



"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"™

# Golden GRRROWL

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

May 2023

## Puppy-Palooza!

GRRR had five litters of puppies from pregnant mama dogs since late last year, so it's been Puppy-Palooza at Phoebe's Place! Ella came to GRRR on November 20, 2022 from a puppy mill auction in Missouri. She was listed as "possibly pregnant" when we were bidding on her. Sometimes these puppy mills have too many puppies (supply and demand), so they sell the pregnant female, hoping to get more money for a pregnant dog. She gave birth on December 4 to nine adorable puppies (one was stillborn). Ella was a good mama and all her pups were adopted as soon as they were 8 weeks old. Ella was adopted to a great home too.

### Mama Ella...now Josie, by Susan von Daudt

Pregnant again and only dreaming of having a life outside of a rural Missouri kennel, my dream started to come true around last Thanksgiving. Maybe that is why they call it Thanksgiving! I found myself being removed from my

limited life in a Missouri kennel

and made the trip to beautiful Colorado and GRRR where I was greeted with love, attention and a safe warm place to have my big litter of babies. What a joy – all the attention and care we received!

On February 3 after I said goodbye to my last baby going to a great home, my life began as a lucky dog. I was adopted and went to a real home and even had a "sister," Tasha. Tasha was also a mill dog from Missouri and boy, we certainly had stories to share! Tasha is my best friend. We get along great and we are so popular when we go visiting stores, coffee shops and other local establishments. I needed to learn a few manners from kennel confinement to being in public, but Tasha taught me a few "etiquette" rules and now I am really changing to being a good girl!

I have already been on a couple of road trips and recently went to Steamboat Springs, where I ran freely enjoying the mountain air on the trails and let my ears flop in the breeze and feel sunshine in my face. I am finally LIVING my DREAM!



Josie

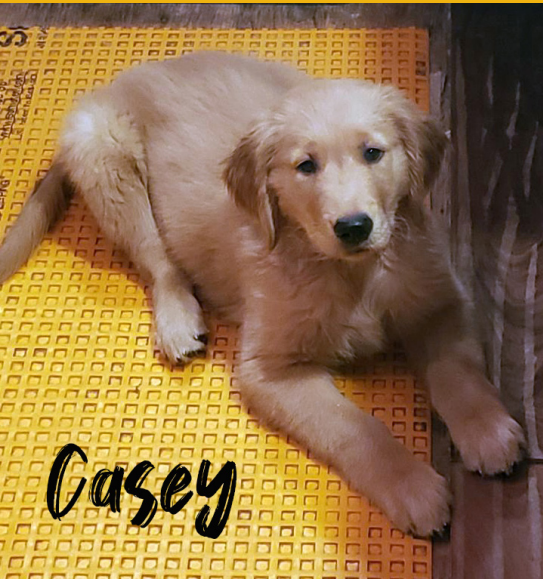
### Berwyn, by Amy Hanson

Berwyn is a sweet pup who loves people and other dogs. She doesn't understand why everyone she sees doesn't want to stop and say hello as much as she wants to say hello to them. In addition to belly rubs and ear scratches, she enjoys lying in the snow like a princess and chasing after leaves. Her ability to find creative sleeping places and poses keeps us wondering why we got her a bed. It looks like she is going to grow up to be a big girl, and she already has no fear of bigger dogs. We're looking forward to seeing what this big beauty becomes.



Berwyn





Casey

### Casey, by Kelly Dawson

My family lost our beloved 9-year-old Bernese Mountain dog in December. We were devastated, as was our 5-year-old English Cream Golden Retriever. We wanted to get a puppy in the spring but fate intervened! I filled out the application for GRRR on a Sunday night in January in anticipation of the Golden in Golden event in Golden. I received a call a few days later asking if we were interested in a puppy. I met our new fella that Sunday. A week later, we took Casey home! He is the sweetest puppy but is into everything. His nickname is Captain Chaos! We are so grateful to GRRR for the new addition to our family.

### Charlie, by Janet, Krista, and Bob Elezia

On a cold January morning, Charlie walked into our house acting like he owned it. An independent soul, he had new toys and rooms to explore. Turns out his

favorite pastime is loudly barking at the doorstep. Words cannot express how much we love this little guy. His love is reciprocated with kisses and snuggles. Charlie is a good boy. From day one he has slept through the night and 8 - 9 hours every night since then. He was housebroken within two weeks. We adored watching him learn to walk up the stairs and a few weeks later getting the courage to walk down. He's a smart boy too. He's mastered come (for a cookie) and sit. He is walking well on a lead. When we met Charlie, he weighed 9 pounds. A good eater, he is growing like a weed and is now over 30 pounds and adding inches weekly. He loves his "brother" Kelton, our 3-year-old Golden. The two of them roughhouse and compete for the same toy, chasing each other just for fun. We cannot imagine life without a Golden. Thank you GRRR for the opportunity to raise and love Charlie.



Charlie



Coco

### Coco, by Mark and Shari Nomady

Coco got her name from Colorado's abbreviation and she was welcomed with open arms into our family and immediately settled in. We have always had dogs since we've been married (38 years!). Coco is the sweetest pup. She has an 8-year-old Dutch Shepherd brother who has been showing her the house rules, and they've already bonded very well. He loves being a big brother and they quickly became best friends. They wrestle and play every morning and evening. Coco chases the grandkids around and makes sure she gets as much love and attention as they do. She is nearly potty trained and doing better with her biting. She already knows sit, stay, come, and off, and chooses to ignore us when it's convenient. She is happy, healthy, and relaxed.

### Izzy, by Giannini Mustari and William Tompkins

Oh my! We absolutely adore our li'l baby girl, Izzy! When we met her, she was a little quieter than the rest, and her mother and all her siblings were awesome. She is the perfect complement to our family, and our 4-year-Goldendoodle loves her to pieces. Luna has taken to mothering her quite a bit. Izzy can definitely hold her own with the big dog, yet she is a gentle little sweetheart with her people. I admit, we were a bit nervous about getting a puppy, but it must have been fate as she is a great fit. We lost an older dog in October, and were

thinking of getting a more mature dog, but we just fell in love with the delicious Golden puppies. So the rest is history. Izzy has been so good, and easy to train. At only 3.5 months, she knows all her basic tricks, she loves to shake our hand, and is fairly potty trained. Outside of that, she loves little daily walks and just being with us. We really could not have asked for a better companion. We look forward to the good times ahead with Izzy and Luna, who was also a rescue from GRRR.



Izzy





### Lola, by Lara Crenshaw

Lanky Lola is such a sweet, goofy addition to our pack! She has made many new friends (both canine and human), but absolutely can't get enough of her big sister, Maude, who is her BFF and preferred cuddle buddy. She is thoroughly enjoying puppy class, where she has mastered a very polite sit and has overcome the end-of-class obstacle course that's filled with formerly terrifying but now kind of awesome climbs, wobbly textured surfaces, and one long tunnel of doom. Some of her favorite things include her stuffed bigfoot toy; Maude; treats; forbidden mulch; Maude; chest scratches; watching geese; unattended socks; Maude; sniff walks; trying to eat goose poo; Grandma's house; and Maude. We hope to add swimming, road tripping, and trail walks over the summer to the list of things she loves!



### Miles, by Ivanna Carreiro

We adopted our sweet boy Miles and are so happy to have welcomed him into our family. Miles loves to be outside, whether it's playing in the snow, rolling around in the grass, or chewing on sticks. One of his favorite things to do is greet his dad in the morning with a big "woo" and a bunch of kisses. Miles and his sister, Daisy, love chewing on bones next to each other and going on walks together. Miles has been having a blast playing with other puppies at puppy school and has learned so many new skills and tricks. He is definitely going to be a big boy since he is already 37 pounds at 4 months old, and we look forward to the day that we can take him on hikes with us once he's fully matured. Miles is going to see many

places and we are so thankful to have him. Thanks so much!



### Ollie, by Jenni and John Hall

At 17 weeks, Ollie is now weighing in at 50 pounds, and he continues to get lots of comments on the size of his paws along with his sweet nature. He's a gentle giant and is learning commands quickly with sit, down, and shake mastered. He loves going to Puppy Preschool at City Bark in Broomfield, where he's made lots of friends. At home, he and our cat, Clementine, have become friends and have a mutual agreement to lick one another's food bowls when finished. His favorite toys are, of course, sticks! Even so, we love to spoil him with other toys, and his absolute favorite treat is a "doggie ice cream" from The Bear & The Rat in banana and peanut butter flavor (find them in the frozen aisle at King Soopers). Ollie is a perfectly wonderful Golden, and we are so happy he came into our lives through GRRR.



### Ozzie, by Brandi Hamilton

Ozzie is a loving, happy guy. He wants to meet everyone and loves everyone he meets. He loves playing in the yard with his soccer ball or fetching a tennis ball. His favorite treat is peanut butter. Ozzie is a wonderful addition to our family and we are so lucky to have him. We are in love with this little fur ball. !💙



# Volunteer Spotlight

by Mark Springston  
Board Member, Transport Team



My bride Stacy and I started our volunteering journey with GRRR about 17 years ago. Like so many other GRRR volunteers, Stacy started as a VIP dog walker and I soon followed. Walking dogs is a great way to meet these amazing creatures and, in a small way, make a connection with them and, hopefully, brighten their day a bit. They certainly brighten ours.

I have also been a transporter for several years now, mainly for GRRR, but also for Paws for Colorado. I have found transporting to be an especially rewarding experience. Transports can vary from picking up one dog from an owner release in the metro area, to 20 dogs from a puppy mill breeder in Missouri. In all cases, one of the benefits of being a transporter is the wonderful feeling you get knowing that you are helping to get these wonderful souls to their new lives.




We might be picking up an older dog that is in tough shape, nearing the end of life. But knowing that their last few days or months will likely be so much better, thanks to the care they will get from Mary and the good people at GRRR, is reassuring. In my experience, the interaction with the dogs, even though sometimes challenging, is always rewarding, and most times fun. The interactions with the humans on the pick-up side of the transports can be pretty interesting, to say the least. We might meet a heartbroken owner who, for a valid reason, cannot keep their dog. As a guy, tearful emotional hand offs are way out of my comfort zone. We need to be respectful and sympathetic to the hard, gut-wrenching decision the owner has made to do what is right for their dog, but also want the handoff as unemotional for the dog as possible. I have found that, after maybe a quick hug, staring at my feet can be quite effective as I moonwalk the dog(s) to the van.

Mill dog rescues are a whole different kettle of fish (dogs). Picking up dogs at Southwest Auctions Service in Wheaton, Missouri, is a two-day affair. Day one is drive to Joplin Missouri where we spend the night. Day two starts early with the 46-mile drive to Wheaton. Auctions are normally held on Saturdays and we pick up our dogs on Sunday or Monday. The day we leave all depends on the likelihood that we will be successful in acquiring dogs. Dogs brought to the auctions are commonly older dogs that are viewed by their owners as no longer suitable for breeding. The ideal situation, from our standpoint, is a breeder who is getting out of the business and therefore disposing of their inventory. To save these dogs from being sold to another breeder, or worse, rescues like GRRR do our best to acquire the dogs and get them out of the puppy mill cycle.

The pickup itself is generally the most stressful part of the trip, for the dogs and the transporter. It is generally a loud, chaotic experience. The dogs are understandably scared and reluctant to get picked up (literally) by a total stranger to go who knows where. Once they are all loaded in their crates, we hit the road for the long trip back to Phoebe's Place. Some of the first words that I say to my four-legged passengers are "this may feel like one of the worst days of your life but actually this will be one of the best days of your life, getting the hell out of here." The dogs generally settle in pretty quickly once we hit the road. The first part of the drive can be pretty loud but they tend to quiet down after a few minutes. As dog owners and dog lovers, we know that dogs can be great listeners. The rescue dogs are no exception. They seem to absorb the pearls of wisdom that we share with them on the drive, such as observations about the driving abilities of other drivers, or the less-than-flattering comments about the typical crosswinds in Kansas. I am pretty sure the dogs also really enjoy my singing. I know you are probably thinking "haven't these dogs suffered enough?" We typically make at least three stops on the way home to check on the dogs, clean up crates as needed, and gas up the van.

Picking up dogs from a breeder for the first time is always an adventure – especially from Amish breeders. Even with GPS, it is easy to get lost. And, since the Amish typically do not have phones, locating them can be a challenge. As guys, we are not big on asking for directions, but one does what one has to do.

Some mill dog breeders are better than others. As the person picking up the dogs, we have to bite our tongue at times and be respectful. We do not want to say something that will shut down the pipeline to rescuing these dogs from that environment.

I am so proud of GRRR. Such a wonderful collection of caring people. From top to bottom, salt-of-the-earth people caring for these precious creatures. It is truly a privilege to be part of this noble mission. 



# Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

I wanted to send a recent picture of Danny. He's doing so well! We've been working with a trainer, and I didn't think he could get more perfect but he has. (Funny side note: our trainer has a puppy, and it turns out Danny loves puppies. He loves playing with them and sharing all his toys. It's so cute!). His recall is excellent, he heels beautifully and much more. Now we're working on his confidence in agility classes - which is fun for both of us!

I bring Danny to work almost every day, and he loves to sneak down to the sales department with all the ladies and the treats. He's an expert at getting attention anywhere he goes. We love him so much and wanted to pass along the update!

Thanks for all you do!

Devon Booth



Dear GRRR:

Well, Doc has been with us for one full year. And what a year it has been. He has brought us such joy with his playfulness and amazing training from his previous owners. Everyone marvels at what a sweet, well-mannered, beautiful boy he is. Pictured is some fur on top of his head after a brushing. Playing ball or Frisbee is Doc's favorite pastime, which we need to monitor a bit as he never wants to stop. Thank you, GRRR, he is just what the doctor ordered!

Thanks, Debbie Coppola



Hi GRRR:

My husband and I brought Finnegan (aka Summit) home from GRRR last March. We will always be grateful to GRRR for bringing this wonderful pup into our lives. We hope to eventually do dog therapy visits in schools and nursing homes. Finn passed his beginner Canine Good Citizen class and will take his advanced class later this spring. We're hoping to share the love he gives us with others.

Kyle Bartolo





# Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

When Maysun joined us in October 2021, she was about 7 months old, was very skinny yet as sweet as they come. She hadn't seen stairs before, hadn't eaten out of her own food bowl, didn't know about toys, etc. Bentley, adopted just over five years ago, patiently helped her learn about all these things and... TENNIS BALLS! While Bentley loves tennis balls, Maysun loves to chase Bentley as he chases tennis balls. Of course, Maysun learned to love our kitties as much as Bentley does. Both dogs have great patience with them (we have three cats).

Today it is hard to do anything with just one of them as they always want to be together - going places in the car, going for walks, even just being in the backyard. We are so lucky they joined our family!

Thanks,  
Rhonda Mickelson



Hello GRRR:

We have really enjoyed these first couple of months with the newest member of our family, Charlie (Charles). He has really settled right in and become best friends with our kitty, Chubby Lunchbox. Charlie is such a sweet dog and very calm and gentle with our two granddaughters. We could not have asked for a better addition to our family.

Thank you so much for including us in the GRRR family. We look forward to participating in upcoming events.

Sincerely, Porter and Greg Sheldon

Hi there!

My name is Blue and I'm excited to give everyone an update on my amazing, happy new life. I live in the beautiful, snowy mountains with my Boxer-mix sister, my mom, and my dad. My mom works from home and my dad is retired so I get to be with them all the time. And oh wow, do we have fun!

My day starts with yummy breakfast followed by a beautiful walk along the river and then through town where I get the daily paper and carry it the last mile home. Everyone smiles when they see me. It feels pretty cool.

During the weekdays, I sleep on and off and play with my sister while Mom works, but we always go over to the park to play fetch at lunchtime. Then late afternoon, we often head over to the big open trails where I run and run. And weekends are even better. I go hiking, snowshoeing, and I've even been cross-country skiing. I LOVE SNOW!

Evenings bring another couple of walks, dinner, and then bed. I sleep with my head on my Mom's pillow at least part of every night.

I have so many new friends, too ... Molly, Luna, Cody, Wilson, Rufus, Apache, Collins, Henry, and so many more. I'm almost 100 pounds but it's all goofy sweetness. I get along with everyone! We go to trivia one evening every week and I get to ride in the car almost every day. I love the car!

Oh, and I'm kinda famous now. :) I've been featured in the Summit Daily, and a few months ago, we went to Golden with my friend Henry for the Golden in Golden event. That group shot made it into People magazine!

This is a true love story and we are all soooooo happy. Thank you for helping me get to my forever home, GRRR. You guys are the best! Blue (and Margorie Hook)





Hello GRRR:

We adopted Katie last December. It has taken a little time for her to adjust, but she is doing great. She gets along with other dogs and getting used to people around her. She has no signs of having any more bladder stones and we have had her teeth cleaned. She is in her forever home.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to adopt Katie.

Karen and William King



Hi GRRR!

We just want to send a pupdate on Pancho. He is settling in very well and is one happy man. He's learned not to potty in the house, his name, and to sit so far. He is getting along great with his older sister. She loves to play with Pancho even though he has a few pounds on her. We are so thankful for him and I think he's thankful he got us.

Jessica



Hi GRRR!

Harvey (formerly Harley, a.k.a. Harveydog, a.k.a. Harveychild) is doing very well as he approaches his third birthday this October. Winter weather has not stopped him from tons of fetch, socializing, and schmoozing at Arvada West Dog Park six days a week. While we're not doing that, he's helping dad work productively from home four days a week with ultra relaxing naps under the desk. Most evenings we spend intermittently tossing a very well-loved (i.e., disgusting) tennis ball while we watch shows so he can scratch his evenin' 'trievin' itch and get his entertainment fix in. Then we relax on the couch with his brother Husky, Tsiki, who he has taught how Harvey to play and fetch. That is, of course, after a nice large "Real Texas Beef Dinner" feast and treat of some kind—bones or gully sticks or beef straps.

Harvey has been living his best life while keeping his epilepsy at bay. His neurologist recently put him on an extra med to reduce the frequency and severity of his seizures, which has put his seizures on a positive trend. We will continue to live life to its fullest and have super fun times with our Harveychild, who's just the best!

Thanks!

Steve and Kim Sanford





Dear GRRR:

We adopted Izzy (formerly Kali) back in August 2022, just five weeks after the passing of our sweet 13-year-old Golden, Lily. We were a little unsure about moving to adopt again so soon after such a tremendous loss, but then we met Izzy and fell in love. Her energy and zest for life was immediately infectious and we just had to welcome her into our family!

The first two months she was very anxious, as we believed she really wasn't sure if our home was her forever home. After roughly 3 months with us, she seemed to finally feel comfortable and happy in her new home and she began to really settle down and enjoy her new life.

She loves that we're home most of the time and that we spend a lot of time enjoying the outdoors! She goes on at least two walks (sometimes three) that end with playing ball in the park behind our house. She absolutely loves the snow, so it's good we've gotten so much this year! She is friendly towards other dogs and people. She can't help her friendly little self to go up to every dog and person she passes! She just wants to say hello and play!

We love Izzy so much and she is an integral part of our family! We are so grateful to have the opportunity to adopt her and thankful to GRRR for all their love, support and hard work they do for this wonderful breed.

Your friends, Pete, Tanya and Izzy Sullivan



Dear GRRR,

We adopted Paisley, the Golden Angel formally known as Breeze, in May 2022. She had just had her second ACL surgery a few months earlier and was ready to start rehab. Paisley has been doing great. After rehab she got to spend most of the summer in the mountains rebuilding her leg strength and endurance hiking to new and exciting places. She has fully recovered and recently just celebrated her fourth birthday. Paisley is such a confident and gentle puppy who loves to meet anybody and everybody (human or canine). We are so grateful to have her in our family.

Thank you so much for bringing her into our life,  
Tim and Lisa Boomershine



Dear GRRR,

I adopted Joey in February after losing sweet Darby last December. It was pretty quiet in the house with just Bodhi and me; I always say "two is a conversation; three is a party." Well, it's a party now! Joey is a fun little dynamo at only 50 pounds. He is super sweet, super fast, and squirrel-obsessed. He's usually found roaming the backyard or under my desk, and sleeps with me too. I love that he is small and doesn't hog the bed!

I am not used to the all-star wrestling matches and at first tried to stop them, but now I just let Joey and Bodhi go for it. Toys don't last very long, and stuffing is all over the house. Joey is a love and will always be loved. Thanks, GRRR, for this magical boy.

Debbie Stratton, Bodhi and Joey



# Recent Rescues

Hello GRRR:

We could not be more pleased with how things turned out. Teddy made himself at home immediately and was an integral member of our family in no time. He is such a good-natured dog, friendly to every human and dog he meets and never once showing any sign of aggression.

We are very grateful to GRRR, not only for bringing Teddy into our lives, but also for having such a reasonable adoption process. We will definitely renew our GRRR membership and continue to provide other financial support to GRRR. In addition, we have referred many friends to GRRR, and at least one has adopted a dog from you.

The photo is celebrating the 15th birthday of his new “sister” Abbey. So thanks again for everything and we hope to get to a GRRR event soon.

Best regards,  
Doug Harness and Joy Schindler



- Hi GRRR:
- I picked up Helly (previously named Brandy) a little over a year ago and today we are celebrating her 8th birthday!
- Helly has turned my world around and has made me the happiest mama a girl could ask for. First and foremost, Helly comes to work with me every day to our flower shop and is the best co-owner, greeter, and love bug.
- Helly could be fast asleep in the shop, but as soon as someone walks in the door she loves to greet them and receive love. This is so special to see to see the trust she has for other humans considering she was a puppy mill mama. Helly’s favorite thing to do is snuggle, romp around in the snow, eat bacon, and spend time with her favorite people.
- Helly loves to use her strong nose to demand for pets and turns all non-dog lovers into dog lovers! I’m so lucky to have this special girl and am so appreciative that GRRR matched me with this angel of a girl.
- Helly has grown such a strong connection with my entire family – in particular, my Dad and her Grandpa. Every time the two see each other she runs up to him, cries, and is attached at the hip as they have found such a love for each other! When we first received Helly, my parents had my other angel dog, Roxi, who Helly grew a strong connection with. Since then, Roxi has gained her angel wings and is now in heaven running around. We miss her so much and it’s been such a tough year without her! I think this is why my Dad has grown such a strong connection with Helly, as Helly has helped provide the golden love and support during his time of grieving.
- I hope you all are doing well and thank you for all that you do at the rescue, you are all such incredible humans!
- Thanks, Maddie Snyder



## 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](mailto:debbie.davis@goldenrescue.com). Deadline for the August 2023 issue is July 6, 2023. Thanks!

## Recent Stats

**January 1 – March 31, 2023**

**Number of Dogs Placed: 79**

**\$ Spent on Medical Needs: \$28,560**



Hello GRRR:

We adopted Skylee on November 20th, 2022 shortly after we lost our 11-year-old Belgian shepherd girl, Lilly, to lung cancer. Our German shepherd, Riley, became very depressed and having been through this before, we knew that we needed to him find a companion. Skylee's post stated that she was special needs. Since we have experience with special needs, feline and canine, my sister and I submitted an adoption application.

We were very excited to bring Skylee home and provide a companion for Riley. We soon realized that Skylee required a lot of love, care, patience and time to heal and understand what her new life was going to be like. We established a consistent schedule for her; normal feeding time, walks twice daily, playtime in the backyard, playtime in the house, and playing with her babies (yes she has new toys along with her original toy she brought from the rescue; we call him Jack). It was important for both Skylee and Riley that we establish a routine.

Skylee realized she had a yard to run and chase squirrels and rabbits, and run with Riley. She had to overcome several challenges and we are here to help her. She is settling in and feeling the comforts of a loving home, including many warm beds, blankets, warmth, socialization, training, yard playtime, and meeting pet pals in the neighborhood.

Skylee is doing well, and we know that it will take more time to work through any triggers or anxiety, but we feel she is a great fit. Riley loves her and he's starting to really engage with her a lot more. We love watching the transition. Riley has only been with our family for 1.5 years and he had a lot of things to work out when he first came too. Lilly was a great teacher for Riley as she was very quiet and calm. And now Riley is a great teacher for Skylee.

Skylee is getting the care that she needs as a diabetic, and she has already had vet visits as well as therapy including acupuncture, acupressure and massage, which will help even more in her healing process. We are monitoring her to make sure she has what she needs to live a healthy and fulfilling life. Skylee is very sweet. She is still learning to live in a pack, but she is coming along. We are very grateful that Skylee is here in our home, and we are grateful to GRRR for rescuing Skylee.

Thank you, Kim and Denise



## Golden Angel update 🐾💕

### Ripp by Terri Markland

Ripp came to GRRR in pretty bad shape: He was a transfer from a Texas kill shelter, and he was malnourished, dirty, flea-ridden, and tick-infested. He also tested positive for heartworm. At first, he was a little hesitant to trust humans and would cower when we tried to pat his head. Our first walk around the neighborhood was frightening to him because of all the unusual noises, and he wanted to run and hide.

The heartworm treatments have been completed and it was pretty rough on him but with lots of love, pain medication, and good advice from Mary, he's doing really well.

After three months with us, the transformations in his coat, his health, and his demeanor are rewarding to see. He loves his sister, Oaklee, and gives her kisses all the time (which she tolerates). He dances and jumps (we're still working on "sit") when it's mealtime and time to go on a walk. He loves car rides and has to be coaxed out of the car because he wants to go some more. He loves all his toys and especially likes to play keep away. He loves jumping on the couch during the day and then snuggling into his own comfy bed at night. He's learned what it's like to be a spoiled Golden with lots of cuddles and pets and treats, and he's learning people can be trusted. He's blending into our family quite nicely, and he brings us laughter every day! 💕





# Golden Angel: Bailey Lou

by Jeannie Miller

This Quarter's Golden Angel is cute little Bailey Lou. This adorable girl is just 2 years old. She came to GRRR from New Mexico when her owners decided that they couldn't care for her anymore. The little sweetie has not one, but two bad hips! This condition causes significant pain for the dog. Poor little girl has been dealing with it her whole life so far. She was put on medication to help with the pain, but the dosage was not high enough. How hard for a young pup who just wants to play to have that constant pain.

We gladly took her into our care knowing that we have fantastic veterinarians to support us. We have talked about Colorado Canine Orthopedics many times in this column because they have helped so many of our dogs through surgery for knees, hips, spines, elbows and more.

While we wait for an available doctor to perform Bailey Lou's surgery, the lucky little girl gets to stay with Cindy and Ed and their 12-year-old Lab. Cindy says that Bailey Lou is a typical 2-year-old Golden, sweet and funny. She loves to gather toys, socks, etc. from around the house. She likes to snuggle and gets the zoomies in the morning. They try to keep her a little bit quiet so that she doesn't hurt herself. She is now on Rimadyl in addition to other pain meds and that seems to be helping her. She goes on two short walks per day and is working on leash behavior. It's hard when you are only 2 and everything is so interesting! Cindy and Ed are teaching her lots of good manners - like only having her Kong on her special quilt, her "place." She is completely house trained and uses the dog door well.

The surgeries will have to be done one at a time and the recovery process will be slow and painstaking. With her being so young, she should heal quickly, but it will be extra challenging to keep her quiet and less active for four to six weeks. One of her hips must be totally replaced and the other will be able to have a procedure known as FHO (femoral head ostectomy). This procedure removes part of the bone at the end of the femur to restore pain free movement of the hip joint. It is a little bit easier to recover from. We have our fingers crossed for this sweet little girl!

Having Bailey Lou go to her forever home before the surgery would be the best for her. That way she could settle into a quiet routine in advance. A home without stairs that need to be routinely climbed is necessary as she won't be able to do that for a few weeks at least. She gets along very well with other dogs but could also be an only dog.

*Pupdate! Mary Lemma, who proofreads our newsletter, fell in love with Bailey when she was proofing the newsletter. That has never happened before...do we call that a "proofing failure"? Mary and her husband Joe, who accused her of "insider trading," adopted Bailey, and she joins a "sister," Teddie, a Great Pyrenees - Anatolian mix, and a "brother," Cooper, a German Shepherd. Both are also rescues. Bailey's wonderful foster parents included her blanket with the other items. Bailey joined her dad on the couch without being coaxed, and is busy running around the 4-acre property. Mary says: "She is AMAZING!"*

If you would like to help Bailey Lou and our other Golden Angels with expensive surgery and medication that will make their lives happy and pain-free, please consider donating to our Golden Angel Fund. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and the tips of our tails! 🐾



## 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!



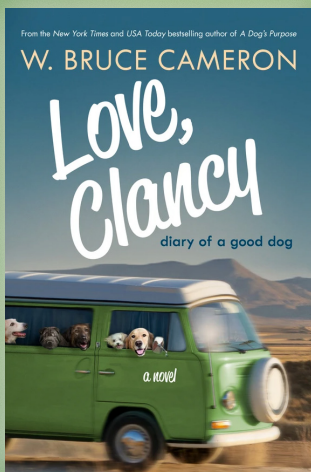
# Paws for a Cause

Help raise funds for GRRR's Golden Retrievers

**Saturday, June 24, 2023**

**5:30 to 9:00 pm**

**Virtual Silent Auction: June 17 - June 24**



Special Guest Speaker:  
*W. Bruce Cameron*

**author of A Dog's Purpose and  
Love, Clancy, diary of a good dog**

Purchase a VIP ticket to attend a cocktail reception (4:30-5:30pm) to meet Bruce and receive an autographed copy of his new book.

*Ambassador Dogs • Open Bar • Seated Dinner  
Silent Auction • Live Auction*

**The Tivoli Event Center, Turnhalle Room  
900 Auraria Parkway, Denver, CO 80204**

**Attire: Cocktail/Business Casual**

**For more information and tickets  
please visit <https://www.aesbid.org/ELP/GRRR2023/Tickets>**

**Online Auction: 10 am, June 17 to 8 pm, June 24  
<https://www.aesbid.org/GRRR2023#page=1>**





# Volunteer Spotlight

by Jeannie Miller  
Board Member



Scarlett and Jeannie

When I retired from Coors in 2016, I was looking for an opportunity to give back. Living in Arvada just off Quaker, I had become aware that there was a Golden Retriever Rescue on 72nd Ave. not very far from our house. We had fallen in love with Golden Retrievers when we got our first sweetie pie back in 2000. We had since gotten another pup. I love dogs and the outdoors so I thought that helping out at GRRR might be just the ticket!

That was seven years ago now. I got swallowed up by the amazing organization that is GRRR. As a part of the VIP team, I fell in love every day with a new dog! And I wanted to learn all about how things work at GRRR. It wasn't long before I started helping Mary with transport. I did lots of trips within a three- to four- hour radius of Denver to pick up dogs or to take them up to CSU, or other vets, for treatments. Suffice it to say, I was hooked! Other odd jobs like writing for this newsletter and registering microchips came my way as I continued to learn.

In 2018, I was voted onto the Board of Directors. The Board meets about every month to review how the organization is doing and to plan for the future. It is a great group of people who all care so deeply about our mission and never forget that it is all about the dogs. I didn't stop being part of the VIP team because my favorite thing is getting to know each dog's backstory and their personalities, and then watching them get adopted. In the summer of 2019, I made a trip to Conifer to rescue a dog whose owners had severely neglected him. He was emaciated and covered in scabs and sores all over his

body. They had just kept him chained up outside in the mud. I couldn't even tell he was a Golden except that he was sooooo sweet. He was calm and mellow despite having clearly suffered at the hands of people. My heart just melted. He did not have a name that we knew of. I named him Galen which, in Gaelic, means calm and peaceful. He was a wonderful boy.

Later that summer, we rescued four dogs from a breeder. These dogs were very traumatized by their early lives, living in cages with little human contact. Two of the dogs were very handsome brothers. They were both terrified and it was manifested by their barking and snarling at everyone who came into the kennel. One we named Camden, and we decided to name the other Galen. Maybe having that name would help him to be calm and peaceful. After about a week, I noticed that no one was taking Galen out of the kennel. When I approached his run, he would bark and snarl. He looked fierce. I decided to make him my little project. I started by just sitting on a stool outside his run and talking to him. Then I moved the stool inside the run. He would stay in the corner and not even look at me. As I scooted a little closer, I could see that he was trembling. After a few days, I scooted close enough to reach out and touch his chest. He kept shaking but he didn't bite me! I slowly worked up to getting a leash on him. He followed me out of the run and into the yard. I came to see Galen every day. He got better slowly and would come up to me in the play yard to get his pets. We visited Francie in the office every day, too, so he could get used to the noises in there and people coming and going. That little guy really touched my heart. I was so happy the day he went to his forever home.

After Galen, I became very dedicated to rescue of former breeding dogs, and it has been my passion ever since. It is one of the most rewarding but also heartbreaking and frustrating things we do at GRRR. Every dog that we rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome is special, but these guys so need our help. To better help them, GRRR has launched FAST (Fearful and Shy dog Team). See last quarter's newsletter for a description of FAST. The team has been up and running for about three months now. They work with our shy dogs like I did with Galen. I think it is making a difference!

I am so grateful to all the people of GRRR for the amazing things you do to help Golden Retrievers who need us!

## Photo 2024 Calendar Contest Now Open!

The Photo Contest for the 2024 GRRR Calendar (our 19th annual calendar!) is open and your dog could be featured as one of the 12 Monthly or 12 Honorable Mention winners! Everyone who enters at least 3 photos (typically) gets a small photo on the date pages. Entries still only \$5 each! Horizontal photos only (turn that phone 90°!). Start snapping and good luck! Rules and entry form: <https://www.goldenrescue.com/denver-grrr-calendar-photo-contest/>






# President's Report

by Judi Servoss,  
President

As I think about all the success GRRR has had, I'm often reminded of the rescue groups who are not as fortunate. Having our Phoebe's Place facility, and planning for its expansion, is truly the key to our ability to help so many dogs.

I get emails from rescues throughout the country who are solely foster-based and do the very best they can to help as many dogs as possible. Dogs with serious physical or behavioral problems often cannot be housed with a foster family. There are many dogs in need from puppy mills, hoarders, storm displacement, etc. Fortunately, an active network of volunteer transporters helps move those dogs to places with available space.

I just spent a week in Ft. Myers, Florida, where six months after the devastating hurricane Ian, people are struggling to pick up the pieces of their lives. Many pets are still in "temporary" housing, along with their families. Local organizations do whatever they can to help, just as we try to help when fires have hit our region.

As we all know, animal rescue people have very big hearts, and they ache for the creatures they cannot help. But the positive is that so many animals are helped by people just like us. They may not have access to a facility like ours or as many generous volunteers and donors, but each of them makes a difference. Thank you for being one of them! 




## 13th Annual Gala-Paws for a Cause

by Francie Rakiec  
Executive Director

This year GRRR is hosting our 13th Annual Gala at the Tivoli in Denver on Saturday, June 24th. We are very excited for this year's event. Last year was such a HUGE success, and we are hoping for another record-breaking year!



The most exciting news of all is that our guest speaker will be well-known author W. Bruce Cameron. Mr. Cameron is the author of many award-winning books, including *A Dog's Purpose* and *A Dog's Way Home*. Both books have been turned into major motion pictures. Mr. Cameron has a local connection as well; he was a journalist for the Rocky Mountain News and, at one time resided in Evergreen, CO. We are beyond thrilled to host him at our event.

There will be a VIP cocktail event from 4:30-5:30 where Mr. Cameron will be signing books. This event will be limited and will require an additional VIP ticket purchase. Be sure to buy your tickets for this sure-to-sell-out event. Tickets will go on sale beginning April 15. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit our website at <https://www.goldenrescue.com/event/annual-grrr-gala/> 

## Leave a Little Behind for Goldens!

by Josie Stewart  
Board Member

Have you ever wished you could do more for GRRR and the Goldens you love? Many Golden lovers like you have included GRRR in their will, or as a beneficiary of their retirement plan. These gifts make a significant impact for GRRR and Goldens for generations to come.

IRAs are one of the best ways to give smarter. If you leave your IRA to family and friends, they will have to take required minimum distributions and pay taxes when they inherit it, since your IRA is income-tax deferred. Non-profits like GRRR are tax-exempt, and will receive the full value of your IRA gift. It is simple to give – just name GRRR on your beneficiary designation form.

Are you 73 or older? You can give now to GRRR from your IRA, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

Contact your tax advisor about giving from your IRA.





# GRRR 2024 Calendar Photo Contest

The Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies' 19th Annual Photo Contest is now open! Your Golden could be featured in a full page photo in the 2024 calendar! The Grand Prize Winner will also have their photo on the cover.

Last year's calendar was another big success—we received over 500 entries and sold almost 1000 calendars!

## Submission Guidelines:

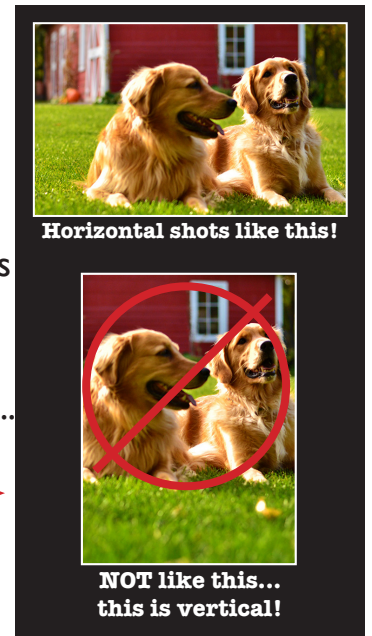
- \$5 per photo entry fee. No limit to number of photos you can submit! 12 Monthly and 12 Honorable Mention winners all receive a free calendar.
- Golden Retrievers or Goldendoodles only; doesn't have to be a GRRR or Rescue dog. No people in photos.
- **Horizontal shots** only, not vertical... that means more wide than tall! Turn that camera phone 90°.
- You can submit the same photos as in previous years. Monthly and Honorable Mention winning photos excluded.
- Set your camera to the HIGHEST resolution (photos will be enlarged to 8.5"x11"). Please don't make the files smaller, send the original, largest file.
- The photo must have been taken by you or someone in your family; you can't submit photos taken by someone else.

Deadline for entry is midnight, Wed, July 19, 2023

Get the entry form and all the rules, at

<https://www.goldenrescue.com/denver-grrr-calendar-photo-contest/>

**Thanks and Good Luck!**






# In Memory

## Bogart by Anne Buderer

With heavy hearts, we said good-bye to our sweet boy Bogart in February. Unexpectedly, they found a tumor the size of a baseball in his lung and complications developed from there. GRRR blessed us with having him in our pack for over 10 years. (We adopted him when he was about 1 year old. Mary had named him Benson after a cute cop.) He was the best big brother! First to Sienna and then to Sadie Lou. He was always ready to play tug of war with a toy. (The toy lost every time.) And he never met a person or pup that he didn't want to say "hi" to when walking. His best friends, Goldie and Butters, went on lots of hiking adventures with us. To Evergreen Dog Park (before it closed) to romping in the water at Cherry Creek Park and up in the mountains in Vail. And he could always find "his people" (Roberta and Don) at GRRR events along with his girlfriend, Gracie.

Our house is quiet without our Bogart. We miss him terribly! We know there's another pup coming in to GRRR who will complete our family later this year. 



## Clara Jane by The Jellis Family

After a short bout with stomach cancer, our sweet Clara Jane crossed the rainbow bridge on March 14, 2023. We were grateful to have Home to Heaven to help her pass at home in her favorite chair surrounded by all those in her life who have deeply loved her over the past nine years.

Clara was part of the litter whose mother, Hope, was pregnant and tied to a pole at a Thornton Home Depot back in 2013.

Clara loved her daily walks, hogging the bed, and playing tug-of-war with her dog friends. Our hearts are absolutely broken, but incredibly thankful for the opportunity GRRR gave us to share life with such a magnificent, loving, loyal soul.



## Riley by Mary Lisman and Doug Rogers

We lost our precious boy on November 15th. We adopted Riley on August 5th, 2012, at age 4 -1/2. Actually, his soon to be best buddy, Maverick, chose him. Maverick stayed around for about a year to show Riley the ropes from how to use a doggo door to not crossing the street! Riley came to us very shy and scared, but with lots of patience and love, he became the sweetest boy! We don't know what he loved more, the water or snow. When we pulled into our driveway at our lake house in Texas, he would be in the water within seconds! I have a video of him frolicking in a blizzard! Our neighbors and friends both in Colorado and Texas loved him also. He was the neighborhood mascot at both places. He brought so much love to everyone he met. This is a very tough loss for us even though we know we gave him the best life possible. I'm sure this household will be ready for another GRRR rescue soon!





# In Memory ♡♡

## Dusty by Lisa Coleman and Jim Ringwall

Dusty came to GRRR at age 7 as a surrender. A week later he came into our lives, very aloof. It was clear he didn't understand who we were or why his family had abandoned him. He jumped up when we walked near him, as if afraid we'd step on him. He emitted a low growl if we tried to cuddle or love on him. He ran away from us at the dog park, chasing after families, clearly looking for the one he had lost. When on leash, he barked, growled and lunged at other dogs. But in time, his true Golden nature emerged.

He bonded with our 4-year-old Golden, Jameson, and they loved 'wrestling' with each other, taking turns 'winning' or 'surrendering'. They raced to be first to the door when we came home from work, Jameson with a toy in his mouth, which Dusty would promptly steal. They loved walking together, pulling and racing to be first to any new scent. With time and training, he was no longer leash aggressive and instead had to stop and greet every dog we encountered. Slowly he began to trust and accept us as his new people, finally



becoming the dog who never let us out of his sight, following us from room to room in our home. He became comfortable with strangers, leaning into everyone who would stop to pet him, especially kids.

Dusty was a klutz, a long-legged goof that we called our Oompa Loompa. He would only walk on the far left side of any trail or sidewalk, and insisted on being in the absolute middle of any bridge we crossed. He would fall all over himself to be first in or out the door, tripping in a rush on the way to the food bowl, stumbling while trying to get to his bed for a treat, and yet all the photos we took of him, he had a regal air about him, posed so handsomely. He could hear a plastic wrapper being opened, no matter how far away. He'd come running to find it, his head cocked sideways, his eyes inquisitive, with an ear raised high. He was a thoughtful and slow eater, yet there was never a dog who so joyfully and loudly crunched a dog biscuit with his mouth wide open. After a meal, he'd lie on the carpet and wipe his face with his paws, clearly happy with himself. He finally learned to let us lie with him and accept our love, relaxing into it. When he began to lick us, soft and gentle, his tongue like velvet, we knew he was content and had fully accepted us.

We learned he had slight hip dysplasia and also a neurological condition that the vet could not treat, but it didn't deter him. Cold weather was his favorite and despite snow and bone chilling temps, he'd pull on the leash like a team of horses. Even on his last day, he pulled us as he stumbled through a last neighborhood walk, sniffing out every scent to be found.

When you adopt an older dog, you know the heartache will come too quickly, whether you get three years, four or maybe five. We had the joy of seven years with Dusty, and though his big old heart didn't want to let go and he fought hard to stay, we had to look into those deep, liquid brown pools of his eyes and let him go on March 17. The heartache is still deep, but we wouldn't trade the seven amazing years we had with him. We know his body is finally whole again and that he's running fast, like the wind.

Thanks GRRR- there are no words for our gratitude.

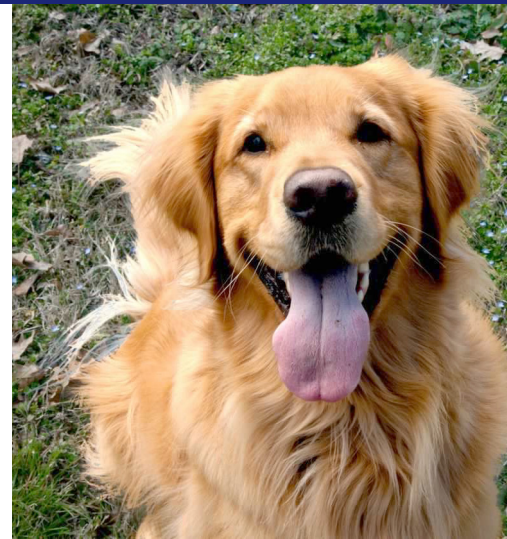


# In Memory ♡♡

## Yogi Bear by Virginia Corrigan

Yogi was rescued in 2011. He was brought to an emergency clinic by his first family, who needed to relinquish ownership to GRRR due to personal hardships. He underwent emergency surgery and an extended recovery in the ICU from a gastrointestinal foreign body, thanks to a generous donation from GRRR. During his time at the emergency clinic, I was fortunate enough to care for Yogi. I was in my internship, having just graduated from veterinary school the previous year. While caring for Yogi, I fell in love with his sweet personality.

After he met my three cats, sniffed each of their noses, and fell asleep on my couch, I knew he was my soul dog and lifelong best friend, and I was fortunate enough to adopt him. He came with me on many life adventures, including four moves, a marriage to my (human) best friend, and the birth of our three children. His favorite activities were long hikes through the woods, anything water related, chasing after birds and jumping in waves on the beach, playing fetch with his tennis ball, and keeping a careful watchful eye on all of the human babies in his home. He lived to a wise Golden age of 14, and passed away peacefully at home on February 18th. Among other all-star status dog accomplishments, Yogi was a registered therapy dog with Virginia Tech's therapy animal program (VT Helping PAWS) where he spent many Saturdays with children at the local library's reading program, and at the Virginia Tech Women's Center supporting faculty, staff, and students alongside the licensed counselors. His absence leaves his family and everyone he knew heartbroken; yet grateful for all the love and memories. Thank you to GRRR for the gift of Yogi to our family, and for all that you do for all of the amazing Golden Retrievers who spread their unconditional love to make this world a better place. ♡



## Quinn by Janie Ritchie

I only had 7 weeks to get to really know this great boy before he crossed the bridge, probably from hemangiosarcoma. Even though he was here just a short 7 weeks, he had a great time with us. He was fun to be around. He was one of the happiest Goldens I ever had. You would never know he was 11 years old. He could finish a 2 mile walk and come in the house and jump around with a toy in his mouth. I am so glad I had the opportunity to have this boy even if it was for a very short time.



# Donations in Memory or Honor ♡♡

- Nicki Bacon in memory of Cheryl Buckley
  - Laura Boyka in memory of GiGi...the best "senior puppy dog"! May her happy spirit live on across the Rainbow Bridge!
  - Paige Coutts on behalf of Allyson & Don Ingram
  - Anna Engelman - Happy birthday Mimi!
  - Stacy Gapper in honor of Cooper
  - Alice Gilbertson in memory of Cheryl Buckley
  - Dan & Dale Goodyear in memory of Cheryl Buckley. RIP Dear Cheryl
  - Esther Harnsberger in memory of Cheryl Buckley. May she have fun in heaven. RIP my friend.
  - Jennifer and Halie Hotka in honor of Kayla and Katie Rhoades
  - Cindy Hudson in honor of Kim Hosler Happy Birthday Kimmie! Thank you for supporting the furry friends!
  - Mary Humm in loving memory of Liz Stone
  - Valerie Ireland on behalf of Lexington dog
  - Mary Kenton in memory of Diego
  - Mary Kenton in memory of Charley Dinkey
  - Mary Kenton in memory of Cheryl Buckley
  - Dan Matras in honor of Snoopy, Cajun, Simon, Bosley, Bear & Molly
  - Debby Mauck in memory of Sandy Sory
  - Susan E McMaster in memory of Cheryl Buckley
  - Stacie McWilliams in memory of Palei
  - Johnna Mellor in honor of Phil Linville's birthday
  - Anne Mudgett in memory of Ruby
  - Theresa Paradis in memory of Ellen and Steve Furhbacher's dog Maggie. She will be greatly missed by all. She was so sweet, with a spirited and beautiful personality. I share your sadness, too. Thank you for sharing this sweet gem with me at Wagitude.
  - Rene Payne in memory of Kerry Smith
  - Ellen Rabinowitz & Roxanne Sabin in memory of Elisa George and Peter Saint- Andre's Berkley. Remembering your sweet boy.
  - Ryan Romenesko, in loving memory of Harley
  - Sherri Sanders in honor of Zack Sanders - Happy 40th birthday daddy!
  - Tanya & Pete Sullivan in honor of Izzy
  - Linda, Alan & Goldie Weinstein in memory of Bogart Buderus. We will miss Bogart but will always keep him in our hearts.
- We regret any errors or omissions.



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

## Just shop at King Soopers or City Market!

**We recieved \$2,317 from  
220 households in one  
quarter last year, so  
this is a really effective  
fundrasier...much better  
than Amazon Smile  
(which is being  
discontinued).**

**Sign up once and you are  
done...no cost to you!**

**Thank you!**



**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!"*<sup>®</sup>



**Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies**  
15350 W. 72nd Avenue  
Arvada, CO 80007

# Spring Fling May 20!

hotline: 303/279-2400  
info@goldenrescue.com  
www.goldenrescue.com

Board Of Directors

Officers:

Judi Servoss (President)  
Marci Auston (Vice President)  
Roxanne Sabin (Secretary)  
Mark Springston (Treasurer)

Directors at Large:

Mike DeGroff  
Mary Kenton  
Jeannie Miller  
Jill Sutton  
Josie Stewart  
Laura Miller

Executive Director - Francie Rakiec  
francie.rakiec@goldenrescue.com

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



## “A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”<sup>®</sup>

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://goldenrescue.com)