**Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue’s \*CARE Program**

***\*Comprehensive Assisstance to Rescue Elders***

***CARE Program Established in 2003***

Since our founding in 1985, Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue has admitted to its program Goldens in need regardless of age or medical problems. At certain times of the year we would see an increase in the number of Goldens over the age of eight. Once a Golden had reached this age they were considered a senior. For many breeds, such as Goldens, the average life span was estimated to be between 10 and 12 years. However, with the current advances in veterinary science, it is not unusual to see Goldens living well past that age. Although they may walk a little slower and spend more time sleeping in the sun, many remain in good health.

Despite this, adopters were often reluctant to adopt these wonderful white faced oldsters. While everyone is entranced with the antics of a puppy and entertained by the energy of a young dog, an older dog makes everyone wonder - do they have a chronic medical condition or what if they suddenly have an unexpected and expensive problem? Could we afford that appropriate care? How will our family handle these issues? In response to this concern, YGRR created the **Comprehensive Assistance for Rescue Elders (CARE)** program to assist families willing to adopt a Golden aged 10 and over.

A subcategory of the CARE Program is the **Senior to Senior Program**

Through careful screening we match two populations of humans 70 years and older and dogs 10 years and older, providing them with the benefits of the CARE program as well as YGRR volunteer assistance in transporting the dog to and from the vet and groomer. Similarly a staff member is also available for questions and support and boarding is provided in the case of family need.

**Protocols for participants the CARE Program**

The adopter is responsible for the basic care of their Golden and will provide food of a healthy nutritional sustenance, yearly veterinary visits and necessary inoculations, which include all inoculations required by law and those deemed necessary for the optimal health and well-being of the dog, heartworm preventative and other medications or common supplements such as Soloxine for hypothyroidism. However, if the older dog needs (for example) a yearly CBC blood count, x-rays, an ultrasound for diagnostic purposes or surgery, YGRR will assume the financial responsibility only if the procedure is pre-approved by YGRR staff. YGRR will not pay for radiation or chemotherapy.

IN CASES OF EMERGENCY, where immediate veterinary treatment and care is necessary, please bring your dog to the nearest appropriate veterinary clinic or hospital immediately and please contact YGRR as soon as possible, to notify us of the emergency.

EXCEPT IN CASES OF EMERGENCY, all other veterinary medical treatment and care must be pre-approved by YGRR. Any veterinary treatment and care provided without the pre-approval of YGRR will not be reimbursed under any circumstances.

The CARE program has been fully explained to me, the Adopter, and I agree to abide by the requirements (above) as explained by the YGRR Representative.

Dog Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YGRR # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Adopter: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of YGRR Representative: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_