

DANE DEVOTION

Valor Dog of the Year award is given to a Great Dane—"Baby"!

The winners of the second annual Dogs of Valor awards, presented by The Humane Society, have been announced.

A Great Dane named Baby was chosen by judges as the Valor Dog of the Year.

Baby belonged to 82-year-old Elwood Cardon, who during an exhausting stretch of cancer treatment, slipped out of his daughter's house with his dog.

On the way to his mountain home near Jemez Springs, New Mexico, Elwood became disoriented and took a wrong turn. As he turned



the car around, his tires slipped off the road, and the car plummeted down a hill, becoming wedged upside down between two trees.

Pinned inside, Elwood honked the horn and screamed for help, but no one responded. Baby, a 5-year old Great Dane, snuggled with Elwood, keeping him warm and alert. Ten hours later, Baby crawled out of the car and got the attention of one of a nearby resident, who followed the dog back to the wreckage and called for help. Firefighters pulled Elwood to safety. He was treated for a cracked spine and recovered. Elwood Cardon passed away on January 28, 2009.

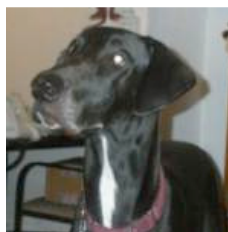
Raven — Are you her "forever family?"

Raven has recently turned one year old, so she is still a puppy and plays like one! She needs room to play and lots of exercise. She is a happy, energetic girl. She enjoys people and other dogs



very much. Raven was raised with and is very well behaved around children. She knows basic commands like sit, down, wait and she will even bow when coaxed.

She is about 100 lbs and is still growing. Raven is black with white on her chest and white on all four paws. Raven is up to date on her shots and is healthy and spayed.



GREAT DANE RESCUE SUCCESS

Current:

- 8 GDs IN SWGDR FOSTER HOMES

2008—2009

- 58 GDs ADOPTED INTO THEIR FOREVER HOMES

1998 To Date:

- 400+ GDs ADOPTED INTO THEIR FOREVER HOMES

MOST POPULAR GREAT DANE NAMES

GIRLS

1. Gracie
2. Bell/Bella
3. Maggie
4. Sadie

BOYS

1. Duke
2. Harley
3. Brutus
4. Diesel

SOUTHWEST GREAT DANE RESCUE DANE DEVOTION



Emma's Travel Blog

When my family says road trip my ears perk up and I dance around in circles. I love to go for rides in the car. It takes a few days of riding to get where we are going, but that's half the fun! We stop every few hours so that I can stretch my legs and smell all of the other traveling dogs that came before me. Gas stations are the best places to get caught up on dog news.

This time we went to Maine. I had a very comfortable couch, right in front of the window! Walking by the movie theater you can always find popcorn on the ground. (Humans panic when you eat roadside trash so be quick. Scoff it down as your walking and they hardly notice.)

Saturday the dogs in town gather at the dog park. A great pack of tail wagers!

We ran and swam in the river. Only downside was a bath they gave me when I got home.

Be sure to do some sniffing at the edge of the woods. The wild turkeys leave feathers to play with, and deer smells are the best.

Next time - the skunk to stay away from in N.H. Until then keep your nose to the ground, and maybe I will smell you in Virginia!

BLOAT: An Introduction

Deep-chested dogs are susceptible to Gastric Torsion; the dreaded "Bloat". (Great Danes are in the high-risk group for this condition.)

Bloat, Torsion. Gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV). Call it what you will, this is a serious, life-threatening condition of large breed dogs. While the diagnosis is simple, the pathological changes in the dog's body make treatment complicated, expensive, and not always successful.

A typical scenario starts with a large, deep-chested dog, usually fed once daily. Factor in the habit of bolting food, gulping air, or drinking large amounts of water immediately after eating to this feeding schedule and body type. Then add vigorous exercise after a full meal, and you have the recipe for bloat.

When torsion occurs, the esophagus is closed off, limiting the dog's ability to relieve distention by vomiting or

belching. Often the spleen becomes entrapped as well, and its blood supply is cut off.

PRIMARY SYMPTOMS:

Abdominal distention, salivating, and retching are the hallmark signs of GDV. Other signs may include restlessness, depression, lethargy, anorexia, weakness, or a rapid heart rate.

"GDV IS A TRUE EMERGENCY. IF YOU KNOW OR SUSPECT YOUR DOG HAS BLOAT, IMMEDIATELY CALL YOUR VET OR EMERGENCY SERVICE. DO NOT ATTEMPT HOME TREATMENT."

WEB POLL

Which do you prefer—natural or cropped ears?

To enter your vote and see the other responses, go to our web site (www.swdgr.org) and scroll to the bottom of the home page. We'll reveal the results and post the new poll in the next newsletter!

Business Partner Spotlight: Bonni Bakes introduces Muffin's Menu

On Friday, October 2nd, Bonni Bakes, bakery/café in Bradenton, introduced DOGGIE DINING ON THE FRONT PATIO featuring Muffin's Menu. A menu of homemade doggie entrees will be offered on Friday and Saturday.

To learn more, go visit the Bonni Bakes Blog: bonnibakes.blogspot.com.

Location:

In the Village of the Arts
930 12 ST
Bradenton, FL 34205
(just south of 9th Ave/MLK)
941.746.6647

SWGDR GOAL

We are looking for permanent, loving homes that will last these rescued Great Danes a lifetime.

If you are interested in adopting, fostering or surrendering a Great Dane, please visit our website (all the information and forms are online!)

www.swgdr.org