### GPRA Update - December 21, 2024

Dear Great Pyrenees friends,

I am so proud to share how quickly our team moves for a PYR in crisis. We share Marla's story of sweetheart Buddy's rapid journey from death's door to a wonderful life.

Merry Christmas!

John, GPRA President and Founder

## Buddy Kringle, GPRA's Most Recent Rescue

by Marla McSwiney, GPRA Medical Director

Buddy's journey to become a GPRA dog began at noon on Wednesday the 18th. Sabine, GPRA's Intake Director, saw a post by Emily at Walker County AC about an injured dog they had in custody. They suspected the dog had a broken leg, as he was hit by a car Tuesday night and the man who hit him pulled over and called 911.



Buddy has been a "frequent flyer" at Walker County Animal Control as his owner allowed him to roam at will. However, this time the owner surrendered him to the shelter due to his injury. Sabine reached out to Emily to keep us posted as Buddy was being taken to the vet as he was up and walking but his right rear leg was dangling. The shelter said that even though he was obviously in pain, he was still the sweetest dog and let them examine him without a whimper! Sabine also reached out to the GPRA Board asking if we could help. John, our founder, immediately said yes once we knew the extent of his injuries.

Fast forward to 4:00 PM and Sabine got the answer — Buddy had a broken femur but no pelvic injuries. John asked me to reach out to our orthopedic partner, Dr. Matt Corse at Northlake Veterinary Surgery, to see if they would be able to help. Dr. Corse had left the office, but answered my text within minutes. Northlake had a full surgery schedule Thursday, but Dr. Corse would try to add him in.

Sabine began arranging Buddy's transport to Northlake right away. A transporter from the Chickamauga shelter, located roughly two and a half hours from Northlake, could depart at 8:00 AM on Thursday morning if someone could meet them halfway. Andrei, a long-time GPRA volunteer, agreed to pick up Buddy, as he frequently does in these situations.

The other necessary piece of Buddy's treatment was a medical foster who could take him through his eight week recovery. We reached out to Stephanie and Geoff, long-time GPRA fosters and adopters, and they graciously agreed to welcome Buddy into their home to recover.

All of the logistics were now in place. On Thursday morning, Andrei met the shelter transporter in Calhoun, and at 11:00 AM Andrei delivered Buddy to Northlake to be

evaluated for surgery. Soon after, they decided to proceed with the surgery. While Dr. Corse was finishing up his fifth surgery in late afternoon, his associate Dr. Hinson started repairing Buddy's mid-shaft fracture. Dr. Hinson was able to realign and reposition the broken pieces of fractured bone back into their proper position, and Dr. Corse helped complete the surgery.

Buddy has a 10 screw bone plate, with 4 screws positioned above and 4 below the fracture site. He has an eight week recovery ahead, but will be a "normal" dog in every way once he completes his healing.

I have been with GPRA since 2012 and on the medical side almost 10 years but I never cease to be amazed at the volunteer team GPRA has. From the time Sabine saw the post about Buddy till the call from Dr. Corse after surgery was a mere 31 hours! We are so blessed to be able to do our work saving our Gentle Giants because of so many of you - our generous donors, dedicated volunteers and fantastic vet partnerships. Thank you from all of us at GPRA for your continued support of our Pyrenees family as we help Pyrs like Buddy.

#### -Marla



Buddy at Walker County Animal Control



Buddy's leg, pre-surgery



Buddy's leg, post-surgery



## 2025 Calendars Are Now Available!

The new 2025 GPRA calendars are now available in the online store. Click <u>HERE</u> to order your Calendar today!

#### **Upcoming Adoption Days**

# Saturday, January 11th and February 8th 11:00-1:00

### See our website for more information

#### Great Pyrenees Rescue of Atlanta 404.829.2609

GPRA Website - Available Dogs - Volunteer - Foster a Dog - Donate







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

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