GPRA Update - September 15, 2022

Dear Great Pyrenees Friends,

We often share success stories about the journey many of our resilient Gentle Giants take. With the help of our fabulous transporters, walkers, trainers and fosters, countless broken PYRS out of shelters are nurtured back to health and end up in terrific forever homes thanks to our adoption team. Every now and then we rescue a PYR that we decide cannot be safely placed with a family.

We rescued Festus on June 15, 2021 after he was hit by a car and was to be euthanized. We immediately had his hip surgically repaired and placed him with a great foster. After a time, he became aggressive in the home and was returned for a biting incident. After months of training at a boarding facility, it was determined that, though good 99% of the time, we could not insure there would not be another biting incident with another family. During this period, Francesca and Kevin visited Festus often to walk, play and interact with him. They became very attached to Festus but leaving him in a kennel with limited interaction was not the answer.

A few years ago we discovered a fantastic sanctuary run by a couple in Little Fork, Minnesota called EARS - Ever After Rescue and Sanctuary. Despite limited space, they accepted one of our PYRS into their program that time.

Shawna reached out to Kris at EARS and told her about Festus and, after much communication and videos, Festus was accepted into their program. Our heroes Francesca and Kevin, proceeded to drive 22 hours each way and delivered Festus to his forever home. You can only imagine the emotion experienced dropping Festus off.

The reason we share this is two fold. First, we do all in our power to save our PYRS once we rescue them. We spent \$17,000 on all of the trials and tribulations associated with Festus and if we had to, we would do it again. The second reason we share this is to highlight our extraordinary people who are so dedicated, selfless and compassionate.

All of that being said, we no sooner dropped off Festus, who Kris had indicated would be the last dog they would be bringing into their program for 2022, when we had to make a difficult decision for Tank. A few months ago Shawna, our foster director, took in Tank after biting incidents with multiple adopters. Shawna became VERY attached to Tank but it became apparent that he would not be able to be placed with a family. Shawna reached out to Kris on the off chance she would consider Tank and based on the relationship we developed with her and her knowledge of GPRA's dedication to our dogs and support we provide, she said YES!. Three days later, on Friday, Shawna and Marla were on their way with Tank to Minnesota. With many tears, Tank was dropped off on Sunday and our two directors, Shawna and Marla returned home from their long drive Tuesday night. It is never easy on our volunteers when we are unable to place a dog in a home but Kris and EARS gave us an option where Festus and Tank can be forever safe and loved.

On a different note, Andrei just picked up the pick of a litter male puppy that is both adorable and deaf named Blue and he will be a gem for one of our families.

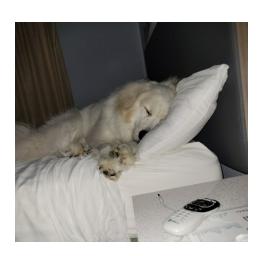
Thank you for your continued support of our GPRA family and dogs!

John, GPRA President and Founder

Festus at EARS



Tank in the hotel room





Blue



Upcoming Adoption Day

Saturday September 17th 10:00-12:00 See our <u>website</u> for more information

Great Pyrenees Rescue of Atlanta 404.829.2609 <u>GPRA Website</u> - <u>Available Dogs</u> - <u>Volunteer</u> - <u>Foster a Dog</u> - <u>Donate</u>





