

# Great Dane Rescue Report

Summer 2009



## Adoptions

Scooby now Hamlet - Kevin and Lesley Berlowitz

Violet - Aubrey Denomy and Margo Houston

Zoey - Sam and Kathy Oates

Cashmere and Lewis - Eric and Calli Aldrin

Sluggo - Michael O'Keefe and Eric Gill

Cupcake - Julaine Flick

Roxy - Gord and Leslee Shean

Big Al - Philip and Cora McDaniel

Renee - Georgina Langs  
Charisma - Robert Sabaitis

Claire now Muse - Delores Carter & Family

Lucky now Frank - Rainbow

Capone - Heather Elliot

Bella - Lorraine and Marissa Blake-Smikle

Odo - Lisa Wing

Darla - Delores Carter & Family

## Great Dane Rescue Inc

### Just a dog

From time to time people tell me, "Lighten up, it's just a dog," or "That's a lot of money for just a dog." They don't understand the distance travelled, time spent for "Just a dog." Some of my proudest moments have come about with "Just a dog." Many hours have passed with my only company being "Just a dog," and not once have I felt slighted. Some of my saddest moments were brought about by "Just a dog." In those days of darkness, the gentle touch of "Just a dog" provided comfort and purpose to overcome the day.

If you, too, think its "Just a dog," you will probably

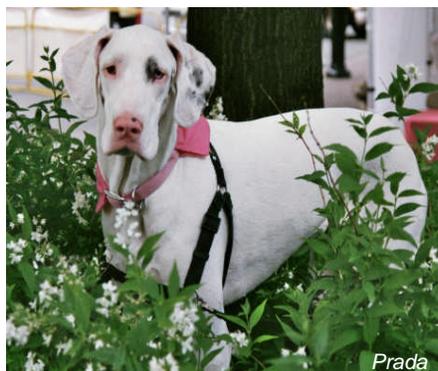
understand phrases like "Just a friend," "Just a sunrise," or "Just a promise." "Just a dog" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust, and pure unbridled joy. "Just a dog" brings out

For me and folks like me, it's not "Just a dog." It's an embodiment of all the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, the pure joy of the moment. "Just a dog" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts away from myself and the worries of the day.

I hope that someday people can understand it's not "Just a dog." It's the thing that gives me humanity and keeps me from being "Just a man or a woman."

So the next time your hear the phrase "Just a dog," smile because they "Just don't understand."

*Author unknown*



the compassion and patience that makes me a better person. Because of "Just a dog" I will rise early, take long walks and look longingly to the future.

### Lily-lovers

We survived tornado, hail and thunderstorm warnings but no electricity did us in so we checked in at the local Motel 6 (they take dogs of all sizes). Our room was on the third floor and as the elevators opened for the first time, people greet Lily and love her. We go up and when the doors open, there are

more people to greet Lily and love her. Lily is absolutely convinced that the elevator is FULL of Lily-lovers. Every trip to go potty, she is greeted with Lily-lovers! Every trip to the room - Lily-lovers! It is finally time to go home as the electricity is back on. We pack up and head down to the elevators and

the doors open and GASP!!! there are no Lily-lovers! Guess who didn't want to get on the elevator. Have you ever tried to get an upset Dane into an elevator? We are home and fine and Lily is spoiled rotten!

*Pat Wright*

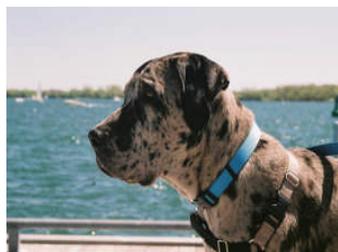
## Scooby



*Bailey*

**Dogs are not  
our whole life,  
but they make  
our lives  
whole.**

*Roger Caras*



*Emmitt taking a break from his duties as a booth dog at the K9 Garage Sale in Toronto*

Scooby - our wonderful Scooby. He was a foster failure and was so beautiful, smart, gentle, and always hungry. Whenever anyone would come over he was the first to greet them. He would sit on their feet, throw his head up in the air, bend it back and look into their eyes, as if to say, **please, please, please** pet me. If someone sat on one end of our couch

and another person on the other end, Scooby would stretch out until his head was on one and his butt on the other person. Scooby would give you a hi-5, and also loved to sleep on his back with legs sprawled (he had no modesty). He also helped make our fosters feel at home, and would share

his toys with them. Scooby you were taken from us too early, but I know you and Bailey are having fun with all the other furbabies that have gone before. We miss you both so much and we are waiting for the day that we can be together again . . . lots of love mom and dad.

## Bailey

What can I say about our Bailey boy, other than he brought a lot of joy and happiness to many people. He was 11 weeks old when we picked him up from a back yard breeder. He and eleven siblings were born outside in January, and that's where they stayed. They sold all the pups, except Bailey, because the mother Dane had bitten a hole in his eye. He was a rack of bones, full of worms and no one wanted him, because he was so ugly, so they were just giving him away. We took him home and were going to nurse him back to health and find a good home for him. I had never owned a male dog and didn't want one, but we wanted to get him out of the terrible



*Satin, Bailey and Scooby*

conditions he was living in. When we brought him home he sat in my lap all the way without a whimper. We gave him a bath and that night he slept with us, (don't tell Auntie Carla). He had us hooked from then on and he wasn't going anywhere. He was the one who helped with all my fosters and made them feel right at home. He was a Certified Therapy Dog and went to many nursing homes and brought a smile to a lot of people's faces. Little

children would just be fascinated by him. They would wrap their arms around his neck (if they could reach that high) and give him a big hug, feel his velvety soft ears and poke his nose. He loved every second of all the attention. He was a dream dog, and our lives were made richer during the 8-1/2 years he owned us. We love and miss you dear, sweet Bailey.

*Margie and Tommie Schultz were owned by both Scooby & Bailey.*

## Zion

Zion came to us through a friend of ours - Betty. Betty's dog Sabre had a singleton pup named Solo. We adored Solo and hoped someday Sabre would have another boy and Betty would let us bring him home. Two years later that happened and Zion came into our lives. He was the only boy in his litter and was everything we could have ever hoped for. He was a carbon copy of his mom, minus thankfully her love of opening doors LOL.

We had not planned on getting into conformation but Zion was beautiful and Betty wanted him to show so we jumped in. Zion and I learned volumes, went to classes and shows and did our best. Even after he got sick with an infection that caused after-effects and he didn't really finish filling out, he kept up with showing and trying.

Zion was an amazing boy. He was able to predict seizures and when our Kobe was having so much trouble with those it was always Zion up and barking to let us know Kobe was about to have another one. We were usually able to get to Kobe before the seizure would start. I was



*Zion and foster-puppy Max.*

always amazed by this ability because Zion was in the loft sleeping in our bed and Kobe was sleeping in the living room downstairs. Zion would get out of bed without waking us and I don't know if he would just watch and wait or if got up and started right in with the alert - either way he made it possible for us to be with Kobe when he needed us.

Zion's job has always been to help our fosters learn the ropes. He would walk with me and the foster of the moment on our potty trips. He would entertain those fosters that wanted to play and he would be the boy we could count on during trips in public to show our fosters that the outside world was one to be enjoyed not feared. He would correct the youngsters that got too pushy with play time and teach them proper dog manners when needed.

Zion has always been a

huge part of lives and we have traveled many, many miles together. He would do anything for us and always worried over whoever it was that wasn't at the end of his leash - he liked to keep us in his sights. He loved to give kisses and rest with his head on my lap and that is how he left me yesterday, head on my lap and at ease.

This was the hardest decision we have ever had to make and really I wasn't able to make it Jamey and Gail did. I wasn't able to let him go but the pain was not going to leave him and while he would keep trying for me it wasn't right to make him do that. He was laid to rest next to his brother Zane, they were always quite the pair and having them together now is right. Our hearts are broken, our house too quiet and we have lost more than we will realize until the next foster comes and Zion isn't here to show it the ropes.

*Steph*

### It Wouldn't Be Heaven

I got to the gates of heaven today, after we said goodbye.

I began to miss you terribly, because I heard you cry.

Suddenly there was an angel and she asked me to enter Heaven's gate.

I asked her if I could stay outside for someone who would be late.

I wouldn't make much noise you see; I wouldn't bark or howl.

I'll only wait her patiently and play with my tennis ball.

The angel said I could stay right here and wait for you to come.

Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven if I went in alone.

So I'll wait right here, you take your time but keep me in your heart.

Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven without you to warm my heart.

*Author Unknown*

## Dusty



Blue, Leah and Chuck LaGrone's beautiful merle, was the DooDahDay King this year. Every year in Birmingham, AL, the Humane Society holds a DooDahDay fundraiser. Part of the fun is crowning the DooDahDay King.

Congratulations King Blue!



*Lyndsey & Wendy Watson's Raine at 12 weeks stops to smell the flowers.*

**There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face.**

***Ben Williams***

This may surprise you but some time ago, Jan wanted a puppy. She didn't specify breed, color, or gender. After hearing this for some time I decided that I would surprise her with a puppy. Yah, I know, you never

and one blue boy.

We made the deal and agreed that I could pick him up early on February 14, 2000. I picked him up very early that morning. We went to the store and bought all the puppy stuff including a huge crate.



surprise anyone with a puppy but you all know Jan is different about that. So I set out on a mission to find her the perfect puppy. A Great Dane of course.

I found a breeder through a friend at work and discovered at she was expecting a litter at Christmas. Ah, a Valentines day delivery!

I told the breeder that I wanted a male and it didn't matter to me if he was blue or whatever his momma created just as long as he was a boy. Low and behold, the litter of 9 was 8 female merles

We stopped and showed him off to Grandma and her office. Took him to see the vet. I even talked to Jan.

Then it was time to get him set up for mommy to come home. I set the crate up in the dining room. I set up the video camera and waited until I knew that Jan was on her way home. I took off and drove around until my phone rang and it was Jan all excited and did not know what this puppy was all about. I tried to explain to her what I had done but she was too excited to talk and besides Dusty was carrying on in the

back ground. The video turned out fantastic and we still laugh about it too.

Fast forward, 9 ½ years later to July 28, 2009. Yesterday morning I got up and Dusty was lying in his chair but he was facing the wall. I had never seen him do this so I stopped to visit him and check on him. He responded but was obviously not feeling well. At nine last night Dusty went outside after getting a drink. He came back in and collapsed. We got him to the vet and the Doc said that his heart was racing at around 200. But why we didn't know. He did an ultrasound on his heart. You could see the heart beating but black shadows all around it. Fluid, but what kind of fluid? Doc drew some of it out and it was blood. Where the blood was coming from, no one would know unless we opened him up. Knowing that Dusty's frame had been getting in worse shape and knowing that he had some good size bumps on the outside we opted not to put the old one through any more. We lost our boy last night and there is a big vacant spot now. We miss him and will miss him.

*Matt and Jan*

## Sandy's Spot

As you've read, we've lost a number of very special Danes recently. All of our Danes are special but these were Danes that we've watched grow up - Zion, Zena, Growly Mutt, Alice, Beau, Dusty, Bailey and Scooby. All of these dogs were loved by and lived with some of the volunteers that help keep this rescue going. As Steph so eloquently said, "these were dogs that taught our fosters that the

outside world was one to be enjoyed not feared." They will be missed and remain in our hearts always.

As for me, I've had a very busy summer. I've got not one but two Dane puppies at home - Chauncey and Penelope. Many of you met them at Fun Day.

And speaking of Fun Day, it was a huge success yet again. The weather was perfect, the food was

plentiful and we had a huge crowd of Danes and their people. I think that it may have been the best one yet. Thank you to everyone who came and to all the volunteers who make Fun Day possible. A special thanks to Carla who organizes the whole event every year.

I hope to see you all again at our auction on September 12th. It'll be here before you know it.

Sandy



Chauncey and Penelope share a quiet moment.



Chauncey aka "Rainmaster First Wish, Keep the Rest."

## My beautiful Zena

Anyone who has spent any time with me, either in person or online, has heard me talk about my Dane girl, Zena. It's a given - she's my special soul mate, best friend, kindred spirit, and I've never been able to keep myself from bragging about her. I've been busy trying to make sure she'd be feeling up to the Fun Day this June - the weekend right after her 12th birthday.

Yesterday, my beautiful girl bloated. Those of you with Danes and other deep-chested dogs have heard the term - those of you who have known me awhile know that it took my beloved Cooper, too.

DaneRescue's Zena, CGC

06/04/1997 - 04/23/2009  
Age 11 years, 10 1/2 months.

Still able to chase rabbits til her last day.

I had to make the decision to hold my girl and help her to the Bridge yesterday, and I'm absolutely devastated. I simply couldn't imagine life without her - and right now, I don't just have a piece of my heart missing, it feels like I've lost an arm and a leg, too.

Delayne

### Our deepest sympathy...

Ruru, Dan & Brenda Rodgers

Zena, Delayne Corle

Winston, Cindy Mohacs

Beau, Linda, Chris & Isabella Coleman

Dusty, Matt & Jan Wilkins

Scooby, Margie & Tommie Schultz

Bailey, Margie & Tommie Schultz

Growly Mutt, Joyce Crawley

Alice, Mike & Mim Ondercin

Papa, Tim and Carolyn Closs

Thor, Sue & Allen Estes

## Our Angels

### A special dog looking for a special home

Athena is a beautiful, black, eight year old Dane and she is looking for her own special person to love.

Athena came to us from a puppy mill so you can imagine the life that she has endured to date. Despite her rough life, she is a wonderful dog who likes nothing better than a good cuddle. Athena loves people, dogs and cats. She's just looking for her very own person to come along and take her to her forever home. And Lord knows, she deserves a forever home.

Are you that special person? If you'd like to offer Athena a home of her own, please submit an application.



Sandra Crawshaw-Sparks  
in memory of Magnus

Catherine Frisch

Robert Stewart in memory  
of Jeannie Otay

Peak Performance  
Hypnosis

Colleen Falcone in  
memory of Zena

Jeanne Wilson & kids in  
memory of Zena

Carolyn Johnson in  
memory of Zola

Tori Boyle

Pam Ehlers

Colleen Falcone, in  
memory of Winston

Mary Seals

Juliette Biondi for Zeus'  
medical

Rainbow Stonetalker

Mohawk Motel Canada  
for Zeus' medical

Petco

Tom & Mary Willard in  
memory of Matthew  
Satterly

Dan Rodger in memory of  
Ruru

Mark & Judy Hill in  
memory of Matthew  
Satterly

Jack & Judith Nostrand in  
memory of Matthew  
Satterly

George Toth

Lynne Tenbusch in honor  
of Pacobell's birthday

Beth Meyer

Ashley Hale

Margie & Tommie Schultz  
in memory of Bailey and  
Scooby lives and all the  
furbabies who have gone  
to the bridge

Bertha Hofer, Lynn  
Kurtyak and Frederick  
Hofer

Pam Ehlers in memory of  
Zena

Amy Sue Reed in  
memory of Zena

Jenny Farley in memory  
of Zena

iGive

Barb Young

Dale McDonald in  
memory of Zena

Vicki Goyer in memory of  
Zena

Beverley & Michael  
Beitler in memory of Andy  
Giacobone & Gideon

D. & L Corle in memory of  
Zena

Frances & David Gilley  
and Trudy Harris in  
memory of Zena

Schwartz's in memory of  
Jeannie Otay

Debbie Dix & Family in  
memory of Jeannie Otay

Frank Dolak in memory of  
Zena

Sarah Blair in memory of  
Jeannie Otay

Patricia Ferrugia for Big Al

Anonymous in memory of  
Zena and Junior

Carolyn of Farmington  
Hills, MI in memory of  
Precious

Ben Finch and Sarah  
Grimmer in memory of  
Jeannie Otay

SMaRT Technology  
Services in memory of  
Jeannie Otay

Peter Sherwin & Philip  
Anderson in memory of  
Magnus

Joan Fitzsimmons

Laurie Brown

Tina Rice

Sycamore School Student  
Council



## Bela's Birthday Bash



Dana and Bela at 'Bela's Birthday Bash' on May 9 in Birmingham, AL

A big thank you goes to Dana Colucci (adopter of Bela in the fall) for hosting 'Bela's Birthday Bash' and making it a great success. We raised over \$1000.00 during the event and everyone had a blast. We had the Dane-gel tree, a silent auction and yes there was a LITTLE alcohol involved. It was awesome and Pink made her debut being the BELL of the Ball loved by ALL. You all might want to mark your calendar for next year.

Leah

## Zeus

You might remember Zeus. He came to us as an owner surrender with a broken leg. We had him treated at MSU. His leg was fitted with an external fixator and several pins and then off he went to live with his foster mom, Andi.

It's been weeks now and we're pleased to report



Zeus & Tess share a moment.

that Zeus is coming along nicely. He still has the external fixator on his leg and goes for regular vet

checks. He seems to be feeling better as he really wants to go for a run. Andi has to keep her Dane, Tess, quiet so that Zeus doesn't feed off of her energy.

He loves car rides - even to the vets! He's a great dog that was given a chance thanks to all of our supporters.

## The other woman

After 20 plus years of marriage my husband can still surprise me. Today he told me about the other woman. I'm partially to blame, of course - I introduced them. What started out as mere acquaintances turned into a beer after work almost every night. She's had a rough time, although

neither one of us know her story. Normally she doesn't open up to men. But apparently my husband is different -- she willingly snuggles, hugs, and scoots close to him on the couch.

While I was out shopping today he called to let me know that he felt

very strongly about the other woman and wanted to keep her. So, it seems that Darla has become my husband's darling! Foster failure? Maybe, but it looks an awful lot like puppy love to me :)

Delores

## 4th Annual Wine & Treat Tasting

Benefiting GDRI will be held on Thursday, August 20th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Birmingham, AL.

Our host again this year is **Molly & Max Pet Boutique** located at 4374 Cahaba Heights, Cahaba Heights, AL, 35243.

Great wine, treats for the dogs and live music from Blake Webber. Awesome items in the silent auction and raffle!

This event is always a lot of fun and should not be missed.

Hope to see you there!

Brenda, Leah & Christi

The Bama Belles

## Great Dane Rescue Inc



P.O. Box 5543  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Phone: 734-454-3683  
Website: [www.greatdanerescueinc.com](http://www.greatdanerescueinc.com)

### The Rescue Volunteer's Mantra

(For those really tough days - by Edie Lind)

Sit in a darkened room, breathe deeply, close your eyes and listen only to the sound of my voice:

(When you awaken, you will not remember this session, but every time you see a wagging tail, the following will surge through your mind, infusing you with energy).

You love doggies  
You love volunteering  
You love doggies  
You love volunteering  
Everyone appreciates you  
You love volunteering  
You love doggies  
All the work you do has perfect results  
You love volunteering  
You love doggies  
The doggies love you

Open your eyes.



Tango, foster puppy

If you have items that you would like to donate for the auction, please contact Jeanette Coval at

[diggindanes@aol.com](mailto:diggindanes@aol.com)

## Great Dane Rescue Inc. Annual Auction

**13th Annual!**

**Sept 12th, 7:30 p.m.**

**Plymouth Orchards**

**Cider Mill**

**10685 Warren**

**Plymouth, MI 48170**

**Meet in the parking lot**

**at 7:30 p.m.**