



“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”™

Golden GRRROWL

A registered non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization

February 2021

Brushy's 'Tail' – A Turkey Dog's Journey to Finding Purpose

by Barbara J. Kreisman, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Daniels College of Business, University of Denver

“At this place, called Hospice, I had no particular person of my own to pay attention to, but my purpose seemed to be to love each one of them. Dogs can love more than one person at a time; it made them feel happy and it gave me a reason to be back on earth.”

–Excerpt from a “Dog’s Journey,” a novel by W. Bruce Cameron, sequel to a “Dog’s Purpose”.

The concept of bringing rescue dogs to the United States from Turkey resonated with me since I had become acutely aware of the abundance of dogs living on the streets and in the wooded, mountainous regions near Istanbul a couple years prior to learning of GRRR’s efforts to relocate Golden Retrievers to Colorado.

It was during a trip with our University of Denver Executive MBA students to Istanbul when many of us noticed how many beautiful dogs, of all breeds (some mixed but many purebred) were loose in the city, with no particular owner to care for them. We lamented the fact that they “seemed so friendly” yet were ungroomed, thin and hungry. Everywhere we went, we saw dogs. Remembering that from a couple years prior, I paid special notice to an announcement from GRRR which had as its subject line: “Where East Meets West or, Where Turkey Meets Colorado.” I immediately wanted to become involved with what sounded like a rewarding initiative. The intent was for GRRR to raise money to airlift homeless Golden Retrievers from Turkey and find forever homes for them in Colorado. The program originated in 2014 at Adopt a Golden in Atlanta, GA (AGA) when they created the process and infrastructure to bring dogs to the United States via humane, nonstop flights. Before leaving Turkey, all of the dogs receive medical exams and health certificates.

Though we already had two Golden Retrievers, a little female named Autumn from GRRR, and the other a big, furry English guy named Kili (short for Kilimanjaro which in Swahili means Big White Mountain) from a local breeder, I knew I could take on another—especially because a dream of mine was to be a hospice care giving team with at least one of our dogs. I had already become a certified hospice volunteer after both of my parents passed utilizing the warm comforting services of hospice, but I soon realized the work of a volunteer was emotionally draining. A well-trained canine companion would provide great comfort for hospice patients and dog-partner would help make the job easier for me—I thought.

A Disappointing Start

My first attempt at taking a dog through the training failed miserably. It was a rather lengthy process with instruction provided by Delta Society (now operating under a new name) which did wonders advancing the work of emotional support animals. Sundance, my Golden at that time, loved to play and was **not** totally fond of the idea of working. On our last day of the certification process we had to take part in an intense simulated hospital visit, and he seemed to be in an especially playful mood. We did fine progressing through the various stations where his behavior and mine were evaluated. Then came the last “station” and I knew we were in trouble when an older gentleman stepped directly in front of us using a walker with four tennis balls attached to its steel legs. The balls were intended to soften the noise and the impact of each step.

Sundance literally pounced when he saw those appealing beautiful bright yellow tennis balls and nearly knocked the gentleman over (good thing it was a simulated activity).

Needless to say, our test immediately ended and resulted in failure. Sundance didn’t know what he had done wrong, but I sure did. I cried all the way home, with Sundance wondering why “mom” was so sad.

Street dogs in Istanbul

Continued on next page





Barb with Kili, Brushy and Autumn

My next attempt at becoming a Canine Hospice Care Team was with Kili (the guy named for Mount Kilimanjaro). This time our training was shorter (about 8-weeks) and was provided by the Human Animal Bond Program (HABIC) offered by the Graduate School of Social Work, Colorado State University, and conducted on site at the Denver Hospice facility. The training was great, though I often wondered if hospice patients could hear loud barking coming from the training room where about nine of us were going through the certification process. Kili absolutely loved all of it—running through vinyl tunnels, jumping over obstacles, learning to ‘stay’, ‘sit’ and letting people give him treats from their open hands. This process made great use of Kili’s **extreme** food motivation and we were doing just fine.

We easily passed the qualification test at the end of the training, but Kili’s intensity and desire for food soon became an issue when we began our “real” visits to on-site hospice patients. I quickly realized he cared far more about what was in each individual’s waste basket, like pieces of left-over sandwiches, desserts or other, than he did about the patients themselves. I remember one time trying to pull a wastebasket off his head after he’d jammed his whole torso into it trying to dig for some tasty morsel. Fortunately, the bedridden client in that particular room laughed hysterically and said it was the best thing that he’d witnessed in weeks.

We left Hospice that day with Kili’s tail held high, and mine between my legs. I never took him back.

It should be noted that the environment of the hospice facility is rather somber. On-staff nurses, physicians and social workers are there to comfort patients and their families alike. Often families of individuals (patients) gather in small areas to grieve and chat with one another. Typically, an individual brought to hospice spends his/her last days there, and the intent is to pass quietly and without pain. Kili’s antics were funny, but I found him difficult to control and that was stressful.

Third Time (and Dog) is a Charm

Ok, so the third time is supposedly a charm...and it was. Little Brushy arrived in the US with the very first cohort of Turkey dogs in February 2016. I sponsored his trip (paid the money for his travel) but really hadn’t expected to adopt him. Upon his arrival at GRRR, it was love at first sight. He jumped out of the van after

a very long journey enclosed in a crate, immediately sat down in front of me with his prince-like pose and introduced himself. I am sure I heard him say: *“Hi, you are my very own human, and I am here to rescue you.”* His big brown eyes revealed an old soul, whereas we always thought this was Kili’s ‘first go-round’. I just knew Brushy would be my companion for the special work we had ahead of us and simply thought, *that’s what Golden do.* They pull people into their universe and offer love and affection for all. The love and spirit from one of these beautiful animals transforms the lives of so many.

Very shortly after arriving in the US, Little Brushy and I began our training. He was perfect from the start. His gentleness was noticed by everyone and we easily passed all of the certification tests. I would take him to work with me at the University of Denver, where he experienced more socialization and became the love of all of our students. I only recall one time when I was concerned with his behavior. It happened while we were in my DU office which was located on the 2nd floor of the Daniels College of Business. Brushy was off leash, but in his training vest. He was sitting quietly on the other side of my desk seemingly enjoying the coming and going of our students—all of whom hugged and petted him.

All of a sudden, I looked up just in time to see the flash of a tail bolt out of my office and down the hallway. I gulped because I didn’t have permission to have a dog on the premises (DU has since changed its policy) and he was headed straight for the Dean’s Suite. I ran after him as fast as I could, with many student on-lookers, but Brushy just kept going...right down the stairway and out the front door of the building! When I and a couple others caught up to him, he was doing his “business” on the front lawn of the business school. *How appropriate*, I thought. No wonder he had departed so fast! After that, I was better at monitoring his biological behavior—something which is a “must” with emotional support animals.



Barb and Brushy's first encounter at GRRR

Now as a Hospice dog, we have visited people in nursing homes, at the Denver Hospice facility and also at people's apartments. He is simply a doll and I find that individuals are much more interested in his story than mine. Everyone wants to know how a Turkey Dog from Istanbul found his way to Denver and into their hearts and homes. I simply tell them "it was meant to be."

A dog's needs have to be carefully monitored when they are working as support animals. They seem to pick up on everyone's feelings and harbor them within their own little bodies. The first couple of times Brushy and I visited hospice, he came home and immediately flopped down to take a long, much needed recovery nap. He can only "work" about two hours and is then emotionally exhausted.

One interesting situation occurred about a year ago when we were asked to visit a blind gentleman who spoke only Russian. The man was bed-ridden but lowered his hand to touch Brushy's soft fur. I heard him mutter something to Brushy but due to our language differences, I couldn't understand what he said. Brushy responded to him immediately, however and jumped into the man's bed where they cuddled a very long time. Soon I noticed the man's eyes were running over with tears (and so were mine). It wasn't until just recently when I was conveying this story to someone that we realized Russian and Turkish languages sound similar when spoken. Until then, Brushy had not heard a word of Turkish (or Russian) for four years. *The two, man and dog, were communicating.*

On a lighter side, we were once asked to visit a care facility which provided a "home-like" setting for senior citizens, as well as a hospice wing. We were there to visit a specific Hospice patient, but on our way out of the building, Brushy began tugging at his leash. He knew exactly where he wanted to go. I followed him and somewhat abruptly we entered another room—one that had a party in progress. The noise of laughter had attracted Brushy and all of a sudden we found ourselves (or more appropriately Brushy found himself) right smack in the middle of a card game. There were at least six to eight senior citizens sitting in a circle playing cards, laughing, telling stories and having a grand time. Brushy decided to join them and did without any invitation! I apologized for the rather startling interruption, but the folks didn't want us

to leave...they wanted Brushy to stay for their "kegerator party" and Brushy could be the "keg". After that, he had a new nickname.

It isn't always joyful being a hospice dog. We learned that the hard way about a year ago when we visited the Hospice care facility located in Stapleton. We often go there, but this time we could sense the atmosphere was very serious. It was something both Brushy and I could just "feel" upon entering the building. The timing was shortly after the holidays, and typically the death rate goes up at this time of the year. I saw one of the nurses and mentioned to her that "things felt different." She sadly acknowledged that they'd experienced about eight passings that morning and expected several more in the coming hours. My first thought was this might not be the best time for a pet-visit, and we started to leave. At that very moment I felt the young nurse take my arm and reached out for Brushy and started to cry. With muffled words she encouraged us to make the rounds that morning—not so much for the patients, but to spread love and care to the medical staff. From one person to the next, Brushy accepted hugs and his fur became damp with tears. 💙



From the Author and GRRR Website:

Once considered a status symbol by the wealthy in Turkey, Golden Retrievers have become more common and less valued, and hundreds end up being released onto the streets. With few shelters available, dogs of this good-natured breed frequently starve or become prey to the thousands of feral dog packs in the forests around the city. Life is hard for these mostly young dogs. Few live to be senior Golden Retrievers in Turkey. I (the author of this story) have now sponsored the trips of five Turkey Dogs to the US but Brushy is the only one we've adopted. He continues to bring joy to us, and all who meet him. In order to continue to save these Golden Retrievers in Turkey, GRRR needs financial support. Donations of any amount will help GRRR give these dogs a better life. The most recent 'cohort' of Golden Retrievers arrived from Turkey just before the holidays.

Brushy was named for Brush, Colorado, the location of my father-in-law's birth. He arrived in the US on my father-in-law's 85th birthday and has been a present to us all.

Brushy entertaining the crowd as a Golden Ambassador at a recent GRRR Gala

Recent Rescues



Hello there!

After much deliberation a name has finally been chosen for our wonderful little guy... Bear. He is doing remarkably well, especially with potty training. It's quite apparent he will be a "chewer" so we'll need to keep a very close eye on that.

Otherwise, he is eating well, slept all night in the crate last night for the first time... It's all good!

We absolutely love him to death!

Lee, Joshua, Tyler, Penny & Bear Duhl



Hello!

We welcomed Bennie into our family 2 months ago. We could not have asked for a better fit. He's so wonderful!

Bennie is getting big and is so playful, loving and healthy. And he has decided it is so warm and cozy in front of the fireplace.

Amy Ahl



Dear GRRR:

Bodhi came home with Darby and me on November 6. I lost Rio in September and knew I wanted another goofy clown. And goofy clown is what I got! Bodhi is very funny and makes me laugh every day. The way he pounces on toys is hilarious. Bodhi is 3 and from a puppy mill in Missouri. Unlike most puppy mill dogs who are shy and insecure, Bodhi is super friendly and his tail (and butt) is always wagging! As soon as he stuck his big nose in my face when I met him at GRRR, that was it...I was in love!

Bodhi has very dark gorgeous red fur that glistens in the sun. He lives for attention and goes up to every stranger with his butt wagging and typically gets a lot of loving. He looks up at people with his beautiful amber eyes and they immediately fall in love.

Darby went from being Rio's little sister to Bodhi's big sister, and I'm so proud of how she welcomed and taught him so many things. The first night Bodhi was laying out in the hall when we went to bed. Darby started barking but Bodhi didn't come in the bedroom, so she went out and said "hey dude, we sleep in here." He followed and all was quiet for the night.

Bodhi soon learned the couch was much softer than the floor, and with his long body and long legs, I think I might soon be shopping for a larger couch! Darby lays on the other end and I get a small section in the middle. I'm surrounded by love. Life is good.

Thanks GRRR, for once again changing my life.

Debbie Stratton



Hi GRRR:

My husband and I adopted Buddy in mid-July, and we love him so very much. It's been such a pleasure to see him become more and more himself each and every day. He is simply a lover and never passes up an opportunity to get some pets. Buddy's favorite things are sleeping on the couch, hikes, cuddling, and his daily walks. Thank you so much for giving us this adorable blessing!

Celia St Gelais



Hi GRRR:

Murphy was adopted over Labor Day weekend of last year and is a fantastic addition to our family. He's the biggest goofball and he is inseparable from his BFF/sister, AJ. He loves hiking more than we do, as well as daily walks, snow, stealing all of AJ's bones, and playing with all the other dogs he sees. We couldn't love him more. Thank you for letting him join our family.

Warmest regards, Kacie & Ryan Koch



Hello GRRR:

We wanted to share some pictures of our Turkey Dog #14 Tally Ho, renamed Dave Matthews. We've gotten him down to a healthy weight of 68 lbs. He is incredibly special and everyone he meets says there's something special about him.

Dave Matthews is the strong sensitive type. He loves all types of balls. He plays guard in basketball games with the neighbor kids. He's happiest hanging out with our family. Dave loves his afternoon naps on the bed with mom or dad.

Warmly, Eve Fogarty



Dear GRRR:

Maya is doing great! She's lost 37% of her weight and is down to an energetic 64-pound bundle of love. At 10 years of age, she bounds around our yard chasing bunnies like a four-year-old. She's so happy and shows off her Golden smile all the time.

Susan von der Lippe



Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

I want to update you guys on the lovable goofball Ollie that we adopted in September of last year. He has been such a joy and a little comedian. His daily antics keep us laughing, and he greets everyone with a shoe.

Ollie loves to play and be near us wherever we are. Car rides make him so happy.

Tara Longnecker



Happy New Year GRRR!

Attached is a photo of Harper Bergstrom a gold-endor we rescued on October 31, 2020 from GRRR. Harper has been very busy growing, chewing, and learning to sit and stay. She loves her toys and crate and we are absolutely in love with her! Thank you GRRR, you have been absolutely amazing!

Jennette Bergstrom

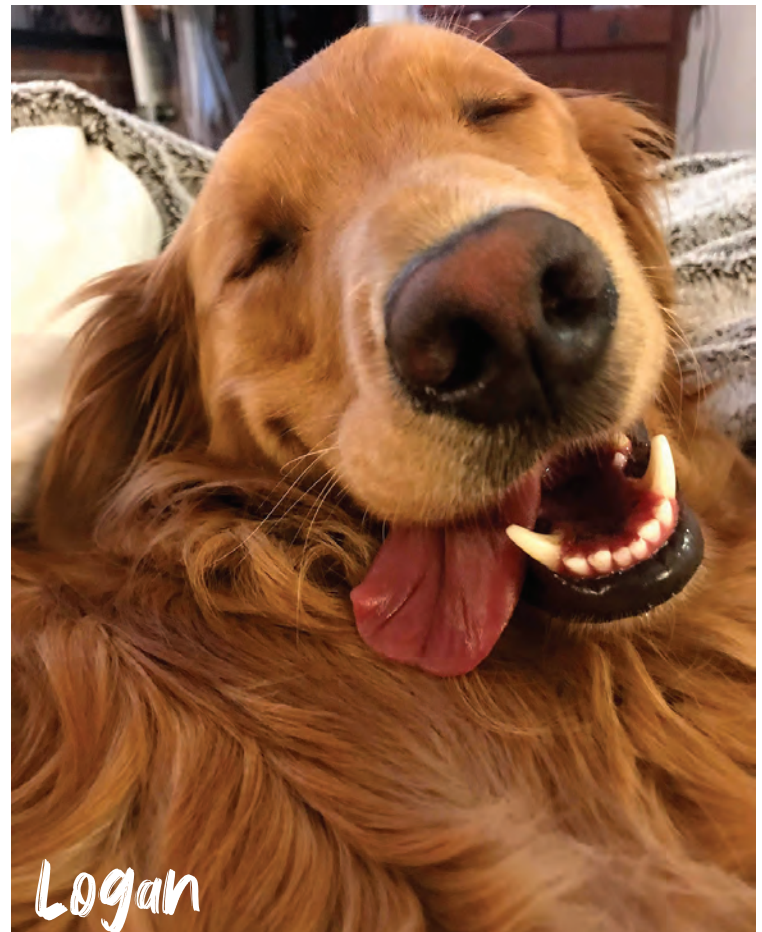


Dear GRRR:

Here's our little Logan man. We adopted him in March of last year and he has brought us so much joy! He was diagnosed with epilepsy in July of last year, but has been on meds and stabilized! He loves playing with his doggy friends and going on adventures with his humans.

We bring him pretty much everywhere with us and he likes it that way, haha!

Emily Murschel



Dear GRRR:

2020 has not been an easy year for anyone but it has been a devastating one for us. We lost two of our beautiful Golden Retrievers, Willow in February and Max in May. Maverick, our first GRRR dog and I were both heartbroken. Maverick's grief manifested itself in his behavior. He had always been our best behaved Golden but he started to be a difficult walker. He would stop and refuse to move. Over time it got worse and worse until I had to throw treats every six feet to get him home. I realized that "home" was the key. He was fine walking away from the house, but balked at coming back. My theory was that he was so distraught at losing Willow and Max that he didn't want to go home to the empty house. I missed my "pack" too. We turned to GRRR for help.

Roberta called us and said they had an older dog available. She warned us that he was likely a puppy mill dog, was eight years old and was just neutered. We packed up Maverick and headed to GRRR to meet him. He was clearly nervous but he was also very sweet. Diesel was about the same size as Maverick (who is also a bit of a shy boy) and they seemed fine together. We took him home with us. Maverick was ecstatic but Diesel was a little scared the first night we spent together. We discovered that Diesel was afraid of three things: doors

(and gates), loud noises and sudden moves. He would dash through the door to the backyard and then wheel around quickly to see if something was chasing him. He flinched at most any loud noise or quick movement. Maverick stepped up to help. He would lead the way slowly and Diesel followed. Within a week, Diesel was dashing in and out without looking back. He's a joyful pup in the backyard now. He leaps and spins and rolls on his back kicking his feet in the air. Diesel (Diece or DC, his nicknames) didn't know any commands initially and here too, Maverick stepped in. They would stand side-by-side as Mav demonstrated sit and down. Diesel learned both very quickly. We've started taking him for neighborhood walks which he loves. He still startles at loud noises outdoors and has a tendency to freeze if a rabbit or squirrel catches his eye but we know he's a wonderful smart dog and with time and practice, he'll be as good a walker as Mav.

An interesting note: As Diesel relaxed more...he seemed to grow. He's much bigger than Maverick! We also discovered that my theory was right. Within a week of Diesel's arrival Maverick was back to being the perfect walking companion. We are all so happy this beautiful, sweet boy joined our family. And so pleased that he is enjoying the loving forever home that he deserves.

Laural Bidwell



Dear GRRR:

Finnigan is adjusting very nicely to his new life with his brother, Bepin. These two do everything together. In the morning the boys are up and ready for their morning walk around the neighborhood. After breakfast it is time for a nap (Finn snores really loud). The afternoon is spent in the yard playing fetch and practicing tricks. Finn is doing great with sit and for the most part with stay. We are still working on down but with lots of love and treats I know he will get it in no time. Afternoon is time for another nap.

The evening is one of Finn's favorite times because we are able to go on a second walk as a whole family. He loves sniffing the grass and exploring interesting smells. When he gets really excited he jumps so high, similar to a deer. Overall, he is doing great and we are so thankful he has joined our family.

Marissa Duffey



Yogi and Kali



Hi GRRR:

We adopted two dogs from GRRR. Kali is a Golden Angel who had two hip replacements and elbow surgeries before she was 14 months old. She is now 2 ½ and just had elbow surgery again to clean out debris from both joints. She recovered quickly but is still missing a little fur on her front legs. Kali is a very happy and active dog.

In October we adopted Yogi. He is a golden lab mix who had difficulty adjusting to a previous home after his original owners could no longer take care of him. He turned 5 the day before his adoption.

It was love at first site for Kali and Yogi. They are inseparable and perfectly matched playmates. We also have a Pug who refused to be in this picture. Kali and Yogi are intently watching my daughter who is bribing them with treats to get this picture.

Madalynn and John Neu

Hi there!

Jason and I just wanted to provide an update on Lucca, who is now Leo! We adopted him from GRRR in September, and it has been such a joy watching Leo settle into his new home with us, and his new brother, Haze!

Leo is so wonderful. His personality comes out more every day and he brings us so much happiness! He is playful, energetic, sweet, and loves to go on hikes and run around the backyard!

We are so happy to have him in our family and are very appreciative that GRRR brought him to us! :)

Thank you!

Ali Hoffer & Jason Jaeckel



Haze and Leo

Dear GRRR:

Neva is doing great and we are all smitten. She is quite the snuggle bug and very much the lap dog.

When we do our sit-ups, she likes to go right underneath our knees, and when I am standing at the counter she likes to be right between my feet.

Our children are very much enjoying the new responsibilities and my eight-year-old even took her out at 4:45 a.m. one day! Mostly she has let us sleep through the night. She can already shake hands and is working on roll over.

We are all very much in love and it appears that the feelings are mutual. Thank you again for our little ray of sunshine.

Suzanne Meinert



Neva



Hi GRRR:

Ruby went home with us from GRRR just after Christmas 2019. She was a newly postpartum breeder surrender at that moment in time.

We have been fortunate to be at our cabin in Maine since August. And this dog, oh my goodness! Living the life. Chipmunks, sticks, water, dirt, birds, room to run, stinky things to roll in.

We've watched her change from a tentative newcomer to a confident retriever in the woods. It's been a joy to see. We are grateful for her sweet companionship, and her willingness to share her glorious self with others.

Please tell Roberta we are so thankful for her matchmaking skills!

Thank you GRRR,

Rena Bloom and Jacob Schor

Hi GRRR Family:

This is Wally (originally Waylon at GRRR-October 2020) checking in with his GRRR Family!

Wally has adjusted magnificently into the Sheldon family and he loves playing with his big sister Peggy-also a Goldendoodle (2 years old)! They spend hours together romping around their backyard and they love to play tug-o-war. Wally is also a big fan of his fluffy donut bed that he sleeps in every single night.

Wally has developed a wonderful snuggly personality and will demand belly rubs from every person he meets. There is not a dog or person he has met that he hasn't liked. We are so thankful to have Wally in our lives and we think he is pretty fantastic.

We wanted to reach out to give an update but also to say thank you for taking a chance on us with Wally and for letting our fur family grow. We wish you all a joyful start to 2021!

Sincerely,

Connor, Hallie, Peggy and Wally Sheldon



Dear GRRR:

Walter was adopted just after his sixth birthday. He joined a pack of three other Golden Retrievers. Walter had a lot to learn because he was an outdoor dog and seemed to have very few life experiences. First he had to learn his new name was Walter Riley and no longer Riley.

Indoor house life was a revelation for him. TV intrigued him and he would sit in front of the TV for long periods just watching and listening. His favorite continues to be colorful animated shows like UP. Walter quickly learned that he preferred to sleep on the couch and in bed with the humans.

His signature smile is hilarious. His smile is not a little lip crinkle but a full tooth grin. When he is on the floor he prefers his "Superdog" pose with his front feet stretched out front and back feet straight back. All he needs is a cape to complete the picture. Walt has a malamute like woo woo when he is really happy. Walt loves a car ride to the post box or to throw trash at the dumpster. He reminds us every day at about 9 am that it is time for his daily hike and romp in the woods.

Walter is no different than all of our other GRRR rescues in that he seems to know that he has landed in an amazing new and wonderful life.

Thanks,

Joan Pribyl



Recent Rescues



Hi GRRR:

I have now had Greta as part of my life for nearly a year. Greta and I had a rough start as I was not so prepared to work with a puppy mill breeder mama. I have extensive experience with dog training, but none of this pertained to my sweet Greta. However, she was patient with me and weathered my mistakes along the way. She first found her safe place in my home which ironically was right in front of the TV. I thought, how appropriate that she truly is a life in bloom. She spent many months in this safe place, leaving only to relieve herself in the backyard (which has been a very scary place - thanks to road construction from March til now).

I am happy to report that in the last few months, Greta has realized that she is a dog and is now leaving her safe place to come for pets throughout the day. She is exploring more of the house, though we have a lot of thresholds and hallways that are still intimidating to her. She will now load into the car using the ramp and does not like to be left behind. Greta is also happy in the backyard, running and playing with me and my sister's kids and their boarder collie who comes to visit. She now loves to be brushed and will tolerate going to get her nails trimmed by my lovely, compassionate groomer who is happy to meet us in the parking lot on her property. Greta has yet to want to enter the barn for grooming (I have learned a lot about PTSD in puppy mill dogs for sure).



Greta is the sweetest love and is a treasure. Our goal for the next year is to find a happy place to take more walks and graduate from the backyard walkabouts. She has even learned this week how to play with the treat ball which she generally ignored for a very long time. So very cool. Thanks for all of your dedicated work.

Thanks, Jennifer Bloom



Hi GRRR:

Things are going great with our new puppy, Hudson!

He's growing like a weed and is over 30 pounds now! He's a handsome boy who certainly looks more like a lab than Golden, but appears to be sprouting some golden feathers recently!

Last Saturday he finished his final round of vaccinations and was able to visit the dog park. He was a bit overwhelmed but clearly was excited by the experience. He's taken to training quickly and has picked up a number of commands including sit, down, stay, heel and off. We're now working on listening when distractions are present which has proved to be a more difficult task.

We are so thankful for GRRR. Our family has found so much happiness through the two dogs we've adopted over the last 14 years!

Reed Johnson

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, 2021 issue is February 6, 2021. Thanks!

Recent Stats

January 1 - December 31, 2020

Number of Dogs Placed:	209
\$ Spent on Medical Needs:	\$ 94,532

Golden Angel: Yogi

by Jeannie Miller

Take a look at adorable Yogi, our last dog of 2020! He looks kind of serious because he has been through a lot in his short life, but he is as sweet as can be and, even though he is a Golden-mix, he is going to be “all things Golden” very soon. He needs some healing and the love of a forever family – both of which he has found at GRRR. He is headed for a happy life thanks to some good Samaritans and your generosity to GRRR’s Golden Angel Fund. The Angel Fund allows us to provide extraordinary and expensive veterinary care to sick and injured dogs that we rescue.

Yogi is not quite a year old. He is kind of a small guy with a sweet face and the most expressive eyes. He is a bit timid and afraid of new things. We don’t know much of anything about the start of his life except that he was somewhere near Farmington, New Mexico. He most likely was kept in a yard or chained up and didn’t get much training or socialization. Sometime around Christmas he either escaped or was let go. He was running loose for who knows how long. Not being trained about the road or cars, he was hit by a car and seriously injured.

Again, we don’t know the circumstances around his unfortunate accident, but someone was good enough to pick him up and take him to the local shelter. Whether it was the person who hit him or someone else, we don’t know but we are grateful that he at least got there. But poor Yogi was not in good shape at all. He was able to walk but clearly was in tremendous pain. Unfortunately, perhaps due to the time of year, the shelter took Yogi in but did not treat him right away. After 8 days, he was not getting any better, so they decided to take him to the vet. The vet did x-rays and found that he had a fractured acetabulum. The acetabulum is the hip socket into which the large leg bone, the femur, fits. The poor little guy! Every step must have been agony for him.

The shelter decided that they could not handle or afford the required treatment for Yogi. We are so grateful that, rather than euthanizing him, which sadly happens all too often, they called GRRR to see if we would take him. Mary Kenton quickly said “of course!” It was the day before New Year’s Eve so she knew it would be challenging to find someone who was willing to drive the 800-mile round trip to Farmington on a holiday. GRRR is so lucky to have a dedicated transport team. This time, Don Miller readily agreed to go to Yogi’s rescue. Off he went early in the morning. He brought sweet Yogi back to Arvada that evening so he could ring in the New Year with Mary. It was the beginning of his new, and much better, life!

Mary could see that the poor little guy was in pain. He was shy but oh-so-sweet and he let her stroke him and run her hands along his sore body and through his matted, filthy fur. As she was doing her usual inspection of any new dog, she found a spot on his shoulder that looked like it was dried blood. He flinched when she got anywhere near it. Sweet Yogi trusted Mary though to gently with warm water, dissolve the huge mat of blood and fur with warm water to expose a large, deep gash that had never been treated. Mary was able to get the wound cleaned, sterilized and bandaged.

Now, it was time to get some sleep and then begin to address the severe injury to his hip. Mary had requested the X-rays to be sent so she could forward them to Dr. Carpenter and Dr. Franklin. They sprang into action to discuss what the best course of treatment might be even before seeing Yogi. After seeing him, they determined that the best course of action was to perform a procedure called a femoral head ostectomy (FHO) at Colorado Canine Orthopedics. An FHO is the surgical removal of the ball part of the femur so that the bones of the hip joint are no longer in contact. This eliminates the pain caused by the abnormal situation in the hip joint. The physical therapy then builds surrounding muscle and scar tissue which acts as a false joint.

Surgery was performed a couple of weeks ago and Yogi did really well. The best news of all is that he was adopted right away by a wonderful couple – Steven and Jenny Paradis. They have a dog who has been treated by Dr. Bauer and were familiar with the post-surgery therapy required. They welcomed sweet Yogi into their loving home. He and they couldn’t be happier! Yogi, along with many of us, was glad to see 2020 in the rear view mirror and is looking forward to his happy new life in 2021.

We are so thankful that we were able to rescue Yogi. And we continue to be amazed and so grateful to you, our members for your generosity that supports our sweet Golden Angels. 💙



Golden Angel: Kaiya

by Barbara Kreisman

Hi everyone, I am a lovable, 2-1/2-year-old soft blonde furball who so wants a forever home. Trouble is, my back fur is often damp due to a condition I've had since I was a little girl born and raised in a puppy mill. It was there that I was destined to live a life of repeated impregnation and delivery of other little Goldies. That didn't happen though because I had a leaking problem and leaking can increase after each delivery, so I was spayed and sold.

I don't want you to turn away from me because of this; I am really embarrassed that I cannot fully control my bladder, but I simply cannot – yet.

I was bought from the puppy mill by a wonderful young couple who didn't care that I leaked. The breeder told them that I not be given more than five cups of water per day, and that did slow down the leaking, but I was always so thirsty. Unfortunately, my new mom was very allergic to me. After just two days she was taken to the hospital for her inability to breathe. My new parents were heartbroken and so was I. They called GRRR and I was welcomed that same day.

I saw a wonderful vet, Dr. Carpenter, and he allowed me to have all the water I needed and wanted, thankfully. I was placed on two kinds of medication for a urinary tract infection. The two medications, Proin and DES (Diethylstilbestrol), did reduce my leaking a lot, but not completely. I had something called an ultrasound, too, which found some irregularities in my urinary tract, but they still don't have any solid answers as to my condition. So now I have an appointment in March with the specialist veterinarians at CSU to hopefully completely correct the problem. I am on a waiting list if an appointment opens up earlier. I sure hope so!

Since then, I've been living at GRRR with Mary Kenton – boy, she is awesome. And I am learning how to play. I never got to play in the puppy mill; there isn't room in a crate. At first, I was shy with people and unsure being inside a house too. Noises like the TV, furniture, dog beds, walking on leash, toys...pretty much anything except tennis balls frightened me.

But oh, I live for tennis balls! At first, I only knew how to roll a ball on my own but now I get to pounce on balls that other people toss in my direction. That is so much fun! I really like soft stuffed animals too. I thought cloth toys were for tearing up and eating, so they were all removed...can you believe that? But I have radar to find them, even in places Mary didn't know they were hiding!

I love to play and run with all the other dogs here and enjoy all the simple comforts that most of my canine buddies already know: good quality food, soft beds, toys, and most of all, the loving care they receive from their people.

I love going for walks and being outdoors too. My shyness around people, noises, and other animals is diminishing with each day. I would really appreciate donations to the Golden Angel fund to help dogs like me, thank you.

I am also longing for a forever home so that my humans will love me regardless of my condition, which I hope is only temporary. Look what Mary said about me: *"Kaiya's personality has really blossomed since she arrived. She looks forward to going for walks, playing ball and getting attention. Kaiya is a sweet soul who deserves to receive all of the unconditional love that she gives. She doesn't even realize the life we hope to give her. One where she will no longer have the incontinence and can be a very loved companion."*

That sounds good to me. I am looking for new forever parents...won't you let me experience a new life with you? 🐾

Please Donate to GRRR's Golden Angel Fund!

Many dogs coming to GRRR need extra medical attention, and sometimes extraordinary medical costs are the reason a Golden comes to us. With the Golden Angel Fund we can help more of them find a quality, pain-free life in a new and loving home. Your donation will help GRRR dogs in need of extra medical care including treatments for cancer, hip dysplasia, allergies, heartworm, infections, and special medications.

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

Nola by Cindee Moyer

I adopted Nola, a 2-year-old puppy mill dog originally from Arkansas, in December after fostering her through heartworm treatment. Physically she is doing great, has recovered from her treatments, and we are able to go on daily walks (FAST daily walks). She loves visiting the neighbors, getting pets from the kids, and being out of the house since she was not able to exercise for three long months. She is learning how to be a dog, that this is her home, and she is safe here.

She can still be fearful at times and I am working with a trainer to build her confidence. The first accomplishment was target training my hand which she has down pat. This was to teach her that training is not scary and there are rewards. She does not like getting into the car so I purchased a single step/small ramp to get her a little higher up for the entry. Again, training to get her next to the step, put her feet up on it and hopefully using it to get in the car soon! We practice going into the garage without a leash, walking around the car, looking into and standing next to the car. She was hesitant at first, but figured out after a couple of sessions that we're playing a game and there are cheese treats involved.

Nola still gives her infamous hugs (she stands up and wraps her front legs around my waist) and gets very excited when we have visitors. I'm looking forward to when GRRR can have events again so she can run with the Golden Retrievers! 💕



Jake by Jeannie Miller

Hi - Jake here. Remember me from the last newsletter? My brother, Dude and I came to GRRR last summer when our owner decided he had to give us up. I weighed a whopping 135 pounds with two very bad knees. I was in a lot of pain. It doesn't stop me from loving life and especially people! I love everyone I meet but none so much as my buddy Steve Schmidt.

Steve drove all the way out to Kansas to get Dude and me and brought us back to GRRR. Steve comes to take care of us 5 days a week (and sometimes more). He took a special liking to me and Dude. I was so happy to see him every day that I would bark as soon as I heard him arrive in the morning. The doctors decided that I couldn't have any more surgeries but that I needed to lose weight and get my muscles stronger.

I have been working very hard on that since this summer and my main man Steve has been helping me so much. Every day is a spa day for me and I'm feeling so much better! Steve takes me to K9 Body Shop once a week and I am running faster and farther each week on an underwater treadmill. Then I stretch out on a nice big thick mat for a total body rub down (or a massage as I call it, minus the candles and scented oil). On the other off days, I get a one-on-one walk with Steve to keep me moving followed by a good rub on my hips, knees and shoulders, aaahhh. He is the best!

My joint strength and flexibility are noticeably increasing. Feels so good to lose some weight (I'm down to 93 pounds!) and keep these arthritic joints moving. Smooth or tiled floors are still scary sometimes, but I have gotten more confident on them, as well as scooting up and down some stairs. I get so excited at times that I forget where I am and need to back up until I'm back on rugs. What's gotten into me?! I'm not sure, but others are seeing my goofy personality more and more and I'm telling them about it - I'm a talker and moan, groan, whine and 'arf' so no one forgets I'm here.

Just as I was writing this update, I got adopted! I now have my own forever home with a wonderful couple from Golden. I am the luckiest dog alive! I will miss Steve and Mary and always be grateful to them and to GRRR for rescuing me! 💕



President's Report

by Judi Servoss, GRRR President

It's nice to be able to look ahead to 2021 with a bit of optimism. All we really have to do is hug our dogs and realize how lucky we are to have them to help us through the tough times. When I look at my Perry, I know he's happy if he is getting petted, walking, hiking, snowshoeing, or just hanging out. He doesn't miss our going out to dinner or human travels that don't involve him. If we're home all the time, he's thrilled.



One GRRR change this year will be a virtual Annual Meeting via Zoom. It will be a first for us, like so many undertakings lately, but it will be fun to be able to see some of your smiling faces. We'll review the events and financials from 2020 and projections for 2021. And we'll also elect Board Members.

We had several new applicants for Board positions, but all Board members whose terms are expiring requested running for another term. The Board will present a recommended slate of candidates for election, which include: Pat Rogers, Mark Springston, Steve Morganfield, Mary Kenton and Mike DeGroff.

Annual Meeting (Zoom) - Sunday, March 7th at 1pm

We'll also send out link in an e-blast via Constant Contact as we get closer.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86406835903?pwd=NoROcitTZnVGV2xvVnFCZnU1Y1ltQTog>
Meeting ID: 864 0683 5903 Passcode: 745268



Phoebe's Place update

by Francie Rakiec,
GRRR Executive Director

Looking back...briefly

I think the majority of us can say that 2020 was a dumpster fire and that we are glad 2021 is finally here. That being said, 2020 was an amazing year for GRRR for many reasons. Despite having to cancel the majority of our events, move our Gala to a virtual event, and of course shut down our VIP walking program, we still had so many things to be thankful for.

We had a record-breaking Gala. We netted more money than we ever have in the history of GRRR. Just shy of \$174,000. It was truly amazing. Speaking of amazing, our second largest fundraiser of the year, Colorado Gives Day in December was just as impressive. We raised \$120,000. That is a whole lot of treats for the lucky GRRR dogs. And lucky GRRR dogs...we had 209 of them in 2020. While that number is below our usual average of 300, we feel very fortunate to have been able to care for these sweet pups and all of the medical needs that arose for some of them. From taking care of orthopedic issues to other severe medical issues, we couldn't have done any of it without the support of all of our loyal members, volunteers and adopters. So THANK YOU for helping to make GRRR the amazing organization we are.



Moving forward...

2021 couldn't get here fast enough and now that it's here we have some exciting things to look forward to. 2021 marks GRRR's 25th anniversary. Hard to believe that we have been saving dogs since 1996. A lot has changed in those 25 years, but our mission has always stayed the same to "Never say no to a Golden in need."

With Spring just around the corner we are looking forward to hopefully being able to reopen the VIP walking program, but it will look a little different. Instead of being able to come any time, volunteers will need to sign up for a specific time slot. More details on that will be given directly to the VIPer's.

We also have our Spring Fling outdoor party currently scheduled on May 16 at Phoebe's Place. Then we have our annual Gala, which again will be held as a virtual event and will run from Saturday, June 19 through Saturday, June 26. Next up is our Senior Dog get-together in August and then our Reunion Picnic in September and the Halloween

Party in October. (Be sure to check out our events page for all event updates. <https://www.goldenrescue.com/events/>)

Hope to see more of your furry and non-furry faces in 2021. Take care of yourself and your pups! 🐾

Naming Tributes ♡♡



Gussy, by Gussy's GRRR sponsors

In loving memory of one of the TD XIV group. Gussy came to Colorado from Turkey in February 2020 after already having lost one of her front legs to a trauma. While in GRRR's loving care, it was discovered that her remaining front leg was also badly injured. Try as everyone would – Gussy, her GRRR caregivers, her veterinary support – she was not healing. After every option was tried, it was decided that Gussy's pain could not be relieved and her body could not go on. What a brave little girl she was! May another precious GRRR dog share her name and her spirit for adventure.

Ginger – by Donna Cianfichi

“Thanks to GRRR I was so lucky to have such a special companion named Ginger. She was so sweet! As far as she was concerned, the main purpose of taking a walk was finding rabbits, of which there is a large number in our area. Ginger was the perfect dog for me. She was loved by everyone including friends, family and neighbors, both adults and children, as well as other dogs.”

Callie, by CHCO Family

“On behalf of Susan Gross's lovely Callie, to help other Golden Retrievers find their forever families. From your CHCO family.”



In Memory

Buddy by Charlene Miller

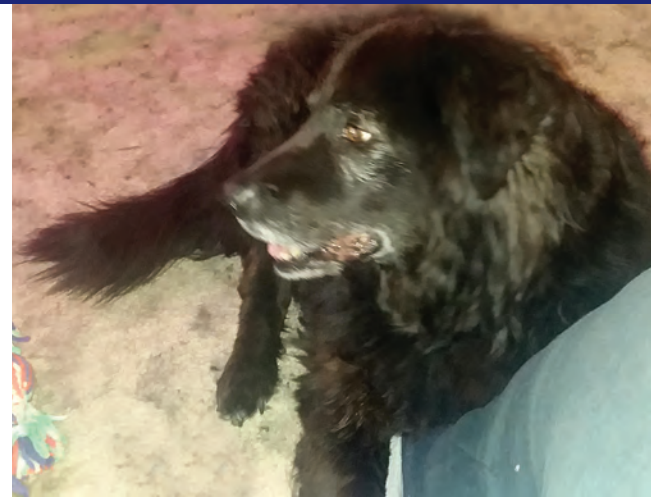
My daughter and I first met Buddy (formerly Jackson) at GRRR the first of July. We knew he was the dog for us right away because when we were petting him and giving him “butt scratches,” he started doing a little dance with his hind legs. He got along really well with our other dogs right away too.

It took him a little while to settle in but he soon found his favorite places in the house. I was working from home so he would come into the office and keep me company while I worked. After a while, he would follow me around the house.

He had such a gentle and mellow nature. But he also definitely had a mind of his own and knew how to let us know what he wanted. He loved the outdoors and going for walks. After dinner, he would rush to the door to let me know he was ready for his walk. When we would return from the walk, he would balk at the door to let me know he wasn't ready to come in yet.

He must have been trained to not get up on furniture because he would never climb up on the sofa to sit beside me. He would just lay by my feet. I would get down on the floor & pet him there. He would lift his front leg to let me know he wanted to be petted on his chest. He loved that.

He was with us for too short of a time, but he brought us much joy and love. We miss him greatly and he will forever be in our hearts.




Frosty by Dara Miller

On December 14, 2016 a group of 18 Golden Retrievers from Turkey arrived at DIA. The dogs must have wondered where they were and why they had been moved to such a cold, windy place. All that changed immediately for the third dog brought out from Lufthansa's cargo area that evening — the dog who had been named 'Frosty.' He was immediately overjoyed to find 30+ people at the bottom of the stairs, all cheering his name and eager to touch him. He couldn't contain his happiness as he ran in the circle of well-wishers to be petted, finally succumbing and flopping on the tarmac with feet in the air begging for a good belly rub! So began Frosty's life in Colorado. Unfortunately, it ended all too soon on November 22, 2020, a result of that scourge of Goldens everywhere, hemangiosarcoma.

Having the opportunity to speak with Yasemin, his rescuer from Turkey at the Turkey Dog Reunion in June, 2017, I was able to learn a bit about Frosty's past. Per Yasemin, he came to her rescue location after her friends picked him up at a gas station located about half-way between Ankara and Istanbul, where he was 'living,' begging for food and fending off aggressive dogs, as evidenced by a badly scarred inner ear, numerous scars on his muzzle, and an extremely thin coat. I am forever grateful to Yasemin's friends for saving my kind, friendly furry companion from the awful situation he was living in.

He immediately trained me to see what things he was unaccustomed to, such as sleeping inside at night. One of the first nights he was with me was bitterly cold with the temperature falling into the single digits. At the time of his bedtime potty break, Frosty reluctantly, but obediently, went outside, refused to potty and curled up next to the back door seeking any heat he could find. After a few minutes, I realized the potty efforts weren't going to work and brought him inside for the night. He was so grateful to come inside, tail wagging furiously. Then I realized what was happening. He had assumed he was being put outside to spend the night in that terrible cold weather. I felt awful that he had assumed I would do that to him! For the remainder of his life, he walked into the bedroom where he slept (after his potty break) wagging his tail, and I always knew he was grateful to be sleeping inside.

Many things in the U.S. were new to Frosty, but he learned quickly (especially English) and loved life here. He especially loved his walks and car rides with his new Mom, neighbors, door bells, and trips to the vet, his FAVORITE place to go. The vet and techs told me several times that they wanted him to teach the other pets how to act appropriately at their office! He also loved FOOD, fresh water, baths, brushes, great beds, dog friends, dog treats, and toys. He was so happy and continued throughout his life to wag his tail frequently, which in turn made me happy. He was wagging his tail while I stroked his head and talked to him even as he was being put down. It is so sad for me to think about that and yet it is comforting to know that in his last moments, he was happy and secure.

I send many thanks to Kevin Shipley, Mary Kenton, and the Board of Directors as well as Yasemin and her entire group in Turkey for giving this beautiful, friendly, lovable dog his second chance, and for selecting me to share that beautiful journey with him as his TD III sponsor and adoptive Mom. 



In Memory ♡♡

Jasmine by Margaret Crawford

I remember the day Jasmine came into my life...she bounded out of the car and proceeded to explore every corner of her new yard. She certainly didn't act like a ten year old! Jazz made herself at home almost immediately. Although we had only two and a half years together, we made the most of our time. We traveled to Pensacola with my sister (Nancy Grant) and her Golden, Gainesville. The two Golden Retrievers bonded and were wonderful travelers. They were the main attraction at every hotel we visited, greeting workers and guests, especially children, with a paw begging for a good stomach rub.



At home I brought out an agility bar thinking she might like the activity...but she would simply walk over the bar (or around it), so that went back into the garage. I brought out tennis balls because we all know that Golden Retrievers love to retrieve. Jasmine would have no part of it; she acted as if she didn't even see the balls. I have a collection of soft toys, but she ignored those as well... unless Gainesville visited. When he showed interest in a toy, she proceeded to take it before he could grab it! I bought a pool for her assuming all Golden Retrievers like the water, but she pretended it wasn't even there. When we visited my nephew in Pensacola, she wouldn't even get close to their ground pool. Neither did Gainesville. However, she did like walking the beaches once she mastered the deep Florida sand. Jasmine loved visiting restaurant patios, riding in the car, neighborhood walks, and sunning herself in the back yard. She mastered her food puzzle in five minutes - and every night at about 5:15, she reminded me that it was time for dinner. The only time Jasmine ran was after relieving herself behind the garage (very modest!); she would gallop through the yard joyfully, so proud of herself.

Jasmine and I were in quarantine as of March 12 - as were so many of you. She was the best Covid partner ever. I'm heartbroken that Jasmine is no longer with me. When you adopt a senior, you realize that your time together may be short, and I think that makes every day even more special. Two and a half years just wasn't enough time to take all the trips we planned, but I would adopt her all over if I could. I'm so grateful to Mary and everyone at GRRR for rescuing and rehoming such wonderful Golden Retrievers, and especially for allowing Jasmine to live with me. Princess Jasmine is now healed and reunited with Gainesville. Just hope she shares her toys with him this time.



Ways to Give Back to GRRR ♡♡

Looking for super easy ways to Give back to GRRR? Below is a list of how to do just that.

Wish list at Chewy.com: GRRR has our very own wish list at chewy.com. Scroll to the bottom of their website and click on "donate to a rescue" and search for "Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies".

Amazon Smiles: When you shop at smile.amazon.com, choose GRRR as your charity and a portion of your purchases will get donated back to GRRR.

King Soopers/City Market: Go to the following link, Click on Enroll Now, and add Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies as your charity. You can also find us by searching for DN758. <https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards>

State of Colorado income tax refund: You can donate all or a portion of your 2020 state income tax refund to GRRR. | Visit www.refundwhatmatters.org for more details.

Monthly and one-time giving: using paypal.com or coloradogives.org

Round it up: We also have some great new fundraising software called Harness powered by Stripe that allows you to "round up" your purchases. All you have to do is create a Harness account using the link below and then link any debit card or credit card to your Harness account. Each time you make a purchase using that card it will automatically round up your purchase and that rounded up amount will be donated back to GRRR. You can even set monthly round up limits.

<https://goldenrescue.harnessapp.com/wv2/donate?method=one-time,monthly,roundup&selected-method=roundup>

Text your donation: Another great feature that Harness offers is text to give. Text "GRRR" to 269-89.

You can also set up a one-time gift or monthly giving using Harness at this link:

<https://goldenrescue.harnessapp.com/wv2/donate?method=one-time,monthly,roundup&selected-method=one-time>

Thank you!

Donations in Memory or Honor

Anonymous in Honor of:

Nancy Schroeder • Amanda Bacher • Cooper Brown
Diane and Mike DeGroff • GRRR staff and volunteers
Barb, Billy, Scooby, and Izzy Bleeker • Ruth French
Gail and Bill Korin • Barb and Bob Crook
Cathy and Russ Jones • Jasmine Rose

Anonymous in Memory of:

Linda James • Leo Magnin • Zach Skeff-Meyers
Coot, the Golden Angel • Juno Smith
MacKenzie Tamura • Sedona, Charlie and Simba
Mozart Stevens • John Finamore • Bryce Strelow
Amy & Benton • Emma, Zoe and Molly

- Brett & Lauren Abernathy in honor of Bailey Abernathy
- Eric & Sarah Armstrong in honor of Stan & Bette Armstrong
- Sharon S. Arther in memory of Linda James
- Mary Bakke in memory of all her GRRR pooches
- Gail Bartz in honor of Lloyd Zlogar
- Teresa & Mark Beck in memory of Chloe: "Although our time together was cut much too short, she will remain forever in our hearts."
- Robert Booty in honor of James & Patricia Timmerwilke
- Gerald & Jan Bostwick in memory of Dakota and Dallas
- Kathy Braesch in memory of Christie Bristow
- Cheryl & Jeff Brasen in honor of Jim, Sherie & Addie Stille
- Richard & Cheryl Buckley in memory of Hanspeter Spuhler
- William Bunkley in memory of Christine Head
- Barbara Calhoun in memory of Chris Wilson, Teresa Brooks and Griffin
- Pamela Calhoun in memory of Goldie Laux
- Grace Canaday in memory of Duffy Supple
- Jeff & Carol Carr in memory of Charlie Rocket Carr
- Kelly Carignan in honor of her mother's 85th birthday
- Suzanne Carter in honor of Romeo Carter
- Loretta Charron in memory of Sonny Charron
- Jerry and Tracey Chevalier in memory of Miner Ritchie
- CHCO NART Team in memory of Callie Gross
- Bob & Joyce Childerston in honor of Wilson, Shelby & Jenny
- Diane Chorney in honor of Angela Pesche
- Karen Christopherson in memory of Al Marlowe
- Jeff & Kathy Clark in memory of Buddy Clark
- Gerry Coffey in memory of Deanna DeLucerio
- Jill Connally in honor of Joanne Slater
- Jillian Crandall in memory of Tater McCord
- Sue Crase in honor of Anne Bernsten
- Margaret Crawford in memory of Jasmine
- Margee Crawford in memory of Buster
- Michael and Sandy Danne in memory of Buddy
- Charlie & Marti Davidson in memory of Brandy
- Dee Delay in Memory of Lilly Delay
- Amy & Kurt DeLucerio in honor of Deanna DeLuero
- David Demanna in memory of Auggie
- Ben & Laura Drotar in memory of Taylor
- Steve, Marta and Bridger Dubay in memory of Emmy & Rockie Dubay
- Laurie Elder in memory of Maggie" "She was a classic."
- James & Margaret Esler in honor of Jenny, Collin & Quinn Welch
- Beth Flambures in honor of Marilyn Falcone
- Dana Gatson in honor of Diana Shubert
- Erin Giacomini in memory of Callie and Josie
- Albert & Jon Gilberston in honor of Argyle, Olivia & Aubree
- Grant & Kate Goble in honor of Nova and Juneau
- Kremena & David Gross in memory of Sandy Grassgreen
- Merix & Brain Gustin in memory of Bosco Gustin
- Carl, Nancy & Kona Hane in memory of Hawkeye, Shane, BJ, Jack and Norman

- Karen Hardesty in memory of Star and Emma
- Arlene Harvanec in memory of her pet
- Dennis Helling in honor of Jakalyn Helling
- Molly Heins in memory of Kelly Emery
- Susan High in memory of Virginia Dummer
- Diane & Elizabeth Holman in honor of Roxane & Ellen Sabin-Rabinowitz
- Linda Holway-Morganfield in memory of Alice Holway
- Megan Hottman in honor of George & Nancy Webb
- Judith Howard in memory of Charlie & Reggie Howard
- Sally Hutton in honor of their Turkey dog, Wrigley
- Michelle James in memory of Molly
- Pamela C. Jones in memory of Thomas Jones
- Allison Kadans in memory of Jay Goldstein
- Jane Arambel Kadillak in memory of Linda James
- The Kandcers in memory of Haley, our GRRR girl
- Sarah & Kevin Kavanah in memory of Munson Kavanah
- Sandy Kibling in honor of Scouty Williams
- Darwin & Barbara Kuhlman in memory of Sammy
- Shannon Knight and Cortlandt Howell in memory of Sandy Grassgreen
- Nicole Kruesel in memory of Brinley Kruesel
- Gloria Lefree in honor of Mary Kenton
- Jill Levy in memory of Nelson Levy
- Anne & Jim Mack in honor of Goldy
- Mary Lisman in memory of Donnie Krabe
- Lori Utchel & Linda McLean in memory of Kyle & Oakleigh
- Karol Marlow in memory of Al Marlowe
- JoAnne Masi in memory of Bella, Golden rescue
- Pat Matis in honor of Robin Strelow
- Thomas McGimpsey in honor of Sue & Wally Dague
- Stacie McWilliams in memory of Peili
- Dennis & Susan Markow in memory of Linda James
- Toni Martin in memory of Jim & Sully Martin
- Dan Matras in honor of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear & Molly Matras
- Charles McElwain & Joan Russell in honor of Dr. Toby Eshelman of Alpenglow Veterinary and Dr. Kelli Space of Jasper Animal Hospital
- James & Joy Merritt in memory of Chubby Merritt
- Cami Miller in honor of Rinah Levine
- Vivian & Greg Miller in honor of Bill Urbanowski
- Mindy Molina in honor of Bear Marquez
- Cindee Moyer in memory of Luke Dutka
- Beckie Myers in memory of Tally
- Shelley Nault in memory of all her dogs waiting at the Rainbow Bridge
- Doug Oates in memory of Max Hand-Ferretti
- Dean & Michelle O'Nale in memory of Hunter & Holly
- Kip & Anne Oram in memory of Betty Oram
- Paws 'n' Play Natural Pet Supplies in memory of Cierra
- Steve Perry in memory of Mardi Perry
- Michael & Wendt Platt in memory of Remington Platt
- Ann Rausch in memory of Sandy Grassgreen
- Dick Reeve in memory of Millie Reeve
- Donna and Raoul Reiser in memory of Murphy
- Michael & Lisa Robb in memory of Hanspeter Spuhler
- Sandra Rock in memory of Vern & Vera Tregoning
- Robert F. Rosenthal in memory of Sooner, Bo, Sage, Henry, Razzle, and Zoey
- Roxanne Sabin in honor of:
Nola Moyer • their sweet Hope
- Roxanne Sabin in memory of:
Deb Dawson • Sophia Maria • Meredith Sabin
- Sherri Sanders in honor of Zack & Andrea Sanders
- Cassandra Salazar in memory of JayJay
- Tami and Dan Scace in honor of Charlie Scace
- Pamela Schilling in memory of Molly Feigenbauer
- Margie Schmittling in Tom & Rusty Schmittling
- Susan Schnick in memory of the best dog ever, Indy

- Nancy Schroeder-Grant in memory of:
- Princess Jasmine, beloved companion of Margie Crawford
- David Trenholm Lyon, exceptional teacher & musician
- Larry Baker, beloved husband and father
- Matt Thanheiser who cherished his dogs
- Sam Clark, beloved son, brother and Dad
- Bob Scharp in memory of his beloved Golden, Cody
- Ed & Val Schwolow in honor of Bob & Deb Jorgenson
- Peggy Sciumbato in memory of Sparky
- Hugh M. Scilley in memory of Zoey
- Jonathan & Linda Sewall in memory of Sandy Grassgreen
- Sue Sherman in honor of Gus Sherman
- Susan & John Sidwell in memory of Brianna
- Ralph & Bonnie Simmons in honor of Trixie & Sherman
- Donna and Doralee Sims in memory of Linda James
- Bill & Inge Smith in memory of GRRR Rescue Juno
- Andrew & Lynne Southard in honor of Millie
- Stacey Springston in memory of Ulla's courageous mom, Violet
- Kathryn Spuhler in memory of Hanspeter Spuhler
- Abbie Snyder in honor of Maddie Snyder
- Gina Staley in honor of Dusty Staley
- Lyn Stevens & Tom Remington in memory of Al Marlowe
- Margo Stewart in memory of Steve Stewart
- Gail & Pete Stokowski in honor of Golden Angel, Zoey
- Steve & Judy Supple in memory of Duffy Supple
- Jill Sutton in memory of Tim Hara
- Joyce Theilen in memory of Ava: "a good, good dog"
- Sandi Truitt & Darlene Dugan in memory of Oliver
- Diane & Jon Turner in honor of Barbara Crook
- Hannah & Brooke Vanderlan in honor of Lucy
- Larry & Patricia Vasquez in memory of their boy Nick: "kind and happy to his last breath"
- Carrie Wagermann in memory of Hanspeter Spuhler
- Megan Walsh in memory of Cotswold Walsh
- Carol Warner in honor of Kismet
- Barbara Weller in memory of Sunny & Sadie
- Jackie Weidner & Dave Cole in honor of TD Tuesday
- John M Wetherington in memory of Hanspeter Spuhler
- Donna Winship in memory of Carol 'Buck' Herring
- Donna Winship in Memory of Jorge 'Chaco' Martinez
- Wendy & Richard Wolf in memory of Mandy Wolf
- Janet Yierra in memory of Yodi, her grandson Max Henson's much-loved Golden
- Steve & Laura Zlogar in memory of Lloyd

Thank you so much for donating in memory or honor of your loved ones. We regret any errors or omissions.



