

Volunteer Update



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2018 Gala - GRRR's 22nd Anniversary

Being a good left brainer, all you can do is create a checklist of things to be done and try to gather a group of really talented people to make those things happen. Even with that, the results are never guaranteed. So we checked boxes on the “action item” list, we had very talented people for each area of responsibility (listed at the bottom), and we put the word out. We succeeded! We were really thrilled that so many of our honored medical providers came and it was exciting to have our wonderful sponsors, including two new sponsors, support us this year. You can find the list of sponsors at the bottom of our website home page.

And, the envelope please...

You guys really came through with results: this year's gala grossed over \$185,000 and netted \$145,000. Remarkably you all set another record (for the fourth year in a row). The special appeal for our Golden Angel dogs (high-medical-cost dogs) set another record of \$92,500, which included a very generous \$22,000 of matching donations. That is huge, given that we spent over \$150,000 on vet bills in 2017.



With GRRR's emphasis on rescuing aging-out male and female commercial breeding dogs, it was very appropriate to have special guest speaker Theresa Strader, the Founder/Executive Director of National Mill Dog Rescue. She was very engaging and really helped fill us in on that very special side of rescue. They do wonderful work.

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2018



Our real gala hero leaders are Corry Mihm, Mary Lisman, Jeannie Miller, Sue Sherman, Debbie Stratton, Cindee Moyer, and each of their teams.

Next year? I would tell you, but it would give away the surprise! Let's just say, you'll be delighted.

Thank you!



Gala

Mission Control – Mission is Job #1! By Kevin Shipley

Sounds like a space launch, doesn't it? Well, it could be if we don't keep control of our mission. In the nonprofit world (and also in the for-profit, actually), mission is everything. In the nonprofit world, it is easy to get distracted by shiny objects. NPO's get stuck chasing money, and, as a result, sometimes create new "programs" in order to possibly attract new granters and donors. They call it mission drift, and it's a bad idea. There are a lot of ex-nonprofits that got distracted. We see national headquarters of major nonprofits get bad press for spending money on many of the wrong things, whether its ridiculous salaries at the top, perks, or any number of other things.

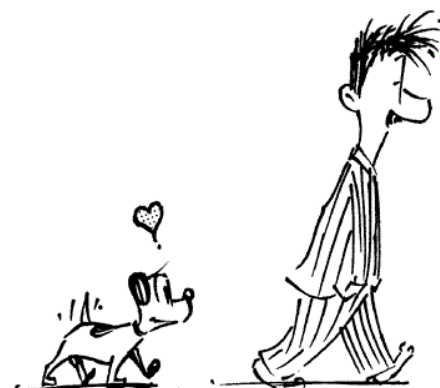
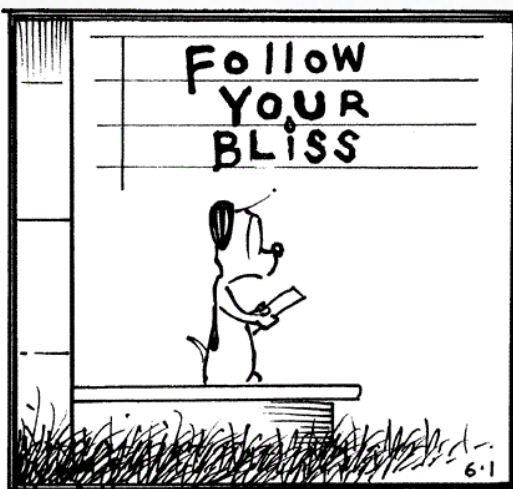
Summed up in the simple lyrics of a recent popular song, "Decide what to be, and go be it!" Sounds a bit naïve, but it really is that simple. Market forces will eventually decide if there's value in what you do or not. Just like in the for-profit world. I remember a TV commercial in the 60s with actor Ben Johnson, advertising spray-on hair as a balding cover-up (for guys like me, follicly challenged). Even at 12 years old, that just looked to me like a bad idea. The market

decided it was a bad idea, too. Sometimes nonprofits can mislead you about what they claim is their mission versus what activities they get involved with. You have to be straight with people and let them decide if your mission is valuable.

At GRRR, we are VERY focused on Rescue-Rehab-Rehome. We rescue Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes, we work with them to prepare them for a forever home (medically and behaviorally), and we look for the absolute best permanent home possible. We think that's enough. It's not that the ideas of others are without merit, but they may have merit for someone else to go do. We love what we do. We love that you love what we do. Together, as dog lovers, we are all involved and all have the privilege of seeing an amazing transformation in many of the dogs that come into our care.

In 1996, long before those lyrics were written, GRRR decided what they wanted to be and stuck to it. I actually like those lyrics for the kids today that have wonderful, dream-filled ideas. For them I say, "Decide what to be, and go be it!"

THE MUTTS DAILY PATRICK McDONNELL



We are huge fans of GRRR and the great work they do. One of our current dogs is a GRRR dog.

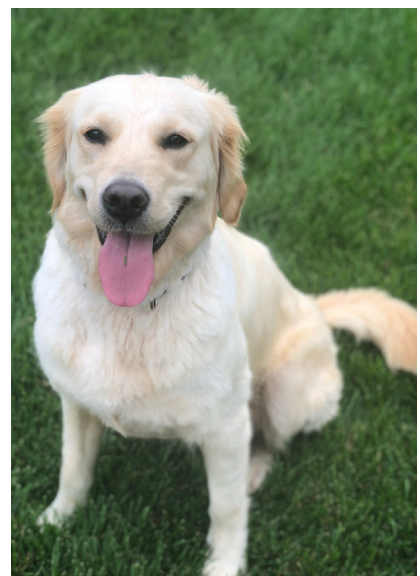
Our family sponsored one of the recent Turkey Dogs and my daughter and I greeted them all at the airport on May 30th. After our arrival at GRRR's property, Phoebe's Place, we had the opportunity to play with all the new dogs, and my daughter fell in love with Yasmine. While all the other dogs were running around, Yasmine kept coming up to us and just wanted love, a pet, and to play tug-of-war with a toy. Two days later we were back at GRRR with our two other dogs to meet Yasmine and, no surprise, we adopted her that day.

Yasmine (now Piper) is probably the sweetest dog we have ever had, and she is more than happy to have a home. Her adoption was not without challenges. She was not potty trained, and potty training her has been more difficult than with previous dogs, as it was very clear that Piper previously lived on the streets of Istanbul and "went" wherever. When we switched to crate training, she progressed much more quickly and she is now down to only an occasional accident.

Piper was also not sure what a walk was all about (we figured she had been on a two-year walkabout in Turkey), but with the help of her new friends Rupert and Ellie she has learned that walks are **JUST THE BEST**. For the first few weeks she decided that after about 10 minutes it was time to head home where she felt safe. Now she is loving her neighborhood park where she chases the ball and rolls in the grass. She went from fearing a walk to getting very excited when she hears the magic words "walk time." We are still hoping that in the future she will be willing to go jogging with my daughter and me, but she is not quite ready to venture out without the other dogs. We're working on it!

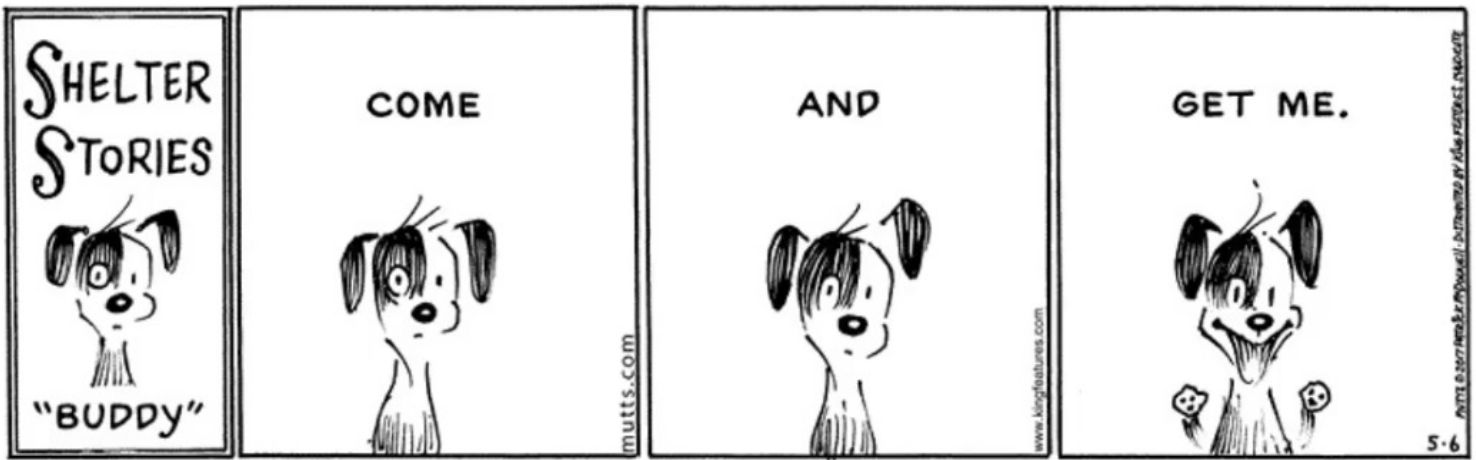
Piper just loves the bed! When we hang out at night and watch TV, Piper is on the bed and loves to cuddle. She is incredibly loving, and her eyes melt us with her look of love. She could not be happier to be part of a family. We absolutely adore Piper, and I am confident the feeling is mutual.

I also want to say how much we appreciate the work of Yasemin Baban in Istanbul. She is giving so many Turkey Dogs a chance at a happy life with her incredible work. Golden Retrievers are not meant to roam the streets of Turkey, and thanks to Yasemin many now have homes in Colorado.



Buffalo Bills Day Parade





Welcome New Volunteers!

June:

Allison Birdsong • Cheryl Campbell • Lori Grassetti • Michael Hede • Sally Hutton
Garrett Jones • Mary Lawhorn • Kiara Louy • Erin Moran • Kerri Sheehan

July:

Karen Ankerstar • Dana Ankerstar • Joey Bazel • Andrea Bendayan • Mary Calderon
Sara Cassese • Gloria Cefalu • Priscilla Mendoza Domnquez
Debi Edy • Tom Henning • Donna Henning • Morgan Loeffler • Tommy Lovelace
Laurie Nelson • Bill Orton • Nina Orton • Alex Schlecht • Michael Schlecht • Tessa Shay

Animal Care Mary Kenton: mary.kenton@goldenrescue.com

Golden Grown Quarterly Newsletter Debbie Stratton: debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com

Volunteer Newsletter Leigh Gannan: leighlums@gmail.com

Adoption Follow-up Cathy Jones: cathy.jones@goldenrescue.com

Placement Roberta Miller: robertamiller70@yahoo.com

Application Advocate Gloria LeFree: gloria.lefree@goldenrescue.com

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Linda Pierrel: linda.pierrel@goldenrescue.com
Jeannie Miller: jeanniebeer@gmail.com

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VIP - Volunteer Interaction Program Coordinator Sukie McMaster:
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Team Leaders