

## GPRA Thanksgiving Match-October 17, 2023

Dear Great Pyrenees Friends,

As longtime volunteers with GPRA, we see physically handicapped dogs more often than we wish, but, fortunately, we rarely have a dog enter the program with both an emotional and physical handicap. A young, 10 month old Paste entered the rescue with both. He was the first case of elbow dysplasia at GPRA, and at his young age, the arthritic changes in Paste's elbow were severe. Surgery offered a 25% chance of significant improvements, a 50% chance of manageable improvement and a 25% chance of no improvement. Even with the surgery, he would require lifelong efforts at keeping him lean, ultimately maintaining an active lifestyle, and using NSAIDs on a symptomatic basis as needed.

We don't often tell the stories of the emotionally handicapped dogs - the ones who are literally scared of everything. Scared of men, getting in and out of the car, riding in cars, noises, coming inside the house through a door and every new noise in the house. Our first foster worked with him for two months, and when the decision was made to do the surgery on his elbow in hopes of any improvement, he was moved to a new foster without other dogs as he would be on exercise restriction. His frightened demeanor didn't change - everything was still scary, scary, scary. The second foster had a family medical emergency after six weeks, so Shawna, GPRA's foster director, and her husband, Patrick, had Paste for the next two months. They realized Paste was afraid of the outside world and all things NEW to him - people with ballcaps, a different SUV he had to ride in, unknown people in the house. Shawna or Patrick would go to the office and come home, and he wouldn't come near them as they smelled "different." Luckily for Paste, Shawna and Patrick have infinite patience, and each day, the more he trusted, the more his personality shined and the fear started going away. He became that lovable dog - smiling, wanting cuddles, belly rubs, doing zoomies and playing with squeaky toys.

As happens with most dogs, there is the person/family that finds "their" dog. Six and a half months after he entered our program, Paste's wonderful parents entered his life. A few meetings later, Paste went to his new home where he is thriving. Every day, he is getting braver and gaining the confidence he needs with the love, patience, stability and training of his new owners. GPRA is made up of a small, six-member board and a core group of volunteers. Many of us work more hours a week at our volunteer jobs than we would a real job. When we are asked why, the universal answer from all of us is "for the dogs." The reward of seeing our rescue dogs grow and thrive is what makes every hour and every dollar spent worth it. We are constantly amazed at the resilient nature of dogs as they rebound and thrive in their new homes.

As with everything these days our medical expenses are soaring and it is critical that we have a successful Thanksgiving Match campaign in order to continue to take in and care for these deserving Pyrs. Thank you again to our anonymous donor who will match the first \$50,000 raised. In other words, any donations between now and Thanksgiving, whether \$5 or \$5,000, will be 100% matched up to a total of \$50,000. GPRA is a 501c3 non profit so all donations are tax deductible. None of our volunteers are paid and virtually all donations go toward the medical care of our GIANTS. **Please click here to donate** or send your check to 4651 Woodstock Road, Suite 208-185, Woodstock, GA 30075. With your help and the generosity of our anonymous donor we can achieve our goal of at least \$100,000 which will cover the cost of rescuing approximately 70 PYRS. Please play a role in making this happen.

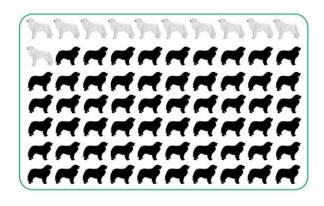
Thank you for your continued support of GPRA.

John, GPRA President and Founder

## CLICK HERE TO DONATE TO OUR THANKSGIVING MATCH CAMPAIGN







Progress toward raising \$100,000 to save 70 Pyrs

## Great Pyrenees Coffee Company

GPRA has partnered with the Great Pyrenees Coffee Company with a percentage of their profits going to GPRA and several other Great Pyrenees rescues. Please check them out.

**Great Pyrenees Coffee Company** 





20% OF PROFITS BENEFIT GREAT PYRENEES RESCUE OF ATL & OTHER GREAT RESCUES.

GreatPyreneesCoffeeCompany.com





## 2024 Calendars Coming Soon

Watch your emails, the new 2024 GPRA calendars will be available soon and are filled with lots of great PYR pictures.



Amazon is no longer provided charitable donations thru Amazon



Please select GPRA as your charity

Smile but we have created an Amazon Wish List of items that GPRA always needs for our puppies and adult rescues. If you are able to purchase any of these items it would be much appreciated by GPRA

Amazon Wish Link

of choice with Kroger. They will donate a portion of their sales. Our Kroger NPO number is WM099. Please have your Kroger Plus card handy.

Kroger Link

<u>Upcoming Adoption Days</u>

Saturday November 11th and December 9th

11:00-1:00

See our **website** 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>







Great Pyrenees Rescue of Atlanta | 4651 Woodstock Road, Suite 208-185, Roswell, GA 30075

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