

Meeting date:

Saturday, October 25, 2014
11:00 am to 2:00 pm EST
Brandywine Town Center at Concord Mall
Concord Pike & Naamans Road
4050 Brandywine Parkway
Wilmington, DE 19801



2013 Annual Report

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Annual General Membership Meeting

AGENDA

Welcome, Introductions and Thank You's

President MaryFran Cini

Reading and review of minutes from last year's meeting

Gay Ann Wayne

Vice President Report

Lissa Scott

Fundraising and Grants Update

Pat Ali

Legislative Report

Karla Lathrop

Policy and Procedure Updates

Courtney Vogenitz

Publicity Report

Laurie Zoock

Statistics Report

Debbie Bohrer

Treasurer's Report

Christina Buckner

Volunteer Report

Regina Hill

Old Business: Questions from the membership regarding discussions from last year's meeting.

New Business: We will accept questions/discussions from the members in attendance, 10 minutes for each topic, one hour total.

Election Results

Adjournment

Background Photo: Jenn Eilers Dane "Scout" at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Celtic Fling in Manheim, PA on June 22 & 23, 2013.

A Message from your President



MAGDRL has gone through so many changes as I look back at my tenure as president these past 5 years. We have gone through some difficult times resulting from unexpected events and financial impact. We have dealt with a difficult economy and reorganized some of our operations. Through it all, we have continued to remain a solid and strong organization.

MAGDRL is in great shape and it is because of our dedicated benefactors and hard working volunteers. I am always truly amazed at how our volunteers step up for our orphans. Our Chapter Coordinators continue to work hard to maintain financial stability within their own Chapters, and to be there for the orphans that need them. The work is endless and ongoing. Our Board of Directors has seen us through some hardships and has done a wonderful job guiding our progress.

As president, I am so grateful to have the people who support MAGDRL in so many ways. There are so many "jobs" to be done within MAGDRL. We have those who do events, those who foster, those who do orphan evaluations and home evaluations, and those who participate in transports. We have volunteers who maintain our databases, make phone calls, send and receive applications. Every effort is invaluable to our process, and enables us to care for our orphans and ultimately find them wonderful homes.



I am so proud of the work that we have done and we will continue to do, of the status of our organization, and of what I know we can do in the future. I am forever grateful of this opportunity to serve as MAGDRL president and share this journey with other leaders, volunteers and members.

On behalf of MAGDRL, thank you for your continued dedication, support and love for our orphans. As always, I am honored and privileged to serve as your president.

Mary Fran Cini

Vice President

For the past 35 years, MAGDRL has rescued and rehomed Great Danes thanks to the hard work of unpaid volunteers. How amazing is that? But this momentous anniversary and a recent loss prompted me to ask myself this question: What makes us sacrifice our time and effort to help these dogs?

One often hears that we help "for the love of Danes." However the theory of psychological egoism posits that humans are not innately altruistic. We are self-serving creatures whose efforts are motivated solely to benefit ourselves. So what selfish gain do we MAGDRL volunteers reap from our altruism?



Having recently lost my two beloved Danes, I suddenly knew my own answer. There is nothing that dulls the pain of the loss of one's own precious Danes more than giving other Danes an opportunity to have a wonderful life. Every housecheck, evaluation, fundraiser, transport, intake or screening call.... Everything we volunteers do for MAGDRL helps Dane orphans, but also heals our own psychological scars, provides ego-soothing positive feedback, and enriches our lives.

I'm OK knowing that I volunteer with MAGDRL for selfish reasons. However it works to help MAGDRL orphans is just fine with me!

Lissa Scott

Volunteers

MAGDRL volunteers are the "voice" of the Danes that we take into our Chapters. MAGDRL volunteers use their spare time saving lives, soliciting money to pay vet bills, speaking publicly on the behalf of the Danes. They also raise public awareness about responsible pet ownership through fliers as well as other media. Through fiscally difficult times in 2013, our Chapters did an awesome job raising funds hosting events such as; Meet &





Greets, Pet Expos, yard sales, raffles and contests to name a few. Many contributed painlessly through efforts like the TD Bank affiliate program, shopping at merchants that support the iGive, and using their MAGDRL Visa credit card.

In 2013, MAGDRL received help from 263 dues-paying volunteers in our 7 chapters. Although we are down by 27% from 2012, we are up in determination, appreciation, and strength in all we do.

2013 Volunteers:

MD/DC	61
VA	46
NJ	75
NY	15
PA/DE	47
WV	17
Other	2
Total	263

Our incredible volunteers spent countless hours, miles, and fuel transporting many Danes up the east coast to waiting foster homes (thank you Road Warriors!) Foster homes continue to provide loving, safe havens for scared, ill and displaced Danes. We continue to use social media to share the highs and lows of volunteering with MAGDRL. Online media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Petfinder help us get the word out about our Danes.

Thank you for all the evaluations, surrenders, home visits, adoptions, vet checks, follow ups, phone calls, emails and administrative work, transports, fund-raising, fostering, marketing and everything else you do for the Danes. This list of duties does not begin to convey the dedication that each and every volunteer gives to MAGDRL and the Danes. Every bit of sweat, effort, tears and love for the Danes is appreciated. Sometimes volunteering can be a thankless job — until we get that wag, slobber, lean and paw that makes it so worth the effort! A huge thank you to the volunteers who make up this great organization.



This wonderful organization could not do it without your dedication, compassion and love for these beautiful dogs. Thank you for all your hard work!

Regina Hill

Secretary

It has been a year since I began serving as MAGDRL Secretary, and boy does time fly! This past year has had some changes, but that's to be expected when you have an organization as large as MAGDRL.



My responsibilities as Secretary are to take the minutes during our meetings of our Board of Directors and/or member meetings, whether on phone conference calls or during the General Membership meeting. The Secretary is also responsible for setting up polls for voting on any issues that might arise that have been directed to the Board. Also part of the Secretary's responsibilities are procuring insurance certificates for events.

This organization has been so successful in helping Danes because of all the volunteers who made MAGDRL a priority. I am proud to be a small part of this organization!

Gay Ann Wayne

Bite Coordinator

The Bite Coordinator's responsibility is to work with the Chapter Coordinators to help either with support, or to try to prevent a bite incident from occurring. The president and I receive and review copies of all bite incident reports.

Our evaluators play a critical part in this process. They are the first to meet the dog, so it is important that they include on their report any issues that they may have seen when doing the evaluation. This report helps our Foster Coordinators find the right foster home for an incoming Dane.

Thank you Coordinators & Foster Coordinators for continuing to work on finding the right foster placement. This gives a dog a 2nd chance to find the right forever home for them.

Gay Ann Wayne





Public Relations

I'd like to give special thanks to the PR Team Leads. In the past year I have taken over the Main and the NJ MAGDRL Facebook pages. With Angel Pearson Booth stepping up to handle posting of the available Danes and the Danes that were adopted, our FB page views and statistics have increased exponentially, helping MAGDRL get more adoptions. Our social media program also posts to Twitter and Instagram, helping MAGDRL with our PR goals. For the past several months, we have been working with a national radio show host looking to profile Great Danes for an ongoing show, so keep your paws crossed!

My responsibility is to teach and train Chapter Public Relations Leads how to contact and respond to media inquiries in their regions, to promote the educational aspects of Great Dane Rescue, and to reflect MAGDRL positively to the media in order to attract more adopters, foster homes, and volunteers. I am also responsible for any national news media inquiries and projects.

If you have media contacts or story ideas, please feel free to contact me or your Chapter Team Lead.

Laurie Zook

Legislative Affairs

2014 has already seen several important bills signed into law affecting the states we serve.

Many positive and protective bills remain on the table in each of our states. Before supporting any legislation in your state please read the wording of the legislation carefully. Many times this can be difficult and the legislation can sometimes have hidden agendas in a well written bill. Bill sponsors and lobbyists can also have hidden agendas tied to a particular piece of legislation so please carefully read and understand any legislation before supporting it.

Karla Lathrop



Fundraising & Grants

As the newly elected member for Fundraisers and Grants in 2013, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Cathy Dlugosz for the wonderful job she did during her tenure in this position. I have some big shoes to fill as many of the current fundraisers are in large part due to Cathy's hard work.



Our volunteers worked extremely hard at Meet & Greets in 2013.

Huge thanks to all of the volunteers who give up their time and weekends for the Danes. The rewards are not only from the monetary donations but in recruiting new volunteers and potential adopters.

In 2013 MAGDRL raised thousands of dollars from Meet & Greets, and from our ongoing fundraisers including the TD Affinity Program, iGive, Purina Weight Circles, Amazon Smile and Wooftrax, to name a few. Thank you everyone not only for your continued hard work, but also for understanding that without your dedication, our Dane orphans could not receive the care they need.

As we all say, "It takes a village" and we are a SUPERB VILLAGE!

Pat Ali



Disposition of MAGDRL Dogs at End of Year

	2012 (8/1/11 – 7/31/12)		2013 (8/1/12 – 7/31/13)		2014 (8/1/13 – 7/31/14)	
Disposition						
Adopted	248	34%	111	22%	100	18%
Owner Placed/ Retained	426	58%	351	69%	387	71%
Released to Breeder	0	0%	4	1%	6	1%
Euthanized/Died	23	3%	8	1%	20	4%
Sill in Rescue	39	5%	33	7%	33	6%
Total **	736	100%	507	100%	546	100%

Policy & Procedures

Throughout the course of 2013, MAGDRL worked to update the Coordinator and Volunteer Handbooks. This was an effort to provide revised guidance and enhanced policies and procedures designed to foster best practices in processing new Danes for placement in their forever homes. Revisions to previous procedures were implemented in order to bring MAGDRL in line with changes to insurance standards.

Forms held in these handbooks were updated to provide enhanced specificity based on coordinator feedback.



Coaching toward a finer level of detail during evaluations and vet-checks empowers Coordinators and Match-makers with information that may become useful in identifying ideal fosters and/or adopters.

Courtney Vogenitz

2013-2014 GDCA Statistics

Below are statistics from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014 submitted by 24 rescues. Fewer reported this year but the total dogs in rescue went up from 1,590 to 1,684.

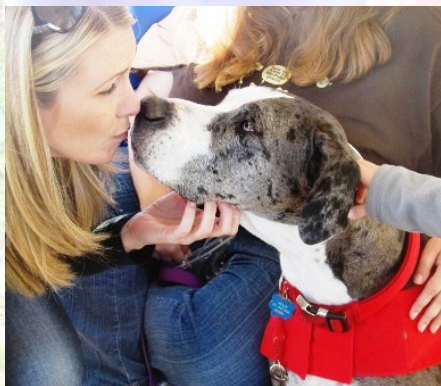
Color	Total #	% of Total
Harlequin/Mantle/Merle	571	34%
White/Deaf/Blind	68	0.04%
Black	534	32%
Fawn/Brindle	229	13%
Blue	114	0.07%
Other	168	10%
Total	1684	100%
Sex		
Dogs	899	53%
Bitches	785	47%
Total	1684	100%
Age		
Under 6 Months	141	0.08%
6-12 Months	181	0.11%
1-3 Years	616	37%
3-5 Years	425	25%
6 Years or Older	321	19%
Total	1684	100%
Disposition		
Adopted	893	53%
Owner Placed/Retained	561	33%
Released to Breeder	7	0.00%
Euthanized/Died	106	0.07%
Still in Rescue	117	0.07%
Total	1684	100%

Virginia

2013 was a tough year for VA. We saw many of our long time Dane Ambassadors age-out and were no longer able to help at events. Sadly, our expenses for 2013 were extremely high topping \$30,000 (our highest since 2008.) This was due in part to several dogs brought in from a humane foundation who needed extensive vet care, and due to kennel fees for some very special Danes.

We are happy to report that all the dogs coming in from the humane foundation found wonderful loving homes as did the two long-term resident kennel Danes.

Despite our fiscal challenges, we were able to bring in over \$18,000 thanks in large part to application donations and most importantly, to adoptions!



We hope to host new fundraisers, events and volunteer recruitment efforts in 2014. If it weren't for the dedicated volunteers of Virginia, we would not be able to help such wonderfully majestic creatures find their most-deserved forever homes.

*Nichole Russell &
Susan Hughes*

Top Give-Up Reasons Danes came into MAGDRL

	2013	2012
Aggression w/ People	58	46
Aggression w/ Other Animals	42	28
Other Temperament Concerns	57	74
Owner Medical Problems	23	21
Health Concerns w/ Dane	20	38
Financial Problems	37	29
Divorce	27	32
Moving	47	47
New Baby	12	6
No Time	23	24
Doesn't Want	14	11
Abuse/Neglect/Seizure	24	7
In Shelter	58	73
Stray	29	25
Other	28	25
Unknown	24	29
Grand Total	523	515

Average # Days in MAGDRL Before Adoption

	2013	2012
Average Days Before Adoption	94	117

Maryland/DC

The MD/DC Chapter had a successful 2013. We had new volunteers who began doing Meet and Greets in areas where we previously lacked a presence. As a result, we had an increased number of inquiries about adoption.



We do struggle with finding new foster homes. Many who foster end up adopting, then are unable to foster again. Other chapters have been very gracious taking in Danes from our Chapter that we are unable to foster in-state.

We have a dedicated phone screening team consisting of four adoption screeners and two give up screeners. We had 445 contacts about adoption and 112 phone interviews were completed. We received 35 adoption applications. We had 108 give up inquiries, although not all of those went to a first contact or full evaluation.



We have very dedicated volunteers and we are quite well traveled - our volunteers are always willing to help with transports and have logged many miles moving Danes along the east coast.

Christine Wall & Christina Buckner



New Jersey

NJ continues to be a successful chapter because we are blessed with such a great team of hardworking volunteers, we have the largest number of active volunteers than any other MAGDRL Chapter. We continue to work hard to take in any orphan that needs us. We took in more Danes needing foster homes from other chapters than we did coming directly from NJ taking in 21 from NJ and 22 from other chapters.



We are proud to be there for all MAGDRL orphans, not just those in our own chapter. Sadly we continue to see older Danes being given up by their owner for financial or even shameful reasons. But we have taken them in and found them loving homes. NJ had 33 adoptions in 2013. Like every other chapter, having enough foster homes for incoming is always a challenge but NJ volunteers have stepped up again and again and for this I am so grateful. Even though we did not have a single large fundraiser in 2013, we were able to consistently raise funds throughout the year and our income more than met our expenses, something for which all of NJ volunteers can be proud.



I want to take this opportunity to thank my Assistant Chapter Coordinator Pat Ali and all of my team leaders who help keep NJ running smoothly. Without their help and input, we could never do the work we do. I look forward to continuing our mission with this outstanding team in the future.

Mary Fran Cini & Pat Ali

West Virginia

Last year, we focused on recruiting people to help us with evaluations – our biggest need by far – outside the Eastern Panhandle. We had some success, particularly in the southeast, and will continue to work on that area. Our transport team worked like clockwork, enabling quick intakes after evaluations. We also had several fosters step up to help, allowing us to foster the majority of our dogs in-state with only one kennel stay. This allowed us to help three dogs with medical issues who needed to be nursed back to health prior to adoption.



WV appointed a new fundraising team who did an amazing job with despite being limited to less than six months and with no way to plan ahead for a large event. They held eight outreach events to continue connecting with the community, and our overall inquiries stayed right at 220 for the year.

Last year was a story of big challenges and an amazing team of volunteers who got us through it. We've already started working on our game plan for 2014 which promises to be a great year.



Thank you, everyone, for your hard work for the Danes!

Teresa Griffith & Charlie Hall



Pennsylvania/Delaware

Our Chapter continues to amaze with our fundraising efforts and through spreading the MAGDRL message to the public. In 2013, we hosted numerous Meet and Greets, and supported rescue events and festivals in both states.



Delaware ramped up their fundraising efforts and have a number of new volunteers who helped to spread the word and the workload. Beyond having our first volunteers in the southern part of the state, this state is also home to our new PA/DE Publicity Coordinators.

Pennsylvania continued their strong push to do all they can to help our MAGDRL orphans. This area overcame severe staff losses due to the sudden passing of our matchmaker and the stepping down of our postmistress. We were fortunate to find great new volunteers for these key roles plus we added a new Foster Team Lead.



In 2014, both states will work to continue to show positive results so that next year is even better than 2013!



Without our dedicated volunteers, we would not be able to continue to help our orphans. Thank you for all you do!

*Rachel Perring &
Sara Sweinhart*

New York

2013 was a busy year for NY. We received over 460 inquiries and approximately 97 calls involving either owner turn in's or advice regarding how to help correct a behavioral problem or financial issues for medical help. From those inquiries, we were able to help 5 families who were looking to adopt a Dane but weren't within our adoption



area to find a Dane.

We raised about \$33,000 in general donations and Meet & Greets. We also had a few dogs with medical issues. Between vetting and boarding, our expenses were approximately \$17,000.



NY is blessed to have a great group of volunteers who always come together when we need something done--even if it's last minute request. Our volunteers give up so much of their time and funds, especially for fostercare, home visits, transports, evaluations and Meet & Greets. None of this is free and our volunteers pay for the food, gas, tolls, and sometimes parking and entry fees. Thank you for your help.

We're in good shape, thanks to all those in NY who care about helping these babies. We are truly grateful for all your help both physically and monetarily. If the Danes could speak I'm sure they'd say Thank You!



*Gay Ann Wayne
& Karla Lathrop*

2013 MAGDRL Statistics

	2013	2012
Color		
Harlequin/Mantle/Merle	176	156
White/Deaf/Blind	14	19
Black	109	134
Fawn/Brindle	76	73
Blue	35	42
Other	16	18
Unknown*	97	73
Total	523	515
Sex		
Dogs	236	205
Bitches	270	295
Unknown*	17	15
Total	523	515
Age		
Under 6 Months	43	20
6-12 Months	43	47
1-3 Years	93	168
3-5 Years	124	160
6 Years or Older	151	68
Unknown*	69	52
Total	523	515

2013 Treasurer's Report

Financial Summary

REVENUE & OTHER SUPPORT:

Contributions	\$152,195
Fundraising	31,407
In-kind contributions	5,219
Membership dues	10,169
Merchandise income, net of cost	3,708
Other income	3,746
Total revenue & other support	\$206,444

EXPENSES:

Program expenses	151,386
Management and General	8,135
Fundraising	3,033
Total expenses	\$162,554

Change in net assets **+43,890**



Thanks for Caring!

In Memory...



It is a sad fact that we cannot save them all. In 2013, we had 14 Danes/mixes who died or were euthanized while in the care of MAGDRL. We remember them here.

Died/Euthanized

- ⊖ Died – 1
- ⊖ PTS – Aggression – 4
- ⊖ PTS – Bloat – 4
- ⊖ PTS – Health – 5

In Memory

Tribute To A Best Friend

Sunlight streams through window pane
 unto a spot on the floor....
 then I remember,
 it's where you used to lie,
 but now you are no more.
 Our feet walk down a hall of carpet,
 and muted echoes sound....
 then I remember,
 It's where your paws would joyously abound.
 A voice is heard along the road,
 and up beyond the hill,
 then I remember it can't be yours....
 your golden voice is still.
 But I'll take that vacant spot of floor
 and empty muted hall
 and lay them with the absent voice
 and unused dish along the wall.
 I'll wrap these treasured memorials
 in a blanket of my love
 and keep them for my best friend
 until we meet above.

~ Author Unknown