our other furbabies	Jenny Bolsky	Frederic Huber in memory of Kibo Farrell
Lee Ann Walker in memory of the beautiful Lexi Coval	Charles Hammond	Charles Knerem
Norma Barley in memory of Melanie Auer Barley & Noodles (her beloved Dane)	Pat & Judith Julien	Margaret Neterer in memory of Walker Texas Ranger
Cindy Mohacsi in memory of Tweety	Stuart Steel	Erica Everette
Brad and Jeanette Coval in memory of Annabelle Suarez, Riley Boyd and Nova Zieske	Mary Treado	Jamie Dickinson
Don & Ingrid Boyd in memory of Riley and Lexi	Denise Kalwosinski	Roe Lamirand in memory of Thor, Zeus, Venus, Juno & Lydia
Sue Calvin in memory of Melanie Barley	Angela Griffiths	Thomas Barley in memory of Melanie Barley
Susan Briggs in memory of Melanie Barley	The Stulbergs	
	Karen Enochs & Julie Hines	
	Wolverine Great Dane Club of Michigan	
	Lori Dames & Eric Schultz	
	Peter Bundarin	
	Linda Record	
	Abbott Labs (Tina Rice)	



GDRI Arizona

I just really wanted to celebrate our little group of fosters, volunteers, and adopters out here in AZ. Becky (one of our foster moms) said to me once at a Dane Meet-up, that if I started the group out here, she'd foster for me, and she's stuck with me ever since...fostering 13 out of our now THIRTY-ONE dogs helped in AZ!!! We may not be as big, or move as many dogs out here, but I am exceptionally proud of what we do and what we have accomplished!

I also realized that March marked TEN years of volunteering for me with GDRI, I am so thankful for all of the friends and amazing people I have met along the way and just wanted to give thanks!

Lyndsey Bennett



Brady, just one of the Danes that found his forever home, thanks to GDRI, AZ

Sandy's Spot

Who would have thought that when Linda Dalton and I decided to start up a Great Dane rescue 20 years ago, that we would still be here today rescuing Danes. In fact, we have grown into one of the largest and longest-lasting Great Dane rescues in the U.S.

Thanks to the support of our donors, adopters and volunteers, we've been able to re-home more than 1,500 Great Danes over the years. We couldn't have done it without the help of all of you!

It's not easy work saving Danes. There are days when it just seems too hard; there are too many Danes that need help; and then there are the ones that come to us too late and try as we might, we can't save them. They are the ones that stay in your heart forever.

But through it all, this amazing group of volunteers continue helping one Dane at a time. I'd like

to thank you all - past and present volunteers - for all that you do.

And our adopters, I see so many repeat adopters in our Adoptions list. You open your home and your hearts to these wonderful dogs - knowing that some come to you with health issues or behavior issues that need to be worked on and you love them and provide for them. I think that there is nothing like the love you receive from a

rescued dog - and I think that you know that too.

I hope that you all read our Angels list in each edition. If you do, you'll see that we have many repeat donors, who have been giving to us for years. It is truly heart-warming to read all of the names of the people who

have sent us money so that we can continue with our work.

This past Christmas, you were exceptionally generous - we received thousands of dollars in donations. Words can't express my gratitude.

With your support, I think we can manage another 20 years!

Sandy

P.S. I hope to see all of you at Fun Day this year to help us celebrate our milestone.

More than 1,500 Danes have been re-homed by GDRI over the last 20 years.



Happy endings!

Just a little note to express my utter gratitude to GDRI for rescuing my new furbaby! I could not ask for a more caring, loving soul! I insist that he holds an invisible halo above his head, he is EXCEPTIONAL! I would specifically like to thank Cathy Kollar and Vegas for Dane proofing my house and providing endless information, Amanda Ruthven for her understanding of my panic and ... putting up with my emails at all hours and especially Margie Schultz for giving Shorty the endless love, care and patience for the last seven months, which he truly deserves. This is such an amazing corporation with wonderful people and exemplary service, words cannot express.

Christal, Shorty, Jasmine,

Twinkie and Mila



Shorty

Notes from a foster dog (Aspen)

My favorite things to do:

1. Check out my beautiful self in the mirror each morning and sometimes sneak a peak during the day.
2. Give my foster mom and occasionally a room-mate or foster grandparent a horsey ride. It makes my foster mom laugh when I make a mad dash between her legs and get stuck. I think it's great fun as my foster mom tries to get me out from under her without falling.
3. Chase my tail...ohhh and throw my stuffed owl, bunny, mouse and various ropes and nylabones all around the living room, and run and play. I like to amuse myself while my foster mom does housework. I haven't destroyed any of the toys and I haven't even chewed on anything that I'm not supposed to! I'm so well behaved if I do say so myself.
4. Learn new hand signals. I don't really like the signal for OFF but I do as foster mom says.

5. Sleep. I love, love, love to circle, circle, circle then scratch, scratch, scratch my bed so that it's just right before I lay down.
6. Checking out the bathtub. It's fascinating. I like to get right in there.

What I DON'T like:

1. When my foster mom goes to work. I bark and cry to make her feel guilty and then settle down right after she leaves.
2. When my foster mom takes a shower and I can't go with her. I cry at the baby gate until she comes back. I miss her.
3. Closed doors. No one is allowed any privacy when I'm around. I'll push the doors open so that I can see what's going on.



Ok, well that's about it - time for a nap!

Aspen

What do deaf dogs need? Relationships

"I don't understand why some website and rescues feel deaf dogs NEED a hearing companion...all they do is tell them when to bark." ~said my very good friend, Lyndsey (mom to Da, Liam, and that absolutely perfect boy, Oberon)

I have a deaf/blind Great Dane. I've fostered deaf and/or blind Great Danes. First and foremost deaf and/or blind dogs are dogs. They bark. They chew. They eat (sometimes pooh, too). They snuggle. They are trainable. First and foremost they are dogs.

When I said "YES" to Muse (my deaf/blind Great Dane Empress) my husband was not quite on board. No problem – my enthusiasm more than made up for his skepticism.

Muse was a mere slip of a pup when I brought her home from Illinois. At 3 months old she'd already endured abandonment and eye surgery. She was safe and secure in her foster home in Illinois. I drove from Michigan to Illinois to pick up my sweet princess.

I got there just before lunch. At the front gate three grown up Great Danes met me. Where was my girl?

There she was – ALL puppy! She was mostly white, with a few black sassy spots and one darling pink nose. I sat on the floor to get closer to her. She sniffed me. She bit me. She crawled into my lap. She kissed me.

Over the next two hours I watched her chase her foster siblings. I watched her run through the yard. I never saw her run into anything. I was

amazed. If I hadn't been told that she was deaf and blind I would never have known.

Late in the evening we arrived home. Muse sniffed humans and canines with great interest. My Lucy girl, our resident Great Dane Empress, sniffed the new pup and gave her approval. Darla, our resident Great Dane foster nanny, immediately took the pup under her wing. My daughter snuggled with the pup on the couch. My husband didn't freak out. All was well.

Over the next 2 years our deaf/blind Great Dane went through obedience training, made numerous friends with our foster dogs, won over our vet and vet techs, and stole our hearts. When we lost our Lucy I worried about Muse. Lucy had become Muse's "eyes" during our walks.

Just before we said good-bye to our wise and wonderful Lucy a little sassy pup came to us for fostering and stayed. If you met Melody you would instantly know why she stayed. Melody had sass (and still does). She was perfect for our pack. She and Muse were fast friends.

Muse (and her best friend, Melody) moved with us to a new state last year. She was amazing. We stayed in hotels for three nights while traveling to our new home. She maneuvered stairs and elevators like a pro. She delighted all the people that she met. When we rolled into our new home Muse mastered a new yard and new house within a few days. Amazing.

What I've learned over the years I've spent with "impaired" dogs is that they are dogs. They are loyal. They are loving. They

need companionship. Whatever the disability they overcome – often with grace and dignity.

Does my deaf/blind dog "need" a hearing dog companion? No. What she does need, like every other dog on the face of the planet, is companionship.

Through the last four years I've worked hard to build trust with Muse. When we walk in the neighborhood or in parks or on trails I take care to keep her safe, to signal her to step up or down, or to go around an obstacle. She learned to trust my signals. I take my role as her companion seriously.

But Muse is a dog. Just today she went out the back door, down the deck steps, and into the backyard. Melody, her friend and comrade in mischief, went with her. Melody barked at the sheepdog walking by the yard. Muse barked, too. The sheepdog passed – Melody quieted down. Muse kept barking...she didn't get the memo.

Muse responds to Melody. If Melody barks, Muse barks.

Melody walked up the steps, through the back door and snuggled up on the couch. Muse stayed in the yard barking. I walked outside, down the steps and over to Muse, touching her on her back (her sign for "no bark"). She stopped. She turned and followed me into the house. She hopped on the couch. She napped. Just like her hearing and seeing companion. At the end of the day, deaf and blind, Muse is a dog...my friend, my companion, my heart.

Delores Carter,
spottydogsrule.com

All dogs go to heaven

It is with a heavy heart that I write to let you know that Patches passed away earlier this evening. We noticed some changes in her this past week that signaled the end was near. She was not in any pain and died peacefully on her bed at home with my wife and I at her side.

While our entire family is extremely sad and grieving, we are incredibly thankful for the four and half years we were able to share with her. She was a gentle creature, full of love and affection, and truly a loyal friend who will be terribly missed. She taught us so much about unconditional love.

We can't imagine life without a Dane so when the time is right, we will adopt again. Because we are in Ohio and not closely connected to others at GDRI, I would appreciate it if you would share this message.

Thank you for the support you have given along the way, and especially for the great foster care you gave Patches before she came to us.

Chuck Knerem

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of my beloved Stewart. This big boy came into my life and changed it forever. I never loved getting up early but after having been jumped awake to see his beautiful face just waiting for me that changed. Our car rides are what I will remember most with his head on my shoulder as we raced through the countryside. Stewart became my rock when my fiancé and I broke up. He must of stood by my bed for hours, resting his head on me while I hid under the covers - until finally making me realize that I matter and that he needed me. On Easter Sunday, he bloated and I had to make a very hard decision - one I rethink every day even though I realize it was what was best for him. I truly

believe that Jesus called him home. I would like to thank GDRI and all of its amazing volunteers for bringing this beautiful boy into my life and forever changing it. Stewart will not be forgotten.

Dean Delmonte

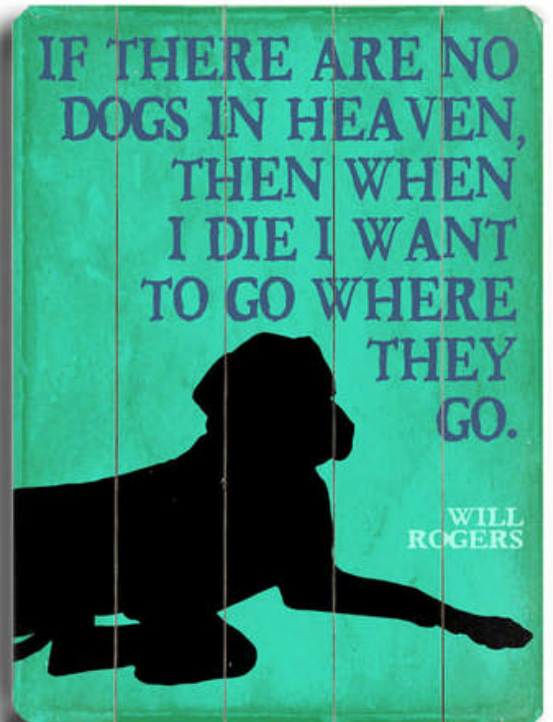
I wanted to let you know that Laila lost her battle with cancer yesterday. The chemo was no longer benefitting her and she was beginning to have pain and weakness so we had to put her to sleep. It was a very difficult decision. We spent \$7000 on her chemo and would have spent more but her quality of life was important to us. She passed peacefully in my arms.

We are heartbroken but we realize that we were quite blessed having her in our lives for this last year. When she was diagnosed, we never dreamed that we would have her for that long.

Laila was a loving companion to us and our other dogs. We will miss her terribly.

Thank you for matching us with her. She showed us that no matter what your past is, you can get beyond it and love again. We gave her enough love to last a lifetime.

Elizabeth & Erik Sandys



Lexi

It really was love at first sight for this 10-month old girl. Brad scooped her up and walked with her to a school parking lot where she sat down and just looked around and, of course, leaned against him. After a few minutes, we put her in our car and headed to Canada where she would be fostered by Lyndsey and Wendy.

For two months, we talked and hemmed and hawed about adopting her and what would we do with a deaf dog? Could we make it work? She had demodex, food aggression; she had been abused and she had pano in all four legs.

We finally decided we would adopt this beautiful girl.

Lexi loved people and didn't mind other dogs - she was as sweet as they come. Everyone who came to the house or if we were at the vet or the store, loved Lexi.

She was observant too. If there was a car parked where it should not have been, she let us know. If there was something in the yard that wasn't the norm, she let us know it.

She convinced us that we will never be without a deaf dog in our house again. Anyone who doesn't believe that a deaf dog can be a good addition to the family, doesn't know what they are missing.

Over the years there have been medical issues - a lot of digestive issues and extreme arthritis in her shoulders. Last fall we thought we would lose her because of kidney and urinary tract issues. We treated her with the help of a homeopathic vet from Louisiana, but eventually she went into kidney failure.



It is with a heavy heart that I tell you that our sweet Lexi Louise crossed to the Rainbow Bridge. She left this world being hugged by her mom and her dad who would have done just about anything for her. Lexi will always be a part of our life and she took a piece of our hearts with her when she left.

Brad and Jeanette Coval

Nova



It has been a very, very sad day at our house. My beautiful sister Nova (the blind, three legged bone cancer survivor) passed away peacefully in Mom's arms this morning. She had been having progressive neurological problems lately and last night lost control of all three remaining limbs. She could not get up at

all. It is suspected that it was most likely Degenerative Myelopathy, not the cancer that took her from us. Mom was by her side for more than nine years supporting this amazing girl who beat bloat/torsion, glaucoma and bone cancer. Rest in peace my precious big sister until we're all together again. Emmy and I will take care of Mom.

Lady Darla, the Harlequin Great Dane

(Sue Zieske)

Rest in peace

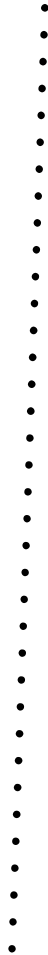
Tweety - Jo Anne Richards
 Jersey - Becky Sweet-Riemer
 Diesel - Florence Smith
 Macey - Trish Cooney
 Gabe - Trey Strickland
 Laila - Elizabeth & Erik Sandys
 Stewart - Dean Delmonte
 Patches - Chuck Knerem
 Josie - Marty Kiner
 Lexi - Brad & Jeanette Coval
 Riley - Don & Ingrid Boyd
 Nova - Sue Zieske
 Shiloh - foster Dane living with Sean Black
 Alex - Nicole Foster McCall



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GREAT DANE RESCUE INC



Shopping to support GDRI

GDRI Board of Directors is proud to announce we are an official affiliate with **First Choice Naturals** (Linda Arndt - The Great Dane Lady).

If you do or want to buy from FCN please please go to our website www.greatdanerescueinc.com and click on the link on our homepage. It will take you to FCN's website and GDRI gets the commission (aka donation). You must order from our website so we can get the credit.

Great products for our Great Danes.



Barking Cat Jewelry has a clever line of pet-themed pendants with messages like Adopt Don't Shop, Who Rescued Who, Sleeps With Dogs, and Crazy Cat Lady - just to name a few. They make great holiday gifts. I know, because I love mine!!! When you place a piece of jewelry in your shopping bag, you will be prompted to fill in our group name - Great Dane Rescue Inc. Barking Cat Jewelry donates 20% of your purchases (excluding shipping) back to GDRI.

Barkingcatjewelry.com

Kroger Community Rewards Program

We've joined the Kroger Community Rewards Program. You have to register to support us but it's easy to do. The directions can be found on our website:

greatdanerescueinc.com/help/fundraise.html

If you shop at Kroger's this is a simple way to support GDRI.

