

GOLDEN GRRROWL

"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"™



ROMIE

Romie the R.E.A.D.er

by Diana Witherspoon and Mary Lemma

Unlike Shakespeare's tragic hero, this Romeo, better known to friends and family as "Romie," is just fine—and relaxing on a blanket and being R.E.A.D. to by a third-grader.

Romie, rescued by GRRR and adopted by Diana and Rick Witherspoon five years ago, is a member of R.E.A.D.—that is, Reading Education Assistance Dogs. R.E.A.D. helps children who need to improve their reading skills in a non-judgmental environment, or whose low self-esteem makes them more willing to interact with an animal than with another person. And those who know Golden Retrievers know they're hardly judgmental or pressuring (unless maybe they want a kiss, or a belly rub, or a scratch behind the ears...).

Diana was a volunteer walking dogs for GRRR when she first met Romie. The Witherspoons had lost their first Golden, Skye, at 12-1/2. "He was such a special boy and our grief was immense. I started volunteering at GRRR both to help with my grief and to help other Golden Retrievers. After a few months of walking dogs, we fostered an 8-year-old yellow lab named Cash. Cash was a great dog and we would have been a foster fail but unfortunately he was child aggressive. He was adopted to the perfect home, and I continued dog walking at GRRR."

"Mary Kenton called one day and told me she had the perfect dog for us," Diana recalls. "She wanted us to foster again but we were heartbroken about Cash and did not want to foster again." Mary then asked if Diana would consider fostering 14-week-old Romie just for a weekend because she was overloaded with more dogs. Diana balked: "NO puppies, no way!" Then she met Romie, who of course was very cute. So Diana agreed to foster him *just* until GRRR could place him in a permanent home. Romie had been given up because his owners said their kids were allergic to him. "I think they had two small children and had no idea what getting a puppy really meant. Well..." just a weekend" of fostering turned into a permanent home for a lifetime. "He is a treasure and their loss is our gain," Diana says.

Like a Lot of Pups, "a Handful"

Romie was a handful, as most puppies are, Diana says.

Diana works at home as an esthetician and described Romie's favorite puppy activities as "jumping on my clients at the door and chewing on their clothing, pulling the blanket off the table as I gave them their treatments, and chewing on the bottom of the table and making lots of noise as I tried to give 'peaceful facials,'" she recalls.

Diana also quickly learned that if she wanted to walk Romie off leash on open space, "his exuberance for knocking children flat would need to be trained out of him" because he was a jumper.

She recalls a Halloween when Romie was about two. "We were on an open-space trail off leash as his recall was really good, finally. He ran up to a little girl who was about three dressed as a witch and snatched the hat off her head. I ran after him, trying to retrieve her witch hat. He ran up to her again, returned her hat, and knocked her flat on the ground. I was fortunate that her mother saw the humor in it."

Romie has always loved children's attention and love, Diana says. "When we volunteer, I sometimes have to calm him down a bit so he doesn't kiss them too much. Romie's long tail and the wagging tends to whack the children but they seem to love it." For the most part, she says, Romie settles down and stays calm while they read to him. Sometimes he sleeps.

ROMIE AND DIANA WITH A STUDENT

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“...He is quite the star when we show up at the school.”

“As long as I take him out for exercise first, he is a very good boy. Fortunately, he is very smart and minds well. We are most proud of his recall. He always listens and comes when called. He has a large vocabulary and is a great communicator. He is great with both people and other dogs.”

Even though Romie is high energy, he can be gentle and calm, Diana says. “All I have to do is make sure he gets his exercise. We can take him anywhere and he sits quietly. Almost daily I get comments about how well behaved and ‘chill’ he is.”

The Witherspoons think Romie may have been bred as a bird dog. “He literally runs after birds in flight and is the only dog I’ve ever seen who tracks airplanes flying overhead,” Diana says.

“All in all, the nickname for Romie would be ‘Joy!’ He exudes joy in whatever he does. And for that, we are immensely grateful. We had to do extensive training with him but it certainly has paid off now.”

How it Started

Diana was giving a facial to a client while Romie napped nearby. Her client took one look at Romie and said, “He’d be a great therapy dog.” The client was MaryAnn Briggs, who heads the R.E.A.D. program in Boulder. Briggs was going on more than just a hunch. Research has demonstrated a positive impact on students’ reading abilities when a dog is present. In a study by researchers at the Tufts Institute for Human-Animal Interaction at Tufts University, second-grade students who read aloud to dogs in an after school program demonstrated improved attitudes about reading.

The Tufts and other studies also suggest that reading to dogs in an academic setting has the potential to provide motivation, which the researchers said “will help inform future research into animal-assisted intervention.” Reading to a dog also helps students increase their fluency and test scores.

R.E.A.D volunteers sign up for a school-year commitment and read with elementary students and their dog for one hour a week. Last school year, Diana and Romie read with two students, a fifth-grader and a first-grader. Both needed extra time for reading, and they were more than happy to read to Romie for a half-hour each. Both made excellent progress at the end of the year, Diana says.

Also last school year, Romie and Diana read with third-graders. So many students wanted to read with a dog that the hour was spent rotating with sets of two children each hour every week. The children love having a dog that responds to their loving and one that will sit with them. The impact of Romie’s visits are a sense of pride for the child who gets to read with him, gives a great excuse to work on reading skills, and the relaxation that comes for the children while having a dog to read to.

“Romie is a good listener, a good kisser, a good lover boy, and a great treat taker,” Diana says. “The kids absolutely love reading to him and having his attention. Their enthusiasm for reading to him is something to behold. He is quite the star when we show up at the school.”



ROMIE GET PLAY TIME TOO



A STUDENT READS TO ROMIE

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"...My heart is full when I see what he gives to others every week."



Romie Also Helps Patients Who are Struggling

Therapy certification not only may qualify you and your dog for R.E.A.D, but also for a hospital volunteer program. Romie is also a member of Canine Corps at Boulder Community Hospital. He and Diana volunteer in the Behavioral Health unit where he "brings many smiles to those he visits." Diana says.

"Patients there are adolescents or adults really struggling with mental health issues. It really warms my heart to see what a difference Romie makes for those who are finding it difficult to cope."

When Diana and Romie were visiting the hospital recently, they met a teen and his mother. The boy looked "lost, very sad, and was not engaged with his mother at all." Diana offered to let the boy pet Romie. When he did, Diana asked if they had a dog, and "it was like turning on a light switch. They talked about their dog for at least 10

minutes," she recalls. "Lots of stories, engagement, and smiles."

Romie has also helped with the weekly "stress group," where the group leader teaches ways to manage stress. "He gives a great deal of cheer to those who can certainly use it, Diana says.

"My heart is full when I see what he gives to others every week. Sharing the joy of our dogs is just another gift offered by Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies." 🌸

Information on volunteering at
Boulder Community Hospital:
<https://www.bch.org/Volunteer.aspx#canine>

ROMIE & DIAN

ROMIE'S BOOKMARK

How to be a R.E.A.D. Team Volunteer

"A great R.E.A.D. dog should be calm, quiet, attentive and comfortable in low-key settings," says MaryAnn Briggs, who leads Boulder R.E.A.D. program. "Dogs should also have good obedience skills, be tolerant of a lot of excited children petting them, and be enthusiastic about participation."

To become a R.E.A.D.- registered team, you and your dog first must become a certified therapy team. Most of them are certified through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Once you've achieved therapy-dog certification, you can apply for R.E.A.D membership.

R.E.A.D. team members must pass an open book written test for the R.E.A.D program, and complete a veterinary health evaluation. R.E.A.D provides a manual with tips, tricks, and training, and then the volunteer will shadow a team before volunteering for the first time.

If you would like to volunteer for R.E.A.D., the program is always looking for volunteer teams. Contact MaryAnn Briggs: mabbybriggs@gmail.com. You also learn more about R.E.A.D. at <http://www.therapyanimals.org/R.E.A.D.html>



ROMIE

I Read to Romie!

A Golden Retriever

Romie (also known as

Romeo) is a

certified therapy Dog

And a Reading Education

Assistance Dog.

He loves to snuggle up

And listen to children read.

He is also a Boulder

Canine Corp Volunteer

visiting patients

at the hospital.



READING EDUCATION
ASSISTANCE DOGS®

Since 1999

A PROGRAM OF
INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS

Recent Rescues



Dear GRRR:

Charlee is thriving in her new home. She is a special addition to our family! She loves to play with her brother, Brody, and her sister, Rylee. Playing ball is her favorite activity and she has an instant connection with every dog she meets. She fits perfectly into our pack. Thank you, GRRR, for everything you did for Charlee and all the other sweet Golden Retrievers you help to find loving homes! Brody, Rylee, Charlee and I are forever grateful!

Courtney Olson

CHARLEE (BACK), BRODY & RYLEE

Dear GRRR,

Wendy, Beau, and I wanted to send you all an update on our wonderful dog, Cherry, we adopted from GRRR last February.

After the loss of our beloved black lab Moose two years ago, we decided it was time to bring another dog into our lives. So last year we started thinking about what type of dog we wanted to get, and more important, where to get her.

In speaking with a friend of ours, he mentioned we should look into adopting a Golden Retriever from GRRR, as he was a volunteer there and had great insight of what the organization was all about. A Golden Retriever? We had never really ever thought about the breed, but after speaking with my family we decided we would love to get a Golden, and more importantly rescue one! So in February of last year, our 8-week-old female puppy we named Cherry came home with us.

So fast forward a year, and here we are approaching Cherry's 1st birthday! What a wonderful, happy, energetic and super-smart dog we have! I can't tell you enough how much this dog is loved in our household. Of course, she also brings all kinds of family and friends over to visit with her at our house! We take morning walks and runs at the park before work, and play fetch with her ball most of the evening.

One more brief comment of interest As we were taking Cherry to her veterinarian for follow up visits after bringing her home, he kept commenting what a perfect Golden she was, from her build, size, and of course her top-notch health overall. She is a big hit when we go to the vet's office! He thought it was so great that we got her from a rescue as well. Keep up the great work, GRRR!

We can't thank GRRR enough for what you all do for these wonderful animals, and for giving the Foos family a chance to experience what a great companion and family member a Golden Retriever can be.

Thanks, and Happy Holidays to you all from Cherry and the Foos family!



CHERRY



Dear GRRR:

Dixey Pup Kup has been a gift from our Lord. She's been with us since January. We love her more each day. She's happy, healthy, loved and given a life with us made for a precious Dixey Pup Kup. You all have no idea the joy she has given. We are blessed.

Tell the world how precious she is to us and more proof how happy she is!

Michelle Elstun

DIXEY PUP KUP



Hi GRRR:

My family adopted Dublin from GRRR on February 1 of this year. He'll be one this Thursday! His mom, Lulu, was rescued by GRRR and was pregnant with a lot of babies! Dublin is a Golden Doodle; I believe Lulu was a poodle bred with a Golden Retriever.

Dublin and his brothers and sisters were adorable and we've been in love ever since! Dublin is a big boy – about 90 pounds – and we're getting used to the poodle fur. No shedding is definitely a perk! Dublin is smart, playful and snuggly – like a big lap dog! He loves walks and meeting new friends. And watching the world through our front window. He's so big that we started to wonder if he really is a Golden Doodle. We got a DNA test that confirmed exactly what GRRR told us: he's 75% poodle and 25% Golden Retriever!

I was just catching up on emails and saw the latest newsletter so thought I'd send an update. Hope all is well, GRRR!

Kelly Curry

DUBLIN

Dear GRRR:

As many of you already know, if you open your energy field and intentionally invite a pet into your life, you will find the perfect match. More so, you will often wonder how you lived without them by your side for so many years. This is exactly what Kelly and I experienced with Finnegan, our first boy.

After losing our beloved Golden Doodle, Dakota Bear, at 14.9 years during August 2018, our hearts were broken. She was the absolute love of my life, and crying myself to sleep became routine. Within months I opened my energy field, asking for another Doodle to bless my life as Dakota had done. I began to browse the web late at night and came upon a link for rescued Golden Doodle puppies. Could it be? I could actually rescue a Doodle puppy?

The rest is history as after a call back, we made the trip to Golden to meet Lulu's litter of 11—two females and nine males. We had initially set our minds on another girl, but when we asked to see the remaining boy our hearts jumped a beat. He was the spitting image of Dakota as a puppy, only in the form of a boy. Since his arrival he has been right at home, almost as if he had been here before. We are forever grateful for the opportunity to rescue from GRRR and appreciate the important work that this organization does for animals in need.

Finnegan is such a joy and is very loved.

Vicky Vaughan



FINNEGAN



Dear GRRR:

Molly and I rescued Sunshine on January 29, 2019. She was a birthing mother at a breeder in Iowa. At first, she was very reticent to be a part of the family. She would seek any place in the house where she could hide in seclusion. But with patience and understanding, that began to change in the late part of April, three months later.

Sunshine now takes us on walks every day and shows us that she has found herself beyond having puppies. One of her favorite places is Grand Lake. At the lake she truly becomes a Golden. We are very fortunate to have been selected by GRRR to be the friends of Sunshine.

She is a sweet, loving joy in our home. Thank you GRRR.

Patrick and Molly Williams

SUNSHINE

Recent Rescues



Dear GRRR:

Jackson was the runt of the litter, weighing only 7 pounds when he came home. He now weighs over 70 pounds and is still filling out!

Mary said this puppy had a lot of personality, and she was right! He brought that big personality home with him and keeps his big brother, Sammy, and me entertained!

Jackson is my 5th GRRR rescue. I appreciate everything this organization does to help Golden Retrievers!

Janet Baughman

**JACKSON THEN
AT 7 POUNDS**

**JACKSON NOW
AT 70 POUNDS**



Hello!

We recently adopted our new pup Goldie (now named Gracie) from GRRR back in September. We wanted to send a little update to let you know how well she is fitting in with our little pack!

On the day we adopted Gracie, we were told that she had been a puppy mill breeder, so she had spent most of her life sheltered, in a crate, with little, if any, interaction with people. We were told she would most likely be terrified at first, and that she may spend the first couple of weeks hiding in a corner, afraid of all of the new things she would inevitably experience in her new home. So we were fully prepared to give her all the time she needed to feel comfortable out and about with us and our dog, Gallagher. However, the minute we got home, she was glued to Gallagher; she went everywhere he went, and she did everything he did. She was a bit jumpy at first, but we never expected her to come out of her shell so quickly. She didn't spend any time hiding in corners, but rather spent all of her time doing what her new big brother, Gallagher, did: learning to be a dog!

It was pretty incredible to see! She has blossomed into a pretty confident dog in only about two months! Within the first two weeks, we were able to teach her to sit, shake, down, and sit pretty! When we first adopted her, she was pretty terrified to meet new people, but now she loves meeting new friends! We've been able to take her on a couple of hikes already, and she does so well in public with all of the new sights and sounds! She doesn't seem to be

phased by much now. She has definitely benefited from having our dog, Gallagher, to learn from. She and Gallagher are attached at the hip, and they have a blast together! They especially love to wrestle in the yard!

We have loved seeing more and more of Gracie's personality shine through every day! She LOVES attention, and she has so many fun quirks! When she is really excited, she "smiles" at us, and if food is involved, she clicks her teeth. Gracie was just the girl we needed to complete our little family! Thank you, GRRR, for introducing us to our sweetest girl! We are so in love!

All the best,

Brianna, Matthew, Gallagher, and Gracie Trotter



GRACIE & GALLAGHER



ISABELLE & CHARLIE

Hi GRRR:

This is our sweet Isabelle on her birthday on November 5!

She and her brother Charlie are sharing a pup cup from DQ. Izzy is a playful, happy girl and we have enjoyed this past 10 months! You can see a little ice cream on Charlie's head!

Tracie and Matt Gabel



RJ

Dear GRRR:

We adopted RJ on 10-26-19. Thank you GRRR for such an awesome puppy! We all love him so very much

Johnny Jake and Gail Krutsch



MAISIE

Hi GRRR:

We are all doing well. Maisie is learning manners and learning to trust us that we will always return when we go out the door. She loves the snow and bounds through it with the energy of a happy dog! She loves perching on the seats of our deck. She can watch what is happening on the outside and loves "squirrel patrol" from here as well.

She also loves the fireplace, as you can see!

PJ Baldwin

Dear GRRR:

Sending an updated photo of Willie Nelson!

We adopted him in September and he is doing amazing! He loves all people, other dogs and loves to cuddle more than anything.

Willie has been the perfect addition to our family!

Gina Daggett

WILLIE NELSON



GRRR STATS

January 1 – December 31, 2019

Number of dogs adopted	272
Medical expenses	\$138,864

NEW SERIES FOR 2020: A Dog's Journey

In each of our 2020 Quarterly Golden GRRRowl newsletters this coming year, we will be writing the ongoing story of one of our sweet former breeding dogs. This will allow you, our members, to really live the journey that these dogs take from the time we rescue them (either from a dog auction or directly from a breeder) through the time they find their forever, loving home. We haven't chosen the pup whose story we will tell yet. That will happen when we do our first rescue of 2020 in February.

Rescuing breeder dogs has become an increased focus for GRRR in the last two years even though, if you talk to Mary Kenton, she can tell you of many breeder dogs GRRR has rescued throughout the years. So many heart-wrenching but also happy stories of precious lives changed forever by GRRR's gentle touch. If you read back into past newsletters, you will see many stories about rescuing breeding dogs. Many of you will remember Clyde, who was on our cover in August of 2018. Clyde has such a compelling story with the most amazing happy ending now that he is with Don and Roberta Miller and his four fur siblings. Some of you may have seen Clyde at GRRR events including the Gala. After such a sad beginning to his life, what a sweet and happy boy he is now!

In 2019, we brought 63 former breeder dogs to GRRR in 10 separate rescue activities. In a high percentage of cases, the dogs we rescued were not at all socialized. We call it puppy PTSD because their lives have consisted of being in a very small enclosure most of the time, except when they are being bred or when they are moved to a whelping box to have puppies. Their only contact with people is being given food and being "handled". Consequently, they do not know a gentle human touch. They are fearful, not only of people, but a world that they have no knowledge of. Doorways, tile floors, honking horns, the sky, the wind, a fan, sudden movement, you name it, terrifies them. They have never been on a leash or walked happily beside a person. Their heads and ears are down, and their tails are held between their legs. There is no eye contact. It breaks your heart to see a beautiful Golden that deserves to be that happy go-lucky soul we all know and love, so low spirited.

And yet, we know that if we can get them in our care to gently show them how to trust, their true Golden personality will come through. There is no better feeling when you see that tail go up and start to wag, and then even that little smile start to show. It makes our hearts burst with joy when they get adopted and live in a home with a loving family.

To give you an example of breeder dogs that have come into GRRR's care last year, here is little Matilda. She is a two-year-old petite girl who has had probably 2 litters of puppies in her short life. She came to GRRR in our November rescue of nine dogs from a single breeder. Seven of the nine were extremely shy and withdrawn. Matilda is the shyest of the shy, but she is oh-so-sweet that she stole the hearts of so many of us at Phoebe's Place. At first,



Matilda wouldn't come near anyone and would cower in the corner when we would go into the kennel. She would put her face into the corner and just tremble. Little by little, we were able to gently stroke her, but she still would not turn her face out of the corner. After a few weeks she began to relax a little and would sigh as she was stroked, and eventually even lay down and began to take little looks at our faces. Next we decided that we had to get her out into the play yard so that she could see that she could enjoy some grass and a little freedom. The first week we had to carry her outside because she just froze when we put her on a leash. We used some of her less-shy sisters to show her that they could walk outside on their leashes and little by little we got her outside. Matilda still has a very long way to go, but in early January a wonderful couple who have a confident, happy dog, opened their hearts to our little sweetheart. They know that getting Matilda to fully trust them and to open up to being a happy dog is a very long-term prospect but they know she is worth it. We are so very happy for her!

We thought you would like to get up close and personal with one of these beautiful, sweet dogs. So, we will follow one of them from the moment we first lay eyes on them during their rescue. We will document their experience and progress at Phoebe's Place. And we will let you follow them to their forever home to see how they do there. The first installment will be in our May newsletter – see you then! 🌸

MATILDA

Sign up for Community Rewards at King Soopers!

Looking for an easy way to give back to GRRR? King Soopers Community Rewards makes fund-raising easy...all you have to do is shop at King Soopers and swipe your Sooper loyalty card (or enter Alt ID)...easy!

To register, go to: <https://www.kingsoopers.com/topic/king-soopers-community-rewards> and add GRRR as your charity. You can find us using Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies (GRRR) or by DN758. It's as easy as that and GRRR will receive a percentage of what you spend when shopping. It's totally free to you. Last quarter we received almost \$450 with only 28 households participating. Please sign up today! Thanks!



2020 GRRR Events

GRRR Annual Membership Meeting

March 1 @ 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Standley Lake Library, 8485 Kipling Street, Arvada, CO 80005

Annual GRRR Spring Fling

May 17 @ 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Phoebe's Place, 15350 West 72nd Avenue, Arvada, CO 80007

2010 GRRR Calendar Photo Contest

Opens May 1. Deadline July 15. Start snapping!
Remember - horizontal photos...turn that camera phone 90°!

Annual GRRR GALA

July 18 @ 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Tivoli Event Center, Auraria Parkway

Senior Day! (Dogs aged 8 and over)

August 9 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Phoebe's Place
This is a special day for all of our well behaved, socialized Senior (ages 8 and older) dogs.

2020 Annual Reunion Picnic

September 12 @ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Boulder Reservoir

Halloween Party at Phoebe's Place

October 25 @ 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Phoebe's Place, 15350 West 72nd Avenue

Newsletter Submissions

We all love reading about your Golden Retrievers and we'd like to hear from you! If you'd like to submit a letter AND photo of your GRRR rescue, email the letter and digital photo to debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com, or mail to GRRR at 15350 W. 72nd Ave, Arvada CO 80007. Deadline for the May, 2020 issue is April 6, 2020. Thanks!

Naming Tributes



**MAZEL AND ELLI
ATLAS**

CHARLIE



ATLAS — by Emily and Brent Drinkut. "Mazel and Elli Atlas were both rescued as puppies in Indiana. They later moved to Colorado and lived their golden years to the fullest with a new appreciation for the great outdoors. They caused mischief and laughter like all good sisters, but above all looked out for one another and provided unconditional love to their family. In their memory, a future GRRR dog will be named Atlas to carry on their spirit of adventure."

CHARLIE - by Andrew Walker. "Charlie, who seemed to go more by one of his many nicknames – Chowder, Mimi-Siku, Meems, Cheese Poof, The Goob, Charleston – was born August 12, 2006 in Mattawa, Washington. In October 2006, he met and chose (read: threw up on) his human and went to his forever home just outside Seattle. This was a Golden with a unique personality: one who loved his photo being taken; who hated sticking his head out the window because he detested wind; who loved to swim but hated rain; who enjoyed a spa day and watching cartoons. A dog that emulated all that was good in this world - and knew it, too. He made the big move to Denver in summer 2017 in order to work on his Instagram influencing (but mainly to be with his human). He accomplished his first 5K (for the pumpkin pie), made friends with his four-legged neighbors, learned to love his snow boots only after a group of people cheered him on, and literally brightened the day of anyone who met him on the street. But, in the words of Lao Tzu, 'The flame that burns twice as bright, burns half as long', and on June 25, 2018, Charlie crossed the Rainbow Bridge, naturally in his sleep, next to some of his favorite people. As all dogs deserve, he was well loved and is very missed."

HANK — by Christian & Tara Todd. "We had Hank from the time he was a puppy and the amount of happiness and joy he brought to our lives was immeasurable. Hank was the happiest dog we've ever know. His tail wagged constantly until his last breath. Hank's life was cut short by an inoperable tumor in his snout but we are so grateful for the 11-1/2 years we had with him. There will never be another Hank but thank you for honoring his memory by giving his name to a future rescue or puppy."



HANK

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. With your donation, 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: <http://www.goldenrescue.com/news-golden-retriever-rescue/naming-tributes-dog/product/listing>.

Golden Angel: BIG BEN

by Linda Hartman



BEN

Hello to all my wonderful new friends at GRRR. My name is Big Ben and I just arrived at Phoebe's Place. Actually "Big" Ben is kind of an understatement. I'm more like an "Extra Large" Ben... no better make that an "Extra Extra Large" Ben. At one point back in 2018 my vet records showed I was very overweight at a whopping 176 lbs.! I can't tell you how happy and relieved I am to be here where I feel safe, loved and well cared for. My journey to GRRR has been a long and painful one, but now I can share my story with all of you from my cozy bed at Phoebe's Place surrounded by my new friends.

Back in November one of my knees was injured, and the pain was terrible. I was going to need surgery for a torn ACL, but I was much too heavy to be operated on. There wasn't a thyroid issue or any other health reason for me to be obese. It was tragically the result of too much food, no exercise, and being terribly out of shape. The doctors told my family to take me home, give me pain medications, put me on a diet and get me out for exercise to help me lose weight.

Well, there we were in the same vet clinic two months later, and I hadn't lost weight but actually gained more. Now I also have a torn ACL in my other knee and will require not one but two knee surgeries and two long recoveries. My owners brought me to the vet to be euthanized because they thought it was the only thing that could be done. Thankfully the vet just couldn't do it. She saw how sweet I am, how young I am, and knew that I deserved so much more than being euthanized. Instead, she got permission from the owners to contact a rescue.

It was quite a day when GRRR volunteers Pete and Nancy arrived at the vet's office to bring me "home" to Phoebe's Place. I had to be taken out to their vehicle on a gurney. It took three people a lot of time and maneuvering to fit my huge, pudgy body into the car, but my tail never stopped wagging through the entire ordeal. I could just tell by how kind and caring Pete and Nancy were that something wonderful was about to happen. Then it was off to Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies and a new life for me!

When we arrived at Phoebe's Place, it was so hard to get "all of me" out of the car that Nancy thought they should call the fire department for help. After a lot of pushing and tugging to get a sheet under me, they were able to slide me out. I received such a warm welcome from Mary, and I was greeted by a lot of happy Golden Retrievers who have now become my best friends.

I spent my first night in GRRR's new medical room where I just hung out and relaxed. The next morning I met Steve and Francie. With a lot of help from them, I was able to go outside and relieve myself. I was then moved to the house to join the other Golden Retrievers. Carpet runners had been placed all over to help me get some traction. Right away the other rescued Golden Retrievers curled up with me as if to say, "Do you need some company, big guy?" My face lights up whenever someone comes in the room, and my tail wags almost nonstop.

All the hair on my hind end had been shaved off by the vet clinic because I was a mess back there. I was kind of embarrassed because I couldn't even get up to relieve myself. I keep hearing about how badly I need a "spa day with Dee," but there is no way I would be able to get into the tub, let alone stand up to be bathed. Mary has brushed out all the mats in my fur and that felt so good. She even trimmed the hair on the bottom of my paws to help me get around without slipping. Everyone here just takes my special needs in stride and loves me no matter what. I love Phoebe's place!

After just one day at Phoebe's Place, I am happy to report I've been able to get around on the carpet runners, sit at the door when I need to go outside (no way can I make it through that dinky dog door thing the other dogs seem to fly in and out of). On day two, I greeted Mary at the end of the hallway to tell her good morning. On day three, I walked all the way down to the bedroom to sleep with the "pack" in Mary's room. I found a very soft, large bed and snuggled up for a restful night.

I'm sure looking forward to swimming therapy to lose at least 30 lbs. before I have knee surgery. For now, I'm being kept comfortable with three different anti-inflammatory and pain medications. I'm also on a major diet that includes lots of green beans and a small amount of kibble. At mealtime I always give Mary a look that says, "Really? That's all I get?"

The Golden Angel Fund will provide two knee surgeries for me. Dr. Bauer from Colorado Canine Orthopedics will do the surgeries. The Golden Angel Fund is also paying for my very expensive medications, and Mary ordered a Help 'Em Up Harness because I'm too wide and heavy to use GRRR's wheelchair. Now I'll be able to walk around the yard a little. The Golden Angel Fund, and every wonderful person who donates to it, are literally saving my life.

Would you consider adopting me as a new member of your family? I need to be settled in my new loving home before my surgeries. I will need your love and commitment to helping me heal after surgery, and then we will have so much fun and a life of love to look forward to. Soon the memories of my previous life will disappear and my new life with you will be Golden in every way! Adoption application:

<https://www.goldenrescue.com/adoption-process/>

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the Golden Angel Fund which makes it possible for Big Ben, and many deserving Golden Retrievers, to receive the care they need. Your kindness and support mean so much! 🌸

Golden Angel: ROCKY

by Jeannie Miller

This smiling face is sweet Rocky. I know you are thinking, 'Wait! There was a Golden Angel named Rocky in the last newsletter, right'? Yes, it's true and strangely enough, this Rocky is also a beautiful light gold-colored, 8-year-old boy just like the previous Rocky who had a sarcoma tumor on his front leg.

This Rocky has been at Phoebe's Place for a little while now. He melts everyone's heart who meets him. It is that smiling face that he presents right away followed by the sweetest, gentlest personality you have ever seen. He just wants to be with people 24/7. He gets along great with all the other dogs and doesn't seem to have an aggressive bone in his body. What a gem he is!

Rocky came from a very loving home where he was raised from a little pup. His former owners are elderly. When one of them had to go into extended care, the other was at home using a walker. It became very difficult for Rocky as he had something wrong with his spine. He was very stiff, and running or walking up and down stairs was causing him lots of pain. When Rocky's person would go upstairs to bed, he could not follow and he would cry because he just wanted to be with him. He was not getting any walking exercise either, which just seemed to make things worse.

After a while, the couple's daughter realized that this was a very unhappy situation for everyone and so she called GRRR to see if we could help. They were heartbroken to say goodbye to their sweet boy but did so, so that he could find some relief and happiness. We are grateful to people like this, who have their dog's best interest at heart when they make a tough decision. And we are so glad when they call us versus taking their dog to a shelter where the dog might not get the care and attention they need, or worse, be euthanized because of a condition that makes them difficult to re-home. Rocky's family still loves him and calls to check on him every once in a while.

Upon arrival, Rocky was seen by Dr. Carpenter who did a full exam and x rays. Rocky has an acute case of bulging discs in his lower spine. His pain level is high but so far, Dr. C. doesn't think there is permanent damage. It is a sensitive situation that has to be carefully managed so that it does not become worse causing permanent disc diseases like Spondylosis.

Despite his pain, Rocky is a happy boy in the house with Mary and is enjoying his life every day. He loves everyone who comes in the house to talk to Mary or visit the dogs. He especially loves Steve Schmidt who takes care of the kennels and grounds. Steve gets Rocky's biggest smiles each day!

We will do everything we need to do for Rocky so that he can live his remaining years in comfort and as little pain as possible. In his case, this will be pain and inflammation management with a combination of expensive muscle relaxers, anti-inflammatories and pain relievers plus the right kind of gentle exercise and loving care. Sometime physical therapy can work wonders for dogs with spondylosis. And we are looking for the right home for this wonderful boy. He needs no (or very few) stairs and someone who will spend lots of time with him and let him love them every day. Might that be you? Find our adoption application at <https://www.goldenrescue.com/adoption-process/>

We are ever so grateful to you, our generous member-supporter-donors who contribute from your hearts to our Golden Angel Fund so that we can resoundingly say "yes!" to all of the 'Rockys' that come our way. No matter what their condition or what it will take to get them the care they need, we can bring them to GRRR and make their life so much better. 🌸



ROCKY

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

IVY - Francie Rakiec

For anyone who has stopped into the GRRR office, you have no doubt met "Queen" Ivy, who lies on her throne (aka couch), not so patiently waiting for attention. She will paw at anyone if they are petting another dog or doing anything else that doesn't involve giving her their full attention. Then she looks up at you with her big seal eyes, and you can't help but love her.

Thankfully, Office Dog Extraordinaire Ben tolerates her—for the most part, anyway. However, if Ivy gets too close to him, he will grump at her in his "Get off my lawn" sort of way. He is 12, after all, so who can blame him?



Ivy is now about a year old and is doing amazingly well! Since September she has been going to physical therapy two times a week at the K9 Body Shop in Arvada. She gets a massage once a week and walks on the underwater treadmill twice a week.

Ivy also gets special visits from one of our amazing volunteers, Linda Pierrel, who massages her two additional times a week. Yes, Queen Ivy has a very "ruff" life. Therapy has really helped strengthen her hind end and she gets around so much better now that she has built up some strength in her left leg. She tears around the backyard like a crazy girl with her brothers and sisters. She isn't the greatest at stopping once she is running full speed, so she usually just runs into one of them. She can even jump up on the couch now and up on people, which is a terrible habit, but also nice to see she since she never had the strength to do that before.

Ivy did have to take two weeks off from physical therapy to get spayed. We were all super nervous about this procedure because she suffers from SAS (subaortic stenosis), and putting her under anesthesia is very dangerous. As usual, Dr. Carpenter performed her spay perfectly and she had no complications. Huge thanks to him and his tech, Steph, for keeping this baby girl, and all of our GRRR dogs, safe. And a huge thanks to all of our Golden Angel donors who help dogs like Ivy be able to live their best lives. 🐾

IVY

ROCKIE - Marta Dubay

Rocky, now Rockie because we are huge baseball fans, is absolutely perfect! He has a new brother, Canyon, who compliments tri-paw Rockie very well. Canyon only has one eye. Rockie also has a new sister, Savannah the bloodhound. They all get along great and we humans couldn't be happier.

Rockie came to us at the perfect time. We had just lost our third dog in nine weeks. We adopt seniors, but that doesn't make it any easier. One of our lost babies was a GRRR dog, Emmy. We only had her for three years. My husband Steve and I were heartbroken.



My family has a saying: "When a dog leaves us, it is because they know another dog needs a good home." Enter Canyon! We adopted him from a rescue in Utah. Less than a month later we were blessed with the opportunity to adopt Rockie.

You wouldn't know he only has three legs. He is faster than a speeding bullet (so to speak) and happier than any dog I have ever met. He loves to walk to the mailbox down the street, and his favorite spot in the house is our deck.

Rockie loves to look for deer and squirrels and just enjoy the weather, no matter what it is. He just made his first trip to our second home in Wyoming and was in his element. No leash! Yay! But he does wear booties since he bounces when he walks. He doesn't mind them at all and they protect his paws from sharp rocks, cactus and snow. Wyoming allows for lots of walks to the river and looking for ducks off the bridge.

Rockie has a nickname: Little Stinker. He learned how to open our pantry to get into the trash and found a bag of chocolate fudge cookies. That caused him two trips to the emergency vet. Needless to say, when we leave, we block the pantry door.

We love our senior dogs. Rockie is only eight and we hope that we have him for a very long time. He is so loved. 🐾

ROCKIE

President's Letter

by Judi Servoss

As we begin a new decade, I can't help looking back on how much GRRR has accomplished in the last 2 and a half decades. When we began operating in 1996, we were a small but determined organization, with a few passionate volunteers. If you weren't around then, just picture a small trailer on the lot of Sage Valley Kennels which served as an adoption "hut" and storage room, a neighborhood park for potential adopters to walk dogs, and Mary Kenton with her house full of dogs (well, that part isn't so different...).

GRRR lived hand to mouth, spending and paying bills when we could, with a growing group of volunteers and donors chipping in. Today most rescues nationwide still operate that way. They have the passion, but not the resources. Only three Golden rescues out of about 90 have facilities. We are so very fortunate to have evolved into a sophisticated rescue organization with its own home, which carefully balances the need to operate like a business without losing the human family feeling that so many of us love.

GRRR always puts the dogs first. Sometimes we may hurt "human" feelings when we have to say no, but hard decisions are never made lightly. With that philosophy we've been able to help thousands of relinquished dogs, shelter transfers, Turkey dogs, and former breeding dogs, all looking for new forever homes. Some can do so immediately upon arrival, but others require a lot of physical and emotional TLC to reach that stage.

We see a bright future in this decade and beyond, thanks to all of our members, volunteers and donors. I hope you agree! 🌸

"THE GRRR HUT" AT SAGE VALLEY



Phoebe's Place Update

by Francie Rakiec

2019, Oh what a year!

2019 was a VERY busy year for GRRR. We adopted out 272 dogs, rescued 63 former breeding dogs and rescued 21 dogs from Istanbul, Turkey. We also launched a new website in mid-July and since the new website has been up and running we've received 1,068 adoption applications! That's a lot of applications for our adoption team to have to weed through, but that just allows them to pick the best of the best for our furry friends.

The isolation/vet treatment room was also completed in 2019. This room was made possible by a generous donation from the Robert B. Sturm Foundation and has been a great addition to Phoebe's Place. Dr. Carpenter can now come to see all of our new arrivals and give them their initial exams before heading off to their forever homes. Not only does this addition save Mary time so she doesn't have to run the dogs back and forth to the vet, but it has also come in very handy with the scared former breeder dogs. For those volunteers who have spent any time with some of these dogs, you know how hard it is to even get them to walk on a leash. Now imagine trying to load them up in a car for a trip to the vet's office. Eek!

2019 also brought another item that has been instrumental in helping us save these wonderful former breeder dogs: a transport van. Thanks to generous donations from the GRRR Board of Directors as well as the Robert B. Sturm Foundation, we were able to purchase our very first transport van. We are now able to safely transport up to 12 dogs, in crates, from around the country. Oh, and did I mention that it also has rear a/c? This allows us to rescue so many more dogs in just one trip, and we can even do it in the middle of the summer. We have also used it several times to transport our overseas furry Turkish friends back from DIA. No more having to rent a cargo van and having to worry about if it will be too hot for a transport.

If you didn't attend the 2019 Gala you definitely missed out. Our guest speaker was author David Rosenfelt. His self-deprecating humor had the whole room roaring with laughter. David has written many books and a lot of them feature his Golden Retriever, Tara. He even gave our gala participants the opportunity to have their very own Golden Retriever featured in his next book. How fun is that! Speaking of the Gala, be sure to save the date for July 18, 2020.

And last, but certainly not least, we were able to add a part-time kennel tech position to the books. Steve Schmidt has been a long time GRRR volunteer and member, as well as kennel tech for several years. Steve even does transport for us and his most important job is being a dad to his sweet Golden Angel boy, Dusty! Steve works 5 days a week at PP and in late 2019 it was decided that it made the most sense to have Steve become an "official" GRRR employee.

Here's to 2020 being the best year yet! 🌸

Donations in In Memory or in Honor

- Anonymous in memory of Hamilton Silver
- Anonymous in memory of Remy Mihm
- Anonymous in memory of Sedona, Charlie & Simba
- Anonymous in memory of Thomas Redfearn
- Anonymous in honor of your Daisy, our Ava
- Anonymous in honor of Ruth French
- Anonymous in memory of Cooper Huss
- Anonymous in memory of Mozart Stevens
- Anonymous in memory of Genevieve Gaines
- Anonymous in honor of Anne & Dwight Buderus
- In memory of David Schoen:
 - Anonymous • Joann & Jerry Daniel • Corey Evans Elaine Wendler • Mary and Kurt Haserodt Bruce & Linda Lieb • Wayne & Carol Irick Dean & Nora Stull • Norma Wilson
- Jane Altemeier-Baker in memory of Murphy
- Lindsay Andrew in memory of their GRRR dogs, Buddy, Lucie & Rookie
- Paul & Pauline Atkinson in memory of Tasha & Annabelle
- Jane Altemeier Baker in memory of GRRR alumni Murphy
- Mary E Bakke in memory of GRRR Karina
- Teresa & Mark Beck in memory of Chloe
- Sue Berkowitz in memory of Shaylynn
- Deb Bialeschki in memory of Parker
- Shane Binder in memory of Oola Bonder
- Julie Bobrick in memory of Bently
- Robert Booty in honor of James & Patricia Timmerwike
- Glenn & Brenda Bott in honor of all the dogs they've adopted from GRRR
- Cheryl & Jeff Brasen Charitable Fund in honor of Jim, Sherrie & Addison Stille
- Debra Briels in memory of Katie & Bailey
- Maia Brusseau in memory of Frisco
- Jeffery Bruton in memory of Kdog
- Thomas Buck in honor of Scott & Pat Rogers
- Marcia Burns in honor of Barb & Bob Crook
- Sherrie Caldwell in honor of Allie, her wonderful Golden from GRRR
- Castle Rock Public Library Staff in honor of Jane Smith's retirement
- Karen & Dave Chamberlin in memory of Baxter
- Loretta Charron in honor of Sonny Charron
- Bob & Joyce Childerston in memory of Casey, Maggie, Madison, Sheba & Kendra
- Bernard Clinkscale in memory of Mackenzie Tamura
- Margaret Crawford in honor of Mary Kenton
- Laura Cunningham in memory of Honey, Max, Sis, Scooby & Eddie
- Lynda Delbaugh in memory of Barley & Maggie
- Amy & Kurt DeLucero in memory of Riley
- Marta Dubay in memory of Emmy, her first GRRR dog
- Dana Duthie in memory of Molly, Zoe & Emma
- Albert & Marilyn Falcione in honor of Beth & Brent Flambures
 - Ron & Rita Garner in memory of Rocky Garner
- James & Barbara Gigone in memory of Digger
- Alice Gilbertson in honor of Argyle & Olivia
- Irene Gerty-Gomez in honor of Carlos Gomez
- Mary Gradisar "in memory of all of the beautiful Golden that are no longer with us."
- Nancy Schroeder Grant in memory of Sheba
- Penny Green in memory of Ellie Merchant Sanders-Badt
- Patricia Greenberg in memory of Koti Akyeska
- Gretchen Hale in memory of Hank, her beloved Golden
- Carl & Nancy Hane in memory of Norman, their previous Golden
- Judith Howard and Greg Bowes in memory of Charlie Bowes
- Michael Huwaldt in honor of Reese
- Sarah Jaramillo in honor of McKenzie Tamura
- Catherine M Jones in honor of Irma
- Jeff Jones in honor of Sugar Jones
- Pamela Jones in memory of Thomas Jones
- George & Kathleen Kleeklamp in memory of Jack
- William Koehler in memory of Kathleen Gail Miller
- Darwin Kuhlmann in memory of Sammy
- Brian & Susan Lynch in honor of Pete and Nancy Lynch's big boy Jackson.
- Pete & Nancy Lynch in memory of Gator, fostered by Bill Urbanowski and adopted by George & Nancy Webb
- Karen Lloyd in memory of Kody, Tiger, Sadie, Rusty & Jeremiah
- Maiorani-Stuart Family in memory of Koura
- Janice Mann in memory of Daniel Mann
- Karen Martens in memory of Dexter & Wilson Martens
- Toni Martin in memory of Arthur James Martin III
- Joanne Masi in memory of Bella, their Golden rescue
- Dan Matras in memory of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear & Molly
- Chuck McElwain and Joan Russell in honor of Lily & Luna
- Kate McKenna in memory of Joan Stapf
- Staci McWilliams in memory of Palei
- Inna Merrell in memory of Golden boy Hunter
- Joy Merritt in memory of Chubby, big red Golden, and in honor of Turkey Dog George
- Gregory & Vivian Miller in honor of Bill Urbanowski
- Sybil Miller in memory of Sandy
- Martha Mills in honor of all her Golden Girls
- Mike Morrow in memory of Conner Benson
- Cindee Moyer in memory of Mike Flanagan
- Janice Myers in honor of Sierra & Cody
- Penelope Nelson in honor of Shannon & David Jennings
- Devin O'Meara in memory of Ichabod Reilly
- Linda O'Neal in memory of Buck, Emma, Lucy
- Calvin Oram in memory of Betty Oram
- Malcolm Orton in memory of Tevez
- George & Nancy Park-Reid in honor of Linda & Kady Pierrel
- Kerrie Parsons in memory of K dog
- Stephen Perry in memory of Mardi Perry
- Samantha Phillips-Morgan in memory of Tika & Madison Wilson
- Frances Pilch in honor of her beloved Tessie
- Jerri Potras in honor of Kim Potras-Faanunu
- Donna & Steve Reba in memory of Leica
- Dick Reeve in memory of Mildred Reeve
- Deborah Roll in memory of Emma
- Roxanne Sabin in memory of Deb Dawson & Sophie
- John Sadwith in honor of Barbara Kreisman
- Cassandra Salazar in honor of Jayjay Salazar
- Salena Salmon in honor of Dr. Jude Groves
- Lori & Erik Salo in memory of Heidi
- Linda Sand in memory of Beckett, amazing Golden Retriever
- Lyn Schaffer in honor of Margo Frank
- Bob & Cheryl Scharp in memory of beloved Golden Cody
- Hugh Scilley in memory of Bailey
- Laura & Greg Shaffer in memory of Rugby Ramsey
- Susan Schnick in memory of Indy, "the best dog we ever had."
- Valerie Schwolow in honor of Deb Kneale and Bob Jorgensen
- Bernadine Sherman in memory of Maddie Rosedahl
- Lisa Smith in honor of Bella (formerly Iris)
- Tammy, Jackson & Teddy Bear Smith in memory of Casey Smith
- Stacy Springston in memory of Diane Peterson's dog, Max
- John & Eva Staley in memory of Larry Volmer
- Brenda Steele in memory of Bonnie Crysedale
- Pete & Gail Stokowski in honor of Zoey, their Golden Angel
- Debbie Stratton in memory of Tom Davis
- Christine & Brad Tagtow in memory of Andrea Tagtow's Golden, Anna
- Christian & Tara Todd in memory of Hank
- William Tompkins & Giannine Mustari in memory of Tia Maria
- Touslee Family in memory of Sonny
- Wayne Walker in memory of Lynne Walker
- William Walker in memory of Charlie "Chowder" Walker
- Brian & Andrea Walsh in honor of Megan Walsh
- Paula Walsh in memory of Cotswold Walsh
- Carol Warner in honor of Kismet
- Joseph Welch in honor of Sullivan
- Barbara Weller in memory of Sunny & Sadie
- Kirsten Wilson in memory of Brody Wilson
- Wendy & Richard Wolf in honor of Mandy Wolf
- Steve & Laura Zloger in memory of Maddie
- Gary & Carol Zwicker in memory of Bob & Sue Ronald

In Memory

WINK

On December 13, 2019, we lost our beloved Golden Angel, Wink. We adopted him on February 13, 2016. We will miss hearing your growly voice when I scratched your back side. It drove you crazy, but you loved it! How you stretched out your entire body and looked at me asking me to keep doing it.

We ordered a new custom Ortho bed with his name embossed on it. He loved his old bed, though, with drool stains one side and a broken zipper, being held by safety pins. He refused the new bed, so I dragged out the old stained bed for him and he was content. Wink got a Frosty Paw ice cream every night. He would carry it to his bed and when he finished, he tossed the cup in the air.

This past July we took our last trip to Aspen. Wink walked up part of a trail and I could tell he was getting tired more quickly on this trip. His hips and legs showed signs of arthritis. People at the campground often stopped by to meet Wink and hear his story. Children especially enjoyed him. I'm pretty sure he was like a big white teddy bear to them. You couldn't ask for a better car dog than Wink. We took road trips to Rocky Mountain National Park, New Mexico, Nebraska and other mountain towns, and Wink lay in the back seat so quietly.

Wink took a liking to my brother-in-law, who is blind. Wink was in charge when we walked him to the car. He walked in front of us and next to my brother-in-law without tripping him up. We were amazed when we saw this. Maybe Golden Retrievers have an innate ability to help people with disabilities.

The things that make life precious, including love and companionship, are fragile and perishable.

John and I will miss you dearly, Wink. You were a joy to have around. Even though your body was tired and you got sick, you never let on just how sick you really were. No more pain and suffering. You are free and running in the meadows of Rainbow Bridge.

We are so grateful for GRRR in letting us adopt one of their dogs. One day, we will all be reunited again. For now, good bye, my friend.

John and Lori Lannholm



WINK



DIGGER

Five years and some months ago we adopted a 7-year-old Golden named Digger. We wondered about the name but decided it was his to keep. He wasn't the calmest dog when he first came to our house in Louisville and he continued to be a bit anxious and excited whenever newcomers came around.

With us, he was the perfect companion, slept through the night, followed us everywhere, and loved his two-a-day walks and longer hikes, especially when there was snow to roll in. He also loved car rides to Montana to visit family and playing with his friend, Spumoni.

Digger was 11 years old in September when he became ill and died the same day. We may never know the cause but we know that our big Golden brightened our lives and the lives of many others.

We thank GRRR for caring for Digger and for sending him home with us.

Sincerely,

Jim and Barbara Gigone

DIGGER

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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Join us!
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1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

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“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”[®]

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

Please accept my Membership in GRRR (includes quarterly newsletter plus free attendance at all events and reunions)

I would like to receive my newsletter:

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