



"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"™

# GOLDEN GRRROWL

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

## Nugget

by Janet Owens

*Nugget...a funny boy who lives life on his own terms, bringing much joy and many laughs.*

When you decide to bring a new dog into your home, you have certain expectations of how it will go, whether it is a puppy, an adult, or even a senior. Our first senior Golden was named Finley and was an absolute dream dog. Our second senior is named Nugget and is, well, Nugget. His first family had him for 12 years, and we have now had him for 16 months. We are still trying to figure out what makes him happy and comfortable. He is a typical Golden, loyal and kind, loves to be petted and brushed. But he just doesn't seem like he knows how to be a dog.

Adopting a senior is such a guessing game, as you really don't know their whole story, and our Nugget is one true puzzle. We know he lived on a small farm, and given the large calluses on both elbows, we think he lived on hard ground or maybe a cement kennel. While he is housebroken, we don't think he spent much time indoors prior to living with us. At 85 pounds, he is a big dog, but he is trim and svelte and such a gentle old soul.

Nugget has taught us that, as he's a senior dog, the family really has to adjust to *his* needs and behaviors. Throughout our 16 months with Nugget, every day is simply a journey of discovering what makes him happy. We fail more than we succeed, but we keep trying.



Nugget has access to three large beds, in different rooms, and he doesn't use any of them. He prefers to lie on the carpet, tile, or even better, outside on the grass, dirt or, his favorite, in and on the mulch! The only thing Nugget thinks dog beds are good for are places to put his favorite toys. Then he lies down beside his toys on the cold hard tile. He never lies down in the comfy bed.

Another quirk of our Nugget: he has never liked taking a walk. What dog doesn't like walks? We've tried several times, but before we can make it to the park down the block, he lies down in the middle of the street so we can pet him. The looks and comments from the neighbors have been priceless! Early on he was diagnosed with laryngeal paralysis so we switched him to a full harness that doesn't pull on his throat. He didn't care; walks are still a no-go!

He does love car rides, but he never looks out the window or tries to feel the wind in his face, but he seems to enjoy the ride. Or at least that is what we would like to believe – but with Nugget, you really don't know.

While we love to have our animals around us in the evening, we have learned to let Nugget be Nugget.

In the evening, he would rather be in the backyard, especially on our cool summer evenings, lying on the patio pavers, the mulch, or the grass, whichever is coolest and/or wettest.

A Golden is never going to scare anyone away, but a good strong bark when someone knocks on the door, or an adult child who walks in the house unannounced, would be a nice thing. We had had Nugget for about a year before we heard his first bark. At first it was a soft and gentle bark. Nowadays, he has a strong bark. On occasion he may bark at a knock at the door or people taking an evening stroll, but he still never barks at anyone who comes into the house. Lately we hear him bark while lying in the hallway or outside in the grass. He just randomly barks at seemingly nothing, or maybe everything. It is almost like it is a surprise to himself that he can actually make noise. The concept of barking to be let in is still a foreign concept to Nugget. We set timers so we remember to let him in. On a couple of occasions, he has come to the back door and barks to be let in. It is such a joy—for us, anyway!

Nugget seems happy, and we get lots of great tail wags and what appears to be love from his big brown eyes. He loves his toys, treats, and salmon on special occasions. He just has some odd behaviors that we are always trying to figure out. When he wants to go outside, he strongly nudges our hand. When we get up to let him go outside, we must wait for him for 20 to 30 seconds while he drinks water. He must drink water every single time before he goes outside, without fail. Not sure we will ever know why he needs to drink before going outside, as he has access to three large water bowls, all day, but that is what we have been taught.



He has a lovely comfortable kennel at the foot of our bed. He is free to go in and out of this kennel as he pleases. When it is time for bed, he kennels right up. Once my husband and I get into bed, he gets out of his kennel and lies down on the carpet—but not before a big harumph! We haven't figured out why he gives us a big harumph! but we get one every night, without fail. It is now part of our nighttime ritual. Nugget never goes into his kennel the rest of the night. He either sleeps in the hallway, or in our family room.

Adopting Nugget has really forced us to adapt to him—not the other way around. We have had seven dogs during our 32-year plus marriage, and up until Nugget, they have all come to greet us when we come home. Nugget never comes to the door when one of us comes home. Our little dog greets us, the cats greet us, but not our Nugget. When we get home, we go find him and shower him with love. We are, after all, easily trained.

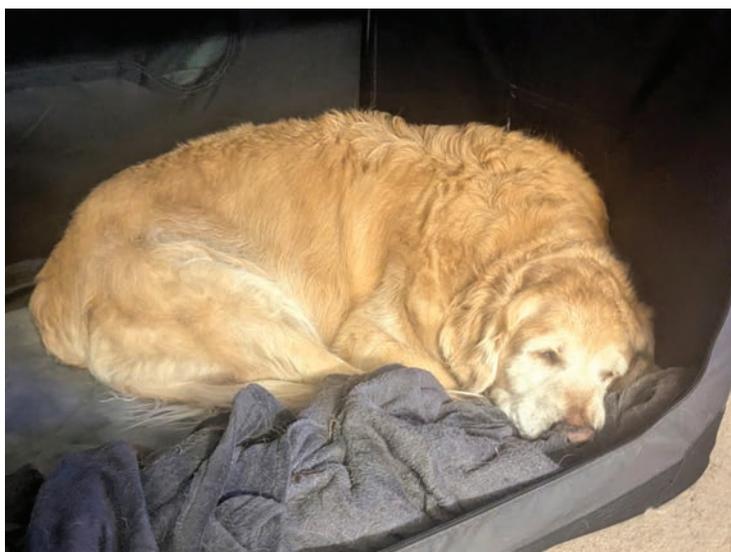
By far, Nugget's quirkiest behavior is when my husband coughs or sneezes, Nugget puts himself in time-out. He literally runs to a corner of the furthest room he can find. My husband quickly gives him his favorite treats to try to prevent these self-imposed time-outs, but Nugget has often found a corner before my husband can reach for a treat. It's the darnedest thing we've ever seen.

Nugget gets meds for arthritis and anti-anxiety meds for his laryngeal paralysis, but he is slowing down. We know his time to cross over is near, but he continues to teach us that there is more than one way to be a dog, and his way is his best way. It may not be *our* best way, but it is *his* best way. Until that time comes, he will continue to train us, and we will continue to enjoy trying to figure out the puzzle that is our Nugget.

#### Update at press time:

It is with heavy hearts that I let you know we helped Nugget cross over the rainbow bridge. The laryngeal paralysis finally got to his back legs. We used a sling a few times to help him up when his legs didn't work, and we had yoga mats down on the tile floor in the kitchen so he wouldn't slip, but he had started to lose coordination and quit eating a few days prior. Despite all of our efforts, we made the painful decision to have Caring Pathways come to the house and help him cross over. He went very peacefully.

We think he had taught us all he needed to teach us. He will be sorely missed. 💙



# Recent Rescues

Dear GRRR:

Brewer (formerly Bruno) has been with us now for three months. On arrival to our home, he was surprisingly well-mannered and eager to explore his new surroundings. The first few weeks, he walked so fast around the neighborhood that I had shin splints, but now that he is familiar with the streets and paths, his pace has slowed.

It took Brewer's gut about a month to settle, and that gave us a chance to get to know the new vet and to get comfortable with office visits. It has taken a little while for him to deal with new situations, but once he works through what we call his "firsts," he takes things in stride the next time around.

One of the reasons we were matched with Brewer was to help with his separation anxiety. We did not leave him on his own until he adjusted to one of us leaving the house. Then we gradually lengthened the time that he was on his own, and now he's fine for a couple of hours with no problem.

Brewer is eager to learn new commands and loves playing fetch with his toys. Recently, he's been playing Frisbee which is not really my strength, but he'll retrieve it every time regardless of the quality of the throw.

In a relatively short time, Brewer has eased his way into our daily routines, and we are grateful for the energy and smile that he brings into our home.

Jane Hooper



**Brewer**



Dear GRRR:

Hi! Sending an update on our sweet girl! One year in and we couldn't be happier with our decision to adopt Daisy (previously Ginger). For the first few months, she was very shy and timid, but with lots of love and adventures with her Husky brother Niko, she has really come out of her shell.

Daisy has gained so much confidence and now has her own little mischievous personality. She loves hikes in the mountains and daily walks in Wash Park. At night, she loves to cuddle up with her family on the couch. She is truly the best addition to our family and we are so grateful for GRRR for bringing her into our lives.

Sincerely,

Rachel Dodson

**Niko & Daisy**

# Recent Rescues

Hello GRRR!

It has been so much fun seeing Moose's shy and timid personality blossom since he became part of our family one year ago. With time, love, and patience he has grown into the most curious playful pup and sweet protector of our family. When we adopted Moose last August, we already had two dogs – a senior Golden Retriever named Tanner and a 6-year-old Pitbull named Frankie. The three of them almost



## Moose & Frankie

immediately became best friends and it was a blessing to see them mesh so well together. Moose was the perfect match – he could relax and be lazy with Tanner, wrestle for hours with Frankie, or enjoy hiking through Colorado with us. We couldn't have asked for a more perfect fit and we have so many special memories as a family.

Then Tanner crossed the rainbow bridge in January. We were devastated and worried how we'd all adjust to this sudden loss, especially concerned for Moose as Tanner was his role model, big brother, and best friend. Saying goodbye to your best friend is never easy and his loss still hurts my heart, but we're thankful for the short time we had as a family of five. Since then, Moose's personality continues to evolve as he becomes more confident and bolder, braving long road trips, running along new trails, meeting new people, and even sneaking food right off the kitchen counter! He has the biggest heart and always makes us smile and laugh. Thank you, GRRR, for taking such great care of him and matching him to our family – We're so lucky and can't imagine life without our Moose!

Lauren and Dave King



Hi GRRR:

Here is a picture of Shiloh on her one-year anniversary Gotcha Day.

She is an amazing girl and I can't imagine life without her. She enjoys relaxing, following me around, romping in the backyard, and hanging with my two grandsons. She is great in the car and enjoys our trips to Breckenridge. She is super chill and has an amazing temperament.

Thank you GRRR for helping me find the perfect companion.

Judy Anzalone

## Shiloh

# Turkey Dog Updates

*In 2016, we started rescuing Golden Retrievers and mixes from Istanbul, Turkey. Initially, these dogs were status symbols there, but as they aged, they were abandoned on the streets. Between 2016 and 2019, GRRR brought over 160 "Turkey Dogs" to Colorado. We wondered if these dogs have a lower risk of cancer compared to their American counterparts. Laura Johnston (our database manager) emailed all the adopters to check on their pups and find out how many had been diagnosed with cancer. As of the date of publishing, we received 57 responses; 24 of the dogs have passed away, and of those, 12 passed due to cancer. We shared the updates for dogs adopted in 2016 in our November 2023 newsletter. Here are the 2017 Turkey Dog updates, edited for length.*

## **Aerobie – Scott & Sheridan Skinner**



Our Aerobie is such a smart, sneaky, soft and thoroughly wonderful boy. He learned to survive in

the forest in Turkey, even though he was only about 10 months old when we got him. He is so smart; he can open cupboards, doors, silently cruise counters and is an escape artist. And his caught-in-the-air-bird count (that we know of) is five. He doesn't have the soft mouth of a Golden: crunch and that bird is dead! We did a DNA test on Aerobie; he's half Golden, with Husky, Chow Chow, and a small percentage unknown mix. He has the sweetest disposition and is never bothered by other dogs who may be a bit aggressive. He's happy-go-lucky! He also has the softest fur of any Golden ever. Aerobie is 8 now and in excellent health. We love this funny little character so much and are so grateful we chose him!

## **Blitzen – Robert Brito**



Before Blitzen could be adopted, he had to have surgery on both hips. He is now 10 years old and going strong

He has been such a wonderful and loving dog, like most Golden Retrievers. I also adopted Gracie, a Golden/Great Pyrenees mix.

Blitzen has always been so food motivated, and when

I'm in the kitchen cooking, he'll sit and stare at me with that smile dogs do, when their lips get tucked under and

you can see their teeth. It really looks like he's smiling, like, "Hey, do you think I can get a treat?" Thank you for my dogs, GRRR. I really hope they live forever.

## **Cooper – Tom & Traci Eatwell**



Our first dog, Cooper, is still with us. He is about 9 now and just the sweetest dog. We got Coop when he was about one and a half. He doesn't seem to always like other dogs, but he is an only dog so it's not a big issue. He is super lovable with people and loves to snuggle. He is healthy. We have just had to pay for check-ups, shots, and

teeth cleanings. He gets sick occasionally, but nothing more than the average dog. He's been wonderful, and we love him dearly. He has definitely been much more spoiled than our previous dogs!

## **Daisy – Noelle Green**



Daisy, formerly Chipeta, is just the best dog. She has such a personality. She loves to go on walks, hiking, swimming, and guarding her garden. And of course, especially treats.

Daisy has had no real health issues. However, she's developed a mass between her teeth, which

will be biopsied. I pray it's nothing. However, my first Golden developed a mass on his jaw. So, I know it could mean cancer. Daisy is starting to show her age a little bit. We don't go as far on our walks or hikes. Hopefully it's just arthritis. We just absolutely love Daisy. She's our spoiled princess.

# Turkey Dog Updates

## Delilah – Mark & Suzy O’Dorisio



We adopted Delilah in July 2017, and she’s been the sweetest addition to our family ever since. She was about three or four years old at the time and settled in like she had always belonged. We quickly learned she had a mischievous streak: counter surfing, digging in the yard, and snacking on anything we accidentally left out. But no matter how much trouble she got into, it was impossible to stay upset with her. Delilah has always been gentle, affectionate, and full of love,

everything you could hope for in a dog.

She’s mellowed with age, but still loves chasing her tail, walks, napping in the sun, and greeting everyone at the door with a shoe or sock as a welcome gift. We’ve been very lucky that she’s stayed in good health all these years, and we’re so grateful for the joy she brings to our lives every single day. She’s soft, snuggly, silly, and simply the best.

## Finn – Jim and Marilyn Petrenas



We met Finn, formerly Jive in December 2017. He zoomed around like a maniac until he noticed our senior Husky, and they became fast friends. We soon added a Golden puppy—he loved having a buddy.

Finn was a joyful, goofy dog, but a runner! He escaped three times, once nearly reaching a busy highway and once falling through lake ice. Thankfully, both times ended safely.

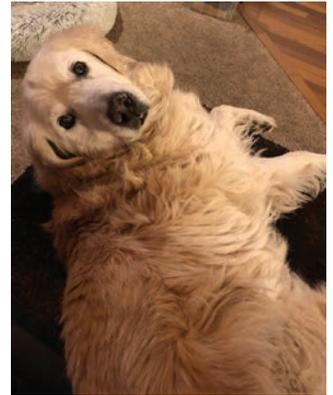
Despite his antics, Finn was deeply loved. Sadly, after returning from a trip, we got the call that he was seriously ill. We said our tearful goodbyes, and Finn crossed the Rainbow Bridge in May 2022 from kidney failure. We miss him every day.

## Jack –Melissa Peters

Jack was an absolutely wonderful dog. He settled in with my other golden retriever quickly, and was just so very

calm and quiet and independently peaceful. He got along with everybody. He passed away in the summer of 2023, of age-related intestinal problems, not unlikely intestinal lymphoma). I loved having him, I miss him daily, and I would adopt a “turkey dog” again in a heartbeat.

Thank you so much for helping these wonderful dogs get out of a bad situation overseas. Jack was forever grateful.



## Jack Frost – Jason & Mill Morganfield



Jack Frost was the BEST little doggy, such a fun guy with a sweet and goofy personality. He loved his brothers, me, and was a friend to all people and dogs he met. He went on many camping and hiking adventures, and truly lived his best life.

Unfortunately, we lost Jack in June 2022. He had osteosarcoma in his right hip, and we had to make the difficult decision to say goodbye. Jack was such a unique dog, as we have found to be true with many other Turkey Dogs we’ve met along the way. There is just something so special about them and their outlook on life. We were blessed to have him, and we hope more people get to adopt a Turkey Dog in the future!

## Maize – Lisa Lutz



We welcomed Maizie in 2017 through a friend and didn’t know what to expect from a Turkey Dog—she turned out to be the best dog we’ve ever had. Everyone adores her! She’s gentle, loving, and drawn to kids and the elderly. Once she climbed into a 90-year-old’s lap at a dog park!

She greets people at patios and often ends up sitting with other families. This year, we visited Greece and Istanbul

to see where she came from. We sent photos to Edna in Turkey, who was thrilled.

At first, we thought Maizie was deaf—until a Turkish Uber driver spoke to her, and she went bonkers with joy!

She loves the river, snow, and being petted. If you stop, she'll nudge your hand with her paw. We're so grateful for her and love her dearly.

### Mira and Serena – Andrea Brown



In June 2017 my family adopted two dogs from GRRR! Serena, a beautiful white Golden, and Mira, a little Maltese mix she bonded with in Turkey. My son was only too happy to talk us into adopting both, so we somehow came home with two instead of one.

We've had them for over nine years, and it's been a great experience. Mira is the boss and likes to tell Serena what to do, as well as eat everything in sight. Serena is the sweetest most loving girl, and smiles all the time. They've had many hiking and camping adventures, and both love the snow. They're been wonderful additions to the family and we couldn't love them more. We love GRRR and our doggies!

### Penny – Shane Binder & Anne DeCleene



We adopted Penny (formerly Freddie) in June 2017. Since then, she's moved from Denver to Singapore, and now lives in New Zealand. Penny is the most well-traveled dog we know!

Penny is wonderful with our kids, and we feel lucky to have her

in our lives. Her only issue has been dental—she had 14 teeth pulled but it hasn't affected her appetite at all. Thank you for bringing her into our family!

### Poppy – Liz Soto



I assume that Poppy is about 14 now. She is happy and healthy! Knock on wood, Poppy has had no health issues. At this age, she has slowed down but again, she is loving and friendly and healthy! She is all love!

### Romeo – John & Bobbi Jo Beeble



At first, Romeo hunted squirrels and bunnies, but we were easily able to train him. He was distrustful of us at first, bolting at any opportunity and tough to corral. But soon he trusted us and became a gentle, loving and faithful dog.

Everyone who met Romeo fell in love with him. He

even allowed our grandchildren to kiss him, and was equally loving to our Labrador, Mac, who grieved hard and long when we lost Romeo in August of 2022. Having owned Golden Retrievers and English Labradors for decades, we can tell you that Romeo was the most loving, devoted and steadfast dog we've owned..Losing Romeo was very painful, but he lives on in our hearts!

### Séamus – Jim & Laurene Deeney

In May 2024, Laurene and I had to say goodbye to our wonderful boy, Séamus. He kicked cancer's butt two previous times over the last two years, but this third instance was an aggressive tumor within his sinus cavity. Séamus was always ready to greet anyone with his enthusiastic tail wag; this while positioning his snout between their legs as if he was trying to determine their gender, if you know what I mean. He lived most of his life as a wet dog, and whether Laurene and I condoned this behavior or not, he was gonna be wet either way. Whether he was at the beach, in our pool, fetching sticks from the lake cabin, or just plunging into any stream or puddle, Séamus was always the happiest while wet.

Séamus crossed the rainbow bridge peacefully in our home. (no photo)

### Skippy – Allan & Birute James

Hi, I'm Skippy, formerly Walter. I'm now 10 and was adopted on August 5, 2017. We lost Dad in 2018—it was hard, but I was there for Mom.

I love tennis balls (I have about 100!), walks with my dog cousins Seven and Run, and playing at City Bark. I sleep wherever I want—usually upside down on the big couch.

Mom brushes me every day and grooms me every 6–8 weeks (I'm not a fan). She says if dog hair were money, we'd be rich! I run the house, love tummy rubs, and hate when Mom leaves—but I'm always a good boy.



# Turkey Dog Updates

## Stella and Riley – Michael & Tiffany Berke



After hearing about Turkey Dogs through my parents, we adopted Stella, formerly Moxie. She was active and loved hiking, but though listed as 2-3 years old, our vet thought she was closer to 7 or 8. Sadly, three years later, she passed from kidney failure. We keep her ashes and cherish our memories.

Before she passed, we adopted another Turkey Dog, Riley, and she's been sweet, gentle, playful, and such a comfort. When Riley seemed lonely, we adopted another Golden, Mila. We're grateful to have given these amazing dogs a safe and loving home.

## Smuckers and Rusty – Karen Gilchrist



I adopted Smuckers, a 1.5-year-old female Golden Turkey Dog in 2017. She is still with me and is doing well. She had

some illness issues when I first adopted her, but GRRR took care of it all.

I also adopted Rusty (formerly Max), a 5-year-old male Golden-mix Turkey Dog in 2018. He is still with me and is about 10 or 11. He is slowing down, but he is a kind old soul. We love them both!

## More 2017 Turkey Dog Alum



Annie (formerly Valentine) – Dale & Lori Schuster



Josie – Erin Spendley



Charlie – Steve and Suzanne Harrold



Swagrrr – David & Pat Caputo

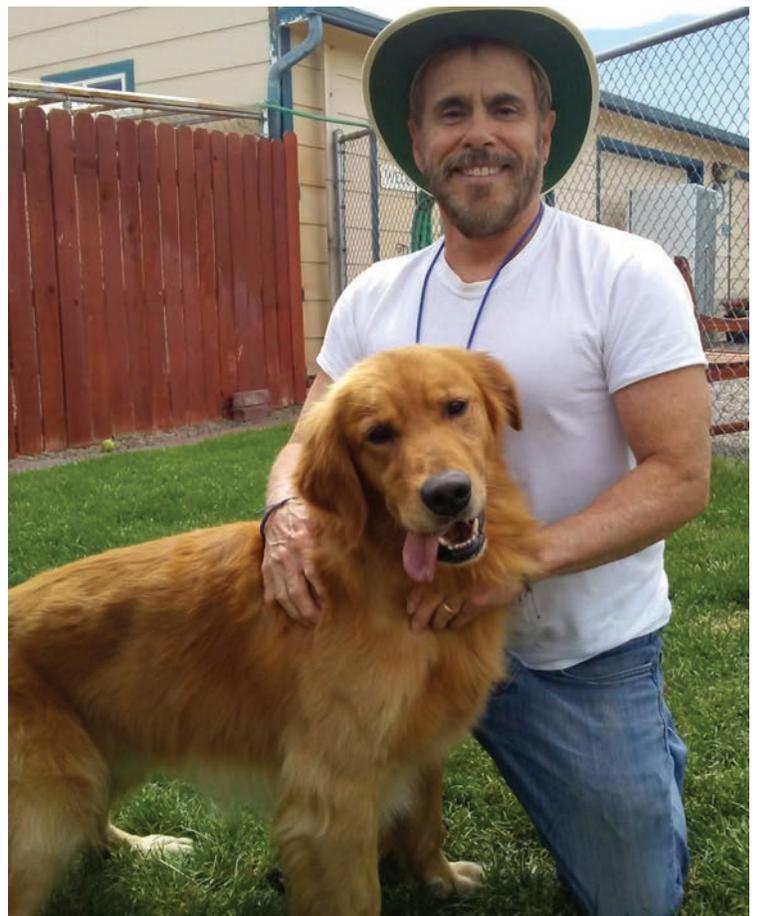
# Volunteer Spotlight

## Don Palermo

Hello Fellow GRRR Members! My name is Don Palermo, and I have been a GRRR volunteer dog walker since 2018. I first learned about GRRR at the Cherry Creek Arts Festival, where GRRR had a booth and a couple of Golden Retrievers there to attract passersby. When I retired from teaching elementary school for Westminster Public Schools, I decided to give volunteering a try. And boy, I'm so glad I did! I love dogs of all kinds, but Golden Retrievers are my favorite. They have the best dispositions, are so affectionate, and give such unconditional love that always puts a smile on my face. The Golden Retrievers I visit with each week truly make my day and uplift my spirits.

In the early days of my volunteering, I noticed we would get in some puppy mill dogs that were particularly frightened and reclusive. It would break my heart to see them cower in the back corner of their kennel, run, or scurry outside whenever I entered their pen. On occasion, Jeannie Miller and I would team up to work with those dogs. They seemed to come out of their shell when we got them out to the Meet & Greet area. It was Jeannie Miller who founded FAST (Fearful And Shy Team), a special task force designed to address those dogs' individual needs. I was invited to join the team when it was first formed. Over the years, my teammates and I train these dogs on various elements such as leash walking, exiting their kennel from the inside, walking through doorways, navigating stairs, recall, and riding in a car—all the skills needed to prepare them for adoption. Some dogs required a lot of time to build trust with humans. However long it takes, it is always so gratifying and rewarding to see the vast improvement these dogs make and then eventually find their forever homes.

Growing up I had three dogs: two yellow labs named Buff and Sundance, and one Lab-Poodle mix named Little Bear. When I got married, we had Ragdoll cats, Chumley for 21 years and Pouncer for 18 years. I would like to adopt a Golden one day, but for now we wish to remain pet-free since my wife and I want to travel in our retirement. So, in the meantime I'm totally content getting my "dog fix" as a GRRR volunteer. I have truly enjoyed my time at GRRR. It's a beautiful facility and they take good care of both dogs and volunteers. I've been able to make some new friends in the process, too! Special thanks to Mary, Francie, Sukie, Jeannie, Laura, and my FAST teammates for all your support over the years and for giving me this opportunity to be a part of our important Golden Retriever mission. 🐾



### GRRR Stats

**January 1 - June 30, 2025**

**Number of Dogs Placed: 121**  
**\$ Spent on Medical Needs: \$ 52,272**

### 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 November 2025 issue is October 7, 2025. Thanks!

# FAST Report: Ellie

by Laura Cunningham

*In the May 2024 issue, our cover article detailed GRRR's new FAST (Fearful and Shy dog Team) program to rehab shy and fearful dogs coming from puppy mills. Here is an amazing success story about Ellie.*

Ellie arrived at GRRR on April 23. Of the three girls who arrived that night, she was the most shy and fearful. She had her first FAST visit on the 24th. Ellie shared a kennel with Sara, who really helped her feel more comfortable. We had a heck of a time telling them apart, until we noticed that Sara had “a ridge line” from her forehead down her nose. Alice was in the kennel next to them, and was not nearly as shy – in fact, she turned out to be a fantastic lead dog.

Ellie wasn't comfortable staying inside her kennel for visits; initially, FAST members shut the doggie door, then entered through the back gate of her kennel. She would leave, hesitantly, and move in fits and bursts, though eventually she followed Alice and Sara out to “Bob,” (a large, fenced turf area at GRRR). Ellie would romp with the other dogs, then pace in circles around us for a while, but generally would come in for pets, and she gave us kisses. Ellie (and all the girls) were really sweet and loving dogs.

We kept up the same routine for a few days, and Ellie and Sara actually started following Alice down the stairs and running and chasing in “Woof” (the big fenced area at GRRR), which was a great accomplishment. Her recall improved and she was really making strides.

However, Ellie was still not comfortable leaving her kennel out of the front gate, so this became the focus in Ellie's rehabilitation. FAST members set up a barricade to block access to the other kennels, then opened Alice's, Ellie's and Sara's kennel gates. Eventually they all crept out and explored a bit. This tactic helped Ellie get used to coming out the front of her kennel, and she continued to follow Alice and Sara's lead. Her confidence increased and she was now ready to be moved to VIP (on May 7). Woo Hoo!

May 8 was a big day for Ellie; she went to the vet and had her spay procedure. Next step: adoption! Julie and Mike, and their furry baby, Louie, brought Ellie, now Willow, home on May 31. Julie and Mike made a special, safe place for Willow in their bedroom, which was important for Willow so she had somewhere she could go to decompress. Louie is such a good big brother, and they are very close, often sharing a bed or lying next to each other. Julie shared this recently:

“Willow has made so much progress and come so far. We are so proud of her resiliency and strength. I think Louie has helped her so much. Willow knows her name. She is potty trained. She's learning to walk on leash. She loves food and treats and has put on some weight. People always compliment her coloring. She wakes up so happy and playful. Willow has become such a blessing and we're so grateful to all of you at GRRR for rescuing her and taking such good care of her.”

Ahhh, what a match made in heaven! Good on ya, Willow. You deserve it! 💙



Ellie & Sara



Louie with Ellie, now Willow, in her new home

ALL GRRR MEMBERS, FAMILY, AND YOUR DOGS ARE INVITED!

# GRRR RESCUE REUNION PICNIC



## SHY DOG AREA

Shy dogs welcome  
from 11- 12:30pm  
in the fenced grassy  
area behind the house  
away from the fray!

We'll provide drinks and burgers or sandwiches but please bring potluck side dish, appetizer, or dessert to share (if in doubt, bring side dish).

Area is fully fenced with lots of grass and tables under shade. Purchase your Limited Edition 2025 Picnic T-Shirts and 2026 calendars!

**PHOEBE'S PLACE**  
**SATURDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025**  
**11AM - 2PM**

**KIDDIE POOLS • RAFFLES • FOOD • FUN**  
**MERCHANDISE ... AND A FEW HUNDRED HAPPY DOGS!**

REMINDER: Only well-behaved, well-socialized GRRR dog(s) and/or dogs in your family, whose behavior you know, are allowed. No small dogs, please. And remember – on or off leash, you need to adequately control your dog(s) at all times, and you are fully responsible for behavior and safety of your family, both canine and human. Thank you.

Please check website for  
weather postponements:  
[goldenrescue.com](http://goldenrescue.com)

**Phoebe's Place: 15350 W. 72nd Ave, Arvada CO 80007**



# Golden Angel: Mylo

by Mary Kenton

## Mylo's Journey to GRRR

Mylo came to GRRR as a cherished member of his family, having been with them since he was a little puppy. Unfortunately, Mylo began experiencing seizures, prompting a visit to the ER veterinary hospital. Despite extensive blood work, no abnormalities were found. He was placed on medication and referred to a neurologist for further evaluation.

Over time, Mylo was prescribed various medications and dosages, but they proved ineffective. His mom, a single mom and paramedic working 72-hour shifts, faced immense challenges. She relied on family to help care for her children and Mylo, but his seizures persisted, creating overwhelming stress. The frequent vet visits, blood work, and medications became financially unmanageable. After a year of trying to cope, Mylo's mom made the heartbreaking decision to reach out to GRRR, believing it was the best chance for Mylo to receive the care he needed. Her love for him was evident, and the decision weighed heavily on her.

## Mylo's Life at GRRR

Mylo is a strikingly handsome and sweet Golden Retriever. He quickly adapted to his new environment, playing well with others and causing no issues. While he has a mischievous side, it's largely due to the side effects of his medications, which make him excessively hungry and thirsty. He's known to bark to express his hunger and thirst.

GRRR continued his medication regimen, but his seizures persisted. An appointment with a neurologist at Alameda East Veterinary Hospital led to adjustments in his treatment plan, including medications to prevent cluster seizures. Despite these challenges, Mylo remains a regular, lovable Golden boy, bringing joy to everyone around him.

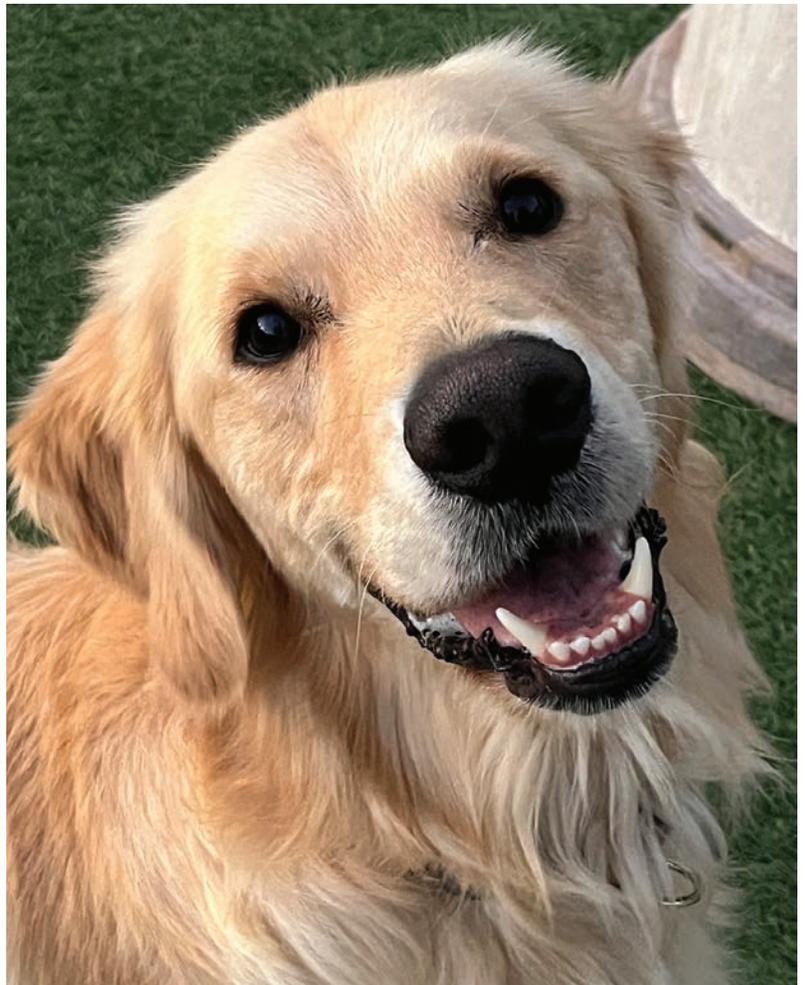
Mylo's medications seem to be working better as there have been no more seizures or breakthrough seizures (cluster seizures). Hopefully, there is a great fit for his medication regimen now and a veterinarian will check his phenobarbital levels soon. We need to wait to check his potassium bromide levels as they can take 3-4 months to have a full effect.

## Mylo's Future

Mylo is looking for a family who can enjoy his puppy-like jovial personality, soft and cuddly side, and have a lifestyle where they can spend a lot of time with him. He is a really fun and playful boy. Mylo is very devoted to his people and can be clingy as he has really never been left alone. He had to be in a crate if left alone in his past home so he wouldn't fall down the stairs if he had a seizure. Also, he's always hungry as a result of his medication, and will gladly help himself to food if left to his own resources. Mylo is house-trained and uses the doggie door at his foster home.

What Mylo needs most of all is a loving family or human who can provide him with all the love and care he needs as he moves forward towards a seizure-free life.

Are you that perfect match for this boy? 💙



*To help dogs like Mylo, please send donations to: GRRR, 15350 W. 72nd Avenue, Arvada, CO 80007 (make check payable to GRRR with "Golden Angel Fund" in the memo) or donate at [goldenrescue.com/golden-angel-fund](https://goldenrescue.com/golden-angel-fund). Thank you!*

## Faye Update

*with a little help from Alice Pflueger*

Each morning, I get to surprise my mom with a special present! I trot over with an excited growl and offer her a gift. Sometimes it's a sock, sometimes a stuffie, and if I'm really ready to go, I'll bring her my harness. I love going to work with my mom, who's a veterinarian. I bring my silliest smile and soak up all the love and pets from her coworkers throughout the day. Lunchtime means pool time. Yep, I get to swim! It's honestly a dream life for a Golden Retriever like me.

I take my job as clinic dog very seriously. I'm well-behaved, polite, and I always bring the giggles. Lately, I've gotten obsessed with a bird nest above the pool, and we now call my favorite new activity Berb Watch. (It's way better than Baywatch, in my opinion.) If Mom needs a little pick-me-up during the day, guess what? I get a pup cup! My brother Augie comes to work too and keeps me company, though I usually spend my day napping in various doggie yoga positions.

The biggest news? My mom and dad bought us a house! When they were packing the old one, I even brought them the packing tape to help out (I'm such a good assistant). Now we have a whole backyard. I love to sunbathe and play out there with Augie and my sister, Sally. I've learned how to wait politely for dinner, I'm kennel trained, and Mom and Dad say I'm their perfect lady. The new house has all hardwood floors, so even if they miss a dose of my medicine and I get a little leaky, it's no big deal.

Speaking of my medical stuff – I'm not even incontinent anymore as long as I get my meds on schedule! I'm just a normal, happy girl who loves my doggie and kitty siblings. I'm so thankful to GRRR for helping my parents so they could keep me. I'm living my best life, and my parents say they can't imagine life without me. 💙



## In Memory

Dear GRRR:

I had to put my wonderful Golden, Beasley, to sleep yesterday. I had Caring Pathways come to my home and help Beasley to the other side. Although sad, it was a peaceful and dignified process. Beasley had just turned 16 years old, so he was an old man.

I adopted Beasley at the start of the pandemic in 2020 and he has been the love of my life for these past six years. He had a wonderful life with me in Frederick and has had several "roommates" over the years (both a dog and a cat!).

I can't thank you enough for introducing me to Beasley. He gave me many years of happiness and joy.

Barbra Engle



**Beasley & Bella**

# President's Report

by Judi Servoss, President

Hopefully you and your pups are staying cool during this toasty summer. Asphalt and paws just don't mix when it's super hot. Throw in a few stray fireworks and you're probably spending a lot of time cuddling and calming.

Up in my mountain home it is definitely cooler, but my pup still needs some calming when the local wildlife comes to visit!

If you're like me, you're avoiding the political scene completely—watching old movies, streaming, or reading beachie novels. There is, however, one piece of good news I picked up: There's a change coming that will permit you to donate to charities even if you don't itemize on your tax returns.

It looks like starting in 2026, you can deduct \$1,000 as a single filer, and \$2,000 if you file jointly, regardless whether you itemize. I'm not a CPA, and this may change, but it does appear to be good news for nonprofit charities like GRRR.

I hope you know how much we do appreciate your consistent support of GRRR. Through good times and bad, we've been able to sustain our organization, because you're there for us. 💙



## Mind Blowing Gala

by Francie Rakiec, Executive Director

**Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald stole the show as our guest speaker this year.** If you've never seen him in action, he's truly one-of-a-kind. His wit and warmth had the entire room laughing out loud. Following such an act was no small feat, but our auctioneer extraordinaire, Adam Kevil, rose to the challenge as always. He kicked things off with a lively game of Heads or Tails, setting the tone for an unforgettable evening.

The live auction heated up quickly, with the St. Thomas trip proving to be a crowd favorite—raising an impressive \$6,500 all on its own! But the highlight of the night? That belonged to the paddle raise. This moment of generosity took our breath away, with donors contributing \$5,000, \$10,000, and even a jaw-dropping \$25,000 gift.

We extend our deepest thanks to everyone who gave, big or small—because none of this would be possible without you. And now for the number that still has us buzzing.

We raised a staggering \$246,000 for our Golden Retrievers! That's right—\$246,000, crushing our previous record of \$223,000 set in 2023. It's proof yet again that GRRR supporters are simply the most generous and big-hearted people around. Your kindness truly makes our hearts happy.

Next year promises another unforgettable celebration! We're moving to a new venue on the west side of town, so mark your calendars for June 6, 2026—tickets go on sale in April 2026, and trust us, you won't want to miss it. 💙



# You Made a Difference!

## Spring Fling

Thanks to all our members who bought raffle tickets and merchandise at the Spring Fling in May. We netted \$2,836! 🐾



## Spring Fundraiser

The Dig In for Golden's online fundraiser raised \$1,225 - thank you to all who donated! 🐾



## Gala

Wow we are so grateful to have raised a record \$245,000 at the Gala - woo hoo thank you to all guests, live and silent auction bidders, and sponsors! 🐾



## Derpy 'Danas

Thank you to Derby 'Danas (they sell doggie bandanas) for picking us as their charity to donate to; they gave us \$3,000! [www.facebook.com/derpydanas](http://www.facebook.com/derpydanas) 🐾



## Yo Colorado

Yo Colorado outdoor apparel store dropped off a \$2000 check for us from their Golden's in Golden t-shirt sales! Thank you! <https://yocolorado.com/> 🐾



## King Soopers Rewards

378 households raised \$ 2544 last quarter. Thank you...everything helps! If you're not a Community Rewards Member yet, use the QR code to sign up at no cost to you! 🐾

**Looking for a FREE and EASY way to help GRRR?**  
**Just shop at King Soopers or City Market!**



MAKE SURE  
DOG TREATS  
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YOUR LIST!



**Golden Retriever Rescue  
of the Rockies**  
**15350 W. 72nd  
Avenue**

**Come to the Rescue Reunion Picnic  
Saturday, Sept 20!  
Invite Inside!**

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**“A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!”®**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

**Applications to adopt a Golden are available on our website: [goldenrescue.com](http://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 Golden 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!

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Thank you for your support!  
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