



The Pyrenees Post...

spreading the word about the Southeast's best kept secret.



GPRC Thanksgiving Match - October 30, 2018

Dear Great Pyrenees Friends,

We are two weeks into our Thanksgiving Match Fundraiser and still have a long way to go to meet our goal and take advantage of the \$40,000 match. If one quarter of our 1,500 previous adopters each donate \$100, we will achieve our goal. Here is the story of Sadie as told by her new parents.

Recently retired and having a little free time, I volunteered to be a transporter for GPRC. Most of the time this involves driving to a shelter, picking up a rescue and then driving it to the Atlanta area. The trips were easy and enjoyable. On Thursday, September 20th, I received a call from Dee, GPRC Director of Intake, that was different from the other calls. She asked me if I could pick up an injured dog at a residence that needed immediate medical attention.

When I arrived at the residence, I saw a small, skinny and dirty PYR tied to a tree. The dog was lame and could only stand on three legs. The owner came out to meet me and said that the dog's name was Sadie and that she had no idea what happened to Sadie's leg....perhaps it was a spider bite? In fact, she had only recently noticed the injury. The leg looked terrible and smelled as bad as it looked. After having the owner sign papers surrendering Sadie to GPRC, I loaded her in my car and headed to Huntsville.

Sadie was taken to Flint River Animal Hospital and after a brief check-up by the vet, I was told that she was in bad shape. Yes, the leg was horrible, but the immediate concern was Sadie's fever of 104.5 degrees caused by infection. There was a chance Sadie could go into septic shock. Marla, GPRC's Medical Director was now involved and discussing treatment with the Flint River staff. The good news was that by the next day, they were able to get Sadie's temperature back to normal, but there was some bad news too. The damage to her leg was far greater than initially thought and Sadie would have to see an orthopedic specialist.

Sadie was transported to Northlake Veterinary Surgery in Atlanta on Monday, September 24th. Upon examination, the doctor at Northlake thought that a wire had been wrapped around Sadie's leg which tore her tendon and pulled it from her leg bone. After consulting with GPRC and discussing the various options, it was determined that the best thing for Sadie was amputation. Surgery was performed the next day, September 25th.

My wife and I had planned to foster Sadie, but that was when we thought she'd be was a four legged dog. Now we were hesitant. What extra care would she need? Would our other dogs fight with her because she was different? I was afraid that no one would adopt a three legged dog and that we would end up being Sadie's foster home forever. I had discussions with Marla and John who assured me that Sadie would get around just fine and that someone would adopt her, so we decided to move forward with fostering.

I picked Sadie up from Northlake on Wednesday, September 26th and was amazed. Not only could Sadie get around well, she was so full of energy and her tail was going a mile a minute. She was ready to go! The rest is history. Sadie met our other six dogs, three of

which are PYRS, and they all got along great! Of course, Sadie had some restrictions on her from the surgery, but she could play a little with the dogs and do mostly everything a four legged dog could do. She loved getting treats and rolling in the grass. My wife and I fell in love with her and notified GPRA that we would like to adopt Sadie and now she is part of our family.

This experience truly opened my eyes as to what GPRA is all about. Sadie was saved because GPRA was there and took action, as they have with countless other PYRS that needed help. Whether heart worm positive, skin and ear issues, injury by accident or neglect, abandonment or for any other reason, GPRA is there to rescue, help and save PYRS in need. I noticed how the volunteers took actions with a sense of urgency that I rarely saw in the business world I left behind. These people are good - very good - and I can't thank them enough. John, Dee, Marla, Tracy and Heather were all involved with Sadie and there's a team of many others volunteering and contributing to help rescue and save these magnificent animals. Thank You to all involved with helping and supporting GPRA.

Please donate to help us rescue these amazing Gentle Giants. We are investing an average of \$1,300 in every PYR rescued and really need your help to continue to make this happen. And remember every dollar donated during this fundraiser is matched 100%.

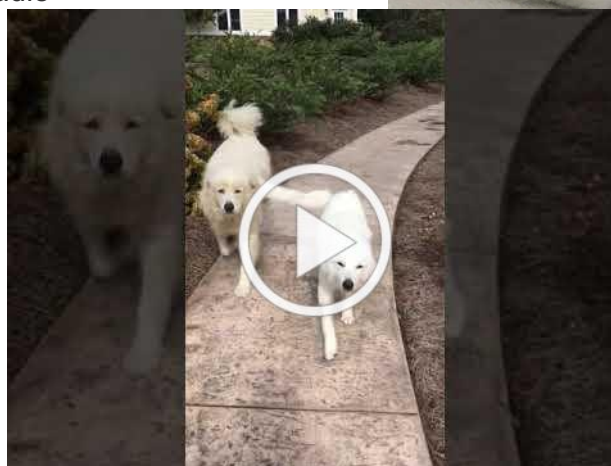
Thank you,
John Heldrich
GPRA, President and Founder



Sadie



Sadie

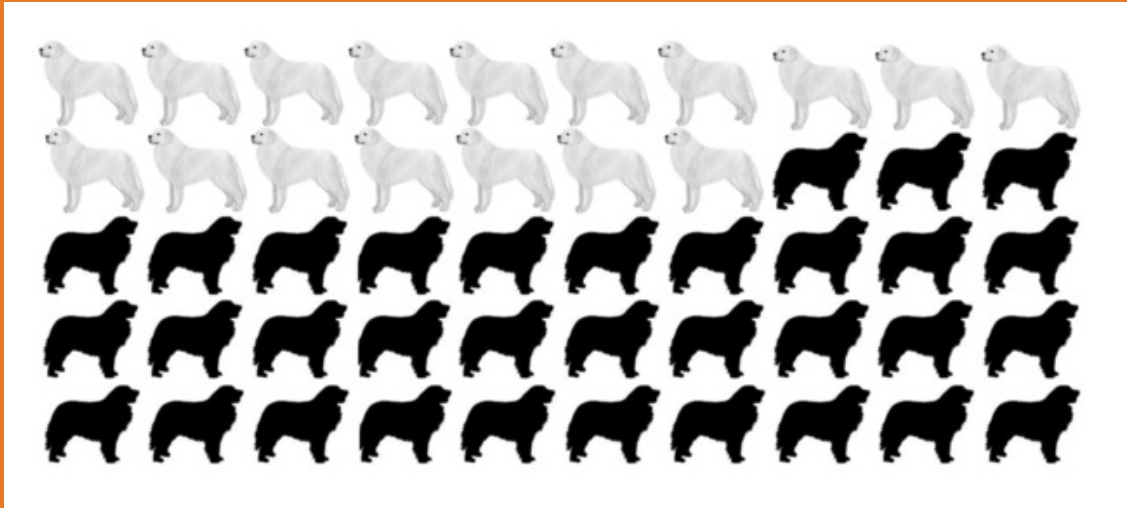


Sadie

Progress toward \$80,000 Goal
Each white PYR represents amounts collected toward our goal of

raising enough to save 60 PYRS.

Click [HERE](#) to donate



2018 Childrens Hospital of Atlanta Christmas Parade

Join us for one of our most fun events of the year. We need about 100 PYR Teams to march in this event on Saturday December 1st.



[Click here for more information](#)

Upcoming Adoption Days

November 3rd November 17th

Saturday 11 - 1

[Dunwoody PetSmart](#)

QUICK LINKS

[GPRA Website](#) [Available Dogs](#) [Volunteer](#) [Foster a Dog](#) [Donate Today](#)

