



Click on the pictures to learn more about each dog.

Featured Dogs

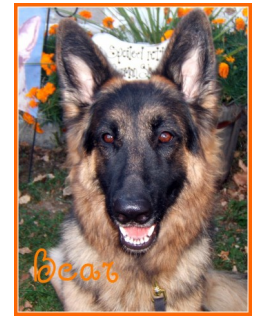


Heidi's mom says she is the sweetest girl ever, a super easy keeper. She has really good recall off leash and she tells you when she has to go potty usually by scratching at the door. She's so content laying around. She has a little arthritis but a low dose of Rimadyl really keeps it at bay. She actually runs up the deck stairs then spins around like "come on human! beat that! can we go inside and watch TV now?" This is one happy dog!



Rocky is an older Golden Retriever mix. He has never met a person (nor a dog) he didn't love! Rocky is potty trained, crate trained, leash trained & knows basic commands. What more could someone want? No puppy stage with chewing & potty training!

Rocky is an incredibly sweet dog who loves snuggling and just being with his people. Can you give this loveable teddy bear the one thing he has yet to achieve...a forever home to live out the rest of his life!



Bear is a young GSD that has had her life turned upside down. She came from a family that always had a human home to make her feel secure. They had to give her up and she came into rescue with severe separation anxiety. Her life with a dog trainer/foster mom has changed that. Won't you please give Bear a chance to find another forever family who will love her and give her the forever home she deserves?

2010 Recap

In 2010 we took in 61 dogs and adopted out 57 dogs. This is the most dogs we have rescued and adopted in a single year since we began in 2005.

2010 was an expensive year. We had two litters of puppies that had to be com-

pletely vetted; two dogs with separation anxiety that destroyed multiple kennels; several seniors who were long-term fosters; and a puppy with parvo that needed life-saving treatments.

The cost of medical care,

food, and supplies far outweighs the revenue we get from adoption fees. The difference comes from our wonderful donors.

On behalf of all of the dogs, thank you for giving them a second chance at life!

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Why Foster?

The main reason to foster is to help save lives of very deserving dogs! There are always more than we can help, but the number of foster homes that we have in our group limits the number of lives we save. Another benefit is that now you will have friends who gladly and openly discuss dog poop in all its variations and other pet issues that you may never had the opportunity to discuss. It's also a great way to learn about the breed.

There are some very solid reasons not to foster. The main reason would be not having enough time; you can work a full-time job and foster but you have to be willing to get up a little earlier than normal to exercise the foster dog and expect to come home and spend time once again exercising and working with the foster dog. Expect a minimum of 2-3 hours per day that need to be spent with the foster dog. If you are not ready to devote at least this much time, fostering is probably not for you.

Even an adult foster dog may chew on an inappropriate item or have an accident in the house. This is just part of adjusting a new dog to home-life. Some come in very easy; oth-



enjoyable companions!

We provide new foster homes with a TON of information. We also provide all items

ers can be very nervous the first couple days and do inappropriate things. And puppies are guaranteed to chew up things and have accidents.

The basic reward for fostering is seeing one of our foster dogs set off with their new family, eager to start their lives together! Getting an update later with a picture, telling how wonderful things are and how they couldn't imagine their home without their furry companion is the ultimate!

Letting go is often the hardest part of learning to foster. You will be so pleased with how well the dog has adjusted to your home that you just hate to give them up and feel that they have found a home at your place. If you are able to let go of that first one and continue fostering, you will soon learn that many dogs can adapt to your home and be very

needed to foster -- bowls, crates, food, vaccines, preventatives, shampoo, and toys, ANYTHING that is needed for the foster dog and foster home to be successful. We also provide telephone numbers and email addresses of our more experienced foster homes that are available 24/7 if there are any questions.

There is A LOT of fun in rescuing such as the joy of seeing the dogs off to their new homes, meeting new people, and making friends with a group of people who are very interested in the well-being of the furry kids! Obviously, all of us that have been doing this for some time really enjoy all aspects of the rescue or we wouldn't be continuing to do it, because it is ALL VOLUNTEER effort, patience, time and commitment!

Visit www.mygsdr.org for more information about fostering.

Why We Love to Foster

- ◆ I enjoy watching the foster dogs evolve into well-adjusted, adoptable pets. (Norma)
- ◆ I like that sometimes fosters are puppies, and sometimes they are older and they all have different personalities. (Alyssa, age 11)
- ◆ I love being a part of saving an animal from a bad situation and helping them get to a great one...and then

doing it again! (Alisa)

- ◆ I love to save dogs' lives! (Katy)
- ◆ Foster dogs require me to take regular walks and get more exercise. (Julie)
- ◆ I love to prove people wrong. (Molly)
- ◆ I like seeing the

"Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of his tail."
~ Henry Wheeler Shaw

transformation from sad and skinny to fat and happy! (Marti)

- ◆ The dogs have already lost at least one home and the rescue process allows us to find the best forever home suited for that dog. (Joanne)

Adventures in Codyland

King Cody sends his greetings to all his loyal subjects. Cody has taken up a new hobby in addition to Frisbee. He has discovered the joys of gardening!

Yes, as unlikely as it may seem, Cody enjoys gardening. Or perhaps more correctly being in the garden...the flower garden, the landscape borders, the vegetable garden. He is a little puzzled over why humans bring in a truck load of great smelling "stuff" and then refuse to run and roll in it. Yup, Cody LOVES playing in the garden.

Wayne's brother has horses so we have a great source of fertilizer. Never mind that the stuff was from last year and breaking down nicely. It was still the best stuff for running in and through.

We brought about the equivalent of a pickup truck load over in an old trailer he uses to transport the stuff. First thing Cody did was take a flying leap into the trailer. You would have sworn they were handing out T-bone steaks or something. Wayne finally coaxed him out of the trailer and Cody decided he would play Indian and just circled the trailer for the next 5-10 minutes, constantly looking over his shoulder. If he thought we weren't looking he'd jump right back in the trailer. Even the other dogs looked at him like he'd lost his mind. Samantha, the little tri-colored cocker who thinks she's the biggest 22 pound dog in the world and the first to roll and tumble with the big dogs, did-

n't want anything to do with him. Now that's major rejection! But not to Cody, he thought, "Great I get this all to myself!" It was one of the few times we could not wait for him to run in to the lake.

After a while Cody decided it was time to investigate other aspects of gardening. He was amazed to find a very large black snake laying under cover in the mulch. He gave a little tug, and another, and another. It was turning out to be one of the biggest snakes he had ever seen. It was tugging back, or at least putting up somewhat of a fight. Poor Cody really had his work cut out for him; it appeared as though someone had staked the snake to the ground. But Cody was determined that he was going to rid the garden of this long black snake. By now not only was he having to uncover this snake, but he had to set it free too! His work is just never done. After what we figure must have been a considerable effort on his part he managed to "free" 4-5 feet of the snake. And then there was a second snake. Cody is not the kind of guy to do something only part way. He was not going to stop until the entire garden was snake-free. After uncovering about 30 feet of the snake, Cody wore out and decided that if snakes are this big in Indiana, he never wants to go to Texas!

It turned out ok; Wayne had a long



conversation with Cody and explained the difference between snakes and soaker hose. Cody is again willing to travel.

We will have to admit that Cody is indeed an avid gardener. He has focused his attention to the wildlife in our gardens. He has been patrolling the gardens regularly to protect the flowers from rabbits, squirrels, and frogs. He has successfully stalked and captured 2 rabbits, a squirrel and a frog. Much to his surprise they all tasted like plastic. Come to think of it, they were plastic, with emphasis on the word "were". Cody figures, why chew up a perfectly good Frisbee when there are plastic animals around. Guess it is all for the greater good. I had some ceramic paint I needed to use up so unless he starts eating concrete or ceramic animals, I know what I will be painting to put in the garden from here on in...

~Phyllis & Wayne

Baby G, aka Darra, Recovers from Parvo

Baby G, aka Darra, came from Western Iowa with her brother Baby J at 3 months old. They were the products of a wannabe "breeder" who thought she knew what she was doing, but didn't. The "breeder" sold most of the puppies and then got tired of the remaining puppies, so she turned them over to MVGSDR to find homes for them.

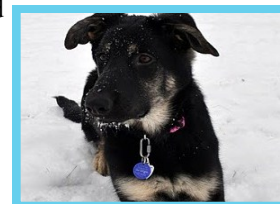
Once in foster care, Baby G was vac-

inated and spayed. Ten days later she contracted Parvo, a highly contagious virus that attacks the lining of the digestive system. She was hospitalized and put on medication and IV fluids. Luckily it was caught early and she recovered completely. Her medical bills came to around \$1,300.

Baby G, now named Darra, is a sweet 7 month old girl who loves belly rubs. She

is a happy puppy who loves to play with other dogs and get attention from her foster parents.

Darra was adopted recently!



Darra having fun in the snow

I Rescued a Human Today

Her eyes met mine as she walked down the corridor peering apprehensively into the kennels. I felt her need instantly and knew I had to help her.

I wagged my tail, not too exuberantly, so she wouldn't be afraid. As she stopped at my kennel I blocked her view from a little accident I had in the back of my cage. I didn't want her to know that I hadn't been walked today. Sometimes the over-worked shelter keepers get too busy and I didn't want her to think poorly of them.

As she read my kennel card I hoped that she wouldn't feel sad about my

past. I only have the future to look forward to and want to make a difference in someone's life.

She got down on her knees and made little kissy sounds at me. I shoved my shoulder and side of my head up against the bars to comfort her. Gentle fingertips caressed my neck; she was desperate for companionship. A tear fell down her cheek and I raised my paw to assure her that all would be well.

Soon my kennel door opened and her smile was so bright that I instantly jumped into her arms.

I would promise to keep her safe.

I would promise to always be by her side.

I would promise to do everything I could to see that radiant smile and sparkle in her eyes.

I was so fortunate that she came down my corridor. So many more are out there who haven't walked the corridors. So many more to be saved. At least I could save one.

I rescued a human today.

<http://rescuemedog.org/dog-blog/i-rescued-a-human-today-by-janine-allen/> Written by Janine Allen CPDT, Rescue Me Dog's professional dog trainer. Janine's passion is working with people and their dogs. She provides demonstrations for those who have adopted shelter dogs, lends email support to adopted dog owners that need information beyond our Training Support Pages, and aids shelter staff and volunteers in understanding dog behavior to increase their adoptability. Copyright 2011 Rescue Me Dog; www.rescuemedog.org

MVGSDR Partners with CACC Rescue

In September we received an email from Alisa, a volunteer at Chicago Animal Care & Control, about a German Shepherd that had ended up there. They had hundreds of dogs there that were in danger of being euthanized, and Alisa was part of a group of volunteers trying to match up dogs with rescue groups to save them from unnecessary death.

We went to Chicago that weekend and rescued our first CACC dog named Kaeto. Redd, Rusty, Heidi & Rocky soon followed and by the end of 2010 we had saved 14 dogs from the shelter. Most of them have needed medical care, costing MVGSDR approximately \$2,000 to date, but all of them have been treated and either adopted or

are ready for adoption and will make wonderful family pets for someone.

*"Properly trained, a man
can be a dog's best
friend."
~Corey Ford*

Alisa, Elena and the other volunteers at CACC have been wonderful to work with and their care and concern for the animals is amazing. We look forward to working with them to continue saving as many GSDs as possible in 2011!

Our Amazing Cheyenne

One night, I was awakened by Cheyenne's whining & pulling my hand. She's never done that before.

Once I got up, Chey & Hannah began barking and both dogs ran to Suzy's bedroom. Turns out my daughter was having a grand

mal seizure - her first since Cheyenne joined our family.

Without her alerting me, I never would have heard Suzy gasping for air. I'm so proud of my girls!

~Maria



Suzy & Cheyenne splashin' around.

Party Pupcakes

1 large apple
1 1/2 cups wheat flour
1/4 cup oatmeal
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 cup plain yogurt
1/2 cup water
1/4 cup vegetable oil
2 tablespoons honey 2 eggs
1 cup grated cheddar cheese

For the Frosting

8 oz Neufchatel Cheese (lowfat cream cheese)
2 tablespoons plain yogurt
2 tablespoons honey
2-3 tablespoons flour

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 ° F (200 ° C).

Grease muffin tins.

Core, slice and mince the apple (use a food processor if you have one). Set aside. In a large bowl, mix together flour, oatmeal, baking powder, and baking soda. In a medium bowl, blend together the yogurt, water, oil, honey, and eggs, then stir in the apple and cheese. Add to the flour mixture and stir until mixed. Spoon into the muffin tins, filling each cup about three-quarters full. Bake for about 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center of a muffin comes out clean. Let rest in the muffin tins for a few minutes, then remove and set aside to cool. For the frosting, combine the Neufchatel cheese (at room temperature), honey, and yogurt until smooth. Add enough flour to thicken

the frosting to a good spreading consistency. Frost the pupcakes and you're ready for a doggone good party!

Makes 16-18 pupcakes. If you prefer a single-layer cake, spoon the batter into a sheet pan and bake for an extra 15-20 minutes (or until a toothpick inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean). Let the cake cool, then frost and decorate.



2011 Calendars

Our 2011 collage calendar features over 50 MVGSDR alumni in full color. This 14-month calendar includes photos of every dog adopted over the last year.

This is our major fundraiser each year. These beautiful calendars are only \$17 including shipping, and 100% of the proceeds go directly to the care of our rescued dogs.

Order your calendars today by going to our website, www.mvgsdr.org.

If you prefer to pay by check or money order, payments can be mailed to

MVGS DR
600 34th St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402





MVGSDR, INC

President: Marti Lee
Vice President: Katy Talone
Secretary: Molly McGee
Treasurer: Julie Penrod
Directors: Brian Pospichal, Norma Jewell

E-mail: germanshepherdrescue@gmail.com

Where the gentle current leads them home.

Our purpose is to save, rehabilitate, and place German Shepherd Dogs from shelters and those that have been abandoned, abused, neglected and/or relinquished by their owners (on a case-by-case basis) into secure, permanent homes. Through education, training, and fundraising, we are dedicated to caring for and finding good homes for German Shepherd Dogs that need assistance for any reason.

We are an all-volunteer organization; we do not have a shelter facility. All of our dogs are cared for in our network of foster homes across Iowa and Illinois. We are licensed by the Department of Agriculture in both states.

**[We're on the web!
www.mvgcdr.org]**



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I want to help homeless German Shepherd Dogs. Enclosed is my contribution amount of

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