

August 2019

# GOLDEN GRRROWL

"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"™



**HANDSOME BOB**

## King Handsome Robert Hemi Canuck... From Obscurity to Royalty

by Ken Rye

This story of love and karma and faith and renewal is being completed on the shore of a quiet, secluded lake on the Canadian Shield in central Ontario. Bob lies quietly panting at the end of the dock enjoying the warm late afternoon breeze sweeping down from Lake Huron, tired from a day of swimming, and of all miracles, running in the woods. King Handsome Robert Hemi Canuck – Handsome Bob – adopted me from GRRR on April 27. This is his story, as best as I can tell it.

Big Clyde had passed away a month earlier after a short bout with cancer. He was the most recent in my unbroken string of 25+ years of magnificent Goldies. I had naively thought that I would go through the summer enjoying a short respite from the walks, the hair, the slobber and being attacked nightly by that gorgeous monster. You, gentle reader, will laugh at that, knowing such things aren't possible. Coming home to an empty house, eerily quiet, devoid of a dog's life energy – this simply wasn't going to last. Life is too short and there is too much love to go without a Goldie for long. After a few days

of research, it was clear that a search for a new partner could take some time. On April 18, the day I decided to prepare an application, Bob (then known as "Marley") appeared on the GRRR website, and I hit the "send" button. The expected long search was over in 24 hours. Roberta Miller called the next day and I came out to meet Bobbers just a few hours later. This was a sweet, beautiful, fun, smart, affectionate dog, but with just three functional legs.

Bob was 10 months old and had bounced around a bit before coming to GRRR. He had what was suspected to be dysplasia and had already been scheduled for surgery. Bob was beautiful, the right age for me, needed a dedicated forever home and someone to walk with him through the surgery. One of Bob's predecessors – my first Golden – had both hips replaced, so I knew the ropes surrounding the care, recovery and rehab from hip replacement surgery. I hadn't even known about Golden Angels. I was happy to take on the costs and risks, so this program was a surprise to me.

I showed his picture and profile to Megan K., whose uncontained enthusiasm merely cemented the decision. Meg is head tech at my vet's office, and a beautiful person, inside and out. She is the personal nanny to my dogs, coming into our lives not long after the passing of my wife, Myra. She has made it possible for me to maintain my travel schedule, while being utterly confident in the love and care she provides. She and her own rescue pup, Tallulah, are a complete gift in our lives and every bit a part of this family.



**HANDSOME BOB**

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“...The night he took me home, I promised him he would never be hungry, never be afraid, never be in want of love or attention, and always know fun and adventure.”



Bob took me home for good on April 27; I had returned early from a trip so he could get acquainted with his new surroundings before his surgery, just three days later. His surgeon, Dr. Mike Bauer at Colorado Canine Orthopedics in Colorado Springs, is a great guy and CCO was an amazing place, from staff to facilities. Walking through the x-rays, it was clear this wasn't a simple hip replacement, and Bob's medical history became much fuzzier. Dr. Bauer suggested this was going to be a long and complicated surgery, with some serious risks. "The surgery was more difficult than I originally thought," Dr. Bauer said. "The bone was malformed due to some sort of trauma, not hip dysplasia. The surgery turned out really well, though, and at his last checkup, Bob's muscle mass was returning. His prognosis is very

good." Five hours later, Bob came back with a 14-inch incision, but safe and sound after a successful but grueling operation. With a new hip and a long plate down his femur, he was good to go.

I slept on the floor beside Bob for five nights, not wanting him to wake alone and hurting in a strange place. A lot of bonding over those five days! But after two weeks, even after his many staples were removed, he still wasn't putting his leg down, although otherwise he was doing great and walking without his sling. Yup, I was getting worried. Then, one Saturday morning without any fuss, he just started walking on the rebuilt leg. His confidence began to grow, and that sweet, playful personality and unmistakable grin began to blossom with every step, now unburdened by pain or disability.



After four weeks, he was given permission to try swimming, and in less than a minute at Chatfield State Park, he was on his way, a natural swimmer. I didn't need to throw a stick – he swims for the joy of it. We began to see muscle definition and yes, the muscles were thickening and developing. He began to run (try to stop a puppy from doing that!) even though he was still in recovery mode. His speed and agility were already breathtaking.

Bob came off his cocktail of drugs and now looks at me with his brilliant, clear honey-colored eyes; the light seems to shine out of them. With every day, he meets new friends in the neighborhood, and explores new areas of Washington Park

with his new, distinctive prance. He is exuberantly friendly with man and beast (squirrels... not so much!). At night, after a session of ball chasing and wrestling, he cuddles in beside my neck and chews on my double chin before retiring to his own bed. In short, he is a lovely, normal, happy pup, "wild as the heather" and making up for lost time! While his stamina is growing, he still tires easily, and like a pup, when it is sleep time, he is down and out for the count. On June 4, he celebrated his first birthday with a mini cupcake (don't tell my vet!); a birthday he shares with my brother, cousin and neighbor – I am unlikely to forget! What ever happened in his previous life, it did nothing to suppress his spirit, playfulness or joy in life. On June 24, Bob had his final x-rays and checkup and got the all clear! Sixty pounds of love and energy were ready to be unleashed on the world! A two-day drive brought us to his second home in Canada, and he has been exploring the sights and smells since he arrived, that wagging tail telling me everything I need to know.

Handsome Bob's long name was developed many years ago by my wife, and it is a great combination of heritage, homage to his father, our ancestry and an element that is somewhat risqué! He wears the name proudly and he is indeed a Handsome Bob. The night he took me home, I promised him he would never be hungry, never be afraid, never be in want of love or attention, and always know fun and adventure. He told me he looks forward to it all. He also told me that he wanted to thank GRRR – that magical place – and all the people that made this happen. Thanks and love to Roberta, who kicked this off, and to Mary and Francie, and all at GRRR who make it the treasure that it is. Thanks also to Dr. Bauer, and the staff at CCO for their skill, professionalism and unequalled care. Bob especially sends his love to Meg and Tallulah. Somehow, all these people came together at the right time to make a difference in Bob's life – and mine – and chart his happy path forward. As with all Golden Retrievers, Bob is loved without reserve, and he returns it a hundred times over! I am one very lucky guy. 🍀



# Recent Rescues



## TRUMAN AND FAMILY

I am grateful for my wife's dedication to finding GRRR. Her research and persistence paid off, as we have Truman in our lives. His presence and amazing personality brightens each of our lives daily. He flourishes with our two cats and has made friends with many neighbors and their dogs that walk by our home on a daily basis. Truman is always so excited to greet them with his engaging charms and sweet personality.

We love Truman and are very grateful for the amazing service that GRRR does to match rescued doggies with new families.

Linda, J, Joseph and Grace Poletti

Dear GRRR:

We are so fortunate to have adopted Truman (formerly Apollo) from GRRR. Our son said it best, "We didn't pick Truman, he picked us". He was right. From the first minute of our introduction to this sweet dog our lives were changed. He is such an amazing spirit, so kind, so gentle, so smart, and so loving. He brings lightness, laughter, and loyalty to our home because of his unconditional love. A perfect fit for all.

From day one, Truman had some basic disciplines mastered like leash training and being housebroken. He has progressively learned voice and whistle commands. He comes in an instant when summoned. His given name is Apollo, but I have always wanted to name a dog Truman. He immediately responds to both, which makes all of us happy.



Dear GRRR:

Cooper is a joy. So glad we found one another through GRRR.

He is a wonderful dog. He has adjusted to my routines and I have adjusted to his. He's very sweet and playful.

Thank you again,  
David and Cooper



## COOPER

Hi GRRR!

## COOKIE & BAILEY

We are Cookie (TD9) and Bailey (GRRR Dec 2016) Simmons!

We are super lucky pups! We get to spend our summers in beautiful Colorado, and then we get to spend our winters in the Arizona sunshine. This pic is our most favorite activity in AZ: Daily golf cart rides on the golf course cart path! We see lots of rabbits! Some have really long ears and they are so big! They look like dogs when they run! Really! We also see lots of birds and some called quail that are pretty cute. And coyotes and even an occasional bobcat and javelina.

We are both therapy dogs too, so we also get to visit assisted living and memory care residents. But our favorite visits are when we see the 3rd graders for Read to a Dog at school. They love on us and give us treats after they read to us. It is so much fun! We love doing everything with our mom and dad! Gotta go...mom made frosty paws for us!! Yum yum!

Hugs 'n licks,

Cookie and Bailey Simmons



Dear GRRR:

Just writing to tell you how much we love our Golden pup! Sully (formerly Rocky) came home in March and hasn't missed a beat joining our family. He's got a lot of playful energy, has been easy to train, and loves wrestling with his pug sister, Sadie. We can't wait to introduce him to the Colorado mountains this summer. Thank you GRRR for our handsome boy!

He's just perfect for us!

Krista Welch

## SULLY & SADIE



Dear GRRR Family:

We love looking at all the pictures on Facebook of all the wonderful new families of Golden Retrievers! We love our sweet Bela Grace (formerly Lulu). We would love to see photos from those lucky parents who adopted her puppies! Bela is finally getting to be a puppy! She is doing what puppies do! Digging and running crazy with her mate, Kona!

Bela went on her first great adventure across the country! We were allowed in the Buffalo Bill museum, on an old paddle wheeler, explored the Mississippi River and even went over a lick! She is so beautiful! She is finally settling in and learning to play and be our best friend! Love her too much!

Thank you again for all you do for these wonderful animals!

Marlene Smith

**KONA AND BELA GRACE**

Hi GRRR:

Here is an update on George, our beautiful Turkey Dog! He is awesome and doing well. He has been to some obedience classes and goes to daycare occasionally. He likes to be with his people 24/7. His trainer suggested daycare now and then to build up trust that we are coming back and he isn't abandoned. He loves daycare.

George has gotten down to his goal weight of 75 pounds and loves his low-fat food. Just guessing what he may have been through in the past before coming to GRRR.



We are so grateful to have him and he is very happy and has adjusted to his new home; hopefully he thinks USA life is good. He has us very well trained. Many thanks to GRRR for bringing him into our lives and all you do for the Golden Retrievers.

James and Joy Merritt and George

**GEORGE**



**BELLA**

Dear GRRR:

Just wanted to let you know that our sweet Bella, adopted about this time 8 years ago, has just celebrated her 15th birthday. She has been and is such a blessing and we are so thankful for the years of love.

Hope all is well with you.

Ruth and Bob French

Dear GRRR:

Gunther (formerly Gunner) has slimmed down to a much more healthy weight with his long morning walks. He loves to walk (or really prance) wherever and whenever. If a car ride is involved, even better. He is a perfect match for me. You all knew what you were doing with that, even though it was hard for me to wait for the perfect new buddy. He has adapted to my routine and enjoys visiting the grandkids and their dogs weekly. Thanks from both of us!

Ellen Staton and Gunther



**GUNTHER**

# Recent Rescues



Dear GRRR:

My husband, Stephen, and I adopted Bongo, now renamed Hank, back in March. He has been one of the greatest additions to our family! Hank absolutely loves hiking, camping, backpacking, pretty much anything outdoors. He has an older sister, Hannah, who is a Beagle-Basset mix. At first we were unsure of how Hannah would take to Hank since she has been used to being the only dog for a while, but they are the best of friends! Hank has really helped Hannah become more social and playful and he is always taking care of her when we are out hiking on the trails. Hank is really an amazing dog, so well behaved and well mannered. We consider ourselves very lucky to have him as a part of our family and we are pretty sure he feels the same way! He is so loved!

Amanda, Stephen and Hannah

**HANK**

Dear GRRR:

Boy, life has been good. I've got a basket full of toys, bones to chew on, a yard to run in, and the occasional leather shoe treat when my mom accidentally leaves them out! Today I met up with my good friend, Bo, and walked around Huston park in Athmar where my parents recently bought a house for us. I even ran fast enough to go for a quick swim in the lake before getting yelled at. Our new home is just tewiffic, big windows that are the purfect height for me to lean my chin on while I scope out the neighborhood squirrels all day.

As much as I LOVE, seriously love, the snow, it sure is nice to be back in camping and hiking season. We've been going on longer hikes each weekend, something about making sure I can do my first fourteener this year. Sometimes I wonder if my brothers and sisters and other GRRR friends found good homes too, sure they did if they turned out to be as good a boy as everyone tells me I am. Good genes I suppose.

Love, Henry (and Vanessa Perrotti)

**HENRY**

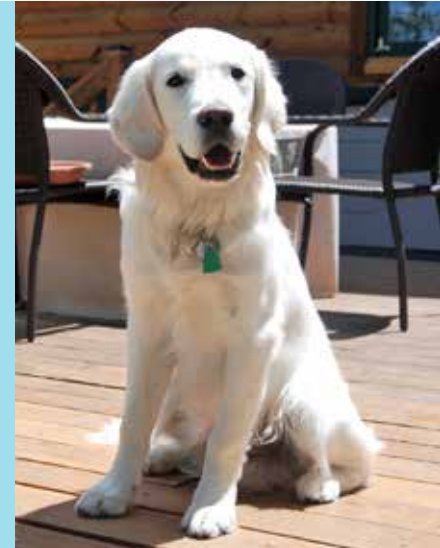


Dear GRRR:

Little Joe is settling in here. He is growing fast and becoming a valued member of our pack. Riley wasn't sure at first, but he and Joe play constantly now. I think Riley is happy to have the companionship after our losing Gracie. Joe will keep Riley young.

Cheryl Buckley

**LITTLE JOE**



Hi GRRR:

On Jan 16 we adopted Lloyd. He was reluctant to get in the car at first but now car rides have become one of his favorite activities.

Poor Lloyd had a few issues with all the stress involved in aging out of a questionable breeding situation but Dr. Carpenter fixed him right up. He is on thyroid medication now and his coat is getting healthier every day now that he is getting good food. He did, however, eat the TV remote.

Lloyd has become quite comfortable, making himself at home on the couch. When it's time to turn in for the night, he is the first one to jump up on the bed, oftentimes falling asleep on his back and snoring. We love watching him discover what it means to be a dog. He will play with a tennis ball for a minute or two now, loves to sit in the snow and is learning to love his walks.

**LLOYD**

Wherever we go, whatever we do, Lloyd gets lots of love. He has quickly become the hit of the neighborhood, drawing lots of attention for his good looks.

We are so thankful that Lloyd chose us to provide his forever home. We are so appreciative to GRRR for providing us with another beautiful Golden to join our family.

Thanks,

Laura and Steve Zlogar



Dear GRRR:

We love Luna, the Goldendoodle we adopted, now 5 months old. Here she is with our older dog, Olive. Luna has been fun and makes us laugh. She has enjoyed puppy socialization classes and some training. Luna has lots of energy, and she has learned to calm down a lot since the beginning. Thank you for the work you do, and for checking back.

Giannine Mustari



**LUNA & OLIVE**



**MAX**

Hello GRRR:

I am writing regarding Andy (Now Max) a Golden mix that my wife and I adopted on 7/4/2018. Max is doing great. He is a very good boy who listens to mom and dad and respects the house rules. Since day one Max never had an accident in the house and never touched anything other than his toys. Max loves his routine and he knows his walking time and his eating time. We love having Max in our life and we couldn't imagine life without him.

Thanks,

Mina Wahba

Hi GRRR:

We adopted a Goldendoodle from GRRR in February (from the pregnant Doodle mom). The blonde is now named Ranger and he is quite the beefcake. Our other pup is 55 pounds and Ranger is already his size. Here is a picture of him getting in to trouble stealing papers this past weekend.

Sam Kavitz



**RANGER**

Hi GRRR:

We just adopted the little Turkey Dog with the deformed feet, and we love him to pieces! He is the sweetest and cuddliest dog ever and gets along so well with our 10-year-old Molly girl, who we adopted from GRRR two years ago after we had lost our first two GRRR seniors. We named him Baker after the Heisman winner two years ago from Oklahoma who never gives up and has saved the Cleveland Browns, even though we are not Browns fans. Our little Baker didn't give up on the streets of Turkey despite his foot disability.

It said in Baker's information paragraph that he got along well with cats, so we slowly introduced our 15-year-old rescue kitty to him, and he loves her as she does him. This adoption was just meant to be for all involved. Thank you for allowing us to make him part of our family and to love him for the rest of his life as we are doing with our Molly.

I know everyone else who is fortunate enough to welcome a precious GRRR Golden into their lives feels the same way.

Lee Ann  
Henbest



**BAKER**

### GRRR STATS

January 1 – June 30, 2019

<b>Number of dogs adopted</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Money spent on medical:</b>	<b>\$72,822.98</b>

### Recent Rescue Submissions

We all love reading about your GRRR Golden and we'd like to hear from you! Please send in a letter and digital photo (highest resolution you have) to [debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com](mailto:debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com) or snail mail to GRRR at 15350 W. 72nd Ave, Arvada CO 80007.

Deadline for the November, 2019 issue is October 6. Thanks!

# Recent Rescues



Hi GRRR:

Thanks for checking in on us! Our little girl (not so little-anymore), Tillie, is doing great at 4 months old. She's been potty-trained and sleeping through the night since about month two – our two biggest goals from day one! Now we're working on the jumping and biting. However, she's got sit, stay, rollover, spin, shake, and not tugging during walks almost down pat! We love her. Our daughters absolutely love the always-available playing and cuddling companion. Thanks, GRRR!

Todd Slocum

## TILLIE

Dear GRRR:

We were so thrilled to welcome Arlo (formerly named Bentley) into our hearts. Just a few days before I went online to register on GRRR's website, we lost a beloved senior Golden. I had tears in my eyes as I looked at all the photos of the dogs in need of a home. I was interested in almost any dog, though I did have a slight preference for a male and for a younger dog.

We received a call that Arlo, the dog formerly know as Bentley, had been dropped off. I felt like a mother in labor, and I was so excited to drive over to GRRR as soon as possible.

Arlo is a puppy in every way except that he is quite big. Unaware of his size, he is somewhat clumsy, especially navigating stairs. He is extremely playful and fun-loving. He sleeps in our bed every night, and usually navigates the space right between my husband and me. We are so happy to have this new companion, day and night.

Deborah Baker and Barry Schwartz

## ARLO

Dear GRRR:

We adopted Quinn from GRRR on March 8. She was part of Greta's litter. She will be 6-months old this week and is doing very well. She just passed her basic obedience class at Terroux's. She is starting to really enjoy fetching (took a while!) and has FINALLY learned how to swim...just this week! She is also a great little playmate and loves to meet other dogs. We will be taking her to our vacation cottage in Michigan in about a month, where I suspect we will have trouble keeping her out of the water!

Cheers, Penny Berg



## QUINN



Dear GRRR:

Bella is doing great. She loves to go for walks (most days twice) and it's the craziest thing—she LOVES watching TV! She actively watches it. In fact in the morning I let her out and she comes back in and sits in front of the TV waiting for it to be turned on. I've never seen anything like it.

She's eating great (it was a rough start but a little pumpkin added to the kibble and she dove right in) She doesn't really play—no chewing toys or chasing balls, but can be petted for hours. Needless to say we are so very happy we gave her a home and I know she is happy to be here.

Thanks,  
Susan and Barry Perew



## BELLA

Dear GRRR:

I adopted Murphy on April 27th. He is a sweet and goofy boy; so loving and a total ball of energy. We make sure to get outside and explore as much as we can. He does well off leash on the trails and is getting better by the day walking on-leash. He used to pull significantly but the training we attend has reduced his urge. He always greets me with a toy as if to say....Mom, I brought you something special. We go camping and exploring as much as we can. The picture is Murph and I on a hike in Curt Gowdy Park in Wyoming.

I am so happy he is in my life and think he is enjoying his new home.

Heather Vainisi

**MURPHY**



Greetings GRRR!

It is quickly approaching one year since we adopted Millie. She has been the perfect addition to our home and is a favorite in our Midtown neighborhood (67th & Pecos) and at our dog-friendly local brewery, Bruz Belgians. She is very intelligent and has a great personality. I work at the City of Westminster and she accompanies me once a week to City Hall where she has stolen the hearts of my colleagues.

Just for fun - we had Millie's DNA tested and she came back as 100% Standard Poodle! We were surprised since she looked and acted like a doodle mix but Poodle she is. She is still around 45 lbs. and loves walks and being off leash for a good romp. We couldn't be happier! Attached are some photos of Millie showing her style and fun-loving nature!

We just renewed our GRRR membership and really appreciate all of the work being done to help put dogs like Millie into good homes. Keep up the GRRReat Work!

Andrew Southard

**MILLIE**

Dear GRRR,

Just a quick update on Reese, formerly Athena from TD-10. Reese has opened up so much since we adopted each other last August. She thoroughly enjoys walks, bunny hunting (hasn't caught one thankfully), basking herself in the sun, toys and playing with her three furry cousins - 2 of who were adopted from GRRR. She loves the dog park, greeting the owners before the dogs! She loves going to Home Depot and gets so excited when I pull into the parking lot - a lot of her training was there.

Thank you for all you do!

Kim Sobzack

**REESE**



Dear GRRR:

We adopted Angel (now Winnie) from GRRR about 2 months ago. She's been a great addition to family. I've attached a photo of Winnie and I - her first peak bagged, South Arapahoe at 13,300 feet!

Thanks for all you do!

Dana Hoffman

**WINNIE**

# Recent Rescues



Dear GRRR:

Here's an update on Oscar and a photo. This happy, boisterous boy is absolutely loving his new life in the mountains of Aspen. He is my best hiking buddy and just loves running down the trails near our home. When we aren't hiking, Oscar accompanies me to work where he gets lots of love and pets from my colleagues.

We love this golden ball of love and energy! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Best,

Aimee and Mike Duffy

**OSCAR**

Hi GRRR:

This is Dottie (Dorothy the Golden Girl) who we adopted last Labor Day weekend (her name was Scout at the time). She is now 13 months old and is living her best life every day! She is such a sweet, loving and energetic girl who loves walks and snuggles and really LOVES the water. We are so grateful GRRR brought her into our lives.

Here's a picture of a cross-stitch portrait I did that looks just like her.

Thanks!

Sarah & Brandon Eaton



**DOTTIE**



Dear GRR:

My husband and I adopted a beautiful 5-year-old from GRRR the end of November. His name was Snowman but we fondly call him Buddy. We love him - he is so loving. He goes to doggy daycare three times a week. He is a gentleman and has perfect behavior. Buddy is the second Golden we have adopted from GRRR. We had one of the dirty dozen puppies 11 years ago. Sadly he passed away last summer of cancer. He too was a wonderful member of our family.

I work for a fire department and am part of a peer support group that councils first responders suffering from PTSD. I think Buddy would be a huge help in the group settings and am going to have Buddy therapy certified with our organization. He will be a big ice breaker with his welcoming behavior and his endless affection. I will keep you posted on his progress as a peer support therapy dog.

Thank you GRRR and all the volunteers that rescue these wonderful animals and get them forever homes. Roberta is who we worked with and I want to thank her for making it such a wonderful experience.

Sandy Danne

**BUDDY**



**FRANCIE, KEVIN, AND BEN**

## GRRR Executive Director Passes the Torch

We welcome Francie Rakiec as GRRR's new Executive Director! GRRR's Board unanimously elected Francie to succeed Kevin Shipley, who is happily entering the world of retirement.

Board President Judi Servoss conveyed the Board's confidence in its leadership. "We are thrilled to promote Francie to Executive Director. Her experience as a Board member and Development Director has prepared her well for this move. Those who know Francie can attest to her enthusiasm, energy and professionalism, along with her love for all our Golden Retrievers."

Judi added praise for Kevin, who has dedicated nearly six years to helping GRRR grow into the unique organization it is today. "As our first Executive Director, Kevin helped create the position and develop a strategy that could evolve with a changing rescue environment. We are truly grateful for all he has done."

Commenting on her new position, Francie said, "I couldn't be more excited to be moving into the role of Executive Director. Everyone at GRRR, including the board, has been so very supportive of this change. The last six months have been a great learning experience for me and I look forward to the challenges that may lie ahead as Executive Director.

"I also look forward to meeting more and more of our loyal members and volunteers. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments or concerns. Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity. It is such a wonderful feeling to work for an organization that makes a difference every day in the lives of Golden Retrievers," she said. 🌸

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## Ben, Office Dog Extraordinaire!

by Francie Rakiec

Many of you know Ben. He has spent a few days here and there in the kennel, but generally spends his time hanging out in the office. He has quickly become the official GRRR office/greeter dog.

Ben was a former breeder dog surrendered to a shelter in Wyoming. The reasons surrounding his surrender are unknown, but suffice it to say, GRRR lucked out in a big way when we got Ben. I think Ben would say that he got pretty lucky too. Ben is just one of those dogs that you instantly become attached to. Maybe it's his adorable sugar face or his spunky personality. Whatever it is, he has definitely made an impression on everyone here at GRRR.

Ben is a lively senior dog who doesn't know he's a senior. His records say he is 12, but he acts more like he's 5 or 6. The only thing that really tells his age are his cloudy eyes. Everything else about him says that he is still a pup at heart. He loves playing ball and he loves going for walks, which include him walking himself most of the time. He also loves being served breakfast in bed. That means that our kennel tech serves him his meal while he lays on his bed in the office. Sometimes breakfast in bed may or may not include being hand fed if he hasn't finished his breakfast by lunch time. (Ben isn't spoiled at all.) I like to think that Ben's two favorites things in life are sleeping on the bed with Mary and going on "dates" with me. Ben absolutely LOVES car rides so naturally he goes with me any time I have a short errand to run.

Every dog deserves to have the life that Ben and other GRRR dogs have here at Phoebe's Place. Next time you are at Phoebe's Place be sure to stop in the office and say hi to Ben. He loves meeting new friends, human and furry.

Note: Ben is NOT available for adoption. 🌸

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## GRRR's Veterinary Center

by Kevin Shipley

A rare Bob Sturm sighting! It was great to have Bob out to Phoebe's Place to see the Veterinary Center he funded. He loved the quality and detail. He even got to see the isolation room at work with a group of puppies that had just come in and needed to be separated from the adult dogs while they were waiting for a medical exam from Dr Carpenter.

A big thank you to Bob and the Robert B Sturm Foundation. 🌸



**BOB STURM**

# Golden Angel: Avery

by Jeannie Miller

Hi everyone, out in GRRR-land! I am Avery and I am just 10 weeks old! But don't let my young age fool you. I have been through a lot in my short time on this earth! You see, my Mom was a beautiful English Golden Retriever who had me and my brothers and sisters in late April in another state. We were born at a breeder's place. One by one, my siblings were born. And then there was me. When I came out, the breeder noticed that my right front leg didn't look the same as my other one. And when she got a closer look, she saw that my elbow is bowed out and my wrist is folded in on itself. My paw did not fully develop either, so my whole leg is pretty messed up.

I am very healthy otherwise and quite good-looking, don't you think? The breeder thought so too but decided that the best thing for me would be to go to a Rescue who could find the right home for me. I really appreciate that because some breeders might think that I wasn't worth saving, if you know what I mean. I really want to grow up and have a good life and be a good dog. I learned to walk by using my three good legs. My bad foot kind of flops around and gets in my way but I don't care. I can still go anywhere I want to go! I gained weight, grew and kept up with my brothers and sisters. After a few weeks, my breeder called GRRR to see if they would take me. I swear I could hear Mary say 'absolutely' through the phone! Well, then plans were made to get me to Colorado so I could start my journey to finding my forever home. A wonderful lady named Janet Townley picked me up from the breeder and then Scott & Laura Johnston drove out to Nebraska to get me. I got lots of snuggles and kisses as we made our way. I really liked these GRRR people already.

When we arrived at Phoebe's Place, I got to meet Louie, Molly and Ben plus a bunch of other dogs. And I got to be with Mary who instantly made me feel like everything was going to be okay. I settled in and had my own area with soft blankets, papers to do my business on and lots of love and attention! The next day, a gentle doctor (Dr. Carpenter) came to see me. He checked me all over and told me how beautiful I am. He spent a lot of time looking at my leg and talking to Mary about it. They said that I was so good at using my good legs already and that things would be even better for me if that bad, floppy leg was gone altogether. They thought that it would never turn into a good leg like my others and that I could get along just fine without it. They said that I should have it taken away when I was about 16 weeks old. I was not sure what that means exactly but I trust these people. I could tell that they want what is best for me.

Then a really exciting thing happened! Francie, another wonderful GRRR person, said that she would take me home to her house to stay until my forever family could be found. Francie and Wade have four Golden Retrievers – Bruce, Sadie, Nala and Casey. And guess what! Casey has a partly deformed leg too! I couldn't believe it! Another dog like me! And he liked to play with me too! I was so happy there! Every day, Francie would take me to work with her at Phoebe's Place so I could see Mary and continue working on my house training. Lots of wonderful people came to see me and snuggle with me. Then every night I got to go home with Francie and see Casey! After how things started out for me in life, I was starting to think I was one lucky dog!

Mary decided that the best thing for me was to find my forever home as soon as possible before I have my leg removed so I could be comfortable and get to know my forever family. It didn't take very long before Scott & Linda Jorgenson came to see me. They were so kind, and we fell in love with each other right away! They took me home.

I have been with them for just a few days now and I love my new home. I think I am going to have the best life! We have a neighbor dog who is a 6-month-old Golden. Every day, when our humans let us out in our yards, we wait for each other at the gate. When they open the gate, we just play and play! I am learning to use my dog door and trying so hard to learn about house-training and other grown-up dog things. And guess what! I get to go kayaking with my dad and I am learning to swim! I wear a little life vest and my dad stays close to me. And no, I don't go around in circles because of my bad leg! I can swim straight!

I think I am going to love my life and I already love my family! I am a little scared about the upcoming surgery, but I know that my family will help me through it, and I will be playing again before you know it. I am very thankful that my breeder wanted me to find a good life and that she called GRRR to make sure that happened. Thank you all so much for caring about us Golden Retrievers that need extra care and help, and for all of your donations to pay for things like my surgery! 🐾



**AVERY**

# Golden Angels: Keiki

by Jeannie Miller and Steve Schmidt

This is sweet, seven-year-old Keiki. She came to GRRR this spring when her owner passed away, out-of-state, and the owner's family brought her to Colorado. The family decided that they were unable to care for her and so GRRR was contacted to see if we could take her. What do you think the answer was? You guessed it! Without any hesitation, Mary said 'yes'.

When she arrived at GRRR, Mary was presented with a sweet, but rather shy girl whose right eye was cloudy, swollen, red and bulging. To Mary, it looked painful and very irritating for this pretty girl. Keiki seemed afraid that the other dogs would hurt her. There was little information passed on verbally, but a few pages of records were provided. In those, Mary could see that Keiki had been brought to a veterinarian in March of 2017 with an injury to her eye that was reportedly caused by a stick. We don't know what kind of treatment she received, but clearly the eye was badly damaged. Another record from the same vet showed an injury to her foot a month later. That, in combination with observing that she pulled back and cringed when approached, leads us to think that she was somewhat neglected and possibly abused in her former home.



**KEIKI**

But things were about to turn very rosy for our girl Keiki! You see, Mary decided to ask Steve Schmidt if he would foster Keiki while we determined what could be done to give her relief from her painful eye and to see what forever home would be best for her. Steve has a great and laid-back buddy named Dusty who also has a bad eye. Dusty's eye had a cataract removed and replaced with a new lens. Unfortunately, his body rejected the lens, so Dr. Hammond had to remove his eye and replace it with a prosthetic eye. Dusty has adjusted really well to only one eye. What a good buddy he would be for Keiki!

Steve brought Keiki home to meet Dusty. They got along instantly! Keiki loved Steve's yard, especially rolling in the grass, and quickly learned that watching the squirrels and rabbits was very entertaining even if she had no hope of ever catching one. Steve taught Keiki to walk on a leash and to be very comfortable hanging out with him and Dusty. Shortly after coming to Steve's house, she was taken to see Dr. Carpenter. It was determined that the best thing for Keiki would be to remove her eye. It was never going to provide her with any sight, and it was painful for her and very prone to infection. So, on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Carpenter removed her eye and closed up the socket. She of course had to have 'the cone' for 2 weeks after her surgery. Steve was amazed that after the cone came off and she healed a bit, her energy level just skyrocketed compared to what it was when he first met her. Clearly, she should have had better care long ago.

After a couple more weeks she was doing great, so Mary and Steve agreed it was time to find Keiki her forever home. Enter Dave & Holly Prather who had recently lost a beloved Golden. They took Keiki home after meeting her at Phoebe's Place. It has now been about a month since Keiki has been part of the Prather family and she is doing splendidly well! Holly says that she continues to become more relaxed each day and

less afraid of loud noises, other dogs and people in general. She loves her walks and has learned to play ball and cuddle with her very own Teddy Bear. She is a sweet, loving spoiled girl now, who deserves a world of happiness and will be loved and cared for by her new family.

It is only because of your generous support of our Golden Angel Fund that we are able to do whatever is necessary to take care of Golden Angels like Keiki that so need our help. Thank you so much! 🌸

## Please Donate to GRRR's Golden Angel Fund!

The Golden Angel Fund has been established to help Golden Retrievers in need of extra medical care. Some Golden Retrievers require special medications or surgeries for conditions such as cancer, hip dysplasia, allergies, heartworm, knee surgeries, eye surgeries, infections, etc. Without medical help, many of them will not be likely candidates for adoption; however, we can't say no to these special Golden Retrievers who need extra care. Sometimes extraordinary medical circumstances bring these Golden Retrievers to us, and with the Golden Angel Fund we can help more of them find a quality, pain-free life in a new and loving home. Please send your tax deductible donations to: GRRR, 15350 W. 72nd Avenue, Golden, CO 80007 (make your check payable to GRRR with "Golden Angel Fund" in the memo portion). Or donate on-line at <http://goldenrescue.com/golden-angel-fund/> Thank you!

# Golden Angel Updates

## GOOSE, By Connie Wooley

Goose is doing great! His favorite activities are playing fetch, finding sticks in the yard and sneaking them into the house, and playing with his fur brother and sister. Whenever we have company over, the first thing he does is run and get a ball and then makes sure all the guests can see it, in hopes someone will throw it to him. He loves pumpkin and sweet potatoes and his frozen stuffed Kong toys. He was also special Ambassador at the GRRR Gala!

He has gone 2 weeks without an accident in the house and that is amazing! He had to learn the concept of potty training after he was healed from his surgery, so with that timeline, he is right on track. We are still working on not jumping up on people (he just loves meeting new people!), but he is getting there. We just love this goofy boy!

He is as goofy as his name and we just love him to pieces. I could not think of a better fit for our family! 🌸

**GOOSE**



## KALI, by Madalynn & John Neu

My name is Kali. I am a GRRR Angel. I was brought to GRRR in March with elbow dysplasia and bilateral hip dysplasia. I had surgery on both elbows on March 19th when I was 9 months old and went to a foster home 3 days later. My hip dysplasia was so severe that the vet wanted to do the hip replacements as soon as possible, so 6 weeks after surgery for my elbow, I had my first hip replacement and 8 weeks after that had my second hip replacement.

This sounds terrible and I was sick and sore for 2 or 3 days after surgery, then I felt better. In fact after the last hip replacement, I felt really good 3 days later and was ready to run and jump. The problem is – no one will let me run and jump. My humans, who will adopt me when the vet says I am recovered, say that running and jumping could hurt me. I do not understand that and try my best to be active.

I live with my human mother and father and two older dogs. One is an 11-year-old Golden, Chloe, and the other is an 11-year-old pug, Frank. Chloe is nice and we share toys, but she will not play with me. She has taught me that we should not chase squirrels because we cannot catch them. We just watch them through the kitchen glass doors. She has also taught me the best way to get treats from our humans and some other things. I try to play with Frank by licking his ears and face, standing over him, and pushing him with my nose, but he stays away from me as much as he can.

We all walk in the park now and I see other dogs running and chasing balls. I want to do that too, so I am frustrated. I also cannot be outside alone because I might run and jump. To help with my frustration, I chew rugs, towels, shoes, and anything else that I can find. This is getting harder as my humans are putting up more and more gates and closing doors. My humans say that although I have too much energy, I am happy, sweet, and affectionate. I love to cuddle and have them pet me. We are all really looking forward to the day when I can run, and they can adopt me – and I think that will be in a few weeks. My humans also seem excited about something called dog training that they will start soon. I don't know what that is, but I hope it will be fun. 🌸



**CHLOE, KALI, AND FRANK**

## This May Be What You're Looking For...

by Cathy Jones

I know we would all agree that we are great fans of GRRR and of the Golden breed we love. Perhaps, though, you are not aware of an opportunity to honor Golden retrievers in your life while also helping GRRR. Did you know that GRRR has a Naming Tribute program? For a minimum \$100 donation, you can submit your beloved pet's name, a photo and a short story of your pet... or you can submit this information for any pet or person you wish to honor. This will be posted on the GRRR website, where you can visit as often as you like, and others can visit these memorials, too, to read about the beloved dogs who have been a part of our families. And, GRRR will name a rescued dog after your honoree, so in a tender and meaningful way the memory of the one you loved will live on.

Participating in this Naming Tribute can comfort the family of the deceased pet and will certainly honor the memory of the pet – no matter how recently or how long ago the pet died. It also offers a way to "visit" your pet online as frequently as you wish. Further, the donation to GRRR helps to defray the costs of rescuing the Golden retrievers and Golden-mix dogs who come into GRRR's care until they find their forever homes.

For more information, or to include your honoree in the Naming Tributes, please visit our website, [www.goldenrescue.com](http://www.goldenrescue.com) and click on the News button on the top of the home page and then click on Naming Tributes, where you will find the information you need (<https://www.goldenrescue.com/naming-tribute>).

Questions? Please e-mail [info@goldenrescue.com](mailto:info@goldenrescue.com).

**WINONA, the first Naming Tribute**



# Donations in In Memory or in Honor

- Anonymous in memory of Oblio Lormand – “One of the best dogs ever.”
- Anonymous in memory of Miles Denckla
- Anonymous in memory of Honey
- Anonymous in memory of Andrew Wilson
- Anonymous in memory of Paul Cuthbertson
- Anonymous in memory of Lexie
- In Memory of Barb Harrison:  
Kimie, Brandon, Maddie, Allie Christianson • Mary Kenton  
Joey, Carmen, Sierra & Caleb Hardy
- In Memory of Randy Niendorff:  
Anna & Mike Daddario • Richard Davis • Steven Rutherford
- In Memory of Sugar Bear Pierrel:  
Anonymous • Mary Kenton • Francie Rakiec  
George & Nancy Reid • Stacy Springston
- In Memory of Drew Wilson:  
Craig & Marjorie Barnes • Bill & Cindy Bowers • Lisa Crotty • Cathy McCague  
Kay McClellan • Kim Ohlson • Jeffery & Jennifer Robillard • Tom & Pam Zundel
- Judy Alliprandine in memory of Allie, GRRR rescue of Mary Wilham and Earle Jones
- Elizabeth Bailey in memory of Una Lou Williams – “The sweetest Golden in all the land.”
- Jessica Betterly in memory of Jasper, beloved Golden of Colleen Waite
- Beverly Dickinson in memory of Dasha Bella Gracie
- Susan Key Dickinson in memory of our beloved Dasha Bella Gracie
- Scott & Laurie Dorfman in memory of Cody Besant
- Albert & Marilyn Falcione in honor of Brent’s birthday
- Sybil Gibbons in memory of Tom Williamson
- Margot Gilbert Frank in memory of Charlie, dog of Lyn & Mike Schaffer
- Lisa Griffin and Shaun Shafer in memory of Terre Lemick
- Mary Kenton in memory of Stella the Queen
- Pamela Jones in honor of the wedding of Carly Cairns and Glenn Beller
- Mary Kenton in honor of Bob Jorgenson and Deb Kneale
- Thomas & Donna Kroll in memory of Barbara Harrison
- Heidi Kuhn in memory of Stephanie Smith
- Jay & Deborah Lubin in memory of Cody Besan
- Susan & Doug Martel in honor of Steve Morganfield and Linda Holway
- Dan Matras in honor of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear & Molly
- Stacie McWilliams in memory of Palei
- Jean Melville in memory of Denny Simpson
- Molly Miller DVM in memory of Tom Williamson
- Kathleen Moore in honor of dog Molly McNear
- Carol & Clark Myers in memory of Oakley
- Barb Peters in memory of Sophie Bella, “She was our light”, and in honor of our sweet GRRR rescue, Amari
- Dixie & Dick Piland in memory of Ginger Zimmerman
- Stella Raasch in memory of beloved Golden Goldie and Aspen
- Ellen Rabinowitz and Roxanne Sabin in memory of Cindee Moyer’s sweet Izzy
- Cassandra Salazar in honor of Jayjay
- Nancy Scarffe in memory of Treasa Lemick
- Scott & Sheridan Skinner in honor of Cooper
- Jodie Sperling in memory of Penelope Sperling
- Patrick Sullivan in memory of Ethel Byrne
- Susan Tate in memory of Haley Smith
- Molly Vieyra-Smith in honor of Pam Fortune
- Jean & Stan Williamson in memory of Tom Williamson

**SUGARBEAR**



## Naming Tributes



**IZZY**

**IZZY**— by Cindee Moyer. “I walked sweet Izzy for the first time as a GRRR volunteer 5 years ago. She was abandoned by the owner who had moved out of the country, selling his house with her in it. Izzy was the perfect girl, but after many health issues, at the age of 12 she could go no more. I will miss her forever.”

**DASHA**— by Susan Kay Dickenson. “Beautiful Dasha was born in Sweden and adopted at six months old. She loved hiking, rolling in the snow, running on the beach, her stuffed toys, tennis balls, her family and most everyone she met! DD was sweet, gentle, smart, loving, graceful and intuitive. Most of her life she lived in Montana. She had a foster Golden sister named Kona “bear” whom she cuddled, hiked and swam with. This darling, lovely girl brought much joy to all who knew her and met her. Thank you Dasha for years of unconditional love!”



**DASHA**

**SOPHIE**— by Peters. “12-year-old Sophie loved life. She adored snuggles, walks, catching tennis balls, peanut butter, watching the world from her window seat, finding treat-filled Easter eggs, opening holiday gifts, and playing with her dog friends. Most of all she was dedicated to her people. Their love was deep and joyous. Sophie’s warm smile, sparkling eyes and curly wagging tail brought happiness to all those lucky enough to know her.”

With your donation of \$100 you may request a Naming Tribute so that one of GRRR’s rescued Golden Retrievers will be named after your dog or loved one. You will honor the memory of your loved one, and your donation will help us give a rescued dog a new start to a better life. More info on Naming Tributes: <https://www.goldenrescue.com/naming-tribute/>

**SOPHIE**





GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE OF THE ROCKIES

# ANNUAL RESCUE REUNION **PICNIC**

**Boulder Reservoir**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

**11am - 2:30pm**

**GREAT  
BALL TOSS**  
at 1:00...  
Don't miss it!

**Join Us for a Great Day on the Beach!**

**Swimming • Music • Raffles • Food • Merchandise • Fun  
...and a Few Hundred Wet Dogs!**

**All GRRR members, family, and their dogs are invited!**

Potluck - we'll provide sandwiches but please bring side dish/appetizer/dessert to share.  
Bring lawn chairs for you & towels for your wet dogs...they WILL be wet!

Cool merchandise for sale includes 2020 calendars and Limited Edition 2019 Picnic T-Shirts!

We accept Visa, Mastercard and Discover.

**NO ADMISSION FEE!** (tell them you're with GRRR!)

Boulder Reservoir:

5565 N 51st St. Enter at main entrance.

Dream Cove picnic area is on left.

Plenty of free parking.

[goldenrescue.com](http://goldenrescue.com)

**REMINDER:** Only well-behaved, well-socialized GRRR dog(s) and/or dogs in your family, whose behavior you know, are allowed. No small dogs, please. And remember - on or off leash, you need to adequately control your dog(s) at all times, and you are fully responsible for your dog(s)' behavior. Thank you.

# In Memory



## **PAYTON**

We adopted Payton from GRRR in 2006 and he passed away on June 11, 2019.

Payton was our first child and three years after we got him we had our first son, then our daughter in 2010. My husband and I got time to enjoy Payton before kids, then experienced our Golden with two kids. Payton was a precious Golden and loved all of us dearly!

Payton ran miles upon miles with my husband and me and knew the Boulder Trails like the back of his paw. We ran with him every day, and no matter how far we ran, he never tired. My kids adored Payton and he was so gentle with them. He really didn't care much about them until they could pet him! A typical Golden Retriever, he loved being petted and loved to eat!

Payton traveled everywhere with us and he was really a part of our family. Payton started to experience arthritis and was having a hard time walking starting at age 14. However, he kept going! Unfortunately Payton got vestibular disease when we were on a weekend trip and we immediately came home from our trip to care for him. We waited and waited for him to recover and he did get better slowly, but never fully recovered. We think he hurt himself trying to walk

## **PAYTON**

and he never was able to get up again. In true Golden behavior, our last days with Payton were special and sad.

Payton did us a blessing by letting us know it was time for him. We all lay by his side as he passed away. Dogs in the neighborhood started barking as Payton entered dog heaven. It was really odd, but special. There will not be any other dog like Payton

Jennifer Gilligan

## **HALEY**

Our sweet Haley passed away at the amazing age of 15 years old on Friday, July 12th. We did routine ultrasounds to monitor her adrenal glands, and unfortunately a very large splenic mass was found this May. Haley started her life with us as a Golden Angel. A day after we brought her home, she had green goo coming from her nose, so we took her immediately to our vet. They informed us that she was extremely sick with canine influenza and pneumonia, and said she should be hospitalized at the ER hospital in Fort Collins where we lived. She spent a week there fighting for her life.

We knew Haley's rough start in life, living in a mud pit with no protection from the Colorado weather, and were very worried that she would not pull through. As far as we were concerned, she was our girl, and we were going to go to the expense to get her better. She deserved that. We let GRRR know how sick she was because she was so contagious, our first Golden got kennel cough from her. GRRR, being the organization that they are, covered her medical costs, thus Haley becoming a Golden Angel.

Haley's initial rescue was tragic; she had to be carried out because she would only belly-crawl and cower. At home, she would hide in corners and make no eye contact. Getting her to trust us took time and love. Slowly Haley began to blossom, and began to play with our Golden Kodi. We began to take her on hikes, swimming in creeks and ponds, snowshoeing, and she began interacting with us as a family member. Her home was where she felt the safest. Her bed traveled with us on road trips because that was where she felt safe when not at home. She loved going for rides in our RZR which we customized to accommodate taking her comfortably and safely along with us. She always had the happiest face when riding in our RZR.

Haley was a sweet gentle girl. She never learned to play with toys. However, she definitely let you know when it was dinner time, when it was time her evening snack, and then would settle in for the night. Haley loved to share the oversized recliner with her dad.

Haley got to reunite with one of the other farm auction Goldens that she was rescued with this year, Parker, eleven years later. It was an amazing thing to see.

Haley was special to all who got to know her, and her story. Our regular vet would always share how frightened and sick she was whenever someone new met Haley at her clinic. Her rehab vet took such great care of her, and was with Haley to the very end. Haley melted the hearts of so many, and especially our hearts. She was our beautiful baby girl. We were blessed to see her reach her 15th birthday, and blessed to have 11 great years with her.

You have left our lives Haley, but never our hearts. You are now free to run with your Golden brothers. Thank you for making our lives so much more, miss you our beautiful Golden girl.

Kelly & Ron Kandcer



## **HALEY**

**Golden Retriever Rescue of  
the Rockies**

**15350 W. 72nd Avenue  
Arvada, CO 80007**

hotline: 303/279-2400  
info@goldenrescue.com  
www.goldenrescue.com

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**BE AN ANGEL TO THE GOLDENS**

Remember the treasured Golden, through GRRR, in your will, trust or other estate planning documents. Talk to your estate planning lawyer to set it up. Thank you!

**GRRR ANNUAL REUNION PICNIC**

**Sept 7, 11am - 2:30 pm**

**Boulder Reservoir**

**Don't miss it!**



**“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”<sup>®</sup>**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies is dedicated to rescue, placement and public awareness, to ensure that Golden Retrievers are adopted by people who are able to provide a safe, loving home.

Applications to adopt a Golden are available on our website [www.goldenrescue.com](http://www.goldenrescue.com)