



“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”™

Golden GRRROWL

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

November 2021

All About Ellie

by Pat Rogers

Who rescued whom? Here’s a story that may help answer the question.

Meet Ellie, the English Cream Golden who came to GRRR from Romania, via South Dakota, and then to our home. She was barely over a year old but her personality was already shining through. Those dark eyes showed a sweet and gentle soul.

Yet the spunkiness was also apparent. I thought Ellie would be a good fit for the Littleton Adventist Hospital dog therapy team. My previous Golden, Suzeigh, was also a therapy dog, and I knew Ellie had the right personality...and spunk...for the job.

Ellie is quite an inspiration to all she meets, beginning with the Welcome Desk and right down to the Gift Shop. She greets everyone in the lobby, making sure no one is missed. And so the day starts; she just loves getting petted. I am constantly amazed at the connections that the doctors, nurses, patients and visitors make with her. It must be those eyes, long eyelashes and creamy colored coat that is so inviting. Many just love to snuggle with her. So many of the staff know her by name and are so happy to have her visit.

Making the Rounds

A typical visit involves seeing patients in areas like Infusion, Chemotherapy, and the ICU. We also visit various patient floors as well as individual patients who have requested a dog visit. Once, Ellie was visiting a family waiting in the surgery area and the kids were loving on her. When they were called to go speak

to the doctors, I looked around and there was Ellie, going right in with them, bringing up the rear! A good laugh was had by all.

Ellie has a very calming effect. One volunteer who works in Outpatient Registration always introduces Ellie to all the patients who are signing in, and she tells them how much she loves this dog. They all duck their heads in to see her and smile.

One time a nurse paged a doctor in the OR to see Ellie, as the nurse knew how much he missed seeing all the dogs during COVID. He finished his surgery and met Ellie as he stepped out of the elevator.

Peoples’ faces light up when they see Ellie coming down the hall. She checks out the nurses’ stations to see if they might have a biscuit or two. Usually Ellie wins out. The nurses always say how much these visits make their day and how much they appreciate the dogs and volunteers. Nurses and patients show me cell phone pictures and tell stories of their own dogs. It really is heartwarming. So much happens with each visit, it’s hard to focus on just one or two patients.

The Dog Will See You Now

“Pat and Ellie bring so much joy and energy not only to the patients,” said the Nurse Manager in ICU, “but also to the staff! Working in the ICU, I see how much stress the nurses and staff experience. When Ellie, with her mellow and sweet temperament, comes visiting, everyone brightens! Ellie is really in her element! I also see how much patients’ and families’ stress decreases while they pet her, which is such a blessing during a very stressful time in their lives.”

Ellie and I also visit waiting rooms. Suddenly the room is pretty much filled with smiles. Ellie does have her favorite departments, though, where she knows exactly where the treats are. One is Medical Records, where she is treated like a princess with treats and a massage. Ellie has come to count on these massages at the end of her shift. You cannot trick her to leave the hospital before this, and she will plant those paws and not move. The girls in Medical Records just love her. She really does know the perks of this job.

Ellie getting some love...and treats... from staff

Continued on next page





A Rescue Who Rescues

It's a win-win situation for all. We have a wonderful dog therapy program at Littleton Hospital and it is such a joy to volunteer there. Volunteers, and dogs, are treated like gold. It is understood how important and valuable these dog visits are. Ellie usually ends up at the Welcome Desk after the massage, and people coming in and out of the hospital still ask to pet her. She is one tired pup at the end of the day, but knows how many hearts she has touched.

This rescued Golden Retriever has paid it forward and "rescued" many patients and hospital staff with her compassion, gentleness and love! 💕

Ellie works her magic with patients, as well as staff at the Littleton Adventist Hospital



Recent Rescues

Hello again to my friends at GRRR!

It's been just about a year now since I've been with my new family at my forever home so I wanted to give you an update. I've been very busy learning new things! Most recently I hiked to the top of Mount Sherman with my dad. I was born to be a mountain dog for sure! I've also been backpacking and learned how to swim. I have my very own life vest for the times I get to go out on the paddle board with my parents. I guess I was born for the water too! My favorite thing to do is to swim out to retrieve sticks, balls, and frisbees. We did that a lot at Lake Wellington this summer.

I've also taken a long road trip to North Carolina and helped a hiker with autism down a trail. They said I helped him stay calm. I'm so happy and cannot thank all of my friends at GRRR enough for helping me find my people. We're truly blessed! River (and Chad and Ty Goare)



Hi GRRR:

We are happy to report that Sherman is living the good life! He is down 20 pounds since joining us - only 5 more pounds to his goal weight. And he and his sister Callie have become best buddies!

We love our big boy SOOOO much.

Ann McCloskey



Dear GRRR:

Here are a few pictures of Daisy! She's been a great puppy and has been everywhere with us, camping, hiking and two trips to the Northwest! We have been in Oregon for the past two months and she is a hit here and has made a lot of friends. Her favorite thing to do is go out for coffee and bagels and lox. She will wait patiently for the last bite and loves all the attention she receives!

We're very happy to have adopted Daisy and glad we found each other!

Barry and Barb Bartlett

Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

Bojo (previously Joe) came to GRRR as a puppy with serious sub-aortic stenosis and a leaking aortic valve. His prognosis was not good, and the vets said he'd be lucky to make it to his first birthday. They said that one day he'd be running and would probably have a fatal heart attack. Mary Kenton asked me if I'd be a hospice mom to Bojo. I wasn't sure at first if I'd be strong enough to handle losing such a young dog. I sat in the kennel with Bojo and looked into his beautiful brown eyes and knew I had to take him. I asked the vets for advice, and they said "let him be a dog and have fun."



Two years later we moved to the north coast of Northern Ireland. It was quite a traumatic time. I was so worried about Bojo flying, and there was so much work to do: getting paperwork ready, making sure all shots were up to date and booking flights to bring two dogs into the UK. We stumbled over so many hurdles along the way and would never have been ready without the help of Mary and my vets. The journey itself was an event as the dogs had to be at DIA 4 hours before the flight, the flight itself was 9 hours direct to London, and then the dogs had to stay overnight at the Heathrow animal center to be checked over. The next day they were put on another flight to Belfast where I picked them up. I was so worried about Bojo with his heart condition but I knew that Dundee, my other dog, would be a calming influence on him. Needless to say, they arrived looking fine and extremely excited to see me. After all the stress and worrying about them, I think they weathered the journey better than I did!

Both Dundee and Bojo settled quickly into to their new home with a fenced backyard and lots of green grass to run on. They especially loved the nearby beach, which is long (1.6 miles) and sandy. Every morning I would take them for a walk along the beach come rain or shine. Dogs are allowed off leash so I let Dundee off immediately. One day I decided to chance letting Bojo off. He took off through the waves chasing and barking at a seagull. Suddenly he staggered and went down in the water. He couldn't get up so when I reached him I just held his head out of the water. He was too heavy for me to lift, and there was no one on the beach to help. Eventually he staggered to his feet and very slowly we headed back to the car. I took him to my vet and she said no more running as the next time could be fatal.

Last February we lost Dundee to a very aggressive cancer that had returned and Bojo started to fret. He and Dundee had done everything together, and it was a huge loss for all of us. For weeks Bojo kept stopping on walks and looking back as if to say "Where is Dundee?" I started spending more time with Bojo, and we started going for longer walks every day and exploring new places where Dundee had not been. I think this, and time, have helped him.

We have since taken Bojo on a ferry to England for two weeks and two short ferries to the Irish republic. He loves going to new places and gets very excited. He loves meeting new people and is very friendly with every dog he sees. I often get asked what breed he is as the Golden Retrievers here are all big English creams. People think Bojo is a Golden Irish (Golden Retriever cross Irish Setter). I've seen a couple of these here and they do look like Bojo.

This month Bojo had his 4th birthday and is still looking great. He has lots of energy so the long beach walk must help. He has become accustomed to always being on a leash, but he still gets to greet other dogs on our walks. I believe the cooler weather here helps him too as his heart had to work harder in the heat. I call Bojo my miracle dog as I never expected to still have him four years on. Each new day is special. I think back to that day when Mary asked if I'd take him and wondered why I hesitated at all to say yes, even if it was only for a second.

Susan Mustoe

Hello,

It has been one amazing year since we adopted Finnigan (Boogie). We've had so many amazing adventures in this past year!

Finn is doing amazing for his first year with us and we are so thankful we found him. He is such a sweet and gentle guy who loves attention (from everyone!).

In May, Finn decided he needed a new friend. We searched high and low and he decided on his sister Qi'ra. They are the best of friends and love going on walks, hiking, and playing in the yard together. In the past year Finn has gone camping, and hiked multiple trails, including his first 14er. Finn enjoys swimming, treats, and most of all sleeping in his bed. We are so thankful that we found this guy.

Thank you, Marissa Duffey



Good Morning GRRR:

Reporting in about Aidy (original name was Katie). She is a puppy brain in a big-dog body full of energy and curiosity. She is also becoming quite a lover. Aidy passed basic training class (not valedictorian but passed nonetheless) and is attending occasional half-day doggie daycare to improve her social skills.

We love her to bits and are happy she is part of the family. Thanks for all you do.

Daryl & Nancy Lindeman



Dear GRRR:

Joey is almost a grown-up puppy (3 years old on November 1). He loves harassing his older brother, Riley, and making sure we keep the Milk Bone jar full.

Dick & Cheryl Buckley



Dear GRRR:

I adopted Charlotte (formerly Callie) on September 14. She is fitting in well with Sammy and Jackson who are also GRRR rescues. She is extremely smart! She learned to go up and down stairs the day after I brought her home and in another day, figured out all the dog doors. She is an absolute joy! Thank you GRRR!

Janet Baughman



Dear GRRR:

My sweet Poppy (formerly Olivia) was adopted from GRRR in October 2018. She has added so much joy and love to our home. She loves her toys, naps and walks. She has the funniest personality and believes she is a lap dog. She definitely likes us to think she is in charge! I am so grateful for my sweet and spoiled Poppy.

Joyce Lucchetti



Recent Rescues



Dear GRRR:

When I was at Phoebe's Place in mid-August, I had just lost Chili and I loudly announced to Mary "no more dogs." I wanted to be a one-dog family with the exception of foster dogs. No sooner had I said that than a fuzzy little face with huge brown eyes peeked around the corner. So much for resolve. Jackson had joined GRRR a week before and Mary said he already had an interested applicant meeting him the next day. "Thank goodness," I said.

Back home I couldn't put Jackson out of my mind and half hoped he wouldn't be adopted. The next morning, I received a text from Mary: "Come on down." The applicant was going to look at a dog with another rescue before she made up her mind. Roberta told her Jackson had another applicant interested and that was fine. I was there within minutes and the rest is history.

Jackson enjoys playing with all the toys in the community suitcase, bounding around the yard, rolling in the grass and sleeping on my bed. Not so enjoyable were the "flying jalapeño raisins" (wasps) that he snapped at, resulting in a swollen eyebrow.

I'm so grateful that I met Jackson that day at Phoebe's Place and that he convinced me that one dog isn't enough. He's a treasure. Thank you GRRR for all you do and for letting Jackson adopt me!

Leslie Brown

Dear GRRR:

Augustus (formerly Turkey Dog Wally) is living his best life! He came to me after Mary Kenton thought he would be the perfect fit for my situation as I provide walks and boarding for dogs. And he is the perfect fit! Augustus is kind and patient, making way for all of our "campers" to explore and find comfort here. He is the best host! And continues to learn pup behavior from our guests.

He still poops on the concrete wherever we walk - habits from the Istanbul street life, I suppose. Old habits die hard. And he's not a hiker and plops down many times during our short neighborhood walks. Pfft. No biggie! He's the sweetest boy, and I'm honored to give him the loving home he's always deserved!

Thank you GRRR and Mary for all the good work that you do!

Autumn Trotter



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 February 2022 issue is January 6, 2022. Thanks!

Recent Stats

January 1 - September 30, 2021

Number of Dogs Placed: 168
\$ Spent on Medical Needs: \$66,684



Dear GRRR:

Our sweet Rigley, who we adopted in July, is amazing! We changed it to Rigley from Wrigley - I'm not a Cubs fan! He did great from the beginning, but I could tell after about three weeks that he really knew that this is his forever home. Rigley brings us joy and laughter each and every day and I think we bring him happiness daily too. He is phenomenal on walks and hikes and loves playing ball; he is a retriever after all!

Rigley got all his shots in September and a clean bill of health - yay! I cannot thank all of you enough for this wonderful addition to our family! I had to work the day of the reunion but will be off for the Halloween party and looking forward to the event!

Fondly,

Donna Tellschow



Dear GRRR:

Waffles came into my life early in November 2020. When I got the call from GRRR to come and see him, I was making waffles for breakfast, so he was meant to have that name when I saw he was the same color.

Adoption day was during a chilly fall evening, and Waffles didn't care to be touched at the time. Waffles was playing with a Minnie Mouse at the GRRR office, and just pretty much wanted to be left alone.

Waffles came all the way from Turkey (formerly named Saison) to fill my life with joy and happiness. When I took Waffles home, he had trouble getting in the car, since I believe he had never been in a car before! When we got home, he was so startled (and scared) looking at the parking lot and at home inside. He couldn't believe he had so much space!

At first Waffles was very shy and scared so I had to feed him with my hand. He was terrified of the bowl, and he kept his distance from me. Weeks went by and Waffles started warming up to me and following me around, especially to the kitchen for treats!

Unfortunately, last winter Waffles had a day that he was in so much pain that he couldn't get up from the floor. When I took him to the vet he was diagnosed with spondylosis, and his lumbar spine and sacrum were completely fused due to an old injury.



After countless appointments at the vet, pet neurologist and at a rehab facility, I decided to work on his recovery and give him all I could. This included periodic medical checks, permanent pain medications, acupuncture, heat therapy, physical therapy, and a home exercise program.

Waffles started physical therapy and rehab at Canine Rehabilitation & Conditioning Group (Broomfield) shortly after his initial rest period. The physical therapy worked wonders for him, and now we can go on walks around the neighborhood.

Waffles loves his new life and became the biggest cuddler and eater! He loves eating fresh veggies and homemade soups.

We are both very happy and very grateful to GRRR for providing us the opportunity to find happiness in each other.

Andrea Bendayan

Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

I wanted to give you an update on Mollie, who is now known as Daisy. Since Daisy joined our family, she has learned that mornings are best spent playing with her sisters, Ginger and Silky and lounging on the bed. Daisy is a big fan of squeaky toys, chew bones, and long walks around the block.

It took a few days but her big sisters love playing with her and playing keep-away with the stuffed toys.

Daisy made the perfect addition to our family! We are so thankful to GRRR for finding her for us!

Jennifer Gehring



Hi Folks at GRRR,

My husband and I adopted our Golden, Bailey Boy, when he was 4-1/2 years old. He turned 5 in April, and we've loved him for 9 months now. He's been such a wonderful part of our family ever since. He came to GRRR via a fun plane ride and volunteer pilot from Grand Junction, where we understood he was to be a service dog for a visually-impaired woman who had a small home and backyard. She had to move to an apartment and her family searched for the BEST retriever rescue in the Rockies and yes, that's GRRR!

Bailey was so nervous when we first met him with Roberta on a cold overcast day at the GRRR fenced area, but once he gave me a Golden hug I knew he was to come home with us. We were worried that the adjustment would be a struggle, but it really wasn't.

After a few days, it was like he'd always been here. We went through the typical Golden issues when we got him - some wild days, tail chasing, escaping under the fence, eating socks, toilet paper, stuffed animals, and other no no's- but we're all more comfortable and most of that has resolved. He still barks when he hears a strange noise outside. When Bailey came to us he had some anxiety and separation issues. We made sure he got plenty of family time. We're lucky that during the pandemic we didn't leave him alone very often, so he's now very happy here in our home. We are also happy to report that he has been introduced to swimming (he never learned and was afraid of water, wow!) and we go weekly to Twin Lakes dog park. Bailey loves playing with other dogs and his toys, and he often springs up in the air like a jack in the box at a ball or toy. He loves road trips to Utah and the mountains - hiking and belly rubs are the best. All in all, he is happy and well adjusted.

Thanks SOOOO much to Mary and Roberta and to ALL volunteers of GRRR for bringing this fine Bailey Boy to us. You are ALL truly a blessing!

Our best, Annette, Steve, and Bailey Boy Crider



Dear GRRR:

Riley turned one on October 8th. We celebrated with a pup cake (made of banana, ground oatmeal, peanut butter and water) and a #1 candle and we sang happy birthday.

We have been training Riley with a wonderful instructor who comes to the house. His favorite thing he has learned so far is "place". He places everywhere. He places on the fireplace hearth, large rocks when going on walks, on our outdoor ottoman and on his cot. He is doing very well, although Riley's middle name is fun at any time and anywhere.

Riley likes to run fast...zoomies at least twice a day. He likes to fetch until he's done which is signaled by placing the ball very far away from us.

Riley loves all animals and all humans. He likes to go camping and hiking. He loves the outdoors. He has favorite spots in the back yard where he watches squirrels, gazes at our next door neighbors or meets up with his friend Harley the German Shepherd by the fence. He sits in a chair by the front window to watch geese and kids walk to and from school every day.

We take Riley to the Starbucks drive-thru for a mini puppicino now and then. It's his most favorite car ride. He usually always draws a crowd at the drive-thru window. He's a momma's boy, but will cozy up to anyone especially if they have a tennis ball or a treat.

Riley has a unique four-color fur, and is often mistaken for a bernedoodle and once an otter dog. He looks a lot like an otter dog. In the evening he's a good snuggler until he gets warm and then he lays down on the floor on his cool mat in various crazy positions!

Thanks, Cheryl Hand



Donations in Memory or Honor

- Jamie and Tony Alteri in memory of Beckett, the Golden Retriever
 - Gary and Mary Frances Cowan in memory of Cooper Cowan
 - Margaret Crawford, in memory of Mary Kenton's Louie. "My sister, Nancy Grant, has told me so many stories about Louie's kindness and caring toward shy dogs and puppies."
 - Pamela Farrell in honor of Molly & Sam
 - Paula Fisher in honor of Rue
 - David and Cary Goodman in memory of Cassie, the Golden Retriever sister of Libby
 - David and Cary Goodman in honor of Jeanne and Rich Josephson for becoming new GRRR volunteers.
 - Nancy Schroeder Grant in memory of Mary Kenton's precious pup, Louie
 - Michael, Gina, and Lucy Jeary in memory of Juliet
 - Dan Matras in honor of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear, and Molly
 - Stacie McWilliams in memory of Palei
 - Roberta and Don Miller in honor of Louie, Mary Kenton's Golden
 - Brett Necessary and Marci Harford in memory of Kayia
 - Trish Phillips in memory of Sarah Crase
 - Pat and Scott Rogers in memory of Mary Kenton's Louie. "We all know how special he was and the hole he let in Mary's heart."
 - Gregory and Nancy Schultz in memory of Jake.
 - Corinne Ryan, in honor of Sherrie Stille's birthday.
 - Roxanne Sabin and Ellen Rabinowitz in memory of Mary's Louie
 - Gregory and Nancy Schultz in memory of Jake
 - Kerrie Parsons in honor of Alice and Mackenzie Tamura
 - Debra Waltz in memory of Clover
 - Robert S Webber in honor of Russ and Cathy Jones
 - Jane Wilson in memory of George Gore III
 - Dana Wright in memory of Jake
- Thank you so much for donating in memory or honor of your loved ones. We regret any errors or omissions.

Golden Angels: Breeder Girls

by Jeannie Miller

Our Golden Angel stories are almost always about an individual pup and their medical issues. This summer, during one of our rescues of breeding dogs from a puppy mill, GRRR was able to rescue nine beautiful Golden Retrievers. Three of them were females around the age of three. We are now calling them “the shy girls” because they have some of the worst puppy PTSD that we have seen. We want to tell you their collective story this quarter because it is compelling and heart wrenching but also because they deserve to have their story told. More important, they deserve to recover from their trauma – both physical and mental – and live the rest of their lives being loved, not mistreated, by people. We are grateful that, because of our generous donors, the Golden Angel Fund, and our volunteers, we can provide the care they need during their rehabilitation.



APRIL

Meet April, Addie and Tess – the shy girls. They are medium-sized Golden Retrievers. Tess is a red Golden and Addie and April are a beautiful cream-color with dark brown eyes. They were all owned and released by the same breeder. We don't know very much about this specific breeder, but we can tell by how the dogs act that their lives were not very pleasant. We know the breeder has a very large number of dogs. He is producing all sorts of designer dogs and we have heard that he performs artificial insemination himself. Recently we learned that he has been brought up on charges by the USDA of over 100 violations of the Animal Welfare Act because of his poor treatment of his dogs. He is currently appearing in court on these charges.

We heard a shocking story from another rescue. This is the worst of the worst. No dog should ever be treated the way these dogs have. The other rescue obtained a pregnant female on the same day that we got the shy girls. When they got her to their vet, they saw that she had a severe case of pyometra (infection of the reproductive tract). On closer examination, it was discovered that the poor girl had been artificially inseminated, and her uterus had been sewn with fishing line. It is disgusting.



TESS

All three of our sweet, shy girls were totally terrified of people when they arrived at Phoebe's Place in late August. We could tell they were kept in very small enclosures because when they were in our larger runs or in the play yard, they would just go around in circles as if they didn't know what to do with a little freedom. They would not let anyone approach them for the first several days. April's whole body just shook when we approached her. Both she and Addie looked so afraid, as if we were going to kick them. It breaks our heart and frankly really makes us mad to see these beautiful dogs in that state. Poor little Tess had a severe skin condition where large patches of her back and sides were bare, leathery skin. We didn't know quite what to make of it until she could see Dr. Carpenter.

April had very recently had pups and her teats were very enlarged. One of April's teats had a mass on it that would require removal and testing. We thought little Addie might be pregnant again. She had some bleeding and may have aborted her small litter. When Dr. Carpenter spayed the girls, he did see that each already had an incision. So we suspect that the breeder had done the insemination surgery on them too. Unbelievable.



ADDIE

Walking on a leash was a big “no-go” for all three girls. Little by little, we have gotten Addie to walk slowly with us. The other two will follow behind but when a leash is put on them, they stop in their tracks.

Every day, our volunteers patiently sit, stroke, and talk to the girls. With leashes on, we coax them and, eventually, they will learn that the leash is an invitation to fun and adventure. Tess's fur has begun to grow back in, so her condition was likely caused by stress and nutritional deficiencies. When we go into the kennel now, little April still shakes like crazy but her little tail now wags down between her legs. She is learning to look forward to human interaction and not fear it so much. Little Addie is our rock star leash walker and will hopefully teach the other girls. This is going to take time, patience and a lot of love.

We are so glad that we were able to rescue these girls and get them out of those horrible conditions. We will take the time they need to help them to recover so they can go to wonderful forever homes. Please donate to the Golden Angel Fund so we can continue to pay for medical expenses for all the dogs in our care. 💙

Golden Angel: Maya

by Jill Sutton

Hi everyone. My name is Maya. Some of you may know me as Willow. That was my name when I came to GRRR. But Mary Kenton thought my name should not sound like “no” since I’m a very positive puppy. So now, I’m Maya. It’s good that I’m the optimistic type, because I had a very rough start to my life.

I was born last December with a medical condition that I can’t pronounce (*Maya had an ectopic ureter, a birth defect in which the tubes from the kidneys to the bladder are not attached at the correct location in the bladder, resulting in constant dribbling and urinary incontinence.*) Even though I’m a very smart girl and learned how to do my business outside, I was still having problems all the time. I couldn’t help it and I could tell that people didn’t like it. It was hard for me and everyone else to understand what was wrong. I am not a bad puppy. I am sweet and happy and want to be a good girl.

Finally, my family took me to their vet who figured out what was wrong and said that surgery could fix my condition. Wow, what a relief! I could be fixed so that I could have a normal life and not mess up the house all the time. Unfortunately, the cost of the surgery was just too much for my first family. They were very sad, but they loved me so much that they wanted me to have the chance of a better life. They made the very hard decision to do what was best for me and find someone who could take care of me. That’s where GRRR stepped in to help. The good people at GRRR said they would cover the costs of my surgery and take care of me afterwards. How did I get so lucky?

The next thing you know, I was at the Colorado State University Veterinary Hospital. I had an operation to fix my “plumbing,” and received the very best care there. Then it was back to Phoebe’s Place to recuperate and look for the best forever home for me. Mary and all the volunteers who help out at GRRR took good care of me. I met so many new friends who took me on walks, played games with me – and I even got to help the DeGroff’s with a landscaping project at Phoebe’s Place! I just love digging in the dirt! Dianne didn’t even get mad at me when I pulled up her newly planted flowers a couple of times. How great is that? I loved my life at Phoebe’s Place but soon it was time to find a forever home so that there was room for other dogs who need help to come to stay at GRRR.

On the 4th of July, I found that home, and today I live in Highlands Ranch with my brother and sister, Nicholas and Grace (who came from Istanbul!). My new parents love me so much. They are teaching me many new things. I am feeling great and have lots of energy. I go to the park every chance I get, and always greet every single person and dog at the park. I still take medicine every day, but I know that I have a really good future, thanks to the kind and generous people who support GRRR, please donate to the Golden Angel Fund and give good pups like me a second chance. Thank 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



Zeke by John and Jamie Sharp

My name is Zeke and I was rescued from an auction by GRRR after 4 years in a puppy mill. I know I am a lucky boy to be rescued and chosen as a Golden Angel. I just completed 3 months of intensive Heartworm treatment. I am finally coming out of my shell as the body aches, fatigue and GI upset are fading away. Since I was overbred at the mill, I have elbows that look like a senior dog on Xray which causes me to limp even just rambling around the house. I am going to a special doctor next month to explore treatment options.

Aside from my medical issues, I am a really happy and polite boy. After 5 months with my new family, I am starting to let my goofy side come out. I like to lie upside down, slide down steps with my legs behind me and steal shoes to take out in the yard. I have learned a lot from my brother, Kodi, such as how to wait until the screen door opens before trying to run out the door, listening for the UPS driver who brings treats, and how to run inside at the speed of light when he starts howling at coyotes. I have already developed a fan club of kids in the neighborhood who knock on the door just to pet my sweet face.

Some of my favorite activities include riding in the car, going on new trails and dipping my belly in the lake – especially when my mom doesn't want me to get wet. I have comfy beds all over the house but still feel most comfortable on the hard floor. I am still not sure what to do with toys or balls. I don't ever bark but my parents enjoy hearing me grumble and stretch early in the morning to get the day started.

I am becoming a more confident boy and enjoying every new adventure. It feels really good to be loved and valued. I thank GRRR for giving me this happy life.

Love, Zeke



Avery by Karen Strickland

Avery is a beautiful, engaging and funny 20-month-old Golden puppy. Her Grade 6 heart murmur restricts the amount of fun she can have, and for a puppy that is difficult because she doesn't understand why she can't chase bunnies and long-fetch tennis balls. However, she loves to go on short walks and play gentle fetch with her best friend next door.

The amazing thing about Avery is how engaging she is with people she sees on our walks. She doesn't miss a thing and the number of "ears up" moments we have each time is so much fun. Her newest best friend is the UPS delivery man. She knows the sound of his truck and waits patiently at the front door for him to deliver a package. When I let her outside to greet him, she bounces up to him and accepts his pets and snuggles. He has shared with me that his dog recently died and so he just loves these brief and fun interactions with her. If I'm not home, he leaves a tiny dog cookie on the package, and she knows that is hers when we get the package.

Avery is still on medication and that won't change because her condition won't improve. Dr. Carpenter thinks that the medication is working the way it is supposed to work and has slowed her heart rate to help relieve the pressure on her heart. We don't know yet how her disease will progress but what we do know is that she is a special girl, a gift to everyone she meets, and she thoroughly enjoys her life. 💕

President's Report

by Judi Servoss, GRRR President



We are going strong at GRRR, despite challenges of the past few years. We have a very clear mission in support of our wonderful Golden Retrievers. We couldn't have done nearly as well without all of you — members, donors, volunteers and staff. You are all the heart and soul of GRRR.

It has been especially nice to begin seeing you at outdoor events like our September Reunion Picnic. And we've loved the return of individual and group volunteers. The pups are particularly happy with all that loving!

As we approach the end of 2021, it's clear to me that we've all had to learn a lot about flexibility and patience these last two years. We have also experienced unexpected turns like the CDC stopping all international imports of dogs from 113 countries – including Turkey – for at least one year. The trigger was a case of rabies from an imported dog in Chicago. We strongly believe rescue groups are doing an excellent job of managing health protocols, but there have been some individuals who have not been as careful. We have joined with a consortium of rescue and animal welfare organizations who are attempting to solve this problem with officials in Washington, D.C. Obviously the CDC is rather busy these days, but we're hopeful we'll be able to bring in more Turkey dogs before too long.

I'd be remiss if I didn't put in a plug for the 2021 Colorado Gives Day, December 7. Early Giving began November 1, so you can donate at any time. Along with our summer Gala, this is one of our biggest fundraising opportunities of the year, so we really count on your help!

Thank you for all your loyalty and support. ❤️



Phoebe's Place Update

by Francie Rakiec,
GRRR Executive Director

Changing Weather...and Changes at Phoebe's Place

Late summer and early fall have brought about many exciting changes at Phoebe's Place. In August we had a "Beat the Heat" fundraiser to raise money for a ductless A/C unit for the kennel. Boy, did you guys come through in a big way. We raised almost \$12,000! The A/C unit was installed and is definitely doing its job. With the excess money we also decided to give the exterior of the kennel and the office a new paint job.

Then in mid-September we had a work group of over 20 people from PDC Energy volunteer their time at Phoebe's Place. They did some general cleanup around the property and re-stained the picnic benches. In addition, they cleaned out almost the entire basement and helped us put everything into a storage pod. They did this just in time for the basement to get waterproofed in early October.

The basement has been an ongoing issue for Mary Kenton for many years. Anytime we get a lot of snow or rain, water leaks in through the floor and walls. Mary has spent countless hours using the shop vac to suck up the water. Not only is this time consuming, it is also very unhealthy for her and the dogs. I figured it was high time that we got this issue taken care of. So after a week of a lot of banging and not a lot of peace and quiet, I'm happy to report the basement is now leak free!

And finally, we had a very generous donor who donated the money (in honor of their many Golden Retrievers) to have turf installed in our Meet & Greet yard. We no longer have to worry about mowing and watering, and will also have green "grass" for the dogs to romp around in year round.

We are very excited for all the improvements we have been able to do at Phoebe's Place thanks to all our generous donors. Like we always say, Golden Retriever people are truly the best! ❤️



The reward for PDC Energy volunteers...puppy and dog fix!



New turf in Meet & Greet area

In Memory

Brewster

by Mary & Joe Lemma

Brewster, aka “Brewster-Dog,” “Brewster Dog-bone,” “Son,” and various other names connoting playful affection, departed this life on September 21. He was 13 or 14 years old and had been one of GRRR’s Golden Angels. And “angel” he was.

Before being rescued and adopted, Brewster (his original name) had survived a house fire early in 2016. His elderly owner lost her life, and her adult children were unable to provide him a permanent home, so they brought this wonderful dog to GRRR.

At some point before being rescued, Brewster had endured a femoral head osteotomy and a permanently dislocated hip, but so much tissue had grown around that hip that correcting the dislocation wasn’t feasible. Dr. Michael Bauer of Colorado Canine Orthopedics performed an ACL repair, which helped improve Brewster’s strength in that leg to compensate for the loss of strength in the hip. The Golden Angel fund provided for the treatment.

Although it’s hard to believe at this point, Brewster was initially a finicky eater, owing perhaps to his previous life relying on table scraps. Fortunately, his finicky days were numbered, as his daily happy dance at mealtimes demonstrated. And when we say “happy dance,” we’re not exaggerating. Even as a “Golden Oldie,” Brewster jumped around, sometimes with all four paws off the floor, while exclaiming “woof!” It was a joy to witness his enthusiasm.

One thing he wasn’t happy about was wind. On very windy days or during thunderstorms, Brewster would seek shelter in a closet. On more than one occasion, we found him hiding in a bathtub (empty, of course). But in recent months he seemed calmer.

Brewster endeared himself to all who met him—really, how can you not love a Golden?—and had a comical habit of attempting to walk through the legs of visitors (and us), from the front or the back. Even at his age, he tolerated the occasionally playful antics of his adoptive sister, a Pyrenees / Anatolian Shepherd mix who joined us in 2019.


Brewster also endeared himself to complete strangers when he volunteered to join GRRR at a fundraising event at the Capitol in 2017 for Colorado Gives Day, sporting a vest to collect contributions from people who stopped to pet him. We called this “pimping.” But hey, he collected some serious bucks!

He followed us everywhere—Mary especially, when he’d follow her down to the basement to listen in on her Zoom watercolor class and sniff around the books and art supplies. And when she worked out on the elliptical exercise machine, he’d hunker down nearby until it was time to return to the main floor. Brewster also joined us on the sofa to “watch” TV. When it was time to go to bed, he’d follow us into the bedroom and sleep on his dog bed.

His hearing was amazing, too: No matter where he was in the house, when the metal lid to the jar of dog treats was lifted, he was there. And when we got ice out of the ice maker, he was there, obviously feeling entitled to a frozen refreshment.

Then, one morning in September, Brewster remained in the bedroom while we began our morning routine. Suspecting something wasn’t quite right, we checked on him. He wouldn’t move, except to briefly lift his head, then dropping it. His breathing was labored, and when offered a few bits of kibble, he lay there, not responding. Fortunately, Parker Animal Hospital was able to see him right away, so we gently rolled him onto a towel—he couldn’t move—slid him down the hall and managed to place him into our car.

We don’t know exactly what caused his precipitous decline during the night, but our vet, Dr. Julie Hayes, suspected it was his heart and, mercifully, euthanized him. The staff shared tears and hugs.

We are grateful to those who rescued Brewster, to the Golden Angel fund for helping with his surgery, and to Brewster himself, who gave us five years of happiness. 



Mary's painting of Brewster chilling on the bed

Couloir

by Karen & Ty Lollis

We wanted to reach out with a heartfelt thank you for the opportunity you gave us 9 years ago when we adopted our sweet Couloir. She was from the second litter of puppies you rescued in the summer of 2012. We are so thankful that you gave us the opportunity to get one of those puppies.

Couloir (kew-lar) was our first baby and then helped us welcome all 4 of our babies into the world. She was a great family dog, loved frisbees, and loved adventuring with us all across Colorado from fourteeners to the sand dunes to exploring around our family cabin and so much more. She sadly succumbed to cancer quickly last week, but as we are reflecting on what a great dog we had, we want to thank you for the incredible opportunity you gave us.



Nelson

by Darla & Bob Heldenbrand

Some of you may remember Nelson from the 2014 Gala where he made a special appearance as one of the Golden Angel Dogs GRRR was able to help. He was surrendered to a rescue in New Mexico with a severely broken jaw, a blinded eye and other bodily injuries. That rescue is not well funded so they contacted GRRR and we are so very lucky that GRRR could afford to pay for his surgeries.

Nelson came home with us and never looked back. He warmed our home with his loving and gentle personality for seven and a half years. We were blessed to enjoy this sweet soul for so long. Nelson stole our hearts in a big way and we sure miss his goofy smiling face. Saying goodbye was one of the hardest things we've ever done.

Thank you to those who donate to the Golden Angel Fund so dogs like Nelson can have a chance to live, love and change lives for the better. He was so very special to us.

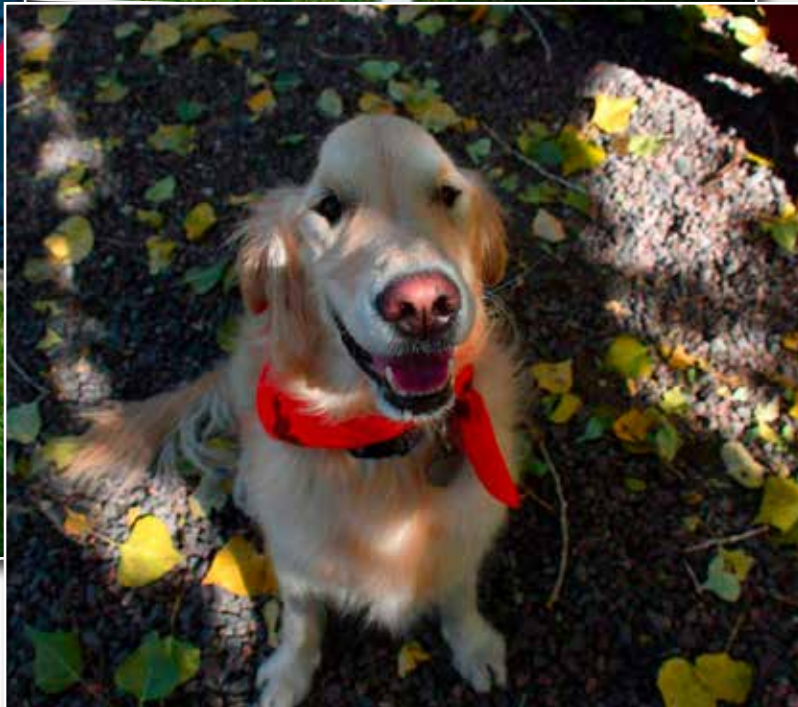


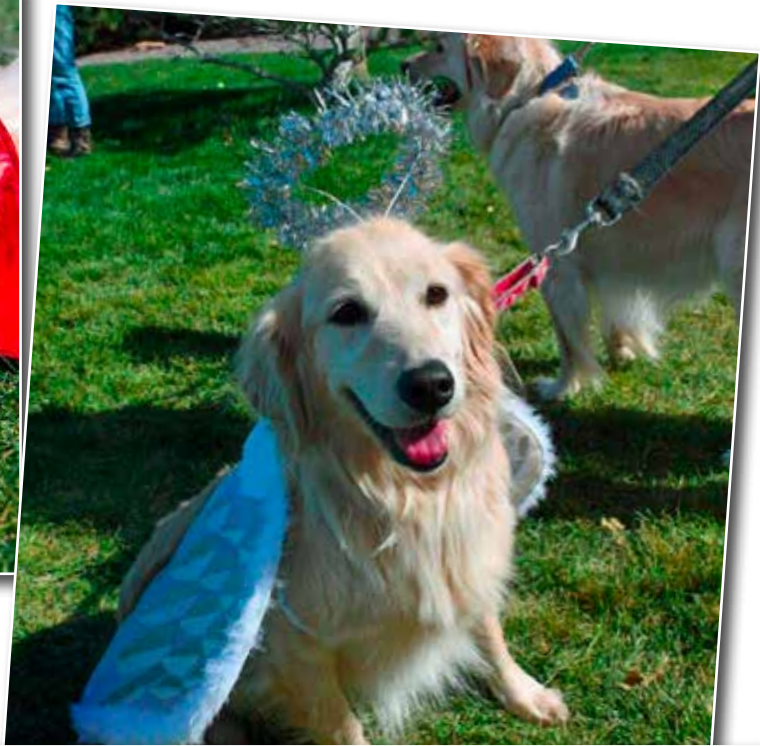
Interested in a Naming Tribute?

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

Halloween Party!







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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)

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