

(9/03) Spotlight on Rescue
By Carol Allen

The Parade of Rescued Goldens at the GRCA National Specialty in Ohio in September was so well-attended and well-received that rescuers – both adopters and volunteers – were heartened by the response/ The Host Club, Cuyahoga Valley Golden Retriever Club, asked Rescue a Golden of Arizona to stage the event and it has beautifully done. Twenty-six rescued Goldens demonstrated for all to see what wonderful and loved family companions they are in spite of abusive or neglectful starts in life

Rescued a Golden of Arizona also presented the third Annual G.R.A.C.E. (Golden Rescue and Community Excellence) Award and again are to be complimented for the thoughtful and thorough manner in which they conduct the entire award process.

The National Rescue Meeting was held with a lively and informative discussion occurring. Thanks to all who took time out from their busy afternoon to attend and we regret if some missed the meeting for not being able to find the location. Remnants of Hurricane Isabel caused several events and meetings to be relocated and this meeting was one of them

At the Awards Dinner at the National Specialty, the National Rescue Committee presented the 2002 Starfish Award Winners with their Award Certificates and Starfish pins. As previously announced. Gail Lustig of Goldstock and Goldstock Fund and Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue, Joan Puglia and Susan Foster were honored.

We feel that Golden Retriever Rescue had a real presence and warm reception at the Nationals.

VETERINARY CARE NEEDS OF RESCUED GOLDENS

Increasingly, Golden Retriever Rescue programs spay and neuter all Goldens before placement as a matter of routine. Similarly, vaccinations are updated and tests performed appropriate for the region. Adoption fees no longer even come close to covering veterinary charges and all programs must rely on creative fundraising and generosity of contributors to cover the costs.

In 2001: 2190 Rescued Goldens were spayed or neutered,
518 were treated for Heartworm (and nearly all of the nearly 6,000 rescued were tested)
43 were treated for Valley Fever
77 were treated for Lyme Disease
144 were treated for epilepsy/seizures
72 had hip surgeries
257 Biopsies were carried out
54 surgeries for cancer were conducted
5 Goldens received chemotherapy treatments
113 other surgeries were conducted

Considering the under-reporting caused by some programs not reporting at all, one can assume that these figures are low and only partially representative of the real numbers. See your donations at work – read a Rescue Newsletter or watch another Rescue Parade. These wonderful Goldens were saved because of the generosity of so many. 2002 data will soon be available and all reports are that 2003 information will be alarming and of tremendous concern.