



“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”™

Golden GRRRRowl

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

November 2022

Rex & Millie

by Meg Ciarico

Rex's Story

I met Rex on my first day of volunteering with GRRR, and he made it very clear he was not willing to be friends with anyone. Although he'd been at GRRR nine months, I knew underneath that grouchy exterior was a beautiful personality just afraid to come out.

After 2-3 weeks of volunteering and not paying attention to Rex, I decided to let him slowly get to know me. My goal was to be able to take him on a walk at some point. I spent about 20 minutes a few times a week in his kennel, sitting down with my back to him. I played on my phone or sang songs and let Rex sniff me and get comfortable with my smell. After a month or so of this, I decided to take him for a walk. He would not accept the lead over his head, but I was able to clip one on his collar and take him for a walk. That's when I knew we were meant to be a team, he was such a good boy on the walk. Now every time I came to GRRR I just popped my head in the door and called his name, and that tail would start wagging.

I would visit him first and again at the end of my shift for short walks while I was there, and I can't tell you how happy I was to see him wag his tail at me. I decided to take the plunge and foster him over the weekend to make sure he was going to get along with my cats. August 20, 2021, he came home with me and never left. Gradually over time he has transformed into this beautiful and lovable dog.

Part of Rex's "recovery program" was walking several times daily, and always a trip to the local pet store to socialize with people, noises, and dogs in a safe way. We had to pass apartment construction, semi-trucks, bike riders, pedestrians, train track crossings, and other dogs on our daily walks. At first he jumped at every noise, and I could see how afraid he was of the world.



After a few weeks he started taking walks like a champ and went from being afraid of everything to approaching things with interest. The hardest part for Rex was in the pet store when random people would come up to Rex and want to pet him. At first he would just sniff hands for a second and we would walk away. Then one day at the cash register the clerk asked if he could give Rex a treat. Rex sat down and took his treat and some pets. Wow! So, from then on, he knew the clerks were a source of goodies, and people in the store were friendly. We have even graduated to Home Depot and Lowes' for visits, and Rex is very interested in everything in any store.

One thing we had to work on (and still do) is walking past another dog without reacting. What works best for Rex is either doing a sit while they pass, and if that is not possible, he is on a short leash, and I am reminding him to be calm and a good boy. That seems to work well, and he is a very good boy now.

I worked with a trainer who recommended very slowly introducing Rex to a dog park by perimeter walking from very far away. This went on for several weeks with us gradually moving closer to the park. One day as we were walking, Rex started to cry as though he wanted to come into the park and play. I asked the other dog

Rex is always ready for a walk

Continued on next page



Rex and Millie find the stream



Millie loves the water now



Millie is ready to play!

Although Rex spends a lot of time sniffing the plants when we walk, Millie is all about the sights. No matter where we walk, she will stop and scan the horizon, just taking it all in. One day I pulled in my driveway and opened the hatch to get the dogs out. Millie would not budge. Fortunately, it was a cool day, so I let Rex inside the house and went into the back of the car with Millie. I



just let her be, and we spent nearly 30 minutes in the car before I could tell she was ready to go inside.

She needs less and less “still time” every week. One beautiful summer day we went to hike Clear Creek trail. One trail is next to the creek, and another trail goes into the woods with no access to water. I decided to try the river. Rex was let off his leash and jumped in, and Millie got a double length leash and sat in the water. She was staring at it as though it was her first time, which I think it was. Rex wanted to keep walking and I had to almost carry Millie out of the water. Once on land she did not even try to shake off any water, and just kept walking. It was a very hot summer, so our walks were generally near creeks. Millie finally figured out water was a blast, and jumped right in.

Playing with the pack

Continued on next page

owners if they were ok with that, and we never looked back. We now have our 6 a.m. “pack” of 6-7 other dogs we play with seven days a week. Rex’s role in the park is to occasionally pay ball, do rope tug of war, stalk squirrels, and warn everyone if people are approaching the dog park.

So not only is Rex on good terms with the dogs in his pack, but with the owners themselves. He has learned to trust people and ask for pets and loves with people he meets. I am so proud of my boy! When I am out of town, Rex stays with his best friend Steve who has other dogs to play with. I noticed that Rex seemed a little sad after coming home, so I decided to take a leap and get a second dog.

Millie’s Story

I had Rex almost exactly a year when I searched the GRRR website to find him the perfect companion, and saw Samoa, a gorgeous red Golden Retriever. She was a five-year-old former mill dog who had been at GRRR nearly three months. I did a lot of reading about mill dogs and learned that the secret to rehabbing a mill dog is lots of love, and another well-adjusted dog in the family. I brought Rex over for a meet and greet, and although Millie was quite frightened, I could see what a sweet and gentle personality she had. Rex was fine with her from the second he met her, and GRRR and I decided that she was a perfect match for Rex and our family.

I adopted her on July 27, 2022. After trying out a few names for her I have renamed her Millie Mae – in honor of her time as a mill dog. Millie was terrified the first few days; she found my bedroom and stared at the corner. She could not make eye contact, she shivered when I tried to approach her. I decided to just get her comfortable with my voice and my smell and spent many hours just talking to her in a soothing voice and telling her about her adoption story, all about Rex, and the fun we would have.

So slowly I almost did not notice it, Millie started to lose her fear. She joined Rex and me on daily walks – just short ones to get her acclimated. Rex would look at me as if to say, “come on – this is not a walk!” I took the dogs to Van Bibber open space, which has some nice trails in the hills. Millie stopped and stared at the mountains and grasses and trees for what seemed like 10 minutes. She was trying to take it all in and was overwhelmed by the beauty. What seemed to work best for her was letting her stare at the sights until she was ready to walk some more. Rex was so patient with her and just sat down waiting.

Our most recent walks are at Chatfield reservoir, which has a huge dog park with two swimming ponds. I let Rex and Millie off the leash, and they run into the water, splashing, and having a blast. Then as I walk around the lake, they are in and out of the water, running at top speed and having so much fun. It is so good to see my two beautiful dogs so happy and enjoying life. Our rides home always include a stop at Starbucks – hot tea for me and pup cups for the dogs. Millie figured out that Starbucks is just about the best treat ever!

The Pack Together

My days are filled with my beautiful dogs. We start each day with loves and snuggles until it's 5:30 a.m. and time to go to the dog park to visit buddies. Millie loves to play catch; we use a special glow-in-the-dark ball so she can find it in the dark. Then it's breakfast and naps while I work. Sometime around lunchtime I get the signal that it's time for a walk. We go all over our neighborhood, smelling everything and watching the scenery. Then around dinner time we do another short walk. We are clocking about 5 miles per day, which I find amazing because it just seems like two short walks. Across the street is a schoolyard, where dogs are allowed on the weekends. I watch as Millie and Rex jump and play with each other in the sunshine. They are the happiest dogs in the world and love each other so much. Somewhere along the way they have turned me into the happiest lady in the world too. I just cannot imagine going through life without these two beauties! 💙



Meg is happy with her new best friends, Rex and Millie

Volunteer Spotlight

We have a new feature for the newsletter - a Volunteer Spotlight! We have SO many wonderful dedicated volunteers who make GRRR the amazing rescue it is. We would not be in business without them and thought you should know more about who they are, what they do, and why they help. Today we focus on some of our amazing VIP dog walkers!

Hi everyone. My name is Sukie McMaster and I am co-leader of the Volunteer Interaction Program (VIP) Team along with Bill “Urbo” Urbanowski. The VIP team has been in place for many years. It is a way for volunteers to love and socialize the dogs in GRRR’s care while they await their “forever” home. I have been a volunteer with GRRR since 2009. Urbo has been with us much longer than that!

When a new volunteer is interested in the VIP Team, I send them information about the program and procedures for working with the dogs. I meet with them at Phoebe’s Place for a VIP Orientation, during which we tour the facility and learn how to interact safely with the dogs in the kennel. Urbo sends out a weekly email to all active volunteers. He keeps them informed about who is new to GRRR and which dogs have gone to their forever home that week. The VIP Team provides love and care to these dogs, who often are frightened and confused. It is so rewarding to see them blossom into confident, happy dogs and to know that they are moving forward to a wonderful new home. *VIP Team members: Send us your stories for future Newsletters.*



It is so amazing to see the transformation of a puppy mill dog from a dog who is cowering and shaking in the corner of the kennel to a dog who wants to be touched, walked and loved.

What a rewarding experience to be a volunteer at GRRR!

Jill Kluge

●
●
● Sending along a picture of Parker and me enjoying the sunshine and each other today. He’s a sweet boy who walks great and follows commands both on and off leash. Hope you have a beautiful day.
●
● Jenni Methe
●
●



We recently moved from Dallas, TX to Erie, CO with two pups Bailey (German Shepherd) and Tucker (Golden). We love to hike, camp, spend time with our pups and enjoy a cold brew on a nice Colorado day.

Having a huge passion for dogs we found our hearts drawn to start volunteering at a rescue. We wanted to either volunteer at a German Shepherd or a Golden Retriever rescue. We were lucky to find GRRR on Google search and the next step was submitting a volunteer application.

What does it mean to us to be a volunteer? Giving our love to dogs while they wait for their forever home. “Saving one dog will not change the world, but surely for that one dog, the world will change forever.”

Jessica & Kevin Houlihan

Volunteer Spotlight

From the Longest VIP Volunteer

My name is Stacy Springston and I have been a VIP dog walker at GRRR for about 17 years now. I have been told I am the longest dog walker. I am not completely sure that is true but I will take that title!

It warms my heart and feeds my soul to spend time with the best species on planet earth. I agree with and always say, “There is nothing like a dog, GOD spelled backwards.”



I like to think I make a difference in their lives when I am with them, but I can guarantee they make a difference in mine. It makes my day to go to GRRR.

When I enter the kennel they are always so happy to see me. Where else can you get a greeting like that (except at home from your own dog!)? My mom always used to say that if people greeted each other the way dogs greet us, it would be a much better world.

My husband Mark is also a dog walker and we usually go to GRRR together. For the last six months or so he has been doing the walking and I have been spending time with each dog in their kennel. They look in my eyes with such love, they rest their paws or head on my shoulder or lap, and do their best to give me a face wash. They love me unconditionally. It truly makes my day to be with them and is so rewarding!

They all have different personalities and needs. The mill dogs are mostly quite shy and I need to go slow with them. It is fun to meet them all and appreciate their unique personalities. When I am at GRRR it is all about the dogs. It is their walk and their time for lovin’.

There is truly nothing like a dog, GOD spelled backwards.



And from the Newest VIP Volunteer

I have been an on again, off again active member of GRRR since the late nineties when Laura Terroux was president, and Golden Retrievers were fostered at her kennel. I have always had a great love of Golden Retrievers since receiving my first Golden puppy as a Christmas present in 1985. Over the years I have adopted two other Golden Retrievers – one from a rescue in Kansas and another from a neighbor who no longer had the time for her 18-month-old pup (Lexi). Recently we lost Lexi at the age of 13 and even more recently, I retired. Of course, the first thing I wanted to do was get more involved in Golden Rescue. Because we are not ready for another Goldie just yet, I still needed my Golden fix. Signing up to walk Golden Retrievers in foster care at Phoebe’s Place fit the bill perfectly.

I filled out the volunteer paperwork and was soon emailed by Sukie McMaster about coming to a dog-walker training session. I was so excited and enjoyed hearing the ins and outs of dog walking at Phoebe’s Place. The following week I signed up for 2 hours of dog walking/visiting. Because my round-trip commute to Phoebe’s Place is over 100 miles (I live in Castle Rock) I plan to go each week for 2 hours at a time. Signing up is a breeze and so well organized.

My experience was awesome! I LOVED every minute I spent with the Golden Retrievers – from walking a few, to sitting with one who seemed like he didn’t really want a walk, to resting in the shade while a youngster romped around in the off-leash area. It was so fulfilling for me and helped to heal the hole in my heart since Lexi’s passing. I have already signed up for another 2-hour stint and can’t wait. I have shared with my friends how wonderful it is to have this volunteer opportunity and to spend time with these Golden Retrievers waiting for their forever homes.

Kim Hosler



Recent Rescues

Hi GRRR:

Afton is a Goldendoodle that GRRR rescued from a puppy mill auction when she was four months old. From the moment she got to her new home she made a best friend, Apala. They love each other so much that they both howl if the other is gone.

Her happy place is playing in our pond. Often you can catch her sitting and watching the fish. She is a hoot to observe when she is trying to entertain herself by playing ball all alone. A complete joy is to watch her running through a field. She can run and jump with the grace and ease of a gazelle while her sister is lumbering next to her.

Afton appears to always have a smile on her face. One of the best attributes, and there are many, are her kind eyes.

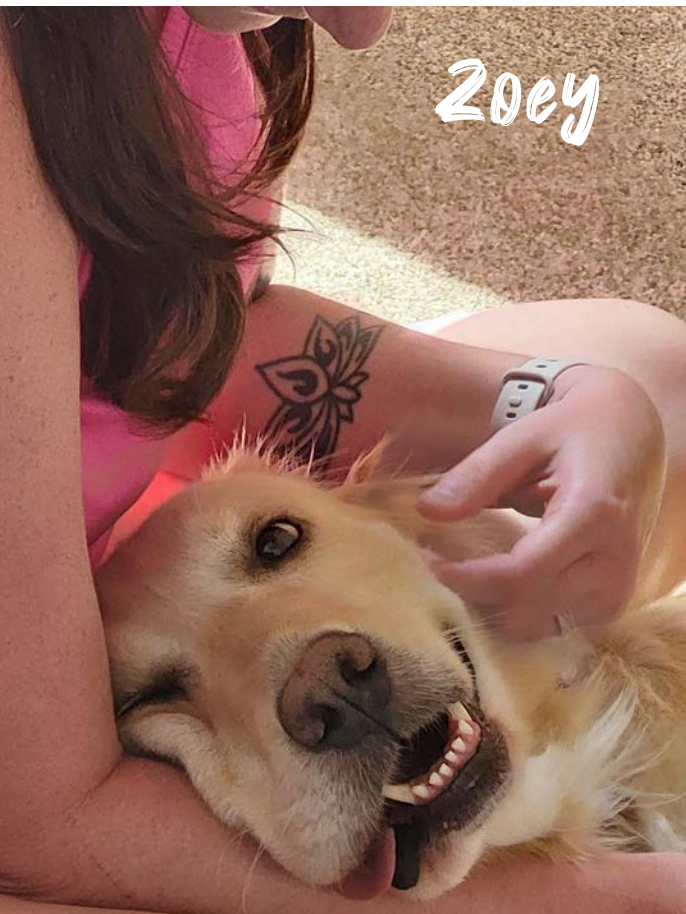
Maureen Todd



Dear GRRR:

Our almost 6-year-old Zoey (formerly Chloe) has made drastic improvements since we brought her home! In the span of two months, she has learned to play, become a pro at fetch, enjoy car rides, and learned some basic commands like come, sit, leave it, and “go get it!” We absolutely adore her and can’t imagine life without our sweet girl Thank you GRRR!

Jess and Uriel Vey



Dear GRRR:

We were adopted by Blue April 30! He right away laid his head on our laps and stayed next to us until the papers were signed! That was all it took to tell us he was the dog for us!

Blue quickly adjusted to his new home and routine. He is never tired of receiving love and attention and he always finds our laps when we sit on the floor. He loves to play “hide and seek” with his toys, and he has quickly learned how to find treats hiding in his dog puzzle. We don’t need to look at the clock to know when it is time for his daily walks, as he communicates that very well! Whether we are outside on the deck gazing at the stars or sitting around the table, he is never far from our side.

We love Blue’s quirky personality and cute expressions! He is a joy and a blessing to our family and we are grateful that GRRR called us so Blue could adopt us!

Jane Pelletier



Dear GRRR:

This is long overdue, but I adopted my Goldendoodle puppy Alma from GRRR back in January. I wanted to share that she is thriving and is the light of my life. Thank you so much for bringing us together! I could not ask for a better best friend and adventure buddy. Here's us at Maroon Bells over the weekend and one from Great Sand Dunes National Park from this past spring!

Warmly,

Christiana Forsberg



Dear GRRR:

Penelope is doing fantastic! We adopted her in January and moved to Texas at the beginning of June. She is loving life on the golf course, where she is meeting a lot of human friends and chasing squirrels. She is a goofy girl, a snuggle bug and the light of our household.

The Dean Family



Hi GRRR:

Here is an update on Stella as we approach our one-year adoption anniversary! Stella is one of the happiest and sweetest dogs that I have ever met. She's my constant companion as I work from home, and our foot warmer whenever we sit at the table. She greets everyone she meets with lots of talking and toys, and loves to be petted and give kisses. She is such a special dog. Thank you to GRRR for bringing us together!

Devon Phelan



Hello GRRR:

I want to let you know how wonderful Oakley is doing! She's making herself at home and we absolutely adore her. Thank you for finding us for her!

Marcy and Edward Smith



Recent Rescues



Hello GRRR:

Last Sunday was just 6 weeks since we adopted Molly. She has come so far in just that short amount of time! She potties on a regular basis, is eating, and her tummy is not upset any longer. She trusts us and has more confidence than before. She'll jump into our truck now because she's learned our truck takes her to fun places!

We took Molly to Granby last week for her first camping trip. She did great hiking on many trails and she got to splash around in a stream with a waterfall! She loves other dogs and kids too! Molly and her sister, Ginger, love each other and snuggle up together a lot! I honestly don't know who is more blessed, she or us! Molly is pure joy! Here are a few pics to share with you! Thank you for all you do for the dogs and us as the adopters! We all are forever grateful.

Blessings, Terri, Derek and Ginger Pipes



Molly



Skittles

Hi GRRR:

We wanted to share a pup update on our sweet rescue, Ellie, currently known as Skittles. We are fast approaching our one-year "adoptaversary" with Ellie, and she has been such a great addition to our family. When we first got her, she was afraid of cars on the road, walking on the leash was difficult, and other people made her shy away. She has since come out of her shell and has such a fun personality. Ellie can often be found zooming around at the dog park (and running through the water if we are at certain parks), walking around the neighborhood, and playing with her toys. We feel so lucky having Ellie, she's the absolute best! Thank you GRRR!

All our best,

Dana and Jim Momeyer



Hello GRRR:

Just thinking about everyone at GRRR this evening as this is Cricket's adoption day anniversary! I haven't needed an alarm clock in months, as every morning, no earlier than 5:50 and no later than 5:57, a little head tucks under my arm and a body stretches out beside me to remind me that it is time for the pre-breakfast belly rub. What a great way to start the day!

Thanks for all that you do!

Shannon Morlan and Cricket



Cricket

Dear GRRR:

I was just reading the last GRRR email asking for current pictures of our adopted pets. Here is Bo, the Goldendoodle we adopted there last August. He's been a wonderful addition to the family and we couldn't be happier!

I also read the note about linking GRRR with our King Soopers Community Rewards, and I went ahead and did that too. Hopefully it helps!

Brent Phillips



Dear GRRR:

Winston #22-193 was adopted and given a "forever" home on September 5, 2022. Winston is our fourth Golden...all previous Golden retrievers were rescued. They also lived a long wonderful life with us. Winston is very much a Daddy's boy and is constantly by Bruce's side. Winston loves rides in Dad's truck. He also enjoys his time in the park playing fetch with his new dad. He watches over and loves his mom because she's mom!

Bruce and Leonna Hofer

Dear GRRR:

We adopted Ivy on a hot, late summer day, after losing our 15-year-old GRRR darling earlier in the summer. We were at Phoebe's place meeting several dogs and assessing the match, when a staffer walked beautiful little Ivy across the yard. For us, it was love at first sight! Meeting Ivy in person confirmed that this would be a great match.

When we arrived home, Ivy pranced in like she had lived in our house for her entire life (of over 4 years). She immediately went to the huge basket of toys (neatly piled for the last time!) and climbed on top. When it was bedtime, we figured that we'd spend the night wondering what she was getting into. We had decided not to barricade the bedroom door to keep her in, because we didn't want to affect the habits of Ivy's slightly older sister, Twilly - also a rescue - who comes and goes during the night. Once one of us was in bed, Ivy jumped up and settled in for the night. She was the last one up in the morning, and has slept in a sound cuddle every night.

Ivy has brought laughter and playfulness to our house, which has really helped us in the wake of our recent loss. Best of all, Ivy has given a happy puppyhood to Twilly, whose first year of life before joining our family was traumatic. Ivy and Twilly wrestle and chase each other a couple hours each day, which is so wonderful. Twilly is so happy with her little sister, and we're all quite smitten with this new addition to our family. Ivy is a sweet, inquisitive, and happy little girl, and we're so grateful to GRRR for bringing us together!

Joy Barrett and Bill Hogrewe



Recent Rescues



Finley

Dear GRRR:

Finley is loving life and hinting he is always ready for a walk! He is one of the smartest dogs we have ever had! He is so loving, well behaved and proper. He loves our little weiner dog and they have become quite the hiking companions! Finley loves to ride in the car and go on road trips as well! We are SO lucky to be able to love him!

Thank you GRRR for placing us with this beautiful special boy!

Eric and Margo
Harriman

- Hello GRRR,
- We wanted to give you an update on our mini
- Goldendoodle, adopted
- in April 2022. Claire
- (formerly Jasmine) is a
- 5-year-old former
- breeder girl. She came to us so shy and frightened
- of everything. Almost 6
- months later, she is
- happy and active, able to
- just be a dog and
- someone's loving pet.
- She loves her toys, long
- walks, and her comfy bed.
- We are so grateful for
- the call from Roberta
- that changed Claire's life
- and ours. Thank you for
- all you do.
-
- Jakalyn and Dennis
- Helling



Clair



Tucker & Denver

Dear GRRR:

We first saw Denver (formerly Sonny) during our orientation/training day Oct 1, 2022. Seeing Denver, we were excited to start walking him, but unbeknownst to us he would melt our hearts. We were so happy to adopt Denver into our family on October 12, 2022.

The moment he walked through our front door, Denver made himself right at home. He quickly found the toy box and we found that his favorite toys are tennis balls and antlers. Denver also loves to go on car rides, light walks, and chill with his new brother and sister. He has completed our family.

Jess and Kevin Houlihan

Hi GRRR:

We are thankful for you letting our new addition choose us to be his family. We renamed Hercules Ezekiel, or "EZ". EZ has been such a great addition to our family.

It took him a little while to get used to noises like the toilet flushing, but he gets used to more things every day. His sister, Pystal, loves him. I hope you enjoy the pictures. We have signed up in kingsoopers.com too.

Thank you again, Tanya Martinez



EZ and Pystal

Golden Angels: Matilda & Bernice

by Jeannie Miller

Our Golden Angels this issue are a pair of 4-month-old little girls. They are about as cute as you can get. They are not sisters but were born about a week apart in May of this year at two different breeder's facilities.

If you were at the Gala in June, you heard me talk about how we at GRRR are working to rescue breeding dogs from breeders. We believe that we are able to find dogs the best possible forever adopters by carefully screening and matching potential adopters. Our goal is to find a home for each and every dog that will give them exactly what they need to live their happiest life. After all, dogs deserve that, right?

I talked about how we know that many good breeders are out there and care for their dogs' welfare. And how we are working to build trusting relationships with breeders so they will feel confident in contacting us if they have any dogs that they no longer want or can't keep for any reason. The work is paying off and we now have several breeders who call us when they want to release a dog or dogs.



Matilda

Bernice



That is exactly what happened with both little Bernice and adorable Matilda. You see, these sweet girls were both born with a condition called ectopic ureter. This is an anatomical defect in the urinary tract that causes urine to leak past the bladder, causing incontinence. It is a genetic defect that occurs in dogs and is more common in females than males. These poor little girls were going to need expensive surgery to repair this condition if they would have any good chance of having a happy, carefree life.

Both of these breeders knew this, and because they wanted to give the pups a chance, they called GRRR to see if we could help. Other less-caring people would have probably made a different decision: either euthanizing the pups or selling them without disclosing what they knew. Thank goodness they chose GRRR! Always a wise choice if you care about a dog!

Both girls came to us in July at about 7 weeks old. As soon as Mary Kenton could arrange it with Colorado State University, they were transported for a consultation and diagnostic tests. The diagnosis is a surgery that requires anesthesia so that a cystoscopy can be performed. This is a small scope inserted into the urinary tract to look for the defect. In a puppy, the defect can sometimes be repaired at the same time it is found, which eliminates the need for a second surgery. Luckily that was the case for our two little sweeties who came home with tiny cones on their heads but also all fixed up – fingers were crossed! The surgery is about 50-75% effective in fixing the incontinence problem. Some dogs will require medications post-surgery to help them avoid continued leaking.

Both pups would need time to recover before they could be adopted. Little Bernice came back to Phoebe's Place to stay with Mary, and Matilda's breeder brought her back to her home to take care of her. Both pups did great in their recovery and before long, were ready to go to their forever homes. They are a little over 4 months old now and growing like weeds!

Matilda went home to a wonderful home with her big (little) brother, a Jack Russell Terrier mix and also a rescue. Her new Mom says that they play constantly and are best buddies. Matilda has been renamed Marlo. Her Mom says Marlo is doing great! She is a smarty, learning lots, and is the sweetest little angel. She goes for her follow-up visit to CSU next week.

Little Bernice was adopted in early September. Her new Mom says she is settling in really well. She gets called by her nickname Bernie, and she is her Mom's little work buddy, spending most of her day right by Mom in her office. Bernice had her follow-up visit at CSU already and they think she is doing great! She has started puppy classes and is getting very good at sit and come.

As the CSU vets put it, both little girls have "bladders in training" because their little bladders were not used to holding very much. Potty training in all its glory is in full swing! These two happy endings are only made possible by generous donations to our Golden Angel Fund. Thank you so much for all you do to help these sweet dogs. ❤️

Please Donate to GRRR's Golden Angel Fund!

Many GRRR dogs need extra medical attention Your donation will help GRRR dogs with treatments for cancer, hip dysplasia, heartworm, and more. Please send donations to: GRRR, 15350 W. 72nd Avenue, Arvada, 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 update 🍷

Goldie

by Barbara Crook

Goldie is a funny little dog. She has an underbite so when her face is still she looks a bit tough – but is anything but tough. She is a sweetheart with a passion for the soft toy platypus that she took home from GRRR. Most of our other senior dogs are not too interested in soft toys, but the platypus has stayed the course and is still in original shape. Two of our other seniors, Annie and Suzie, both take the toy and play with it. If Goldie sees them, she watches very carefully and then pounces when the toy is left unattended.

Goldie is the “poster child” for the Lick or Treat for Golden Angels fundraiser, and will be going to the GRRR Halloween party. She is a very lively little girl and does enjoy a party.

All of the medical issues Goldie had when she first came to GRRR have been cleared up, except for the heartworm. She is doing the slow kill method of treating her heartworm, and we have another month or so of treatment before we retest to make sure the heartworms are all gone. After that, we will need a trip to doggie dentist. Her teeth show a lot of wear, plus some are broken, but none hinder her ability to eat so we feel OK to hold off till she is 100%.

These medical things don't affect her joy in living. Goldie talks to us and plays with the other dogs (as much as senior dogs play together). It is interesting to us that we have had a number of senior dogs, and some have taken quite a while to decompress and trust their new environment. Then there is Goldie – it didn't take her but a minute to settle in and decide this is the place for her. And we are so happy she did. 🍷



Goldie

Donations in Memory or Honor 🍷

- Pauline Atkinson, in memory of her beloved Lucy. “Sweetest girl ever.”
- Isabel and Brian Broer, in loving memory of Morgan Johnson
- Gary and Mary Frances Cowan, in memory of Cooper “our wonderful Golden Retriever”
- Mike and Dianne DeGroff, in honor of Izzy
- Barbara Ferrell, in memory of Laird Hubbard Johnson
- Carol Herczeg, in honor of Sunny Elsberg
- Megan Jones, in memory of Romer
- John LaMont, in memory of Lady, “a beautiful, loving good girl who would want all dogs in need to have the same opportunity for a new life that she had.”
- Brian Lowry, in honor of Margo Lowry Stewart
- Dan Matras, in honor of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear and Molly Matras
- Ann McCloskey, in memory of Sherman
- Stacie McWilliams, in memory of Palei
- Brett Necessary, in memory of Kayia
- David and Cathy Oppy, in honor of Maddie and the McNett family. “We honor your sweet Maddie and the special place she held in your family's heart with this donation to the rescue and adoption of Golden Retrievers.”
- Rick Pieper, in loving memory of Madison Jane Pieper “Our Beloved Golden Retriever”
- Ellen Rabinowitz, in memory of Dear Sweet Alice
- Carolyn Sauer, in memory of Gabe & Izzy “Miles”
- Kirsta Scherff-Norris, in memory of Laird Johnson “and all the dogs he's loved before”
- James Skeffington, in memory of Zach
- Lori Williams, in honor of Jill Sutton
- Orena Young, in memory of Maverick, the beloved Golden belonging to John and Linda Lee
- Ellie and Argyle LLC, in memory of their sweet girl, Mamie Leigh. “We adopted her in 2014 and lost her March 2022. She was even the inspiration for my dog bandanna business, Ellie and Argyle. Thank you for bringing her into our family, she brought us so much joy.”

We regret any errors or omissions.

President's Report

by Judi Servoss,
President

2022 has been a year where the world felt like it was returning to normal and GRRR has been able to fully focus on our dogs. This is what we all want.

We have as many dogs as we did in 2019, which makes us know our mission continues to be important. Of course, we wish that nobody needed to relinquish their dogs, that there were no puppy mills where breeding dogs lose their value when they're past their prime, and there were pots of gold at the end of every rainbow. But we always know there is GRRR, where we "never say no to a Golden in need."

I want to remind you that Colorado Gives Day is coming up on December 6, but 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!

And please check to see if your employer will match your donation. Many do, and it's a great gift! Also, those of you of a "Certain Age" can donate all or part of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution and receive the tax benefit that goes with that.

Thank you for all your loyalty and support.

P.S. If you're interested in being on GRRR's Board of Directors, click on link and look for the information and form to submit prior to December 1:

<https://www.goldenrescue.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2022-2023-board-nomination-packet.pdf> 



Giving Thanks!

by Francie Rakiec
Executive Director

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, there is no better time to give thanks to all our wonderful volunteers, members, supporters, staff and board members. We truly couldn't save all of these beautiful dogs without your help. It honestly takes an entire village and then some!

We have so many people who routinely step up to the plate to help these dogs. From the transporters who bring them back to GRRR so they can start their new lives, to the people who pick up the dog food for us, to our walkers who spend time with these dogs on a daily basis, to the people who clean the kennels and keep our grounds looking good, to the "cheese lady" who also helps care for our puppies (she brings cheese for the dogs), to our follow-up adoption gals, our volunteer coordinator, all of the volunteers who work our parties and events, photographers of dogs and events, volunteers who plan and work at the Gala, and to Roberta Miller, who finds the perfect home for each of our dogs and has devoted untold hours of her time to these sweet pups.

And then there are all the behind-the-scenes people who write thank-you cards and grants, prepare our graphics, our eblasts, our newsletters and our calendar, the person who maintains our website, the people who train our volunteers, the person who goes through all our volunteer applications, the person who inputs everything into our database and does so many other things – I couldn't possibly list all her tasks! And to our board members who are always there to support GRRR behind the scenes.

And finally, to our amazing caregiver, Mary Kenton. I've said this before and I will say it again: GRRR would not be what it is today without all the love and energy Mary puts into caring for the dogs fortunate enough to come to GRRR.

So, thank you to each and every one of you who support the Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies. GRRR people are the GRRReatest! 



Mary Kenton and friend



Roberta Miller and friends

In Memory ♡♡

Lincoln by Cindy and Jeff Bailie

Thank you, Mary Kenton. Back in 2015, we began volunteering with GRRR to foster the occasional surrender that needed transitional care in western South Dakota. We did so, following the loss of our two Golden Retrievers in what was a rather quick succession, and thought it was a good “bridge” as we considered our options for future four-legged companions.

Transporting a foster that we’d tended to eventually brought us to the Arvada campus of GRRR, and you kindly offered us the opportunity to meet some of the “available” who were seeking a new home.

Another foster family introduced us to “Shilo,” a rather determined male who had recently been surrendered because he would break away from his owners whenever the opportunity presented itself. To be honest, our walk with him on the GRRR property that day was less than desirable, simply because he was not the gentle or disciplined walker that either of our previous Golden Retrievers had been. In fact, he did little to even acknowledge us during the walk and seemed completely indifferent to either of us. Because of this, we told you that we didn’t think that it was a match.

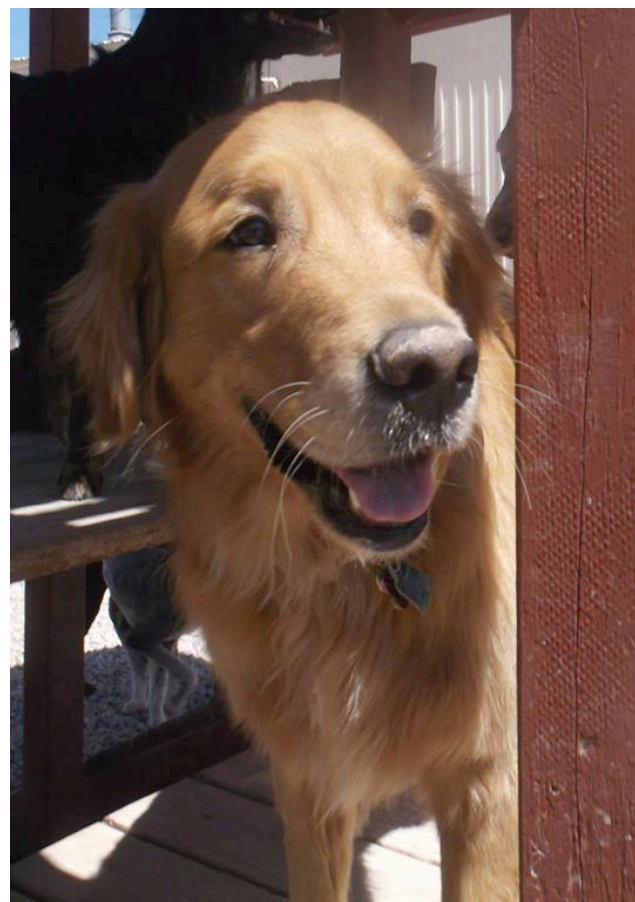
But you encouraged us to take a bit more time to sit with him in Phoebe’s Place to see if he might come around. After some more time sitting with him, we sensed that he might be more receptive to our offers of attention. We knew that we could offer him the kind of home that he might not have experienced prior to his transition. I told you at the time that we would do what could to make him a happy boy, for the rest of his life, and that from that date forward he would be known as “Lincoln.”

The past seven years have not been without challenges. Lincoln continued to demonstrate a very determined mind. He would “take himself on walks” whenever an opportunity presented itself. But he was always to be found (or would eventually return home after hours of wandering), many times full of stickers and burrs that took hours to remove. But through it all, it seemed as though he knew that we loved him dearly and really wanted us to care for him. I guess that he just had a desire to see the neighborhood on his own terms.

Over the years, Cindy put her whole heart into walking him every day, whether it be in the rain, snow, heat, or wind. Over time, he came to love us, the daily routine that we offered him, and the serenity in accepting that he was a cherished member of our family. Over the years, Lincoln abandoned much of his self-centeredness. He understood that we were his family and that there was “no place like home.” As he aged, the walk with Cindy (as occasionally by himself) became shorter because of a heart condition.

Lincoln left our world yesterday, leaving us and his foster brother behind. Needless to say, we miss him dearly. But we are comforted knowing that he is now running free, no longer held to any previously imposed boundaries, and collecting no burrs in his quests.

We will always have a special place in our hearts for the gracious opportunity to share his life that you and GRRR helped extend to us. Thank you for what you do, and may God bless you and the lives that you change. ♡



Lincoln

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. Deadline for the February 2023 issue is January 6, 2023. Thanks!

Recent Stats

January 1 – September 30, 2022

Number of Dogs Placed: 245

\$ Spent on Medical Needs: \$82,695



In Memory ♡♡

Bolt by Van Melton

It is with great sadness of heart that I needed to put Bolt to sleep today. It has been a very rough morning since driving him to the clinic. I know anyone who has had any pet knows this feeling, but those of us who have and had Golden retrievers know even more so the loss of love, happiness, and joy they bring into the human world. Thank you GRRR for allowing me to share and have his love for 6 years.

Bolt deserved much more than my human love. He had so much fun at his birthday parties and around the local park where he enjoyed retrieving tennis balls with me, and especially with children who just loved and loved him.

Again, I want to thank GRRR as Bolt has meant so very much to me and helped me with his love and joy for life. He was so gentle and smart and loving, I guess just a “typical” Golden like all the ones I have had, but in different ways. I was so very lucky to have shared six wonderful years of the love and happiness he brought into my world and any who met him. ♡



Bolt



Early by Joy Barrett and Bill Hogrewe

We adopted Early from GRRR in November 2007. We had lost our senior dog a few months earlier, and it was time to add another dog to our family. We told GRRR we were interested in several dogs, and – as we often say – the “Doggie Goddesses” had the perfect match in mind. Early was named after a really sweet folk song by one of our favorite musicians. She was really tall and lanky when we adopted her at seven months old. She weighed 47 pounds, and we expected her to get to be 57 pounds. And she did for two days! She topped out at a stately 80 pounds.

Early was so easy-going. She was just happy to be included in our activities, and fully trusted that we’d take good care of her and she’d have a good time. Her mellow approach came in very handy as we drove across the country twice a year with her and her sister in the back seat, camping the whole way. We also did lots of other camping. Early seemed to have some Chesapeake in her, and that heritage really showed when she wanted something. She was persistent and, of course, almost always got her way.

Early is the most photogenic dog we’ve ever known. She is stunningly beautiful in every photo we ever took of her. She also loved everyone, and really appreciated any chance to visit with people. Cookies made the experience even better!

In 2020, with Early’s back legs getting weaker, we found the only large dog stroller for sale in all of Colorado. That stroller carried Early on Florida beaches, and all over Telluride and the Great Sand Dunes area. We walked her around our neighborhood every day, and Early looked out from her carriage, enjoying the sights, smells, and visits.

Three years ago Early had surgery for a benign growth. We asked the veterinarian to clean her teeth while she was under anesthesia. He found gum cancer. Thanks to the availability of exceptional care, Early recovered very well and we had the pleasure of sharing more of life with her. She died in July at the age of 15 years, 4 months, leaving a huge hole in our home and lives. But she also left so many happy memories. Every day that we had with Early was a gift. ♡



Early

Halloween Party ♡♡



thanks to
everyone who
came for
the fun!



Halloween Party ♡♡



Looking for a **FREE** and **EASY** way to help **GRRR**?

Just shop at **King Soopers** or **City Market**!



If you have a King Soopers/City Market loyalty card, a percentage of your purchases can be donated to Healing Hounds through their Community Rewards Program!

It is easy...just shop and swipe (or enter your alt number)!

To register, go to: <https://www.kingsoopers.com/topic/king-soopers-community-rewards> Click on Enroll Now, and add Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies as your charity. You can find us by searching for DN758. That page will also list how much has been donated by you every quarter.

It's as easy as that! GRRR will receive a percentage of what you spend when shopping. It's totally free to you. Thank you!



"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"[®]

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Newsletter Editor - Debbie Stratton
debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com

**Happy
Thanksgiving!**



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

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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

Applications to adopt a Golden are available on our website www.goldenrescue.com

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

I would like to receive my newsletter:

via mail (black & white print) or via email (color PDF...save GRRR postage/printing costs!) \$50 year \$_____

Please accept my additional tax deductible donation to help Goldens where needed most:

\$250+ Golden Champion \$100 Golden Hero \$50 Golden Star \$_____

Interested in volunteering? Go to www.goldenrescue.com to fill out the volunteer application. Thanks!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please mail to: Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies • 15350 W. 72nd Ave. • Arvada, CO 80007

Thank you for your support! goldenrescue.com